

The Silver Lining

A LIGHT FOR BELIEVERS

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SPIRITUAL SURGERY

Elder Bro. Willis Ehule

The doctor insisted that surgery was the only way to alleviate the problem, but the patient earnestly requested some good medicine which would eliminate the necessity of cutting.

So far in my lifetime I've had surgery only once, and I'm quite convinced that it wasn't necessary. I was five or six years old when a certain Dr. Ward at the St. Francis Hospital in Peoria performed a tonsillectomy on me and removed my adenoids at the same time. The reason I was involved in this operation was the fact that my brother had to have it done and so it was thought that I might as well have it done at the same time. When I complained about the bad smell of the ether, the nurse told me to blow it away, a bit of trickery to get me to breathe more deeply the very stuff which I was trying to escape.

You can see that I'm not fond of surgery, although, granted, it is sometimes best to get rid of a malfunctioning part of the human body. Our bodies are marvelously made and they make adjustments quite well.

Now, when reading the Bible I have noticed a particular portion about surgery. It reads as follows:

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S HOME Doug Kellenberger

Life here is about the same as at your home. School is ending, summer plans and vacations are unfolding, and graduation commencement exercises are being attended. We attended the graduation earlier than normal, and is now

"For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart." Heb. 4:12.

People also shy away from surgery by the Word of God, claiming that something so drastic is not necessary. If it divides the soul and spirit, that's getting down to the minute detail, as soul and spirit are often used synonymously. If it divides the joints and marrow, the skeletal system is involved, the framework which gives us our shape and permits movement of our head and limbs. That is deep surgery. The human race cries out, "Give me some medicine and skip the surgery. The whole idea is repugnant and unpalatable to me."

However, the Word of God should be permitted to perform spiritual surgery on each of us. It is in this way that Christ is granted entrance into the innermost parts of our heart. It is in this way that we maintain spiritual health and vitality, and become useful to the Holy Spirit in drawing others to Christ in repentance. The end is very good—eternal bliss and eternal reward.

tion ceremony of our oldest resident, Kandy Bruellman. She is 17, has worked hard to graduate a year earlier than normal and is now readying herself for full-time employment at a camp for needy and handicapped children.

Kandy is also the first convert at the home. By God's grace and because of exposure to His Word,

CHURCH HISTORY

Elder Bro. Edwin Ringger

At the semi-annual elder meeting at Bradford, IL, in January, it was decided to launch a project to compile a history of the Apostolic Christian Church with particular emphasis on development in the United States.

Bro. Perry Klopfenstein, of our Gridley, IL, congregation, will author this new volume. He will work under the guidance and counsel of a committee of six elders. Serving along with me on this committee are Bros. Robert Beyer, Croghan, NY, Rudy Graf, Akron, OH, Ben Maibach, Detroit, MI, Roy Sauder, Peoria, IL, and Richard Schupbach, Phoenix, AZ.

We are requesting that anyone who may have historical information relevant to this important project please forward it to Bro. Perry. Among items that would be helpful are old diaries, letters, pictures, family histories, newspaper articles, accounts of crossing the Atlantic, or books which include reference to the Apostolic Christian Church.

Please forward all data to: Perry A. Klopfenstein, Box A, Gridley, IL 61744.

Ours is a rich heritage that has deep meaning to all our hearts. In order to more fully appreciate, and thus perpetuate this precious heritage, we are striving to record an accurate account of our forefathers in faith. We thank you for your support and cooperation.

both here and in her previous home, she has come to the knowledge and conviction of sin in her life. She has now repented of those sins and believes that through Jesus Christ she received justification and salvation

from God. We heard her testimony and witnessed her baptism here at Leo. She is very happy and we are happy with her.

Last year at this very same time, another of our teenage girls, Claudia, became our first high school graduate. It was then that we also attended her commencement exercise. Afterward, we enjoyed a nice reception for her family and friends in our home. We did the same this year for Kandy.

Our summer seems to be very well organized. It is structured to give tutoring in the children's areas of a academic weakness, gardening, chores, and also adequate time for recreation. We are overjoyed to have a sufficient number of staff and volunteer workers present to carry out the program.

We thank all who support us in one way or another.

As of this date, we have sent out two issues of our Children's Home Newsletter. If there is anyone interested who has not received it, please contact our administrator, Bro. Bob Cockburn.

The Annual Quilt Sale is scheduled for Sept. 20.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

Visitors are always welcome at our Home, but those who have stopped by this past week have been delighted with the outstanding display of flowering trees and shrubs which were especially beautiful this year. One cannot escape the thought, nor do we wish to, that what we see here of this world's beauty is but an expression of our Heavenly Father's handiwork—the beautiful earth and sky, the sun's risings, the sunsets, the stars shining, birds singing, the clouds and shadows in their various moods are all a manifestation of Someone in control. From the angels in glory to the lowly sparrow, there is perfect order.

Anne Frank once penned the following words: "The best remedy for those who are afraid, lonely or unhappy is to go outside, somewhere where they can be quite alone with the heavens, nature and God. Because only then does one feel that all is as it should be and that God wishes to see people happy, amidst the simple beauty of nature. As long as this exists, and it certainly always will, I know

that then there will always be comfort for every sorrow, whatever the circumstances may be."

Surely our Creator would never have made such lovely days and have given us hearts to enjoy them deeply unless it was for the purpose of assuaging the hurt of life's unseen struggles. Let us all take the time to drink in the season's beauty and draw from it inspiration to lift us to "higher ground."

On May 6, Bruce Alan Steffen of Bluffton, IN, came to make his home with us. His parents are Willis and Bonnie Steffen, brothers, Terry and Kevin, and sisters, Kathleen and Judy (Wilson). There is one nephew. Favorite foods: pizza, cheeseburgers, french fries. Favorite pastimes: Listening to music, coloring and looking at books. Birthday time for Bruce is Jan. 19. In the short time he has been with us, he has shown a loving, friendly personality. We welcome him as a member of our family.

With seventy-two residents living here, there is always much activity. Now that the weather is warm, outdoor activities are more frequent. Sometimes, for instance, a group is taken to eat out at a local restaurant as a reward for regular and prompt attendance at the exercise class. There are always the dentist and doctor appointments, as well as the daily trips to workshop and school, to keep our vehicles busy. Vacations are becoming a frequent topic of conversation, both among residents and staff. Local service clubs sometimes come to visit, bringing favors and/or playing games with the residents.

The unexpected arrival of a mother duck with a dozen very small ducklings on our courtyard pond has caused much excitement among the residents. How can anyone possibly say there is no Heavenly Creator?

Please remember to stop by for a visit when traveling in the area. Until then, please continue with us in prayer.

ARIZONA, PHOENIX Julie Hoerr

"Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwelleth in him, and he in God." I John 4:15. Our new Sister-in-Faith, Kelly Kraft, was granted the privilege of giving her testimony and being baptized anew in Christ Jesus the

weekend of April 19-20. Bro. Lloyd Kraft and Bro. Bill Emch and their families were able to be with us for the blessed weekend. We thank them for giving of themselves so freely that God could speak to us.

"Train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old, he will not depart from it." Prov. 22:6. And how true, not only in age but in the eleventh hour when our dear Saviour calls. Bernice Moser Martin found God's loving grace sufficient to grant her forgiveness and peace, which could comfort her and her husband in her eleventh hour. On Apr. 21, Bernice was called to her eternal home. We wish God's comforting help for her husband, Harry, her mother, Sis. Emma Moser, and her sisters and brothers in their time of sorrow.

Our sympathy is extended to Bro. Elmer Zollinger in the loss of his sister.

Faith Lemans and Scott Lasher were united in marriage on Mar. 2. Faith is the daughter of Bob and Betty Lemans; Faith's grandparents are Bro. Floyd and Sis. Clara Banwart.

On May 4, God granted a beautiful sunny day as Sis. Helen Kircher and Bro. Lyle Huette of Fairbury exchanged their wedding vows. A reception was held in the Congregational Room.

We thank Bro. Loren Knapp (Tucson) for sharing God's Word with us on May 4.

During an evening of fellowship, this question was brought out: Can you practice what you preach?

Moving? Let Us Know.

THE SILVER LINING

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ARIZONA, TUCSON

**Carolyn Kaufman
Kathleen Woodruff**

These past few months brought many happenings to our small congregation. We had many visiting ministers who worshipped with us and helped expound God's Word for our understanding. Bro. Joe Zimmerman, Morton, IL; Bro. Ron Allenbach, Kiowa, KS; Bro. Lloyd Kraft, Gridley, KS; and Bro. Clarence Yackley and Bro. Bill Dotterer, Phoenix, are but a few who, with their wives, have blessed us with their love and support.

In addition to the many visitors we have had, the young folk's group traveled to Phoenix this month to witness the baptism of Kelly Kraft. Truly, this is one of the most joyous occasions a Christian can witness as a soul begins its life for the Lord. In our congregation, Chris Kumer who recently moved here from Peoria, was called into the Lord's service. Surely he longs for the prayers and support that God's children can give him as he becomes a light for Christ.

These past few months, many of our friends and brothers have entered the hospital, some for joyous reasons and others not. Orville Schmidt was hospitalized this month for lower back surgery. He has come through with God's help and is currently recuperating at home. Sis. Martha Blessman entered the hospital for tests and is currently at home. Sis. Carolyn Kaufman also entered the hospital this month, but for a very happy reason. On May 15, the second daughter of Bro. Curt and Sis. Carolyn was born. Today, Katherine Marie and her new family are all at home enjoying the rich blessings God has bestowed on them.

Andy Rapp passed away and was buried Mar. 18.

This month we have also enjoyed a 25th anniversary and wedding shower. Bro. Ray and Sis. Ginny Cooper celebrated their 25th anniversary. Their children and families traveled from out-of-state to be with them. Also, a belated wedding shower and best wishes were given for Charlene (Roth) Sanders after she and her husband, Gerry, moved here to Tucson to live. We look forward to the continuous growth of our small congregation.

Bro. Fred Funk, son of Bro. Jim and Sis. Luann Funk, and David

Cooper, son of Bro. Ray and Sis. Ginny Cooper graduated from high school this month and have our congratulations and best wishes for their future.

CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA

Shirley Witzig

"If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen." I Peter 4:11. We give sincere thanks to visiting ministers Bill Schlatter, Junction, OH; Jim Ramseyer, Bay City, MI; Jim Hoerr, Peoria, IL; and Dale Eisenmann, Chicago, IL, for sharing their time and selves for God's work. I will also take this chance to thank our Elder Bro. Carl Kinsinger and ministering Bros. John Klotzle and Glen Hackenjos for their continuing labor in God's field and flock. I'm sure the Lord will richly bless them for their sacrifices of time and love.

"For to me to live is Christ and to die is gain." Phil. 1:21. Sis. Elizabeth Kaisner has gained her heavenly reward. She passed from this life on May 16 and left behind her husband, Bro. Albert Kaisner, and her two sons and daughter-in-law; Bro. Harvey Kaisner and Don and Doris Kaisner. How much we miss the companionship of those who once walked this life's path with us, yet let's look and work towards the brighter streets of heaven.

Doug and Sis. Sandy Aberle and little Shayna have been blessed with the arrival of a new baby girl. Lindsey Ann was born on Apr. 16. What a joyous addition to our congregation!

During one of our more recent Sunday Morning Bible Studies, we discussed the ways in which the Lord communicates with His children: His written Word, other brothers and sisters in Christ, and simply His Spirit. We were reminded of the need for making God's Word a priority in our schedule, listening to advice and admonitions from brothers and sisters with a humble and prayerful heart, and making time in each day to free our minds and hearts from earthly cares and concerns so we can hear that still small voice. How easy it is to let the urgent things of our daily life such as

household chores, business, keeping up with the world news, education (and I speak of myself), and etc., crowd out our much needed time in quiet aloneness with God. How often we miss a blessing or learn a lesson the hard way simply because we fail to spend time in seeking and listening for God's will. Christ the perfect example found it necessary to go aside into a desert place and as also noted "up into a mountain apart to pray" (See Matt. 14:23). If Christ during His walk on earth found it necessary to spend time alone with God, how much more do we!

CANADA, REGINA

Elder Bro. Paul Butikofer

When we returned to Regina the first time this year, it was apparent for our brethren there that it had been a long winter. Our last minister was there in November and they were really hungry for fellowship and the spoken Word. This struggling little band of believers needs our prayers.

From April through November, we have a roster of ministers who are willing to make the long journey there the third Sunday of each month, and we, along with them, are very grateful for this. On the other Sundays they gather in their newly acquired Church Home, located on 94 Straub, Crescent St., in Regina. They play tapes of sermons and songs and also conduct a Sunday School class for the children.

Our visit there was much like in past years, only now we don't have to reserve motel rooms. We can eat and sleep at the home in a nice quiet part of the city. There are cooking facilities, which is convenient, and there is a nice store just down the street.

Rather different from the States, the economy in Canada is good. Unemployment is only about 2%, consequently there is much building and expanding in every way. This is a large wheat farming area, and there is ample industry to make Regina a growing city.

We look forward to a monthly article in the Silver Lining from Regina in order to keep abreast of their activities. By the time you read this, they will have had a dedication for their Church Home. With our request, Bro. LeRoy Huber has consented to carry this out, for which we are very grateful.

Even though many miles separate us, the bond of love unites us, and our hearts can flow together. Let us all be faithful so that all who are worthy to be raptured will come from the east and the west, from the north and the south, to sit down at the Marriage Supper of the Lamb.

COLORADO, AURORA

Apostolic Christian Church services are being held each Sunday, throughout the summer months, beginning at 10:30 a.m. (Denver time) at the Victory Grange Hall, 2009 Tower Rd., Aurora, CO. Tower Road is on the east edge of Metropolitan Denver, running north and south, three miles east of the Intersection of I-70, on the west side of the road.

Brethren and friends vacationing in the area are most welcome. Ministering brothers interested in helping out may contact Bro. Nate Steffen, Elgin, IL (Phone 312-741-6006). Prayerful support of all brethren is requested for this endeavor.

"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose." Rom. 8:28.

Believers should keep this viewpoint in mind when facing life's trials. Sometimes we face situations which are trying. When things are not going well materially, it often provides us with a precious experience which strengthens us spiritually. We should see beyond the present trial and look for the lesson which we learn from it. Financial difficulties may work to make us less self-sufficient, more dependent on God, and more thankful for His provisions. Difficult situations may make us more prayerful, patient, and understanding of others in similar situations at a later time. Sickness often gives us time to stop and think about God and the things which matter beyond this life. Sometimes it is hard to understand why these things happen, but it is comforting to know that there is a reason and we have this promise in the Bible—that the Christian's life is in God's control and all things work for the good of the believer.

"...but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience; and patience, experience; and experience, hope..." Rom. 5:3-4.

FLORIDA, SARASOTA

Elda Martin

We wish for the Lord's guidance in the lives of our high school graduates as they now choose their lives' careers. They are Tim Eisenmann, Rick Sellers, and Gloria Streitmatter.

Patty Martin, daughter of Bro. Richard and Sis. Aldine, joined hand and heart with Joe Eisenmann, son of Bro. Dave and Sis. Kay. We wish them God's blessings as they walk the path of married life together.

If anyone is in the Tampa area and would like to attend services on Friday night, please contact our ministering brother, Glen Price. We are now holding services in the homes of residents in the Tampa area every third Friday. We know God will bless the efforts put into these services and pray that they will continue.

In these times of turmoil and strife, our minister recited a poem by Helen Steiner Rice concerning our faith. We pray that we can:

WIN BY FAITH

Oh, Father, grant once more to men
a simple, childlike Faith again.
Forgetting color, race, and creed
and seeing only the heart's deep
need.

For Faith alone can save man's
soul
and lead him to a higher goal.
For there's but one un failing
course—
We win by Faith, not by force.

HAWAII, HONOLULU

Michael and Sis. Janet Campbell

It seems as if the time goes very slowly for us here, and yet we are once again at the end of another month. Our heavenly Father continues to bless us by providing more brothers and sisters to visit us. We were so thankful for our visitors, Bro. Werner and Sis. Martha Hany, from the Rockville, CT, congregation. We met them at their hotel room on Apr. 6, Easter Sunday, and enjoyed a morning of fellowship together. Later they came to our home for lunch. In the afternoon, we went on a tour of the Arizona Memorial and then returned to worship together by listening to a tape. On Tuesday, Apr. 8, we went back to their hotel to visit them once more before their departure.

On Saturday, Apr. 12, we met four young sisters at the airport. They were Denise Heyerly, Brenda Moser, Anne Baumgartner, and Janice Steffen, all from our home congregation in Bluffton, IN. We took them to their hotel where we fellowshiped together. On Monday, Apr. 14, we went out to dinner. On Apr. 16, we went shopping, and later that evening we had dinner. On Friday, the 18th, our son, Tyson, and I took the bus to their hotel and spent the afternoon with them. In all, we had a very blessed time. We hope that others will come to visit us. We are at home at 3324-D Orlando Place, Honolulu, Hawaii 96818. Our telephone number is (808) 422-1041. We also appreciate cards and letters, so please do not hesitate to write.

ILLINOIS

BLOOMINGTON - NORMAL

Dixie Knapp

On Apr. 23 Jesus' death had special significance to our congregation. We partook of the sacrament of communion. As we all stood in reverent silence, I was wondering about God and how He was viewing this.

The bread was passed. In low tones the words were spoken, "And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body." (Matt. 26:26) The elders continued to share the bread with those present.

This was a holy moment. I wanted to grasp the significance of this ceremony. How does one begin to feel any acceptable level of gratitude for having access to God's throne through Jesus? How does one begin to appreciate the gift of the Holy Spirit dwelling in us? It's wanting to be thankful, yet knowing I would never feel enough thanks. It's very similar to the feeling of thanking God for food He has provided, and yet not beginning to understand the blessing of having food to eat.

Job lived before the new covenant. He did not know prayer to God through the Intercessor. Overnight, Job's blessings had dissolved into heartaches as he suffered the loss of his health, wealth, family and status. In the midst of his turmoil, Job lamented, "Neither is there any daysman betwixt us (God and Job), that might lay his hand upon us both." (Job 9:33) A

daysman is one who stands between two contending parties and reconciles them. No one could stand thus between God and man until the Lord Jesus Christ came to be the Daysman or Mediator. (I Tim. 2:5) How lonely it would be to pray to God and not have Jesus pleading for us to the Father! How would Job have felt if he had been present at this communion?

Again the reverent verses were penetrating the silence as the congregation rose to drink of the cup of wine, "And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it; for this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins." (Matt. 26:27-28) The blood of the new testament. It was approximately 600 years prior to the Lord's Supper when God spoke to Jeremiah regarding the new covenant that would be coming:

"Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah: Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, which my covenant they brake, although I was an husband unto them, saith the Lord: but this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel: After those days, saith the Lord, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people. And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for they shall all know me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the Lord: for I will forgive their iniquity. And I will remember their sin no more." Jer. 31:31-34

It was 2600 years ago that God spoke of the time in history that we are now able to know. Jesus was the Sacrifice that opened the doors.

That night when Jesus had gathered with His disciples to celebrate the Passover, He spoke to them saying, "This is my body. . . This is my blood. . ." These symbols were to be reminders to the disciples of their absent Lord, and memorials of the cost of their redemption. He not only directed their gaze to the soon-to-be past

but ahead to the Father's kingdom and to a time of joy and fellowship at the great Marriage Supper. "But I say unto you, I will not drink henceforth of this fruit of the vine, until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom." (Matt. 26:29)

Even though our communion service had ended it was a beginning for those of us present. It was the beginning of more reverence, more gratitude, more love.

As the sun began to rise on May 13, a new little girl had been born. Ashley Elizabeth Endress is just beginning her segment of time on this earth. Bro. Ralph and Sis. Elsa are the ones God has chosen to raise this beautiful little life for His praise and worship.

Elder Bro. Ed Hohulin and Sis. Elsie (Goodfield), and Elder Bro. Dan and Sis. Carol (Tremont) were with us for our blessed night of communion. It was Mother's Day that brought Bro. Jim Leman and Sis. Myra (Roanoke) to our congregation for the day. Many thanks to them and also to Bro. Harold Schmidgall (Gridley) for recently joining us for morning services.

ILLINOIS, BRADFORD

Evelyn Endress

"I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance." St. Luke 15:7. We rejoice that Dick and Marilyn Tanner have heeded God's call to repentance. May they receive His wonderful peace in their hearts!

A new baby boy, Jacob Alan, was born May 4 to Bro. David and Sis. Judy Knobloch. Eric, Shelly, and Casey are proud of their little brother. Their grandparents are Bro. Ralph and Ss. Catherine Klopfenstein (Gridley, IL) and Bro. Nick and Sis. Gladys Knobloch (Princeville).

Our thoughts and prayers are with Bro. Bill Elsasser who is a hospital patient.

ILLINOIS CHAMPAIGN - URBANA

Charlen Banwart

Lord, thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations. Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting, thou art God.

For a thousand years in thy sight are but as yesterday when it is past, and as a watch in the night.

Psalm 90:1-2, 4

For some, it seems it was only "yesterday" that they began their formal education, and now it is completed. Sonja Fischer, daughter of Bro. Richard and Sis. Dorothy, and Ellen Blunier, daughter of Bro. Ben and Sis. Wilma have recently graduated from high school. Several college students from our various churches have also completed their education here and will be moving to other communities. This is our prayer for all of our graduates: "O Father, may it never be said of us that having come to an open door, we closed it; having come to a lighted candle, we quenched it; having heard the voice of a neighbor begging bread, we made denial, speaking of our own case." (by Jean McKenzie)

At our annual business meeting, Bro. Harold Fritz was elected to be a trustee. Bro. Loren Schrenk was elected assistant Sunday School superintendent. Bro. Tim Sauder was elected to take the place of Sis. Joyce Fischer in teaching the intermediate Sunday School class. May their efforts be blessed by the Lord.

Sis. Ethel Wiegand's parents have returned to their home in Forrest, after having lived with the Wiegand family for several weeks. We were thankful Ethel's mother felt well enough to attend church several times while here.

Elder Bro. Ed Hohulin and Bro. Bob Grimm were here for our communion service which was held on May 7. Other ministers who have visited here recently include: Bro. Everett Hari (Bloomington), Elder Bro. Dave Keiser (Princeville), and Bro. Edmund Kloter (Goodfield). We appreciate their taking the time to come and minister to us.

The end of the school year picnic, planned by the college students, was held at Rotary Hill Pavillion in Lake of the Woods Park. We wish to thank the student officers for the time and effort they have put forth in planning the various activities for the past year. Bro. Ben Pflederer, Bro. Steve Leuthold and Sis. Alice Schlipf are the past officers.

ILLINOIS, CHICAGO

Kathy Schlatter

Refunding has become a way of

life for some in order to meet a goal: saving money. We were reminded that a coupon or refund offer is worth nothing until it is presented to the appropriate person with the right merchandise or proofs of purchase. We must follow instructions in order to meet our goal. To reach our goal of heaven, we must begin by presenting our broken heart to our Lord and Savior. Otherwise, despite the availability of this offer (Whosoever will may come. . .), it will be worth nothing to us. We will not meet that all-important goal. For this offer **does** have an expiration date.

"Serve the Lord with gladness: come before His presence with singing." Psalms 100:2. Our visiting ministers have been Bro. Don Gudeman, LaCrosse, IN; Bro. Dan Stoller, Rockville, CT; and Elder Bro. Roy Grimm, Taylor, MO. We appreciate their gladness in serving and wish them the Lord's continued blessings.

Sisters who have been hospitalized are Margaret Fisher and Alma Cordell. We pray earnestly that they may make swift recoveries. Our hearts weep with Sis. Marie Kulyan, for her son Marcus died so suddenly. May the Lord provide. Visiting the sick and those who mourn are, in my opinion, very difficult tasks when we are healthy and happy. But we, who do not even have words to speak, are taught in the presence of pain and death. Those who cannot move and do for themselves do not clutter their lives with the unimportant. We Christians strive to cling closely to Christ, but have we watched others in pain breathe their need to Him minute by minute in an effort to go on? Those who mourn, reminded anew of mortality, struggle to contain their grief and be a light to others, shining despite their wounds. We are not only told to visit those in such need for their sakes, but also to increase our own spiritual knowledge and compassion. May we always make time to learn what He desires to teach. Each festering sore is known by Him and has a purpose. That's part of the grace that helps those going down the valley (either the individual or loved ones who watch) be lifted up. Oh, there are so many. But He knows each of us by name. He personally gives us all help and comfort. Remind us, dear Lord.

Guilt and pain, we were taught, are both warning signals. If ignored, the cause of the pain may become more serious and even deadly. If sin is the cause of our guilt and is ignored, it is not only terminal but damns us forever.

Being prepared in the Lord for His kingdom is unlike any other kind of preparation in three ways: 1) it is eternally important, 2) Christ will do it for us as long as He is allowed to work, and 3) yet we cannot prepare for anyone else.

ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK Judy Bauer - Mary Anderson

When pure and upright hearts,
By flames of love ignited,
Are by the bond of faith
More firmly yet united.

Hymn 79, Zion's Harp

The love and "blessings from on high" were surely felt as we witnessed the marriage of Sis. Cyndee Rocke and Bro. Jon Anderson. The ceremony was performed at the Eureka Church on Apr. 20. Parents of the couple are Bro. Richard and Sis. Marge Rocke, and Sis. Mary Anderson.

On May 4, Elder Bro. Donald Sauder of Roanoke united in marriage Sis. Annette Reutter (Wm. and Sis. Anna Marie) and Bro. Kevin Fisher (Bro. Gerald and Sis. Marge).

We were happy to learn of the engagement of Sis. Betty Bauer (Bro. George and Sis. Isabel) to Bro. Tim Kaupp of Gridley. Bro. Tim is the son of Bro. Harold and Sis. Wava. May God richly bless and provide for these young folks as they travel life's pathway together.

Our congregation was saddened by the sudden death of Bro. Clarence and Sis. Emily Rudin. Bro. Clarence passed away on Apr. 17 and Sis. Emily on Apr. 20. They are survived by two sons, Richard of Plano, TX, and Bro. Gerald of Kankakee; and one daughter, Sis. Joann Maul of Rankin.

We also had joy in our congregation as we were privileged to hear Lisa Young (Harvey and Sis. Kathryn) give her testimony of faith in Christ and witness her baptism. We also learned of the faith which our friends, Jim Kaufman (Bro. Don and Sis. Gladys), Wes Kaufman (Bro. Walter and Sis. Aldine), and Robert Foster have in their Saviour and their desire to bring their testimony before the congregation.

May God grant to these dear ones sufficient grace to hold fast to this blessed faith and to strive always to serve Him.

Sis. Priscilla Knapp had the misfortune of fracturing her arm in a fall at her home. She has been hospitalized during her recovery. Sis. Gladys Knapp was a surgical patient. Medical patients included Sisters Marie Kaufman, Alice Maul, Ciara Kaufman, and Anna Kaufman; and Bros. Walter Kaufman, Earl Knapp, Howard Griener, and Andy Bauer. We are always grateful when the hospital patients are able to return to their homes.

A son, Corey, was born to Sis. Anna Marie and Bro. Lynn Young.

Ministers visiting with us in recent weeks were Bros. Duane Kilgus, Fairbury; Frederick Knapp, Congerville; and Gene Lehman, Wolcott. Thank you, dear Brothers, for sharing the Word with us.

Our young folks graduating from college this spring were Bro. Dave Bauer and Sis. Betty Bauer. High school graduates were Sis. Julie Baumgartner, David Weertz, Jill Clauss, Kathy Kaufman, Sue Knapp, Doug Walder, and Julie Yergler.

ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE Mardell Ott - Pat Rinkenberger

We were so thankful to have ministering Bros. Aaron Steffen (Alto), Glenn Dill (Tremont), and Roy Grimm (Taylor) visit us. May God bless them for letting the Lord use them to bring forth the Word and instructions to us. We are also thankful to have ministering Bro. Joe Schrock back with us after having spent the winter in Florida. How often we wish, after a Sunday service, we could remember every word that was spoken. I once heard meditation is a lost art today, and Christian people suffer grievously from their ignorance of the practice. Meditation is the activity of calling to mind, and thinking over, and dwelling on, and applying to oneself the various things that one knows about the works and ways and purposes and promises of God.

C. H. Spurgeon writes, "Meditation fixes the truth upon the memory. You complain of short memories; you say that what you have heard you can scarcely remember to another day. If thy paint be thin, and thou canst not make thy picture stand out in glowing colours, lay on many coats of thy paint,

and so wilt thou do what thou wantest. If thy memory will not retain the truth the first time, then think it over, and over, and over again and so, by having these several coats of paint as it were, the whole matter shall abide. Complain not of thy memory; complain of thy self if thou art not given to meditation. Let thy closet rebuke thee because thou hast not been oft'ner there, if thy memory be frail. For getting nourishment out of truth, and moreover, for preserving, for salting down the truth for future use, employ much meditation. Meditation clippeth the wings of thought, which otherwise would fly away at the first clapping of the world's hands. Thou shalt thus keep thy prey, as it were, surrounded and entangled in a net, else it might escape thee; thy meditation shall hold it fast until thou needest it."

Luke 15:10: "Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth." And we also rejoice with Debbie Ott (Bro. Don and Sis. Carolyn) who is seeking the Lord in repentance. We wish her much grace as she surrenders her life to the Lord Jesus Christ who gave His life for each of us.

We also rejoice with Sis. Ann (Roth) Schick (Bro. Keith and Sis. Pauline Roth) and Bro. Dave Zobrist (Bro. Howard and Sis. Phyllis) from Goodfield as they were united in marriage on May 7. We wish them God's blessings as they begin their new life together.

We're happy to report that Sis. Fannie Schieber (Bro. Harvey) is home with us again after having been hospitalized for a short time.

Thanks be to God for that eternal home where no sickness, pain, disease, or any handicaps will be found.

ILLINOIS, ELGIN

Ruth Ann Getz

"And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God. And God shall wipe all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away."

Revelation 21:3-4

What a blessed hope and con-

solation to ponder the very words of the Lord concerning those who die in Him! The separation is so keenly felt, and grief would surely overcome the soul if it were not for this abiding faith.

This past month we have laid to rest three of our beloved brethren, and our hearts go out to those families who now suffer their great losses. May the Lord tenderly embrace each of them as we lift them up in prayer before the throne of God.

Bernice Martin, 55, of Mesa, AZ, passed away Apr. 21 after losing a battle with cancer. She was the daughter of John B. and Emma Schmidgall Moser and is survived by: her husband, Harry A.; her mother, Emma; four brothers, Earl and Gene of Elgin, Harold of Upland, CA, and Lester of Scottsdale, AZ; and five sisters, Mrs. Lucille H. Smith. Sis. Lois Schock of Elgin, Sis. Viola Metz of Forrest, IL, Sis. Marie Feucht of Lester, IA, and Wilma Kaiser of Bradford, IL. We are so grateful that Bernice saw the need for her soul and cried out to the Lord in repentance on her death bed. So graciously the Lord granted her peace.

On May 8, so quietly in the night, the Lord called Sis. Ida Steffen home. In the graveside prayer it was said that Sis. Ida "kept her appointment with death," and so it shall be with us all. She was born Dec. 8, 1897, in Elgin, the daughter of William and Rose Stecher Wewetzer. Surviving are her husband, Johnathon, whom she married Nov. 11, 1919; four daughters, Sis. Betty Wiegand of Goodfield, Sis. Marion Miller of Carlock, and Sis. Ada Mae Schrock and Sis. Judy Klopfenstein of Elgin; and three sons, Bro. David of Lake Bloomington, Bro. Melvin of Gibson City, and Bro. John of Elgin. Two sons, Edward and Bro. Elmer, preceded her in death. The family wishes to express heartfelt thanks to the many loved ones who bestowed their love on the family in the form of prayers, gifts and cards.

Finally, Bro. John Schambach, 63, met the Lord as he walked in his garden on Apr. 26. He lingered in an unconscious state for nearly two weeks and passed away May 9. He was born Sept. 6, 1916, in Elgin, the son of Louis and Mary Schieler Schambach. Surviving are his wife, Sis. Elizabeth Wueth-

rich Schambach; four daughters, Sis. Paulette Putt of Francesville, Sis. Betty Bachtold of Bartlett, Sis. Patricia Stoller of Forrest, and Rachel at home; and two sons, Duane of Chicago and Bro. Thomas of Elgin.

A number of loved ones were hospitalized and we pray for God's healing hand for each of them. They were Sis. Louise Schock, Sis. Margaret Fisher, Gail Kellenberger, and Edward Eurich.

Six souls, after repentance and conversion, were able to bring their testimonies of how the Lord called them, bringing them under conviction of sin, and how with humbled and yielded hearts they found peace with their God. These new brothers and sisters of the faith are William and Nancy Strackany, Nancy Moser, Miriam Gasser, Steve Schietlin and Dale Schock. How thankful the believer can ever be for the shed blood of our Saviour that makes this reconciliation with our God possible. Bro. Dale Eisenmann (Chicago) and Bro. Roy Grimm (Taylor) assisted with this work.

ILLINOIS, EUREKA

Melba Mangold

On Apr. 20 we heard the wedding vows of Sis. Cyndee Rocke and Bro. Jon Anderson of Cissna Park. We hope God will provide many blessings for them in their new life together. Elder Bros. Steve Rinkenberger of Cissna and Leroy Huber took part in the ceremony. Bros. Kenneth Weerts and Bill Hodel of Roanoke were also with us that day. The new couple's parents are Bro. Richard and Sis. Marge Rocke, and Sis. Mary Anderson. We will miss Sis. Cyndee, but we know when we do God's will it will be well with us.

Rather belatedly, we welcome Bro. Harvey and Sis. Sylvia Banwart to our congregation. They moved to Eureka last fall from La-Crosse but have spent the winter months in Florida. We are glad to have them with us and hope they will be happy in their new home.

Sisters Doris Rocke and Marie Klaus have both been in the hospital for surgery. They are both home again doing fine.

We are very thankful that another dear friend has turned her back to the world and is seeking the Lord in repentance. She is Lisa Leman, the daughter of Bro. Roy

and Sis. Wanda Leman. We wish that many more would make this wise choice.

The family of Sis. Minnie Martin wish to thank all who remembered them at the passing away of their loved one. It helps so much.

Bro. Duane and Sis. Eileen Blunier are happy to have little Rebecca Joann in their home. She was born Apr. 30. Her brother, Marc, and sister, Beth, are glad for a new playmate. The grandparents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Marie Hohulin of Roanoke and Bro. Sam and Sis. Elizabeth Blunier of Eureka.

Bro. Terry and Sis. Shirley Leman are excited about their first child, Brian Nathaniel. He was born May 16. His grandparents are Bro. Carl and Sis. Frede Knepp, and Bro. Milton and Sis. Caroline Leman, all of Eureka.

Our best wishes are going to Bro. Merle and Sis. Mary Gail (Davis) Weyeneth who were married in Fairbury on Apr. 18. May they have many years together.

ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY

Joyce Huber
Katharine Fehr

Sis. Mary Gail Davis, daughter of Wayne and Verla Davis, was united in holy matrimony to Bro. Merle Weyeneth of Eureka. We wish, for them, the Lord's blessings in their new life together. We will miss Mary Gail in our congregation, but she will be a blessing to others in her new location. Bro. Roy Sauder of Peoria performed the marriage ceremony. Other visiting ministers for the wedding were Bro. Max Reimschisel of Wichita, KS; Bro. Raymond Roth of Kiowa, KS; Bro. Leroy Hartman of Peoria; and Bro. Walter Anliker of Eureka.

Our Elder Bro. Joshua Broquard has become a great-grandpa to a baby boy named Joshua James. He was born May 2 to James and Debra Bird of Princeville and named after his father and great-grandfather. His other great-grandfather is Art Beckman, and his grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Earl Broquard.

We give our congratulations to Bro. Lloyd and Myrna Moser's daughter, Marsha, because in graduating from high school, she has been awarded the Hospital Auxillary scholarship to use in her training to become an LPN.

Bro. Bob and Sis. Sue Cockburn,

the administrator of the Apostolic Christian Children's Home, came to the Fellowship Hall and shared with us a slide presentation of the labors of love that are being done at the Home.

Bro. Lyle Huette and Sis. Helen Kircher were married at Phoenix. We wish them God's blessings as their hearts have become united.

We recently enjoyed the messages of visiting ministers Bro. Earl Kilgus and Bro. Joe Braker.

Bro. Ben Zehr reached his four-score years as he was 80 on May 3.

We are sorry for the several who were hospitalized: Urban and Ollie Steidinger, Sis. Dorothy Hoffman, Alph Maurer, Sis. Joan Stoller, Sis. Vi Moser, Sis. Ada Hartman, Sis. Salome Zimmerman, Bro. Roger Miller, John Broquard, and Ralph Zimmerman.

ILLINOIS, FORREST

Jan Bachtold - Kathy Leman

Bro. Frederick Knapp of Congerville recently brought us the Word of Life. May we never forget to pray for the brethren who faithfully labor in the vineyard of our Lord.

Hospital patients submitting to surgery have been Sis. Jean Ricketts (Bro. Nick), Bro. Sam Maier, and Kim Benway.

We share in the joy of Sis. Elaine Nussbaum (Bro. Dean and Sis. Betty) and Bro. Lynn Stoller (late Bro. Clarence and Sis. Lucille) of Gridley who have announced their engagement. May God add His blessings as they make plans for a July wedding.

As there are times of joy, there are likewise times of sorrow. We offer our heartfelt sympathy to several in our congregation who have recently lost loved ones. We are thankful that Bernice Martin of Phoenix, sister of Sis. Viola Metz (Bro. Chris), was able to surrender her heart to God before passing into eternity. Bro. Melvin Steffen's mother, Sis. Ida Steffen of Elgin, has gone home to her reward. And Bro. John Schambach of Elgin, beloved father of Sis. Paty Stoller (Bro. John), has also exchanged his cross for a crown. May the love of God comfort the hearts of those left behind, as only He can.

To the dearly beloved brethren, sisters, and friends of the Truth, the Ray Wenger family wishes to express how their hearts have been overwhelmed with love for the

many prayers, cards, gifts, visits, and the many other kind deeds done for them during the past weeks of illness. It is their wish that God bless each one of you.

July is Silver Lining collection month for Forrest. Subscription rates are \$5.00. Please give any address or subscription changes to Bro. Ron and Sis. Carol Koehl.

ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD

Verna Hartter

Take my will and make it Thine,
It shall be no longer mine;
Take my heart, it is Thine own,
It shall be Thy royal throne.

(Hymns of Zion, 106)

After giving their hearts to the Lord, three dear souls have recently given testimonies of a true repentance and have been baptized. These new sisters and brother in faith are Sis. Cindy Rokey (Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Phyllis) and Bro. Jeff and Sis. Ruth Grimm. Deonne Steffen (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Alene) has also found peace and is to be given the opportunity of giving her testimony in the near future. We thank God for this wonderful work.

Warren Scott is the new son of Bro. Kent and Sis. Janell Kloter. He was born on Apr. 24 and has a sister, Gwen. The Dale Rinkenbergers of Gridley, and Bro. Edmund and Sis. Lorene Kloter are the grandparents.

Bro. Roy and Sis. Jan Wiegand are parents of a new son, Timothy Roy, born on May 6. His brothers are Dana and Nathan. His grandparents are Bro. Harlan and Sis. Carolyn Bolliger of Tremont, and Bro. Willis and Sis. Betty Wiegand.

We appreciated the visits of the following ministers during the past month: Bro. George Lambert, Wichita, KS; Bro. Gene Bertschi, Roanoke; Bro. Todd Feller, LaCrosse, IN; Bro. Ezra Feller, Cissna Park; Bro. Roy Grimm, Taylor, MO; and Bro. Vernon Schwab, Wolcott, IN.

Bro. Bruce Wyss submitted to surgery and is back worshipping with us. Sis. Myrna Schwenk is walking a little slower since she had the misfortune of fracturing a bone in her right ankle.

We wish to extend our heartfelt sympathy to Sis. Betty Wiegand in the death of her dear mother, Sis. Ida Steffen of Elgin, IL.

Address Changed? . . . Give Old and New Address to Your Reporter.

ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY Carol Klopfenstein

"I now have found the firm foundation
Where evermore my anchor grounds!"

No. 221 Zion's Harp

Five souls have anchored their faith on the firm foundation which is Jesus Christ. Dennis Hodel, Leslie Marti, Tina Marti, Sherry Stoller, and Denise Rimersberger have repented for their sins and enjoy the blessings of having the peace of God in their hearts. Recently we heard of the benefit of establishing a firm foundation in the Lord. This consists of the fruits of repentance, confession, restitution and then feeling His peace which assures us that He has accepted us and forgiven our sins. When we give our testimony of faith and confess Christ before many witnesses in the church and are then buried with Him in baptism, rising to newness of life, we demonstrate to all that we have turned our back on the world and have allowed the cleansing power of Jesus' blood to create in us a cleansed and purified heart. We then experience a sealing of the Holy Spirit within us and through all of this the foundation of our walk of faith is laid.

We go on to build on this foundation a building that is approved of God as we strive to be more perfect and conformed to His image. However, Satan frequently attacks the building with the storms of life and perhaps is sometimes successful in shattering windows or knocking out bricks. Nevertheless, if our foundation is sound, he cannot destroy us. Because the builder dug deep, the foundation goes far under the ground although only the building itself may be seen. Therefore it remains strong and intact no matter how violently the visible building is attacked. Despite failures, setbacks and discouragement, we can remember the day of our salvation. We can remember where we came from and the miracle that God performed in our life. As long as we first are diligent in laying a good foundation and then hold fast to that which we had in the beginning (I John 2:24), God will give us the grace to overcome and endure until the end.

We appreciate the memories we have of those who have stood the test of time and have won the victory. They have passed from this

life, and we miss them, but we are comforted when we remember the words, "Death where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? . . . Death is swallowed up in victory." (I Cor. 15:54-55)

Sis. Louse Schlipf's funeral was on May 9, the day that would have been her 79th birthday. The ministering brother read the beautiful description of a virtuous woman in Proverbs 31, and those who knew her best, especially her dear children, could remember the many times she "worked willingly with her hands" and "looked well to the ways of her household, and did not eat the bread of idleness." Sis. Louise, and many other dear mothers and sisters in faith who have gone on before us, have left us examples of godliness, virtue and faith that inspire us and encourage us to do better during this short time we have on earth. Our sympathy is extended to her sons, Bro. Loren and Bro. Ralph, and her daughters, Sis. Jean Hodel and Sis. Helen, all of Gridley. Her sisters are Sis. Mary Spohr and Sis. Martha Zierke, both of Elgin; Sis. Julia Schieler of Gridley; and Sarah Feucht of Lester. Her brother is Ed Shifferer of Marengo.

The marriage engagements of Bro. Lynn Stoller of Gridley to Sis. Elaine Nussbaum of Forrest, and Bro. Tim Kaupp of Gridley to Sis. Betty Baurer of Cissna Park were announced.

Abram Joseph Zeller is the new son of Bro. David and Sis. Christin. He was born Apr. 22. Abram has three brothers, Benjie, Seth, and Luke. Bro. Elmer and Sis. Hulda Meiss of Gridley and Henry and Sis. Norma Zeller of Morton are grandparents.

Bro. Walter Kaupp, Sis. Emily Stoller, Sis. Rose Schlipf and Bro. Bill Funk have been in the hospital.

We appreciated the visits of ministering brother Marshall Heinfeld of Washington and ministering brother Arthur Baurer of Princeville.

Congratulations to our high school graduates: Jerry Funk, Craig Gramm, Gary Klopfenstein, Russell Kuntz, Leslie Marti, Kathy Stoller, and Karen Zimmerman.

Louise Gramm wishes to thank all the loved ones who offered prayers and sent cards and gifts while she was in the hospital. She asks God to bless everyone.

ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY Doris Bachtold

". . . He steadfastly set his face to go to Jerusalem." (Luke 9:51) Jesus knew where He was going. He was not swayed by urgencies that tugged at Him from all sides. He had a purpose, a goal to fulfill. Hundreds were around Him many times with needs begging to be met. One woman touched only the hem of His robe and was healed. How many more were in that crowd with diseases which were not relieved? A young girl died while Jesus inquired who had touched Him. Then it seemed too late to help her. She was dead. Yet, Jesus knew both women, and He knew whom He was going to glorify. Jesus was aware of every person who suffered. He had the power to heal everyone. We sometimes wonder why those certain ten lepers were cleansed and not fifty others. How did Jesus know whom to heal? He had only 24 hours in a day just like we do. And I believe that every minute of those hours was used as opportunities to further His mission. Jesus knew where He was going because His life was directed by His Father. He began His day in communion with His Father. "And in the morning, rising up a great while before day, he went out, and departed into a solitary place, and there prayed." (Mark 1:35)

How do we spend the time given to us? I know that what Charles Hummel said in "Tyranny of the Urgent!" is too often the truth in my life: "We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; and we have done those things which we ought not to have done." We get so caught up in the fast pace that the pressures which push hardest direct our actions. Urgencies rule our lives. Those things which are eternal investments are frequently overlooked or pushed aside for tomorrow because today is already too full. We need time to qualify our priorities.

Another semester has ended. For some of us it is our last one at Illinois State. Dave Bauer (Cissna), Beth Leman (Forrest), Lynn Stoller (Gridley), and I have completed one goal in our lives and now reach forward to new challenges from God. Changes often bring sadness because some things which were once special in our lives are usually left behind.

Elected officers for the new school year are: Pres.—Jon Zehr; V. Pres.—Paul Klopfenstein; and Sec. Treas.—Sandy Gramm and Sue Core. We wish them the best, because we know of the efforts required to fulfill these responsibilities. The I.S.U. group wishes to express their deep gratitude to Bro. Ken Hoerr for his long hours, prayers, and counsel that he gave this year on our behalf.

Bros. Wayne Anliker (Forrest), Marshall Heinold (Washington), Lennie Meyer (Chicago), and Jim Hoerr (Peoria) shared insights with us on gray areas in our Christian walk and helped clarify our viewpoint on these issues. We really appreciate the time and research they have put into our Bible Study. It is evident that the best preparation they have had is an intimate relationship with our Father, His Son, and the Holy Spirit.

ILLINOIS, MORTON

Joann Roecker - Phyllis Farney

We gathered together in God's house on Saturday evening, Apr. 19, to partake of Holy Communion. We were richly reminded of Christ's suffering on the cross for our sins. We can never be thankful enough or repay the Lord for His rich grace, peace and mercy. Elder Bros. Ed Hohulin, Goodfield, IL, and Edwin Ringger, Gridley, IL, came to assist our Elder Bro. Joe Braker and Bro. Robert Pflederer. May our heavenly Father richly bless them for their labors of love.

We wish to extend our sincere sympathy to the Byrd family on the passing of their mother, Mrs. Pearl Byrd. May God bless and comfort her family and friends.

Bro. Mark and Sis. Carla Peters are the happy parents of their first son. Shaun Edward was born on Apr. 16. "Big sister" Shannan eagerly helped to welcome her brother home. The grandparents are Clarence Peters and Bro. Lester and Sis. Irene Kaiser.

Bro. Mark and Sis. Becky Grimm welcome into their hearts and home their second son, Paul Michael, who was born on May 4. To complete the family is big brother Brett. The grandparents are Bro. Henry Duane and Sis. Mary Lou Grimm, Morton, IL, and Bro. Stan and Sis. Verna Hodel, Roanoke, IL.

Keith and Marcy Roeschley were blessed with their second son, Joseph Raymond, who was born on

May 9. Big brother Nicholas is glad for a playmate and eagerly helped to welcome his little brother home. The grandparents are Sis. Mabel Roeschley and Don and Vicki Elward.

We were privileged to have the Bible Classes of Eureka, IL, Washington, IL, and Champaign-Urbana, IL, with us on Sunday, May 4. It was certainly very encouraging and uplifting to see so many of our young people gathered with us for the morning church service. In the afternoon our young people went to the Morton Apostolic Christian Fellowship Hall for Sunday School services. We also want to thank Bros. David Weigand, Champaign-Urbana, IL, Don Wagenbach, Washington, IL, and Bro. Lester Huber, Lexington, KY, for being with us. May God richly bless them for their labors of love.

We were pleased to have as guest ministers on Mother's Day Sunday Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann of Chicago and Bro. William Funk, Garden Grove, IA. We felt God's closeness and nearness as they proclaimed God's Word to us. May the Lord richly bless them for their labors of love.

We are happy to have Sis. Lorurine Schieber back with us from Florida, fully recovered from her surgery. She expressed her heartfelt thanks and deep gratitude for the love and concern of everyone from the Morton Church. She asks God to bless each one of you.

Graduation time has again arrived. Many students will be graduating to higher schools of learning or will begin to work at a profession. We want to wish all our graduates the Lord's blessings and guidance in their lives.

The following people have recently spent some time in the hospital: Al Carius, Bro. Leo Funk, and Sisters Elizabeth Muselman, Anna Welk, Florence Schmidgall and Charlene Herstein. May we remember to uphold these and other sick or shut-in souls in our prayers.

"Will I find Faith when I come again?" The Lord asked this question, and most of us have been fortunate enough to have God-fearing fathers. Some of us have very dear, precious memories of our beloved fathers. They showed us faith by their love toward our heavenly Father and to all mankind. They lead their family in family worship and carried us with

their arms of love as babies into church each Sunday. There were times when life's problems became very big, and they then gently pointed the way to Christ and Him crucified and to His Holy Word to seek out our answers. It seems we take our precious fathers so much for granted. We can never repay them for all they have done for us. It seems, just like our heavenly Father, the more we try to give and love, our earthly fathers turn around and give and love us again so we can never fully appreciate and repay our debt of love. Yes, as long as God grants us mercy and we have fathers who are children of God, the Lord will find faith upon His return.

The family of Mrs. Geraldine (Hoerr) Peters wishes to express their thanks and appreciation for all the kind deeds expressed to and in behalf of their dear wife and mother. The many acts of kindness will never be forgotten. They pray that God will bless all who helped.

ILLINOIS, PEORIA

Mary Plattner - Mary Ann Plattner

And ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. Ephesians 6:4.

As a Christian father, his first and most important responsibility is the eternal welfare of his family. The greatest thing he can give his family is the Christian example and unswerving devotion to the Lord. Such a radiant pattern of faithfulness to duty will serve as a beacon of guidance to his children as they make their way along life's pathway.

Take stock of yourself and consider your child;

Your time and your thought are his due.

How would you answer your God, should he ask,

What sort of father are you?

Our Daily Bread

Among this month's hospital patients were Sis. Emma Schumacher, Sis. Louise Triplett, Sis. Emma Woerner, Sis. Marilyn Baurer, Sis. Hulda Plattner, and Richard Grose. Our prayers are that the Lord will be with each one through his illness.

Our sympathy is shared with the friends and relatives of Sis. Ida Otto. She was laid to rest on Apr. 17.

The funeral of Mrs. Fritz (Susie) Scharrer was on May 14. We express our sympathy to her husband and family. We will miss her presence and smiling face.

Ministering this month among our congregation were Bros. Dave Kieser, Art Baurer, Walter Herman, all of Princeville, and Noah Herman from Tuscon. May God bless them for their labors of love.

On May 18, Sis. Mary Gail Davis and Bro. Merle Weyeneth were united in holy matrimony in Fairbury. Parents of the bride and groom are Wayne and Verla Davis and Bro. Melvin and Sis. Leona Weyeneth. May the Lord richly bless them as they walk life's pathway together.

The family of Bro. Philipp and Sis. Sophie Hoerr wish to express their thanks and appreciation to all for the many prayers, cards, beautiful flowers, and deeds of kindness received during the illness and death of their dear daughter, Geraldine Hoerr Peters. May God bless all richly for the love they have shown.

Sis. Leona Race wishes to express her thankfulness and appreciation for all the prayers, cards, gifts, and kind deeds she received at the hospital and her home.

ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE Arlene and Arlys Martin

On Apr. 29, we were saddened to hear of the death of Bro. Rodney Wagenbach. Bro. Rod had leukemia. He was born on July 19, 1954, the son of Bro. Raymond and Sis. Betty Knapp Wagenbach. Surviving besides his parents are three brothers, Bro. Daryl, Curt, and Dennis of our congregation; two sisters, Sis. Raylene (wife of Bro. Rick) Zimmerman of Roanoke and Karen of our congregation; one nephew and three nieces; his grandfather, Bro. George Wagenbach, who lives at the Eureka Apostolic Christian Home; and his grandmother, Sis. Helen Knapp of Cissna Park, IL.

To Bro. Rod's family, we extend our heartfelt sympathy. With Bro. Rod, we rejoice that he could claim the promise of God: "Enter thou into the joy of thy Lord." (St. Matthew 25:23)

Our church family misses Rod. We loved him; he was our brother.

On Apr. 20, Bro. Robert Meyer of Bluffton, IN, and Bro. Marvin Stieglitz of Leo, IN, ministered to

us.

On May 16 and May 17, Elder Bro. Ed Ringger of Gridley, IL, visited us. He was with us on Saturday evening to hear the testimonies of Sis. Jane Herrmann and Bro. Bruce Graham. Then, on Sunday, we witnessed their baptisms. Bro. Ed is an uncle to Sis. Jane. Sis. Jane's parents are Sis. Betty and Bro. Eugene Herrmann. Bro. Bruce is the son of Sis. Jeanette and Bro. Richard Graham. It is heartwarming to hear testimonies of faith, and these two young people certainly made it clear that their joy is endless in serving Jesus Christ.

Also visiting us on May 17 were Bros. Wayne Anliker of Forrest, IL, Byron Stoller of Gridley, IL, and Everett Hari of Bloomington, IL.

Accidents happen to all of us. The Earl Feucht family has experienced this. On Apr. 19, Rachel Feucht, daughter of Sis. Margaret and Bro. Earl, injured her right index finger. On May 1, Bro. Earl hurt his left middle finger. We are thankful that both have recovered and are using their hands again.

Sis. Nancy and Bro. Fred Menold are parents for the first time. Their son, Aaron Matthew, was born on May 5. His grandparents are Sis. Marie and Bro. Leonard Menold, and Helen and Richard Regier, all of Princeville.

ILLINOIS, ROANOKE Edith Sauder - Mae K. Hodel

A FATHER'S PRAYER

Give me the strength to show my children

The meaning of wrong from right,
To love and understand them
And lend a guiding light.

In years to come as they grow older

And go their separate way,
I only hope that what I have taught

Will be with them to stay.

Unknown

Our high school and college graduates have a greater than ever challenge today. We congratulate them and wish them God's blessings. "Whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not unto men." Col. 3:23.

Tammi Blunier (Bro. Wally and Sis. Olene) and Ron Wagenbach

(Bro. Simon and Sis. Louise), Tremont, exchanged wedding vows Apr. 27. Sis. Annette Reutter (Bill and Sis. Anna Marie) and Bro. Kevin Fischer (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Marge) were united in marriage in her home church at Cissna Park. We welcome Sis. Annette to our congregation. May both couples find happiness which comes from sharing, loving, giving and caring. May God bless them as they establish their homes.

Our oldest sister, Sis. Elizabeth Pfister, 92, passed away. She was able to assemble with us until February, for which we are thankful. She is survived by three sons, Harvey, Lester, and Bro. Marvin; seven daughters, Sis. Anna, Sis. Dorothy, Sis. Lois, Sis. Leona, Sis. Pearl Miller, Portland, OR, Sis. Irma Luginbuhl, Rockville, CT, and Sis. Mabel Rauhaus, Metamora. She was baptized on July 4, 1905, nearly 75 years ago.

Sis. Esther Weyeneth, 76, was laid to rest on May 17. She is survived by two sisters, Sis. Anna Leman and Sis. Mary Reiman of Sarasota, FL.

A precious daughter, Kara Renae, was born to Bro. Charles and Sis. Rita Hodel. Little Kevin welcomes her home. Carl and Betty Hodel and Bro. Ray and Sis. Emily Eiseman are the grandparents.

Chad Matthew, a brother to Christopher, was born to Scott and Sis. Mindy Leman. Bro. Bill and Sis. Helen Leman, and Bro. Harold and Sis. Ruth Krantz the the grandparents.

Jamie Marie Tibbs was born to Jim and Julie Tibbs. She has two brothers, Jason and Jeff. Her grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. James Tate, and Bro. Rudy and Sis. Mary Hoffman.

Michael and Cheryl Minger are the happy parents of Michelle Evelyn. Two brothers welcomed her home, Greg and Teddy. Her grandparents are Sis. Rose Minger, and Mr. and Mrs. Orville Clappitt.

Visiting ministers occupying the pulpit this month were Bros. Simon Wagenbach (Tremont), John Steiner (Oakville), Robert Miller (Portland), and Raymond Roth (Kio-wa). We thank them for sharing the precious Word with us.

Jay Leman (Bro. Jim and Sis. Myra) and Teri Kilgus (Bro. Richard and Sis. Jeanette), Elgin, IL, are planning an Aug. 9 wedding.

Marjean Knepp (Bro. Ralph and

Sis. Ruth) and Mark Largent (Mr. and Mrs. William Largent), Tremont, are planning a November wedding. We extend them our best wishes and God's blessings.

Nine precious souls have found peace with God and wish to give their testimonies of faith in their loving God. They are: Jeff Schumaker (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Jane), Patty Aeschleman (Bro. Joe and Sis. Mardell), Lucy Hodel (Bro. Glen and Sis. Margaret), Randy Koehler, Dianne Leman (Bro. Richard and Sis. Rachel), Rita and Steve Pfister (Bro. Marvin and Sis. Ila), Richard Lindberg, and Linda Zimmerman. We rejoice that God is still calling loved ones to come and serve Him.

Sis. Bina Bertsch has had surgery and is hospitalized at this time. Sis. Marian Blunier is recovering from surgery. Bro. Jim Byrd has had skin grafting on his hand and is at home again. Bro. Chris Bradle has been at Mayo's for additional tests. May God's healing power restore our loved ones' health.

ILLINOIS, TREMONT

Lydia Rassi - Dorothy Wagenbach

IN SPRING

There's Heaven-sent fragrance in the air;

Field and hill show new life glory;
God's using all the world to tell
The Resurrection Story.

Beulah H. Raglend

Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. James 4:8.

On Saturday evening, May 3, our congregation gathered to partake of Holy Communion. We were reminded of Christ's suffering on the cross and of His shed blood which can save every soul. May we remember this daily in our lives and pray to be humble children. We thank Bro. Roy Sauder for helping Bro. Dan in serving us.

We are thankful for all the dear ones who have visited us this past month. Especially we ask God's blessings on His servants, Bros. Ken Hoerr, Bruce Leman, Noah Herman, Steve Rinkenberger, John Steiner, Marvin Schmidgall, Bill Hodel, and Vernon Wettetein.

And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain. Revelations 21:4.

We were saddened by the death of Bro. Jay Bolliger, 46. God knows best, and all that He does is well done. We have the confidence that for Bro. Jay, all is well. Bro. Jay was a Sunday School teacher and a much loved brother. Our love and sympathy are with: his wife, Sis. Alona; his son, Curt; his three daughters, Sis. Susan, Judy (John) Dohman, and Sharon Bolliger; his father, Bro. August; his mother, Sis. Carrie Bolliger; his brother, Bro. Harlan Bolliger; and his sisters, Sis. Glenna (Bro. Earl) Sauder and Sis. Janice (Bro. Elman) Koch. Bro. Jay's family wishes to thank all the dear ones for the many prayers, love, concern and all kindness shown to them during his illness and death.

Ron Wagenbach and Tammy Blunier were united in holy matrimony Apr. 27. Their parents are Bro. Simon and Sis. Louise Wagenbach, Bro. Wally and Sis. Olene Blunier.

We wish Cynthia Schmidgall and Tom Smothers many blessings as they established their home and began their life together May 18. Their parents are George and Grace Schmidgall, Macinaw, and William and Ilene Smothers, Peoria.

Elaine Wagenbach, daughter of Bro. Robert and Sis. Dorothy, and Myron Blunier, son of Bro. Vernon and Sis. Verda, took their wedding vows May 18, uniting their hearts and lives. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder. We pray for the Lord's precious blessings on each of our dear young couples.

God has placed love in two hearts, Mark Largent, son of William and Marjorieta, and Marjean Knepp, daughter of Bro. Ralph and Sis. Ruth, El Paso. We wish them the Lord's blessings in their future lives together. They are planning a November wedding.

Our prayers are with our Sis. Julia (Bro. Ed) Sauder who had surgery this past week. Sis. Leah Winzeler is improving from her eye surgery. She wishes to thank all for visits, gifts, flowers, help, and food during her hospital stay and since she's home. She also asks God to bless all of you. Leah Williams is improving from her surgery and wishes to thank all the dear ones for their prayers, love and concern for her.

We wish God's guidance and

blessings in the future for our high school graduates. They are June Baer, daughter of Bob and Doris, Shelia Bolliger, daughter of Bro. Harlan and Sis. Carolyn, Cindy Dill, daughter of Bro. Glenn and Sis. Marilyn, Esther Endress, daughter of Fred and Ruth, Rita Glueck, daughter of Bro. Karl and Sis. Velda, Rita and Teresa Huette, daughters of Bro. Ken and Sis. Arlene, Trudy Sauder, daughter of Bro. Merle and Sis. Nancy, Cherie Schweigert, daughter of Willard and Della, Diane Wagenbach daughter of Bro. Bob and Sis. Dorothy, and Sis. Mary Zuercher, daughter of Bro. Curt and Sis. June.

Those who graduated from the eighth grade are: Heidi Aberle, daughter of Bro. Ernie and Sis. Freida, Sharon Bolliger, daughter of Sis. Alma, Lori Dill, daughter of Bro. Kent and Sis. Sandy, Karla Glueck, daughter of Bro. Karl and Sis. Velda, Tim Kaeb, son of Bro. Elmer and Sis. Darlene, Jennifer Long, daughter of Bro. George and Sis. Phyllis, Gwen Leuthold, daughter of Bro. Dean and Sis. Mary Jane, and Nate Zuercher, son of Bro. Curt and Sis. June.

ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON

Valerie Kipfer

GOD'S WAY—OR THE WORLD'S

Christians can sell out to the world—the hostile, unchristian, anti-God world—and not even realize it. It happens every time we let the things we want from life overpower our judgment and Christian principles. This is the stuff wars are made of. It happens when we try to use prayer to further our own ends. It happens when we set ourselves up as judges of other people. It happens when we plan our lives without reference to God. It happens when wealth and pleasure become an end in themselves and justice flies out the window.

How can we avoid it? By prayer—the right kind of prayer. By continually resisting the things we know are wrong. By seeking God out; by seeing ourselves as we really are and submitting wholeheartedly to him. By realizing we can count on nothing in this life—not even tomorrow—and depending on Him. James 4:15 expresses our whole attitude toward life—not just tacking an automatic "God willing" on to our own plans.

There is a special danger in influence. It cocoons people in false security. They are so well-insulated that they cease to feel for those who are cold and hungry. And values become warped. This life is so pleasant they lose sight of eternity. But God sees it all—and judges.

—from Eerdmans' Handbook to the Bible.

Bro. Ron and Sis. Carole Kellenberger welcomed their fourth child into their home and hearts recently. Phillip, Jenny, and David are glad to have little sister Maria.

We extend our sympathy to Bro. Grant and Sis. Mabele Rauhaus in the death of her mother, Sis. Elizabeth Pfister of Roanoke.

INDIANA, BLUFFTON Darlene Isch - Vicki Isch

Isn't life precious when God can bring forth a new baby into a Christian home? Bro. Tim and Sis. Marlise Steffen are first-time parents of a little boy, Jayde Timothy. Gary and Sis. Sharon Merritt were blessed with a precious son, Christopher Alan. Tyson Lynn was the name given to a baby boy born to Mike and Lisa Mann. Bro. Tom and Sis. Barb Pfister are the proud grandparents. Joy arrived to Bro. Alan and Sis. Debbi Aeschliman as they welcomed their first child, Travis Lee, into their home. May 15, Travis William was born to Bro. Kris and Sis. Ann Frauhiger.

Hospital patients this month included Bro. Lewis Sauder and Sisters Dulla Gerber, Elizabeth Graber, Clarice Isch, Cordelia Aeschliman, Joan Gerber and Emma Steffen. We trust and pray that God will heal each one according to His will.

Our congregation rejoices that six souls have hearkened to our Lord's call. We can only pray that more will heed His loving call.

We wish to thank Bro. Ray Sinn (Latty), Bro. Walter Steffen (Milford) and Bro. Tom Leman (Elgin) for sharing God's Word with us. May God bless them for their service of love toward us.

On Apr. 27, the announcement was made of the engagement of Sis. Lisa Shively (Bro. Charles and Sis. Sally) to Bro. Kelly Aeschliman (Bro. Bob and Sis. Ida). May 11, Sis. Lori Gerber (Bro. Carroll and Sis. Louise) was engaged to Bro. Mark Steffen (Bro. Sherman and

Sis. Lucile). Our best wishes are extended to these two couples as they plan their future together.

Bro. John Kehr passed away at the hospital following a loss of health during the past two years. Surviving is a son, Dwight, and three sisters, Della Fisher, Ida Shaffer and Margaret Confer.

On Apr. 20, the choir planned a Family Hymn Sing. A large number enjoyed singing at the Fellowship Hall.

With many hands and hearts working together, we accomplished the task of spring cleaning our church. Everyone's efforts were appreciated.

On May 18, our graduating seniors were honored with a breakfast served to them at the Fellowship Hall by last year's graduating class. Graduating this year are: Kim Aeschliman, LouAnn Aschliman, Kerry Frauhiger, Jeff Geisel, Sis. Karen Gerber, Kevin Gerber, Laura Gerber, Bro. Rodney Gerber, Steve Gerber, Crystal Hegerfeld, Doug Kaehr, Jenny Kae'hr, Sis. Sheri Kaehr, Terry Kipfer, Bob Maller, Dallas Moser, David Moser, Doug Moser, Troy Moser, Jeff Neunenschwander, Dan Pfister, Marvin Reinhard, Rowena Reinhard, Bro. Dale Ringger, Randy Ringger, Tracy Schwartz, Sis. Lisa Shively, Bro. Duane Steffen, Eric Steffen, Jeff Steffen, Sis. Lori Steffen, Marlene Steffen, Kae Troxel, and Kevin Williams.

A GRADUATE'S PRAYER

Father, I have knowledge, so will
You show me now
How to use it wisely and to find a
way somehow
To make the world I live in a little
better place,
And make life with its problems a
bit easier to face?
Grant me faith and courage and
put purpose in my days.
Show me how to serve Thee in the
most effective ways
So all my education, my knowledge
and my skill,
May find their true fulfillment as
I learn to do Thy Will.
And may I ever be aware in
everything I do
That knowledge comes from learn-
ing—and wisdom comes from
You.

Helen Steiner Rice

INDIANA, BREMEN (See South Bend)

INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE Wendy Gutwein Jacki Huber

A Father is Many Things

A father is many things to his child. As a teacher, he helps us learn valuable lessons about God's law and purpose. As a guide, he sets a pattern for life—for the ideals we should seek. As a companion, he provides that close friendship God wishes every young person to enjoy. It is, indeed, through the influence of a father on earth that we better know and understand our Father in heaven.

James Keller

All of us with earthly fathers, especially Christian fathers, have much to be thankful for!

This month we have had a few visiting ministers: Bro. Bob Pflederer travelled here with the Mortonaires on Apr. 19. We had a blessed day of fellowship with them and appreciated Bro. Bob's ministering to us through the Word and the Mortonaires through song.

Apr. 26, Elder Bros. Dale Eisenmann and Alfred Bahler assisted our own Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman in the serving of Holy Communion to our congregation. What a great price our Lord had to pay for our salvation!

For some time now our church has been praying for a brother to help in the ministry and also for an unordained deacon to help Elder Bro. Wendell. We feel the Lord has heard our prayers and richly provided for us as Bro. Chris Huber (Sis. Sharon) will now help out in the ministry and Bro. Steve Gutwein (Sis. Linda) as an unordained deacon. These brothers, and all our ministers, surely need our prayers, not just now as they take on their new duties, but always, that the Spirit of the Lord can always work through them. We thank Elder Bros. Dale Eisenmann and Alfred for their part in this weekend and their ministry to us.

We always miss any of the brothers and sisters of our congregation when they are gone for awhile, and so we are thankful to have Bro. Steve and Sis. Linda Gutwein back with us after visiting our brethren in Japan for a couple of weeks.

We were saddened by the sudden death of Kathy Anliker (Bro.

Chuck and Sis. Margaret) on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 11. She was killed in a car accident. Kathy's two brothers are Kenneth and Kurtis, and her grandparents are Bro. Ben and Sis. Sara Anliker. Our sympathy goes out to all of the family and relatives; we pray that God can comfort them as only He knows how.

"Out of suffering have emerged the strongest souls; the most massive characters are seamed with scars; martyrs have put on their coronation robes glittering with fire, and thru their tears have the sorrowful first seen the gates of heaven." Chapin

We also extend our sympathy to Sis. Paulette Putt (Bro. Wayne) in the loss of her father, Bro. John shambach of Elgin, IL.

It is already graduation time, and this year we have eleven graduates. Our prayer for them is that they can find the most important thing here on earth: salvation and eternal life after death. The graduates are: Melanie Albrecht (Louis and Sis. Carol), Deborah Anliker (Bro. Earl and Sis. Liz), Elaine (Bucher) Sanders (Bro. Elmer and Sis. Peg), Corinne Gutwein (Bro. Nate and Sis. Ad), Jeff Neihouser (Bro. Andre and Sis. Lois), Penny Neihouser (Bro. Perry and Sis. Sally), Stacy Ulbricht Ledford (Bob and Barb), Bruce Westfall (Bro. Karl and Sis. Mary Louise), Robin Wuethrich (Bro. Rich and Sis. Nola), Scott Wuethrich (Bro. Otto and Sis. Donna), and Leona Yaggie (Bro. Irvin and Sis. Lois). Congratulations to all of you!

INDIANA, INDIANAPOLIS

Bobbi Erb

We wish to thank the Goodfield choir for sharing God's Word in song with us on Apr. 26 and 27. We also give a special thank you to our Elder Bros. Alfred Bahler and Wendell Gudeman for sharing communion with us.

On May 11, Sis. Pam Frank (Leo) and Bro. Ron Messner (Winthrop) were united in holy matrimony at Leo. Bro. Ron and Sis. Pam have both been living in the Indianapolis area for sometime, and we will continue to enjoy their presence in our small congregation.

Father's Day will soon be here, and how grateful all of us should be for the love and virtues passed on to us from our forefathers.

A careful man I ought to be;
A little fellow follows me.
I don't dare to go astray,
For fear he'll go the selfsame way.
Not once can I escape his eyes;
Whate'er he sees me do he tries.
Like me he says he's going to be,
That little chap who follows me.
I must remember as I go
Through summer sun and winter
snow

I'm molding for the years to be—
That little chap who follows me.

Author Unknown

INDIANA, LA CROSSE

Pearl Nuest - Lu Ann Feller

We enjoyed a program of verse and song May 4. We thank the Francesville choir for sharing, with us, this blessed evening.

We were blest the past month with visiting ministers: Bro. Marvin Stieglitz of Leo; Bro. Art Ringger of Indianapolis; and Elder Bro. Leroy Huber and Bro. Vernon Leman of Eureka, IL. May our ministering brothers never tire of expounding the true Word.

Elder Bro. Leroy Huber assisted Elder Bro. Edward Frank with the important work of serving the Lord's Supper on Saturday evening, May 10.

He becometh poor that dealeth with a slack hand: but the hand of the diligent maketh rich. Pro. 10:4.

Wisdom is the principal thing; Therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting, get understanding. Pr. 4:7.

May our graduates apply their knowledge to both spiritual and material gain. We offer congratulations to high school graduates Ruth Ann Nuest, daughter of Bro. Elvin and Sis. Janet; Bro. Don Nuest, son of Bro. Gene and Sis. Norma; Duane Bucher, son of Sis. Gwen; Bro. Bob Feller, son of Bro. Lynn and Sis. Mary Ann; and LeAnn Bucher, daughter of Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Caro.

O, let our house be built on stone,
Upon Thy holy truth alone,
That we may never waver;
And even when the days are dark,
May we Thy holy footsteps mark
And follow Thee, O Saviour!
Lasting gladness In rich measure,
For Thou givest heavenly pleasure.

Zion's Harp

May our fathers ever remain steadfast and direct their children

aright so that our house will be built of stone.

Sis. Louise Alt has moved to Parkview Haven, Francesville.

We wish to extend our sympathy to Marie Pfledderer Mervine in the sudden passing of her husband, Fred, and to Bro. Harold and Sis. Margaret (Sis) Heinold in the loss of her father.

INDIANA, LEO

Mrs. Phil Schlatter

Mrs. Al Frautschi

God has you in His plan. Do you have Him in yours?

Congratulations to our 1980 graduates: Sisters Kandy Bruellman, Bonny Klopfenstein, Debbie Schrenk, and Marlise Stieglitz from high school; Sis. Kathy Price from Lutheran Hospital School of Nursing; and Sis. Stephanie Sylvester and Bro. Philip Bollier from Ball State University.

May 11 was a beautiful day for the wedding of Sis. Pam Frank and Bro. Ron Messner. Many were present as the couple spoke their sacred vows. Adding to the blessings of the day were the messages by Bros. Art Ringger, Indianapolis, and Jim Rinkenberger, Bluffton.

Sis. Sylvia Steiner has recently been a hospital surgical patient. Sis. Frances Schwartz is still confined in the hospital. Many have remembered them in prayer.

A new granddaughter has been added to the family of Bro. O. W. and Sis. Helen Maxfield by the birth of Jayla May to Michael and Jayne Heller on May 6.

Tonight, before you go to sleep, don't count sheep; instead, talk to the Shepherd.

INDIANA, MILFORD

Sandy Beer - Connie Beer

"Some people complain because God put thorns on roses, while others praise Him for putting roses among thorns."

Author Unknown

We are thankful that Bro. Frank Beer (Sis. Ruth) has recuperated enough to be out some and can again enjoy attending church. Carolee Steffen, the young daughter of Bro. Walt and Sis. Dorothy, has undergone tests at Riley's Children's Hospital and is presently undergoing treatment for leukemia. We want them to feel our love and prayers, and to feel God's guiding hand through it all. Also, Sis. Connie Beer (Bro. Steve) has

been experiencing difficulties while awaiting the arrival of their baby and has undergone tests. She is often unable to fellowship with us and to be out and about as she would desire.

An unfortunate accident left Ben Beer, the young son of Bro. Phil and Sis. Millee, with a broken foot. He is able to get around in a walking cast.

Sis. Aldine Reimschisel submitted to gall bladder surgery and is presently hospitalized at Goshen. We often think of Bro. Earl and Sis. Lorene who, because of Lorene's illness, are often unable to enjoy the fellowship. We also remember dear ones who are confined to their homes or nursing homes.

"After life's heartaches, there comes from above the peace and comfort of God's healing love."

Funeral services were held Apr. 25 for George Stieglitz, son of the late Henry and Sis. Anna. We extend our sympathy to Anna and her remaining family.

As we commemorate Mother's Day and Father's Day, may we count our blessings and just pause and compare the love and concern that parents and our heavenly father share for each of their children.

We want to extend our heartfelt thanks to Bro. Glen Price, Jr. (Sarasota) and Bro. Rod Huber (Valparaiso) for blessing us so richly with their ministry.

"What lies behind us and what lies before us are tiny matters compared to what lies within us."

William Morrow

Congratulations, graduates! High school graduates are Tim Beer (Bro. Levi and Sis. Kathryn), Tracy Campbell, granddaughter of Bro. Elmer and Sis. Flossie Hartter, Brenda Martin (Bro. Gerald and Garlene), Amy Spiecher (Bro. Lewis and Sis. Mim), and Kevin Templeton. Graduating from nurses training this spring are Sis. Kathy Price (Bro. Glen and Sis. Kate) and Marla Hoover (Don and Sis. Ginny). May the good Lord keep you in the hollow of His hand and bless you always.

INDIANA, REMINGTON

Beth Virkler - Annette Bahler

Is your love patient and kind? Is it able to suffer long, to endure every strain placed upon it in hu-

man relations, and still love? Is your love as steadfast in pointing to God's love as is the needle of the compass in pointing to the north? Is your love undiscouraged even by repeated ingratitude and recurrent failures on the part of others? Patience and kindness are the fruits of having Christ live in you. Are you nourishing your life upon His life by prayer and worship and studying His word? If so, the fruit of patient and kind love will grow and will be available for the healing of other lives.

Our visiting minister this month was Bro. Joe Waibel of the Bay City, MI, congregation.

To Get To Know Each Other Better

Sis. Lena Knochel was born on Mar. 10, 1896, to Bro. Phillip and Sis. Louise (Rauch) Knochel at Cissna Park, IL. She was the seventh child of eleven children. Her brothers were Phillip, Jr., George, Gustav, Chris, and Ben. Her sisters were Sophia Farney, Louise Scharlach, Lydia Pelsy, Sally Frey, and Ida Tyler Swan.

When she was nine years old, her family moved to a farm west of Remington. She went to school through eighth grade and then worked on the farm. Some other jobs included taking care of the chickens, working in the garden, and taking care of the oil lamps each night. This involved trimming the wicks and refilling them with oil. The whole family spoke German while growing up.

When she was 16, she went to work as a telephone operator. This lasted for the next 20 years. During that time, when she was 28, she sought the Lord and was converted. When she was 36, she moved to Ft. Wayne and lived with Sis. Lena Farny and worked in a drugstore. After five years, she was called home to take care of her aging parents. She dedicated the next years of her life caring for her parents until they passed away. She also helped her brothers with their big families.

The time then came for her to have her own home, which she had built. She had a few extra rooms in which she boarded teachers.

Her years soon added up in life, and it became too much work to care for a home. In 1978 she sold her home and moved to Parkview Haven Nursing Home in Frances-

ville where she now resides in the residential wing.

INDIANA, SOUTH BEND

Gayle Bucker

We were reminded recently of how essential it is to be mindful of the needs of others. Many times we may need a friend who "just stands by." May we all strive to be that priceless friend.

We have purchased a tract of land located at Madison Road and State Road 331 for the building of our new church. This property is located approximately four miles south of South Bend. We are so thankful for the Lord's direction with this decision and for the many prayers offered on our behalf. For the time being, we are meeting in the Lion's Club building, East Washington St., LaPaz, one block east of the Farmer's State Bank. Pulpit service is at 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Come and worship with us. Visitors are very welcome and most appreciated!

On May 18, our congregation approved our constitution and by-laws. Our name from this date forward will be Apostolic Christian Church of South Bend.

Bro. John Schuch was elected as our new trustee. He will replace Bro. George Zimmer, who declined the position for health reasons. We are thankful Bro. George is gaining strength daily.

Our visiting ministers this month were Bros. Merle Bucher, Walt Rager, Earl Kilgus, and Elder Bro. Loren Stoller. We sincerely thank them for sharing their love and time with us.

Those hospitalized this month were Bro. Dan Germann, Sis. Marge Mangold, and Sis. Mildred Meister. Sis. Helen Martin fell and suffered fractured ribs. May God grant a speedy recovery to all.

INDIANA, VALPARISO

Claudia Thomas - Mary Huber

Once again we've been blessed with visiting ministers. Those who fed us so richly are Bros. Clarence Kachelmuss, Forrest; Ron Heinger, Bloomington; Bill Hodel, Roanoke; and our Elder Bro. Ed Frank. May our Saviour richly bless these brothers for their labors of love.

We wish there were some way to repay the many young people who filled our small church with their love and wonderful singing.

There is no way we can adequately tell them how much they are appreciated.

Valarie Harmon and Eric Jones are graduating from high school this May. As one voice, our congregation wishes them the best and prays the Lord to bless and keep them throughout their lives.

A new little boy was born just in time for Father's Day. Darius Howard made a very happy mother and father of Bro. Brad and Sis. Laura Compton. Babies aren't the only special people in our families.

FATHERS ARE NICE

A father is nice when you're little because when he comes home from work you can take out his leftover lunch and have a picnic in the closet.

A father is good at playing hide-and-seek, and even though he can't seem to find good hiding places where you don't find him, he is still fun to play with.

A father is fun when you can ride on his shoulders and look at the world from a different view.

And a father is nice when he's gardening and you're helping and he saves a worm for you.

When Mom is having a woman's meeting at the house and you don't want to listen to a bunch of ladies talking, fathers are good at making popcorn and keeping you entertained.

A father is nice when you're big because he understands how important it is to have a room of your own when you're the only girl in the family. And a father is nice too when you're the only girl because he likes you to have pretty coats and dresses.

Fathers provide you with food and clothing and love. Fathers are a picture of courage and trust. Fathers tell you about the Lord and why they love Him and why they want you to love Him.

Fathers are the most understanding people in the world. You can tell them anything you want and they're always ready to help.

Fathers are wonderful for lots of things, but best of all, for loving.
(Carol Sandberg—13 yrs. old)

INDIANA, WOLCOTT

Laurel and Chris Widmer
Suzie Lehman

The Lord has again led two paths into one. The engagement of Sis.

Denise Stoller to Bro. Kurt Rager (Latty) was announced May 18. Sis. Denise is the daughter of Bro. Richard and Sis. Viola. We wish them joy during this special time in their lives.

Graduating from high school this year is Sis. Pam Kybug (Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Pat).

College graduates are Bro. Linn Stoller (Bro. Gene and Sis. Min from Leo) who receives his degree in chemical engineering and Sis. Suzanne Lehman (Bro. Gene and Sis. Verna) who receives her diploma in nursing. We wish them both well in their new careers. May their conduct be a light to all with whom they come in contact.

We were privileged to partake of the Lord's Supper on Apr. 20. Elder Bro. Orville Ringger came to share the day with us.

Bro. Alfred Bahler was hospitalized several days after fracturing his ankle in a farm accident. We are thankful that he is recuperating well and can again assemble with us.

We will miss Bro. Linn and Sis. Brenda Stoller as they will be moving to Atlanta, GA, where Bro. Linn has accepted employment. We pray that God's blessings will go with them and hope that they will come back and visit us often.

IOWA, BURLINGTON

Judy Gehring - Kim Salek

We have three high school graduates to congratulate this year, Mary Beth Gehring (Bro. Uriel and Sis. Judy), Lucinda Scheitlin (Bro. Ken and Sis. Charity), and Beverly Woodward (Bro. Marvin and Sis. Verna). We congratulate them on ending this phase of their schooling and wish them God's blessings and guidance as they begin the next phase. Also, Bro. Kent Obermann graduated from the University of Iowa Dental College. Bro. Kent plans to continue his education to specialize in children's dentistry, and he and his wife, Sis. Deb, are moving to Memphis, TN. We will miss them, as they gathered with us as often as possible. We wish them God's blessings and nearness as they move to a new area.

Several of our congregation traveled to the Iowa City church for their Open House and Dedication. The time spent there on those weekends was very uplifting, and we pray that God will continue to

bless their church and that it may grow. We were reminded at our conference that to grow in number is not the most important thing, but we are to grow in faith and love with however many members we do have. God has promised to be in our midst even when only two or three have gathered in His name.

Bro. Bill Obermann spent some time in the hospital with double pneumonia. He is home now and feeling much better. The prayers we often say for those who are ill are certainly appreciated. It is hard to realize just how much they comfort and support those who receive them until we ourselves are the recipients. Let us always be diligent to remember our brethren in these ways.

We thank our ministering brethren and their wives for sharing themselves with us. This month, Bro. Albert Wuthrich and his wife, Sis. Elizabeth spent a Sunday with us. It is always strengthening to hear and feel God's presence. Our Elder Bro. Ed Lanz and his wife spent a Wednesday evening with us. He related to us the story of Joseph and how his brothers sold him. Just as we would, Joseph's father grieved over his lost son, but wonderful plans God had in store for him. Joseph became a deliverer of his people and saved his own family and many others from starvation, just as Jesus delivered us from spiritual starvation. If we could learn to trust God in all things, knowing that His will and His way are always best, we would always dwell in peace and contentment.

IOWA, ELGIN

Eleanor Butikofer

'Tis spring indeed! The orioles, the wrens, and the blue birds are back. A pair of robins have chosen a limb of the maple tree as a place to build their nest, right here next to our house. What a pleasure to hear their caroling quite early in the morning. This gives us a lift in our daily work.

The folks in this area were so very grateful for rain which helped enhance the pastures and caused the corn to commence to grow and the hay fields to develop.

Recently, a group of adults and children from our church sang hymns for the residents of the Good Samaritan Home in West Union.

Sis. Marie Butikofer wishes to thank everyone who remembered her on her ninetieth birthday with personal calls, cards, and gifts. She is blessed with thirty-five grandchildren and twenty-eight great-grandchildren. She has witnessed many changes. Sis. Marie is thankful that she can do handwork such as sewing together strips which go to make rugs, etc.

We congratulate Milton Schneider on the completion of his high school work. He is the son of LaVerne and the late Lavila Schneider. May God's rich blessings always highlight his life, and may he ever feel His nearness. Milton is planning to take a course in electronics at the Northeast Iowa Technical Institute located at Calmar, IA. We wish him success in all of his endeavors.

We thank Bro. Uriel Gehring, Burlington, IA, who was our guest minister during our last interval. His mother, Sis. Bertha Gehring, who is a resident at the Good Samaritan Home in West Union, is able to attend our church services. Sis. Janet Mogler, who is a nurse at the Palmer Memorial Hospital often gives her a ride as she, too, attends our church services. When Janet cannot, someone else makes it a point to pick up Sis. Bertha.

Sis. Edna Gehring is looking forward to having her daughter, Norma, who teaches school at Peoria, AZ, with her this summer. We, too, are anticipating with pleasure seeing Norma. She has taught school in Arizona for 20 years and has had interesting experiences which she can relate about her work with fourth grade students.

"In peace as in war, we are beneficiaries of knowledge contributed by every nation in the world. Our children are guarded from diphtheria by what a Japanese and German did, they are protected from small pox by the work of an Englishman, they are saved from rabies because of a Frenchman, and they are cured of pellagra through the researches of an Austrian. From birth to death they are surrounded by an invisible host, the spirits of men who never thought in terms of flags or boundary lines and who never served a lesser royalty than the welfare of mankind."

— Fosdick

THE MAN CHRIST

He built no temple, yet the farthest sea can yield no shore that's barren of his place for bended knee. He wrote no book, and yet His words and prayer are intimate on many myriad tongue—are counsel everywhere. The life He lived has never been assailed, nor any precept, as he lived it, yet has ever failed. He built no kingdom, yet a King from youth He reigned, is reigning yet; they call his realm the kingdom of the Truth.

— Kindsey

IOWA, IOWA CITY Bonita Frank

This past month has been a very memorable one for all of us and has stirred up many deep feelings. We opened our edifice to the community Apr. 20 for our open house and were permitted to dedicate our facilities to His service May 4. We were thankful for all those who came to share this special time with us, those that have helped support the Iowa City congregation with their presence and time, and also their prayers, throughout its development. We were reminded by just the very presence of all those dear brothers and sisters of how important it is for us to maintain our faith and this gathering, just as it was begun years ago.

We sincerely appreciated Elder Bro. Leroy Huber's dedication service and his using of himself to bring forth the Lord's kind admonishments to us to do our part to make this church a unified congregation. We also appreciated our own Elder Bro. Ed Lanz and his shepherding of us as a new congregation. Other ministering brethren that were with us included Elder Bro. Paul Butikofer, Elgin, IA; Bro. Walter Anliker, who came with Elder Bro. Leroy Huber from Eureka, IL; and Bro. Harvey Heiniger, Burlington, IA.

We were thankful that Bro. Bill Gerst, Alto, MI, and Bro. Lester Hartter were able to be with us for our open house services. Other visiting ministers this month included Bro. Uriel Gehring, Burlington, IA, and Bro. Jon Schmidgall, Oakville, IA.

On Apr. 26, Beth Mogier, daughter of Bro. Howard and Sis. Lollie of Lester, IA, gave her testimony

of how the Lord had created a change in her life. She was baptized Apr. 27. We certainly wish her the Lord's grace and strength to continue in her life with Him in control.

Our medical patients include Audrey Plotz, who is experiencing another reoccurrence. We do hope things improve for her as much as they can.

At this time of year, while thinking of Mother's Day and Father's Day, we are reminded of how precious our parents are. Since the ages of our small group span relatively few years, our parents are all in the same generation, and we appreciate each pair as if they were our own. So, we are all saddened with Bro. Brad Eland and his family as his mother, Ethel, has recently been a medical patient here in Iowa City.

IOWA, LESTER Alice Metzger

Our blessings have been many in the past month. How could anyone be an atheist in this season when the trees, fields and gardens are alive with His miracles? After a very dry spring, we received a lovely soaking rain, and we are thankful.

A very blessed weekend was ours when Elder Bro. Gene Marti was with us to assist Elder Bro. Leo Moser in serving communion. Also present was Bro. Leroy Messner, Winthrop.

Again blessings flowed on the weekend of Apr. 27 when Elder Bro. Leroy Huber was with us to assist in hearing the testimonies of five dear souls. Each one was called to repentance in a different way after asking God for help. Those whom we now embrace as brothers and sisters in faith are Jeannette Feucht (Bro. Ray and Sis. Marge), Beth Mogler (Bro. Howard and Sis. Lollie), Merle Knobloch (Bro. Albert and Sis. Salome), Dietrich Knobloch (Bro. Willie and Sis. Helen), and Mardi Leuthold (wife of Bro. Larry).

Visiting ministers recently were Bros. Marvin Schmidgall, Joe Gerst, Elmer Schmidt, Noah Gerber, Duane Metzger and Roger Aberle. We are so thankful for each one who takes the time to be with us.

Sis. Lena Kellenberger was called to her reward on May 11 at

the age of 92. She had been fairly active until becoming ill several weeks before her death. We will miss her as she was a staunch pillar of the church. Having repented as a teen-ager. Bro. Chris passed away in 1976, and she is survived by Bro. Henry, Sis. Salome Knobloch, Sis. Viola Kellenberger, and Sis. Elgeva Knobloch of this congregation, Sis. Alice Metzger, Bro. Ernest Kellenberger and Sis. Della Metzger of West Bend, and forty grandchildren and seventy great-grandchildren.

Our prayers are with Bro. Dale Wulf as he has been called into the ministry. May God grant him the courage and strength needed to carry out His work.

God moves among us in many ways. The heart of loved ones have been moved to seek companions to share their lives. Recent engagements which have been revealed are Sis. Joyce Rumbold Knobloch and Bro. Glen Metzger. A June wedding is planned. A July wedding is planned for Bro. Rick Moser and Sis. Loretta Luthi of Lamar, MO.

A precious baby boy was born to ministering Bro. Dennis and Sis. Esther Warner on May 13. Steve Allen has three sisters and one brother to welcome him. His grandparents are Bro. Emil and Sis. Frieda Knobloch and Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Warner.

In the hospital at this time are Bro. Ade Moser, Sis. Karen Knobloch and Sis. Rosella Metzger. We pray health will soon be restored to each and every one.

IOWA, OAKVILLE Jerilyn Wagenbach

At this time of year, we attempt to show our love to our fathers and our appreciation for the many unselfish things they do for us. We also feel little pangs of guilt for having hidden this appreciation throughout the year, instead of showing it day by day. The following poem reminds us of the need of a constant, close relationship with our heavenly Father.

TOMORROW I'LL THINK ABOUT GOD

Not today when I am so busy,
Not today when there's so much
to do,
Not today while I'm young and
eager

And life is far, eaching and new—
But tomorrow when I am older
And the tempo of life is less,
I'll have more time for praying
And for meditating, I guess.
But time is swift in its passing,
And before we are really aware
We find ourselves growing older
And daily in need of GOD'S care.
While GOD is always ready
To help us and lead us along,
Because we have tarried and wast-
ed

Our young days in "dancing and
song,"

We find we are not well acquainted
With the wonderful love of the
Lord.

We feel very strange in His pres-
ence

And unworthy of our Father's
reward,

For only the children who seek
Him

With hearts yet untouched and
still clean

Can ever experience His greatness
And know what His love can mean.
Waste not the hours of "life's
morning,"

Get acquainted with God when
your born;

And when you come to "life's
evening,"

It will shine like "the glory of
morn"!

Author Unknown

IOWA, PULASKI Mary Jane Knapp Ginny Wuthrich

Our congregation has been blest with visits from several ministering brothers over the past month. Bro. Harvey Heiniger of Burlington, Bros. Noah Gerber and Earl Banwart of West Bend, and Bros. Kenny Knapp and Kent Heimer of Taylor allowed themselves to be used in God's service to bring His precious Holy Word to us. May He richly bless each of them for their labors.

Hospitalized as a surgical patient has been our dear Sis. Hattie Miller. May God ever stand by her and provide grace for every trial and strength to again be able to return to her home.

On May 27, Kacey Ann was born to Jeff and Janice Warning. She has one sister to welcome her home. Her maternal grandparents are Bro. Cleo and Sis. Esther Rink-
enberger.

IOWA, WEST BEND

Elma Mogler - Judy Fehr

Bro. Joe Gerst (Iowa City) was in our midst on Apr. 27. We are grateful to him for expounding the Lord's Word.

We have several young people who have graduated from high school in our area. Graduation becomes a milestone in each one's life, a step to future goals and responsibilities of adulthood. Those who graduated are as follows: Craig Banwart (Bro. Vic and Sis. Marilyn), Jeff Banwart (Benjy and Betty), Lisa Bruellman (Bro. Don and Sis. Verda), Marla Bruellman (Bro. Gene and Sis. Evie), Dale Fehr Eldon and Verdell), Leslie Fehr (Bro. Larry and Sis. Carole), Keith Grimm (Bro. Clifford and Sis. Rosene), Randy Grimm (Arlo and Marilyn), Joleen Schmidt (Sis. Betty), Todd Knobloch (Adolph and Jean), Dawn Mogler (Duane and Roxie), Farid Lakdar from Belgium (Bro. Earl and Sis. Edna Banwart), Sanna Soini from Finland (Bro. Gene and Sis. Evie Bruellman), and Walter Wildeshaus from Germany (Dick and Sis. Sid Schmidt). We wish them the wisdom to know the strength of a Higher Power than that of their own as they strive to achieve their goals.

As Father's Day nears, we pause a moment to reflect on how important our fathers are to us. Even as it is necessary for our Heavenly Father to chasten and correct us in love, so do we need the correction and guidance of our earthly fathers to help us grow and mature. We may not always realize how much they love and care for us, and yet when we stop to consider, we know they are always there when we need them. The kind correction and nurturing we have known from them in our younger years stays with us and helps us through many tests and trials in our daily walk of life. Let us appreciate them not only on Father's Day, but thank God every day for fathers and mothers who care.

It was most enjoyable to visit with Bro. Arnie and Sis. Kate Ludwig and recollect the years gone by. Bro. Arnie was not from our faith but grew up around the West Bend area. He was born July 2, 1908, the fifth child of nine children—seven boys and two girls. He had an eighth-grade education at

a country school and then worked at home. At the age of 20, he began doing farmwork for other area farmers, sometimes for a wage of 75c a day.

Sis. Kate was born Katie Banwart on Apr. 12, 1913, at Hancock, MN, the fifth child of the Dan Banwart family. She attended country school for a year or so, and when she was six, her parents moved to West Bend. Sis. Kate, like Bro. Arnie, has an eighth-grade education. She wanted very much to go to high school so that she could someday become a nurse, but it never came to be. She worked in various homes until she married.

Nov. 26, 1935, was the date of marriage for Kate and Arnie. The winter of 1935-36 was a "bad winter," and when they moved to their first home, they had to move their belongings with horses and bobsleds and couldn't even go on the roads.

The early years of farming meant working with horses and one tractor—a steel-wheeled "B" John Deere. They milked 11 cows by hand and had some sheep, 12-15 sows, and some chickens. A grocery bill then was considered quite large if it amounted to \$1.50.

Ten years passed for Kate and Arnie, then world War II came along. During this time they had been trying to adopt a child, but Arnie was eligible for the draft and they were unable to obtain a child until 1945. They felt very fortunate to be able to have 15-month-old Randall be a part of their family. Three years later, five-month-old Jeanne was placed in their care.

Before marriage, Arnie "didn't go to any church too much," but they both felt the household would be stronger if they went to church and worshipped together. In 1957, Sis. Katie and Bro. Arnie both sought the Lord in repentance and were baptized in July. When Bro. Arnie went to visit with his mother, she asked why he was doing such a thing. His answer was, "If you have a nice new car, you put it in a good garage, don't you?"

The same fall, little Jeanne was stricken with nephritis (kidney disease) and was unable to attend school one year. Even with her ailments, she always had something bright to say and cheered others when she could. As time went on her parents were assured by her

actions and visits with Jeanne that she knew her time on earth was short. When Jeanne witnessed the passing of her grandmother and aunt, she told her parents that she would be next, and that came to pass in August of 1960. Bro. Arnie and Sis. Kate are thankful God permitted them to enjoy Jeanne for this short time.

At present, their son, Randy, lives at Canton, SD, and attends the Lester church with his family which consists of his wife, Deanna, three sons, and one daughter.

A few years ago, Bro. Arnie's health began to fail. But God has blessed him with a spirit of determination, that, along with his daily walk, has returned him to a fair measure of health. Sis. Kate enjoys good health and always has a welcome smile.

Bro. Noah Anliker has returned from the hospital where he spent a few days.

JAPAN, SHIODA

Evie Blunier

"Otosan!" An excited kindergarten happily greets his father after school with a "happy face" paper. His father takes the time to look it over and praise his son's work. At the end of a busy day of teaching, I take the time to notice their relationship. With a formal bow and thank you to the teachers from the father and a carefree "Goodbye! See you tomorrow!" from the son, they are off, a boy with a mother at home, but blessed with a father who cares—a father who looks at kindergarten papers, who asks questions about a 5-year-old's pictures, who comes to school programs and takes pictures, then makes copies for everybody, who attends all PTA meetings along with 23 mothers, who comes early to pick up his son and pulls weeds in the school yard while he's waiting—a father who really cares.

"Or what man is there of you, whom if his son ask bread, will he give him a stone? Or if he ask a fish, will he give him a serpent? If ye then being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?" Matthew 7:9-11.

We have been wonderfully blessed with visitors from America in recent weeks. Sis. Madelyn Rothgeb from Eureka spent a week in

Japan on her return home from a tour of China. She visited us in Shioda the weekend of Apr. 27. The courtesy and humility of the people of both China and Japan was impressive to her. If this characteristic could be channeled to the Lord's honor and work, how wonderful it would be!

Bro. Curt Gramm from Gridley, IL, returned to Japan for his second visit on Apr. 27 and spent two weeks visiting friends and sisters and brothers here. His fellowship and participation in services was a blessing to all. Bro. Carl and Sis. Ann Frautschi of Bloomington, IL, left their tour group to visit us on May 3.

On Sunday, May 4, ministering Bro. Steve and Sis. Linda Gutwein from Francesville worshipped with us, and Bro. Steve willingly served us for both services. As he read Psalm 100 and Bro. Willis translated, I marvelled at the greatness of a God of all nations. We could all feel, as Bro. Steve expressed it, "the precious love tie that binds us even though we are across the seas from one another." After church, there was a singing at Sis. Reiko Furuya's. All language barriers were gone as we unitedly sang "It Is Well With My Soul" with peace in our hearts. We're so thankful to God for opening the way for our sisters and brothers to come, and we pray that God will richly bless each of them.

The monthly singing for April was held at Sis. Jane Weiss' and Sis. Evie Blunier's house on Apr. 13. On Mother's Day the Shioda church went to sing at a nursing home and gave carnations which the sisters had made previously.

JAPAN, TOKYO

Yoshio Yamazaki - Marie Inoue

May 11 was Mother's Day, and many children bought carnations for their own mother's gifts, a Japanese custom. One of the poets said like this, "Yo ni suoku no haha aredo waga haha ni masaru haha arameyamo!" It means that there are many thousands of mothers in this world, but no one is better than my mother. Isn't it wonderful?

We had several brothers and sisters in faith from the States this month. Their names are Sis. Madelyn Rothgeb, Eureka, Bro. Curt Gram from Illinois, and Bro. Steve and his wife Sis. Linda Gutwein

from Francesville. In Tokyo church, Bro. Steve gave us real wonderful messages and encouraged us very much. After, we had real blessed Christian fellowship with them and wonderful supper together.

It was the first time in three years we had a visiting minister. How we appreciated their presence, and love and concern to spend and be spent on our behalf.

KANSAS, BERN

Esther Moser - Stella Moser

Then come into our midst today;
Impart Thyself to us, we pray.

(No. 200—Zion's Harp)

Recently we had the privilege of partaking of Holy Communion together. Elder Bro. Sam Huber, Sabetha, assisted Elder Bro. Lester Hartter. Bro. Sam also ministered to us. We extend our thanks and appreciation to both elders for a blessed day.

Added blessings were received through guest ministers Bros. Wayne Miller (Fort Scott), Perry Zimmerman (Forrest), and Merle Kaisner (Fairbury).

Bro. Curtis and Sis. Ellen Strahm are the happy parents of their first child, Clinton Michael, born May 2. The grandparents are Bro. Alpha and Sis. Mamie. Richard and Dorothy Zaugg (West Bend) are the maternal grandparents.

Bro. Jacob Wenger is a new resident at the Home. Sis. Lena Wenger is also residing at the Home for a short time, recuperating from major surgery.

Sis. Stella Wenger (Jacob) is hospitalized with a broken hip due to a fall in her home.

Michael Strahm (Bro. Alpha and Sis. Mamie) lost part of a finger in a farm machine mishap. May the Lord add His healing touch to each one.

Sincere sympathy is extended to Bro. Aaron and Sis. Frieda Strahm in the tragic death of their grandson, Bruce Duncan, 23. Bruce lost his life when his apartment burned.

We also extend our sympathy to Bro. Emil Strahm in the passing of his brother, Andy, 88. Andy was one of 15 children born to Bro. William and Sis. Amelia Leuthold Strahm.

Sis. Emma Hartter Wittmer, 87, passed away Apr. 28 at the Home where she was a resident for the

past six years. Emma was a quiet, ever cheerful sister, a capable helpmate to her husband, the late Elder Bro. Joseph Wittmer. Among her survivors are: one son, Harlan Wittmer; four daughters, Evelyn, Sabetha, Sis. Lola Luthi (Glen), Eldora Isch (Elmer), Morrill, and Joan Luthi (Loyd), Gridley, KS; and two sisters, Sis. Lena Strahm (Alpha) and Sis. Tillie Stoller.

July is collection month for the Silver Lining dues (Bern).

KANSAS, FORT SCOTT

Teresa Bahr

Elder Bro. Gene Marti and his family were with us on Apr. 27.

We extend our congratulations to and wish God's blessings upon our 1980 graduates. High school graduates are Sis. Lynne Fischer, daughter of Bro. Lyle and Sis. Lillian, and Beth Sinn, daughter of Lester and Shirley. Graduating from JUCO is Jerry Bahr. Judy Bahr is graduating from K-State. Jerry and Judy are the children of Bro. Jim and Sis. Ruth.

KANSAS, GRIDLEY

Julie Strahm - Doris Bahr

The will of God will never lead you where the grace of God cannot keep you.

(Proverb—Unknown)

We wish to express our sincere sympathy to our dear Sarah Bey-er in the loss of her brother-in-law, Andy Strahm, Bern, KS.

Hospitalized this past month have been Bro. Ephriam (Dorothy) Young, medical; Sis. Esther (Sam) Kraft, surgical; and Sis. Rose (Terry) Schiesser, surgical.

We wish to sincerely thank our Elder Brothers Sam Anliker, Lamont, and Raymond Banwart, Ft. Scott for their love and concern as they served Holy Communion to us on May 4.

KANSAS—MISSOURI

KANSAS CITY

Paula Bahr

To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under heaven. Ecclesiastes 3:1

We are very happy and thankful that the Lord has opened doors for Sis. Barbara Wernli, Wichita, to find employment here. We give her a warm welcome and ask God's blessings for her.

Bro. George Bahr was a surgi-

cal patient recently and is glad to be feeling better and to be back at his job without any complications.

Congratulations go to John and Mary Strahm on their recent marriage. Mary is the daughter of Bro. Paul and Sis. Katie Grimm, Bern.

He offer our thanks to ministering Bros. Lester Hartter and Harvey Grimm, Bern; Roy Wernli, Lamont; Ben Wysong, Sabetha; and Gene Marti, Lamar, and to each of our visitors for spending a Sunday with us in Kansas City.

KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

Judy Bahr

"Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love; The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above." Hymns of Zion

This was the last song sung at the final church service of the 1980 spring semester. The visiting ministers for the last two months were: Bros. Sam Anliker and Roy Wernli, Lamont, KS; Roger Aberle and Ben Wysong, Sabetha, KS; Gene Marti, Lamar, MO; and Sam Huber and Carl Hartman, Sabetha, KS. The K-State group wishes to express their thanks and gratitude to all the ministering brethren and everyone else who came to spend time with us. May God bless each of you.

We had two seniors who graduated in May. Bro. Gordon Huber, son of Bro. Sam Huber, Sabetha, KS, has a degree in Feed Science and Management. Bro. Gordon will be working at Wenger's Mfg. in Sabetha. Sis. Judy Bahr, daughter of Bro. Jim and Sis. Ruth Bahr, Fort Scott, KS, has a degree in Elementary Education. We wish them God's grace and peace as they pursue their careers.

"When we asunder part; It gives us inward pain. But we shall still be joined in heart and hope to meet again."

Ed. Note: This is Sis. Judy's last report. We wish her much success in her future career, thank her for her faithfulness, and congratulate her on her graduation.

KANSAS, KIOWA

Janice Bahr

What tremendously exciting times we are living in! As we listen to the Word, watch the papers, and compare the two, we see God's scroll unfolding and the puzzle

pieces falling into place as the Scriptures are fulfilled. As we daily watch these fulfillments, we know our Lord's return is drawing nearer every day. Exciting? Oh, yes! For the children of God, this is the era we have watched, waited, and prayed for—the coming of Christ to rapture His church. But there is one shadow on our joy as the time grows nearer, and that shadow is those who do not know Christ and will be left behind when the door of grace closes as the church is raptured. Therefore, may our prayers grow more fervent, our lives more steadfast, and our hearts more attuned to God's direction in showing others the way of salvation in Christ, that many yet may be saved before the door closes and it is forever too late.

There are several graduates among our young group this year. High school graduates include: Sis. Amy Allenbach, daughter of Bro. Ron and Sis. Lois Allenbach; Takita Burnett, daughter of Joe and Shirley Burnett, and Daniel Farney, son of Aaron and Erlene Farney. Our one junior high graduate is Bob Schrock, son of Bro. Bill and Sis. Kathleen Schrock. It would be our fervent prayer that our Lord above will ever guide, direct, and protect each of these young ones who are so dear to us as they start upon a new step in their lives. May God bless the graduates and help them always to remember this one thing:

In all thy ways acknowledge Him and He shall direct thy paths.

Proverbs 3:6

Sis. Myrtle Rothgeber underwent surgery this month, and a tumor was removed from her shoulder. We are so thankful all is O.K. and she is recovering quickly now.

Everything here is so green and lovely, and harvest is just around the corner as the wheat is beginning to head-out already. By our next writing, harvest will be upon us; and as I think of the wheat being garnered in and the chaff being destroyed, I think of God's great harvest, where our souls will be garnered into life eternal or destroyed in everlasting torment. Will it be this year? Or next year? Only God knows; but please, God, let us be ready!

Moving? Let Us Know.

KANSAS, LAMONT

Mary Isch

"When thou passest through the waters . . . they shall not overflow thee." (Isa. 43:2)

God does not open paths for us in advance of our coming. He does not promise to help before help is needed. He does not remove obstacles out of our way before we reach them. Yet when we are on the edge of our need, God's hand is stretched out.

Many people forget this, and are forever worrying about difficulties which they foresee in the future. They expect that God is going to make the way plain and open before them, miles and miles ahead; whereas He has promised to do it only step by step as they may need. You must get to the waters and into their floods before you can claim the promise. Many people dread death, and lament that they have not "dying grace." Of course they will not have "dying grace" when they are in good health, in the midst of life's duties with death far in advance. Why should they have it then? Grace for duty is what they need then, "living grace"; then, "dying grace" when they come to die.

"When thou passest through the waters"

Deep the waves may be and cold,
But Jehovah is our refuge,
And His promise is our hold;
For the Lord Himself hath said it,
He, the faithful God and true:

"When thou comest to the waters
Thou shalt not go down, But
Through."

Seas of sorrow, seas of trials,
Bitterest anguish, fiercest pain,
Rolling surges of temptation
Sweeping over heart and brain—
They shall never overflow us
For we know His word is true;
All His waves and all His billows
He will lead us safely through.
Threatening breakers of destruction,

Doubt's insidious undertow,
Shall not sink us, shall not drag us
Out to ocean depths of woe;
For His promise shall sustain us,
Praise the Lord, whose Word is true!

We shall not go down or under,
For He saith, "Thou passest
Through."

Annie Johnson Flint

Justin Isch, son of Bro. Ron and Sis. Jane was a surgical patient at Stormont Vail in Topeka, KS, this month and is at home doing fine at this time.

Sis. Jeri Luthi (Bro. Lloyd and Joann) graduated from the Maple Woods Community College as an Animal Health Technologist and will work in Emporia at the Vet. Clinic.

KANSAS, SABETHA

Clara Steiner - Judy Hartter

Our Bible Class was host to the Bible classes of all the Kansas churches and Lamar, MO. Guest ministers for the weekend were Bro. Ronald Nelson, Kiowa, Bro. Perry Zimmerman, Forrest, and Bro. Merle Kaisner, Fairbury. It was impressive to have such a large number of our youth present. We hope that the seed sown will some day grow and bear fruit. Man can sow the seed and water but only the Lord can give the increase.

Jonathan Louis was born on May 1 to Bob and Janelle Davis of Kansas City. He is welcomed home by his sister, Kristen. His grandparents are Bro. Gene and Sis. Marian Kellenberger of Sabetha.

Hospitalized this past month were Sis. Ada Plattner and Sis. Fanny Bahr.

Our graduates from high school this year are Pam Edelman, Valarie Wenger, Sherri Reinhard, Kevin Grimm and Steve Metzger. Sis. Cynthia Meyer and Jana Meyer graduated from Highland Junior College and Bro. Gordon Huber from Kansas State University at Manhattan. We offer our sincere congratulations to all on completing this step in life.

KANSAS, WICHITA

Judy Langhofer

In Kansas, the month of May comes forth in a great symphony of color and sound. We awake to the crescendo of the rising sun sending it's vibrations upon the newly awakened earth. For brief conscious moments as we listen to the overture of the birds and the soft percussion of the spring breezes, we know the Great Conductor, Author and Finisher of all that we are beholding, is very close to us and desires for us to be in harmony with this great production.

David expressed it so well in the Psalms as he gave gratitude,

praise, and thanks to God for His wonderful masterpiece. Ps. 108: "O God, my heart is fixed; I will sing and give praise, even with my glory. Awake, psaltery and harp; I myself will awake early, I will praise thee, O Lord, among the peoples; and I will sing praises unto thee among the nations."

Nature itself, God being the Creator, is subject to God not by will but by command, but that part of God's symphony which should offer him the most praise and play the sweetest notes seems most often to have the most difficult time staying in tune. St. John I gives a good general instruction to the believer about staying in tune. It seems to revolve around the word fellowship. In verse three, we are told that our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son, Jesus Christ. He is the Great Conductor, and Jesus Christ is the Author and Finisher of our Faith. Then we are told we must play it like it has been written, and we are instructed how to be in concert with the rest of the symphony or fellowship.

As our church partook of communion this past month, many were touched in heart and mind as we witnessed the importance of being in close fellowship with our Lord and Redeemer. It was a time of remembrance of our Lord's death and suffering and a time of renewing as we looked to the resurrected Lord. It was a time to tune up so that we could be in harmony with those with whom we fellowship.

The Friday evening before Mother's Day, our mothers and daughters met for an evening of food and several of our sisters presented short recitations in song and verse stressing the value of motherhood and womanhood as part of God's plan in creation. Sis. Dora Young was represented by four generations. Fifty-five mothers and daughters attended.

A monthly activity has been planned for our older Sunday School children by three young married couples in the church. There is a time of wholesome activity, a time of sharing, and a time for singing spiritual songs. At the first activity it was reported that thirty were present. The expected result is that these children will develop close ties and will

learn that there is joy in Christian fellowship.

In a small church one learns to function even in the midst of two or three. We can't wait for the benches to be filled; we learn to worship and fellowship with those whom God provides. A wedding in Illinois took many from our congregation Sunday, but we were pleased with a number of visitors. Jim Hunyadi, with whom we have developed close ties over the two years that he has been in Wichita taking medical training, brought twenty-five family members with him Sunday to worship with us. Jim received his recognition of achievement Monday at commencement exercises at the University of Kansas, Lawrence, the event which brought his family again to Kansas. We appreciate the fellowship we have experienced and we will be sorry to see Jim move on to Cleveland for further training.

Our regular monthly world relief work day at the church is held on the second Tuesday of the month. Sis. Ann Greiner informed me that, for those who cannot come to help, donations are always needed for materials with which to work. Also, for mothers who are confined with small children, there are projects which can be worked on in the home. Quilt tops are needed for the women to complete on work day. One quilt that was knotted this past week was made from scraps of knit material that had been zigzagged piece by piece to an eighteen inch square of backing material. The Epistle of James seems to emphasize putting your faith to work. Isn't there much wonderful fellowship to be had by helping the needy?

We recognized our high school and college graduates at a covered dish dinner with Bible study following. Those recognized were Bruce Wullschleger, Richard Wullschleger, Ruth Bowers, and Charlie Hallberg.

Sis. Barbara Wernli will be leaving us when she goes to Kansas City to make her new home and take up a new job. We will miss her not only from our church but from the Sunday School where she has served the past year. Sis. Jeannie Langhofer will be taking her place. Our annual election also replaced Sis. Cecily Holliday and assistant, Karlene Wheeler, whose

term of five years had expired. Sis. Kathleen will be her replacement and has chosen Wyanetta Mahaffey to be her assistant. It is impossible to express thanks to the teachers who have done so much for our young children by teaching them songs of praise and Scriptures that they will always remember.

In church fellowship we cherish good attendance and participation. Isn't that really the focal point of our experience and training?

MICHIGAN, BAY CITY

Patsy Bragiel

"Hark the voice of Jesus teaches; All who are not born again Out of water and of Spirit Shall be lost. 'Tis clear and plain That to enter heaven's portal And inherit life immortal, New creations we must be, On this earth from sin made free." As the hymn tells us, this new birth must be accomplished thru baptism and God's Word. We recently experienced this as we have two new sisters taken into the family of God. They are Kerry Wieland (Bro. Lawrence and Sis. Lena) and Nancy Herzberg (Delor and Sis. Inez Grew). As the hymn further reads, let it be the song of our heart to continue for that which we once started for in this rebirth. "Lord, let me continue ever In this state, so richly blest, Until death earth's bonds shall sever, And I enter into rest. O' let nothing from Thee take me; Thou art mine, do not forsake me, Then with joy I hence depart, E'er to be where Thou, Lord art!"

No. 187 Zion's Harp

Bro. Neil and Sis. Sharon Ramseyer welcome their first son, born Apr. 23. Adam John will also have three little sisters. His grandparents are Bro. Earl and Sis. Mary Ramseyer.

Sis. Eula Maibach would like to express a special thank-you to all who so kindly remembered her with their prayers, cards, and gifts in her recent illness

MICHIGAN, DETROIT

Nella Varga

We received many blessings when the Elgin young group came to visit us. We also thank ministering Bro. Aaron Steffen (Alto, MI) for sharing with us the precious Truth.

How greatly we rejoice when

friends can come to the Truth and find grace enough to repent. Darlene Kujawa, daughter of Sis. Kay Novak, and Astrid Schlauch have found this grace.

Heather Dawn Hitz broke her arm but is doing very well now. Her cast is off, also. Heather is the daughter of Bro. Tom and Sis. Cindy Hitz.

An announcement was made of the forthcoming marriage of Sis. Dorothy Knochel to ministering Bro. Homer Reineck of Toledo, OH. We trust God's blessings will be with them now and further in their life together.

Scott Philip is the first born to Bro. Phil and Sis. Dawn Bahr. The bundle of joy came on May 6. The very happy grandparents are Bro. Willard and Sis. Eloise Bahr (Sabetha, KS) and Bro. Merle and Sis. Elaine Wieland (Bay City).

The Lord shall reign forever, even thy God, O Zion, unto all generations. Praise ye the Lord.

Psalm 146:10

How wonderful it is and thankful we are to know that the Lord will be here when we need him, even enduring unto all generations.

MINNESOTA, MINNEAPOLIS

Carol Virkler

We were grateful for our guest ministers this past month. Ministering to us on May 4 was Bro. Paul Fehr of Morris. We were happy to have Bro. Paul and Sis. Anna among us again. Delivering God's Word to us on May 18 were Duane Metzger and Bro. Wayne Fehr from West Bend. We truly appreciate all of our ministering brethren who labor for the Lord. May God richly bless each one.

Our prayers are with Bro. Jim Tilbury, as he is in the hospital recovering from a ruptured appendix.

Our annual business meeting was held in May. Results of the recent elections were Sis. Carole Virkler replacing Sis. Josephine Esterling as Sunday school teacher, Sis. Ethel Bednarski replacing me as substitute teacher and Bro. Ray Schmidgall replacing Bro. John Olson as church trustee. Sis. Kathryn Olson is replacing Sis. Barbara Olson on the special events committee as co-chairman with Bro. Don Miller. We pray for God's

grace and guidance when we assume our new duties in September. We wish to thank Sis. Josephine, Bro. John and Sis. Barbara for giving so graciously of their time and love.

Congratulations to our graduates. Those graduating from high school are Beth Miller, daughter of Bro. Don and Sis. Bernadine; Jeff Larson, son of Gary and Maxine; and Kevin Schmidt, son of Bro. Ken and Sis. Vera. Graduating from the University of Illinois is Ed Stoller, son of Charles and Ella Mae. May the Lord guide and direct them as they plan their future.

MINNESOTA, MORRIS

Jan Schock - Pam Sutter

"One small candle may light a thousand." We wish our graduates the courage to be that light, and may their future shine brightly with God's love. Graduating are: Ken and Den Feuchtenberger (Bro. Wally and Sis. Diane), Tim Gramm (Bro. Harold and Sis. Ila), Sis. Kathy Nohl (Bro. Art and Sis. Sandy), Rodney Schaefer (Bro. Anton and Sis. Verna), Jane Schmidgall (Bro. Don and Sis. Virginia), Jim Schmidgall (Bro. Gilbert and Sis. Barb), Gary Sauder (Virgil and Mildred), Gary Fehr (Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Diane), Renae Moser (Bro. Dave and Sis. Noreen), Ray Nohl (Bro. Noah and Sis. Shirley), Sis. Linda Fuhrer (Bro. Glen and Sis. Eileen), Sis. Brenda Schmidgall (Bro. Richard and Sis. Coreen), and Danny Koehl (Jerry and Velois)

Bro. Jeral and Sis. Linda Wulf are parents of their first child, a girl, Rhonda Kay. The grandparents are Bro. Leonard and Sis. Vi Wulf and Ray and Josephine Ebnert.

A daughter, Peggy Sue, was born to Bro. Harv and Sis. Wilda Koehl. At present Peggy is in Minneapolis for tests. We share our concerns and prayers with her family and grandparents, Bro. Paul and Sis. Anna Fehr and Bro. Chuck and Sis. Ester Koehl.

Twins were born to LuJean and Randy Thielke. Tony and Tracey are welcomed by their brother, Justin, and grandparents Bro. Noah and Sis. Shirley Nohl and the Marvin Thielkes.

Hospitalized were Sisters Clara Miller, Emma Schmidgall, Corrine

Schmidgall, and Emma Spohr. Heidi Feuchtenberger (youngest of Bro. Wally and Sis. Diane) was also admitted for treatment. Bro. Ben Greiner is back home after spending time in Elgin with a hand injury. We're thankful each one could feel an answer to his prayers.

"How beautiful the world would be if all loved one another as a father loves his own." John Gray

MISSOURI, LAMAR

Vera Luthi - Elaine Braker

Hospital patients have been Bro. Carl Engle and Ben Kibler. We're happy to report they are both home again.

The engagement of Sis. Lori Luthi (Bro. Ray and Sis. Marilyn) to Bro. Rick Moser (Bro. Frank and Sis. Verna) from Lester was announced May 4. We rejoice with them and wish them God's blessings as they plan for the future together.

We would like to wish our three graduates heavenly guidance and wisdom as they embark on their new courses in life. Sis. Schelli Marti and Janelle Braker have graduated from high school and Bro. Jerry Braker from college.

MISSOURI, TAYLOR

Loida Hodel - Stephanie Gerber

"The more we endure with patience and grace, The stronger we grow and the more we can face."

Bro. William Cottrell spent several days in the hospital for tests and therapy, hoping to alleviate some effects of Parkinson's Disease. We sincerely wish for Bro. William and Sis. Ruth a special measure of grace and patience to accept this heavy load. May we all do what we can to help them maintain their optimistic attitude and "keep smiling." "Cast thy burden upon the Lord and He shall sustain thee." Ps. 55:22.

We were privileged to hear the testimony of Mary Jane (Miller) Foote's repentance and witness her baptism the weekend of Apr. 26-27. Mary Jane and her husband, David, moved to our community from the Tremont, IL, area. We wish Mary Jane God's grace and strength to work out her soul's salvation. May many more become aware of their lost condition and seek the Lord while He is their Saviour and not their

judge. Elder Bro. Dan Koch and Sis. Carol from Tremont, IL, were here for this special occasion. We thank him and all our ministering brothers for bringing God's Word so we can all receive a blessing.

"If I had but one gift to give to my children it would be for them to know with certainty that at any moment each of us can reach out and be with God in prayer. When this happens their life is enriched beyond all measure."

Guide Post

Mother's Day found us with mixed emotions. Some of us were enriched with wonderful memories of a mother who had gone on before; others who still had their mothers could express their love in the way that brings happiness. Thanks to all children who remembered Mom in one way or another on May 11.

"A woman who feareth the Lord, she shall be praised. Prov. 31:30.

Bro. Albert Wuthrich was our visiting minister on May 11 and we thank him and Sis. Elizabeth for spending the day at Taylor.

We offer best wishes to our graduates. We hope that they will never feel that their success will be too hard a climb. The very highest peaks are reached just one step at a time.

High school graduates are Kim Knapp (Bro. Kenny and Sis. Phyllis), Tim Sutter (Bro. Gerald and Sis. Marge), Steve Wiegand (Bro. Marv and Sis. Joann), Ted Hoerr (Bro. Robert and Sis. Emma Dee), and Kris Myles. Kevin Hodel (Henry Hodels) graduated from Spoon River College at Canton, IL. May these graduates find satisfaction and happiness in all that they undertake.

"But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; all these things shall be added unto you." Matt. 6:33.

In the April issue "Bro. Ezra Stoller" should have been "Bro. Ezra Feller." We apologize for the error.

**NEW JERSEY, UNION CITY
PENNSYLVANIA
PHILADELPHIA
Ed Aeschleman**

On Sunday, May 4, we held a ground breaking ceremony for our new church here in the Philadelphia area. After entreating God in

prayer, Bro. Paul Emch of Phoenix, who designed the building, and his wife, Sis. Irene, turned the first shovel-full of earth. Each of the local families with their children, including friends, then took a turn with the shovel, and finally several visiting brethren from the Rockville congregation also participated. It was a day of beginning and rejoicing. Much progress has already been made toward the commencement of actual construction.

Matthew, son of Bro. Ed and Sis. Nancy Aeschleman, graduated from James Madison University. We wish Matthew and all other 1980 graduates much success and God's rich blessings as they enter their competitive career fields.

**NEW YORK, CROGHAN
Alice Virkler**

When peace, like a river, attendeth my way,

When sorrows like sea billows roll;
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say,

It is well, it is well with my soul.
H. G. Spafford

We are happy to say that Gerry Grau can say "It is well with my soul." It has been made known to us that Gerry has found this precious peace and is awaiting baptism. We are glad that God's Word is still preached by our elders and ministers and that there are those who turn their hearts unto Him in this latter day and time. We pray that many more of those who assemble to hear the Word will yet turn their hearts unto Him while the day of grace is open.

Sisters Katie Farney and Hazel Schneider were medical patients several days and have both returned to their homes. At this writing, medical patients are Sis. Barb Virkler, Sis. Minnie Farney, and Bro. Ted Virkler, Sr. May each of them be strengthened and returned to a measure of health through His hand.

Our congratulations go to our high school graduates. They are Leah Farney, daughter of Bro. Don and Sis. Alice, and Dawn Schneider, daughter of Bruce and Betty Richie. Best wishes to them as they begin another step in their lives.

A daughter, Arica Anne, was born on Apr. 18 to Randy and Susan Mr. and Mrs. Duane Streeter

and Mr. and Mrs. Ambrose Wool-schlager.

On May 14, Joyce and Jim Rice became the parents of their new little daughter, Julie Ann. Janelle will be happy with her sister as a new playmate. Their grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Rice and Larry and Sis. Louise Purvines.

**NEW YORK, NAUMBURG
Rachel Snyder**

A group from our Naumburg and Croghan churches enjoyed two evenings of singing and fellowship at the homes of Sis. Clara Merz, for her 97th birthday, and Sis. Pearl Colgrove, for her 89th birthday.

We rejoice over the announcement that Julia Virkler now believes she is at peace with her Heavenly Father and wishes to be taken into His fold. We also heard the nice announcement that Gerald Grau from the Croghan congregation has found peace.

**OHIO, AKRON
Carolyn Miller**

We are thankful to have Bro. Merrill Laukhuf of the Latty, OH, congregation minister the Word to us on Apr. 27. May the Lord bless him in his ministry.

We have again commemorated Mother's Day this year. We were reminded of the virtues of a mother through the reading and meditation of Proverbs 31.

We are sorry to report that Bro. Sandor Bako and little Joel Saurer, son of Bro. Tom and Mary Lou, have met with accidents this month and were hospitalized. We are happy to report they are now home and recovering.

Bro. Marvin and Sis. Rose Luginbuhl would like to express a special note of gratitude to all brothers, sisters, and friends who remembered them through prayer, gifts and thoughts during the time of their Kelly's illness. What a precious Faith we have and may we ever appreciate it more. They hope God will bless each and every one of you.

**OHIO, GIRARD
Kathryn Emch**

We give our special thanks to Bro. Eugene Pamer who served in our pulpit as Harold and I had a week of vacation. As we drove through Ohio and Indiana, we saw

faith and hope in action. Each spring the farmers and gardeners cultivate and plant their fields in hope of an abundant harvest. So our brethren preach the Word as God gives them utterance each Sunday in hope of a harvest of souls. Each must have faith that God will give the increase. Our brethren's sermons uplift and sustain the believer, but our prayer needs to be for additional souls to give their lives to Jesus who gives faith and hope to live each day.

OHIO, JUNCTION

Lester Manz

A child of God and a sister of Jesus Christ is the new title claimed by Susan Manz (Bro. Elias and Sis. Evelyn). Bro. Loren Stoller, Bro. Elmer Schrenk (Alto, MI) and Bro. Kenneth Sauder (Mansfield, OH) were with us to share the Word and to witness this blessed weekend. We were all refreshed in spirit to hear anew the fundamentals of becoming a child of God as she told us of her repentance and conversion and then made her covenant to stay true to God all the days of her life on this earth. We have confidence that if she keeps her part of the covenant, God will give her grace to stay true to Him in this life and will give her a home in heaven when this life is over.

Bob Manz (Bro. Alvin and Sis. Betty) suffered a broken leg as the result of a traffic accident. His leg will be in a cast for awhile, but he is progressing well.

Norah Gerber (Richard and Eleanor) and Sis. Alice Manz (Bro. Elias and Sis. Evelyn) have graduated from high school and will now be beginning their careers. In this blessed land of ours, the opportunities for our young people are almost unlimited, but we must certainly hope that as they begin to lay up treasures in this life, they will not neglect taking care of their undying souls.

A CHILD'S FAITH

A brother recently told of an incidence in which he was sitting in church with a grade school child. The congregation had just finished singing, "Yes, Jesus Loves Me, the Bible tells me so" (Hymns of Zion), when to his surprise, the child handed him a Bible and asked to be shown where the Bible says

that Jesus loves him. After fumbling through the Bible, he finally found some verses that satisfied the young child's curiosity. The child then took the Bible and showed some of his friends who were sitting close by that this is where the Bible says that "Jesus loves me." Isn't that the type of faith that we want to strive for, that when God shows us His will, whether it is in His Word, or through the Holy Spirit, or in any of His other wonderful ways, we can be content and not look any further?

OHIO, LATTY

Cheryl Wenninger - Susie Sinn

The Bible is like a compass—it always points the believer in the right direction.

On May 4, Bro. Harold Emch (Girard) ministered to us. We thank Bro. Harold and pray that God will richly bless him for his efforts.

We offer congratulations and best wishes to our high school graduates. They are Sis. Carol Stoller (Bro. Delmar and Sis. Marguerite), Kathy Plummer (Bro. Rex and Sis. Ann), LaVonne Stoller (Bro. Gayle and Sis. Janet), Norah Gerber (Richard and Burnetta Price), Michelle Nolte (exchange student living with Bro. Lee and Sis. Mary Eisenmann), Jon Kipfer (Bro. Ephaim and Sis. and Sis. Eunice), Dale Stoller (Bro. Glen and Sis. Ede), Brian Stoller (Ralph and Ruth), Byron Stoller (Betty), and Andre Reis (exchange student living with Robert and Sis. Janet Williamson).

We pray that each graduate may put his faith and trust in God and that He will guide all of them in their daily walk of life.

"But seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." Matt. 6:33.

On May 18, the engagement of Bro. Curt Rager (Bill and Sis. Elsie) and Sis. Denise Stoller (Bro. Richard and Sis. Viclet, Wolcott) was made known. May God ever be near them as they make plans for the future.

OHIO, MANSFIELD

Lucille Groh

In days of youth seek ye the Lord, His love and truth with one accord,

Go offer Him thy youthful days
And walk within the Saviour's
ways.

Bro. Henry Beer

A few weeks ago, one of our small Sunday School students asked me the following question: She said, "Do you know what the best thing in the whole wide world is?" Wondering what she'd say, I said, "What is the best thing in the whole wide world?" She smilingly said, and her whole face seemed to glow, "Coming to church is the best thing in the whole wide world."

What a beautiful thought. Aren't our youth very special and precious?

The Mansfield Youth Group furnished the noon lunch and served all of us on Mother's Day. We want to thank them for their love.

In youthful days His blessings
seek,
With heart that's tender
True and meek;
And while the years draw on apace
You'll praise Him for His love
and grace.

H.B.

It was announced on May 4 that Leonard and Patty Dolce found peace and are waiting baptism. Leonard is the son of Mildred Sauder Dolce.

On the same day, Bros. Rudolph Graf and Joseph Ramsier were here for a very joyous occasion when Sis. Jeannine and Bro. Mark Masters and Sis. Susan Foss became our new sisters and brother in the Lord. We welcome them into our family of God and know they will never be sorry for this wonderful life in Him.

We were very pleased to have guests with us this past month, including two ministers of the gospel. Bro. Lloyd Wieland (Detroit) and Bro. Henry Dotterer (Rittman). Through God's Word and the Holy Spirit, we were truly blessed. We invite them to return.

OHIO, RITTMAN

Janette Blough

"Baptized unto Thy name most holy, O Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, I claim a place though weak and lowly among Thy seed, Thy

chosen host. Immersed with Christ, I'm dead to sin; Thy Spirit now shall live within". Zion's Harp No. 41. What a blessed weekend we experienced as we heard the testimonies of 11 dear young souls and then witnessed their baptisms. Elder Bros. Nate Steffen, Rudy Graf and Joe Ramsier carried out this blessed work. Our new brothers and sisters in Christ are Ann Gasser, Greg Gasser, Joleen Gasser, Dave Hartzler, Tom Haartzler, Steve Hofacre, Lynn Maibach, Ed Marty, Pam Stoller, Darrell Widmer, and Denise Zollinger.

We have those of our congregation who have had to be hospitalized. We are glad to report that Bro. Bill Saylor, Sis. Deana Rock, and Bro. Emmett Gasser are home and able to assemble with us again. Tom Jenkins and Sue and Dave Plahuta were involved in an auto accident when their car was hit by another that ran through a stop sign. Tom was in the hospital and has been released, but Sue, who is suffering from pelvic injuries, will have to remain in the hospital longer. Tom and Sue are the children of Don and Clara Jenkins. We also have several in our congregation who have been injured and have casts on an arm or leg. They are Laura Ramsier, Suzanne Rufener, Loren Rufener, Jim Widmer, and Sis. Martha Walder. We are glad to see Darlene Indermuhle is getting around without her cast on her leg. We wish all of our loved ones a speedy recovery and hope that God will once again bless our loved ones with good health.

Funeral Services were held for two dear souls who have gone to be with the Lord. Sis. Mary Zollinger is survived by one sister, Sis. Emma Weber, and three brothers, Bro. Elmer Zollinger, Bro. Charles Zollinger and Albert Zollinger.

Sis. Catherine Bauman is survived by stepchildren Robert Bauman, Elizabeth Rutteneutter, Fredona Shiffer, Garnet Wright and Sis. Lillian Bauman. Our sympathy is extended to the families of these two sisters who have finished their courses.

We are happy to report that little Sherri Barbra has come to live at the home of Bro. Mark and Sis. Sue Steiner. Little Sherri was born on May 10 and has an older sister, Marsha, and an older brother,

Milan, to help care for her. Her grandparents are Bro. Jim and Sis. Dorothy Ramsier and Bro. Alvin and Sis. Eldora Steiner.

The engagement of Bro. Tim Maibach and Sis. Mary Steiner has been announced. We wish them the Lord's blessings as they plan their life together. Bro. Tim is the son of Bro. Alpha and Sis. Helen Maibach, and Sis. Mary is the daughter of Bro. Alvin and Sis. Eldora Steiner.

May 18 was the wedding day of Carol Emch and Don Powell. We extend best wishes to them. Carol is the daughter of Bro. Dave and Sis. Eileen Emch.

We wish to thank visiting ministers Bro. Nate Steffen of Elgin, Bro. Rudy Graf of Akron, Bro. Jim Rinkenberger of Bluffton, Bro. Bill Brake of Sardis and Bro. Ernest Graf of Akron for ministering to us.

As the spring of the year comes around, so does graduation time. We have 25 young people graduating from high school this year. They are Judy Bachman, Jim Bauman, Rex Boltz, Gary Dotterer, Bro. Dana Emch, Todd Fetty, Mark Gasser, Mike Gasser, Rose Hilty, Darlene Indermuhle, Gary Landis, Jay Maibach, Ron Marty, Steve Miracle, Judy Rufener, Randy Saylor, Ron Spenee, Dan Steiner, Art Stoller, Bro. Dan Stoller, Sis. Diana Stoller, Ron Stoller, Bro. Darrell Widmer, Sis. Denise Zollinger and Marvin Zollinger. May our Lord be with these young people as they enter into the stream of life and plan their lives' work and occupations.

Bro. Ben and Sis. Clara Hartzler have a new grandson, Mitchell Benjamin, born to Bro. Al and Sis. Vicki Hartzler of Princeville. Mitchell has an older brother, Chris, and an older sister, Jody, to help care for him at home.

OHIO, TOLEDO Josephine Rehkla

THE 23RD PSALM

The Lord is my Shepherd, No want I'll suffer;
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures,
And leadeth me by the still waters.
He my soul in peace restoreth.
He leadeth me on righteous pathways.
To His name's praise and honor.

And thought I walk with the vale of darkness here,
I need fear no evil, For Thou art with me,

Thy rod and Thy staff comfort me.
Thou preparest a table for me
In the face of my foes.

Anointest my head with oil;
My cup runneth over.
Surely goodness and mercy
Follow me all the days of my life
And thus shall I dwell in God's holy house

Now and forever more,
In God's holy house ever more.

Zion's Harp

The announcement of the engagement of Bro. Homer Reineck to Sis. Dorothy Knochel (Detroit) was made on May 11. Bro. Homer is a minister of the Word. We wish them God's richest blessings.

Alice Harmon is graduating from high school in May. May the Lord lead and direct her future walk in life.

OREGON, SILVERTON Andy Winkler Mary Jane Winkler

We were again reminded in our Sunday sermon of the need to stay close to God. It was brought out how it seems that so many people we work with and are around us think of God but don't attempt to prepare for eternity. We also know that we must be careful or we could lose the precious pearl that they should be seeking, salvation.

A little bundle of joy, Brian James, has come to the home of Bro. Jim and Sis. Joan Deitrich. Becky, Lori and Kristy welcome home their new brother.

We will experience a loss this month in that Bro. Gary and Sis. Terry Zollinger will be moving back to Ohio. We surely will miss them, but we hope and pray that God will be with them. We want to thank Sis. Terry for her efforts as Sunday School teacher.

Another year has gone by, and we as fathers are reminded of our duties and responsibilities as the head of the house. Oh, how wonderful and important it is that we have someone we can depend upon and turn to in prayer to help us provide for our families.

This is the time of year that many will be graduating. We have two in our small congregation.

Sandy Knecht will be graduating from high school and Bro. Kevin Pflederer from college. We wish them success in life and also God's blessings. Bro. Kevin will be moving back to Tremont, IL. We will miss Bro. Kevin in our church.

**PENNSYLVANIA,
PHILADELPHIA**

(See New Jersey, Union City)

TEXAS, ZAPATA

Margery Koehl

Our quiet little village is now just permanent residents who are planning our respective vacations up north for whatever time we feel we can leave our homes.

If you have been following the news about all the rain Texas has been receiving, I am sorry to report as of this writing, May 15, that we have received none of the much needed moisture. This being desert area, we are not surprised.

We are looking forward to the June 8 visit of ministering Bro. Robert Beebe and his wife and children from Bremen, IN.

Sermon . . .

(Continued from page 28)

not only in the days of repentance when we are born again, but following through thereafter.

Paul said in his letter to the Romans, verse 16, "Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?" He makes it very clear. There is no question that once we have been redeemed, we have a duty to do. We will either serve God or serve Satan. "What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound?" Rom. 6:1.

Those who are not willing to sacrifice, who are not willing to deny themselves, who have not been willing to completely surrender themselves to God, can pick out of the Scriptures, if they so desire, words that bring them a temporary hope. But, when we surrender ourselves completely, we understand that God has done much for us and that He also expects fruits in return. Before we are converted, it is a different story because at that time we are servants of Satan.

"Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness

unto sin; but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God." Rom. 6:13. After conversion, we are no more the servants of sin and Satan. Therefore, our ways must be changed. We may have the grace of God that is given freely to all mankind if we but ask.

The Apostle Paul had "a thorn in the flesh" which he thought hindered him in many ways. He prayed to God that he might be relieved of it. But what did God say to him? He said, "My grace is sufficient for thee." We may often have burdens; we even pity ourselves. No doubt it has happened to many of us. But God's ways are not our ways. His ways are as much higher than our ways as the heavens are above the earth. He can see into that long and endless eternity; we cannot. We can only glimpse it through the reading of and meditation about the Word, and through the inspiration which He gives us from time to time.

Sometimes, through affliction we can grow spiritually. If this is God's way for us to grow or to help someone else, then we should be thankful and have peace in our hearts. In our congregation there was a sister who was afflicted for many years, crippled with arthritis. We visited her many times. She always had a cheerful countenance when we saw her. She didn't have a complaining attitude at all; she was grateful and thankful to God. She waited patiently for the Lord to call her home. Finally He did; He relieved her. But until then she was an instrument for God. She put us to shame many times (I'm sure I was not alone in this) when we dared to think that our cross was just a little too heavy.

God has wonderful ways to guide and help his people. Maybe our afflictions are helping someone else. Regardless of our lot, we can work for Him. If we draw ourselves close to God and willingly and completely surrender ourselves to Him, our crosses become lighter. If we think too much of the flesh as the people of Israel did, complaining and murmuring, then the cross becomes heavier and He must discipline us as He did them. He must lead us about in such a way that we'll again come back and surrender ourselves completely to Him.

How fortunate it is for those who are living in sin that they need not stay in that pitiful condition. If there are any here today who stand guilty before God, do not wait until tomorrow for tomorrow might be too late. Do not listen to the lies of Satan; he is a liar and he will mix the truth with a lie. He will lie to you right now if you listen. Do not listen!

The way of the cross has problems, but it is not too difficult when we're completely surrendered to God. It is an easier way than the way of the world. That way, too, has afflictions and problems, but it is without the Lord's help.

Remember this: There is only one way that you'll find relief, and that is through repentance. There is only one way that you'll find help, and that is by surrendering yourself. You can find peace with God. After you have received peace from Him, you can be buried through baptism in Jesus' death; then, as we have read here, you can rise in newness of life and the sins and mistakes that you have made will be forgotten. What more can man ask? What gift would be greater than this? What would it benefit us if we would gain the whole world and lose our souls? It is important that we earthdwellers remember one thing: We might be suddenly taken out of this life, and this life is very short and eternity is very long.

You may have heard this story, but a Sunday School teacher told it, explaining eternity. He said that there was a great mountain and that a little bird took a little dirt away once a year. Oh, it would be so long before that mountain would be removed, but eventually it would be possible; however, eternity would go on.

Today we have the opportunity to prepare ourselves for eternity. Jesus paid the terrible debt of sin; He paid it all. He said that whoever believes in Him will not perish, but have eternal life. So He puts the decision on us. The decision is ours to make. The power is His to give. After we make the decision, the power will come from God so that we can go forward and also receive peace. Then we no longer stand in jeopardy of the wages of sin which is death, but we rejoice and say that the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Sermon By ELDER BRO. EDWIN RINGGER of Gridley, IL

Text: Romans, Chapter 6

Consider the difference: Upon one hand, there is life; on the other hand, there is death. Death is a terrible thing. It is one mystery that man in all his wisdom has never been able to unravel. Death is still as much a mystery to mankind as it was thousands and thousands of years ago when God pronounced death upon Adam and Eve.

We have two kinds of death, spiritual death and physical death. Death was pronounced both spiritually and physically upon Adam and Eve. No doubt they could not understand the meaning of physical death until they looked upon their son Abel, who was cold in death. Then they probably knew what God meant when He sentenced death upon them. At that time they also experienced the full sting of sin because death came about through the sin of their other son, Cain.

Today we can see many wonders performed by mankind which make us marvel. We are amazed and cannot understand how such wonderful things can be done. But in this mystery of death, all are helpless; they're fearful. Everyone will have to face death and our great scientists do not know what is on the other side of death. They do not know as much as the godfearing soul who trusts in God and reads and believes in the Bible. Such knowledge is not found in the wisdom of this world but in simplicity of faith, trusting and believing whatever God reveals.

We read the Word of God with surrendered hearts, willing to believe It. Although some things may be difficult to understand, we know that if God wants us to understand, and if we prayerfully seek, He will reveal Himself to us. Scripture tells us that we should study to show ourselves workmen who do not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of truth. Therefore, we have an obligation as brothers and sisters in faith, as children of God, to study the Scrip-

tures; therein is daily food and drink.

Just as we need food for the physical man, we need it for the spiritual man. We should pray for this spiritual hunger. I feel that it is necessary to pray that we might hunger and thirst for this good and Holy Word wherein is life.

We are promised a physical death, but we need not have a spiritual death. There is an escape. Because of the sin of one, all become sinners; but because of the righteousness of One, all may become righteous.

This should move us to thankfulness and gratefulness. We should not be as the nine lepers who, after they were cleansed, forgot and were unthankful. We believe that it is not that way with those of us who have been redeemed. We are grateful to God, thanking Him and asking Him to forgive us when we displease Him from time to time, perhaps because we become careless in prayer or careless about feeding on God's precious Holy Word.

There is going to be a physical death for each and every one of us unless the Lord comes again while we are here upon earth in which case the redeemed will meet Him in the air. The graves will be opened, it says. He will come with a shout, with the voice of the archangels; the trumpet shall sound and the graves shall be opened. So, then, we have to live today for that long and endless eternity. This life is very short, and we have no promise for tomorrow. But we do have a promise for today if we heed His voice and if we listen, for today He is sitting on the mercy seat.

Let us take the Word of God seriously and surrender ourselves. Even though we have once surrendered ourselves in repentance, we must continually surrender our will to Him. Now this is not the nature of man. We have read in the Psalms about the people of Israel. They were miraculously led out of Egypt, and they could see God's power and see His might. The sea opened for

them and they went through as on dry ground; then the Egyptians pursued them and the sea came together again and covered their enemies. At night they could see the pillar of fire and in the daytime they could see the cloud.

God led the Israelites wonderfully and He manifested His strength and power to them day after day: but we can see flesh and blood in them. When things did not go according to their desires, they murmured and they complained. They found fault with Moses, their leader. There were those who rose up against him, saying that he was not the only one who was gifted, that he was not the only one who could lead them.

And then God showed His might through Moses. Moses made a stand, and this is what God's people must do today. There are times when we must make a stand. We must do everything within our power to get along with everyone, even with those who do not believe in God or who serve God only partially or falsely. We must take a stand because we are witnesses for God.

Satan uses many different methods and tools to overcome man and to further his work. God must also have workers and witnesses. The Lord's work can be accomplished even in very small ways. It can often be carried out with a sincere compliment to a brother or sister; by a word of encouragement. Discouragement is one of the weapons that Satan uses against God's people. We never know, when we're passing on a word of encouragement, how much good it might do. Even such a small thing as a smile will help others and lift them just a little bit. Or it may be a greater thing that God has in store for us. But we do have the responsibility to be willing each day to do what He wants us to do. This means that we must crucify and mortify the flesh, and the deeds of the flesh, and live a life surrendered to God,

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