

The Silver Lining

A LIGHT FOR BELIEVERS

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HELPFUL SUGGESTIONS

Elder Bro. Willis R. Ehnlé

We are very much in need of each other's help in order to stay on the straight and narrow path. It is for this reason that we promise at the time of our baptism to correct each other. We might well come closer to fulfilling this promise if we think of it and speak of it as giving each other helpful suggestions. It is necessary for us to be willing to comply with suggestions, however. We are all going this way together, and we need to realize how strong the enemy is and how dangerous it is to try to walk this way alone without helpful suggestions from others.

Some of these helpful suggestions are that we should read the Bible, pray, and sing a hymn every day. Also, we should visit the widows, the orphans, the sick, and the elderly as much as possible. We should be willing to give of our time for the church and the Lord's work, and we should be alert to notice if anyone in the church, as a whole or in any given church activity, has more to do than he can get done. In such a case, help should be offered and loads lightened.

We should work separately from other groups of believers when starting churches in new areas as well as when in an established church in order not to be brought into a position of compromising Biblical standards and beliefs. If we are going to change, let's change in the direction of a more holy life and not the other way. "The world passeth away and the lust thereof, but he that doeth the will of God abideth forever." I John 2:18.

We should shun the very appearance of evil. We should get rid of television, not because it isn't interesting or because there aren't any good programs, but because over the long haul it has an adverse effect on converted and unconverted persons alike, so far as we understand its influence. Questionable, sensual music should not be indulged in. Sensual magazines should not come into our homes, but if they do come in by another person's doing, they can surely be burned quickly.

We should all strive to have a godly appearance in keeping closely

in tune with the Word of God. Sisters should be feminine and brothers should be masculine in their appearance and conduct. Since Scripture attaches importance to a woman's hair, it should be of a length and appearance that is becoming to a sister, even though this may not be the most convenient. Brothers and sisters should all try to be neat and clean, even though they may not be able to afford new clothes or fine apparel. Care should be taken so that our speech is becoming to a child of God, and we should try to speak correctly without unnecessary and questionable words. Our attitude should be one of submissiveness to one another, a willingness to carefully and prayerfully consider any helpful suggestions offered to us. By promoting this "helpful suggestion" idea, let us hope and pray that we will be more willing to both give and accept what we need in order to live more closely to God and to be more useful in His vinyard. Time should be used wisely "... The night cometh, when no man can work." John 9:4.

NEAR TO THE HEART OF GOD

Bro. Uriel Gehring

"There is a place of quiet rest,
near to the heart of God;
A place where sin cannot molest,
near to the heart of God."

C. B. McAfee

The writer of these beautiful words sensed the value of being "alone" with God in deep reverence to His high and holy name and with extreme thanksgiving in his heart for the gift of salvation through Jesus Christ our Lord. The believer in Christ must of necessity remain near to the heart of God, his heav-

enly Father, for from that nearness he draws the rich grace of God whereby he can overcome sin and continue to be led by the Spirit of God.

In our fast moving, hectic, and often frustrating society, the true believer must appropriate specific minutes of each day to a quiet-time to reflect on God's goodness towards him. This time can be spent in prayer, reading the Word, or in assembling with God's people where His true Word is proclaimed. There is then imparted to the sanctified

heart a sweet peace that the world cannot give.

The enemy of our soul endeavors to deprive God's children of this sweet peace by filling their thought-trains with things of a worldly nature that have no lasting value. They shall all perish with the using of those things.

Let us, who are his children and love Him because He first loved us, maintain our treasure in heaven. For "where a man's treasure is, there will his heart be also." Let us stay "Near to the heart of God."

A TREASURY OF PRAISE

A History of The Zion's Harp Hymnal (cont.)

SONGS FOR SPECIAL EVENTS

Along with the many hymns used during ordinary worship services, the Zion's Harp contains many "special occasion" songs which are mostly sung when special situations occur. Life is a chorus of differing phases, intermingled with joy, heartache, and solemnity—and each special phase calls for its own particular type of lyrics which add richness, symbolism, and comfort to the moment.

Specifically, these songs address themselves to Baptism, Communion, Repentance, Marriage, Funeral and Burial, Greetings, Farewell, The Lord's Day, Weddings, and other religious observances such as Christmas, Easter, and Thanksgiving.

Perhaps a good example of the many "special occasion" songs is No. 212, "The 23rd Psalm" which is traditionally sung as weddings are begun in the church. Rather than use the "Wedding March" from Mendelssohn's "A Midsummer Night's Dream," the Apostolic Christian Church has instead traditionally used a hymn to initiate a wedding ceremony. In beginning a ceremony of such magnitude, in which both partners have yielded to the will of God, the church feels it is appropriate to sing a spiritual song so that all attention can be directed to Almighty God.

Such a song, complete with lyrics that recognize the omnipotence and love of God, sets the stage for a ceremony that stresses the seriousness of the occasion, and the God-ordained marital responsibilities that will ensue. The hymn further tends to add dignity to a ceremony marked by its simplicity.

Another song is often sung as the newly married couple, hand-in-hand, leaves the wedding ceremony as husband and wife. As they are "no longer twain, but one flesh," the congregation joins together in singing No. 237, "Unity." It goes:

Thus united and in concord
Let us walk the path of life.
Hand in hand, O may love bind us,
For each other's welfare strive.

Often, during a wedding ceremony, another appropriate song is

sung. It is No. 79, "The Union of Hearts":

When pure and upright hearts
By flames of love ignited,
Are by the bond of faith
More firmly yet united.
The light of faith beams forth
In radiance far and nigh,
Invites us to partake
The blessings from on high.

In addition to those specific songs for weddings, there are countless other songs that are sung on special occasions, or at appropriate times. All songs are announced spontaneously and, aside from weddings and funerals, are not selected before the service.

At Christmas, there are two songs that are popular. Anyone who has attended the Apostolic Christian Church for any length of time will remember that on Christmas morning, either prior to or during the worship service, two familiar songs are usually sung. One is No. 7, "Christmas Carol"; The other is No. 9, "Glory to God in the Highest." While these two Christmas carols are virtually unheard of outside the denomination, they are enjoyed and appreciated by the brotherhood, and are traditional songs for the Christmas season.

Songs sung during the Easter season are marked by their references to Christ's death and resurrection. For instance, at Good Friday worship services, it is not uncommon to sing, among others, such hymns as No. 89, "The Seven Words of Jesus On The Cross" or No. 226, "Golgotha." The first verse of No. 89 reads:

Out on to Calvary's hill
Where Jesus died I'll go,
To hear the words He speaks
To see Him in his woe.

On Easter Sunday, several songs are sung commemorating the Lord's glorious resurrection. Among them are No. 120, "Jesus Lives," and No. 225, "Christ the Crucified And Glorified."

While there are no hymns that are written specifically for the Thanksgiving season, there are a few songs that are customarily

sung at this time. One is No. 136, "The Pilgrim's Song." Another is No. 199, "Thanks and Prayer."

Specific hymns are often reserved for more serious and reverent occasions. For the rite of baptism, No. 41, "The Baptismal Covenant" and No. 43, "Baptismal Hymn" are often sung. After the baptism and laying on of hands, another song is sometimes sung entitled "Now It Is Done," No. 209:

Now it is accomplished!
I'm no longer mine;
Lord, I will forever and always be
Thine
For Thou hast created and
purchased me too,
Baptized with Thy Spirit, Thou
makest me new.

Holy communion services are among the more serious times of the believer's life. Accordingly, the Zion's Harp contains several songs suited for this celebration: No. 200, "Communion Hymn," No. 25, "The Lord's Supper," and No. 26, also called "Communion Hymn."

Farewell songs are often sung in the assemblies, as brethren bid each other depart for various reasons. Among them are No. 143, "Farewell Song," No. 114, "Our Wish In Parting," and No. 213, "Parting Hymn."

There are a few songs worth mentioning concerning the topic of repentance. This is one of the most important pivotal phases of the believer's life, and special songs are sung which allude to repentance and conversion. In reviewing the words to these songs, one finds the lyrics are outstanding and correctly depict the true meaning of repentance—breaking off from the old life of sin, bearing sorrow, struggling, and then receiving the wonderful pardon, blessing, peace, and favor of God. No. 83, "The Penitent's Conflict" reads:

We bear for Him a longing
When left alone oppressed;
It we could but embrace Him,
Forever hold Him fast!
With weeping pleas and wrestles,
As Jacob moved in soul,
Until it wins the conflict
And faith can make it whole.

The Lord at all times chooses
The time His gifts to share;
He sends a ray of solace
To banish grief and care;
He pours His gentle blessing
Into the withering heart,
And leads thru gloom and sadness
To bright ways heavenward.

Hymn No. 45, "Repentance" also contains appropriate lyrics:

Oh, Jesus look upon my helpless
situation;
My heart feels deadly fear, My
spirit condemnation.
Within me is the wish, But not the
power to do,
Because my weary soul Is full of
grief and woe.

Thou, Jesus, canst alone, Deliver
me from sorrow;
The strength to overcome From
Thy strong hands I borrow.
The longings of my heart Will
bring me naught but pain,
Unless the grace to live Anew
from Thee I gain.

Have mercy then, O Lord! Before
Thy feet I'm bowing;
Let into my weak heart The
stream of grace be flowing.
I pray I'll leave Thee not Until Thy
blessing's power

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S HOME

Doug Kellenberger

We are happy to report the addition of four new children. We are looking forward to seeing them develop according to their potential. Their names are Brenda, 16, Rick, 15, John, 14, and Joel, 13. We divided them equally between both houses.

The boys received a good taste of farm work the other morning at 5 A.M. We were all going away for the weekend and needed to get the hay bales inside. We loaded and unloaded two and one-half wagons that morning before breakfast and then went off to Vacation Bible School.

Later that day, our whole family went to Elgin for the weekend and the Aberles stayed back to "hold down the fort." Rick made himself useful and spent a lot of time mowing the field and roadway. Brenda spent her time helping Connie who had been looking forward to having an older girl help her with cooking and caring

Can conquer death in me, And
bring life's blessed shower.

Many times following an impressive sermon in which the minister powerfully and dutifully beckoned souls to turn to the Lord, the song "Repent Ye," No. 52 is announced. Verse three goes:

Do not put off till tomorrow
Your repentance, come today!
For to wait will bring you sorrow;
Only grief comes from delay.
At the feet of Jesus bowing
Make confession of your sins;
While your tears of grief are
flowing,
Let the loving Saviour in.

As well as the special occasion songs which are sung to observe special times and seasons, there are also songs which point to special Christian virtues. For instance, the important virtue of humility is often alluded to in such hymns as No. 186, "Humilty," and No. 246, "Holy Simplicity." A few verses from 186 go like this:

Meekness is the noblest virtue
Every Christian's honor bright;
It adorns the youthful member
And the aged with its might.
Though it does not stand in favor
With those of a proud behaviour

Yet, 'tis more than precious gold,
More than fame and wealth untold.

So I'll strive to be more humble,
Evermore be meek and kind;
Humbleness shall rule my actions,
Meekness dwell in heart and mind.
In my manner and my being
All my neighbors may be seeing
That it is God's Spirit's might
Leading me in truth and right.

The first two verses of No. 246 are as follows:

Holy virtue, graceful wonder,
Might of God, love, innocence!
In Thy face the high are humbled,
Only God's work has defense.
Meek and lowly, childlike nature,
Glory of humility!
It alone restores us fully
And from Adam's fall sets free.

The greatest virtue of all—love—is referred to in No. 37, "Love":

Love, of all gifts is the greatest
Which the Spirit does bestow.
Though I had a voice like angels,
Lacking love, I truly know
That I'd be a tinkling symbol
Or a wretched sounding brass;
For although the sound were present,
Lifeless through this life I'd pass.
(To be continued)

for the younger Willis children in their home.

Claudia graduated from high school and had a nice open house after the commencement exercise. She received gifts of money and household items. She has since chosen to stay with us and is working full time at a summer camp, along with our other two girls, Karen and Mary. She has tentative plans to attend college.

All the girls seem to enjoy their jobs. Last year Karen bought all of her fall school clothes with the money she earned from detasseling, and Mary bought a portable stereo from her egg route money. Karen also wants to save to pay for driver's education fees next summer.

Don't forget that the Annual Quilt Sale will be on September 15. We welcome all to come and stay over for Sunday services with us.

We are looking forward to having our new administrator, Bro. Bob Cockburn, with us full-time. His wife, Sis. Sue, just had a baby girl, and they will soon be moving into our community.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

Our Lord came not to earth to be served, but to serve. If we, then, would be Christ-like, we too, should strive to serve Christ and our fellowmen. The work of service wears working clothes and is Christianity in action.

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The Threefold Work

Three things the Master hath to do,
And we who serve Him here
below

And long to see His Kingdom
come,

May pray or give or go.

He needs them all—the open hand,
The willing feet, the asking
heart—

To work together and to weave
The threefold cord that shall not
part.

Nor shall the giver count his gift
As greater than the worker's
need,

Nor he in turn his service boast
Above the prayers that voice his
need.

Not all can go, nor all can give
To arm the others for the fray;
But young or old or rich or poor,
Or strong or weak—we all can
pray.

Pray that the full hands open wide
To speed the message on its way,
That those who hear the call may
go

And pray—that other hearts
may pray.

—Annie Johnson Flint

We welcome to our family a new resident, Jeffrey Zimmerman, who arrived recently to make this his home. Before coming here, he lived with his parents, John and Janis Zimmerman, of rural Morton. Younger sister, Jody, and brother, John, Jr., complete Jeff's family. During the day, Jeff goes to PARC in Peoria, where he learns many things.

Though he has been with us only a short time, he has endeared himself to all of us. Birthday time is March 17.

Sitting here at my typewriter, I see a group of our residents outdoors, riding their bicycles. The grounds are beautiful now, and this was an exercise class. Being a weekend, others are just relaxing beside the pool in the courtyard. Recently, a weiner roast picnic for residents was held in the wooded area behind the main building. Visitors come and go. Those who come for the first time often have heartwarming remarks to make. (Visitors are welcome from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily.) During the week, there is a structured roster of classes and duties, eliminating any thought that this is an uninteresting place.

Again on the Fourth of July, the annual potluck picnic for residents and their families is being planned. With everyone bringing food, a festive meal results.

ARIZONA, TUCSAN

Carolyn Kaufman - K. Woodruff

The Lord has really blessed our growing congregation by adding two more to His fold. Our hearts' rejoice each time we greet a new member of our precious faith, whether they be young or old. Our new members are Bros. Jay Knapp (Bro. Loren and Sis. Evelyn) and Paul Knoblach.

As we have mentioned in previous articles, there is a special joy for our Tucson congregation when one of the children of parents who moved to Tucson when they were young repents. Well, just as joyous of an occasion was the wedding of Sis. Kathy Knapp (Bro. Loren and Sis. Evelyn) to Bro. John Woodruff. We wish them the Lord's blessing as they walk life's path together.

Mr. and Mrs. Orville Schmidt celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary this month. Also, Mr. and Mrs. Loyal Enz celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary. We wish them many more years of happiness.

Graduating students from high school were Sisters Lisa Baver (Bro. Don and Sis. Glo) and Mary Leigh Funk (Bro. Jim and Sis. Lou Ann).

Graduating from college was Bro. Brad Bauer (Bro. Don and Sis. Glo).

CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA

Carol Mac Donald - Shirley Witzig

Sis. Naomi Schwarz wishes to thank everyone who remembered her with well wishes and prayers during her convalescence. Praise the Great Healer; she has been able to worship with us again.

CONNECTICUT, ROCKVILLE

Carlton J. Lanz

The Summer heat has already been felt here reminding us of time—how it passes on so swiftly and with such certainty. Yet, it is in accordance with the plan of God the Creator. But there is time for us to enjoy so much pertaining to nature and how it develops with each season and time, producing a profusion of colors. It brings greens, floral growths, and multitudes of fields of grains and precious items for the

sustaining of life of all areas. We read that all material forms of our environment, rocks and roots, soil and showers and sunshine, earth and sun and stars are all in all He created. It tells us that the immanence of God is emphasized and glorified in what we see in this every day of our lives.

The Sunday School children will observe, with their teachers and other personnel, an outing, or picnic, on Saturday. Parents will also attend. This is normally held at a wooded area near a lakeside or water's edge. Lunches and soft drinks will be included which will enhance the occasion, to be sure.

We were happy to have with us in the pulpit several weeks ago Bro. Jim Rinkenberger of Bluffton, IN. It is always good when brethren speak by inspiration and the church can hear the Truth. All then receive a blessing. Also, more recently, Bro. Bill Schlatter of Junction, OH, brought us several messages in humility through which the church received blessings. It was eight years ago that he worshipped with us for several months when he was studying in or near Boston. He went from here to a position with General Motors.

A surprise was flashed on Bro. Ernest Luginbuhl and his wife, Sis. Huldah, when they were invited to their grandson's home for supper and found nearly all of their children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren there in observance of their fifty-ninth wedding anniversary.

A mishap to Ronnie Gerber on his farm put him on crutches for a couple or three weeks. A rubber wheel bumped him, fracturing his fight foot. His parents are Bro. Edwin and Sis. Beverly Gerber. He is 18 and seems to be a key number on their farm which has 600 or so cows.

FLORIDA, FT. LAUDERDALE

John and Caroline Hejja

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. Heb. 11:1.

Reading on in this chapter, we are told of a number of remarkable things which were accomplished "by faith." Not everyone has the same degree of faith.

The following list of references were taken from an article by D. Victory Knowles. The original source is unknown. Where do we stand?

1. Dead Faith (James 2:17, 20, 26).
2. Little Faith (Matt. 6:30).
3. Weak Faith (Rom. 4:19).
4. Increasing Faith (Luke 17:5).
5. Obedient Faith (Heb. 11:8).
6. Working Faith (Gal. 5:6).
7. Growing Faith (II Thess. 1:3).
8. Strong Faith (Rom. 4:20).
9. Great Faith (Matt. 8:5-10).
10. Mustard Seed Faith Matt. 17:20).
11. Perfect Faith (James 2:22).

It is also important to remember that faith is only one part of the complete picture. If a person has faith, works must follow. "Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone." James 2:17.

Everyone was invited to a Memorial Day picnic. We enjoyed the fine fellowship and eating outdoors with brothers and sisters. Our thoughts and prayers were with Bro. Bud Klopfenstein, as he was quite ill and unable to assemble with us for several weeks. Bro. Kim Troxel (son of Bro. Ken and Sis. Joyce) finished school and moved to Bluffton, IN. We were sorry to say goodbye to him, but wish him God's rich blessings and guidance in his new home.

We appreciated a visit from Elder Bro. Roy Grimm (Taylor, MO) and were glad to have him with us to share God's Word.

TREASURE Caroline Hejja

When I sought a new start
I gave Jesus my heart,
But I didn't know He would impart
A joy so untold—
Far more precious than gold
With a warmth which will never
grow cold.

So I held to His Hand,
And our journey began
As He led to that far distant land.
For He is the True Door
Which unlocks Heaven's Shore
Where in glory He reigns evermore.

FLORIDA, SARASOTA Elda Martin

After a lot of prayerful consideration our congregation has been moved by the Lord to give our support to Bro. Glenn Price, Jr., as our new minister. It was gratifying to see the expression of love offered by the brethren and friends to Bro. Glenn and Sis. Sandra when this responsibility was laid on them. There were many tear-filled eyes during

Bro. Glenn's first sermon, when, after reading from the first chapter in Jonah, he said that he could understand how the prophet felt, and how necessary it is to completely submit ourselves to the will of the Lord.

Becky Sauder is now part of the family of God, as she was baptized on June 10. To witness this special occasion and to bring us the good word, Bro. Ken Sauder of Mansfield, Sis. Becky's father-in-law, was with us at that time.

We are all sorry to see our Bro. Jim and Sis. Rowena Furrer move from our congregation to Morris, MN, but our loss is certainly Morris' gain.

ILLINOIS, BRADFORD Evelyn Endress

A baby girl, Janis Kay, was born to first-time parents Mark and Cathy Ehnle. Her grandparents are Bro. Roy and Sis. Donna Ehnle and Beatrice DeSpain.

Carol Kieser (Bro. David and Sis. Shirley) was hospitalized with pneumonia. We hope she has a speedy recovery.

We received many blessings when Bros. Bob Walder (Congerville) and Charles Sauder (Tremont) came and shared God's Word with us.

We will miss having Si and Sis. Lavonne Wagenbach and their family assemble with us. They are moving to the Tremont area.

Bro. LeRoy and Sis. Esther Streitmatter want to thank everyone who remembered them when they were at Mayo Clinic and after they returned home. They hope that God will richly bless each one of you.

ILLINOIS, CHAMPAIGN - URBANA Charlen Banwart

DAY-OLD CHILD

My day-old child lay in my arms.
With my lips against his ear
I whispered strongly, "How I
wish—

I wish that you could hear;
I've a hundred wonderful things to
say

(A tiny cough and a nod);
Hurry, hurry, hurry and grow
So I can tell you about God."
My day-old baby's mouth was still,
And my words only tickled his ear.
But a kind of a light passed
through his eyes,

And I saw this thought appear:
"How I wish I had a voice and
Words;

I've a hundred things to say.
Before I forget I'd tell you of God—
I left Him 'yesterday'."

Carol Lynn Pearson

Bro. Virgil and Sis. Mary Metzger are the parents of Timothy John who was born on May 22. The grandparents of Timothy and his older brother, Darin, are Bro. Ernie and Sis. Ella Metzger of Lester and Bro. Oscar and Sis. Kathryn Schneider of Forrest.

"For whither thou goest, I will go; and where thou lodgest, I will lodge: thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God." (Ruth 1:16) Bro. Brad and Sis. Sue Gramm have established a home in our community following their wedding which was on May 27 at Gridley. On this same day, the engagement of Joyce and Bro. Steve Fischer was made known. Their parents are Bro. Richard and Sis. Lila Schock of Elgin and Bro. Richard and Sis. Dorothy Fischer of our congregation. They plan to be married on July 15, Lord willing.

We are thankful to have these two couples as part of our church and pray that God will bless them richly.

ILLINOIS, CHICAGO Kathy Schlatter

"Some food is good. Some food is
great.

But you don't get dessert 'til you
clean up your plate."

(from a plaque, mentioned in
sermon)

So often we want our rewards right away, as children do. Dessert at the end of the meal seems too far away, especially when grown-ups take their time. Yet we must learn, as our children do, to wait, to do what is ours to do, learning that we must follow His path for us to Heaven. And some moments will be easier than others, some tasks more joyful, but all that is expected of us is necessary to attain that reward at the end which is beyond all our imaginings.

"Praise ye in His sanctuary Him who does such wondrous deeds!" ("Song of Praise," Hymns of Zion, No. 235) We have been blessed mightily by the Lord's thoughts brought to us on Sunday, May 20, by Bro. Bob Meyer, Bluffton, IN, and Sunday, May 27, by Bro. Lavoyd Moore, Athens, AL. May we

all profit from the inspiration brought to our hearts.

Sunday, June 3, we shared our potluck picnic meal in the Bemis Woods Forest Preserve. The Sunday School picnic is a special time for all. The little ones, as well as the older children, anticipate it eagerly and store fond memories of interaction with God's people. Vacation Bible School is another special blessing, but one which takes more planning, more preparation, and lots of carpooling effort. Each year we hope it goes a bit more smoothly; each year we have new suggestions for the next year. Teachers and parents deserve our hearty thanks and the Lord's rewarding blessing.

The Lord does not always give us the privilege of being close in miles to our families. Sometimes it is an agonizing decision to accept that. Yet He always leads us in paths of righteousness ever upward. We are reluctant to see Bro. Duane and Sis. Kay Reutter go; yet we are grateful for the Lord's guiding hand and know that they and their sons, Nathan and Dereck, will be fed in new green pastures in Rockville, CO. We have had so much to be thankful for because they have been here. Particularly Bro. Duane's work as a trustee has been of untold value to us. May the Lord give them continued strength and blessing—as they have been that to us.

We do rejoice, encouraged by the new faces among us. Russell Huetter (son of Bro. Lyle and the late Sis. Edith Huetter) of Fairbury, IL, has recently moved to our area and has been worshipping with us. Luis and Susy Koller have arrived from Hungary, via a refugee camp in Italy. He is Bro. Tibor and Bro. Miklos Bozzay's nephew. They are so appreciative of the smallest kindness shown them. Someday we hope their thank you, as their uncle's, will be "Thanks be to the Lord."

Observed recently was Flag Day, something generally noted only on calendars. In remembering, I thought of the quote, "The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing." Edmund Burke. Schools no longer seem patriotic. But we must know that the Lord has made us a privileged people as we share in this land of abundance. Thus we must share the responsibility for striving to keep our United States a land of abundance—in spirit, in value, in hope, in Him. Only in God may we

trust.

I know a tender-hearted father whose son got scared by television commercials about lung cancer and hid his dad's cigarettes. But his dad kept on smoking. That lad grew up a thoughtful young man. One day his girlfriend called to tell him that she was repenting. A couple of hours later, a family friend stopped by and casually inquired, "Supper ready?" The young man replied, "Our souls are ready." The Lord had prepared not only his heart, but also his mom's and his dad's. Tears of such joy are a feast for the saints. P.S. His dad no longer smokes. The Lord has ALL power in heaven and in earth, but it is something we need to ask for.

ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK

Judy Bauer
Mary Anderson

School is out for the summer, but learning certainly doesn't stop. Our students finished two weeks of Vacation Bible School. From the excellent program of songs, poems, Bible verses, and short descriptions of each day's lessons, we feel they learned a great deal about God's Word. I know that the teachers and helpers learned, also, and received a blessing for their efforts.

We rejoice with two couples who have exchanged marriage vows. Sis. Kay Walder and Bro. Keith Knapp were united in holy matrimony by Bro. Edwin Ringger (Gridley) on June 10. We are thankful that they will continue to make their home here.

Sis. Bonita Stock and Bro. Bruce Frank exchanged their vows June 17. Bro. Raymond Banwart (Ft. Scott) performed the ceremony. We will miss Sis. Bonita in our gathering as they will make their home in Iowa City. We wish both couples God's richest blessings. If they continue on the path they have started, He will surely not forsake them.

Other visiting ministers were Bros. Raymond Roth (Kiowa), Art Baurer (Princeville), Bob Walder (Congerville), Jim Rinkenberger (Bluffton), John Steiner (Oakville), and Joe Gerst (Iowa City). We extend our thanks to all of these brothers for sharing with us.

Among the sick this month were Sisters Esther Hodel, Clara Vogel, Nettie Otto, Alline Otto, and Magdalene Bucher and Bro. Bill Feller. We pray they will feel God's hand on them.

ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE

Gay Knapp
Pat Rinkenberger

The morning watch is essential. You must not face the day until you have faced God, nor look into the face of others until you have looked into His. You cannot expect to be victorious if the day begins only in your own strength. Face the work of every day with the influence of a few thoughtful, quiet moments with your heart and God. Do not meet other people, even those of your own home, until you have first met the great Guest and honored Companion of your life—Jesus Christ.

from—Streams in the Desert

We were so thankful for our visiting ministers this month: Elder Bro. Joshua Broguard (Fairbury), Bro. Wayne Anlicker (Forrest), Bro. Uriel Gehring (Burlington), Bro. Vernon Leman (Eureka), and Bro. Albert Aberle (Tremont).

Our church is delighted to welcome three new infants. On May 20, Peg and Randy Selvey (Knapp) welcomed their first-born, "Matthew James." Sis. Luann (Knapp) and Bro. Clarence Zobrist rejoiced at the arrival of "Brian Michael" on May 25. And on June 4, Sis. Kathy (Kemp) and Bro. Rick Knapp welcomed "Marie Kathleen." This is the third child for Clarence and Luann and the fifth for Rick and Kathy. "Lo, children are a heritage of the Lord: and the fruit of the womb is his reward." Ps. 127:3.

ILLINOIS, ELGIN

Ruth Ann Getz

Our Sunday School children have completed another year and have been rotated in their classes accordingly. This rotation brought into the Sunday School the new four year old group. It's interesting and heart warming to see the enthusiasm on their countenances when learning of the Savior. No wonder our Lord said, "Except ye be converted and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven." (Matt. 18:3) Bro. Tom Schifferer and Sis. Marlene Leman completed their terms as Sunday School teachers and the Lord has provided, to fill these vacancies, Bro. Melvin Schrock and Sis. Millie Jepson.

We wish Godly blessing on Bro. Steve Fischer (son of Bro. Richard and Sis. Dorothy of Champaign) and Sis. Joyce Schock (daughter of Bro. Richard and Sis. Lyla) as they

have felt the Lord's leading in becoming man and wife. Also we wish that God will impart His blessings on Bro. Tim Kellenberger (son of the late Bro. Gerald and Sis. Marilyn) and Sis. Marcia Ginzel (daughter of Bro. Elmer and Sis. Dorothy of Eureka) whose engagement was also made known.

We are happy to report the birth of Jillian Leigh to Robert and Mary Heintz. Jillian was born June 1 and has three year old Jennifer to welcome her at home. Ruth Heintz, and Elvis and Gail Kellenberger are the grandparents.

Also newly born on June 4 was Megan, little daughter of Bro. Robert and Sis. Jeanne Schambach. Megan has two brothers, Eric and Todd, and two sisters, Stacia and Joni. Grandparents are Bro. Richard and Sis. Lyla Schock, and Bro. William and Sis. Cora Schambach.

Sis. Sue Schifferer has moved to Eureka this spring and taken employment in Peoria. We miss her in our midst here, but we pray the Lord will go with her wherever her path leads.

Bro. Elmer Schmidt (Winthrop) visited us on June 3 bringing us the message of salvation. It is precious to us to feed on these holy truths, and so we thank Bro. Elmer for being spent in God's service.

Sis. Mabel Steffen and Sis. Wava Steffen are both home again after being hospitalized this month; however, Mabel is still confined to her home. We are grateful that God hears and answers prayer in behalf of our sick brethren.

ILLINOIS, EUREKA Melba Mangold

"Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them. . ." (Ecclesiastes 12:1) We are thankful that a dear young soul has turned to the Lord in repentance. Theresa Martin has answered His loving call. Her parents are Bro. Louis and Sis. Arletta Martin.

On a Wednesday evening, we were visited by Bro. Raymond and Sis. Lavernne Roth of Kiowa, KS. Our thanks go to Bro. Raymond for his willingness to share God's Word with us; we invite him back.

Our best wishes go to Sis. Marcia Ginzel and Bro. Tim Kellenberger of Elgin, IL, whose engagement was announced on June 3. Their parents are Bro. Elmer and Sis. Dorothy

Ginzel, Eureka, and Sis. Marilyn and the late Bro. Jerry Kellenberger, Elgin. We hope God will continue to bless them as they plan their new life together. They are planning an August wedding.

Our congratulations go to all our graduates from high school and college. We wish them God's blessings and guidance in all of their future plans.

We have been having vacation Bible School the past two weeks. What a privilege for the young children to be able to learn so much about the Bible in their youth. Surely, some of the good seeds that are planted in their tender hearts will bring a harvest in the years to come. Our senior Bible classes are meeting with the Roanoke classes this year.

A thought from "Apples of Gold" by Jo Petty: We can easily forgive a child who is afraid of the dark. The real tragedy of life is when men are afraid of the Light.

ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY Joyce Huber

We rejoice that Carol Thames has taken the Lord Jesus as her personal Saviour. She is the daughter of Bro. Phil and Sis. Kay Thames. We know the Lord will be with her and give her much grace.

Kim Ashba, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Paul Ashba, and Mrs. Karen (Ron) Soper gave their testimonies of their saving faith in Jesus Christ and were baptized.

Sis. Dawn Aberle, daughter of Bro. and Sis. William Aberle, and Bro. Randy Steidinger, son of Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Steidinger, were married by the bride's uncle, Bro. Perry Zimmerman. They will make their home in Forrest.

Judy Ann VanAntwerp, daughter of William and Sis. Anna Lou Van Antwerp, was married to Nathan Harris. We wish, for them, the happiness that Jesus gives as they make their home together.

Visiting ministers recently were Bro. Earl Kilgus, Bro. Gene Lehman, Bro. Ed Kloter, and Bro. Bob Grimm.

We are sorry for those hospitalized: Sis. Lavina Moser, Sis. Salome Zimmerman, Bro. Ezra Steffen, Bro. Sam Steffen, Bro. David Kaeb, Bro. Ernie Gerber, Alvin Maier, and Louise Hibsich.

Try to think how happy you would be if you lost all that you have and then got it all back again.

ILLINOIS, FORREST Beverly Eisenmann Jai. Bachtold

Bro. Ernie Gerber and Sis. Bernice Kyburz (Bro. John) are new residents at Fairview Haven.

Bro. Wayne Zimmerman was hospitalized for a couple of days after falling from a ladder. We are thankful that he was not seriously injured. Bro. Les Roth was hospitalized for surgery and is now home again. Bro. Leroy Koehl was admitted for tests, and Bro. Ernie Gerber is in the hospital at the present time. May God grant His healing power to these brothers.

June 3 was the wedding day for Sis. Dawn Aberle (Bro. Bill and Sis. Jean) and Bro. Randy Steidinger (Maurice and Alma) of Fairbury. Sharing in this happy occasion were Bros. Jim Byrd and Bill Hodel from Roanoke and Merle Kaisner and Duane Kilgus from Fairbury. May God add His blessings to this "union of hearts."

We enjoyed the visit and ministry of Bro. Gene Lehman of Wolcott one Wednesday evening. How refreshing to be lead to green pastures and sit beside still waters after a day of labor, having our spirits refreshed with the Word of God.

Our friends, Jerry Koehl (Bro. Virg and Sis. Gladys) and Tami Wenger, were married June 9 and are making their home in Bloomington.

Our Bible class enjoyed having the Eureka Sunday School spend a Sunday with them. We trust that the hours they spent together will result in lasting friendships that will someday become Christian friendships.

Sis. Diane Koehl (Bro. Leroy and Sis. Janita) was united in marriage to Bro. Max Miller (Robert and Sis. Melba) of Rittman on Father's Day. We wish them God's guidance and blessings as they establish their home in Rittman.

ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD Verna Hartter - Elna Grimm

Whatever our problems,
troubles and sorrows,
If we trust in the Lord,
there will be brighter tomorrows,
For there's nothing too much for
the Great God to do,
And all that He asks or expects of
you
Is faith that's unshaken by tribulations
and tears
That keeps growing stronger along
with the years,

Content in the knowledge that God
knows best
And that trouble and sorrow are
only a test—
For without God's testing of our
soul
It never would reach its ultimate
goal. . .
So keep on believing, whatever you
betide you,
Knowing that God will be with you
to guide you,
And all that He promised will be
yours to receive
If you trust Him completely, and
always believe.

Helen Steiner Rice

We've had several mishaps in our area recently: Mandy Schwenk, small daughter of Bro. Doug and Sis. Myrna, suffered a broken leg when she caught it in the spokes of a bicycle; young Ron Wiegand, son of Bro. Gary and Sis. Karen, injured his leg while playing; Sis. Esther Hohulin sustained a rather severe cut, requiring stitches in the back of her head, when she fell in her home; and Bro. Mike Finley fell, breaking his wrist. Mary Alice Tanner (Don), was hospitalized for gall bladder surgery.

We were afforded the privilege of a visit from each of the following ministers and elders this past month: Bros. Roy Sauder, Peoria; Dan Koch, Tremont; Jim Rinkenberg, Bluffton; Gene Metzger, Lester; Roy Ehnle, Bradford; and Don Manz, Junction. Thanks to each one for his inspired message.

ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY

Mrs. Perry Klopfenstein

It is always a pleasure to compare the lessons nature can teach us with the spiritual truths God has for us in the Bible. I had reason to be amazed at the steadfastness of a tree root that has persisted in shooting forth branches in a flower bed where it is most unwelcome. The branches have been chopped off many times, holes have been dug around it, and efforts have been made to remove it or at least deaden it—all to no avail. The root base is very thick and no doubt spreads out deep into the ground. If only it had been removed while it was young and tender it would have posed a very small threat. Now it has had time to grow and mature and establish itself so that I wonder if it will ever be eliminated.

How often we are encouraged to develop strong roots in the true

faith. When we are young and tender the enemy sees us as an easy prey and we can be tossed to and fro by the winds of doctrine and cunning craftiness of wicked men. (Eph. 3:14) But if we let God's Word quickly take root and let those roots dig deep into the fertile soil of our heart which the Holy Spirit has cultivated through repentance and humility, we will become "stablished, strengthened and settled" in the Lord. (1 Peter 5:10) Satan can buffet us as he did Job, and cut off our branches and our outward glory. He can take away all that we have and even plague us with great sickness and suffering, but our roots will remain and continue to shoot up new branches year after year bearing the fruits of righteousness. Perhaps it is wise for us to first grow strong roots before we try to produce the fruit. We cannot be a profitable servant and do "great" things for the Lord without first developing a strong and stable root system in His Word and in His Church. Jesus said, "Some seeds. . . fell upon stony places . . . and forthwith they sprung up, because they had no deepness of earth: And when the sun was up, they were scorched; and because they had no root, they withered away." (Matt. 13:5-6) The wonderful assurance in Proverbs 12:3 is, "The root of the righteous shall not be moved."

We wish God's continued grace and blessings for Alice Gilmore and her daughter, Kathy Gilmore, who have sought the Lord in repentance and faith and now feel His blessed peace in their hearts. If God wills, they hope to give their testimony and be baptized soon.

The marriage vows of Brad Gramm of Gridley and Sue Herriot of Champaign were solemnized on May 27. We were happy to have ministering Bro. Harold Gramm of Morris, MN, with us for the occasion.

Ministering brothers Roy Wieland and Jim Ramsier, both of Bay City, MI, were also with us recently.

Bro. Jerome and Sis. Mary Witzig are the happy parents of Claire Elizabeth who was born June 11. She has two sisters, Amy and Molly, and a brother, Todd. Claire's grandparents are Bro. Sam and Sis. Louise Witzig of Gridley and Bro. Herman and Sis. Oleda Menold of Morton.

"Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us" was the theme song of our Vacation Bible School for kindergarten through 8th grade. The evening of June 8, the children presented a program in which they recited and sang, telling of the Bible stories they learned about during the week. We are glad that these tender lambs are being nourished and guided by the gentle and loving Shepherd, Jesus Christ.

ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY Doris Bachtold

Amidst the growing concern of false doctrines and deceptive spirits, we find a guideline that is sure:

A bank president was asked how his tellers identified counterfeit money since there are so many different types in circulation. He replied, "They become so familiar with the real thing, that they can tell when it fake just by the 'feel' of it."

Likewise, an elder brother instructed that we, as believers, are to become so familiar with the "Real Thing"—God's Word—that we will be able to recognize when something false comes along.

Some of us sing at a nursing home, near the campus, which not only has the elderly but those who need extra attention and love. They eagerly await our arrival and clap as we enter the room. A few stand with us and join in our singing, sometimes with their arms around us. We cannot turn away from their open plea for love, but we find ourselves reaching out to clasp their hands and smile into their eyes. As we leave the place, we wonder . . . who enjoyed it more: they or us?

Thursday nights are a real thirst-quencher. By this time of the week we need some refreshing. We are thankful that Bros. Joe Schrock (Congerville), Wayne Anlicker (Forrest), Jim Leman (Roanoke), and Ed Alt (Cissna) opened the Scriptures and told us of the "Living Water." "Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters. . ." (Isa. 55:1)

ILLINOIS, MORTON

Joann Roecker — Phyllis Farncy

We are thankful for the many blessings our visiting ministering brothers brought to us. May our Heavenly Father give the increase. Those visiting were Bros. Marshall Heingold, Washington, IL, Mark Bahr, Detroit, and Joshua Bro-

guard, Fairbury, IL. May God richly bless these brothers for favoring us with their visits.

First time parents are Bro. Jan and Sis. Glenda Neukomm. Alex John was born on May 14. The happy grandparents are Bro. Al and Sis. Gerry Neukomm, and Bro. Lester and Sis. Glendoris Huber, Lexington, KY.

Our dear Bro. Ben Freidinger was sweetly called to his eternal home on May 18. Funeral services were on May 21. May God comfort and bless his dear wife, Sis. Anna, and Gloria Roecker, his daughter. We shall continue to remember all of Bro. Ben's family in our prayers.

We would also like to extend our deepest sympathy to the family of Andrew Moser. He passed away in Florida. Funeral services were here in Morton on June 2.

Many blessings were received from our annual "Morton Sings" evening on May 20. The small children sang us a selection of their Sunday School hymns. How precious our little-ones are. We also thank our young people and the adults who favored us.

May 16 was a special evening for Emma Huette. She was baptized into the family of God. We pray for God's blessings as she walks the Heaven-ward pathway.

We also rejoice with Mike and Teresa Kelson who became our brother and sister in Christ. After giving their testimonies of faith, they were baptized on June 2. May God truly be the Head of their home and bless them as they walk the path of faith together.

Kathryn Rother and Philip King are happily making wedding plans for August 11. Their parents are Bro. and Sis. Francis Rother, and Mr. and Mrs. Elmer King. We wish them God's blessings as they walk life's pathway together.

Little Emily Endress was born on June 5 to Bro. Fred and Sis. Joan Endress. "Big" brother Daniel thinks it is real nice to have a little sister.

June 4-15 were our two weeks of Vacation Bible School. The children enjoy learning more of God's word as well as making special projects to take home. May God be the unseen visitor in each classroom, and plant the good seed in many young, tender hearts.

Among those on our hospital list at the time of this writing were brothers Frank Bauman, Dan Kaufman, and Phil Getz. Sisters con-

lined to the hospital were Mary Wutherich, Marge Bertschi, Lucille Zimmerman, and Verna Widmer. Our love and prayers are with these dear ones during their time of illness. We also continue to remember in our prayers the many loved ones confined at home and in our nursing homes. Time lies heavily for these dear ones. A brief visit and a kind word can often shorten a long day.

ILLINOIS, PEORIA

Mary Sue Rieker - Diane Hohulin

During the week of June 11 thru 15 vacation Bible School was held. Through the inspiration of God, the teachers were able to bring forth God's teachings and point out some important traditions for each age group. We pray that those who reached the age of accountability might have been convicted and will realize the importance of repenting. II Thessalonians 2:15: "Therefore, brethren, stand fast, and hold the traditions which ye have been taught, whether by word, or our epistle."

Bro. Walter Witzig, who has been hospitalized for five weeks, is thankful to be home and is doing as well as possible. He wishes to extend his thanks and gratitude to everyone for all of the gifts of love shown, especially to our elder and ministers for their faithful prayers.

Bro. Toby Schneider wishes to extend his thanks to all who have given gifts, cards, and offered prayers in his behalf during his illness.

Four Christian Homes have been blessed with the addition of darling little babies. Bro. Steve and Sis. Jane Suttor became the parents of a little girl on May 21. Mary Constance is welcomed home by Angie. The grandparents are Bro. Charles and Sis. Marian Hemmer and Bro. Al and Sis. Verla Suttor of Bremen.

On May 23, Bro. Kevin and Sis. Mary Plattner became the parents of Brandon David. The grandparents are Bro. Melvin and Sis. Mardell Plattner and Bro. Don and Sis. Viola Messner of Winthrop.

Matthew Feucht welcomes home Jenny Lynn. Jenny was born on June 4. Their parents are Bro. Randy and Sis. Carol Feucht. The grandparents are Bro. Walter Feucht and Bro. Morris and Sis. Ida Mae Barth of Roanoke.

Bro. Jack and Sis. Jody Hoerr became first-time parents on June 14 of a little baby boy, Wesley

John. The grandparents are Bro. John and Sis. Dorothy Hoerr and Bill and Sis. Joyce Waibel.

Emma Hansen was taken from this life. We extend our sympathy to her family, Lois, Betty, and Ruth Hansen.

ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE

Ruth Ricketts

We were privileged to have Bro. Charles Hemmer of Peoria as our guest minister May 27. Special recognition was given the high school graduates. Meditating on the parable of the ten virgins, a friendly invitation was given to partake of the Lord's goodness and His salvation which is free to all who surrender their lives into His. We were asked, "How much oil do we have in our lamps?" Does our light shine brightly to direct the way for those still in darkness? Will we spend eternity in heaven where all is joy and peace, or will it be in hell where there is only damnation and torture? It takes such little effort to follow the Lord and enjoy all the blessings He gives.

Following a breakfast, the following graduates received a Bible, a gift from the church: Marlise Streitmatter, (Bro. Norman and Sis. Joyce); Joy Streitmatter (Paul and Mary); Donna Lou Streitmatter (Bro. Don and Sis. Mary Lou); Jane Herrmann (Bro. Eugene and Sis. Betty); Jane Leuthold (Bro. John and Sis. Shirley); Becky Martin (Bro. Ellsworth and Sis. Donna); Craig Martin (Bro. Nathan and Sis. Esther); Marvin Herrmann (Bro. Walter and Sis. Betty); Kyle Scholl (Bro. Bob and Sis. Arlene); Ronald Christ (Bro. Walter and Sis. Doris); Jay Grimm (Bro. Earl and Sis. Anna Lou); Bruce Graham (Bro. Dick and Sis. Jeanette); Cathy Arnold (Ed and Nita); Sis. Cynthia Knobloch (Bro. Nick and Sis. Gladys); and Sis. Lisa Stahl (Eldon and Irene). May the Lord direct the paths of these young people as they go into the world which has become so corrupt. Remembering the teachings they have received, may they be able to discern evil before they become entangled in it. As Charles F. Kettering stated, "I am not interested in the past, I am interested only in the future, for there is where I expect to spend the rest of my life."

Our graduates are Dennis Herrmann (Bro. Harry and Sis. Bertha Jean), from college, and Sis. Caroline Banwart and Sis. Wilma Mar-

tin, from the School of Nursing. We wish them the Lord's blessing.

Funeral services for Peter Streitmatter, Jr., who died suddenly on May 26, were held at the church May 29 with Bro. Arthur Bauret and other local ministers officiating. He was always a quiet man and will be missed by his family and associates. He is survived by one brother, Glenn, and five sisters, Viola, with whom he lived, Sadie Streitmatter, Alma Brown, Mrs. Harold (Marcella) Wood, and Mrs. Wm. (Laura) Hartness. He was preceded in death by his parents, Peter and Sis. Emma Kupfer Streitmatter, one sister, and one brother.

A son, William Paul, was born May 26 to Bro. Lyle and Sis. Betty Stahl. Two brothers and a sister welcomed him home. The grandparents are Bro. Wm. and Sis. Marie Stahl and Bro. Paul and Sis. Tanner of Goodfield.

New Sunday School teachers were chosen as several have served their terms. Bros. Jim Plattner and Dale Stoller are replacing Bros. Harold Steiner and Lawrence Wagenbach. Sisters Judy Schafer and Donna Martin are taking the place of Sisters Roma Rumbold and Marcia Knobloch. We are thankful when dedicated brothers and sisters give of their time to teach the little ones and our youth. We ask the Lord's blessings on both those who are retiring and those who will just begin their duties.

We had a number of visitors the weekend of June 9 and 10 when a reunion of those who were on the European Heritage Tour last year was held. A most pleasant time was enjoyed by all present, and many memories were refreshed when pictures were shown. Other visitors were also present Sunday, for which we were thankful. Bros. Harold Emsch of Girard, OH, Ray Sinn of Latty, OH, and Vernon Leman of Eureka were our yet ministers. Many beautiful thoughts were brought forth from texts Mark 13 and Colossians 3. Beauties of heaven were told, and much emphasis was given on living faithfully. We were reminded to remember and do things for those yet outside the fold and encourage and invite them to taste of the glories of God. Salvation is free to all, but each must do his part. Grace is given to all who ask and is worth all the effort that is put forth. We thank all for coming and trust that each one felt the blessings we received.

We all rejoice with Chris and Naomi Frank who surrendered their lives to the Lord. They came to church faithfully, and recently their hearts were pricked so that they felt the need of repentance. We are so thankful that they are enjoying the blessings we share and pray the Lord's nearness and guidance in their new walk of life. Jordan and Kathy Feucht have also found the need of repentance and are enjoying the blessings given from the Lord. We are thankful for each one who can be freed from the clutches of Satan and wish that many more may also be freed.

There have been several singings recently for Bro. Rodney Wagenbach, son of Bro. Raymond and Sis. Betty. He is leaving soon for Seattle, WA, where he will have bone marrow transplant. His sister, Sis. Raylene Zimmerman, will be the donor and will need to be there a month. Rod will need to stay three to four months. A large number were present at the Fellowship Hall June 15, and we trust he can feel the love and concern from all who know him. Encouraging words were spoken by Bro. LeRoy Hartman of Peoria, Simon Wagenbach of Tremont, and from others who wish him well. May the Lord's will be done.

HE IS THERE

By Sandy Diamond

When loneliness and empty lives
make hearts ache with despair,
The Lord above sends down His
love

To show that He is there.

When problems hit you every day,
and its too much to bear,

Look to the skies where peace
resides,

And know that He is there.

When illness, death, and grief appear,
and no one seems to care,
Through hurts and pain our God
will reign,

For, always, He is there!

Mail for Rodney can be sent to the following address: Mr. Rodney Wagenbach, c/o Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, 1124 Columbia Street, Seattle, WA 98105.

ILLINOIS, ROANOKE

Edith Sauder - Mae K. Hodel

Sis. Anna Zuercher, 95, passed away. She is survived by one brother, Joe, of Washington. She repented when she was 90 years old.

Her family extends their thanks to all for kindnesses shown to her.

Clarence Beer was laid to rest June 13. He had lived in Fairbury most of his life.

Bro. Dan Maher (Mr. and Mrs. Charles Maher) and Sis. Cheryl Kempf (Bro. Erwin and Sis. Alice) exchanged their wedding vows on May 27.

John Sauder, Jr., (Bro. John and Sis. Esther) and Peg Johann (Mr. and Mrs. Robert Johann) were married on June 2. We wish both young couples God's love and richest blessings.

Ben Fehr, Jr., (Bro. Ben and Sis. Helen) and Kathy Aeschleman (Bro. Joe and Sis. Mardell) have announced their engagement to be married.

Bro. Steve Fischer and Sis. Joyce Shock, Elgin, have also announced their engagement.

Terri Hodel (Bro. Jim and Sis. Doris) and Joe Carr (Mr. and Mrs. Richard White), El Paso, are making their wedding plans.

Sam and Robin Hodel have a sweet little daughter. They have named her Amanda Sue.

We thank our Elder Bros. Roy Sauder, Peoria, David Bertsch, Leo, and David Kieser, Princeville, and Bros. Art Baurer, Princeville, Raymond Roth, Kiowa, Duane Kilgus, Fairbury, and Wayne Anliker, Forrest, for sharing God's precious Word with us.

Average daily attendance at our summer Bible School was: preschool through six grade, 110; Junior Bible Class, 27; and Senior Bible Class, 80-90. The Eureka Bible Class attended our summer school this year. Bro. Edwin Ringger had as his topic, "Sin pays wages." Bro. Robert Pflederer had as his topic, "Using our sensual instincts to honor God." Bro. Chuck Hemmer had as his topic, "Holy Spirit; should I be concerned about it?" Bro. Wendell Gudeman had as his topic, "Can I have a meaningful relationship with Jesus?" Bro. Rod Huber had as his topic, "Israel, the focal point of current events." We thank these ministers, the young sisters, mothers, and brothers for giving their time and love to teach our youth about Jesus and His love.

ILLINOIS, TREMONT

Lydia Rassi - Dorothy Waggenbach

Our only visiting minister this past month was Bro. Bob Pflederer of Morton. May God richly bless him for his efforts.

We are sorry that we omitted Sis. Elizabeth Moser's name on our sick list last month. It is good to see her at our services again.

Brent Kellenberger, young son of Bro. Randy and Sis. Karen, broke his leg in a fall while visiting in West Bend. He was hospitalized for several weeks in Emmetsburg, IA, and has now returned home. Sis. Doris Stoker (Bro. Weldon) also fell in her home, cracking some bones in her foot. May God restore and heal them both so that they may assemble with us again.

Funeral services were held on June 14 for Sis. Pauline Waldbuser, who was 93 years old. She had resided at the A.C. Nursing Home in Peoria for four years. Our sympathy is extended to her family.

Mary Jane Miller and David Foote were united in marriage on June 16 in Pekin. Parents of the couple are Ed and Doris Miller, and the Lester Footes' of Pekin. We wish them happiness in their life together.

Simon, Jr. and Sis. LaVonne Wagenbach and their boys have moved here from the Bradford congregation. We welcome them into our midst.

Eighth grade graduates this year are: Rosemary Endress, Diane Frank, Janese Hangartner, Ann Huette, Marsha Huette, Peggy Koch, Patricia Wagenbach, Dale Glueck, Kurt Pflederer, Todd Prather, David Sauder, Don Schweigert, and Mark Steiner.

High school graduates include: Lois Dill, Barbara Huette, Dennis Kaeb, Casper Koch, Bro. Earl Koch, Sis. Debbie Pflederer, Karen Pflederer, Janet Sinn, Sis. Karen Wagenbach, and Melanie Yergler. Our best wishes for God's blessings go out to these young people.

ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON

Valerie Kipfer - Linda Ziegenhorn

Summer is here. As we see the flowers unfold, the gardens grow, and the rows across the fields take form, we know that we are truly a blessed people. The Lord has again renewed the earth with its lush greenery.

On May 20, we gathered for our monthly hymn-singing. Our young Sunday School children sang a number of songs for us. What a beautiful sound to hear such young children raise their voices to the Lord in song!

We are so thankful that we have been able to add two more dear

souls to our congregation. On June 17, we gathered to witness the baptism of Wayne and Marilyn Schellhammer. We welcome them into the family of the Lord. With us on that day and the previous evening were Elder Bro. Paul Butikofer, Elgin, IA, and our Elder Bro. Roy Sauder, Peoria.

We also want to thank Bros. Albert and Russell Wuthrich, Pula-ski, IA, and Bros. Kenneth Weerts and Steve Rinkenberger, Cissna Park, who brought us the Lord's messages, too.

The family of Steve Schick wishes to express their sincere gratitude to all the many people who showed their love and compassion through the many prayers, cards, and acts of sympathy and kindness in the loss of their dear, beloved husband, son, and brother, Steve. They were "overwhelmed" and pray that the Lord will bless everyone who remembered them.

FROM LIFE TO ETERNAL LIFE

With Jesus Christ there is no death,
For a short time only do we lose our
breath.

On Heaven's shore we then shall
gather,

No other place would we be rather.
To live is Christ, to die is gain;
All worldly hope is naught but vain.
At the time of death, don't fear
that hour,

For over Christians, death and Hell
have no power.

Come, saved ones, and the heavenly
Groom meet.

For all preparations are complete.
But before the spirit and bride say
come,

Of good works, let's increase the
sum.

Ted Schick

INDIANA, BLUFFTON

Peggy Gerber - Shari Kaehr

Those who live in the Lord never see each other for the last time. Our dear Sis. Carrie Gilliom passed onto that eternal shore on June 16. It is such a comfort to know that we shall meet her again in heaven. Sis. Carrie preceded her husband, Bro. John Gilliom, in death. Surviving is one daughter, Mrs. Sylvan (Sis. Doris) Frauhiger.

On June 3, Bro. Dale Schwartz took as his wife Sis. Joni Gerber. We wish this happy union God's richest blessings. On this same beautiful summer day, the wish of two other young people was made

known. It was announced that Sis. Jenny Gerber (Bro. Lester and Sis. Rosemary) and Bro. Jim Fiechter (Bro. Carl and Sis. Mary) were to be married. Lord willing, they will be united in holy matrimony on August 26.

I remember the family altar

And my father kneeling there,
And the old tones thrill in my
memory still

As they echo his voice in prayer.

Author Unknown

On Father's Day, we were privileged to have in our midst three ministering brothers who reminded us how important our fathers are to our family. We thank Bros. Art and Don Gudeman from LaCrosse and Larry Wenninger from Latty. Also visiting and sharing with us this month were Elder Bro. Perry Zimmerman (Forrest) and Bros. Walter Recklau (Toledo), Simon Wagonbach (Tremont), Ken Schneider (Remington), William Gudeman (Elgin), and Paul Gasser (Akron). We enjoyed each and every timely message. We thank our visitors and ask the Lord to bless them.

Our congregation grew this month as four precious new bundles were added to three young families. Once again, Bro. Dave and Sis. Loretta (Aschliman) Smith gained double joy as twin boys were born to them. Joshua Louis and Jason Michael were welcomed home by "big brother" Austin and twin sisters, Lana and Lisa. Minday Ann was born to Bro. Keven and Sis. Andrea (Neuenschwander) Sipe on May 20. Janelle, age 2, was pleased with her baby sister. Chauncy and Sis. Julee Frauhiger and little Jemma took into their home, on May 25, little Jediah Clay. Bro. Earl and Sis. Ann Frauhiger are the happy grandparents.

Hospitalized this month were Joshua Maggert, infant son of John and Becky (Kaehr) Maggert, Bro. Kent Ringger, Bro. Ed Moser, Rod Gerber (son of Bro. Bill and Sis. Carolyn), Sis. Lillian Isch, Sis. Mar-lise Steffen, Sis. Alice Schafer, Sis. Emma Kipfer, Sis. Cordelia Aschli-man, and Ann Nowakowski (daughter of Bro. Simon and Sis. Delores Heyerly). We wish all these souls God's healing mercies.

Our Vacation Bible School began this year on May 29 and concluded on Friday evening, June 8, after the annual Bible School program.

There were 275 students enrolled. Sixty teachers and helpers gave of their time to help plant the seed of righteousness. We can only hope and pray that this seed was sown on fertile ground.

INDIANA, BREMEN Norma Lehman

No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who had chosen him to be a soldier. II Tim 2:4.

Visiting ministers this month were Bro. Walt Rager from Toledo, OH, and Bro. Al Langhofer from Wichita, KS.

In our congregation there are four graduates. Those graduating from high school are Nancy Lehman, Dale Lehman, Bro. Bryon Meister, and Sis. Pam Gerber. May the Lord guide and direct them as they plan their futures.

"Jesus, I am His and He is Mine," was the theme for our Vacation Bible School, June 11-15. Bro. Al Langhofer spoke on discipleship on the 14th and 15th. We all received blessings from his strengthening message.

June 6 was a very special day for Bro. Henry and Sis. Leah Souder, as it marked their 64th wedding anniversary.

We are thankful to have Bro. Carl Zeltwanger back in church.

Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have; for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. Hebrews 13:5.

INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE Linda Gutwein Sharon Neihouser

Bro. Ken and Sis. Lyn Wuethrich were filled with joy with the arrival of their son, Seth William, on May 25. He is welcomed home by one sister, Heather. The grandparents are Bro. Chris Lee and Sis. Ruth Wuethrich.

We were privileged to have Bros. Todd Feller (La Crosse), Bob Grimm (Goodfield), and Elmer Schmidt (Winthrop) share with us the Living Word this month. We were reminded that the Christian walk of life is not always a path of roses . . . but we can always smell the roses.

June 3 was the wedding day of Sis. Cindy Albrecht (Lewis and Sis. Carol) and Bro. Brian Weigand (Bro. Joseph and Sis. Lois) of Oakville. We were thankful that Bros.

Rod Huber (Valpo) and Ed Lanz (Oakville) came to share this special day with us: Bro. Ed assisted Bro. Wendell in giving them many good teachings for a happy Christian home.

Bro. Henry Beer (Milford) spent a Wednesday evening with us and shared his many good things for the Christian home.

Our late Bro. Dwight Bucher had a God-given talent for writing poetry. The following poem was one of many that expressed his thoughts.

The judgement hall was silent,
people sat to await their doom;
Then the door swung quietly open,
as the Judge entered the room.

There were heads hung low in
sorrow,
all heads were bowed as in
prayer.

No one dared to look around him
as the Judge moved to His chair.

There was no time given for
pleading;
one by one they took the stand.
The sentence then was given,
doomed to hell or the promised
land.

Not a word could e'er be uttered,
not a whisper nor a sigh;
To each man He read the verdict
written in the book on high.

I sat there in amazement,
Wondering what would be my
fate;

Had I been a faithful steward;
would I get inside the gate?

The room did slowly empty,
still my name he did not call,
And each moment seemed like
hours—

had I paid Christ my all?

Alas! He cried, "Come forward;"
all alone I took the stand;
Would a merciful Judge reject me,
or would He stretch forth His
hand?

I stood alone in silence,
head bowed down in fervent
prayer;
Yet not a word He asked me,
not a word I uttered there.
Then my pleading eyes beheld Him,
and I looked upon His face,
And my heart cried out, "My
Saviour" —
saved by amazing grace.

Health and cheerfulness mutual-
ly beget each other.

INDIANA, LA CROSSE Lois Bucher - Pearl Nuest

After spending two weeks in the hospital, Louise Alt was moved to the Vale View Convalescent Center, Valparasio, IN, May 8.

The man who makes a success of life and doesn't squander his days is quite deserving, it seems to me, of honor, worth, and praise. Our high school graduates are Patty Paarlberg, Susan Paarlberg, Jeff Miller, and Sis. Lauri Zeltwanger. College graduates are Marianne Paarlberg and Kathy Paarlberg, who graduated from nurse's training.

We are happy to report that Louise Alt has repented and has received peace. She was baptized on the testimony of her faith on May 24 at the Convalescent Center. This holy act was performed by Elder Bros. Edward Frank and Wendell Gudeman. We welcome her into our fellowship as a sister in the Lord.

We thank Ministering Bro. Earl Bonwart (West Bend) for serving us June 3. He instructed us to have love in our hearts so we can be zealous for the Lord as Apostle Paul was.

INDIANA, LEO Mrs. Phil Schlatter Mrs. Al Frautschi

Many who read this and those who write for this little paper may never have met. In this train of thought, a genuine quote comes to mind: "If you never know me, you'll miss nothing; but, if you don't meet my Christ, you'll miss everything!"

We're happy to report that Wade Stoller recently decided to make his personal acquaintance with our Saviour. He is the son of Bro. Gene and Sis. Minerva Stoller.

His wonderful Word of Truth has been brought by several visiting ministers: Bros. Art Gudeman, La Crosse, Roy Wieland, Bay City, Wendell Gudeman, Francisville, Walter Herman, Princeville, and Jim Rinkenberger, Bluffton. Praise is due Him for sending each one. It is good to hear His Word; but, everyone of us who loves the Lord should be in the Word every day.

Congratulations go to Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Pearl (Keller) Klopfenstein upon their Golden Wedding Anniversary. They are the parents of two sons, Dennis and Bro. Lynn, and grandparents of one granddaughter, Kelly, and four grand-

sons, Troy, Michael, Scott, and Todd.

Nathan Elias was born on June 29 to Bro. Mark and Sis. Diane Souder. Brooke will be pleased. The grandparents are Bro. Ed and Sis. Irma Souder and Bro. George and Sis. Helen Zimmer (Bremen).

Recently released hospital patients are Sis. Adele Conrad, Sis. Frances Bertsch, and Bro. Edward Frautschi.

"As you travel on, be sure to note that if God sends you in stony paths, He will provide strong shoes!" "Many a one has failed because he has looked at the mountains instead of the One who can move mountains." (from Pacific Challenge) "When you have nothing left but God, then for the first time you become aware that God is enough."

INDIANA, MILFORD

Connie Beer
Sandy Beer

Even the angels rejoice over one sinner who comes in repentance. There is great rejoicing here at Milford, for we again have souls turning to the Lord. Nothing can revive a church and its members quite like the beautiful News of another dear convert. We wish them each abundant grace as they begin their life anew in Christ.

We are so thankful for the time that Bro. Keith and Sis. Kathy Funk and family spent in our area. May God continue to bless them as they return to Roanoke.

On May 29, our Sis. Emma Krauter, 83, passed on into eternity. She had been in failing health for the past year. She was a faithful sister who did everything she could to live for the Lord. Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to her remaining family, Sis. Betty Knochel, who has also been ill and hospitalized, her brother, Herman Wiesser, and Sis. Wanda Wiesser, who has been unable to worship with us because of her health.

We are sorry we overlooked our college graduates in our last report. Congratulations to Sis. Peg Beer (Bro. Phil and Sis. Millie), Indiana University, Doug Hoerr (Bro. Bob and Sis. Marguerite), Purdue, Brent Kaiser (Bro. Dick and Sis. Clara), Purdue, and Rich Wuthrich (Pete and Marilyn), Valpo.

On the evening of June 3, we en-

joyed the Promotion Program presented by the Sunday school students and their teachers.

Hospital patients are Everett Price (surgical) and Betty Knockel (medical). May they feel God's presence as they struggle with adversity.

Lise Marie Leman arrived June 7 to bless the home of Bro. Don and Sis. Colleen. Lisa is the couple's first child. The grandparents are Bro. Jesse and Sis. Shirley Beer and Don and Sis. Pearl Leman (Roanoke).

Bro. Bob and Sis. Sue Cockburn have a happy addition to their family, also. Amy Elizabeth was born June 12. Her sister, Bethany, is two. The maternal grandparents are Bro. Glen and Sis. Kate Price. Bro. Bob and Sis. Sue plan to move to Leo soon to fill the position of administrator at the Children's Home, and we wish them and their little family God's richest blessings as they seek to follow His will.

Our Vacation Bible School was held the week of June 11. We appreciated the efforts of all involved to make it a blessed event. Teachers found themselves with the great responsibility of teaching young and impressionable minds about Jesus. A special thank-you to ministering Bros. Art Gudeman (LaCross), Steve Gutwein (Francesville), Phil Stettner (Bluffton), and Robert Bebee (Bremen).

A FATHER'S PRAYER

Dear God, my little boy of three
has said his nightly prayer to
thee;
Before his eyes were closed in sleep
he asked that Thou his soul
would keep;
And I, still kneeling by his bed,
my hand upon his tousled head,
Do ask, with deep humility,
that Thou, dear Lord, remember
me.
Make me, kind Lord, a worthy Dad,
that I may lead this little lad
In pathways ever fair and bright,
that I may keep his steps aright.
O God, his trust must never be
destroyed or ever marred by me.
So, for the simple things he prayed
with childish voice so unafraid;
I, trembling, ask the same from
thee,
Dear Lord, kind Lord, remember
me.

Wgejr

INDIANA, PURDUE UNIVERSITY (Lafayette)

Candy Wuethrich

"I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth." Psalms 121:1,2.

God promises to help us when we look to Him. Throughout this past year we have experienced the fulfillment of God's promises as we looked to Him each day for strength and guidance. The time passes so swiftly during the school year as we find our days busily scheduled. It is with a sigh of relief that we see another year of school come to a close. Congratulations to Bro. Eddie Bahler, Bro. Darryl Gerber, and Bro. Neal Widmer as they have graduated from Purdue this spring. We wish them God's blessings as they begin their careers.

The handiwork of God is beautiful to behold as the summer months appear. When Bro. Art Ringger (Indianapolis) spoke at a Purdue service, he stressed that God favors us everyday. We should ask ourselves if we, in turn favor God every day. Do we favor Him only when it is convenient or the opportunity is apparent? Let us constantly strive to walk closer with our Saviour. "His is the power, Almighty is God! He ruleth wisely, He minifests His favor every day!" Hymns of Zion No. 245.

Bro. Carroll Gerber (Bluffton) was with us at a Purdue service. He read from Luke 8; Jesus told the parable of the sower which teaches us to be fruitful and faithful. It is a blessing to have brothers come and share the precious Word with us.

On April 24, the Purdue group gathered together at Happy Hollow Park for our annual picnic. Although the rain was pouring down, we had sunshine in our hearts for we could feel the Lord's nearness. We elected new officers for next year: pres., Tom Troxel; vice-pres., Scott Frank; sec-treas., Candy Wuethrich.

The Purdue Group wishes to sincerely thank Bro. Ed Bahler and Bro. Gene Lehman for all their help and support during the past school year.

MOVING? LET US KNOW.

One day at a time—but a single day,
 Whatever its load, whatever its length;
 And there's a bit of precious Scripture to say
 That according to each shall be our strength. J. R. Miller

INDIANA, REMINGTON

Amelia Schini - Mildred Clauss

Wait on the Lord: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the Lord. Ps. 27:14.

The above verse has many times given me courage and strength.

On Sunday, May 27, Charlene Bahler (Bro. Edwin and Sis. Lois) brought her testimony of faith and was baptized, becoming our young sister in faith. Bro. Perry Zimmerman was here to assist our Elder Bro. Alfred Bahler.

Our Sister Anna Beckley, who suffered a stroke last winter, has been moved from the Americana Nursing Home to Parkview Haven at Francesville.

Born to Rex and Tammie Clauss was a little girl, Erica Sue, on June 2. She is their first child. Sis. Lorrene Clauss is the paternal grandmother.

On Saturday, May 26, Jeff Beckley took Jean Siefert of Batesville as his bride. Jeff is the son of Elmer and Nancy and grandson of Bro. Herman and Sis. Emma Beckley.

The Wolcott church hosted our combined Vacation Bible School, which was held June 4 through June 8. The theme was "Jesus is the Answer." We thank Wolcott for a job well done.

While going through a book of my mother's, I found many clippings. The following is one:

KEEP IT OUT

All the water in the world,
 However hard it tried,
 Could never, never sink a ship
 Unless it got inside.

All the evil in the world,
 The blackest kind of sin
 Could never hurt you one least bit
 Unless you let it in.

By Janice Taylor

Observation is an old and accredited school in which all may enroll. The only tuition is our eyes and our ears.

INDIANA, VALPARAISO Susie and Marie Heinold

POWER OF CHOICE

Christ can take a sin-ruined life,
 Forgiving all the past,
 Transform it to a life of purpose
 Respect, and love that lasts.

Sin can mar and leave its scar,
 And brightest future blight;
 But Christ can change a hopeless life
 To courage and delight.

Christ can take all sin away,
 But will the heart refill
 With wondrous beauty of Himself
 If we obey His will.
 Maxine Clark

Our hearts are full of thanks to the five ministers who visited us during this past month. They are Bros. Walter Anliker, Joe Zimmerman, Merle Bucher, Todd Feller, and Elder Bro. Theo Beer.

We have young children with happy hearts who are looking forward to vacations since the school year has ended and summer will begin this week.

On Sunday morning, June 17, a precious bundle arrived to bless the home of Bro. Todd and Sis. Evelyn Ames, and little sister Car-ey.

We will have Bible School sessions with the Lacrosse and Francesville churches this year, and trust that all who attend will receive a blessing.

INDIANA, WOLCOTT Laurel Widmer

The Wolcott and Remington churches held Bible School during the week of June 4-8. Visiting ministers were Bro. Steve Gutwein (Francesville), Bro. Arnie Gerst (Chicago), and Bro. Dave Weigand (Champaign). We trust this joint effort will be fruitful and that all who participated will be blessed accordingly.

The Glenn Furrer family has moved from the Wolcott area to Morris, MN. We will miss them here but wish them happiness in their new home.

Bro. Ralph Ravelette has been ill and unable to attend services for a while but is recovering at home. We hope he will soon be back with us.

IOWA, BURLINGTON Mayme Gerst — Judy Gehring

As I go step by step, the way shall open up before me. I know not when or where I go, or whether or not it'll be a familiar scene,
 But He is here, and He is there,
 And all the way between.
 And when I pass from all I know,
 even to the vast unknown,
 Though late I stay or soon I go,
 I shall not go alone.
 Author Unknown

There are so many changes taking place in this world; the true believers are faced by ever-increasing pressures. As my father said, we should pray, always, that we will not be spiritually blinded. Then there is the ever-present, ever-heightening tide of worldly pleasures, sins, and entertainment that can gradually move us from our firm foundation if we do not stand fast. Let us daily apply the counsel of the writer of Hebrews who says that we should lay aside every weight, and the sin that doth so easily beset us.

As we see, piece by piece, the fulfillment of the Scriptural prophecies concerning the last times, let us stay so close to God that nothing can come between. The Bible has the answer to our every need. Those who are ready can truly rejoice. We thank God that He brought Bro. James Hoerr, Peoria, to our congregation to bring us the Word of God.

Loretta Morris and William Dixon were married on June 17. Loretta is the daughter of Sophia Mellinger. They will live at 4406-67th St., Urbandale, IA 50322. We will miss them here at church.

Mary Beth Gehring, daughter of Bro. Uriel and Sis. Judy, was hospitalized but is home again.

Thinking of Father's Day, we ask God's blessings on all fathers. How much it means when the father is a Christian and can lead his family as directed by God.

We rejoice with Bro. Richard and Sis. Edna Pohl as they celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. They have four children, Robert, Richard, Jr., Mary Ann, and Fred. They also have seven grandchildren. May God bless them and guide them. They wish to thank all who sent their

best wishes on their Golden Wedding Anniversary. Their 50 years passed swiftly, Sis. Edna says, through their "ups" and "downs." The Lord delivered them out of all of their problems, for which they praise His holy name. They began their married life as the depression began, but serving the Lord, He blessed them and their four children "all along the way."

IOWA, ELGIN Eleanor Butikofer

Quoting part of Brownings poem, we find:

The morning's at seven,
The hillside is dew-pearled,
The lark is on the wing,
The snail is on the thorn,
God is in heaven,
and all is well with the world.

Yes, the Baltimore orioles are in their woven hammock which sways with every little breeze. The swallows are skimming over our garden, removing mosquitoes as they wing their way back and forth during the evening hours. A pair of brown thrashers are living in our lilac bush, and a pair of chirping sparrows has built themselves a home in one of our bridal wreath shrubs.

The corn rows are beginning to show across the fields, farmers are busy putting up hay, and we realize that June is a reality.

Bro. Gottlieb Pulfer has been released from the hospital, and is presently in a care center.

Bro. Jacob Gehring's illness has prevented him from attending our church services, and his presence is missed.

We want to thank our visiting ministers Bros. Uriel Gehring, Burlington, IA, Simon Wagenbach, Tremont, IL, and John Steiner, Oakville, IA.

Elder Bro. Paul Butikofer plans to officiate at the wedding of Audrey Pulfer and Ronald Landherr. Audrey is the daughter of Paul and Sis. Evelyn Pulfer, and Ronald is the son of Wilmer and Evangeline Landherr, Stacyville, IA. We extend our sincere congratulations and best wishes to them.

Bro. Wm. and Sis. Norma Butikofer moved to Illinois with their two son, Mark and John. We are saddened and will miss them very much. May God bless them in eve-

ry aspect of their new environment.

IOWA, IOWA CITY Connie Gerst

Our little flock in Iowa City has had some changes that have taken place within the last several weeks. With sadness, we are saying farewell to two dear families who are moving out of our area. Bro. Ken and Sis. Jill Rinkenberger are locating near Bay City, and Bro. Gary and Sis. Edie Anliker will be making Elgin, IL, their home. We wish all of them God's blessings and hope they will visit Iowa City often in the future.

We welcome Fred Eberhardt as a brother-in-faith. Fred gave his testimony of faith and was baptized at the Oakville Church.

With the angels in heaven, we rejoice that Jay Mogler has answered the Lord's call and is repenting. Jay and his wife, Holly, live in Cedar Rapids. Bro. Andy and Sis. Frieda Mogler of Lester, IA, are Jay's parents.

Since Bro. Gary Anliker is moving, Bro. Bruce Frank has been elected as our new correspondent. If anyone has need to contact him concerning church services in Iowa City, his address is:
1605 13th Ave. SW
Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52404
319-365-2823

Visiting ministers have been Bros. James Leman, Roanoke; John Steiner and Edawrd Lanz, Oakville; and Willis Wiegand, Goodfield. May God bless each one for his willingness to serve the Lord by preaching the "Word of Life."

IOWA, LESTER Alice Metzger

Elder Bro. Harold Messner, Winthrop, was our guest minister on Friday evening, June 15. Lynn and Marlys Doorneweerd gave their testimonies. We rejoice that they could find their salvation through Jesus Christ. Baptisms took place on Sunday, and they were warmly welcomed as brother and sister-in-faith. Lynn is the son of Sis. Karoline Doorneweerd and Marlys is the daughter of Bro. Elmer and Sis. Mariann Metzger. Our other visiting minister recently was Bro. Bill Gudeman, Elgin, IL.

God has called another dear soul to repentance. Joyce Knobloch,

daughter of Bro. Si and Sis. Edna, has answered that call and has turned away from the world of sin.

Our Bible Classes were graciously entertained by the Sunday School in West Bend for their Youth Fellowship Days the second weekend in June.

Our single members took a chartered bus to Fairbury for a weekend of fellowship and blessings.

A baby girl, Jill Nicole, was born on June 6 to Delbert and June Knobloch. She has a brother, and her grandparents are Sis. Iola Knobloch and Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Vander Sanden. On June 9, Joshua Allan was born to Jerry and Judy Feucht. He has a brother and sister, and his grandparents are Emil and Ruby Feucht and Bro. Noah and Sis. Laura Miller, Minneapolis.

Jim Knobloch, son of Gilbert and Vicki, was hospitalized but is home and fine again.

The home of Bro. Art and Sis. Emily Leuthold was the scene of a lawn wedding for their daughter, Carol, and Bob Molitor on June 16. Elder Bro. Leo Moser conducted the service in the presence of relatives and friends.

We miss Sis. Barbara Metzger since she has moved to the Silverton area but pray that God will bless her undertakings there. We welcome the Randy Ludwig family who has moved to nearby Canton, SD. They formerly attended church in West Bend.

IOWA, OAKVILLE Phyllis Siegle

Two souls found it worthwhile to seek their Lord in repentance and were taken into the body of Christ. They are Fred Eberhardt, son of Bro. Joseph, Jr., and Sis. Ruby, and Tom Ohnmacht, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Ohnmacht. We can see the Lord still calls sinners to repentance, and even the angels rejoice in heaven when this happens. We welcome them into our fellowship. May God be with them throughout their lifetime. Elder Bro. Paul Butikofer was present to help in this labor.

Karen Rauhaus and Richard Schulte were married on May 26. Parents of the couple are Bro. Roy and Sis. Lucille Rauhaus and Mr. and Mrs. Leo Schulte. They plan to live at Colorado Springs, CO.

Bro. Bryan Wiegand and Sis. Cindy Albrecht, Francesville, IN, ex-

changed wedding vows. Bro. Bryan is the son of Bro. Joe and Sis. Lois, and Sis. Cindy is the daughter of Lewis and Sis. Carol. We welcome Sis. Cindy to our community. We hope she will feel a warm welcome, too, whenever she worships with us. Our wishes for much happiness and blessings from above are extended to both couples.

We are grateful for the following visiting ministers: Elder Bro. Paul Butikofer, Elgin; Bro. Arnold Gerst, Chicago; Bro. Harvie Heiniger, Burlington; and Bro. Joe Gerst, Iowa City. May God continue to bless their ministry, and may we long remember the words of teaching and exhortation they brought, whether it was through a message or a prayer.

MY TASK

To love some one more dearly
every day,
To help a wandering child to find
his way,
To ponder over a noble thought,
and pray,
And smile when evening falls—
This is my task.

To follow truth as blind men long
for light,
To do my best from dawn of day
'til night,
To keep my heart fit for His holy
sight,
And answer when He calls—
This is my task.

Maude Ray

Bro. Gary and Sis. Karen Schulz Welcomed their first child, Julie Beth, into their home. The grandparents are Bro. Myron and Sis. Dorothy Schulz and Elder Bro. Ed and Sis. Joan Lanz. Great grandparents are Bro. John and Sis. Bertha Wagenbach and Mr. and Mrs. Myron Schulz, Sr.

IOWA, PULASKI

Mary Jane Knapp
Ginny Wuthrich

Our Bible Class traveled to Taylor, MO, to be with other young adults from various churches. We hope they each one found joy in meeting friends from the same faith and that some day they may all have Jesus as their Friend.

JESUS, MY BEST FRIEND

Every day, my Best Friend and I
Together walk another mile;
And I learn to know Him better

As we talk a little while.
I tell Him of the trials
And the burdens which are mine;
Then in love He quickly answers,
"I'll help bear that cross of
thine."

Sometimes I cannot see Him
F'or tear drops in my eyes,
And when I tell Him of my
troubles,
He is quick to sympathize.
When I am tired and weary
And complain when I should not,
He reminds me of my blessings
And how fortunate is my lot.
When I say that I am sorry
To have grieved that heart of
Thine,
He forgives in mercy, saying,
"Be more careful, friend of
Mine."

When He talks of Heaven fair,
I feel a surge of joy within,
To think that someday I'll be there,
Where eternal life begins.
Mansions are prepared up there,
He's told me o'er and o'er,
And there is one awaiting me
With a welcome, open door.
There is a fountain on the way
Where I often drink and rest,
It springeth from the Book of Life
For the weary and oppressed.
Before I reach the golden gates,
Death's valley I will see
Where this mortal robe is changed
To immortality.
"So do not fear the sting of death,
I've removed it long ago,
And now, my friend, keep treading
on;
Your trials soon will end below."
—By Bro. Henry Kipfer

We wish the best to our two graduates this spring. They are Sis. Donna Teubal, daughter of Sis. Wilma and Bro. Richard, and Laura Wuthrich, daughter of Sis. Shirley and Bro. Joel. Sis. Donna graduated from high school and plans to go to nurses training this fall. Laura graduated from LPN training and is now starting her RN training. May God grant each the courage to carry on.

IOWA, WEST BEND

Mrs. Raymond Anliker

On Mother's Day we were blessed when Bro. Dale Moore from Elgin, IA, spoke to us about how dear our mothers are, those here on Earth and also those in heaven waiting for us to join them on that "golden morn."

On June 9 and 10, the West Bend Bible Class hosted the annual youth

fellowship gathering. Lester, Morris, and Winthrop church groups attended. The guest speaker was Bro. John Lehman from Bern, KS. His topic was "Watch and Pray." "Watch ye therefore: for ye know not when the master of the house cometh, at even or at midnight, or at the cockcrowing, or in the morning: Lest coming suddenly he find you sleeping. And what I say unto you I say unto all, Watch." Mark 13:35-37.

On May 26, Jim Wirtz and Joan Bruellman were united in marriage by Bro. Noah Gerber at the Apostolic Fellowship Center. Their parents are Bro. Verner and Sis. Beverly Wirtz, and Bro. Don and Sis. Verda Bruellman. A wedding reception was also held on June 8 for Eric and Diana (Harmon) Mogler. Eric's parents are Bro. Nathan and Sis. Lilly Mogler. We wish each of them God's blessings.

A "farewell" supper was held at the Fellowship Center on May 20 for Randy and Deanna Ludwig and their family. (Randy's parents are Bro. Arnold and Sis. Kate.) Randy has been transferred to Canton, SD. They will be attending the Lester church. We will miss them, but we wish them the Lord's blessings in their new venture.

Hospital patients are Dennis Schmndt (Bro. Dwaine and Sis. Lucille), Sis. Lydia Reinhart, and Colette Fehr (Bro. Wayne and Sis. Kathy). Also, hospitalized for several weeks was Brent Kellenberger (Bro. Randy and Sis. Karen of Tremont, IL, who fell and fractured a bone. He is now returned home to his family. We will be thankful when all can be restored to better health and return home.

JAPAN, SHIODA

Jane Weiss

A dear Japanese sister who was baptized about 22 years ago recently told me a little of her experiences. She was raised in a Christian home, and her father read the Bible daily. They also sang hymns in their home every day. Sunday School classes were taught there. Once or twice a month they made a three-hour trip by horse and buggy to church. In spite of this, because of her human nature, she was quite proud of her learning and accomplishments here on this earth. She confesses that she was not of a humble nature.

She studied various religions offered in Japan, such as Buddhism,

Shintoism, and the like, and she finally settled on one of them.

She was then married, and her father-in-law was a professing Christian. Still, because of her rebellious nature and the power of Satan, she was critical of him and often found things in his life to criticize about his Scriptural teachings. He was patient and loving and was not critical of her to others. She could not understand this, as she was always starting arguments or fights with him for a period of about seven years. She knew that she was in the wrong.

Finally, she permitted herself to be taught the 4th verse of the 4th chapter of Jeremiah, where it is written, "Circumcise yourselves to the Lord, circumcise your hearts . . . because of the evil you have done." Her heart became repentant, and one year after our Shioda church was started, she was baptized with a group of ten believers. She said that she had been wearing a mask and "did herself up" so as to be attractive to the eye. To shed those layers of cover was a relief, and she can now breathe freely.

Are you wearing a mask for others to see and not allowing the love of God to shine through?

We are into the rainy season, and that has somewhat of a mental effect on everyone. But we should try to remember that the rainbow was sent after the rain, and so the Lord will send us His renewing strength after our trials.

The monthly singing was held at our home this month as we wanted to do that once more before Sally Beutel returns to the States after her two years of service here. Yes, two years are up already, and it's again time for changes in the teachers and the lives of us who live here. We're thankful that the Lord sees us through these changes in our lives everyday and that we can leave our future plans and worries in His hands.

Last month, instead of having our monthly singing in a home as we usually do, since it was Mother's Day, we went to a rest home and sang to them. Also, we gave them some Scripture portions and a carnation for each room. We want to say a special thank-you to our Heavenly Father for our mothers, and we utter a special prayer always for the widowed and sick among us. "Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and wi-

dows in their affliction. . ." James 1:27.

JAPAN, TOKYO Yoshio Yamazaki Marie Inoue

It is unusually weather here in Japan and very bad flue spread around here and there. Also, according to radio and the newspapers, the leaders of the several nations are concerning to have the time of negotiations of the energies crises.

Yes, most of the people of this world today never concern about God's grace and shut their eyes before His mercy and prophecy. I am thinking about the time of Noah and his patience and love and appreciation before God. I believe that God let us make a great ark of His salvation today, and we Christians should work more harder than before. It is not so easy because the people of this world became worse and worse, lately.

We were very pleased to have Jim Whipple from Iowa last month, and he stopped at our church here in Tokyo on Sunday. He is on a business trip to various places and Japan was his first stop. It is very nice that we had a wonderful time together. We wish and believe that the Lord accepts our prayer and will knock on his heart until he repents.

KANSAS, BERN Esther and Stella Moser

May we in perfect love be found when we Thy table, Lord, surround. On May 27, Elder Bro. Lester Hartter, assisted by Elder Bro. Sam Anlicker (Lamont), conducted communion services. It was a calm, peaceful time of sharing. We then sang, "Anew, Lord we are bound to Thee trough Thy blest sacrament, which we partook, that joined in heart and hand; to Zion's realm and holy land, we journey on." (Zion's Harp 200) Bro. Dale Moore (Elgin, IA) was our guest minister on this day.

We have three joy-bundles to report. Jan and Val Rivera, Santa Marie, CA, have a son, Dylan Baumgartner, born May 12. Dylan is the first grandchild for Les and Leora Baumgartner. Martha Jo arrived May 20 to make her home with Bro. Wilfred and Sis. Verona Strahm. Sara, Marcia, Ted, and Rebecca are happy to help care for her. The grandparents are Bro. Emil and Sis. Grace and Bro. Vir-

gil and Sis. Marie Hartter (Sabetha). Bro. Dale and Sis. Shelby Strahm welcomed their first son, Lynn Edward, born June 4. A little sister, Lisa, also says welcome. Bro. Eli and Sis. Lois Meyer (Sabetha) and Bro. Ephriam Strahm are Lynn's grandparents.

Sincere sympathy is extended to Bro. Frank Hertzell and family in the passing of his mother. This is a rough time for Frank because he had back surgery less than a week ago.

KANSAS, FORT SCOTT Jan Kraft

We welcome Greg and Kare (Bro. Gene and Sis. Mary Marti) Snyder and their baby boy, Quinton. Greg has accepted a position at the Western Insurance Co. We hope they will enjoy it here in Fort Scott.

Bible School was the week of June 11-15. Visiting ministers were Bros. Sam Huber (Sabetha) and George Lambert (Wichita). We received much in the studies of prophecies, Revelations, and the Book of Daniel. We must realize how important it is to stay close to God.

IF JESUS CAME TODAY?

If Jesus came to your house to spend a day or two—
If He came unexpectedly, I wonder what you'd do?
When you saw Him coming, would you meet Him at the door
With arms outstretched in welcome, to your heavenly visitor?
Or would you have to change your clothes before you let Him in,
Or hid some magazines and put the Bible where they'd been?
Would you turn off the radio and hope he hadn't heard?
And wish you hadn't uttered that last loud hasty word?
Would you hide your worldly music, and put some hymn books out?
Could you let Jesus walk right in, or would you rush about?
And I wonder—If the Saviour spent a day or two with you,
Would you go right on doing the things you always do?
Would you go right on saying the things you always say,
Would life for you continue as it does from day to day?
Would your family conversation keep up its usual pace?
And would you find it hard each meal to say table grace?
Would you sing the songs you always sing, and read the books you read?

And let him know the things on
which your mind and spirit
feed?

Would you take Jesus with you
everywhere you've planned to go?
Or would you, maybe, change your
plans for just a day or so?

Would you be glad for him to stay,
forever on and on,

Or would you sigh with great relief,
when He at last was gone?

It might be interesting to know the
things that you would do,

If Jesus came in person, to spend
some time with you.

Author Unknown

KANSAS, GRIDLEY

Julie Strahm - Doris Bahr

The most powerful and untam-
able creature of the world has its
den at the back of the teeth. As you
have may well guessed, its the
tongue. So very small, yet it holds
so much power:

A careless word may kindle strife,
A cruel word may wreck a life.

A bitter word may hate instill,
A brutal word may smite and kill.
A gracious word may smooth the
way,

A joyous word may light the day.
A timely word may lesson stress,
A loving word may heal and bless.

Author Unknown

Gracious and appropriate words
spoken to one another can 1) make
the speaker so glad, 2) act as a
sweet honeycomb to the soul, 3)
turn away wrath, and 4) edify and
give grace to those who hear.

Many were hospitalized this past
month: Bro. Sam (Esther) Kraft,
Vernon (Rosemary) Byer, Charlie
(Esther) Knapp, Sis. Janiece
(Dale) Isch, Sis. Wilma (Junior)
Young, Sis. Dorene (Eldon) Metz-
ger, and Victor Edelman (Bro. Al-
bert, Sis. Jeanie). Each one is near
and dear to our hearts. Many
prayers are sent forth to God in
their behalf.

We give special thanks to our
visiting ministering brethren, El-
der Perry Zimmerman, Forrest, IL,
and Art Bahler, Fairbury, IL.

KANSAS, KANSAS CITY

Paula Bahr

I begged my God to give
to me a sincere friend,
But he gave love and said,
"Each one His own must win."

I dreamed a dream and prayed
That world-wide strife would cease,

But God touched my weak voice
And said, "You speak for peace."

When I prayed, "Smooth my path;
Replace my dingy hovel;"

God only gave me tools—
A hammer, saw, and shovel.

— Perry Tanksley

We thank ministering Bros.
Charles Sinn, Ft. Scott, and Har-
vey Grimm, Bern, for being with
us. We trust that God will bless
them for coming.

KANSAS, KIOWA

Janice Bahr

Sunday evening, June 3, Bro.
Marvin and Sis. Irma Ott hosted an
outdoor gathering in their personal
resort area called "The Cove."

It was a beautiful evening; the
first hour was interesting and in-
formative with Bible class, starting
in the book of Galatians, conducted
by ministering Bro. Ronald Allen-
bach, with group participation.

Then there was an hour of hymn
singing blended with the beauty of
God's creation. The union of voices
singing praises to the Lord was
most impressive. A prayer closed
the meeting, and then fellowship
followed as approximately 60 people
enjoyed refreshments and visiting.
It was an enjoyable time for all
who attended.

The gathering was a prelude to
vacation Bible classes which were
held June 4-8 here in Kiowa.

We would like to extend our
heartfelt love and prayers to Sis.
Marie Schurter who, though not
hospitalized, has had a long seige
of illness, and also to Sis. Elizabeth
Otti, who is again in the hospital
after undergoing surgery last
month. We are happy that she
could be in our midst while she was
convalescing at the Kiowa Manor
here. We pray that they will both be
better very soon.

As I looked at the golden fields of
grain our farmers are starting to
harvest, I thought of Jesus' preci-
ous words in St. John 4:35,36. "Say
not ye, There are yet four months,
and then cometh harvest? behold,
I say unto you, Lift up your eyes,
and look on the fields; for they are
white already to harvest. And he
that reapeth receiveth wages, and
gathereth fruit unto life eternal:
that both he that soweth and he
that reapeth may rejoice together."

How we pray that many, many
more souls will prepare for God's
harvest, so that they may be among

the good grain that is garnered in,
and not among the chaff that is
burned and cast into outer dark-
ness.

KANSAS, LAMONT

Mary Isch

Three dear sisters have been
taken out of our little church at La-
mont. Our first was Sis. Emma
Wernli as I reported in the last
Silver Lining. Then on May 9, Sis.
Lucy Imthurn passed away quite
suddenly. Lucy's sister, Sis. Dena
Sauder, was called from this life on
May 15.

Sis. Lucy is survived by one
brother, George Ott, and a host of
nieces and nephews.

Sis. Dena is survived by eight
children and their families.

How we miss meeting and greet-
ing them. They were an inspiration
to us all. Let us strive each day
anew to become more faithful,
loving, kind, and true so that we
may meet all those who have gone
to be with the Lord.

To break Thy bread we now have
gathered,

In covenant to drink thy wine;
As brethren we unite together,
That unto death we might be
Thine.

This promise we, with heart and
will,

Give grace our promise to fulfill.

Zion's Harp, No. 25

We had the blessed privilege of
partaking of Holy Communion on
Sunday, June 10. The service was
conducted by Elder Bro. Ronnie
Nelson, Kiowa, and our elder, Bro.
Sam Anliker.

We thank Bro. Ronnie for spend-
ing the day with us and proclaiming
God's precious Word so bountifully.

Bro. Glen Anliker had the mis-
fortune of injuring both hands
while driving steel fence posts. He
was in the hospital a few days for
treatment.

Bro. Stephen Schrader also spent
some time in the hospital for tests
and observations. We wish them
much grace, many blessings, and
speedy recoveries.

KANSAS, SABETHA

Clara Steiner - Judy Hartter

Sis. Jeryl and Bro. Doug Grimm
are the parents of a son born on
May 22. He has been named Kurt
Douglas and is welcomed home by
his parents and a sister, Christy.

Kaleb Martin was born May 24 to

Sis. Karen and Bro. Martin Beyer. He is welcomed by four brothers, Kenneth, Keith, Clinton, and Korbin.

Sis. Lois Hartman passed away June 6 after a lengthy illness. She leaves her husband, Ministering Bro. Carl; one son, Eugene, and his wife, Doris, all of Sabetha; one grandson, Louis; four step-grandchildren and four step-great-grandchildren. Services were held June 8 in Sabetha with Bro. Sam Anliker and Bro. Sam Huber officiating. Burial was in the Sabetha Cemetery. Bro. Carl tells us that all through his wife's illness she received many cards of encouragement that helped her through the day. She appreciated them all. He says that since God has called her home, sympathy cards and memorial offerings have come from far and near. He and his family want to thank everyone for all the love shown in so many ways. They pray that God will bless all who helped and remembered.

Hospitalized this past month were Sis. Katie Leiser and Sis. Carrie Aberle.

New Sunday School teachers selected for the coming year are Sis. Judy Hartter, Bro. Tim Hartter, and Bro. George Grimm. Substitutes are Sis. Marcel Meyer, Sis. Sonia Strahm, Bro. Doug Grimm, and Bro. Daryl Meyer. Bro. Harlan Meyer was re-elected for a two year term on the board of the A.C. Home.

KANSAS, WICHITA Judy Langhofer

Several months ago a brother and sister in faith, traveling through Wichita, stopped to visit our congregation. It was an unexpected visit, and the brother cautiously inquired if unexpected visitors were welcome in our church. For those of you who do not know us, please believe we always like visitors and hope you will feel free to stop when traveling through the area.

Since we are not farmers, this is vacation time for us. Beginning with vacation bible school in early June, we have a busy summer planned for the children. The children are looking forward to a regular summer camp-out. Bro. Godfrey and Sis. Emma Miller have the responsibility in this endeavor. Being experienced campers and also group leaders, they do almost all the plan-

ning and cooking themselves.

Our monthly Bible study for the adults will be on discipleship. Howard Plattner will direct Bible study for the young children.

The Ft. Scott and Kiowa, KS, young people will join Wichita in a song ministry which will involve a trip in July to Gridley, IL. Anyone, any age, from any of these congregations may participate.

Our high school and college graduates were recognized in a Wednesday evening service this month. They were exhorted to seek a higher calling in the service of the Lord in whatever they undertake. Dena Miller, wife of Chris Miller, received her degree from Tabor College, Hillsboro, KS. Melissa Wheeler and Sandra Reeves, daughter of Dwayne and Sis. Rose Ann Reeves, received their high school diplomas. Sandra plans to attend Kansas State University at Manhattan in the fall.

Newcomers to our congregation include Bro. Rocky Giltner from Bluffton, who is making his home with Bro. Max and Sis. Judy Reimschisel, and Bro. Phil and Sis. Sandra Hamilton. Sandra is the daughter of Bro. Arnold and Sis. Nelda Ott of Kiowa, KS.

Bro. Ed and Sis. Lois Bahler of Remington, IN, spent a weekend here with us in June. They were accompanied by members of their family. As Bro. Ed ministered to us on Sunday, two words came to the attention of the congregation, truth and love. He said that we can't have one without the other. This requires special thought. This Scripture comes to my mind and seems to reflect that thought: "But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his son cleanseth us from all sin." (I John 1:7)

I heard a saying today that went something like this: If someone criticizes you, walk so that no one will believe it.

MICHIGAN, ALTO Penny Erismann

"If you have anything really valuable to contribute to the world, it will come through the expression of your own personality — that single spark of divinity that sets you off and makes you different from every other living creature." Barton

Congratulations to our 1979 graduates, Nancy Byam (Doug and Marilyn), Sally Oesch (Bro. Joe and Sis. Melva), and Lauri Schrenk (Bro. Tom and Sis. Joann).

Our love and prayers go out to Sis. Donna Steffen who has been hospitalized. Sis. Anna Wingeier is home recovering from surgery. Also, Sis. Lydia Wingeier is again assembling with us.

MICHIGAN, BAY CITY Patsy Knochel

Our Elder Bro. Joe Waibel reached his 80th birthday this May. We shared this occasion with him by having a pot-luck supper, followed by a singing. May he yet be blessed with many happy days.

I am pleased to write that the engagement of Sis. Patsy Knochel (Bro. Norman and Sis. Leonore) and Bro. Robert Bragiell (Frank and Sis. Irma) has been announced. We surely are thankful for the faith and love God has brought into our hearts. (Ed. note: Sis. Patsy is the Bay City reporter.)

We enjoyed the privilege of having ministering Bro. Ernest Graff (Akron) bring God's precious Word on a Wednesday evening.

Bro. Henry Wieland passed away after a short illness. He is survived by his wife, Sis. Marie, and five children. We extend sympathy and comfort to their family with the blessed hope found in the precious words, "Safe in the arms of Jesus."

Sue Ann Wieland (Bro. Don and Sis. Lou Ann) has made it known that she has peace with God and man. It is now her hope to become a child of God in holy baptism.

It was a joy for two hearts as they were joined together in the Lord on June 17. Sis. Dawn Wieland (Bro. Merle and Sis. Elaine) and Bro. Phil Bahr, Detroit, (Bro. Willard and Sis. Eloise, Sabetha, KS) were united in marriage by Elder Bro. Ben Maibach from Detroit. We surely wish them God's blessings as they begin a Christian home together. Other visiting ministers with us were Elder Bro. Lester Hartter, Bern, KS; Bro. Sam Huber and Bro. Roger Aberle, Sabetha, KS; Bro. Steve Gutwien, Francesville; Bro. Art Bahler, Fairbury; and Bro. Mark Bahr and Bro. Floyd Wieland, Detroit.

When it is the hardest to pray, then pray the hardest.

MICHIGAN, DETROIT**Bonnie Popp**

Bro. Paul and Sis. Sharon Izgherian welcome their second baby boy, Micah Paul, into their hearts and home. The grandparents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Wilma Sauder and Sis. Elizabeth Izgherian.

Bro. Tom and Sis. Cindy Hitz welcome their first new addition Heather Dawn. The grandparents are Elder Bro. Ben and Sis. Lorene Maibach and Bro. Leonard and Sis. Audry Hitz.

We share much happiness with these young families and pray God's blessings upon them.

Our visiting minister this month was Ron Heininger from Bloomington. We are grateful for his visit with his family and pray a blessing for his being with us to share the Word of Truth.

Sis. Katherine Koprince was in the hospital and is now home doing quite well. We pray God's strength for each day for this dear sister in faith.

Sometimes we are forgotten,
Perhaps in hour of need;
But One never forgets us—
Our slightest prayer He'll heed.

Our heavenly Father's moved with
Outpourings of the soul;
He stands ready to help us,
To comfort and console.

Think not that no one hearkens,
Think not that no one cares,
For there is One in glory
Who every burden shares.

And though you be forgotten
By men of earth, tis true
There's One who never falters . . .
He's there to answer you.

Georgia B. Adams

MINNESOTA, MINNEAPOLIS**Carol Virkler**

Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you. John 6:53.

We had the blessed privilege of partaking in Holy Communion on May 20. This holy sacrament was conducted by Elder Bros. Harold Messner of Winthrop and Paul Butikofer of Elgin, IA. We received many precious teachings on June 3 when Bro. Leroy Messner of Winthrop was with us. We thank our visiting ministers, along with our

own ministers, who so graciously labor for the Lord.

Our annual business meeting was held in May. Results of elections were Sis. Barbara Olson, sunday school teacher; Sis. Carol Virkler, substitute teacher; and Bro. Don Esterling, church trustee. We pray that God will give us the grace to carry out our duties.

It was announced that Delores Sauder has peace with God and has expressed her desire to be baptized. Baptism will be held in Morris.

Our congregation welcomes Sis. Martha Blessman of Tucson, who is with us again for the summer. Our family, especially, enjoys Sis. Martha's fellowship as we travel quite a distance to church together.

MINNESOTA, MORRIS**Pam Sutter - Lili Koehl**

Two painters each painted a picture to illustrate his conception of rest. The first chose for his scene a still, lone lake among the far-off mountains.

The second threw on his canvas a thundering waterfall, with a fragile birch tree bending over the foam; and at the fork of the branch almost wet with the cataract's spray, sat a robin on its nest.

The first was only stagnation; the last was rest.

Christ's life outwardly was one of the most troubled lives that ever lived: tempest and tumult, tumult and tempest, the waves breaking over it all the time until the worn body was laid in the grave. But the inner life was a sea of glass. The great calm was always there. At any moment you might have gone to Him and found rest. And even when the human bloodhounds were dogging Him in the streets of Jerusalem, He turned to His disciples and offered them as a last legacy, "My peace." (Weymouth)

We are so happy for our friends James Koehl (Bro. Ernest, Sis. Gladys), Delores Sauder (Virgil and Mildred), and Stanley Schaefer (Bro. Anton, Sis. Verna) who have received peace and now await baptism.

We welcomed two new brothers into the fold on March 18, Bro. Roy Koehl (Bro. Ernest, Sis. Gladys) and Bro. Verle Sauder (Virgil and Mildred.)

MINNESOTA, WINTHROP**Delores Messerli - Mary Thiem**

And the LORD said unto Satan, From whence comest thou? And Satan answered the LORD, and said, From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it. Job 2:2. Out of this sinful world comes another dear soul. We rejoice with Barbara (Messner) Mattes in that she has made peace with God and man and is awaiting baptism. She is the daughter of the late Bro. Fred and Sis. Frieda.

The congregation enjoyed having the Washington youth fellowship with us Memorial Day weekend.

Sis. Ruth Messner (Bro. Don and Sis. Viola), a recent high school graduate, left to worship, live, and work in Peoria.

There Is No Death

If we did not go to sleep at night
We'd never awaken to see the
light
And the joy of watching a new
day break;
Or meeting the dawn by some
quiet like
Would never be ours unless we
slept
While God and all His angels kept
A vigil through this "little death"
That's over with the morning's
breath.
And death too is a time of sleep-
ing,
For those who die are in God's
keeping;
And there's a "sunrise" for each
soul,
For life and Death is God's prom-
ised goal.
So trust God's promise and doubt
Him never,
For only through death can man
live forever.

Helen Steiner Rice

Darold Thiem passed away suddenly May 25 while on a weekend outing in northern Minnesota. He is survived by his wife, Sis. Mary, and a daughter, Brenda. The family wishes to thank everyone for their kind deeds and words in their loss. (Sis. Mary helps report the Silver Lining news.) As God's children, surely we mourn together and rejoice together.

The members and youth of our Junior and Senior Bible Classes

wish to thank the West Bend congregation for hosting the annual youth fellowship. May they be richly rewarded for their effort.

Bro. Marlyn Messner was hospitalized two days for observation. Bro. Leo Messner extends his sincere thanks for all kindnesses shown during his recent recovery.

MISSOURI, LAMAR

Sandra Marti - Vera Luthi

Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. Acts 2:38.

On Saturday evening, June 2, we assembled together to hear the testimonies of six dear souls. On Sunday afternoon, we witnessed their baptism. We gladly welcome the following as our sisters and brother in Christ: Hildegard Stefan (Bro. Willie and Sis. Hilda), Jamie Marti (Bro. Gene and Sis. Mary), Schelli Marti (Bro. Dale and Sis. Corrine), Martha Braker (Bro. Raymond and Sis. LuEtta), and Lori and Lawrence Luthi (Bro. Ray and Sis. Marilyn).

Visiting brethren for this blessed occasion were Elder Brothers Don Sauder (Roanoke) and Raymond Banwart (Ft. Scott). Also with us for the weekend was Bro. Alpha Strahm (Bern). May God bless them for their labors.

Sis. Luise Engle spent a few days in the hospital as a medical patient. We're thankful that she is able to be in our assembly again.

MISSOURI, TAYLOR

Stephanie Gerber Loida Hodel

Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not; for of such is the kingdom of God. Luke 18:16.

"Tara Michelle" was born to Bruce and Mary (Schmalshof) Huber. First-time grandparents are Vernon and Judy (Berkey) Huber.

We count it a real privilege to have visiting ministers. Elder Bro. Ezra Feller, Cissna Park, Bro. Tod Feller, LaCrosse, and Bro. Arnie Gerst, Chicago, along with their families, were here on May 20. Bro. Ezra left us with a timely teaching, especially since we plan to vote for another brother to help in the ministry. St. Luke 10:2:

"The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that He would send forth labourers unto His harvest."

On Wednesday evening, May 23, Elder Bro. Roy and Sis. Gertrude Sauder from Peoria were our visitors. We were reminded that, "If we trust in God, our 'wants' will not always be met, but our 'needs' will be."

We are happy to announce that Bro. Kent Heimer was chosen to share the ministry. We trust that God will bless Bro. Kent and Sis. Jan (Hodel) as they accept this important responsibility. We know this is not of their choosing, and we hope that they can feel it is God's will. May we, as a congregation, support our ministers and help make their role a pleasant one.

On May 27, Bro. Elwood Yackley (Sis. Clara and the late Bro. Perry) and Sis. Trudie Knapp (Bro. Mike and Sis. Lou Anne) were united as one in Christ Jesus by our Elder Bro. Roy Grimm, assisted by Sis. Trudie's uncle, Bro. Art Baurer from Princeville. Believing that God in His infinite love and wisdom has called these two, we are confident that He will bless their lives together.

Bro. Harold and Sis. Wanda Kraft, Ft. Scott, KS, and Bro. Albert and Sis. Eliabeth Wuthrich, Pulaskia, IA, were also welcome visitors this month.

Congratulations to our high school graduates: Bro. Scott Hoerr (Bro. Robert and Sis. Emma Dee), Shelly Hoerr (Bro. Louis and Sis. Ruthie), Diane Riney (Irene and Gene), and David Marquart.

Luke 12:31: "But rather seek ye the kingdom of God and all these things shall be added unto you." We are happy that Louanne Hoerr (Bro. Louis and Sis. Ruthie) and Carol Thames (Bro. Phil and Sis. Kay, Fairbury) have heeded this teaching and are repenting. We wish them much help and grace to continue on. We sincerely hope that there will be many more who heed His call.

Our Sunday School picnic and song program was enjoyed by all on June 3.

June 10, our Bible Class hosted the Bible Classes from Oakville, Garden Grove, Pulaski, and Burlington, IA. Our young people are

very fortunate to be able to travel and fellowship with others of the same faith. The whole day was a special blessing for all of us. We thank all, including the teachers, for coming.

Ministering Bro. Gerald Sutter is a hospital surgical patient at this time. May he and Sis. Marge feel the prayers of all of us, and may God grant a complete and speedy recovery.

SPECIAL REPORT FROM TAYLOR

Bro. Herman Hoerr

In February, the brothers of the Taylor church got together and fanned and bagged a trailer load of corn to be shipped to Honduras, Central America. At that time, I told Bro. Nick Knobloch that I would like to go along and see where our grain will go. On May 22, I met Bros. Nick, Curt Bahler, and Tom Troxell at the St. Louis airport, and we flew to Honduras. We were met in Tigucigalpa, the capital of Honduras, by a representative of CAM (Central American Missions). They then proceeded to show us the places where our grain would be used. Part of the grain was used to feed refugees from Nicaragua (a country just south of Honduras). This country is in the midst of internal strife, and a lot of people are fleeing the country. The people really suffer during a crisis like this, but the children are the real sufferers. These children will be the receivers of a lot of our grain.

We then flew north to San Pedro Shula, a city in northern Honduras, and were able to contact Mr. Steve Youngberg who received a trailer load of corn and soybeans. I was impressed with the work this family is doing in a poor part of the country. They have an orphanage with about 112 children, ranging in age from one to the upper-teens. The older children help to care for the younger, as well as help the Youngbergs with the work of the home. Mr. Youngberg makes milk out of the soybeans. From the evidence shown by the children's health, it is very nutritious. It is a sad sight to see these little children with their big stomachs, most with no clothes on. And we have so much to eat. I was very pleased to see that our grain was helping in a very small way in Honduras.

The trip taught me to be very thankful for what I have, for I know that, but for the grace of God, I could have been one of those children. It also showed me that there is a need to help the hungry, world-wide. And "He that knoweth to do good and doeth it not, to him it is sin."

**NEW JERSEY, UNION CITY
(and Philadelphia, Pa.)
Ed Aeschleman**

Sis. Marie Walsh departed for Vermont where she will again spend the summer with her employer. Her presence will be sorely missed at the Union City church until she returns again next fall, the Lord willing. She will be remembered by many in daily prayers.

A dear young friend, Cindy Brinkerhoff, who attends our Union City church, graduated from high school this year. Cindy hopes to attend a college in the area, so we expect to see her often. May God bless and protect her as she enters this new experience in life.

The Philadelphia church was richly blessed two Sundays in succession with visiting ministers who brought us the holy Word of God in all its truth and power. On June 3, Bro. Eugene Metzger from Lester, IA, was here with his wife and four children. Then on June 10, we were again blessed with a visit from Bro. Dan Stoller and his wife and family from Rockville, CT. The Lord certainly saw to our spiritual needs and further blessed us with many hours of good fellowship.

Little Kim, four year old daughter of Bob and Sister Deanne Horn, underwent a tonsillectomy, recently. We are thankful to God that all went well and that Kim is making a good recovery. The Horns attend church at Union City.

**NEW YORK, CROGHAN
Alice Virkler**

On the weekend of May 20 and 21 we were privileged to assemble with the Naumburg congregation to hear the testimonies and witness the baptisms of our new brothers and sisters-in-faith, Bro. James and Sis. Linda Beyer and Bro. Henry and Sis. Barbara Beyer. We enjoyed the love and fellowship of many visitors over the weekend. We especially want to

thank God and our Elder Bro. John Bahler who assisted our Elder Brothers Robert Beyer and Norbert Steiner. Also we give a thank you to Bro. Roy Luginbuhl. We are thankful that there are still those who are turning to the Lord.

Dean and Joyce Greenwood are happy first-time parents with the arrival of Scott Everett, born on June 3. He is also welcomed by his grandparents, Bro. Bernard and Sis. Elvera Martin and Mr. and Mrs. Everett Greenwood.

Our hospital patients have been Sis. Minnie Virkler, medical, and Bro. Jerome Farney, Sis. Eleanor Herzig, and Sis. Alice Virkler, all surgical. We are thankful for God's love and concern for each of our loved ones.

High school graduates this month are: Joe Farney (Bro. Don and Sis. Alice), Wayne Farney (Bro. Clifton and Sis. Bessie), Patti Petzoldt (Don and Sis. Rita), Noel Schneider (Bruce and Betty Richie), Chris Virkler (Bro. Clyde and Sis. Lois), Rudy Virkler (Sis. Charlotte), and Bill Widrick (Gilbert and Betty). We wish these young folks the best as they begin a new step in life.

**NEW YORK, NAUMBURG
Rachel Snyder**

We had many precious blessings on the weekend of May 20 listening to the testimonies and witnessing the baptisms of the two Beyer boys and their wives. They are James and Linda and Henry and Barbara. May the Holy Spirit lead them aright in all they do. The closer we walk with God, the closer He will stay by our side.

**A Pleasant Time
Olive Plants**

"I hope you'll have a pleasant time," said a father to his son, who was starting off to spend an evening with friends.

"I guess I will, father," replied the boy "I always try and take it along with me."

That boy had learned a secret. Whether or not we have a pleasant time in different places to which we go depends chiefly upon ourselves.

**OHIO, AKRON
Gail Spangler**

"Where God in truth abides,
Where two join hand and heart,
We find a threefold cord, Not light-

ly rent apart." Zion's Harp, No. 79. Sunday, May 20, Sis. Janice Greenbank and Bro. John Rufener were united in marriage by our Elder Bro. Rudy Graf. Bro. Gordon and Sis. Emily are Janice's parents and Bro. Chester and Sis. Roma are Bro. John's parents. Bro. Gary Maibach was with us for this special day.

"Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path." Psalms 119:105. Our graduating seniors were presented the Word of God, the Bible, by the Sunday School. Those graduating were Lisa Graf (John and Janice), Colin and Coleen (Bro. Robert and Sis. Alma), Duane Collins (Bro. Duane and Sis. Marjorie), and Rose Bako (Bro. Sandor and Sis. Kathy).

Jill Schamback (Bro. John and Sis. Joyce) suffered a bad foot injury on a bicycle and had to have a skin graft. We are happy to report she is much improved and is again able to walk on it. Sandra Bako (Bro. Zoltan and Sis. Bonnie) had eye surgery, but is also doing fine. Jean Weisman, daughter of Sis. Helen Burr, was hospitalized for surgery and Bro. Charles Novatny (Sis. Katherine) was hospitalized.

Bro. Elmer Graf (Sis. Juliet) and Bro. Paul and Sis. Rose Pamer have been unable to assemble with us. May they always feel God's nearness in their shut-in hours.

Bro. Eugene Fetter (Toledo) and Bro. Henry Dotterer (Rittman) were with us on June 3. We thank them for their labors in bringing the Word of Life to us.

**OHIO, JUNCTION
Lester Manz**

This month we had the privilege of again celebrating the Lord's death on our behalf as Elder Bros. Josh Broquard from Fairbury and Loren Stoller from Latty served us communion.

Maburn and Sis. Julia Hale have returned to their home in Florida. We were glad to have them worship with us for a few weeks, and we trust the Lord will be with them.

Phil Schlatter, son of Sis. Esther, has begun a new career in the service of our government. Our prayers are with him as he serves in the Air Force, and we trust that God Almighty will watch over him wherever his duties lead him.

OHIO, LATTY Susie Sinn

Bro. Dick and Sis. Erleen Whitman have a new little daughter, Trina Marie. Glad for a sister are Bruce, Brian, Jason, Tammy and Jeremy. Her grandparents are Bro. Carl and Sis. Louise Rager.

Jessica Jane is the newborn daughter of Bro. Stan and Sis. JaNahn Sinn. Welcoming her home is her brother, Joshua. The grandparents are John and Sis. Lillian Schlatter, and Bro. Carl and Sis. Tootie Sinn.

These little ones are truly fortunate to be loved and cared for by parents who trust and believe in an eternal God.

Congratulations to our high school and college graduates! They are: Sis. Betty Klopfenstein (Bro. Raymond and Sis. Catherine), Sis. Brenda Wenninger (Bro. Don and Sis. Josephine), Sis. Susie Sinn (Bro. Ray and Sis. Ann), Bro. Curt Rager (Bill and Sis. Elsie), Roy Klopfenstein (Bro. Alvin and Sis. Ellen), Jody Williamson (Robert and Sis. Janet), Melanie Hackenjoos (Bro. Myran and Sis. Lorene), and Susan Gerber (Bro. Jim and Sis. Marge). Graduating from college are Sis. Gaye Laukhuf (Bro. Bob and Sis. Iris), dental hygiene, and Sis. Bonnie Riggenbach (Harlan and Sis. Delores), nurse's training.

On May 30, Bro. Duane Kilgus (Fairbury) visited our congregation for Wednesday evening services. May the Lord richly bless him for his labor of love. Also sharing the evening with us was Bro. Don Manz (Junction).

During the weekend of June 2, 3, we were privileged to hear the testimonies and witness the baptisms of five dear souls: Lanna Stoller (Bro. Gale and Sis. Janet), Betty Klopfenstein (Bro. Raymond and Sis. Catherine), Patti Riggenbach (Harlan and Sis. Delores) Laurie Stoller (Bro. Darl and Sis. Iva), and Curt Rager (Bill and Sis. Elsie). Helping Bro. Loren carry out this important work was Bro. Dan Koch (Tremont). Also here were Bro. Walter Rehklau (Toledo), Bro. Joe Schrock (Congerville), and Bro. Ben Manz (Junction). May the grace and strength of God always abide in their hearts as they face each new day.

Again God has heard and answered many prayers as Teresa

Stoller (Bro. Justus and Sis. Ruby) has turned in repentance. How thankful we are that another soul has found sufficient grace to make a beginning toward her salvation.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the sick. Sis. Louise Rager (Bro. Carl) has undergone heart surgery in Indianapolis. Our other hospital patients are Glenna Stoller (Wendell), Holly Laukhuf (Dave and Nancy), and Bro. Bill Eisenmann (Sis. Lillian).

We certainly want to thank Bro. Karl Westfall (Francesville) for spending an evening with our Adult Bible Class during the week of Vacation Bible School. His efforts were greatly appreciated.

OHIO, MANSFIELD Lucille Groh

But let all those that put their trust in thee rejoice: let them ever shout for joy, because thou defendest them; let them also that love thy name be joyful in thee. Psalms 5:11.

Today at work I interviewed a man. He limped and used a cane. I invited him to sit down, but he chose to stand because of his handicap. He told me that he had had a back operation and could no longer sit, but must either lie or stand. He said, "You know, if you can accept your affliction, no matter what it is, it is easier to cope with." He told me that when he is at home lying on his bed, he carves wooden animals to pass his time. Whenever he has a "nice" amount carved, he visits the nursing homes or crippled children's home. He said, "You'd be surprised how the patients appreciate receiving a wooden carved animal. What joy it brings to them even if I am a 90-year-old person." I suggested that he probably could sell some of his carvings. He said, "Yes but I'd rather bring joy to others." I told him that the Lord must certainly be pleased with his attitude. When he left he smiled and said, "I'll bring you a handful of animals, someday," and cheerfully went on his way.

I can trust God in the sunshine,
When the sky is bright and clear;
When there's nothing to upset me
I can feel His presence near.
But when the storm clouds gather
And the shadows start to fall—
If I trust not in the shadows,

Then I trust Him not at all.
I can trust God with my future
When the path is plain and clear,
When no obstacle prevents me,
And I feel His presence near.
But when my path is darkened
And He answers not my call—
If I trust not in the darkness,
Then I trust Him not at all.

If my faith is just for little things
That I can feel and see,
Then it isn't very practical
Or workable for me.
But I know that God is true
In problems large and small;
I'll lay aside my frets and fears,
And trust Him through them all.
In all the "ups" and "downs" of
life,
In all the "ins" and "outs,"
In spite of all our failures,
In spite of fears and doubts,
The mighty God of wisdom
Forever stays the same;
"Fear not," says He, "dear Christian,
I will glorify my name."
Author Unknown.

Bro. Ben Stavenik submitted to open-heart surgery at the Cleveland Clinic and, at this writing, is home and improving. May God be praised for answering our prayers in his behalf. Also, hospitalized, and in need of our prayers, are Bro. Barney Washington (surgery), Bro. Robert Sauder, Sis. Wilma Sauder, Sis. Naomi Cordrey, and Scott Sauder.

On June 1, Bro. Ted and Sis. Matilda Schauwecker observed their 50th wedding anniversary. Their children surprised them with a lovely celebration. We wish them God's continued blessings as they journey on life's pathway together.

The Vesper Choir presented an inspirational program on May 20. All who were privileged to hear them received a blessing.

Vacation Bible School was enjoyed the week of June 11-15. God richly showered His heavenly blessings on young and old, alike. We wish to especially thank our guest speakers who so graciously donated their time in our behalf: Bro. Pete Baltic (Mansfield), Bro. Harold Emch (Girard), Bro. Rudolph Graf (Akron), Bro. Loren Stoller (Latty), and Bro. Roert Indermuhle (Sardis).

Memorial services were held May 25 for Ethel Cox Shenk, who form-

erly lived in Mansfield. However, for the last number of years, she lived in Dayton. She is survived by one daughter, Beverly.

We were saddened to learn of the automobile accident in which Bro. Ora Sauder and Sis. Dora Sauder were involved. Sis. Dora has a broken knee and other multiple injuries.

OHIO, RITTMAN Florence Hartzler

Little Holly Beth Emch, six-week-old daughter of Bro. Craig and Sis. Gale, was taken from this life to be with Jesus. Even though she spent her short life in the hospital, she was loved by her mommy, daddy, and brother, Bryan. Also surviving are grandparents Bro. Dave and Sis. Eileen Emch and the Curtis Snyders. As we thought of little Holly, it seemed that God needed a little bud for His Heavenly bouquet, and this poem came to mind:

GATHERING BUDS

Jesus has taken a beautiful bud
Out of our garden of love,
Home it away to the city of God,
Home of the angels above.
Full blooming flowers alone will
not do,
Some must be young and ungrown;
So the frail buds He is gathering,
too,
Beautiful gems of His throne.
Fathers and mothers, weep not or
be sad,
Still on the Savior rely;
You shall behold them again, and
be glad,
Beautiful flowers on high.
Blooming in beauty in heaven are
they,
Blooming for you and for me;
Follow the Lord, tho' the city be
far,
'Til our bright blossoms we see.
Gathering buds, gathering buds,
Wonderful care will be given;
Jesus is gathering, day after day,
Buds for the palace of heaven.

James D. Vaughan

We were pleasantly surprised to have three visiting ministers in church when we arrived for services one Sunday morning. We want to thank Bro. Bob Meyer, Bluffton, Bro. Earl Gerber, Forrest, and Bro. Ken Indermuhle,

Sardis, for bringing us the precious Words of Life.

A new son has joined the family of Bro. Gaylord and Sis. Cheryl Beery with the arrival of Bradley James, and he is also welcomed home by his sisters, Lynn and Diane, and brothers, Rob and Matthew. The grandparents are Bro. Robert and Sis. Martha Berry. We pray that the Lord will bless them as they rear this precious soul.

We read in the Scriptures that the Lord will give strength to His people and also that the Lord is gracious and full of compassion (both found in Psalms) to those who are ill or have met with accident. We want to mention that Bro. John Hartzler, Sr., and his daughter, Elaine McCreary, submitted to surgery. We are thankful that our dear ones who have met with accidents are feeling the healing power and strength of our dear Lord. May all these dear ones feel the Lord's nearness.

OHIO, SARDIS Joyce Indermuhle

As another school year ends, it is the final year of school for many people. We have two graduates. Allen Indermuhle (son of Bro. Delbert and Sis. Martha) graduated from high school, and Judy Riggenbach (granddaughter of Sis. Emma Riggenbach) graduated from college. May they always look to God for guidance as they embark on new beginnings.

Bro. Isaac and Sis. Pearl Gehring wish to thank all for their prayers, gifts, cards, food, and help during and after Ike's stay in the hospital. Ike hurt his foot in a lawn mower accident but is recovering at home.

John and Sis. Hazel Riggenbach would also like to thank all for their prayers, cards, and help during John's operation and recovery. John is again able to assemble with us, for which we are thankful.

OHIO, TOLEDO Josephine Rehklau

God knew we could not get along
If each one walked alone,
And no one gave a passing thought
To troubles not his own;
And so, to help us on our way
Until the journey ends,

He gave us, out of His great love
The cherished gift of friends.

Author Unknown

Bro. Howard Harmon has been in the hospital and is now home recuperating from surgery. We wish him a good recovery.

We welcome back into our midst for the summer Bro. George and Sis. Clara Beard and son, Robert, and Sis. Irene and Burley Zeigler.

OREGON, SILVERTON Mary Jane Winkler

It's hard to believe summer is here already. Time surely seems to have wings. Summer is always such a busy time for all. We truly are blessed as we look out across the fields and gardens and see the crops grow and bring forth their fruits. We are a blessed people as the Lord blesses us in supplying our every material need; but much more than that, He supplies us abundantly with our spiritual needs if we but read His Word and do His will. May we ever be thankful for all blessings bestowed on us.

Sis. Carol Dietrich was chosen as Sunday School teacher, replacing Sis. Ginny Cooper. May the Lord bless her as she seeks to teach the little ones of Him. We want to thank Sis. Ginny for the time she gave to teach.

We want to welcome Sis. Barb Metzger (Lester, IA) into our congregation. We truly hope she receives many blessings as she assembles with us.

We are thankful for all our visitors, and we invite anyone visiting this area to assemble with us. Their visit will be welcomed.

PENNSYLVANIA, PHILADELPHIA (See New Jersey, Union City)

SILVER THREADS

HE COMES

An average day in our earthly life:
Bittersweet mixture of joy and
strife.

But then a shout! He comes!
Roll back, clouds, roll back!
Blast, ye trumpets, blast!
Blow asunder, skies!

Our Lord Jesus Christ returns,

And through the heav'ns He flies.
He calls His own by name,
And up to Him we rise.

Ye redeemed, humble your heart
in praise
For the grace He has shown all of
your days.
For we redeemed have the right
To lift up our heads and rejoice,
That when His Spirit called,
We made Christ our choice—

To guide us through our days,
This mixture of joy and strife,
And gave us the Holy promise
Of the after-life .

Friend, harden not your heart
When Christ bids you to come,
For to mock His sacrifice
And shun His Holy name
Will only bring you Hell,
Eternal grief and pain.

May we life up our heads
With joy and praise,
When He comes . . .

Bro. Marvin F. Wieland

WHY GOD GAVE US FRIENDS

God knew that everybody needs
companionship and cheer.
He knew that people need someone
whose thoughts are always near.
He knew they needed someone kind
to lend a helping hand—
Someone to gladly take the time
to care and understand.
That's why God gave us friends.

He knew that all need someone
to share each happy day,
To be a source of courage
when troubles come our way—
Someone to be true to us
whether near or far apart,
Someone whose love we'll always
hold
and treasure in our heart.
That's why God gave us friends.

Submitted by Eleanor Butikofer

HUMAN PEARLS

Look not at the weight of the pain
you bear,
Nor think you carry more than
your share.
The load you are bearing day after
day
Is only your Father showing the
way.

The "night bird" so tiny, sits hour
after hour,

Singing alone to the starry tower;
The bell that rings so plain and
clear
Once lay in the earth, in a cradle
dear.

The diamond most precious . . . the
ruby rare
Were hidden away in the depth of
despair,
For someone to rescue, and polish
bright,
To reflect great beauty in God's
sunlight.

The pearl that lies in the ocean
deep,
Surrounded by slime, and things
that creep,
Is held as it were, in a sordid mesh
Entombed in silence, and the filth
of its flesh:
Growing . . . developing, increasing
in worth
Til someone finds and brings it to
earth.

Like "precious pearls" are the
souls of men,
Suffering alone, for all to con-
demn . . .

They must live in the slime, and
be tossed about
'Til the Saviour of mankind de-
scends with a shout,
For He is preparing rare jewels for
His crown,
And the "Pearls" he has polished
will be "gems of renown".

So be patient, my friend . . . 'til He
calls you forth,
For God in His mercy thinks well
of your worth . . .
There is never a trial that lends
not a ray
To the beautiful Crown you shall
wear in that Day.

Author Unknown

SHE WILL SLEEP TONIGHT

Author Unknown

A shadowy gleam of the life arc
lies
Around the lids of her slumbering
eyes,
And her lips are closed, as in fond
delay
Of the loving words she had to
say . . .
But the gentle heart forgot to beat,
And, from busy head to busy feet,
She is strangely quiet, cold and
white.
The pain is gone — she will sleep,
tonight!

Put by her work and her empty
chair;
Fold up the garments she used to
wear.
Let down the curtains and close
the door;
She will need the clock of time no
more,
For the task assigned her under
the sun
Is finished now, and the kingdom
won.
Tenderly kiss her, and put out the
light,
And leave her alone — she will
sleep tonight!

O blessed sleep, that will not break
For tears . . . nor prayers . . . nor
love's sweet sake . . .
O perfect rest that knows no pain,
No care, nor thrill of time or brain.
O life sublime beyond all speech,
That only the pure, through dying
reach!
God understands, and his ways are
right.
Bid his beloved a sweet "Good-
night."

Weep for the day that will come
no more,
For the sunbeam flown from
hearth to door . . .
For a missing step, for the present
grace
Of a tender voice and a loving face,
But not for the soul whose goal is
won,
Whose infinite joy is just begun,
Not for the spirit enrobed in light
And crowned where the angels are,
Tonight!

CONTENTMENT

Stars in the sky I cannot buy,
But I can have their light.
Ships on the sea are not for me,
Yet fill me with delight.

Children I meet with look so sweet;
Their smiles to me they give.
The birds that sing, the flowers of
spring
Will cheer me while I live.

From APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH HISTORY, Vol. I:

p. 201 "Frohlich wrote: 'Man
must first have heard the Word
of salvation with his ears, under-
stand it with mind, believe it with
his heart, and confess it with his
lips, before he may be baptized on
this, his faith, and embodied into
the church of Christ.' "

pp. 173-176

"In a newspaper report from Vienna, dated March 8, 1865, a trial and testimony of the 'Nazarean' Sager have been preserved for us. The court-room of the Vienna trial chamber was filled with people, as the following transaction took place:

Presiding Officer: Sager, what is your religion?

Sager: I was Roman Catholic and belived nothing any more: now I am truly believing.

Pres.: What do you mean by "truly believing"?

Sager: Any one who believes Jesus' doctrine as He taught it, according to the Old and New Testament.

Pres.: Do you know that it is against the Law to establish and continue a new religious sect?

Sager: I do not know why the teachings which Jesus Himself taught should be forbidden.

Pres.: You have held meetings?

Sager: Yes.

Pres.: Where do the members of your sect usually meet?

Sager: Sometimes in my home, sometimes in the home of another believer, often under the blue sky.

Pres.: What is done at these meetings?

Sager: A brother reads the Word of God from the Old or New Testament and expounds it.

Pres.: How many people were at these meetings?

Sager: We have never counted the number.

Pres.: Give an estimate of the number.

Sager: Thirty to forty.

Pres.: Did you convert anyone?

Sager: Yes, I have taught people, who were in sin and who sought me.

Pres.: What are the ceremonies of your faith?

Sager: We have no ceremonies. The Word of God is read. We sing and pray.

Pres.: May any one join the association?

Sager: No one who is in sin; but we prepare those who wish to enter, and examine them to see if their heart is pure.

Pres.: Do you believe that men

can determine if the heart of another human being is pure and free from sin?

Sager: Why should this not be possible? The lord advocate examines me, and he is only a human being.

Pres.: Have you a Sacrament of baptism?

Sager: We do not acknowledge the Baptism as it is administered today, but we believe in a purification from sin as it is instituted by God and as it was administered by John the Baptist.

Pres.: At what age do you baptize?

Sager: When a man can think and when he can understand the belief, and when he can order his own will.

Pres.: Do you have the Sacrament of the altar?

Sager: We have no Sacrament; we believe that the Lord Jesus did not institute any, but we do have the Holy Supper.

Pres.: Wherein does that consist?

Sager: We give the bread and the wine.

Pres.: Who distributes it?

Sager: A brother.

Pres.: You should know that the State does not tolerate any sects which it does not recognize.

Sager: The emperor has proclaimed freedom of faith and conscience.

Pres.: That is true, but only those religions are included in this freedom which are recognized by the State.

Sager: Our religion is the pure religion of Jesus Christ.

Pres.: How many members have you?

Sager: I shall not tell you, for if I did I would be a traitor and would injure God.

Pres.: That is no treason if one submits himself to the authorities. Do you not know that the government is instituted by God and the State?

Sager: Yes.

Pres.: Why then do you not wish to give the information?

Sager: Because we know what is involved and we do not wish to expose our brethren to persecution.

Pres.: Do you not believe in the

righteousness of the judges?

Sager: The apostles have written that no man is righteous.

Pres.: Can these words be applied to the members of your organization?

Sager: They should be righteous because they should be without sin.

Pres.: Your activities are subject to the punishment of the State.

Sager: Our Lord Jesus Christ did not sin and yet He was crucified. I shall hold out and have patience according to His sublime example. The pure teaching of Jesus Christ will have the victory."

"These simple and definite answers made a deep impression upon the judge and upon all those who were present."

The Sermon . . .

(Continued from Page 28)

almost right is wrong; almost true is false; almost persuaded is lost. The Lord is not satisfied unless we give him our whole heart, all that we have. He gave us all that He had, and we have to give Him all that we have.

It's important that we look at the fig tree once in a while. The fig tree is the nation of Israel. When the fig tree puts forth it's leaves, we know that summer is nigh. The fig tree has leaves on it now; Israel is once again a nation, but there isn't any fruit.

We read that the bones came together. The nation of Israel came together, each bone to his bone, and flesh came upon the bones and sinew; but it says that there was no breath, no life. That is the way Israel is today. It is like a fig tree with only leaves. It looks good; it has a form, but there's nothing there.

As the Lord approached the fig tree on the way from Bethany, He saw it from afar off and He was hungry. (He was hungry for the love that men could give Him; He was hungry for the nation of Israel, the people of Israel. to acknowledge Him as Saviour.) He looked at the fig tree and He parted the leaves, but there wasn't any fruit. It was just a tree, just a form. The Lord expected fruit and so He cursed the tree, and, like the

valley of dry bones, that tree was dried up from the very roots. The fig tree (Israel) was dead a long time. Now life has come back and the fig tree puts forth its leaves; how soon will the fruit come?

When the prophecy of the valley of dry bones is fulfilled, God will sanctify Israel. When the Lord puts life and breath into the nation of Israel, when they believe that the Savior came and died—when that time comes, loved ones, it will be too late. When the time of the Jew comes in, the time of the Gentile will be expired. It will be too late then to find a day of grace, a day of grace wherein man can come to the Truth.

Loved ones, time is important. When young men and young maidens walk from one end of the earth to the other, from sea to sea, seeking one day of grace and not finding it, how do you think time will be then? Time will take on a far different value than it does now.

It seems as though the more time we have, the more we want. Someday the Lord will give us no more as is evidenced by tragedies and catastrophes when souls are taken out of this life very quickly. It could have been you or it could have been me. This is why time is important.

Understanding the signs of the times is also important. The Scripture is being fulfilled and God has given us the intellect, or knowledge, to recognize some of these things as they are taking place. Daniel speaks in his prophesy about how, in the later days, knowledge shall increase, and men shall run to and fro. Loved ones, this does not only mean material knowledge or earthly knowledge; it also means Godly knowledge of these things as they unfold themselves in God's eternal time table. They will be revealed to us so that we will know.

As watchmen on the walls, we should send out the warning in humbleness, but in sincerity. Sound the warning that the enemy is approaching and danger is near. That's the commission of the watchman on the wall. It is our commission today to be watchmen on the walls of Zion, looking for dangers and for the signs of the times. It's all in this Good Book. It is revealed by God and we must accept it as being truth. God does not vary in His love or in His

thinking; God is the same today and forever.

Through the permissive will of God, our church has been established. The founder, S. H. Froelich, was drawn by God's love from the state church of Switzerland which embraced infant baptism among other things. He realized that this was not right. He himself did not believe that through what he had done, with the help of the Lord, a church would be founded. Yet, here we are today.

We are a body of believers who have been drawn out of the world, out of sin to the way of the cross, the way that the Lord has prepared. Of course, even as we have read in chapter 12 of I Corinthians, we are not all the same. Not all hold the same office in the church, but we are all of the same Spirit and we are all of the Body of Christ. That is what's important.

There is only one way to become a member of the Body of Christ, a child of God. You must come in through the door. There is only one Door and that is Jesus Christ. The Lord said in John, chapter 10, that He is the Door, the Door to the sheepfold. He said that any man who enters must come through Him. If any one tries to enter another way, he is a thief and a robber. This One who is worthy to be the Head of the Body of which each of us should be a part, is the One to whom we have to go. He is the Door; He is the Way of salvation; He is the Light. We have to go through Him to find our salvation. We have to go through Him to become a part of the Body of Christ, and we are all baptized by one Spirit into one Body.

This brings us to the conclusion, loved ones, that we have only two main types of people in the world, those who are sinners, and those who are sinners saved by grace (those who have taken advantage of the shed blood of the Lord and have become part of His Body).

If we have no part of the Lord, He will have no part in us. If we do not confess Him, He will not confess us before His Heavenly Father. That's why the gift of salvation which cost the Lord His life and His blood is so important. It is our whole life, loved ones. Everyone who has come to the Lord through repentance and confession can testify that the old

life was wasted; the old life amounted to nothing.

It says in the Scripture, "Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men." Mt. 5, 13. We have to have love for the Lord in our hearts and the indwelling Spirit to be part of the Body which is Jesus Christ himself.

After we have become members of His Body, we should walk in a way that is pleasing to Him. When we gain something, we have to assume responsibility. Our responsibility is clearly pointed out here; it is to labor together, helping each other. Although our duties and abilities vary, we should do all in the same spirit of love for we are all part of that one Body, which is Jesus Christ.

Sometimes there is much contention in regard to whether this church is right or another church is right, or about how we interpret the Scripture. This chapter points out clearly that there is one Body. While we do not think that ours is the only way, we think that it is the right way. Anyone who has come in by the Door (Christ), anyone who has come to the Lord in repentance, feeling sorry for his sins and asking forgiveness, and who has felt the forgiveness of God and man, and has felt the peace of God in his heart, has found the right way.

When we read of the rapture of the church, we read of believers coming from all parts and speaking every tongue. So we must believe that very likely the Lord is merciful to all the creation, and whosoever will may come. All have an opportunity to be a part of the one Body. Loved ones, when the church is raptured, all true believers who have been born again, who have taken advantage of the blood of the sacrificial Lamb of God, will be together for the first time. They will all meet together in the air to be forever with the Lord.

Loved ones, this is a high and worthwhile goal to strive for. It is worth our every effort. Now while there is time, may the Lord grant grace so that every soul will take advantage of the time that God gives. With His help, let us work out our soul's salvation.

SERMON BY ELDER BRO. EUGENE BERTSCHI OF ROANOKE, IL

Text: I Cor. 12

Wonderful teachings are in these words written by the Apostle Paul. They concern the church and all of the members who make up the body of the church. We are all to be one in the Lord Jesus Christ.

This is a wonderful blessing that we have, loved ones, a wonderful privilege to be members of the Body of Christ. After sin had entered into the world, God saw that some way had to be devised whereby man need not be forever lost. To accomplish this, the Lord Jesus died on the cross and mankind, believing on His shed blood, could come to the knowledge of the Truth, and could become a part of this wonderful way of life.

May we digress just a little. Sometimes we become so thoroughly engrossed in what we have just read, and in what the Spirit prompts us to speak concerning it, that we forget to consider what was in the forereading. Let us now think about that before meditating upon this chapter which Paul wrote to the church at Corinth.

We heard this morning, loved ones, of the momentous times in which we are living, and of the significant events which are taking place before our very eyes. These current happenings are founded upon the old feud between Jacob and Esau which began many years before anything that we have read about here.

The enmity which existed between the twin brothers came about through the influence of their mother and the leading of God when Jacob received the birthright, or received the blessing after Esau had sold his birthright to Jacob. Then there was so much tension between the two brothers that Jacob fled. I believe that Jacob had to flee the country for fear of his life because of what he had done to Esau. We know that this occurred through the leading of God because Jacob's name was changed to Israel, and the children of Israel, or Israelites, became God's chosen people.

We need not question how these things came about, but we have to recognize the fact that the hostility between their descendents continued through the years of time and still exists today. The nations are unreconciled, and the animosity seems to be growing greater.

In Ezekiel's prophecy of the valley of dry bones (chapter 37), we see that Israel, who would reject their Lord and Saviour and cry out to let His blood be upon them and upon their children, would become as dry bones. They would be like a dead people, a dead nation scattered abroad upon the face of the earth to be persecuted.

It wasn't very long after the Lord's crucifixion that the army of Titus destroyed the city of Jerusalem. I believe it was about 70 A.D. when Jerusalem was taken after a great battle and much suffering. It is recorded in Biblical history, I believe that more than a million Jews were slain when the Roman general Titus besieged the city.

Down through the years the Israelites were persecuted, especially in the country of Germany where about four million died, a persecution that was probably fulfilling the prophecy. This is what we are experiencing to day, I believe.

We can neither see clearly with these mortal eyes nor comprehend with our minds, but something that should be of interest to us is the time element. Time is something that is God given, something that you and I should be especially interested in now. How events shape up and proceed in the Mid-East, God will decide. He will bring about His will and the fulfillment of His prophecy in His own good time and as He chooses; but we are taught to recognize the signs of the times in which we are living, and to be watchful and prayerful.

Time is something that you and I have today but are not promised

tomorrow. Time is the same for all. Each one of us is given twenty-four hours in a day to use as he pleases, but the difference is in our concept of time.

Time means something different to some people than it does to others. To the person who is rushing to catch a train, time passes quickly; there isn't enough time. To the person who is waiting and watching for something to happen, time moves very slowly. So time is not perceived the same by all.

Nevertheless, time should be an important element in your life and in my life, because our time is going to "run out." We know that. We are told that time itself will cease. We are to make good use of the time that God gives to us, while we are working out our soul's salvation.

The Lord said that now is the time, now is the day of grace. You know that when the Lord says now, He doesn't mean tomorrow—He means now. That is why the kind invitation goes out. Now is the time. You have to have a desire in your heart; you have to want something; you have to let the Lord know that you love Him and that you want what He has to share with you. He will surely open His arms to you.

The Apostle Paul, whose letter we read today, had many remarkable experiences. Felix, the governor at Caesarea, told Paul, "When I have a convenient season, I will call for thee." Felix said that after Paul had spoken before him about conversion and told him of the marvelous life available through Christ. (Acts 24, 25.)

When Paul preached to King Agrippa, Agrippa was so impressed that he said, "Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian." (Acts 26, 28.) Almost—but time ran out.

Loved ones, time will run out for us. To be almost is not enough;
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