

The Silver Lining

A LIGHT FOR BELIEVERS

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WHERE IS YOUR FAITH FOUNDED?

Ministering Brother Robert Miller

"That we . . . be no more children, tossed to and fro . . . with every wind of doctrine." Eph. 4:14.

Since we are entering into a time of crisis and chaos on almost every front in our troubled world, it behoves each reasonable, thinking person more than ever to ask and answer the all important question, "Where is my faith founded?"

Needless to say, everyone is aware of the many different beliefs and doctrines in our society. As we further consider this vital subject, let us go to the Bible, the only eternal source of truth and wisdom. Let us first recognize God's commands and His will revealed in His infallible Word. God commandeth all men everywhere to repent, Acts 17:30, and believe the gospel (faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ) (1).

Baptism, the answer of a good conscience toward God by the resurrection of Jesus Christ, follows after the convert has the opportunity to demonstrate his walk of life and to testify of the work of God's grace in his heart unto salvation before witnesses. "With the mouth confession is made unto salvation." Rom. 10:10. This is when Christ's death and resurrection are so significant (2) (3) as well as symbolic of the convert, who by the grace of God through faith (4) has crucified the old man of sin (5) (6) and is now ready to bury him in baptism so that he can arise with Christ to a newness of life.

The laying on of the elder's hands follows baptism. The elder commits the new-born child of God into His power and keeping (7) and by faith (8) the regenerated person receives the promise of the infilling and indwelling Holy Spirit of truth. Jesus said, "Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is

come, he will guide you into all truth." John 16:13. "God hath not given us the Spirit of fear, but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind." II Tim. 1:7. The truth is in Christ (9), and the truth makes us free (10). Stand fast in the liberty with which Christ has made us free, and don't get entangled again with the yoke of bondage.

There are six basic principles of the doctrine of Christ listed in Hebrews 6:1, 2. Every true believer must have experienced four of these if he is to build on "Christ the solid rock." "All other ground is sinking sand." The last two are still in the future.

The first principle is repentance, which was just mentioned above. A Greek word for repent is "metanoia" which means a real change of mind and attitude toward sin and its cause, not merely its consequences. When a contrite soul experiences this and then, without reservation, claims by faith such exceeding great and precious promises as "He was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification," Rom. 4:25 (11) (12), he is become a new creation in Christ and is overwhelmed with love and gratitude toward Him. Let us stop here for a moment and consider the beautiful word justification, which appears in the verse above. The definition I appreciate the most is "just as if I have never sinned."

We believe every Christian as well as every convert should keep well in mind what significant truths his justification hinges upon, and that is **grace**, (13) (14) **faith** (15), and the precious **atonement blood** of Christ (16) (17). May none ever forget that Christ the Lord has made personal peace available by the blood of His cross (18). ". . . in Whom we have re-

demption through His blood, even the forgiveness of sins." Col. 1:7.

One can hardly hold back tears of joy and thanksgiving to our blessed Redeemer when this is deeply pondered. Truly we are bought with a price and ought to glorify God in our body and in our spirit which are God's (19). We are His temp'le (20). Abraham ". . . staggered not at the promises of God. . . but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; and being fully persuaded that, what He had promised, He was able also to perform." Rom. 4:20,21.

The next three principles, which are faith toward God (through Christ), the doctrine of baptism, both water and spirit, and the laying on of hands, were referred to earlier. The last two principles are the resurrection of the dead (both the just and the unjust) (21) and eternal judgment for those who have not fallen upon Christ the Rock, and become broken. "Therefore, **leaving** these principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection . . ." Heb. 6:1.

Here again our faith must be founded upon Him. There is just one faith that the Bible endorses (22). Let us consider the apostle's testimony in Gal. 2:20: "I am crucified with Christ, nevertheless, I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me, and the life which I now live in the flesh, I live by the faith of **the Son of God**, Who loved me and gave himself for me." This is a personal faith in Christ. Since He is all-powerful and changeless, let us rest and trust wholly in Him forever.

We touched upon being crucified with Christ, when the old man dies and is buried with Him in water baptism. Now Christ was living in the new Paul who lived "by the faith of the Son of God, Who loved

me and gave Himself for me." This conclusion is what motivated the apostle to exclaim, "the love of Christ constraineth us." In II Tim. 4:7, perhaps his last letter, the apostle wrote, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith."

He not only started right on his pilgrim course but "pressed toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus" and won the race by keeping the faith. In Hebrews 12, believers who made a good beginning in the race were commanded to lay aside every weight and sin which so easily beset them and run with patience the race that was set before them, looking unto Jesus the Author and Finisher of their faith.

"And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now hath He reconciled in the body of his flesh through death, to present you holy and unblameable and unreprouvable in His sight; if ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel which ye have heard..." Col. 1:21-23.

"That he would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might by His Spirit in the inner man; that Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all saints what is

the breadth and length, and depth, and height; and to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fullness of God." Eph. 3:16-19.

"He that saith he abideth in Him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked." I John 2:6. "Above all things have fervent charity among yourselves: for charity shall cover the multitude of sins" (forgives and disregards the offenses of others). I Pet. 4:8 (23).

"Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong." I Cor. 16:13. "Wherefore take unto you the whole armor of God that ye may be able to stand in the evil day, and having done all to stand." Eph. 6:13.

"Above all taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God:" "...I have written unto you, young men, because ye are strong, and the word of God abideth in you and ye have overcome the wicked one." I John 2:14.

"Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith: prove your own selves." II Cor. 13:5. "For other foundation can no man lay then that is laid which is Jesus Christ." I Cor. 3:11.

The revealed mystery among the gentiles is in you, the hope of

glory; whom we preach, warning every man and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus." Col. 1:27,28.

"Finally brethren, farewell. Be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace shall be with you." II Cor. 13:11.

Zion's Harp No. 63, verse 3: "The rock on which our faith is founded is Jesus and His precious blood; likewise our hope and trust is grounded on Christ, His grace a cleansing flood."

- (1) Acts 20:21
- (2) Romans 6:3-6
- (3) I Peter 1:3
- (4) Ephesians 2:8,9
- (5) Galatians 5:24
- (6) Galatians 6:14
- (7) I Peter 1:5
- (8) Galatians 3:2
- (9) Ephesians 4:21
- (10) John 8:32:36
- (11) II Corinthians 5:21
- (12) I Peter 3:18
- (13) Romans 3:24
- (14) Titus 3:7
- (15) Romans 5:1
- (16) Romans 5:9
- (17) I Peter 1:19
- (18) Colossians 1:20
- (19) I Corinthians 6:20
- (20) I Corinthians 3:16
- (21) John 5:29
- (22) Ephesians 4:5
- (23) Proverbs 10:12

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S HOME

Bob Cockburn

As Bro. Doug mentioned in his previous report, this is the time for summer plans and vacations. With this in mind, he packed up one of the vans with his family and most of the house as well and headed east: The Lord willing, they will visit with the brethren in Rockville, CT, and then camp out in New Hampshire as guests of some of the Rockville brethren. On their journey they also plan to visit Philadelphia and New York City. This combination vacation and educational field trip should be very beneficial to all the children.

For those of us left behind, things are going nicely as God continues to bless His work of faith and labor of love here at the Children's Home. The gardens are being

tended and are beginning to yield forth fruits of the earth just as we also are seeing the spiritual seeds that are being sown yielding forth fruits of the spirit. Claudia, who left us last summer as an eighteen year old high school graduate and returned last winter, is under conviction and has recently turned to our Lord. We ask for your prayers in her behalf as she seeks her peace with God.

As we provide for the physical and spiritual needs of our children, we sometimes must say good-bye, and such was the case this past week when Mary and her sister Debbie left us to return home. They were with us for over three years and will be dearly missed. We trust that what they learned and experienced here will bear fruit someday.

Even as we give up some of our children, we are interviewing oth-

ers to fill their places. There are so many unfortunate children need-

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ing Christian homes that it is difficult to say no to any of them, but at times we must.

Summer is a time for travel and we have been blessed with many who stop in to see for themselves the work that is being done here. We had a ministering brother and his wife from Kansas drop in yesterday, and not only did we have a nice visit with them, but they also wound up working around the Home. If you are going to be near Leo anytime, please feel free to come and visit your Children's Home. I cannot guarantee that you will be put to work, but we will be glad to visit with you and provide for your physical needs. If you are not able to stop by sooner, I would like to suggest a visit on September 20, as this is the date scheduled for our Annual Auction and Sale. With the Lord's blessings and the help of our brothers, sisters, and friends, we are looking for a grand day of fellowship.

Because this is a project of the Apostolic Christian Churches, we do not want to be an island. We want you to be involved and aware of what we are doing. If you can come, please do. If you would like to receive our newsletter, simply drop us a note. If you would like to come and work, let us know. Most of all we request your support in prayer. We oftentimes feel the prayers of our brethren going up in our behalf and it is with this strengthening and the support of our brothers, sisters, and friends that we can continue to help some of His less fortunate children.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

Ever-present gratitude to dear ones everywhere prompts loving greetings from all of us here. Being keenly cognizant of the many prayers offered in our behalf, the many freely-given volunteer hours and the much-needed financial gifts, we know only too well how very much we need each other to carry out the work here. Were you able to have one experience of personal contact with one of our residents, you would have a glimpse of what we often cannot express.

What if, suddenly, you or your loved one, for instance, were at the mercy of others for your com-

plete care? More specifically, what if you could not feed yourself or would need to depend upon someone for your physical safety in things, both insignificant and major? What if no one noticed the gait belt on your wheel chair had become unfastened or that there was a sore spot somewhere from constant rubbing during a trip over rough roads, and you could not tell anyone? Or how would it be if we tried with an imperfect tongue to convey an important message to one who sincerely cared and wanted to understand, but could not? . . . We could go on and on.

How thankful we are that our Heavenly Father has provided a dedicated, understanding staff who have the ability to give individual, professional, empathetic care to our "family" members. But we are continuously aware that we alone are unable to carry out the monumental task of providing for the whole needs of each person, the physical needs being the easier part of the program. We need all of you and your prayers. Many of you have had years of experience in life; and the years teach much that the days cannot know.

These are times when we, as Christ taught by example, need to escape from duties to a quiet place. The trees which surround our back area are lush and beautiful at this time of year. It is as if they lift their leafy arms in prayer, being messengers for our many, concerned petitions. William Cullen Bryant once wrote, "The groves were God's first temples." Prayer, especially out in the beauty of nature, can bring about a true sense of peace. Thus refreshed, we pursue our course anew.

What a nice outing was experienced recently by a large number of residents at a farm home in a nearby community! The beautifully sunny day passed all too quickly, visiting the various farm scenes. There were chickens with eggs in the nests; there were baby chicks, bunnies of all sizes, baby kittens, a pony, two miniature goats and even fifty fluffy baby quail. Several young lads with three-wheel carts were waiting to give rides to anyone who wished to tour the farm yard in that manner. At noon a dinner bell called everyone to a delicious lunch of broiled hamburgers with trimmings, including all

kinds of fruit. To finish an already sumptuous meal, there were bowls of strawberry shortcake served to all! Just before leaving, the day was finished with taking everyone to a table laden with gifts, where each one was told to take his choice. The intent of the hosts was to treat the guests like "kings", and indeed they did, with a great deal of love. Upon leaving and while saying their sincere thank you's, one resident remarked, "Insomuch as ye have done it unto the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me." Matt. 25:40. We pray for a rich blessing upon this benevolent family.

Lisa Marie Menold, daughter of Herman and Oleda Menold of rural Morton, is the newest member of our "family." Lisa is not entirely new to us, as she visited here often. There are three brothers, Tom, Greg and Brad, and sisters, Beth Feucht, Carolyn Feucht, Mary Witzig, Susan Chadwick and Twyla Schlipf. Six nieces and four nephews complete the family. Hamburgers are Lisa's favorite food; listening to the radio or record player is her most enjoyable pastime. Birthday time for Lisa is December 15. For the past sixteen years, Lisa has attended the program at PARC in Peoria. Welcome to Lisa! We look forward to many happy times together.

Until we meet again on the printed page, it is comforting to know that to carry our burdens to the Lord in prayer is not to carry them far . . . only across the threshold of our humbled hearts. He awaits us there.

ARIZONA, PHOENIX

Julie Hoerr

"Our love shall not diminish." ZH 137. Bro. Elmer and Sis. Clara Zollinger's fifty-fifth wedding anniversary was June 10. They were remembered with a reception in our Congregational Room, June 11, following church services. They wish to thank everyone for the cards and gifts that they received.

Memorial day weekend, our Sunday School hosted the youth fellowship for California and Arizona. Many enjoyed a picnic in Prescott on Saturday, a full day of fellowship on Sunday, and a farewell picnic breakfast before departing on Monday morning.

On Sunday, June 8, graduates were honored at a reception held

after church in our Congregational Room. This is one of the largest groups of graduates for our growing congregation. Graduates from high school are: Steve Farney, Sis. Kelly Kraft, Sis. Della Martin, Shayne Pulfer, and Cheri Zollinger. Grade school graduates are Kelly Emch, Mike Fertsch, Rick Freed, Penny Schuster, and Todd Zollinger.

Cheryl Farney and Tom Moller-up exchanged wedding vows, June 7. Cheryl's parents are Bob and Janet Farney. Retired Elder Bro. Roy Farney and Sis. Minnie are her grandparents.

May 15, Catherine Kaufman was born to Bro. Curt and Sis. Caroline Kaufman. Little Carrie welcomes her. The grandfathers are Bro. John Kaufman (Phoenix) and Bro. Albert Zeltwanger (Latty).

On May 28, Elder Bro. Richard Schupbach and Sis. Barbara became grandparents to Tate Samuel. Tat is the son of Bro. Fred and Sis. Chelly Kaiser. Two sisters, Tonya and Tasha, welcome Tate.

Hospital patients this month were Bros. Floyd Banwart and Wayne Schrenk and Sis. Julie Hoerr.

CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA

Shirley Witzig

We give thanks and blessings to this month's visiting elder brothers: Leo Moser (Lester, IA); Eugene Marty (Lamar, MO); Loren Stoller (Latty, OH); and Richard Schupbach (Phoenix, AZ).

The family of Sis. Elizabeth Kaisner wishes to express their sincere appreciation and thanks to all who remembered them with many prayers, gifts, and cards during the illness and death of their loved one. The following poem was submitted by Sis. Freda Minger in memory of Sis. Elizabeth.

HOME

I have slipped away to the homeland,
To my mansion wondrous fair.
Rejoice with me then in my gladness,
Remember I have left every care.
Grieve not for the house that I lived in
As you lay me neath the sod.
Remember the one who dwelt in it
Has gone to be with her God.
The Savior who loved me so dearly,
Who walked by my side all the way

Saw my little old house was crumbling,
So He bade me to haste away.
For me He had finished a mansion
In the home land over the sea;
He has it already and waiting,
And so He has come after me.
And in it I shall dwell forever,
Away from all sickness and pain,
For Jesus has purchased my freedom
And cleansed me from every stain.
My Jesus who loved me so dearly.
For my life he has paid with His own,
Has called me away to be with Him
As He reigns on His beautiful throne.

Dorothy Spidell

FLORIDA, FT. LAUDERDALE

John and Caroline Hejja

The Ft. Lauderdale congregation experienced many blessings on the weekend of June 7 and 8. Elder Bros. Ben Maibach (Detroit) and Wendell Gudeman (Francesville, IN) were with us as we partook of Holy Communion together on Saturday evening. Sunday afternoon a special dedication service was held in our newly completed fellowship hall. We were reminded that many different elements were used to make up the building — bricks, wood, metal. Each has individual characteristics and is useful for different purposes. But, when a material such as mortar or nails is applied, it binds the various elements together to form a strong, solid building. Likewise, when Christian love and understanding join us to our brothers and sisters, they bind us in a strong fellowship to create a strong spiritual "building." In the evening, we gathered together again to eat our first potluck dinner in the fellowship hall.

Our Ft. Lauderdale church voted its support for and approval of Bro. Ken Lawson's continuing as minister in our congregation. He, his wife, Sharon, and two children moved to this area from Minnesota. We are thankful for his service in proclaiming God's precious Word to us.

Elections were recently held for several church offices. The following people were elected: Sunday School superintendent, Bro. Roger Sauder; Sunday School teachers, Sis. Caroline Hejja and Sis. Ken Troxel and Bro. Richard Sutter; Ushers, Bro. Fred Meyer and

Bro. Noah Klaus; and Kitchen, Sis. Joyce Troxel.

Our nation recently celebrated the 4th of July. We hear many people speaking pessimistically. They speak of a gas shortage, energy shortage, and environmental pollution. "Is there hope?" they wonder.

Christians should realize that America's real problem is none of the above. It is a shortage of Christian morals and spiritual pollution in our land. How many of our cities seem more like Sodom and Gomorrah than "One Nation Under God"? "Is there hope?" the Christian may wonder.

We should pray for our country and our leaders. How many times was God wrought with a people and faithful men of God were moved to pray and intercede on their behalf? "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land." II Chronicles 7:14. It would have taken only ten faithful men and God would have been willing to spare the wicked cities of Sodom and Gomorrah for their sakes. Truly our Lord is great in mercy and long-suffering. Let's not forget the need for prayer on behalf of America.

FLORIDA, SARASOTA

Elda Martin

It is often that sorrow is mixed with joy. Our congregation experienced seeing our Sis. Phyllis Massner and her children move back to Iowa. Sis. Phyllis has announced her engagement to Bro. Ben Knobloch of Elgin, IL. We trust God will bless them and fill their many needs.

The wonderful Word of God has been brought to us by Bro. Bark Bahr, Detroit, and our Elder Bro. Ben Maibach. There is always an added blessing by having our shepherd with us.

HAWAII, HONOLULU

Michael and Janet Campbell

Another month has passed and God has again fulfilled His precious promise that He will never leave us nor forsake us. He again has sent us visitors for this month. On May 3 and 4, Bro. Bill and Sis. Keri Hart from the Goodfield, IL,

congregation were in Honolulu, and we met them at their hotel room. Later we took them to our home and worshipped together by listening to a tape. We enjoyed fellowship with one another before returning them to their hotel room.

On the following weekend, May 10 and 11, Bro. Carl and Sis. Anne Frautschi from the Bloomington-Normal, IL congregation were visiting Honolulu. We went out to dinner and enjoyed a wonderful evening of fellowship together. We later took them back to their motel.

We just praise and thank our Lord for providing this fellowship with those of like mind and faith and for all His wonderful provisions for us during our stay in Hawaii. If anyone is planning a visit to Hawaii, please look us up when you are here. We are at home at 3324D-Orlando Place, Honolulu, Hawaii, and our telephone number is (808) 422-1041.

ILLINOIS

BLOOMINGTON - NORMAL Dixie Knapp - Jean O'Shea

Oh, to be nothing, nothing,
Only to lie at His feet.
A broken and emptied vessel
For the Master's use made meet.
Emptied that He might fill me
As forth to His service I go;
Broken that so unhindered
His life through me might flow.

Hymns of Zion No. 76

We truly rejoice when souls can empty themselves and be filled by the spirit of God. Our young sisters in faith, Heather Haerr (Bro. Ray and Sis. Jeanne) and Sis. Cindy Vogel (Bro. Stan and Sis. Nate), were able to give their testimonies of faith on Saturday evening, May 24, and be baptized into the fold on Sunday. We rejoice with their families and thank ministering Bro. Lennie Meyer and his family from Chicago for sharing the day with us.

Bros. Ron Farney and Bob Zimmerman were elected as Sunday School teachers at our business meeting May 28. We support these brothers and wish them Godly wisdom as they go about their duties.

Bible School was held the week of June 2-6. We want to thank the visiting ministers who helped teach the Bible Class students. Elder Bro. Dan Koch, Tremont, Bro. Walt An-

liker, Eureka, and Bro. Dave Wiegand, Champaign-Urbana, each spent one evening teaching. We thank all the other teachers and participants for their efforts in making Bible School a success.

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Helen Zimmerman on the loss of his brother, Ralph Zimmerman of Fairbury. Our hearts are always saddened when we hear someone from our congregation has lost a loved one even if we don't know the person ourselves. As we sing in our hymn, "We share our mutual woes, our mutual burdens bear; And often for each other flows the sympathizing tear." Hymns of Zion 156.

June 22 was a blessed day for us as we had Bro. Edwin Bahler and his family from Remington with us for the day. We heard so many inspiring words that urged us to grow into more mature Christians. The story of a young child who fell out of his bed was related to us as it applies to our Christian lives. When a mother found her child on the floor she asked him, "How did you fall out of bed?" He thought for a moment and then replied, "I guess I got too close to the place where I got in." As Christians we need to grow rather than stay too close to the border line between our past life and our new life for fear we may find ourselves falling back into the life we came out of. Each day we must strive to be more fully in tune with God and His Word. A picnic was held after church for Bro. Ed at Comlara Park. We appreciated the Christian fellowship we shared together before parting. "Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love; the fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above." Hymn of Zion 156

We congratulate and share the joy of Bro. Kirk Nussbaum (the late Bro. Alden and Sis. Tillie) on his engagement to Sis. Mary Lee Funk of Tuscon. May their lives be filled with God's richest blessings.

ILLINOIS, BRADFORD Evelyn Endress

We enjoyed meeting and greeting those who came to worship with us recently. Our visitors included Elder Bros. Roy Grimm (Taylor) and Dave Kieser (Prince-

ville), and ministering Bros. Vernon Wettstein (Congerville), Todd Feller (LaCrosse), and Gerald Sutter (Taylor). As we heard recently, let us NOW appreciate being able to worship undisturbed instead of waiting until this privilege is taken from us.

We extend our best wishes to Margie Rumbold and Cliff Sturm, who have announced their engagement. Margie is the daughter of Bro. Elwin and Sis. Loretta Rumbold.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Mark Ehnle who has been unable to assemble with us for the past two Sundays. He was hospitalized for a few days. May God fill his hours with His presence.

ILLINOIS CHAMPAIGN - URBANA Charlen Banwart

SO LONG AS THERE ARE HOMES

So long as there are homes
to which men turn
At close of day;
So long as there are homes
where children are,
Where women stay—
If love and loyalty and faith be
found
Across these sills—
A stricken nation can recover from
Its gravest ills.

So long as there are homes where
fires burn
And there is bread;
So long as there are homes where
lamps are lit
And prayers are said;
Although people falter through the
dark—
And nations grope—
With God himself back of these
little homes—
We have sure hope.

Grace Nell Crowell

Two Christian homes have recently been established in our area. Bro. Bud and Sis. Kay DesCarpentrie and their children, Leigh and Jem, have moved from the Goodfield area to Paris, IL. Bro. Keith and Sis. Diana Ifft are making their first home in Urbana following their June 8 wedding in Peoria. We are happy to have these two families with us.

Bro. Henry and Sis. Ora Schrenk from Phoenix, AZ, are spending

the summer months with their son and his wife, Bro. Loren and Sis. Betsy, and their children. It is especially nice to have them here during the summer when most of our students are gone.

Bro. Vernon Leman (Eureka) ministered to us the last Sunday in May. Elder Bro. Edwin Ringger (Gridley) spoke to the high school students during Vacation Bible School which was held the third week in June. Bro. Bob Pflederer (Morton) was also scheduled to speak to the high schoolers. We appreciate the time and effort the ministers and teachers put forth to help make our Vacation Bible School possible. May each one who helped in any way truly feel, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." (Acts 20:35)

ILLINOIS, CHICAGO

Kathy Schlatter

Under the law, the sabbath, the seventh and last day of the week, was reserved for rest. Under the dispensation of grace ushered in by Christ's resurrection, our Lord's day is the first day of the week, a day of preparation and reawakening for the week ahead. May we think about and keep Sunday as the first day of our week. (From an idea in *The Christian's Secret of a Happy Life*, Hannah Whitall Smith)

Those of us who traveled to Minneapolis over Memorial Day weekend were surely blessed by His presence each step of the way. From hymns listened to and sung on the bus to close fellowship, church and Sunday matters discussed and a safe journey with negligible delays to our warm welcome in Minneapolis, including games for the kids, delicious meals, a look at prophecy, sometimes with nature, our cup of experience and joy continually overflowed. We must say a special something about the overnight hospitality and Christian intimacy we shared with our brethren in Minneapolis: with God-given smiles, they nourished us in body and soul. May the Lord grant them grace and reward them farther on.

"Serve the Lord with gladness: come before his presence with singing." Psalm 100:2. We want to especially thank our June visitors, Elder Bro. Nate Steffen, Elgin, IL, Bro. Clarence Yackley, Phoenix, AZ, Bro. Henry Dotterer, Rittman,

OH, and Bro. Sam Schlatter, Junction, OH, for their ministry and support. Many from our home congregation, as well as Bro. Art Bahler, Fairbury, IL, and Bro. Bill Gudeman, Elgin, IL, have contributed to the success of our Vacation Bible School, because they have given so freely of themselves to further its God-given impact. The Sunday School picnic was also a special time of fellowship. Not only do we want to express our appreciation to our visitors by name, but we also want to make a special point to mention our own ministering brothers, Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann, Bro. Arnie Gerst, and Bro. Lenny Meyer (recently made a deacon), who in love and unity and God-given spiritual strength, do proclaim the Word and carry out their many responsibilities. May the Lord help them to feel our love and support and to know an extra measure of His grace.

Bro. Dan and Sis. Becky Gudeman, and their children, Ben and Katie, are leaving us. Bro. Dan's new position is in St. Louis; they will be attending church in Taylor, MO. We thank Bro. Dan and Sis. Becky for his Sunday School teaching and her work on the kitchen committee. When a vital part is taken away the whole suffers; yet, the Lord knows best. We will always have a place for them. Our prayers and requests for their continued blessing and guidance go with them.

"Ring the bells of heaven! There is joy today. . ." (Ring the Bells of Heaven, 202, *Tabernacle*) Greg Kra^v and Karen Drefs have come to the cross, believing His shed blood can wash away their sins, that they may obtain new life through Him. As we who have gone a "piece ways" on the road know, repentance is only a beginning. We wish Greg and Karen much stamina and perseverance, grace, faith and trust, as they, too, now, through Him, wish to glorify His name. Greg, recently graduated from high school, plans to attend the University of Wisconsin. Karen is a senior at Illinois Wesleyan, Bloomington, IL.

No one knocks at my door who was not sent by God—is a special bit of wisdom close to my heart. Just recently, in a paraphrased classic *The Christian's Secret of a Happy Life* by Hannah Whitall

Smith, I was touched by the dream of a Christian woman struggling to understand her temptations and frustrations. It was revealed to her that she stood with, as it were, a veil between her and the horrors of war, tragic accidents, volcanoes and floods, death and disease, deformity and disfigurement of herself or loved ones, financial misfortunes. And again she saw the everyday frustrations, the slowest checkout line, the flat tire, the spilled milk and broken glass, the forgotten grocery item, the unappreciative co-worker, employer, or child, separated from her by that same sheer guard. Then she realized that the meaning was clear. Only those difficulties came to her life when they were allowed by the Lord. Each one she was to face was backed by sound purpose and reasoning and God-given grace so that she might endure and grow, stand firm and true. Not only are those people we meet sent by God, but the very events of our lives come to pass with His permission. May such knowledge help us all to be more thankful and to more cheerfully accept our earthly experiences.

As we once more pass over the Fourth of July, perhaps with little regard for its significance, I thought I would share a bit on "fidelity" which I discovered in the Christophers' newsletter called "High Fidelity." "He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much: and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much." Luke 16:10.

PRACTICING FIDELITY

We practice fidelity:

- Each time we keep a promise.
- Each time we're loyal to others and avoid destructive gossip.
- Each time we keep a confidence.
- Each time we vote or otherwise fulfill citizen responsibilities.
- Each time we do a day's work for a day's pay.
- Each time we do any job with care, whether it's setting a table or setting a broken bone.
- Each time we speak out against injustices, whether in the corporate board room or on the playing field.
- Each time we attend religious services or otherwise follow the principles of our faith.

MOVING? LET US KNOW.

ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK**Mary Anderson - Melba Funk**

Again we felt the angels in heaven rejoice as three converts gave their testimonies and were baptized into our precious faith. Robert Foster, Jim Kaufman and Wes Kaufman were added to the fold after erecting a covenant with their God. May they always hold fast to that which they have found.

We rejoiced too with Sis. Kim Sauder and Bro. Art Walder as they exchanged vows in holy matrimony. Sis. Kim is the daughter of Bro. Curt and Sis. Elaine and Bro. Art is the son of Sis. Lucille and the late Bro. Ervin. Present for the ceremony were ministering Bros. Walter Herman, Princeville, and Art Gudeman, La Crosse.

Bro. Keith and Sis. Kay Knapp are the happy parents of little Jennifer Kay, who was born on June 5.

Sis. Anna Hari (Bro. Elmer) was a recent hospital medical patient and Sis. Cora Scharlach was hospitalized for a lens implant. Eight-year-old Dale Woldbeser (Bro. John and Sis. Carol) was a surgical patient, also. Bro. Harold Greiner is at home recovering from back surgery.

ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE**Mardell Ott - Pat Rinkenberger**

"They looked. . . and behold, the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud." Ex. 16:10. Get into the habit of looking for the silver lining of the cloud and when you have found it, continue to look at it, rather than at the leaded gray in the middle. Don't yield to discouragement no matter how sorely pressed or beset you may be. A discouraged soul is helpless. He can neither resist the wiles of the enemy himself, while in this state, nor can he prevail in prayer for others. Search out God's promises and say aloud of each one: This promise is **mine**. Pour your heart out to God and ask Him to rebuke the adversary. Yield to Him in seeking help and guidance, and keep looking up!" (Cowman)

"We can never see the sunrise by looking into the west." Japanese Proverb

Bro. Walt and Sis. Erma Miller and Bro. Keith Roth were hospital patients recently. We pray they will not become discouraged but will look up for their strength.

Visiting ministers were Bro.

Raymond Roth (Kiowa), Bro. Ken-ny Knapp (Taylor), and Bro. Carlie Sinn (Ft. Scott). We were admonished to keep our "ship of faith" on its course, and not veer to the right or left. It is the only way to reach the blest harbor! Faithfulness in small things is the key to living close to the Word.

Bro. Dennis and Sis. Carol Klopfenstein were blest with a little baby girl, Sheri Joy. Sheri has two brothers, Mark and Rick, waiting at home for her.

We give our congratulations to our four high school graduates and wish them the best for the future. They are Lisa Knapp (Bro. Fred Knapps'), Pat Knapp (Bro. Jerry Knapps'—Taylor), Emile Schlipf (Clarence Schlipfs'), and Peter Mauer (Bro. Heinrich Mauers').

ILLINOIS, ELGIN**Ruth Ann Getz**

"Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee." These words of David, the psalmist, that have been set to music, were a part of the lesson taught the children in our Vacation Bible School held the week of June 16. How sincerely we pray that the Lord will incline the hearts of our children to hide the Word of the Lord there, that they may bring it to remembrance in the day of accountability, and that they may not sin against the Lord.

Our brethren came together on June 11 in oneness of spirit to share in the Lord's Supper. There is joy beyond measure when as a body we can asserable and feel the very presence of the spirit among us. How humbling it is when we remember His suffering and death in our behalf. We can not refrain from praising Him all the days of our lives.

The Lord called home one of his servants, Bro. George Haas, on May 29. He was born May 20, 1903, in Germany to George and Christina Haas. Surviving are his wife, Sis. Anna Keller Haas; three daughters, Mrs. Larry (Leonora) Leveen of Palmer, Alaska, Mrs. John (Betty) Klaus of Japan and Mrs. Michael (Virginia) Cummings of Sunnyvale, CA; and a son, Edwin, of South Elgin. George and Anna have for the past number of years lived in Sunnyvale near their daughter, Virginia; however, the funeral and burial took

place in Elgin. May God comfort this very dear widow and her family.

Our annual Sunday School picnic was held June 12 for the entire Sunday School. It is always a time of fellowship looked forward to by the families of these dear children.

Sis. Emma Wewetzer was hospitalized for a time. We are happy to report that she has recuperated and is able to go in and out with us. She gratefully expresses her appreciation for all the cards, gifts and prayers extended to her during her illness. Sis. Mary Moser and John Feucht have undergone tests during recent hospitalization and are home again. Louis Reber has undergone serious surgery recently and is presently hospitalized. We pray for all those who suffer in the flesh, not only that the Lord may heal their infirmities but even that the Lord will draw nigh to them and be their God.

Memorial Day weekend we again had seven new souls added to the fold, each one very precious in the sight of the Lord because of the great price he paid for them. Each one in turn told of their lost condition, of their crying out to the Lord and Savior in repentance, and finally of the Lord speaking peace to their souls. These new brothers and sisters are Debra Steffen, Larry and Dean Steffen, Art and Marlene Mueller, Brent Klopfenstein, and Mark Wewetzer. Bro. Sam Anliker (Lamont) and Bro. Joe Braker (Morton) assisted with this work.

Bro. Ben Knobloch and Sis. Phyllis Messner have the faith to be united in holy matrimony and have announced their engagement. We pray that the Lord will continue to lead them in paths of all righteousness.

Bro. Albert and Sis. Anna Schietlin gratefully express their thankfulness for the many who remembered them at the time their sixtieth anniversary. They asked that God bless each one.

The following poem was submitted to me in memory of our dear departed sister, Ida Steffen.

BEAUTIFUL THINGS

Beautiful faces are those that wear—
It matters little if dark or fair—
Whole-souled honesty printed there.

Beautiful eyes are those that show,
Like crystal panes where hearth-
fires glow,
Beautiful thoughts that burn
below.

Beautiful lips are those whose
words
Leap from the heart like songs of
birds,
Yet whose utterance prudence
girds.

Beautiful hands are those that do
Work that is honest and brave and
true,
Moment by moment the long day
through.

Beautiful feet are those that go
On kindly ministries to and fro,
Down lowliest ways, if God wills
it so.

Beautiful shoulders are those that
bear
Ceaseless burdens of homely care
With patient grace and daily
prayer.

Beautiful lives are those that bless
Silent rivers of happiness,
Whose hidden fountains but few
may guess.

Beautiful twilight at set of sun,
Beautiful goal with race well won,
Beautiful rest with work well done.

Beautiful graves where grasses
creep.
Where brown leaves fall, where
drifts lie deep
Over worn-out hands—oh! beauti-
ful sleep!

ILLINOIS, EUREKA Melba Mangold

We thank Bro. Jim Hoerr for bringing us timely messages from the Word. He and Sis. Virginia spent a Sunday with us.

Bro. Daryl and Sis. Lucy Blunier are the happy parents of their first child, Jenny Lauren, who was born May 19. Her grandparents are Bro. Louis and Sis. Clara Blunier and Bro. Richard and Sis. Verna Hartter of Goodfield.

We wish a blessed life together for Bro. Don and Sis. Jane (Leman) Wiegand who were married June 8 in Remington.

Twin daughters have brought much joy to the home of Glen and Sis. Becky Bauman. Born on June 6 they have been named Kandi Lynn and Tami Lynn. Excited over

their arrival is their little brother Chad, six years old. Their grandparents are Bro. Elmer and Sis. Mildred Bauman of Goodfield and Bro. Simon and Sis. Louise Wagenbach of Tremont.

On June 7 Dale Eastman and Shari Pierce were married and are now living in Eureka. We offer our best wishes to the young couple. Their parents are Bro. Dick and Sis. Nelma Eastman and Dean and Laura Pierce, all of Eureka.

We have finished our two weeks of Bible School for the younger classes. This week the Roanoke, Goodfield, Congerville and Washington Bible classes were invited to attend the Bible Class here. Ministering brothers who conducted the sessions were Elder Bro. Joe Braker, Morton, Bros. Earl Gerber, Forrest, Bob Grimm, Goodfield, Fred Knapp, Congerville and Carl Wyss, Washington. Hopefully, some good will come from these discussions. For the unday School children, as well as the parents of our new babies, Proverbs 22:6 has good instructions: "Train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not depart from it."

ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY

Joyce Huber
Katharine Fehr

We had a blessed Memorial Day weekend when four converts gave their testimonies of their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and were baptized. They were: Sam Furrer, son of Sis. Louise and the late Bro. Kenneth Furrer; Quinn Zehr, son of Bro. and Sis. Warren Zehr; Jeff Thames, son of Bro. and Sis. Phil Thames; and Nathan Fehr, son of Bro. and Sis. Wayne Fehr. One of the boys, Nathan Fehr, saw the "handwriting on the wall" of "now or never" and readily turned to the Lord for his salvation. We are thankful for each of them who turned to the Lord now.

A daughter, Lori Jo, was born to Richard and Karen Stoller June 6, which was her paternal grandmother's birthday. She is welcomed by Jill (5) and Scott (2½). Her grandparents are Sis. Alice Lehmann, Forrest, and Sis. Ernestine Stoller, Fairbury.

John and Pam Steidinger were blessed with a baby boy they named Justin Duayne. His grandparents are Bro. Donald and Sis. Alice Steidinger and Mr. and Mrs. Ben Kafer.

Bro. and Sis. Richard Huber were

blessed with a baby they named Isaac Daniel. The little boy has two brothers, Jason and Timothy. The grandparents are Bro. and Sis. Jess Huber.

Bro. and Sis. David Kaeb, Bro. and Sis. Emanuel Steffen, and Bro. and Sis. Carlos Meiss hosted visiting ministering Bros. David Keiser and Steve Rinkenberger and others from their area at the fellowship hall. It was a day of inspiration and fellowship.

Alton and Sis. Sally Schieler took their daughter, Sis. Donna, to Mayo Clinic. Sis. Louise Furrer accompanied them to assist them as they sought the doctors' help for Donna's condition.

Bro. Richard Walter had surgery at Champaign to have a ruptured disc in his spine repaired. We are praying for his speedy recovery.

ILLINOIS, FORREST

Jan Bachtold - Kathy Leman

We have been blessed with the visits of brethren this past month who have willingly brought us the Word of Life and filled our cups to overflowing. They were Bros. Virgil Metzger (Champaign), Ron Heininger (Bloomington), Sam Schlatter and Bill Schlatter (Junction, OH), Floyd Wieland (Detroit, MI), Loren Strahm (Gridley, KS), and Loren Knapp (Tucson, AZ).

We are always thankful when our hospital patients have been few. Sisters Kathy Leman, Earlene Hamilton and Mary Metz were each hospitalized for a few days, but all are able to be among us again.

Bro. Josh Broquard (Fairbury) had the services for our dear departed Bro. Sam Maier who passed away at the age of 83. He was a resident of Fairview Haven. We rejoice with Bro. Sam as this was his longing—to go Home. We sorrow with his children and grandchildren who will miss his loving presence. Two daughters, Sis. Marjorie Kuntz and Thelma Maier, and a son, Vernon, all remain behind. May they find comfort in the knowledge that their loved one is asleep in Jesus.

The first day of June was the day chosen by Denny Zimmerman (Bro. Glen and Sis. Mildred) and Pam Lawrence to be united in marriage. May God add His blessings as they make their residence in Forrest.

The following Sunday, June 8, our Bro. Keith Ifft (Bro. Harvey

and Sis. Velma) and Sis. Diana Wiegand (Bro. Albert and Sis. Martha of Oakville, IA) solemnized their wedding vows in Peoria. May God be their guide as they establish their home in Champaign, where Bro. Keith plans to continue his studies.

The family of Ben Huber wishes to express their thanks for the prayers, cards, and many kindnesses shown them during their time of sorrow. We offer our sympathy to Sis. Martha Huber, Ben's sister, of our congregation.

It was a cool, but lovely June evening as we gathered together for our annual Sunday School picnic. It's always a blessing to hear the little ones sing songs of their love of Jesus.

Bro. Craig and Sis. Trudy Rudin are the happy parents of little Kenton Craig, born June 18. Helping to welcome him home are brothers Scott and Andy and a sister, T. Anne. His grandparents are Bro. Glen and Sis. Mildred Zimmerman and Bro. Willard and Sis. Tillie Rudin (Cissna Park). May God add His blessings to this family circle.

It was a blessed privilege for each one who was able to gather together and partake of Holy Communion. May we always realize the seriousness of this moment when we share the bread and wine in remembrance of our Lord's suffering and death. May it renew in our spirits the commitment we have made to faithfully serve our Lord. We thank Bros. Herman Kellenberger (Elgin) and Josh Broquard (Fairbury) for lending themselves and being with us.

ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD

Verna Hartter

We miss the family of Bro. Bud and Sis. Kay Descarpentrie (who have moved to Paris, IL, and will attend the Champaign - Urbana Church) and the family of Bro. Wes and Sis. Joyce Hohulin (who have moved to Burnsville, MN, and will attend the Minneapolis Church). May God bless them as they meet His children and worship with them in these new locations.

It was good to hear the testimony of Deonne Steffen on May 24, how she grew up with the desire to become a truly converted child of God. She was baptized on May 25 and is now our sister-in-faith. We are looking forward to

hearing the testimonies of two more dear souls in the near future. They are Keith Hinrichsen (Bro. Hans and Sis. Arlene) and Tony Monfre.

Mark and Joan Steffen are new parents of a little girl, Jackie Ann, born on June 11. The grandparents are Bro. Ed and Sis. Mary Steffen of Congerville, and Bro. Lawrence and Sis. Laura Hohulin of this congregation. Jonathan Robert, born on June 13, is the new son of Bro. Stan and Sis. Jean Hohulin. He has a brother, Ross, and a sister, Kristen. The grandparents are Sis. Rachel Hodel of Eureka, and Bro. Chris and Sis. Vi of this congregation.

We welcome Sis. Donna Huette Wyss who was married to Bro. Bruce Wyss on June 1 in Tremont. May God bless them as they live their lives for the One who brought them together.

Ben Bauman (Bro. Larry and Sis. Betty) received a severe leg injury on May 31. We are glad to have him up and about, though he walks with a slightly stiff leg.

Once again God has sent his servants to minister to us. We thank Bro. Noah Herman, Tuscon, AZ, and Bro. Fred Knapp, Congerville.

ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY

Carol Klopfenstein

OUR LOSS, HIS GAIN

by Henry Beer

My darling child, alas, is gone.
What can I do but sorely weep?
But yet I will not thus despair;
He is not dead, he does but sleep.

Just as a little lamp he shone,
His life diffused a radiance bright.
He cheered our hearts when life
seemed lone,
But now he shines, a beacon light.

What God hath done is always
good.
No hand can stay His strong decree.
When trials press, we often would
Depart this life, and rest in Thee.

Though he has only fallen asleep
Within the Master's loving care;
We're glad he came into our life
And left his blessed memory there.

From toil and strife and pain and
woe,
From earth's afflictions and its
care,
From earth's impending dangers
freed—

Such happy lot we fain would
share.

The child is gone, —shall ne'er
return,

His place is vacant in our home.
To share his joy our bosom yearns;
Someday we'll go where he has
gone.

Our loss, his gain, we must admit!
His soul lives on, though body die;
His youthful hands, now cold in
death,
Will beckon to us from on high.

Our faith in the God of all comfort can soothe our aching hearts, even when one so dear to us has been unexpectedly snatched away by the death angel. Ben Yoder, 13, died in an accident on May 27. His brother John, 12, was injured critically, but we are thankful that God has granted him a speedy recovery. Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to Ben's parents, Bro. Devon and Sis. Laveille; his sisters, Sarah and Elizabeth; and his brother, John.

The wonderful thrill of having a precious new life entrusted into their care has become the blessed portion of four couples who are parents for the first time: Laura Jean Vercler was born May 18 to Tim and Sonia. Her grandparents are Bro. Clyde and Sis. Wilma Kuntz of Gridley and Mr. and Mrs. John Vercler of Chenoa. Erin Elizabeth Fleming was born May 22 to Bro. Curtis and Sis. Elma. Her grandparents are Sis. Ela Schlipf and Mr. and Mrs. Don Fleming, all of Gridley. Jessica Lynn Zimmerman was born May 22 to Bro. Keith and Sis. Linda. Her grandparents are Bro. Floyd and Sis. Marge Meiss of Gridley, and Mr. and Mrs. John Zimmerman of Fairbury. Janell Marie Schlipf was born June 4 to Bro. Arthur and Sis. Twyla. Her grandparents are Bro. Herman and Sis. Oleda Menold of Morton and Adam and Lulu Schlipf of Gridley.

Sis. Ethel Meiss was a hospital patient.

Bro. Clark Stoller and Sis. Cindy Hodel, both of Gridley, were united into the blessings and three-fold cord of holy matrimony on June 22.

The weekends of June 1 and June 8 we were privileged to receive six dear lambs of Jesus into the fold. Sis. Sherrie Stoller, Sis. Tina Marti, Bro. Leslie Marti, Bro. Dennis Hodel, Sis. Debbie (Stoller)

Hendren, and Sis. Denise Romersberger gave their testimonies and were baptized. Since then, we rejoice that several others have also turned from darkness and through repentance and faith are receiving grace as they seek to follow the straight and narrow way that leads to life eternal.

We appreciated the visits of Eided Bro. Ed Hohulin from Goodfield, Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann from Chicago, and ministering Bro. Harold Gramm from Morris, MN.

ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY Doris Bachtold

Faith. Sometimes we just want to reach out and grasp it and bring it into our lives. But, it seems the more we reach, the more elusive it becomes. We know faith is not based on the seeing, yet, without it, it is impossible to please God. (Heb. 11:16) The disciples asked Jesus to increase their faith. And He answered, "If ye had faith as a grain of mustard seed. . ." (Luke 17:6) He did not promise to add to their faith, but He did promise that if they would use what little faith they had, things would be accomplished.

Have you ever wondered how certain people had faith that was so positive and sure? "True faith must be based solely on scriptural facts, for 'faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God' (Rom. 10:17)" —Miles Stanford. Much of the Word is His promises. When we have the solidity and sureness of His promises, then our faith can be strong! It isn't if we believe hard enough it will come to pass (the power of positive thinking). It goes beyond that. It is trusting in the validity of His promises. It is knowing without a doubt that He can be relied upon. "Faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see." (NIV)

Now, with all this faith we shouldn't be found wanting of anything. Oh, but what humans we are! Just when we think we are on top of everything, another need creeps around the corner and exposes itself. (Sometimes it jumps right out at us—depending upon how Satan approaches us at the moment!) What do we do then? If we're wise, we will run to our Lord. He is our sufficiency. We are lost without His sustenance. . . without His love.

"I built this wall around my heart
To keep the pain and suffering out
That life and love impart,
But when I heard Your voice
It crumbled like dust.
I knew that I must try
One more time with You."

—David Meece

We can lay out everything on our hearts before the Lord and we know that He will hear. When we have needs, we draw closer to Him. On our own, we become too self-contained. Like other humans, we try to rise above and say that we can do it by ourselves. But Jesus keeps on revealing to us that we need Him.

We are so glad that Bros. Ken Hoerr (Peoria) and Ron Heiniger (Bloomington) came and shared with us the Living Word. It is the Bread and Living Water that we can feed upon so that our soul can "delight itself in fatness." (Isa. 55:2)

ILLINOIS, MORTON

Joann Roecker - Phyllis Farney

We wish to extend our sincere sympathy to Bro. Carl Huber upon the passing of his brother, Bro. Ben Huber of Peoria. May God comfort and bless the family.

Bro. Fred and Sis. Chelly Kaiser welcome into their hearts and home their first son, Tate Samuel, who was born on May 28. He has two sisters, Tonya and Tasha, to welcome him home, also.

Sis. Rosa (Rose) Muselman passed away. Her funeral was May 30. May God comfort and bless her two sisters, Sis. Elizabeth Muselman and Sis. Lydia Muselman, and the rest of their family.

Sincere sympathy is extended to Bro. Al Hunziker upon the passing of his mother, Sis. Helen Hunziker of Peoria. May God comfort and bless the family.

The Sunday School held a Sunday School Potluck on Saturday evening, June 7, at the Morton Apostolic Christian Fellowship Hall. This was our first Sunday School Potluck. It was well attended, and there was plenty of good food and precious fellowship of which all could partake. Everyone went home feeling tired and happy after a very blessed evening.

Our annual Morton Apostolic Christian Church Vacation Bible School was held May 27th through June 6. We are thankful that our little ones and young people want

to learn "More About Jesus." We were forced to cancel one night's program because water from the flooding in our area took its toll. We were fortunate the damage was limited to our church basement. We surely appreciate the efforts of those who labored to correct our water problem.

Sunday evening, June 1, we held our annual "Morton Sings" evening. Our Sunday School children and young people favored us with their Sunday School songs and hymns. Each of our singing groups also favored us with their hymn selections. It was a very blessed evening. We want to thank all who helped make this such a blessed evening.

Sis. Ann Welk is now home and feeling better after her surgery. She wishes to thank all who remembered her with prayers, visits, gifts, cards and deeds of kindness during her stay in the hospital and since returning home. May God bless all who were so kind.

We were thankful to have Bro. Bill Gerst with us on Father's Day, June 15. We were richly blessed by his ministering God's Word to us. May the Lord bless Bro. Bill for his labor of love.

Bro. Jeff Witzig entered into eternal rest on Father's Day, June 15. He was 25 years old. Bro. Jeff had been ill for an extended period of time. Our prayers will be with his dear wife, Sis. Teresa, and his parents, Bro. Harold and Sis. Dorothy, and their families. Bro. Jeff's funeral was Tuesday, June 17.

Our sick list includes the following this month: Sis. Anna Springer, Sis. Mary Wiedman, Sis. Ida Mae Klaus, Mrs. Anna (Carl) Huette, little Joseph Roeschley (infant son of Keith and Marcy), Gerald Sullivan, Sis. Lucille Schmidgall, Sis. Ella Muselman, Bro. Mike Schmidgall, and Sis. Jody Baum.

How thankful we are for our Father's loving care and His keeping us safe during our recent foul weather. Many experienced damaging flooding and loss of crops and property. We offer a special prayer of thanksgiving at this time.

ILLINOIS, PEORIA

Mary Plattner - Mary Ann Plattner

The voice that breathed o'er Eden, That earliest wedding day, The primal marriage blessing, It hath not passed away: Still in the pure espousal of Christian man and

maid The Holy Three are with us, The three-fold grace is said.

Hymns of Zion, 196

On June 1, Sis. Mary Sue Rieker and Bro. Tom Sauder were united in holy matrimony. The parents are Fred and Sis. Norma Rieker and Sis. Dorothy Sauder of Roanoke.

June 8 was the wedding of Sis. Diana Wiegand and Bro. Kent Ifft. The parents are Bro. Albert and Sis. Martha Wiegand of Oakville, IA, and Bro. Harvey and Sis. Velma Jean Ifft of Forrest.

June 15 was the wedding of Sis. Bertie Farney and Bro. Roger Reimschisel. Their parents are Bro. Harvey and Sis. Ann Farney of Wichita, KS, and Dave and Sis. Marge Reimschisel of Bluffton, IN.

We wish them God's richest blessings as they start their new life together.

The engagement of Sis. Jeannie Haelfi to Bro. Tim Esterling of Morris, MN, was announced on June 25. Their parents are Bro. Robert and Sis. Ilene Haelfi and Bro. Don and Sis. Josie Esterling of Minneapolis, MN.

Bro. LeRoy and Sis. Elsa Hartman welcome their new grandson, Mitchell Benjamin, into the family. He was born May 19 to Bro. Alpha and Sis. Vicki Hartzler of Princeville. May God bless their bundle of love.

Bro. Roy Ehnle of Bradford held the monthly services at our Apostolic Christian Home.

Other visiting ministers this month were: Elder Bro. Don Sauder, Bro. Gene Bertschi, and Bro. Jim Leman of Roanoke; Elder Bro. Joe Braker and Bro. Henry Grimm of Morton; Bro. Earl Gerber and Bro. Clarence Kachelmuss of Forrest; Bro. Paul Gasser of Akron, OH; Bro. Merle Bucher of LaCrosse, IN; Bro. John Steiner of Oakville, IA; Bro. Jim Rinkenberger of Bluffton, IN; Bro. Max Reimschisel of Wichita, KS; Bro. Peter Baltic and Bro. Wallace Ramseyer of Mansfield, OH; and Bro. Noah Herman of Tucson, AZ.

We were blessed abundantly with their inspiring messages and fellowship that they shared with us.

Hospital patients this month are Heidi Reinbeck, Sis. Julia Ehnle, Sis. Leona Race, Sis. Carrie Gehrig, Bro. Bud Fehr, Sis. Frieda Kipfer, Bro. John Waibel, Don Geif and Anna Traub. Our continuing

prayers are with these loved ones.

Funeral services were held May 22 for Ben Huber. Surviving are his wife, Sis. Clara Huber, and children.

On June 4, Harvey Berchtold was laid to rest after a tragic accident near his home. Our sympathy goes to his wife, Linda, and children and to his mother, Sis. Mary Berchtold of the Apostolic Christian Home.

"Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above rubies. The heart of her husband doth safely trust in her, so that he shall have no need of spoil. She will do him good and not evil all the days of her life.

"She seeketh wool, and flax, and worketh willingly with her hands. She is like the merchants' ships: she bringeth her food from afar. She riseth also while it is yet night, and giveth meat to her household, and a portion to her maidens.

"She considereth a field, and buyeth it: with the fruit of her hands she planteth a vineyard. She girdeth her loins with strength and strengtheneth her arms.

"She perceiveth that her merchandise is good: her candle goeth not out by night. She layeth her hands to the spindle and her hands hold the distaff.

"She stretcheth out her hand to the poor; yea, she reacheth forth her hand to the needy. She is not afraid of the snow for her household: for all her household are clothed with scarlet. She maketh herself coverings of tapestry; her clothing is silk and purple. Her husband is known in the gates, when he sitteth among the elders of the land. She maketh fine linen, and selleth it; and delivereth girdles unto the merchant. Strength and honour are her clothing; and she shall rejoice in time to come. She openeth her mouth with wisdom; and in her tongue is the law of kindness. She looketh well to the ways of her household; and eateth not the bread of idleness. Her children arise up, and call her blessed: her husband also, and he praiseth her. Many daughters have done virtuously, but thou excellest them all.

"Favour is deceitful, and beauty is vain: but a woman that feareth the Lord, she shall be praised. Give her of the fruit of her hands; and let her own works praise her in the gates."

Proverbs 31:10-31

Our dear Sis. Helen Hunziker will be missed as we laid her to rest on June 10. Surviving are her five children, Bro. Dale, Bro. Willis, Bro. Albert of Morton, Sis. Marcell Plattner, and Sis. Ardith Herrmann. Our prayers and thoughts are with these families who have lost their loved ones.

A breakfast was held at the fellowship hall for our graduating seniors on May 25. May the future of these young adults be guided by the hand of the Lord.

This year, Vacation Bible School was held the week of June 9.

ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE Arlene and Arlys Martin

All of us have opportunities to help someone else. We may feel that whatever we do won't do any good, but just a word of encouragement may be of help to someone. That "cup of cold water" doesn't always have to go to someone poor—perhaps your rich friend needs a pat on the back or spiritual encouragement, too.

Visiting ministers who gave us spiritual food and brought us the message of salvation were Bro. Kenneth Dietz of Bradford, IL; Bro. Don Wagenbach of Washington, IL; and Bro. Kenneth Weerts of Cissna Park, IL.

Our Sunday School teachers are an essential and important part of our church. Our teaching system is on a rotating basis, and those recently elected are Bro. Dale Blunier, Bro. Jim Elsasser, Sis. Frances Knobloch, and Sis. Mary Jane Streitmatter. They are replacing Bro. Ed Baurer, Bro. Harry Herrmann, Sis. Doris Christ, and Sis. Nancy Menold.

Chris and Jodi Knobloch have a baby brother. Mitchell Benjamin Hartzler was born on May 19 to Bro. Alpha and Sis. Vickie Hartzler. The grandparents are Bro. Ben and Sis. Clara Hartzler of Rittman, OH, and Bro. LeRoy and Sis. Elsa Hartman of Peoria, IL.

A breakfast honoring our high school graduates was held at our Fellowship Hall on Sunday, June 1. Our graduates are Raylene Gilbert, daughter of Ray and Sue Gilbert; John Grimm, son of Bro. Earl and Sis. Anna Lou Grimm; Crystal Herrmann, daughter of Bro. Harry and Sis. Bertha Jean Herrmann; Kathy Ladd, daughter of Jerry and Kathy Ladd; Sis. Nancy Martin, daughter of Bro. Elmer and Sis.

Janet Martin; Karen Menold, daughter of Bro. Leonard and Sis. Marie Menold; Doug Streitmatter, son of Bro. Alf and Sis. Ginny Streitmatter; Terri Stoller, daughter of Bro. Vernon and Sis. Bernice Stoller; and Cheryl Wagenbach, daughter of Bro. Lawrence and Sis. Elaine Wagenbach.

The Ray Wagenbach family wants to express sincere thanks for the prayers, cards, visits, food, and many gifts given to them during Bro. Rodney's illness and during their bereavement. The love they felt is beyond expression. They are thankful that God will reward each act of kindness.

ILLINOIS, ROANOKE

Edith Sauder - Mae K. Hodel

The King James version of the Bible speaks of repentance as a definite requirement for salvation. The need for repentance is commanded and indicated over 100 times in the Gospels, the Acts, and the book of Revelation. It is with thankful hearts that we were privileged to hear the testimonies of nine dear souls as they told us of the need of repentance in their lives, of the joy in their hearts as they experienced the love of God, and the peace He had given them. Jeff Schumacher (Sis. Jane and Bro. Jerry), 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 were baptized and welcomed into the brotherhood. Elder Bros. David Bertsch, Joe Braker, and Ed Hohulin helped Bro. Don in this important work. It was a great blessing to all of us.

Bro. Raymond Roth (Kiowa, KS), Bro. Noah Hermann (Tucson, AZ), and Bro. Tom Leman were also visiting ministers this month.

Sis. LeAnn Moser (Bro. Glen and Sis. Christa) and Bro. Paul Fischer (Bro. Marvin and Sis. Pat) were united in marriage on May 25. May God's love fill their hearts and home.

Bro. Tom Sauder (Sis. Dorothy and the late Bro. Willard) and Sis. Mary Reiker (Fred and Sis. Norma) of Peoria were united in holy marriage on June 1. We welcome Sis. Mary into our congregation. May God bless their union of hearts.

There was an average daily attendance of 107 children at the summer Bible School held the first two weeks of June. Our Bible class, along with the Bible classes from Washington, Congerville, and Goodfield, will meet at Eureka with their Bible class. Our thanks go to the mothers, fathers, brothers, sisters, and ministers who gave of their time and talents. May God bless all of them.

Sis. Bina Bertsch was hospitalized this month (surgery). Carl Hodel is hospitalized (tests). Neil Hodel was injured in a chain saw accident. He is hospitalized at this time. May God be with them.

A little daughter was born to Bro. Duane and Sis. Rachel Schroeder on June 12. She has been named Allison Leigh. Little Jesse is happy to have a little sister. Her grandparents are Bro. Howard and Sis. Edith Sauder and Mrs. Alma Schroeder.

ILLINOIS, TREMONT

Lydia Rassi - Dorothy Wagenbach

THE VOICE OF GOD

I sought to hear the voice of God,
And climbed the topmost steeple.
But God declared: "Go down again.
I dwell among the people."

Louis Newman

Visiting ministers this month were Bro. Joe Aberle, Sabetha; Bro. Cary Wyss, Washington; and Bro. Bob Grimm, Goodfield. We thank them for their labors of love.

Sis. Ann Aberle has been laid up due to a broken ankle. We wish her a speedy recovery.

June 1 was the wedding date of Sis. Donna Huette and Bro. Bruce Wyss. The parents are Bro. Ken and Sis. Arlene Huette and Bro. Roy Wyss of Goodfield.

Sis. Sally Beutel and Bro. Roger Koch were united in holy matrimony on June 8. The parents are Bro. David and Sis. Eunice Beutel and Bro. David and Sis. Frances Koch. We wish these young couples the grace and blessings of God as they establish their households.

The first week of June was our yearly Bible School. A special thanks goes out to all the teachers who gave of themselves to teach God's precious Word to our youth.

Also, we give a word of thanks to all who participated in the yearly cleaning of our church. May God reward each and everyone.

ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON

Valerie Kipfer

As summer is here and all the earth is lush with green growth, we think how beautiful it all is. Even though we do the planting and the harvesting, we must remember who has His almighty hand on all, for without His aid, nothing can be accomplished.

No, it is not yours to open buds
into blossoms.
Shake the bud, strike it,
It is beyond your poor power to
make it blossom.
Your touch soils it, you tear its
petals to pieces and strew them
in the dust.

But no color appears, and no
perfume.

Ah, it is not for you to open the
bud into a blossom.

He who can open the bud does it so
simply—He gives it a glance,
and the life sap stirs through
its veins—At his breath the
flower spreads its wings and
flutters in the wind.

Colors flash out like heart-longings,
the perfume betrays
a sweet secret.

He who opens the bud does it so
simply!

Rabindranath Tagore

However, those same hands that giveth can also take away in a flash. Our area has been hit with many storms, and many crops and gardens were lost to hail and rain. But we all must remember the Lord has it all in His plan, and as the writer, Hazel Workman says, "When we fully understand the meaning of each test, Our thankful hearts will praise Him for giving what is best!"

We rejoice in our hearts that four souls have turned to the Lord in repentance and have found the peace of God in their hearts. Awaiting baptisms are Evie Heinold (Bro. Marshall and Sis. Janice), Mike Drete (Bro. Rich and Sis. Millie) and Dennis and Debbie Wells.

"For I am persuaded that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Romans 8:38,39.

MOVING? LET US KNOW.

INDIANA, BLUFFTON

Darlene Isch - Vicki Isch

But seek first His kingdom and
you will possess
The world's greatest riches which
is true happiness.

Helen Steiner Rice

We are happy to have five more souls giving their lives to Christ in repentance. We wish them God's blessings as they begin this new walk of life.

Bro. Doug and Sis. Susan Dailey are the happy parents of their first child, Stephanie Kay, born May 18. A precious baby girl, Kyann Marie, was born to Bro. Dan and Sis. Jackie Kerschner on May 28. Bro. Kim and Sis. Susanne Yergler are parents of their second son, Matthew John. Bethany Ann is the new little girl who moved into the home of Bro. Terry and Sis. Jean Neuenschwander since her birth on June 6.

"Love is sharing and caring" was the theme of this year's Bible School program held on June 6. A large crowd attended and enjoyed the many beautiful songs. 32 graduates were presented with Bibles and diplomas.

We wish to thank Bro. Loren Strahm (Gridley, KS) and Bro. Max Reimschisel (Wichita, KS) for coming; and may God grant them a special blessing.

By the light of God's love and direction, the engagement of Sis. Darlene Isch (Bro. Ernie and Sis. Lucille) to Bro. Gene Reinhard (Bro. Alphie and Sis. Lucille) was announced on May 25. May God richly bless them as they are joined in marriage on Sept. 21.

Hospital patients for this month were: Bro. Laurin Bertsch, Gala Gerber (daughter of Bro. Carroll and Sis. Louise), Wes Gerber (son of Bro. Larry and Sis. Pauline), and Homer Clark.

Bro. Henry and Sis. Helen Stoller wish to express thanks and appreciation for all the cards, gifts, and prayers during Bro. Henry's illness.

Remember This

Great is the power of might and mind,

But only love can make us kind;
and all we are or hope to be
is empty pride and vanity.
If love is not a part of all,
The greatest man is very small!

—Helen Steiner Rice

INDIANA, BREMEN

(See South Bend)

INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE

Jacki Huber - Wendy Gutwein

God's marvelous grace to us is the only real source of freedom we can obtain here on earth. It is wonderful to be free to worship as we choose and to live in a "free" nation; but if our lives aren't freed from sin we will always be held captive.

On the other hand, our prayers should be with brethren in other lands who can't openly worship as they choose but who do have the true freedom of lives freed from sin.

As a congregation, we always enjoy visitors. This past month we enjoyed having Bro. Bob Grimm from the Goodfield congregation with us. We were also happy to have families from the Leo Apostolic Christian Children's Home visit us.

How beautiful is the day that is touched by love. We pray that Melanie Albrecht, daughter of Lewis and Sis. Carol, and Anthony Johnson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Larry Johnson, will experience many days—not only touched, but filled with true love. They were married June 14.

On Saturday, June 7, Janice Gutwein, daughter of Bro. Edison and Sis. Chrisann and Tim Murray, son of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Murray, were united in marriage. May the sunshine of God's love fill their lives.

We are happy to say that although quite a few brethren and friends were hospitalized recently, all of them have returned home. Those who were hospitalized are: Bro. Joe Yaggie, Sis. Sara Anliker, Roy Curtis, Sr., Patrick Wuethrich, son of Brad and Nancy, and Chariti Wuethrich, son of Rick and Judy. May God bless each of them with good health in the future.

Bro. Keith Schadenhauffen is spending the summer assisting at the Leo Apostolic Christian Children's Home. We miss his presence and will welcome him back to Francesville in the fall.

At this time of year there are many celebrations for the freedoms we enjoy in the United States. As we pause to remember our heritage, it is only right that we thank God for our freedoms and pray for our leaders ". . .that we may lead

a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour." I Timothy 2: 2, 3.

INDIANA, INDIANAPOLIS

Bobbi Erb

"And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book: But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name." (John 20:30-31) "Jesus I Believe in You" was our theme this year for Vacation Bible School. Each day the children studied a miracle Jesus performed while on earth, and on the last day we learned about his resurrection from the grave and his promise of returning again. What a joy to see those little ones so excited for Jesus.

Bro. Theo Beer and Bro. Henry Beer from Milford and Bro. Jack Bollier and Bro. Maurice Frank from Leo visited with us this month. We have such a privilege to be able to gather around God's Word unhindered from the world, and we always appreciate those who share with us.

INDIANA, LA CROSSE

Pearl Nuest - Lu Ann Feller

No one would ask for pain or sadness; neither would our soul. To avoid this we need to abide with the teachings of Isaiah:

"Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live, and I will make an everlasting covenant with you, even the sure mercies of David." Isaiah 55:3.

Our visiting ministers the past month were Bro. Kenneth Schneider, Remington, May 18, and Bro. Larry Wenninger, Latty, June 1.

These questions asked: Are you satisfied with your life? Is God satisfied with your life? Listening to the messages from the Word, all of us should be able to answer these questions.

Sis. Laurie Zeltwanger (Bro. Lyle and Sis. Marilyn) has graduated from nurses training.

Bro. Vernon Bucher has been in the hospital for tests. Our prayers are for a speedy recovery for all the sick and suffering.

ADDRESS CHANGED?

INCLUDE OLD AND NEW ZIPS

INDIANA, LEO
Mrs. Phil Schlatter
Mrs. Al Frautschi

Daily Vacation Bible School was held for two weeks ending with a picnic and program. Teachers would probably agree that it was a time of learning and blessing for them as well as for the children.

Bro. Sam Schlatter, visiting minister from Junction, OH, reminded us that Jesus Christ is the source of our life and power.

Baptismal services were held for Kandy Bruellman, daughter of Bro. Gene and Sis. Evie, and Wade Stoller, son of Bro. Gene and Sis. Minerva. How wonderful to have discovered divine love which is steadfast, constant, unfailing, and perfect!

Funeral services were held May 31 for Sis. Frances Schwartz, 80. Surviving are two sons, Harry, Decatur, and Art, Grabill; a daughter, Dorothy Schaffer, Ft. Lauderdale, FL; and three sisters and one brother. The passing of a loved one again reminds us to watch that things of earth will not be too valuable, and that things eternal will be valuable enough.

Are we expecting Him or looking for Him? There's a difference!

INDIANA, MILFORD
Sandy Beer - Connie Beer
How Great the Yield from
A Fertile Field

The farmer ploughs through the fields of green

And the blade of the plough is sharp and keen,

But the seed must be sown to bring forth grain,

For nothing is born without suffering and pain.

And God never ploughs in the souls of man

Without intention and purpose and plan;

So whenever you feel the plough's sharp blade

Let not your heart be sorely afraid.

For, like the farmer, God chooses a field

From which he expects an excellent yield.

So rejoice through your heart is broken in two;

God seek to bring forth a rich harvest in you.

—Helen Steiner Rice

Our loved ones hospitalized this past month are Bro. Maurice Beer,

Bruce Hunsberger (son of Sis. Melba), Sis. Lorene Sorg (Bro. Earl), and Carolee Steffen (Bro. Walt and Sis. Dorothy). Also, Sis. Clara Kaiser (Bro. Richard) had the misfortune of breaking her arm.

We were blessed with a group of young people from Bluffton on the weekend of May 25.

Our Sunday School promotion program was held June 1. We enjoyed hearing from each class and wish them well as they advance to the next class.

"There is beauty all around, when there's love at home. . ." Hymns of Zion. Bro. Fred and Sis. Pat Beer became the proud parents of their first son on June 2. Jeff Daniel has two older sisters, Holly and Kari. The grandparents are Bro. Carlton and Sis. MaryAnn Beer and Bro. Russ and Sis. Marge Plattner (Roanoke).

"Faith in Jesus Power" was the theme for our Vacation Bible School. We received inspiring messages from ministering Bros. Jim Rinkenberger (Bluffton), Ray Sinn (Latty), Merle Bucher (La-Crosse), and Art Ringger (Indianapolis). Their efforts were greatly appreciated.

We received many blessings from the visiting ministers this past month. They were Bros. Joe Schrock (Congerville), Vernon Leman (Eureka), Uriel Gehring (Burlington), and Loren Strahm (Gridley, KS).

The Stand of Faith

From sight and sound,
 from taste and touch,
 from senses stand aloof;

for faith stands on
 the Word of God . . .

It needs no further proof.

—Bob B. Ashton

" . . . and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith." I John 5:4.

INDIANA, REMINGTON
Beth Virkler - Annette Bahler

"Thou waterest the ridges thereof abundantly. Thou settlest the furrows thereof; Thou makest it soft with showers; Thou blessest the springing thereof." Ps. 65:10. It is beautiful to see the farmers' crops springing forth. When I read this psalm of David, it tells me the rain and the very power of life in the seed is a blessing from God.

The Lord also blesses His children with His Word which gives power in their lives. We are so thankful for the ministers among us who so willingly serve the Lord. Our visiting ministers this month were: Bros. Mark Bahr (Detroit), Andy Virkler (Bay City), Leroy Huber (Eureka), Walter Anliker (Eureka), Willis Wiegand (Goodfield) and Wendall Gudeman (Francesville).

June 8 was the date of the marriage ceremony of Bro. Don Wiegand (Eureka) and Sis. Jane Leman who will be residing in Eureka. And June 15 was the date of the marriage of Randy Pierce and Sonia Waible who will be residing in Remington. We wish them the Lord's nearness and blessings.

Vacation Bible School was held this month with very good attendance. We thank the many who helped in serving and teaching. Surely the seeds of Truth planted in these young hearts will reap fruit one day.

"ONLY TAKE HEED"

Do we have so much that we cannot suffer with our poor brethren in want because we have never known want? Are we walking so lightly in faith that we are leaving no footprints for our children to follow? It is our mark of a separated life that our children observe first. Do we use our riches from God as a responsibility? He watches how we react with our blessings. We can turn the root of evil (money) to good for the Lord when we share with the poor. How often in the land of persecution faith flourishes and how often in an affluent land faith and obedience become slack.

"Only take heed to thyself, and keep thy soul diligently, lest thou forget the things which thine eyes have seen, and lest they depart from thy heart all the days of thy life: but teach them (to) thy sons, and thy sons' sons." Deut. 4:9.

INDIANA, SOUTH BEND
Gayle Bucher

On May 21, we were privileged to partake of Holy Communion. In the quiet of the evening, our thoughts were turned to our suffering Saviour on Mt. Calvary. It truly was a blessed evening, and we humbly thank Elder Bros. Wendell Gudeman and Jesse Beer for their service on our behalf.

We are steadily making progress with the building of our new church. Our hope is to begin construction in August. We covet the prayers of our many brethren and friends and thank you for your support and love.

Visiting ministers, their families and friends, bring so much joy to our congregation. This month, we sincerely thank Bros. Jim Rinckenberger, Joe Stoller, and Loren Strahm for sharing God's Word with us. May the Lord richly bless them for their efforts.

We give congratulations to our high school graduates, Sis. Norma Lehman and Jill Myers. May they feel the Lord's direction with their future plans.

Sisters Helen Martin and Mildred Meister were hospitalized this month. Our prayers are surely with them and many others who have been ill recently.

I would like to share the following poem which speaks of the friend "who just stands by."

When trouble comes your soul to
try, you love the friend who
just stands by.
Perhaps there's nothing he can do;
the thing is strictly up to you.
And there are troubles all your
own, and paths the soul must
tread alone—
Time when love cannot smooth the
road, nor friendship lift the
heavy load;
But just to feel you have a friend
who will stand by until the
end,
Whose sympathy through all en-
dures, whose warm handclasp
is always yours,
Helps somehow to pull you
through, although there's no-
thing he can do.
And so with fervent heart you cry,
God bless the friend who just
stands by.

Author Unknown

INDIANA, VALPARISO

Claudia Thomas - Mary Huber

Our congregation was truly blessed to have Bros. Marshall Heinold, Washington; Orville Ringger, Bluffton; and Ed Frank, La-Crosse, with us this month.

Bro. Orville assisted our Elder Bro. Ed Frank in the reading of the memorandum on Saturday and communion on Sunday. One thing Bro. Orville kept repeating and is worth repeating again is that we

should get to know and love our Lord Jesus. If we love Him and know and understand His word, we won't be in need of admonition or rules because we won't want to do anything that would grieve Him or disturb the communion we have with Him.

After communion Sunday afternoon, we were privileged to travel to the home of Bro. Ed and Sis. Louise Wittmer for communion with them. A number of people mentioned that they never have been blessed by the spiritual direction of the memorandum and communion as they were this year. We praise our Lord for the peace we have in Him.

INDIANA, WOLCOTT

Laurel and Chris Widmer
Suzanne Lehman

"Ring the bells of heaven, there is joy today, for the wand'rer now is reconciled; Yes, a soul is rescued from his sinful way, and is born anew a ransomed child." Tabernacle Hymns No. 202.

There was joy in our hearts May 31 as we heard the testimony of Rob Lehman (Bro. Gene and Sis. Verna) and witnessed his baptism on July 1. It is always uplifting to the church to add another rescued soul to the fold.

Elder Bros Ed Frank (La-Crosse) and Wendell Gudeman (Francesville) were present as Rob gave his testimony on Saturday evening. Bro. Wendell conducted the baptismal services on Sunday with the assistance of the Wolcott ministering brothers, as our dear Elder Bro. Alfred Bahler is still unable to go on the pulpit. We were thankful Bro. Alfred was able to carry out the prayer of consecration after the baptism, though. We were blessed by having Bro. Frederick Knapp (Congerville) and Bro. Wendell proclaim the Word to us on Sunday, sending the invitation out to sinners once again.

We wish our Bro. Rob much grace to walk true and faithful on this narrow way. We welcome him gladly to the Family of God.

During the week of June 9-13, the Wolcott and Remington congregations held Vacation Bible School at Remington. We trust that all who attended and those who conducted classes will receive a special blessing for their efforts.

Congratulations go to Bro. Jon and Sis. Wendy Schwab who are

the parents of a baby girl, Tiffany Marie, born June 19. Paternal grandparents are Bro. Vernon and Sis. Arlene Schwab. Maternal grandparents are Bro. Wendell and Sis. Marcella Gudeman.

A Prayer for Peace

Keep me quiet, Master,
Patient day by day;
When I would go faster,
Teach me Thy delay.

Restless, oft I borrow
From the future care.
Teach me that tomorrow
Shall its burden bear.

From Thy full provision
Daily richly fed,
By Thy clearer vision
Ever safely led

Let me to my brothers
Turn a face serene,
Sharing thus with others
Peace from the Unseen.

William Adams Brown

IOWA, BURLINGTON

Judy Gehring - Kim Salek

Our dear Sis. Minnie Segle wishes to thank everyone for the 115 cards she received on her 80th birthday.

We had our annual Sunday School Picnic June 8 at Perkins Park. In the evening we had our monthly singing at the park. Our Sunday School children sang with us, and the evening ended with a prayer by Bro. Richard Taeger.

The Bible Class and teachers went to Pulaski for the annual Sunday School get-together. A special thank you goes to our teachers for lending themselves for our children's sake.

On Wednesday eve, June 11, the engagement of Sis. Phyllis Massner to Bro. Ben Knobloch of Elgin, IL, was announced. We truly wish them the Lord's blessings. This poem by Helen Rice came to mind.

WHEN TWO PEOPLE MARRY

Your hearts are filled with happiness so great and overflowing.
You cannot comprehend it for its far beyond all knowing
How any heart could hold such joy or feel the fullness of
The wonder and the glory and the ecstasy of love.
You wish you could capture it and never let it go

So you might walk forever
in its radiant glow.
But love in all its ecstasy
is such a fragile thing,
Like gossamer in cloudless skies
or a hummingbird's small
wing.
Love that lasts FOREVER
must be made of something
strong,
The kind of strength that's
gathered when the heart can
hear no song.
When then the "sunshine" of your
wedding day runs into
"stormy weather"
And hand in hand you brave the
gale
And climb steep hills together,
And clinging to each other while
the thunder rolls above
You seek divine direction in FAITH
and HOPE and LOVE.
For days of wine and roses never
make love's dream come true;
It takes sacrifice and teardrops,
and problems shared by two
To give true love its BEAUTY,
its GRANDEUR and its
FINENESS
And to mold an "earthly ecstasy"
into HEAVENLY DIVINE-
NESS.

Bro. Harvey Heiniger plans to
spend a Sunday with the brethren
at the Regina congregation.

IOWA, ELGIN Eleanor Butikofer

We are so very thankful to God
for sending us ample rainfall to
insure the germination of the seeds
recently planted. Pastures and
fields now appear very nice. As one
poet expressed himself, "What is
so rare as a day in June; then if
ever come perfect days." Author
Unknown

I wish you could see our large
mulberry tree which is a beautiful
picture in that it is just loaded with
fruit and is attracting a large num-
ber of birds to partake of its fruit.

Yesterday the first humming
bird of the season appeared in our
yard. We see them around our
holyhocks quite a bit from time to
time. We located another robin
nest neatly built in one of our ever-
green trees. Their early morning
caroling is always welcome.

Our Bible School was well at-
tended. It is very encouraging to
note the interest shown by the
children in the Bible stories. We
are grateful to the folks who as-

sisted in making the session a
success.

We are surely going to miss Sis.
Becky Banwart's presence in our
community. She is going to Iowa
City where she will work as a
nurse. We congratulate her on the
completion of the R.N. course. The
graduation took place recently at
the area school at Calmar, IA. She
will be a blessing wherever she
lives.

Let us be the first to give a
friendly sign, to nod first, smile
first, speak first, and—if such a
thing is necessary—forgive first.

IOWA, IOWA CITY Bonita Frank

We were reminded of the preci-
ous gift the Lord gave us as we
read the Christmas story yester-
day in our morning service. It was
good to be reminded of it at this
time of the year without all the
commercial setting that so often
surrounds us in December. It also
seems that each of us was able to
appreciate it more in some way or
other, through something that the
Spirit prompted the minister to
speak or through thoughts we
shared.

We rejoice with Sis. DeAnne
Bruellman, daughter of Bro. Har-
ley and Sis. Adele of West Bend,
as her engagement was announced
to Bro. Roger Wutherich, son of
Bro. Russell and Sis. Caroline of
Pulaski. We wish them God's rich-
est blessings and grace as they
plan to begin their lives as one.

Our visiting ministers this month
were Bro. Dale Moore, Elgin, IA,
and Bro. Uriel Gehring, Burling-
ton.

We miss some from our "single"
group, as various ones go to their
parents' homes for periods of time
or go on vacation. We realize how
much each one means to our small
group.

IOWA, LESTER Alice Metzger

The Winthrop Sunday School in-
vited our Jr. and Sr. Bible classes
for the weekend of June 7 and 8.
They were graciously entertained.
It was a blessing for the invited
and the hosts. Our Sunday School
is taking a break for the Summer.

We rejoice to observe that De-
lores Feucht, daughter of Bro. Ray
and Sis. Marge, has turned to the
Lord in repentance. May many
more seek their salvation.

June 15 was the wedding day for
Sis. Beth Feucht, daughter of Bro.
Gus and Sis. Martha, and Bro. Rod
Steffen of Goodfield. We will miss
Sis. Beth's friendly smile but are
sure that she will soon feel that she
is a part of the Goodfield congrega-
tion.

We appreciate our recent visiting
ministers, Bro. Jon Schmigall, Oak-
ville, and Bro. Simon Wagenbach,
Tremont.

Bro. Brad and Sis. Theresa Kel-
lenberger are first-time parents
since the birth of their precious
little girl, Tiffany Marie, on May
29. Her grandparents are Bro. Hen-
ry and Sis. Elaine Kellenberger
and Bro. Virgil and Sis. Marie
Hartter, Sabetha.

Eleanor Popkes is hospitalized
with back trouble. Her son, Wade,
was a tonsillectomy patient but is
getting along fine.

Arlyn Metzger has joined the
Air National Guard and is spend-
ing his basic training at Lackland
Air Base in Texas.

IOWA, OAKVILLE Jerilyn Wagenbach

We were blessed on June 1 with
two visiting ministers. Bro. Roger
Aberle, Sabetha, KS, and Bro. Kent
Heimer, Taylor, MO, were willing
laborers in God's vineyard as they
brought forth the message of sal-
vation.

New converts are always so en-
couraging to the brethren, as we
see that door of grace is still open.
Beth Wagenbach Steffen of Cong-
gerville, IL, (daughter of John and
Sis. Marilyn Wagenbach, Oakville)
and Kathryn Massner of Oakville
(Bro. Virgil and Sis. Barbara Mass-
ner) have found peace with our
Lord and express a desire for bap-
tism in the near future.

Announcement was made of the
engagement of Sis. Phyllis Mass-
ner to Bro. Ben Knobloch, Elgin,
IL. We wish them God's richest
blessings. Sis. Phyllis and family
have recently returned to Oakville
after living nearly a year in Sara-
sota, FL.

Lora Lanz and Jeff White were
married June 14 at the home of
her parents, Bro. Robert and Sis.
Emma Jean Lanz. Jeff's parents
are Mr. and Mrs. Loren White of
Carmen, IL. We extend our best
wishes to this new couple.

"O come, let us sing unto the
Lord: let us make a joyful noise to
the rock of our salvation. Let us

come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms. For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods."

Psalms 95:1-3

IOWA, PULASKI
Mary Jane Knapp
Ginny Wuthrich

Thanks be to God that we live in a free country and can travel from one church to another and receive a blessing wherever we go. We are especially thankful for each and every minister that has served us in the past month. They are Bros. Loren Knapp, Marvin Schmidgall, John Steiner, John Lehman, Alpha Strahm, and Paul Butikof. May the Lord richly bless each one, abundantly.

Paul Teubal, son of Bro. Richard and Sis. Wilma Teubal, was hospitalized for surgery but is now home.

We extend our sympathy to Sis. Hattie Miller whose brother, Ben Kinsinger, has passed on. He had been ill in the hospital for about a week.

We were all real happy to hear the announcement of Bro. Roger Wuthrich and Sis. DeAnn Bruellman of Iowa City. We wish them the best, always.

IOWA, WEST BEND
Elma Mogler - Judy Fehr

Believing it is the Lord's will, the engagement of Sis. Wanda Metzger (Bro. Arnold and Sis. Alice) and Bro. Dean Messner (Bro. Roland and Sis. Melva) of the Winthrop congregation was recently announced. They plan to be married the 29th of June. Just last Sunday, the engagement of Sis. DeAnn Bruellman (Bro. Harley and Sis. Adele) and Bro. Roger Wuthrich (Bro. Russell and Sis. Karoline) of Pulaski was made known. We know many blessings are granted to those who lean on the Lord for guidance.

A new baby, Charles Paul, has come to bless the home of Bro. Leonard and Sis. Helen Anliker. The grandparents are Bro. Ernst and Sis. Ella Metzger of Lester and Reuben and Louisa Anliker. Reuben and Louisa are also great-grandparents to a set of twins—Jeffrey Joseph and James Edward. Luan and Ed Montag are the parents and Jim and Melva Bargman are the grandparents. Bro. Fahey

and Sis. Marie Gress are grandparents to Emily Katherine. Her parents are Bob and Sue Gress. Bro. Mark and Sis. Deb Bruellman are first-time parents with the birth of Jill Ann. Her grandparents are Bro. Don and Sis. Verda Bruellman and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Darling. These little bundles are truly gifts from God.

We are sorry to mention that Bro. Phillip Fisher and Bro. Noah Anliker have returned to the hospital after spending some time at home. Bro. Nathan Mogler, Bro. Kevin Anliker (Iowa City), and Dick Schmidt have also been hospitalized. May God's hand of love return them to better health.

Recently, we were privileged to meet Sis. Kandy Bruellman (Bro. Gene and Sis. Evie) as a sister-in-faith. Although Sis. Kandy is at home in Leo, IN, we still think of her and wish her much grace in this most important step in life.

JAPAN, SHIODA
Sally Gramm

It's getting hot and muggy here in Yamanashi as the rainy season descends upon us. Our garden (the first I've ever really planted and cared for by myself!) is green and thriving, thanks to the cooling rains that bless the earth so often these days. My roommate and I ate the first fruits of our garden last evening — three firm, tasty green peppers! We'd weeded, watered, and watched closely for weeks as the little plants grew bigger, and how satisfying it was to see the results of our efforts, coupled with the blessings of God. I was reminded of my own experience here in Japan.

I have been in Japan now for five years and will be finishing here and returning to the States in July. Leaving is not easy because I've formed many close bonds of friendship and love, and it will be difficult to say goodbye. I have so many fond memories of dear brothers and sisters and of precious times of fellowship in the Lord.

Last Sunday, our monthly hymn singing was held at my house, and as we sang praises to God in Japanese, my eyes filled with tears. And, as I looked around that room at each dear face and listened as they lifted up their voices bravely in songs of hope and joy, my own heart also was filled with joy and

peace. I knew that the years and the efforts here have not been wasted. I knew that fruit is continually being borne in those around me and also in my own life.

My prayer in parting is this: "Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ. I thank my God always on your behalf, for the grace of God which is given you by Jesus Christ; that in every thing ye are enriched by him, in all utterance, and in all knowledge; even as the testimony of Christ was confirmed in you: so that ye come behind in no gift; waiting for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall also confirm you unto the end, that ye may be blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ." (I Cor. 1:3-8)

JAPAN, TOKYO

Yoshio Yamazaki - Marie Inoue

One of the girls who was seven years old passed away by blood cancer a few weeks ago. Her parents can't understand why she passed away such a little yet and said why, and did we do anything wrong toward other people? What a miserable thing in this world! Her mother said to a news reporter, "I was thinking to try to kill her and kill myself when I saw my daughter had much suffer. However now I kind of understand because someone taught us how precious the human life is!"

This story also taught me and reminded me of the most important thing. Yes, we almost thinking everything only from our side but not His side. However, God's will is much more deep and wide, more than we think.

God is always telling us wonderful and marvelous things through happenings of this world even we can't understand. Apostle Paul said in Phillipians 4:6-7, "Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice. Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand. Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."

It was sad that such a little child died by cancer. Why does she come to this world for? But our heavenly father says, "For living and dying

also everything comes from God's will." He is wonderful. Amen.

We need pray for each other and help each other through Christ Jesus. We have had several happenings recently. Both came without notice: eruption of Mt. St. Helens which was 500 times greater than bomb of Hiroshima and our prime minister passed away yesterday of heart failure. May we be ready and prepared to meet our Lord without notice.

KANSAS, BERN

Esther Moser - Stella Moser

Pray? why pray? what can prayer do?

Prayer really changes things,
arranges life anew.

Its good for your digestion,
gives peaceful sleep at night
And fills the grayest, gloomiest day
with rays of light.

It puts a smile upon your face,
the love note in your tone;

Makes you fit to live with others
and fit to live alone.

Pray? why pray? What can prayer do?

It brings God down from Heaven,
to live and work with you.

Mrs. E. Leon Ross

We were richly blessed through our visiting ministers the past month. Bro. Carl Hartman, Sabetha, spent a Sunday with us. Bros. James Ramseyer (Bay City) and Lee Plattner (Zapata) were with us for Sunday evening services recently. We extend our thanks, and may the Lord in turn bless them. We have a new baby boy to report. Lesly Jon was born May 21 to Bro. Dale and Sis. Shelby Strahm. Lisa and Lynn complete the little family. Bro. Ephriam Strahm and Bro. Eli and Sis. Lois Meyer, Sabetha, are wee Lesly's grandparents.

Sis. Lena Wenger has returned to her home after a month's stay at the Home recuperating from major surgery. Lena has asked me to extend her thanks for the many kind deeds, prayers, cards, gifts and visits.

Sis. Stella Wenger also wishes to have her thanks and appreciation extended to all. Stella is now at the Home recuperating from a fractured hip.

KANSAS, FORT SCOTT

Teresa Bahr

Our vacation Bible School was held June 2-6 with a potluck picnic

on Sunday to bring an enjoyable week to a close. The children presented songs to us at the picnic.

Bro. Eldon Schurter was in the hospital a few days for medical treatment.

We had visiting minister Bro. John Lehman (Bern, KS) and his family in our midst June 22.

KANSAS—MISSOURI KANSAS CITY

Paula Bahr

Ministering brothers bringing the Lord's words of encouragement and exhortation the past month include: Charles Sinn and Wayne Miller, Fort Scott; Lloyd Kraft and Tim Zimmerman, Gridley; Al Langhofer, Wichita; Leland Plattner, Zapata; and Harvey Grimm, Bern.

Our building committee is close to settling on the plans for our church and its location on the grounds.

We extend a special invitation to any of you who are traveling through or are nearby to spend a Sunday with us. Services are held the first and third Sunday of each month at 11:00 AM and 1:00 PM. We are meeting in the basement of the Capitol Federal Building at 75th Street and State Line Road. Please contact Bro. Joe or Sis. Wilma Farney, 3604 West 85th Street, Leawood, KS 66206, (913) 649-6644, or any of us here, if you plan to be in this area or have any questions.

"Fret not thyself because of evildoers, neither be thou envious against the workers of iniquity.

"For they shall soon be cut down like the grass, and wither as the green herb.

"Trust in the Lord, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed.

"Delight thyself also in the Lord; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.

"Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass.

"And he shall bring forth thy righteousness as the light, and thy judgment as the noon day.

"Rest in the Lord, and wait patiently for him. . ."

Psalm 37:1-7

KANSAS, GRIDLEY

Julie Strahm - Doris Bahr

Our congratulations and best wishes are extended to the happy

couples who were united in marriage in June. They were Lynette Young to Kevin Bazil and Donna Somerhalder to Merrill Smith. The parents of Lynette are Bro. Ephriam and Sis. Dorothy Young; the parents of Donna are Sis. Edna and Bro. Joe Somerhalder, all from here. We trust that the Lord will add His blessings to these dear ones in their marriage relationships.

Are you a useful witness for Christ? To be a witness one must be two kinds of persons—one who has seen the event to which he witnesses, and one who wants to talk about it. True, we have not seen our Lord's blessed face, but we have seen the changes that come over the redeemed who have heeded His message of Salvation. So each of us can be a witness for Christ, because our faith in Him shows that His death and resurrection have worked in us.

Let us not tarry so long that someday we must stand before the Great Book of Life and plead, "Please Lord, check the Book again before you make me go; for I thought my name had been written down."

Our heartfelt thanks go to our visiting minister, Bro. Roy Wernli, Lamont. We wish to extend a warm welcome to anyone who wishes to share Christian fellowship with us.

Hospitalized were Sis. Lydia (Terry) Schiesser, surgical.

KANSAS, KIOWA

Janice Bahr

Romans 8:28: 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.

Sometimes when we see disaster hit our loved ones, we can't see how good can come out of it, but our precious Lord and God does not make mistakes. As we watch His ultimate good come from our misfortunes, we marvel that One so all-seeing and all-wise not only stands by us in our trouble, but turns our misfortune into good in His own perfect way.

Sis. Myrtle Rathgeber and Nelson Tucker, son of Dale and Sis. Marie Tucker, have both suffered staff infection—Sis. Myrtle in her shoulder, and Nelson in his leg. We are thankful Nelson is up and

around again and hope Sis. Myrtle will be again soon. Jeanie Redford, granddaughter of Bro. John and Sis. Lucy Hoffman, was kicked by a horse this month. Her jaw was broken in two places. She underwent surgery in Wichita and had it wired for an eight-week period. We are thankful she wasn't hurt worse, but hope that eight weeks will go fast for Jeanie's sake.

We would like to extend our deepest sympathy to the family of Frank Schupbach who passed away at the age of 93 in Chanute, KS, this past month. It is our fervent prayer that the Lord will comfort his loved ones in their loss.

Brenda Tucker, daughter of Dale and Sis. Marie Tucker, and Brad Shue, son of Paul and Mary Shue, Harper, were united in marriage on May 24. They were married in the home of Dale and Sis. Marie, and the reception was held in the Apostolic Christian Church Fellowship Hall. As they begin their life together in Harper, where they now have a home, our fervent prayer for their home is that Christ will always be the center of their lives and that He will richly bless them in their love, their home, and their future years together as husband and wife.

KANSAS, LAMONT

Mary Isch

OVERHEARD IN AN ORCHARD
Said the Robin to the Sparrow:

"I should really like to know
Why these anxious human beings
Rush about and worry so."

Said the Sparrow to the Robin:
"Friend, I think that it might be
That they have no Heavenly
Father

Such as cares for you and me."

Elizabeth Cheney

"And He took bread and gave thanks and brake it, and gave unto them saying this is my body which is given for you: This do in remembrance of me.

"Likewise also the Cup after supper, saying, This Cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you." Luke 22:19-20.

Sunday, May 18, we remembered our Lord's death and suffering and partook of His body and blood that was shed for us. Bro. Lester Hartter, Bern, assisted our Elder Bro. Sam Anliker in serving us Holy Communion. We

thank Bro. Lester and Sis. Ella for their visit. May God be their rich rewarder.

Visiting this month also was ministering Bro. Vernon Schwab (Sis. Arlene, Becky and Sis. Suzanne), Wolcott, IN.

KANSAS, SABETHA

Clara Steiner - Judy Hartter

Visiting ministers were Bro. Jim Ramseyer, Bay City, and Bro. Charles Sauder, Tremont. We thank them for visiting us and bringing us words of life.

Hospitalized this month were Sis. Mary Hartter, Sis. Emma Bahr, Bro. Willis Garber and Sis. Della Heiniger. Sis. Della is now a new patient at the Apostolic Christian Home.

The annual Sunday School election was held recently. New teachers selected were Sis. Beth Hartter, Bro. Gordon Huber and Bro. Rodney Grimm. They will serve with Sis. Sharlyn Meyer, Sis. Judy Hartter, Bro. Daryl Meyer, Bro. Tim Hartter and Bro. Fred Aberle. Substitute teachers are Sis. Ramona Meyer, Sis. Cindy Metzger, Bro. Martin Beyer and Bro. Gerald Grimm.

Bro. Willard Bahr was re-elected to the board of the Apostolic Christian Home for a two-year term.

Sunday School classes will be dismissed for the month of August for summer vacation. Classes will resume on the Sunday following Labor Day.

KANSAS, WICHITA

Judy Langhofer

In July 1974 our congregation assembled together with many brethren and friends for the dedication of a new sanctuary. It was a typically hot day, and the extra load of electricity blew out the transformer. In a packed church, Bro. Wendell Gudeman from Francesville, IN, raised his voice so all could hear and delivered the address. By the hand of God one of the brethren was using a battery operated recorder and the sermon was preserved. This sermon is now being typed and printed. For those who would be interested in a copy you may contact your reporter. The charge given to the church on that day is a good barometer to see if it is living up to its commitment.

On Sunday, June 22, Bro. Milton and Sis. Lillian Bowers were honored by a reception to celebrate their forty years of married life. They were blessed with 13 children who hosted this reception. Ten children reside in Wichita, two in McPherson, KS, and one in Ansonia, CT. Seven are married, all who have children of their own.

Bro. Milton and Sis. Lillian were married on June 19, 1940. They lived in Arapahoe, NB, until they moved to Wichita in May, 1950, being brought here by the hand of the Lord. In due time they became a part of our fellowship, and all of us shared many wonderful times of fellowship together. We have shared with them in lean times and good times and have all rejoiced and wept together. Among six sets of parents in this church who were having children simultaneously, there were 57 children involved, and there were many picnics and singings. And none can forget when Bro. Milton and Sis. Lillian, already with four young children, were presented with two sets of twins, born exactly one year apart. They in faith (many witnesses will testify to this) accepted each new-born child as God's will for them in this marriage.

This reporter has a scrapbook that holds many wonderful memories. Pasted on one page is an invoice dated Oct. 5, 1959, probably a year that was slim for all of us. It says, "Hooking up water softener in utility room and bath tub repair — \$0.00. Paid in full by our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ." A letter was attached explaining why a cash payment could not be accepted. It reads, "It is a pleasure to help one another. I know that you did not expect me to do this work for nothing. Neither did I work for nothing, neither was I unpaid. It is a blessing to serve one another, since Christ is not here, that we might serve Him. Still one has to overcome the flesh and natural instincts to do it. I sometimes put other things first even when I have opportunity; but the Lord repays us, oftentimes in this life and always with the promise of rewards in eternity." This letter was signed "Brother Milton Bowers."

To some it may seem strange that this letter was included in

this column. Quoting from Ephesians 2:20-22, which was read in our dedication address in 1974: "And are built upon the foundation of the Apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone—In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord. In whom ye also are built together for an habitation of God through the Spirit." Bro. Wendell Gudeman had this comment to make: "That we grow together—To worship together in one church for fifty or sixty is unheard of in many churches. You **have grown together** because of that Spirit that dwells among us . . ."

An unusual gift to Bro. Milton and Sis. Lillian from their children was an airline ticket to daughter, Betti, who flew from Ansonia, CT, where she lives with her husband and two daughters. Also present for the celebration were Lillian's father and mother, Capt. and Mrs. D. H. Brunt, Sr, and Capt. D. H. Brunt, Jr., a brother, from Galveston, TX.

Timothy Wilburt Funk was welcomed into the home of Bro. Glenn and Sis. Sally on June 15, 1980. Overcome with joy for the new baby boy were brothers, Patrick and Derrick, and sisters, Glenna and Kathleen. Standing by and nodding approval were the grandparents.

Recently a young teen-age boy from our congregation came home to find his parents not there. Noticing that dinner was cooking on the stove, lights were on in the house, and the door was open he became alarmed. His immediate thought was, "Has the rapture come and I have been left behind?" He picked up the phone and started making calls to locate other members of the family who confirmed that he was not alone. What a sobering thought.

Ed. Note: We made an error in the third paragraph of last month's Wichita report. St. John 1 should have read I John 1.

MICHIGAN, ALTO Penny Erisman

We offer congratulations to our 1980 graduates, Kent Feldman (Bro. Lyman and Sis. Viv) and Julie Overholt (Darlene).

"He comes to us as an unknown, without a name, as of old by the

lakeside as He came to those men who knew him not. He speaks to us the same words, 'Follow thou me,' and sets us to the tasks which He has to fulfill for our time He commands. And to those who obey, whether they be wise or simple, He will reveal himself in the toils, the conflicts, the suffering which they shall pass through in his fellowship, and as an ineffable mystery, they shall learn in their own experience who He is."

Schweitzer
Treasure Steffen (Bro. Carl and Sis. Myrna) has made known her desire to serve our Lord and has found peace.

Our thanks go to Bro. Roy Wieland (Bay City), Bro. Ben Maibach (Detroit), and Bro. Joe Gerst (Iowa City) for their services this past month.

MICHIGAN, BAY CITY Patsy Bragiel

After a long illness, the Lord has quietly taken home Bro. Herman Meylan. Surviving is his wife, Sis. Marion, who also has been quite ill. We indeed give our sympathy to her and her family.

With the loss of a long time companion, the hours can so easily become empty with loneliness. This is especially applicable as one becomes older and unable to get up and around easily. It is then, only in Jesus our truest friend, that we can find a lasting comfort and strength. Oft times this presence of Jesus comes in different ways. I now think of the younger brothers and sisters in our congregation who make the effort to go and sing to the older folks in their homes on Friday evenings. How blessed it can be when expressions of fellowship and hymns comfort and strengthen the presence of Jesus in a lonely home.

We appreciated having the ministry shared on a Sunday by visiting Bro. Homer Reineck (Toledo).

Sis. Louis Lambert has been hospitalized and is now home. Sis. Marion Knochel (Bro. Floyd) is also hospitalized after a sudden onset of illness. We surely hope to see a speedy recovery for both.

Love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance . . . were these fruits part of your Christian life today?

MICHIGAN, DETROIT Nella Varga

Hope looks beyond the showers
Seeing all clear and fair;
Hope sees the garden blooming
Before the flowers are there;
Hope listens for the robins
And hears the song they sing
Telling us winter's over
And once again it's spring!
Hope, like the wings of angels,
Soars upward—ever higher,
And hope that's bright and shining
Can bring your heart's desire!
Helen Farries

Sis. Dorothy Knochel and Bro. Homer Reineck (Toledo, OH) were united in marriage on June 22. We will miss Sis. Dorothy greatly, but we wish them both God's richest blessings in their life together.

We are sad to report that Sis. Alice Polk has been hospitalized with surgery. We wish her a quick recovery and God's healing grace.

MINNESOTA, MINNEAPOLIS Carol Virkler

It was a very blessed weekend on May 24 and 25 when a large group from the Chicago congregation joined us in fellowship and worship. We are thankful to Bro. Dale Eisenmann for his inspirational messages from God's Word. We truly appreciated everyone who came, as we enjoyed the blessed fellowship with one another.

With saddened hearts, a farewell service was held on Wednesday evening, June 18, for our ministering Bro. Ken Lawson, Sis. Sharon, Shelly and Tim. They are making Ft. Lauderdale their home. Bro. Ken ministered to us once again. Visiting ministers present for the occasion were Elder Bro. Harold Messner, Bro. Elmer Schmidt and Bro. Leroy Messner, all of Winthrop. Our congregation wishes to thank Bro. Ken for the years of dedicated service he has given us by ministering God's Word. We pray that the Lord will richly bless Bro. Ken, Sis. Sharon and their children in their new home.

We wish to thank the Winthrop congregation for hosting the Junior and Senior Bible classes for the annual youth fellowship. It was a most enjoyable and blessed weekend for all who attended.

Our best wishes and Lord's blessings are extended to Bro. Tim Esterling and Sis. Jeanne Haefli of Peoria upon the announcement of their engagement and forthcoming marriage. The parents are Bro. Don and Sis. Josephine Esterling and Bro. Bob and Sis. Eileen Haefli.

It is with joy we report that a new family has moved to Minneapolis from the Goodfield area. They are Bro. Wes and Sis. Joyce Hohulin, son Eddie, and daughters Jodi and Keri. We heartily welcome them to our fellowship. Our congregation also welcomes Sis. Martha Blessman of Tucson, who is worshipping with us again this summer.

MINNESOTA, MORRIS Jan Schock - Pam Sutter

A blessed Memorial Day weekend was spent with young brethren and ministers Leo Moser and Carl Feucht of Lester. We invite any that might vacation in this area to spend Sunday with us.

A recent Sunday School election gave Bros. Dale Zeltwanger, Sid Messner, and Rich Schock and Sisters Lili Koehl and Linda Schmidgall the duty to help teach our children. What a comfort it will be if they will be able to feel the prayers and support of the church to help them show the way.

There is always occasion to remember a loved one who has been sick and absent from us. Michelle Feuchtenberger (Bro. Bob and Sis. Gwen) was hospitalized and Bro. Ervin Moser and Mary Spohr are still hospitalized. Let us remember them in prayer.

Lord, show me the thing that stands in the way,

The stone that is under the wheel;

Reveal the idol to be cast down—
Lord, hear me as I kneel.

And, Lord, if I have not the strength to cut off

The part that offendeth me,
Nor have I the courage to overthrow

The thing I love more than Thee:
Oh, cripple the limb with a touch of Thy hand!

To bear it give me grace,
And when I awake tomorrow morn
May the idol be on its face.

But more than this I would ask,
O Lord—

Grind it to powder fine,
Then fill up my heart with Thy wondrous love,
Making my face to shine. Amen.

— Author Unknown

MISSOURI, LAMAR

Vera Luthi - Elaine Braker

"But the word of the Lord endureth forever, and this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you." I Peter 1:25.

Bro. Harvey Hininger from Oakville brought forth the true Word of the Lord to us on May 25. May God ever reward him for his labor of love.

We enjoyed the fellowship of those who worshipped with us the Sunday after Stan Marti and Linda Abbiatti's wedding day, which was June 6. May God bless them as they walk this path of life together.

Our congregation has been blessed with another family who has moved to our area. Bro. Jack and Sis. Nancy Knoblauch and their three children Mark, Brent, and Rachel from the Morris congregation now assemble with us. We welcome them and wish them God's blessings in their new home.

We are happy to report that Bro. Roy Braker and Bro. Dean Marti are both home after spending some time in the hospital.

MISSOURI, TAYLOR

Loida Hodel - Stephanie Gerber

"Read the Bible, not as a newspaper, but as a letter from 'home'. If a promise lies upon the page as a blank check, cash it. If a prayer is recorded, appropriate it and launch it as a feathered arrow from the bow of your desire. If an example of holiness gleams before you, ask God to do as much for you." F. B. Meyer

Visiting ministers and their families this month were Bro. Harvey and Sis. Marie Grimm, Bern, KS, Bro. Pete and Sis. Karen Baltic, Mansfield, OH, and Bro. Marshall and Sis. Jan Heinhold from Washington, IL. Our thanks go to all of God's servants who proclaim His Word. May we remember that the treasures we lay up in heaven draw high interest.

"Afflictions are but the shadow of God's wings." G. McDonald

Hospital patients during May were Bro. Richard Sutter, hand injury, Sis. Elaine Hoerr (Bro. Donald), surgery, and Sis. Sally

Haerr (Bro. Norman), also surgery. We're happy to report all are home again and on the road to recovery.

"Those who bring sunshine to others cannot help but bring sunshine to themselves." (Anon.) We enjoyed a weekend visit with the choir group from Mansfield, OH. It doesn't take long to become acquainted with those we've never known before, especially when each is filled with God's love and mutual understanding. "Thanks" to all for your efforts in arranging this trip to Taylor.

Bro. Richard and Sis. Charlene Sutter celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary, and Bro. Geo. and Sis. Betty Hoerr celebrated their 42nd one. We wish them many more years together.

The Sutters are parents of Jody Meyers, Taylor, MO, and Roger, at home. They also have one granddaughter. George and Betty have one daughter, Joann (Marvin) Wiegand, and four grandsons.

Love is more than a tender caress and more than bright hours of happiness, for a lasting love is made up of sharing both hours that are joyous and also despairing. It's made up of patience and deep understanding and never of selfish and stubborn demanding. It's made up of "climbing the steep hills together," and facing with courage "Life's stormiest weather." Nothing on earth or in heaven can part a love that has grown to be part of the heart. And just like the sun and the stars and the sea, this love will go on through Eternity.

Helen Steiner Rice

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with you all. II Cor. 13:14.

NEW JERSEY, UNION CITY PENNSYLVANIA PHILADELPHIA

Ed Aeschleman

Bros. John and Corbin Bahler visited Union City on May 25 where the combined Union City and Philadelphia brethren took communion. A light lunch was served after the ceremony for those who had long journeys to their homes. It was a blessed day of teaching and fellowship and an inspiring remembrance of our Lord.

Ministering Bro. Roy Wieland of Bay City visited the Philadelphia church on June 1. He brought a message in simplicity, truth and power for both young/and old.

Ministering Bros. Dan Stoller and Lee Bahler and others of Rockville visited Union City on June 15, bringing God's Word, encouragement and true fellowship for a blessed day in the Lord.

During the week of June 9, ten brothers and a friend from the Rittman/Akron churches, four brothers from Rockville and one from Roanoke donated labor toward the building of our new church in Philadelphia. In four days the building grew from just a foundation to a structure with a finished roof and windows. We cannot find words to properly express our appreciation but trust the Lord's blessings will rest on all the brethren that have supported us with prayer, funds and labor.

Ministering Bro. Len Meyer of Chicago served us at Philadelphia on Sunday, June 15. Bro. Len, his family and others from Chicago were in the Philadelphia area along with brethren from Cissna Park, Roanoke, Ft. Lauderdale and Phoenix. We enjoyed the day with rich blessings.

NEW YORK, CROGHAN

Alice Virkler

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

ZION'S HARP

These beautiful words were sung by our congregations after baptismal services in the Naumburg church for our loved ones, Gerry Grau of the Croghan Church and Julia Karcher of the Naumburg Church, on Sunday, June 8. We heard their testimonies on Saturday evening in the Croghan Church. This was truly a day of rejoicing for us, as we read it is for the angels in heaven, when we greeted them as a brother and sister-in-faith.

Our hospital patients this month have been Sisters Beth Virkler, Pam Herzig and Minnie Farney and Bro. Ron Herzig. They were all medical patients, and we are glad they could again return home.

Our sympathy is extended to Bro. John and Sis. Berdena Widrick at the time of the death of his brother, Joe Widrick.

August is the collection month for Silver Lining dues for the Croghan Congregation.

NEW YORK, NAUMBURG

Rachel Snyder

The Naumburg and Croghan groups gathered at Sis. La Vina Farney's to bring a little song and cheer for her birthday.

A blessed day was spent June 8 when two souls were added to the fold. They were Gerald Grau from Croghan and Julia Virkler from here. A covered dish dinner was served afterward.

August is the collection month for Naumburg Silver Lining dues.

OHIO, AKRON

Carolyn Miller

Our visiting ministers on May 25 were Bros. Delbert and Kenneth Indermuhle from Sardis, OH. Also on May 25, it was announced that Gregg and Sara Heneco had found peace and were awaiting baptism. On June 14, we heard their testimonies, and they were then baptized on June 15. Elder Bro. Joseph Ramsier of Rittman was with us for both days. Bro. Merrill Laukhuf of Latty also ministered the Word to us on June 15. May the Lord bless Bro. Gregg and Sis. Sara in their new way of life.

We had several hospital patients this month. Bro. Gordon Greenbank (Sis. Emily) and Sis. Martha Palitto (Bro. John) were hospitalized for surgery and are recovering well. Bro. Stanley Frances was in the hospital for a time and is now residing at a nursing home.

Sis. Ella Messner was hospitalized for some time and then passed away on June 13. Her funeral was on June 16. She is survived by her husband, Bro. Richard; daughter, Sally Reffner; sons, Richard, Robert, and Duane; 12 grandchildren; sisters, Sis. Margaret Gruenig and Ann Karesh; and brothers, Werner Gruenig and Paul Gruenig. May the Lord comfort and sustain those in sorrow. We have the blessed assurance that God will never leave us nor forsake us.

Our high school graduates this year are Esther Bako, Mark Collins, Susan Fulop, and Gary Graf.

Moving? Let Us Know.

OHIO, JUNCTION

Lester Manz

Bro. Loren Stoller of Latty spent a Sunday afternoon with us this past month. He stressed to us the importance of the job of self-examination for our coming communion service.

Our brethren who were in the hospital this month are Bro. Henry Manz and Sis. Frances Dotterer. It is so comforting to know that in all of our trials, including sickness, God has promised to be with us.

A CHILD'S FAITH

A young lad once asked his mother if she thought God could hold the whole world in His little finger. Yes, the child's mother assured him, God could hold the whole world in His little finger. Perhaps this was the toughest job this lad could imagine. As we see tough jobs on our own personal horizons, it is so human to worry. Wouldn't it be nice if we could just have the faith of this child and realize that our God is able to take care of all our problems, even the toughest one we can imagine?

OHIO, LATTY

Cheryl Wenninger - Susie Sinn

Come to the Savior, make no delay—
Here in His Word He's shown us the way;
Here in our midst He's standing today.
Tenderly saying, "Come!"

— Root

How thankful we are that two precious souls, Michelle Nolte (exchange student from Germany) and Rosemary Eisenmann (daughter of Bro. Lee and Sis. Mary Eisenmann), have heard and answered His loving invitation. May His abundant grace and strength be with them in their new walk.

During the week of June 2-6, we held our Vacation Bible School. Sharing in one of the evening classes was Bro. Sam Schlatter (Junction). A very blessed week was spent with our young people, and we trust that the seed of faith was sown in each heart.

On June 7 and 8, we were privileged to hear the testimony and witness the baptism of our convert, Dennis Gordon. We certainly welcome Bro. Dennis into the household of faith and pray that

the Holy Spirit will be his ever-faithful Guide.

OHIO, MANSFIELD

Lucille Groh

A ministering brother recently spoke the following: A small child had been playing at the edge of his lawn in a large city. Little by little he wandered away and then found that he was lost. Someone found him crying and asked what was wrong. He told the kind person that he was lost. "What is your name, child?" "I don't know." "What is the name of the street on which you live?" "I don't know." "What does your house look like?" "I don't know. But I do know that at the end of the street where I live is a big church, and on top of that church is a big cross; please, take me to the foot of that cross, and I'll find my way home!"

Yes, if each of us can find the foot of that cross, and bow there, we can be assured of finding our way to our heavenly home, just as the child could find his way home.

I could not do without Him!
Jesus is more to me
Than all the richest, fairest gifts
Of earth could ever be.
But the more I find Him precious,
And the more I find Him true,
The more I long for you to find
What He can do for you.

Why will you do without Him?
He calls, and calls again:
"Come unto me! Come unto me!"
Oh, shall He call in vain?
He wants to have you with Him—
Do you not want Him too?
You CANNOT do without Him,
And He wants—even you!

Author unknown

Sincere love and sympathy is extended to Sis. Freda Beer in the great loss of her sister and our sister in faith, Elizabeth Kaisner. Sis. Freda also wishes to thank everyone who lovingly expressed their sympathy to her and the Albert Kaisner family during the illness and death of Sis. Elizabeth. The cards, gifts, flowers and food were greatly appreciated.

Loving sympathy goes to Ella Earhart and Sis. Eva Fuhrer in the loss of their brother and brother-in-law, Bill Earhart.

Sis. Helen Bricker was hospitalized and underwent surgery. We

are thankful to report that she is home again.

On May 18, the Vesper Choir presented a beautiful, inspiring program, and we thank them for their efforts put forth for our enjoyment. The choir also spent a blessed weekend in Taylor, MO, recently.

Bro. Robert and Sis. Katheryn Beer wish to thank everyone for the kind expressions of love they have received from members and friends. The cards, gifts and prayers have meant so much to them. Bro. Robert is still confined to his bed and is slowly improving. We miss them very much in our church circle.

The week of June 9-13 was Vacation Bible School week. We want to thank all who participated in any way to help make the week so special. We especially want to thank our guest speakers for their labors of love. The following topics were explained by the following brothers: Monday evening, "Spiritual vs. Material," Joe Ramsier (Rittman); Tuesday evening, "Dispensations," Sam Schlatter (Junction); Wednesday evening, "John's Writing to the Seven Churches," Gary Maibach (Rittman); Thursday evening, "Works of the Holy Spirit," Earnest Graf (Akron); and Friday evening, "Prophecy Fulfillment in Modern Times," Merrill Laukhuf (Latty).

OHIO, RITTMAN

Janette Blough

"Take eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me . . . This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me . . ." I Cor. 11:24-25. We were privileged to have Holy Communion served to us on Saturday evening, May 21. Bro. Rudy Graf and Bro. Joe Ramsier as God's servants served us at this time of edification as we remembered our Lord's death and shedding of His blood for our sins. May we always remember what it cost Him to do this for us.

In Psalm 138:2 we read, "I will worship toward thy holy temple, and praise thy name for thy lovingkindness and for thy truth: for thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name." We went to worship in God's house, we praised Him with song and prayer, and His word was magnified as

the Word was brought forth from those that were called to teach us. We want to especially thank Bro. Perry Zimmerman and Bro. Bill Gudeman for bringing us this Word of Truth so lovingly.

Our sympathy is extended to the family of Betty Emch who passed away suddenly. We wish to express our sympathy to Sis. Lucy Beery at the sudden passing away of her brother, Frank Malcuit. I'm reminded of a few words in a song that say that He'll come down from the skies and brush the tears from your eyes; you're His child and He cares for you. It's a peaceful feeling to know that Jesus cares.

Do you believe in miracles? The birth of a child is indeed one of God's miracles, and we have four births to report this month. Darla Kay is the name given to Bro. Denny and Sis. Kay Nieman's new girl, and Doug and Dana are glad for a new sister. The grandparents are Bro. Charles and Sis. Delphine Nieman, and Sis. Mildred Endress, Princeville. Bro. Craig and Sis. Gale Emch have a new son, and his name is John Curtis. Bryan is glad for a playmate. Bro. Dave and Sis. Eileen Emch are the grandparents. A boy, Bryan Lee, was born to Jerry and Ellen Gasser. Eric is glad for a little brother. The grandparents are Bro. Will and Sis. Martha Riggenbach, and the late Bro. Robert and Sis. Elda Gasser. A little girl was born to Bro. Art and Sis. Bonnie Ingold and has been named Jill Elizabeth. At home to welcome a new sister are Amy and Doug. The grandparents are Bro. John, Jr., and Sis. Joan Hartzler, and Bro. Carl and Sis. Erma Ingold. We pray the Lord will bless these families with their precious bundles.

"Dark is the road that lies before me, how can I find my way? Tangled the path that beckons to me, Lead me, O Lord, I pray." John W. Peterson. Do we feel this way at times? To those of us who have good health, we don't always think how it must be with the infirmed. Our dear Sis. Francis Hafely, who is 90-years-old, underwent surgery, and her recovery is very slow. John Mathys underwent surgery and is also slowly recovering. Let us remember these dear ones and their families in prayer.

Following their wedding on May 17, Carol (Emch) and Don Powell

are living in Rittman. The parents are Bro. Dave and Sis. Eileen Emch and Mr. and Mrs. Donald Powell, Sr., of Norton. The wedding of Eugene Winkler and Debra Reed was held in West Salem on June 14. Eugene's parents are Charles and Sis. Betty Winkler. May they find many blessings along the way of life together.

And if at times the journey leads
thru waters deep,
O'er mountains steep,
I know this unseen friend
His love revealing, His presence
healing,
Walks with me to the journey's
end.
So I securely travel on.
— Edith Wallace

A baby boy born to first-time parents Bro. Joe and Sis. Marian Stoller has been named Keith Donald. First-time grandparents are Bro. Don and Sis. Luzelda Stoller. The other grandparents are Bro. Don and Sis. Martha Walders.

OHIO, SARDIS Joyce Indermuhle

We were blessed to have Bro. Henry Beer with us for a weekend in May. Henry spent a lot of time talking and telling stories to the children. Over and over we were blessed to hear of the love of God and were reminded to love him and love His beautiful creation. We were also reminded that we must keep ourselves pure and ready as the Bridegroom may come soon. All our hearts join in thanking those who made possible that blessed weekend. It was one we will long member.

Sis. Willetta Indermuhle wishes to thank all who remembered her with cards and gifts on her eightieth birthday. As our dear mother, grandmother, and sister, she has been a true light to all in her family and in our congregation at Sardis. She is able to gather with us on Wednesday evenings and Sundays, for which all of us are thankful. If all of us stand firm on the faith taught us by our dear older brothers and sisters, the family circle here on earth need never be broken in heaven.

Also, we offer a special thanks to Bro. Ronnie Stiner from Rittman, OH, for spending a Sunday with us. May God bless him and his

family for making the day a day of special worship to our God.

OHIO, TOLEDO Josephine Rehklau

Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee. Isaiah 26:3.

We rejoice, as do the angels in heaven, that Matthew Fetter, through repentance and grace from God the Father, has found peace in his heart and is looking forward to becoming an heir of His eternal kingdom. Matthew is the son of Bro. Richard and Sis. Betty Fetter.

We are so thankful that the door of grace is still open for all souls who see the value of becoming a child of God.

We were privileged to have our elder, Bro. Ben Maibach, share the Word of God with us on Thursday, June 15.

We welcome Sis. Dorothy Knochel Reineck into our congregation. Sis. Dorothy and Bro. Homer Reineck were married June 22.

Sis. Connie Sancraint has been in the hospital and is now at home recuperating from surgery. We wish her a good recovery.

Bro. Randy Gasser has completed his course of study at Bowling Green University. We will miss his presence in our worship services and wish him God's blessings in his future endeavors.

Our Vacation Bible School was held the week of June 16-20. A program was presented for the parents on Friday. At this time, the children had a display of their crafts and spoke of the stories that they had learned pertaining to the miracles of Jesus. It was a joy to see their happy faces as they sang songs of praise to the Lord.

OREGON, PORTLAND Connie Steffen

Psalm 46:1-3 tells us, "God is our refuge and our strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; Though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof. Selah." (Selah: pause and think calmly on that. Amp. Bible).

The Northwest has been made very aware of God's great power, even though in His sight it must be a small thing, by the eruption of Mt. St. Helens. It was a beautiful mountain, 45 miles northeast of Portland, until the middle of March when it started showing signs of volcanic activity. The country became aware of a power man could do nothing to stop, and many people who know of God but don't wish to admit His control over all things, probably thought more seriously of Him. On May 18, we could see the huge columns of smoke, steam, and ash rise ten miles in the air, as approximately one third of the mountain was carried, not into the sea, but eastward to be deposited over many miles of land. If people would only realize how longsuffering the Lord is and how He is showing signs and wonders in the heavens (such as the ash clouds that have swept across America) and on the earth (a beautiful, peaceful mountain and its surrounding territory made desolate), then they might repent. Many more would realize the beauty of verse ten in Isaiah 54: "For the mountains shall depart, and the hills be removed; but my kindness shall not depart from thee, neither shall the covenant of my peace be removed, saith the Lord that hath mercy on thee."

Jeremy Benjamin Martin arrived May 23 to gladden the home of Bro. Denny and Sis. Lori. Jeremy's grandparents are Bro. Jim and Sis. Helen Martin of Goodfield.

We gladly welcome Bro. Raymond and Sis. Barbara Moser to the Northwest, where Bro. Ray has been transferred by his company to the Tacoma, WA, area. With them are their three children, Elizabeth, Lisa, and Paul. We are very happy to have them be a part of our Portland family.

OREGON, SILVERTON Andy Winkler Mary Jane Winkler

Summer is here. We enjoyed a few days of sunshine after many days of cooler and cloudy days. It reminds us that the Holy Spirit should always be shining in our lives no matter what comes upon us.

Bro. Robert Miller from Portland was our visiting minister this

month. We want to thank Bro. Robert for lending himself for us.

We were saddened to hear Sis. Margaret Wanner has been hospitalized. She suffered a heart attack at her home. We hope and pray the Lord will quickly heal her if it is His will. Sis. Margaret is 84. We will miss her presence at church.

**PENNSYLVANIA,
PHILADELPHIA**

(See New Jersey, Union City)

**TEXAS, ZAPATA
Margery Koehl**

We had a pleasant Sunday on June 8 with ministering Bro. Robert Beebe, his wife, Sis. Sue, and their four sons, Michael, Matthew, Mark and David. We enjoyed the evening meal with Bro. John and Sis. Viola Perdelwitz in their home.

Wilma and Homer Nikkel, who assemble with us, are enjoying their grandchildren, Tim and Jennifer Nikkel of Abbyville, KS, and Brad and Kristi Nikkel of Hesston, KS, who are visiting them for the month of June.

Our minister, Bro. Leland Plattner, his wife, Sis. Mary, and their children, Andy, Dallas and Lila are vacationing from June 13 to June 23. They are visiting relatives in Kansas and Iowa.

Sunday, June 15, Bro. John and Sis. Viola Perdelwitz, their granddaughter, Renee Parker, Paul Oechel, Sis. Mary Koehl, and little Freddie drove to McAllen where we had our church services by tapes at the home of Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Joyce Nohl. Alice Parker, daughter of Bro. John and Sis. Viola, joined us in the afternoon to visit her parents and take her daughter, Renee, home.

We miss Terry who is spending the summer at Morris, MN, with his uncle, David Nohl.

SILVER THREADS

MORNING HYMN

O how lovely is the morning
When its begun with God;
Joy and thanks our hearts
adorning,
As behoves a child of God.
Waking after night so fair
In the Maker's gentle care,
Rising without grief or sorrow
To a new and joyful morrow.

This day also He will guide us,
In our work His help provide;
And on wisdom's ways He'll lead
us,
Standing ever by our sides
That on this whole blessed day
No mishap can come our way;
And that under His rich blessing
Night will find us sweetly resting.
Zion's Harp, 166

BEYOND THE SUNSET

Beyond the sunset, O blissful
morning,
When with our Saviour heaven
is begun.
Earth's toiling ended, O glorious
dawning;
Beyond the sunset, when day is
done.
Beyond the sunset no clouds will
gather,
No storms will threaten, no fears
annoy;
O day of gladness, O day unending,
Beyond the sunset, eternal joy!
Beyond the sunset a hand will
guide me
To God, the Father, whom I adore;
His glorious presence, His words
of welcome,
Will be my portion on that fair
shore.
Beyond the sunset, O glad reunion,
With our dear loved ones who've
gone before;
In that fair homeland we'll know
no parting,
Beyond the sunset, forever more.
Virgil P. Brock

**SOMETIME WE'LL
UNDERSTAND**

Not now, but in the coming years,
It may be in the better land,
We'll read the meaning of our
tears,
And there, sometime, we'll under-
stand.

We'll catch the broken thread
again,
And finish what we here began;
Heaven will the mysteries explain,
And, then, ah, then, we'll under-
stand.

We'll know why clouds instead of
sun
Were over many a cherished plan;
Why song has ceased when scarce
begun;
Tis here, sometime, we'll under-
stand.

Why what we long for most of all,
Eludes so oft our eager hand;
Why hopes are crushed and castles
fall,
Up there, sometime, we'll under-
stand.

God knows the way, He holds the
key,
He guides us with unerring hand;
Sometime with tearless eyes we'll
see;
Yes, there, up there, we'll under-
stand

M. N. Cornelius
Hymns of Zion, No. 165

THE LORD'S SUPPER

To break Thy bread we now have
gathered,
In covenant to drink Thy wine;
As brethren we unite together,
That unto death we might be
Thine.
This promise we, with heart and
will;
Give grace our promise to fulfill.

Yet closer unto Thee unite me,
As Thou with God united art.
In truth Thine own and not
pretending,
A Christian true, in mind and
heart;
This will I seek, this is my aim,
My heart, Lord, as Thy dwelling
claim.

Zion's Harp

WHAT IS A FRIEND?

(Submitted by Counselling Elder
Bro. Theo Beer)

Sometimes I think a friend is
one of the most valuable treasures
in the world. The other day I tried
to think of all the good traits I
admire in my friends. What a won-
derful idea it would be to cultivate
these traits in our own personali-
ties!

A good friend is usually a person
who genuinely likes other people,
and is therefore quite certain to be
liked in return. It's hard to like
everyone, but the more we practice,
the easier it gets!

Every person wants to be ap-
preciated. By paying attention to
his needs, being interested in his
views, we will win his esteem and
confidence.

Certainly one way to get others
to like us is to listen instead of
talking too much and giving un-

wanted advice. How much better it is to remain silent, listening quietly and sympathetically—yet encouraging the person to talk out his problem and in this way find his own solutions to them.

Popular people are not easily irritated or annoyed. They keep in good humor and spirits. If they are criticized, they accept it as advice from a thoughtful friend, rather than a reproach from an enemy. We all expect some criticism, and if we accept it quietly—not striking back—we will gather friends faster than our critics can manufacture enemies.

THE LORD AGAIN HAS GIVEN

The Lord again has given
His counsel and His will;
He came to live among us,
His promise to fulfill.
We never are forsaken
With Christ our Lord so near
His faithfulness revealing,
We feel His presence here.
So march then boldly onward;
Our Saviour's in the lead!
He, as a faithful shepherd,
Sustains us in our need.
His wholesome word accepting,
May we His likeness bear.
By works and deeds confessing,
His righteousness we'd share.
He grasps our hands to lead us
Up to the mansions bright.
His fold He is preparing;
He'll lead our hearts aright.

Hymns of Zion No. 138

OLD MOTHERS

I love old mothers—mothers with
white hair
And kindly eyes, and lips grown
softly sweet
With murmured blessings over
sleeping babes.
There is something in their quiet
grace
That speaks the calm of Sabbath
afternoons;
A knowledge in their deep unfal-
tering eyes
That far outreaches all philosophy.
Time, with caressing touch, about
them weaves
The silver-threaded fairy shawl of
age,
While all the echos of forgotten
songs
Seems joined to lend a sweetness
to their speech.

Old Mothers! As they pass with
slow timed step

Their trembling hands cling gen-
tly to youths strength.

Sweet Mothers! As they pass, one
sees again

Old garden walks, old roses and
old loves.

Chas. S. Ross

LET THE SAVIOUR IN!

There's a Stranger at the door;
Let Him in!

He has been there oft before; Let
Him in!

Let Him in ere He is gone;
Let Him in, the Holy One,
Jesus Christ, the Father's Son;
Let Him in!

Open now to Him your heart; Let
Him in!

If you wait He will depart; Let
Him in!

Let Him in; He is your Friend;
And your soul He will defend,
He will keep you to the end; Let
Him in!

Gospel Hymns No. 332

The Sermon . . .

and follow the Saviour and labor for Him in His vineyard?" Wouldn't it be sad if such accusations were brought against us? Therefore, we should do our part wherever we may be. Our young brothers and sisters, many of whom must live among the ungodly of this world, can also be useful. They can show and prove that they are no longer of the world, even though they are in the world, because they have turned their backs to the world. We should no longer have any joy in those things that are displeasing to God; we have our enjoyment in doing the will of God, in serving Him and obeying His commandments.

We have further heard, "Thy will be done, as in heaven, so in earth." Oh, let that also be our wish and desire, that the will of God might be done on earth as it is done in heaven. And we should not only expect it of others, but we should realize that we must follow the will of God ourselves. Godly behavior will do more good than much talking. Believe me, dear ones, there are more people looking upon us than we have any idea. Someone once said that many

people do not read the Bible, but they read us. They see our conduct and they know whether we are walking in the ways of God, whether we are doing His will on earth as it is done in heaven. Therefore, our calling is very important. We must do our part

When the Saviour told His disciples that they should pray, "Give us day by day our daily bread," I do not believe that He meant that we should take it easy and do nothing, expecting the Lord to give us our daily bread without any effort on our part; but rather, that if we are willing to labor, trying to be useful in this life, and seeking first of all the kingdom of God and its righteousness, then whatever else we need, He will supply. Then, beloved, we can pray, "Give us day by day our daily bread," and the Lord will bless our work.

In past times we have seen this when the Lord gave us rain and sunshine and made the earth fruitful. We have not been in want; we have even had an abundance so that we could share with others, all through the blessing of God. We should therefore honor Him. On the other hand, we should not try to lay up a great store for ourselves. The Saviour did not teach the disciples to pray so that they would have a large surplus, but "daily bread." Just for that day, they were to pray.

We read that the disciples never had a great abundance. There was even a time when they were hungry and, as they passed along the fields where the ripening ears tempted them, they broke off some and ate to satisfy their hunger (this was allowed according to the law). Yet when the Saviour asked them, "When I sent you without purse, and scrip, and shoes, lacked ye anything? And they said, Nothing." Luke 22:35. They were content with what they had. They learned to trust their Lord and Master for everything and He did not let them down; He did not forsake them. He provided day by day for their needs. When there was only a little, a few loaves and a few fishes, and a great multitude to feed, he called upon His heavenly Father to bless that little; then there was sufficient for all and much to spare. We see what the blessing of God can do, and

what prayer will achieve if it comes from the heart.

"And forgive us our sins; for we also forgive everyone that is indebted to us." Luke 11:4. Those words are oftentimes spoken and prayed thoughtlessly by many. We were taught the Lord's prayer in our childhood, which was well and good, but many grown people just repeat the words when they say, "Forgive us our sins." They do not realize that the Saviour also said, "for we . . . forgive everyone . . ." If we want God to forgive us, we surely must also have forgiving hearts.

The Saviour gave us a parable of two servants who owed debts. One owed a great sum; he was called before his master and was about to be sold along with his wife, children, and all that he had. The servant fell down before his master and said, "Have patience with me and I will pay thee all." Matthew 18:26. His master was filled with compassion and cancelled the whole debt. The same servant went to a fellow servant who owed him only a very small sum, but he did not do as his master had done. He had the fellow servant cast into prison. Others were grieved and told the master what he had done. The master said to him, "Thou wicked servant, I forgave thee all that debt . . . shouldst not thou also have had compassion . . . and delivered him to the tormentors." Matthew 18:32, 33, 34.

It is written that if we forgive one another our faults, the Heavenly Father will also forgive us; but if we refuse to forgive one another, the Heavenly Father will not forgive us. According to this, as we do to others, the Heavenly Father will reward us. Therefore, let us remember that we are brothers and sisters and have a sympathetic heart for one another, being patient with each other and bearing one another's burdens. It gives us new courage and new strength when brothers and sisters share our sorrows and burdens. When we feel their love in days of sickness, affliction, or bereavement, we know that we are bound together with the bonds of love, children of one Father, eating the same Bread and drinking the same Living Water. The Father loves us all and if we love one another, through good fortune or misfortune, that pleases Him.

We should also pray, ". . . lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil." Luke 11:4. Oh, temptations will come. We often remind our friends that they should not imagine that after they have become children of God there will be no temptations. We are all still exposed to them but we ask the Lord to protect us. The Saviour prayed for His disciples, "I pray not that thou shouldst take them out of the world, but that thou shouldst keep them from the evil." John 17:15. If we pray, we will have help. We will receive grace so that we can overcome in time of temptation, and we will be kept from evil.

If we win the victory, it will be as we read in a song, "Each victory will help us some other to win." It strengthens and encourages us when we think back to a time when we were in need and prayed to the Saviour, who helped and delivered us out of our trouble. We will trust Him again and go to Him from whom all help comes. But if we give way before the tempter, then it will be the opposite. We will be weakened instead of strengthened, and we will drift away from the Lord. If we continued, we would finally lose ourselves again in this dark world of sin and unrighteousness.

Whenever, in our experience, a child of God has fallen by the way-side, it did not come all at once; it came gradually. We saw to our sorrow that they had begun to drift and to slip, perhaps becoming careless and negligent in prayer and in reading the good Word in which we find strength and encouragement. After they had become weakened to such an extent that the evil one plunged them into great sin, Satan achieved his goal. How sorrowful is such a case.

We hope that everyone of us will from time to time take the warming and let the Lord renew us and establish us anew on the firm foundation. We want to build on solid ground so that we will know that we are doing the will of God. It is not boasting if we can say, "I am trying and doing my best so that the Lord's will may be done on earth as it is in heaven."

But if we grow faint and if we allow the evil one to weaken us, we can be led so far astray that we do not know any more where we

stand. I have known such who said that they had forgotten all about their repentance and conversion. It was all taken out of their hearts and memories. Why was it? Because they allowed their hearts to be filled again with worldly things, with the things that do not pertain to the kingdom of God. Then the good that had been planted in their hearts was wiped out. That is a sad condition.

It is good if we allow ourselves to be warned; and we should not think that this is good for that brother or that sister, but we should take it for ourselves, realizing that every one of us is in constant danger. When the Lord sends His Word and His warnings to us, He does it because He loves us, even as we who are parents warn our children. We warn them so that they will recognize the folly and vanity of this world. The Heavenly Father reminds us that our calling is a very important calling. It is a serious matter. It is not childplay. It is not to be taken lightly but to be taken seriously every day. Then, the Lord provides joy and comfort. He provides hours and seasons of blessing so that we can rejoice in Him.

Paul wrote to those churches who were walking in the light of God. "Rejoice in the Lord . . . and again I say, Rejoice." Phil. 4:4 There was reason to rejoice. He found no fault with them. He could even say, ". . . as touching brotherly love ye need not that I write unto you: for ye yourselves are taught of God to love one another." I Thess. 4:9.

There were other churches to whom he did not write, "Rejoice in the Lord." He reproved and rebuked them for drifting from the straight and narrow way. He did not cast them aside but he told them to change and seek their first love and first work; then, he said, the Lord would give them His grace. May the Lord grant that we also take these words to heart. They are a light in the darkness; they strengthen us when we are weak; they give us new courage. We hope and trust that we will all allow the Lord to constantly encourage us to become more true and faithful.

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

Sermon by the late ELDER BRO. ERNEST GRAF, Sr. of Akron, OH

Lord, teach us to pray as John also taught his disciples.

Luke 11:1

We have again been reminded of our Saviour's love for all mankind. From time to time it is brought to our attention through those whom He has chosen to proclaim His Word of Life. It is comforting to us who have grown older in years and in faith to see younger brothers become endowed with the Spirit of the Lord and carry on the good work which has been begun. It would be sad and discouraging indeed if there were none to take our places when we depart from this life and from our labors.

We have seen an example this day of how one of the Lord's servants has ceased from his labor and has gone to rest; but, when we see that others who are young and strong are willing to labor for the Lord, we are consoled and believe that the work of the Lord will continue.

It would be good if we would encourage those who make themselves useful in this labor. It is necessary that we support each other in our prayers to the Lord for we realize that, whether we are old or young, we can do nothing without Him. If the apostles found it necessary to ask their brethren to pray for them so that they might speak the Word of the Saviour, how much more necessary it is today that every brother and sister give support in prayer to those who speak the words. We oftentimes can feel this support and realize that the brothers do pray for us. We surely appreciate it.

We have read today that the disciples asked the Saviour to teach them to pray. They felt a need for His help.

We might say that many of us learned to pray at our mothers' knees when we were young. How often, when children are grown, they forget and neglect their prayers; in many young lives

there is a period when no prayer is offered. Later, if the Lord awakens them to the realization of their lost condition, they turn to the Lord, and repent and believe. Many have had to go to the Lord and say, "Teach me to pray." If that prayer comes from the heart, that desire and request to learn to pray, the Lord will teach them as He taught His disciples.

We who are brothers and sisters often hear brothers say, "Oh, I have no gift to pray." Perhaps, if they would go to the Lord as the disciples did and say, "Lord, teach me to pray," they would be encouraged to make a beginning. We have noticed that many a brother with a small beginning, using faith and what little gift he had, became useful in the house of God both with prayer and in other ways. I believe that there are far too many brothers who do not take part as they should in prayer in the house of God. David in his psalms said more than once, "I will pray to the Lord in the presence of His congregation." The Apostle Paul said that a few words spoken in a manner that can be understood are edifying. Therefore, dear brothers, we should participate more, and we should also ask the Lord to teach us.

When His disciples asked the Lord to teach them, He did. He told them how they should pray. "When ye pray, say, Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name . . ." Luke 11:2. We are to keep His Name holy, not using It in vain but reverently, exalting It by obeying and being submissive to the will of God. We will hallow the name of God if we obey His commandments; that is an honor to Him. We should feel in our hearts that it is our desire and our duty; we have a debt toward our God and Heavenly Father, a debt of love. We should reverence and thank Him daily for His great love which was shown in sending

His Son into the world to save mankind, sinners who were lost.

Further, the Lord said that we should pray, "Thy kingdom come." We read in the beginning of the Gospel that John the Baptist preached repentance; later, the Lord said, "The kingdom of God has come nigh unto you." Luke 10:9. Now, beloved, we believe that it is near every one who will reach out and lay hold on it. It is not up in the heights; it is not down in the depths; it is not necessary to go across the ocean to find it; it is here before us if we will only realize it. We need only draw it to ourselves. "The kingdom of God has come nigh" to us, also.

We should pray, "Oh, let thy kingdom come into many hearts that are yet cold in sin." We should do our part to bring the kingdom of God to those who are without, who have not yet tasted the love and mercy of God and the Saviour. In the heart of every brother and sister should be concern for the poor souls, of which there are many thousands on this earth, who have never sought nor found the Saviour and who imagine that the kingdom of God is in heaven and not on earth. Oh, beloved, believe that God's kingdom has its beginning here on this earth. When the Saviour was asked when the Kingdom of God should appear, He said that it will not come by "observation" (outward sign), but that it is "within you." When we open our hearts to the Saviour, the kingdom of God is established there; and if we walk as children of light, letting our light shine among the ungodly, then we are doing our part to bring that kingdom nigh to them.

How sad it would be if on the Day of the Lord someone would rise up and accuse us, saying that we had never told him of the Saviour; saying that we had never asked him, "Won't you come, also,

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