

The Silver Lining

A LIGHT FOR BELIEVERS

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OUR HEAVENLY FATHER

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. John 3:16

OUR GOD-FEARING EARTHLY FATHER

Honor thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise; That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth. Ephesians 6:2-3

Hear, ye children, the instruction of a father, and attend to know understanding. Proverbs 4:1

And thou shalt teach them (God's words) diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thy house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. Deuteronomy 6:7

OUR FATHER'S PRAYER

Submitted by the Fairbury Church Correspondent

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

Author Unknown

LET GOD BE WITH YOU AS YOU GRADUATE

Ministering Bro. Harold Gramm

It's graduation time across the land! What a goal to finally achieve!

Life is just full of challenges and decisions to be made everyday; but this is a frustrating stage, wondering where do I go from here? What will the next chapter of my life be?

Our prayer is that all will choose wisely, and take our loving Saviour's advice: "First seek the Kingdom of God and all the rest will be added." How wonderful it is to have His help and guidance in keeping the world around you from squeezing you into its mold. You may find a lot of good that needs to be done, but until you've

committed your will to Christ, it's often difficult to be a good influence.

There are many places in the "Word of Life" that refer to our youth. "Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth." Ecc. 12:1. "Even the youth shall faint and be weary and the young man shall utterly fall. But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength. They shall mount up with wings as eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint." Isa. 40:30-31.

The greatest day of our life will be when we hear the words "Well done, thou good and faithful servant Enter into the joy of the

Lord." That will be a beautiful Graduation Day! May this be the experience of everyone who has ever heard the message of salvation. May God grant you all the grace you need to reach each goal and complete each task! With our faith in God, we can truly say:

I know not the way I am going,
But well do I know my Guide!
With childlike faith do I give my hand
To the mighty Friend by my side.
And the only thing that I say to Him
As He takes it, is "Hold it fast!"
Suffer me not to lose the way
And lead me home at last!

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S HOME

Doug Kellenberger

As Father's Day approaches, we are again reminded to honor the one who has been given the responsibility to guide the most important human entity upon the earth. This entity is the family, and its eternal success depends heavily upon the leadership of the father.

Some diligent mothers have done a successful job of parenting with the father absent, but many more family units are failing because Dad just isn't there.

The cause of today's children's delinquency, emotional trauma and inadequate mental and scholastic development is due largely to a lack of good parenting. It is no wonder the Lord reproves all negligent parents with the admonition, "Hide not thyself from thine own flesh." Isaiah 58:7.

As parents, we are responsible to establish security, good moral values, personal love, discipline and spiritual truth in our children. For the children that come here, we have to make up for lost time; sometimes 14 or 16 years. We find the same hindrances to being a good parent as you do. It is quite a struggle sometimes to do what we should be doing. It is so easy to neglect them and, because they are children, to consider them insignificant. It is so easy to consider our own work more important.

One child-care worker offers a solution: "In your own minds, establish your children as being important and then your interest will be directed there."

I have realized that the efforts to properly teach and care for our children that require the most diligence to maintain, are the ones most essential for their development. Our lives (being of a fallen nature) are all like gardens. If unattended, they grow noxious weeds without effort. If we want them to be beautiful and productive, they need diligent cultivation.

An interesting note for teenagers: To obey and honor father and mother is not just a command from the Lord. It also contains a promise: that life may go well with you." Eph. 6:3. Every anxious teenager needs that kind of reassurance during their years of development.

We have received two more boys in the past months: Gary Lee, 10, and Jay, 12. Those who came to be with us a few years ago are now approaching their teen years. It is a critical time in their life. We appreciate all of your support to enable us to take care of them. Often we receive the report via mail or through our administrator who travels to the churches that you are praying for us. It is no wonder that we feel that extra measure of grace and providence from our Lord to carry out our responsibili-

ty and witness the subsequent success in the lives of the children. From the bottom of our heart, we say thank you for your prayers as well as everything else you do to support us. Please be encouraged that prayer is one of the greatest of Christian works and that the Lord does hear and delights in your prayer if you are honest with Him. Proverbs 15:8. Please pray that, if it is His will, this work could be expanded to meet more needs of children.

Remember our Quilt Sale is moved up this year to August 29. Please plan to join us then.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

"Honour thy father . . . that thy days may be long upon the land." Exodus 20:12

The strength and security represented by our fathers on earth help us to comprehend a little of what protection our Heavenly Father affords. To the fathers of our residents, we express gratitude for all benevolences; and we ask your prayers for wisdom as we continue our responsibilities.

Just recently it was said by one of our staff: "These residents could well be angels sent to earth to monitor us. . ."

To acquaint you further with our various departments, we shall visit that one which has to do with programs for the residents. Reai-

izing that ". . . man lives not by bread alone. . .", we try to administer to the needs of the whole person. As the result of professional evaluation given each resident, a program is implemented to help him to achieve his highest potential. This is geared to each individual, according to his needs. For one, it could mean a behaviour modification program, which would help him to master self-discipline. For another, it could provide learning the ability to do some simple skill which heretofore was not possible. In last month's issue, we mentioned speech therapy. Others will be mentioned in future articles.

Life is serious business to the members of our "family." We also try to teach them that ". . . a merry heart doeth good like a medicine. . ." Proverbs 17:22. Scientists have learned that laughter has a profound, beneficial effect on the organs of the body by reducing and relaxing tensions.

Janet Wilt has come to make her home with us, and we welcome her. Her previous home was Akron, OH. She is the daughter of Luther and Alice Wilt of Akron. Two brothers and one sister, two nieces and one nephew complete the family. Favorite foods include pancakes and meat loaf. Birthday time for Janet is June 21.

Our annual overnight camping excursion is scheduled for the first part of June. This sizable project is well worth the effort when the results are measured in happiness of residents.

Until we meet again on the printed page, please remember us in prayer.

ARIZONA, PHOENIX

Julie Hoerr

"I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance." St. Luke 15:7. Certainly there is much joy in our congregation over the repentance of two dear souls. We rejoice with Jill Beres, daughter of Bro. Jim and Sis. Lois, and Karen Kraft, daughter of Richard and Sis. Dorothy, in their new-found joy. Our prayers and love are with them as they undertake this most important and wonderful step in their lives.

Our visiting minister this month was Bro. Kenneth Sauder, Mans-

field. We thank him for sharing God's Word with us.

Bro. Alphi Fisher underwent knee surgery and was recovering nicely when he became quite ill, requiring intensive care. At this time, Bro. Alphi is in guarded condition with a tracheostomy and is having periods of unresponsiveness. His wife, Sis. Gladys, and their sons, Rodney and Don, would certainly appreciate the strength of your prayers. Bro. Henry and Sis. Ora Schrenk were in an automobile accident requiring both of them to be hospitalized. Bro. Henry suffered a fractured pelvis and after a lengthy stay is now at home with the use of crutches. Sis. Ora suffered leg injuries and, though her stay was a few days less, still requires the use of a walker at home. We look forward to the time they can join us in worship. Sis. Martha De Mille was hospitalized for pneumonia but she is at home now. We trust God's strength will be felt by her as we pray for her health. Many of our dear little congregation would appreciate your prayers for their recovery, insomuch as God would will.

On Sunday, May 17, we held our annual graduation tea to honor our graduates from grade school and high school. This year we have two from grade school and three from high school. Grade school graduates are Mitchel French and Stephanie Tooley and our high school graduates are Jill Beres, Suzy Zollinger, and Jay Schmidgall. We trust and pray that all of these young people will trust their lives to God and follow the pathway He has provided for their lives as they undertake further schooling or seek employment.

ARIZONA, TUCSON

Rose Huette

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

What a blessed time we shared on Sunday, April 26, when we came together to partake of the Lord's Supper. We were glad to have our Elder Bro. Richard Schupbach (Phoenix) with us. We received many blessings.

On April 12, our monthly potluck was enjoyed by many.

The Tucson ladies have just recently completed a quilt with the

good help of our winter visitors. Thank you all for your good help. It is being donated for the Apostolic Christian Children's Home Quilt Sale at Leo, IN.

We congratulate two graduates. Cindy Knapp is graduating from high school, and her sister, Kathy (Knapp) Woodruff, from Nurses training with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing. We wish them both God's guidance as they go on to whatever life holds for them. May we, as believers, remember that, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of Wisdom."

COLORADO, DENVER

Marlene Leman

Easter Sunday was a special blessing when a good number gathered together to worship and praise our risen Lord. We thank Bro. Lennie Meyer and his wife Sis. Charlotte of the Chicago congregation for coming to serve at this time.

God willing, our family (Bro. Tom and Sis. Marlene Leman and children of Elgin, IL) will be spending two months in the Denver area this summer. We invite and encourage anyone going through or spending time there to call or look us up. At this time, we do not have a phone number or address, but by the time you read this it should be available from directory assistance. We plan to arrive in Denver June 12.

Services will be held every Sun-

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IN MEMORY -- EDITORS:

HENRY SOUDER
EDWARD SOUDER

day during the summer at the Victory Grange Hall, 2009 Tower Road, Aurora, CO. Tower Road is Colorado State Route 32.

We have the building rented for the entire day every Sunday, so plan to spend some time in fellowship and have supper with us after services.

If you will not be visiting the Denver area, we ask your support in prayer.

FLORIDA, FT. LAUDERDALE
Sally Gress

**WHAT DOES
CHRISTIANITY MEAN?**

In the home—kindness
In business—honesty
In society—courtesy
In work—thoroughness
In play—fairness
To the unfortunate—pity
To sin—resistance
To the strong—trust and goodwill
To the weak—help
To the penitent—forgiveness
To all men—reverence and love
To God—worship and service.

Charles F. Banning

We wish to thank Elder Bros. Dale Eisenmann, Chicago, IL, and Joe Braker, Morton, IL, and Bro. Ralph Garber of Morton, IL, for ministering to us this month.

On Easter Sunday, we held our annual Sunday School picnic at a local park.

Bro. Roy and Sis. Helen Luginbuhl have returned to their home in Connecticut for the summer. We bid them farewell and look forward to seeing them in the fall.

FLORIDA, SARASOTA
Doris and Diane Rocke

We are so often blessed on the Lord's Day with ministering brethren from the north. Ministering brothers visiting our congregation this month were: Bro. Leland Hirschey (Naumberg, NY), Bro. Floyd Wieland (Detroit, MI), and Bro. Edwin Bahler (Remington, IN).

We ask God's blessings on Bro. Joe and Sis. Esther Schrock, Congerville, IL, as they return home after their extended stay here. We appreciate Bro. Joe's willingness to bring us God's teachings so faithfully.

We are happy to have the Port Charlotte residents attending services with us again. Services will resume there next winter and a

definite date and time will be published for morning and afternoon services.

Sis. Dorothy Norr has returned to Leo, IN, for a short visit. We pray that the Lord will see her there safely.

Father's Day is approaching and our thoughts turn to our Heavenly Father, who loves us so. We await the time when there will no longer be an earthly barrier, separating us from the totality of His glory. We praise and thank Him for the blessing of our loving, earthly fathers.

Sis. Marie Martin expresses her thanks for all the gifts, letters, and visits during her long illness. We are happy to have her worshipping with us once again.

We welcome Kenneth and Carol Rocke to the Sarasota area. We are thankful that the Lord has led them here and we pray He will bless their new home.

**ILLINOIS,
BLOOMINGTON - NORMAL**
Mary Huber - Jean O'Shea

We want to thank Elder Bro. Edwin Ringger from the Gridley congregation for assisting Bro. Dan during Communion on April 22. It is truly a blessed event each time we partake of the Lord's Supper.

To the brothers and sisters who participated in our annual church cleaning, we express our thanks and appreciation. How much quicker the work can be accomplished when many are joined together, in love, to share the load!

A sweet baby daughter was born to Bro. Mark and Sis. Mary Huber on May 9. Little Amanda Jo's grandparents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Doris Huber and Bro. Elmer and Sis. Peg Bucher of Francesville. How awesome each new little life is that God creates! Surely He holds us responsible, as parents, to give our children the love needed that will eventually guide them back again to their Heavenly Father.

We had three hospital patients this month. Sis. Paula Knapp, wife of Bro. Charles. Bro. Lloyd Zimmerman, husband of Sis. Helen, and Bro. Erik Langhofer, husband of Sis. Cindy are all home now and are doing well. Even though the days spent recovering often seem discouraging, the Lord is always there in time of need and will provide His comfort.

"For each valley there's a hilltop,
For each raindrop there is sun,
For each twilight there's a
dawning

When dark hours of night are
done.

For each thistle there's a flower,
For each teardrop there's a smile;
And sorrow will give way to joy
In just a little while."

Jon Gilbert

We rejoice with Bro. Larry Mariani and Sis. Jeanine Rudin who were married on May 17. Their parents are the Dave Mariani's of LaSalle, and Sis. Kathryn Rudin of Cissna Park. With the Lord as their guide, their marriage will certainly be one filled with many joys and blessings! We thank Bros. Edmond Kloter of Goodfield and Ed Alt of Cissna Park for sharing this happy day with us.

ILLINOIS, BRADFORD
Evelyn Endress

Last night my boy confessed to
me

Some childish wrong;
And kneeling at my knee
He prayed with tears:
"Dear God, make me a man,
Like Daddy—wise and strong;
I know You can."

Then while he slept
I knelt beside his bed,
Confessed my sins,
And prayed with love-bowed head,
"Oh, God, make me a child
Like my child here—
Pure, guileless,
Trusting Thee with faith sincere."

—Andrew Gillies

We appreciated the visit of Bro. Earl Gerber (Forrest) who ministered to us one Sunday this past month. May we prayerfully support the brethren who proclaim God's Word.

Bro. Louie Rumbold is a patient in the hospital at this time. He has been unable to attend church for several weeks due to his failing health. Bro. George Kieser was a recent surgical patient, and Bro. Mark Ehnle is currently at the Mayo Clinic. Many thoughts and prayers are with these loved ones.

Sis. Lucille Kieser would like to thank everyone, including the residents and visitors at Sarasota, who kindly remembered her during her illness.

ILLINOIS, CHICAGO

Kathy Schlatter

"Mommy, I'm glad God made hands. Hands can do so many things." And she said that when she had just finished doing a task at Mother's request, one of those that seem so long and tedious. It was a moment to remember. I wonder how many times God gets to pause in delight, to say, "Finally, he's realizing that being thankful helps," or, "She's getting it. She's singing instead of pouting." Lord, forgive me for trying Thy patience, oh, so many times.

"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

Throughout our busy lives that standard of stability is a comfort and a hope. We are most thankful to Bros. Ken Eisenmann, Cissna Park, and Bob Pflederer, Morton, who were vessels for the Master's use, bringing us spiritual food. May the Lord reward them now and forever.

Many were able, once again, to travel as a group this year to Alto, MI, where we were enfolded in arms of love and granted a bountiful welcome. By earthly food and blessed spiritual kinship, we were overwhelmed. Dear brethren, we give you humble thanks in Jesus' name. To the church of Philadelphia was written:

I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name. . .

Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth.

Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown.

Revelation 3: 8, 10, 11

We also enjoyed the uplifting of beautiful (but more important), heavenly songs from Morton's women's choir and a smaller men's group. Because of their visit, we had the added privilege of supping together. One of their songs touched me so. It was called, "Tears Are a Language That God Understands." That song reminded me of Dad. I have inherited from him that emotional make-up where tears lie close to the surface. In

joy, sorrow, pain, an inspirational story or a reminiscent anecdote, in moments of sublimity, the tears spill over. Sometimes they're better than words. Our trials and life's sparkling moments, are sometimes beyond words' reach it seems, as heaven is beyond earth's. Certainly, God understands, and perhaps through some tears or word-bound emotions, He yet molds us, tries us, and shapes us in His hands.

Doris Kuerth has been recently hospitalized. She is now well and at home. May the Lord grant her His continued blessing and power.

I just recently read of the values families can and should instill in their children. These five were mentioned, though not in Biblical terms.

JOY: "Thou shalt show me the path of life: in thy presence is fullness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore."

Psalm 16:11

LOVE: "Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.

"And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself."

Matthew 22: 37, 39

HONESTY: "Better is the poor that walketh in his integrity, than he that is perverse in his lips, and is a fool."

Proverbs 19:1

COURAGE: "Be strong and of a good courage, fear not, nor be afraid of them: for the Lord thy God, he it is that doth go with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee."

Deuteronomy 31:6

FAITH: "Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked."

Ephesians 6:16

To these, I would add yet two, respect and gratitude or appreciation. I think society and daily living tend to erode both of these and their importance with the emphasis on assertiveness, "me-firstness," and "my" rights ("You can't do this to me"). Dads are crucial to the development of these values in their sons and daughters. After all, fathers tend to see in the cradle already, far beyond the dependent infant; John taking over the family business; Mellisa pursuing a nursing career in college. And Dad seems to be a bit more objective in assessing his children's be-

haviour. He also, I think, always expects a bit more. His standards are high. (Sounds like our Heavenly Father, doesn't it?) All this calls up a healthy respect for Dad himself, which he, by example, can extend to other authorities, whether it's his acceptance of the flashing red light in the rearview mirror without a lot of lashing out at what else the policeman could be doing; his respect for the office of President, even when he doesn't like something the man has done; or his reverent, prayerful attitude toward God and His Son, our Lord and Savior. And perhaps even that respect is easier to teach than the gratitude and appreciation, not taking all that comes one's way as his due, but rather with thankfulness, realizing that one often gets, without deserving, most of life's gifts. To savour the abundance of these God-given gifts, to thank though thanksgiving might seem ridiculous (even when circumstances look tough or terrible) and to be happy and not just successful: these are ways Dad can teach through living. (A gift from a friend reads: "Success is getting what you want. Happiness is wanting what you get." Anonymous)

"And thou shalt teach them (God's words and values) diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up."

Deuteronomy 6:7

ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK
Mary Anderson - Melba Funk

When you need someone to stand beside you,

Dad is near. . .

When you need someone to hear your troubles,

He will hear. . .

When you need someone to share your burden,

He will share. . .

When you need to know that someone loves you,

Dad is there.

We can honor our father's on their day, by showing them love in many ways. The very word "father" is unique. It is the only word which we apply to God as well as man, for we address our prayers to "Our Father."

Hospital patients this month have been Sis. Ida Rocke and Sis.

Grace Bauer, medical. Bro. Jacob Funk and Lesile Bauer had eye surgery for removal of a cataract. Both are home again and doing very well. Bro. Willard Rudin has also returned home after his surgery. We are thankful to the Lord for His wonderful healing power.

On May 3 we were happy to have Bro. Joe and Sis. Connie Gerst among us. They fellowshipped with us while on their way to Kentucky, where Bro. Joe was to work for a few days. We thank Bro. Joe for his inspiring messages to us and welcome him back again. Bro. Roy and Sis. Donna Grimm spent a Wednesday evening with us. We appreciated the message Bro. Roy brought to us, especially sharing some of his experiences during his recent trip to India.

We offer our congratulations to all of our 1981 graduates. Sis. Kim Walder (Bro. Art) has graduated from nursing school as a registered nurse. Sis. Beth Alt (Sis. Marge and Bro. Ed) is graduating from nursing school as a licensed practical nurse, and Sis. Terri Steffen (Sis. Blanche and Bro. Eldon) is to graduate as a registered nurse.

Our high school graduates are: Kellie Drayer (Judy and Bill), Kathy Ehman (Virginia and Bro. Richard), Hartzell Kaeb (Sis. Mary Lou and Bro. Elmer), Dana Krumweide (Sis. Shirley and Ron), Lyle Rudin (Dorothy and Alvin), Bro. Tom Stock (Sis. Arlene and Bro. Les), Dale Stock (Sis. Kathy and Bro. Gilbert), Joan Waldbeser (Sis. Carol and Bro. John), Kathy Walder (Sis. Irma and Bro. Melvin), David Yergler (Sis. Donna and Bro. Max), Sis. Lisa Young (Sis. Kate and Harvey) and Sis. Joyce Young (Mary Lou and Roland).

We trust that each will seek God's guidance as they step forth into the stream of life.

ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE Mardell Ott - Shirley Ifft

Father is the captain
Of the family ship
He's the one who's at the wheel
To pilot every trip;
So here's a real and true salute
To the captain I have known
And the father I am proud of
To claim—My Very Own!

Author Unknown

As we think of our fathers on

Father's Day, may we also remember our heavenly Father as He guides our spiritual ship every day.

Being led and directed by the Lord, Sis. Janet Knapp (Bro. Willis and Sis. Bernice) and Bro. Ben Leman (Bro. Sam and Sis. Ann), Ranoke, announced their engagement. A July 12 wedding is being planned. We wish them God's blessings and His continued guidance.

We are thankful many souls have turned to the Lord in repentance and have made a new beginning in life. Don and Carol Whales gave their testimonies and were baptized the weekend of April 26. Also, four young sisters were added to the fold May 26. They are Kim McClure (Bro. Bob and Sis. Sharon), Julie Knapp (Bro. Willis and Sis. Bernice), Joan Schrock (Bro. Steve and Sis. Geri) and Pat Knapp (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Nancy), Taylor. We rejoice with these dear souls and pray many more might find this joy in serving the Lord.

We are thankful for the visiting ministers who have come to labor in our behalf. They are Elder Bros. Joshua Broquard and Art Bahler (Fairbury) and Bro. Kenneth Knapp (Taylor).

We are happy to report Jennifer Ifft (Bro. Larry and Sis. Shirley) and Sis. Pennina Miller (Clarence) are home after being hospitalized. Sis. Frances Schumacher (Bro. Joe) and Bro. Chris Miller have been convalescing at home.

Sis. Betty Miller received a special Mother's Day gift when her first grandchild, Corey James, was born May 10. Corey is the son of Jim and Gwen Miller.

High school graduates this year are Susie Ott (Bro. Don and Sis. Carolyn), Sis. Kay Roth (Bro. Keith and Sis. Pauline), Susan Funk (Bro. Virgil and Sis. Shirley), Bob Hartman (Bro. Gene and Sis. Carrie Lou), and Jeff McClure (Bro. Bob and Sis. Sharon). Sis. Karen Knapp (Bro. Fredrick and Sis. Marge) is graduating from nurse's training and Sis. Alice Schlipf (Clarence and Lorene) is graduating from the University of Illinois.

ILLINOIS, ELGIN Ruth Ann Getz

We remember as small children the unconditional love of our fathers and we are warmed by those memories. We remember also our complete trust in his strength and

judgment and with these remembrances we start to comprehend the meaning of the Word that says we must become as little children in order to inherit the Kingdom of God. It seems that we must get to this stage of trusting in our Heavenly Father before we can make progress in our spiritual walk. Our God-fearing fathers are given to us for a great blessing. From our earliest days we feel what father love is and we grow and are nourished in that love. It helps us to grasp a bit more clearly that there is a Heavenly Father that is capable of drawing us to Him; that He is able to love us even before we love Him. We wish to thank our God-fearing fathers everywhere for their example in the Lord, for truly they are of great value.

The Word tells us that, "There is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth." (Luke 15:10) We found ourselves rejoicing with the angels, May 17, when David Steffen (son of Bro. Nathan and Sis. Marilyn) and Dorothy Schifferer were taken into the fold as new-born babes in Christ. Our hearts burned within us as we heard their testimonies of faith for we could feel the oneness of spirit in the Lord. We enjoyed a blessed privilege unknown to the unbelieving world. Bro. Edwin Ringger (Gridley) assisted Bro. Nathan Steffen and Bro. Herman Kellenberger with these services. Also gathered with us were Bro. Uriel Gehring (Burlington), and Bro. Gerald Sutter (Taylor) who blessed us with the preaching of the Word.

Bro. Ernest and Sis. Carol Kellenberger have announced the engagement of their daughter, Kerri to Charles Weiss, son of Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Weiss of Pottstown, PA. Their marriage is planned for May 30. They have also announced the engagement of their son, Scott, to Anita Sommers, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Darleton Sommers of New Paris, IN. They plan to marry Aug. 15.

Bro. Tom and Sis. Connie Schambach have received into their hearts and home little Jenean Kay, born May 12. Jason, Matthew, Jolene, and Scott are at home to welcome her. Grandparents are Sis. Marilyn Kellenberger and Sis. Elizabeth Schambach.

Our sympathy is extended to Bro. Richard and Sis. Judy Klopfenstein in the death of his broth-

er. Robert, 62, of Mishawaka, IN. May the Lord, who is able, comfort their hearts.

Paul Oeshle, 81, passed away on May 18 in Zapata, TX. He was born in Germany and came to this country as a young man under the sponsorship of his aunt, Sis. Minnie Gschwind. He is survived by his daughter, Eileen Honert, of Maple Glen, PA. His wife, Elsa (Krueger) Oechsle preceded him in death. We extend our sympathy to this family.

Several of our loved ones have experienced illness again and were hospitalized this month. We intercede with the Father that they may all return to health. Sis. Louise Shrock, Sis. Ida Moser, Bro. Edward Schambach and Martha Lohbauer are recuperating in their homes while Norman Zierke and Robert Gebhardt remain hospitalized.

ILLINOIS, EUREKA Melba Mangold

We enjoyed the visit of Bro. Bill and Sis. Betty Hodel of Roanoke on Sunday, April 26. We thank Bro. Bill for his labor of love.

On two Sunday evenings it was our privilege to host the Apostolic Christian Youth Fellowship Bible class groups from the area churches. There were sixteen different Bible classes taking part, each singing several selections. The singing was followed by an inspirational talk by a brother. One stressed the fact that regardless of pressures and outside influence, which is great today, it is still up to each one to decide the life style he will lead and the end result of that choice.

Elder Bro. Roy Grimm of Taylor was with us the first weekend in May when five new souls were taken into the fold. They are Sisters Sherri Grubb, Linda Wiegand, Lena Hangartner and Bros. Dan and Dave Schumacher. Their parents are Mr. and Mrs. Bill Grubb, El Paso, Bro. Bob and Sis. Helen Wiegand, Bro. Roy and Norma Hangartner and Bro. Bob and Sis. Charlene Schumacher. Bro. Willis Wiegand of Goodfield was also with us and we thank him for ministering to us.

"We bring our prayer to Thee;
O Lord, in mercy hear it.
And now impart to them
Rich measures of Thy Spirit
Who now have entered in

The household of thy Grace;
Keep them from Satan's yoke,
Grant them in heaven a place."

Zion's Harp #42, verse 7

These words also apply to three more dear young sisters who were baptized Sunday, May 10. They are Sisters Mary Wettstein, Becky Knecht and Sandy Getz. Their parents are Bro. Art and Sis. Donna Wettstein, Bro. Ernie and Sis. Judie Knecht, and Bro. Alan and Sis. Nathalia Getz. Elder Bro. Steve Rinkenberger of Cissna Park was here to help in this most important work. In the service on Sunday, Mother's Day, Bro. Steve said not only mother but also father is a big influence in the lives of their children. Their life together should serve as a good example to them in all ways. Bro. Vernon Wettstein of Congerville was also with us and we thank both for being here.

Two of our sisters were hospitalized but are now released. Sis. Della Anliker has returned to the Home, and Sis. Emma Somerhalder has gone to the Home to recuperate for awhile before going to her own home.

Our friend Art Fehr passed away and his funeral was Saturday, May 16. Bros. Walter Anliker and Leroy Huber conducted the services. We sympathize with his widow, Sis. Lillian and daughter Diane of Nebraska. He also leaves three brothers, Jess, Bros. Ernest and Leroy, and one sister, Sis. Edna, all of Eureka.

We enjoyed our many visitors on Sunday, May 17, when Sis. Elaine Zimmerman and Bro. Scott Frank were united in marriage by his father, Elder Bro. Ed of La-Crosse. Our wish for them is that the Lord will bless them in all their days together, wherever they may go. We will miss Sis. Elaine but feel where God leads we must follow. Their parents are Bro. Earl and Sis. Elsie Zimmerman and Bro. Ed and Sis. Lea Frank. Also with us were Bros. Art Gudeman, La-Crosse and Larry Wenninger of Latty. We appreciated their sharing the Word with us.

ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY

Carol Bazzell - Joann Zehr

A number of our Forrest brothers and sisters joined us for an evening of fellowship and showing of slides concerning our World Relief activities. Bro. Vernon Leman of Eureka spent the evening with

us, explaining the work being done in various places. Bro. Walter Anliker and Bro. Vernon spent Sunday with us.

Our prayers of sympathy are extended to the families from our congregation who have recently lost loved ones. Katherine Grace, 75, passed away May 5. Surviving are her husband, Ernest; a son, LeRoy, Fairbury; a daughter, Rosemary Stockle, Colfax; and four sisters, Miriam Mehrkens, Eagle Rock, VA; Anna Merz, Forrest; and Sisters Arlene Kilgus and Lorraine Claus of Remington, IN.

Death has taken our Bro. Albert Sohn, 70. He had been in ill health for a time and passed away May 8. He leaves his wife, Sis. Betty; a brother, Bro. Emil; and two sisters, Sisters Helen and Louise, all of Fairbury. May God comfort and sustain our loved ones and may we all strive to prepare ourselves for that time when we, too, will depart this life.

The weekend of May 9 and 10 was a most blessed one as our dear friend Don Bazzell gave his testimony of the burden of sin, repentance, and conversion. We rejoice with him as he is now our brother in faith. Bro. Walt Hermann of Princeville and Bro. Bob Walder of Congerville spent Sunday with us and we thank them for their labors of love in bringing us God's inspired Word.

ILLINOIS, FORREST

Jan Bachtold - Kathy Leman

WHAT IS A FATHER?

A father is there when we're in our youth

To teach us of God's love and truth
He's there to guide as the years go on

When we need direction—right or wrong.

When into the world I go astray
He's praying his loved one will find the way.

And then when I answer God's way so true

A father's forgiveness is there—
his love is too.

Anonymous

As we celebrate Father's Day, let's be thankful for God-fearing fathers who taught us the way of God.

On May 2 and 3 our friends, Mike and Jeanette Zimmerman (Bro. Perry and Sis. Dorothy) and

Renee Wenger (Ed), gave their testimony of faith in our dear Savior and were baptized into the fold. Sharing in this work were Bro. Alfred Bahler (Wolcott, IN), Bro. Joshua Broquard and Bro. Art Bahler (Fairbury). Also ministering to us that weekend were Bro. Art Gudeman (LaCrosse, IN), Bro. Bill Gudeman (Elgin) and Bro. Bill Hodel (Roanoke). May we all let our lights shine brightly that many others may yet find the way.

We thank Bro. Virg Metzger (Champaign), Bro. Gene Lehman (Wolcott, IN), Bro. Kenneth Weerts (Cissna Park) and Bro. Edwin Bahler (Remington, IN) for bringing us God's Word. We should always be thankful for the privilege of gathering in God's House.

Several babies were welcomed into family circles. Certainly these little bundles are a miracle of God. Stan and Peggy Blunier were blessed with a girl, Lisa Rae. She has one brother, Kent. Grandparents are Bro. Homer and Sis. Virginia Blunier.

Sam and Sherri Schmidgall are first time parents of Bradley Kenneth. His grandparents are Bro. Dave and Sis. Alma Jean Schmidgall.

Also welcoming their first child are Bro. Paul and Sis. Loretta Zimmerman. Little Benjamin Alan was born on May 1. His grandparents are Bro. Perry and Sis. Dorothy Zimmerman and Bro. Lyle and Sis. Helen Huette (Fairbury).

Sis. Dorothy Rieger wishes to thank the congregation for all the prayers and kind deeds that were done in her behalf during her recent surgery and recuperation at home. It has been a great comfort to her.

The Forrest-Fairbury churches are hosting the 10th annual Fort Sam reunion on July 25 and 16. All those discharged from service after Jan. 1, 1970, are welcome to attend.

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

ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD

Verna Hartter

"We have heard with our ears, O God, our fathers have told us, what work thou didst in their

days, in the times of old."

Psalm 44

As Father's Day approaches, it is good to review the memories of how important their faith in God was to them.

Angela Kay is the new little daughter of Bro. Randy and Sis. Cindy Schmidgall. She arrived on May 3, and her grandparents are Bro. Harry and Sis. Helen Schmidgall, Morton, and Bro. Dan and Sis. Verla Wiegand of this congregation.

"Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ, for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost." Acts 3:38. Three dear souls have heeded this call. They are Sis. Wilma Knapp, and Bro. Melvin and Sis. Marilyn Blunier. Their testimonies of faith were given on Saturday, May 2, and they were baptized on the following Sunday. It has also been made known that Roger and Trish Gerber and Evelyn Hofmann have found peace in their hearts and we are looking forward to hearing their testimonies in the near future. We thank God for His wonderful plan of salvation!

Little Blake Gerber (Roger and Trish) was in the hospital for surgery, and we are happy to report he is back home with his family.

Bro. Arnold Gerst, Chicago, brought spiritual messages to us on Mother's Day and we thank him for this.

We ask for God's blessing upon the marriage of Sally Zimmerman and Joe Quast who were married on May 2. Their parents are Bro. Morris and Sis. Kathy Zimmerman, and the Lee Quasts of Eureka.

ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY

Carol Klopfenstein

We were freshly reminded of God's wonderful deliverance from sin and destruction through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, as we gathered together to partake of Holy Communion. Elder Bro. Arthur Bahler of Fairbury was with us and we were blessed as he described some of the events of the Old Testament which pointed toward the perfect atonement that is available to us today.

As the children of Israel were required to offer their best and were to apply the blood of the unblemished lamb to their door posts, so today God asks us to give Him

our best and our all in humble obedience, that the cleansing power in the blood of Jesus Christ may be applied to our hearts through faith. The people of old were asked to be ready to leave on a moment's notice, and likewise we should be spiritually prepared to depart this life at any time, for we know not when the death angel will call or when the Lord will return to gather His elect.

We also heard of the example of Rahab, and that it was essential for her to follow the spies' command to remain in the house where the scarlet cord was hanging from the window, in order to be saved. Again in this present time, it is necessary for us to remain with that which we found in the beginning, that we don't leave the faith or the body of believers that was provided for us as a refuge for our sin-sick soul. This haven of rest and safety is where the scarlet cord is hanging, symbolic of the blood of Christ by which we have been rescued and saved.

Our hospital patients have been Sis. Betty Schmidgall, Sis. Rose Schlipf, Sis. Vira Stoller and Bro. Ray Meiss.

We appreciated our visiting ministers who were with us on Easter: Bro. Glenn Dill from Tremont and Bro. Harold Gramm from Morris.

ILLINOIS, MORTON

JoAnn Roecker - Phyllis Farney

We gathered together in God's House on Saturday evening, April 25, to hear the testimonies of four dear souls. They were Kathy Rittaler, daughter of Bro. Dale and Sis. Joyce Domnick, Doug and Lisa Shafer, son and daughter-in-law of Bro. Maurice and Sis. Alice Shafer, and Tom Shafer, son of Bro. Maurice and Sis. Alice Shafer. We witnessed their baptisms on Sunday, April 26. We wish our two new "brothers in faith" and our two new "sisters in faith" much grace and blessings as they walk the narrow pathway of life.

The Lord has been very gracious unto our congregation as we were able to hear the testimonies of two dear souls, Millie Bigger and Cinda Honeg on Wednesday evening, April 29. This truly was a very special time as Millie and Cinda are mother and daughter. Then on Saturday evening, May 2, we gathered together in God's House to hear the testimonies of Jean Hun-

ziker, daughter of Bro. Al and Sis. Ginny, Jenny Belsley, daughter of Bro. Louie and Sis. Vilas, Diane Fischer, daughter of Bro. Jim and Sis. Joanne, and Stephanie Zimmerman, daughter of Bro. Bruce and Sis. Myrna. We were able to witness their baptisms on Sunday, May 3. May the Lord continue to lead, guide and direct them as they walk the narrow pathway of life.

"For I have received of the Lord that which I delivered unto you, That the Lord Jesus the same night in which He was betrayed took bread: And when He had given thanks, He brake it, and said, 'Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me.' After the same manner also He took the cup, when He had supped, saying, 'This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me.' For as often as ye eat this bread and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till He come." I Corinthians 11:23-26. We gathered together in God's Holy House to partake of Holy Communion on Saturday evening, May 9. It was with solemn hearts that we remembered Christ's death upon the cross, His blood flowing to cleanse my sins, your sins, yes, the sins of all mankind. Let us daily go to the cross of Calvary and remember what Christ did so mankind could receive a home in Heaven.

We all can recall many heart-warming stories we have heard over the years concerning fathers. As a nation, we set aside a certain day to honor our fathers, but as a child of God, we know our Heavenly Father has instructed us to honor our fathers every day. We looked to our fathers for guidance and instruction while growing and reaching adulthood. Often along the path, Dad had to correct us and with love set our course on the straight and narrow pathway. The love and patience of a Christian father is of far greater worth than simple words explain.

As a Child of God, we can rejoice in knowing our Heavenly Father watches over us day after day. What peace we have in knowing this love never fails. He lights our path with His Word and comforts us through the Holy Spirit. Blessed are those who still have their fathers with them as we celebrate Father's Day. What joy we all share together having the

love of our Heavenly Father.

There is so much I would care to share with you, although the message that comes strongest is the appreciation for your love and prayers. A deep awareness came to me while in the hospital at Rochester, MN, as I met several people who were facing grave surgery and even death, who had never known the love and fellowship that I have. I feel so blest, knowing I have the prayers of my brothers and sisters in faith. Memories of one patient still linger in my mind. Oh, that he and his family could only have the peace I have. I truly believe when we pass through a valley, we gain strength renewed.

I have enjoyed your many cards and letters as they helped close the distance to home. Your prayers and love shall always mean so very much. Let us hold fast to our precious faith. May God richly bless you all for all your acts of kindness. Humbly, your reporter, JoAnn Roecker.

We have had the following visiting ministers this month: Bros. Don Sauder (Roanoke, IL), Roy Sauder (Peoria, IL), Dan Koch (Tremont, IL), Edwin Ringger (Gridley, IL), Bob Grimm (Goodfield, IL), Joe Stoller (Princeville, IL), Marshall Heinold (Washington, IL), Art Bauer (Princeville, IL), Fred Knapp (Congerville, IL) and Don Wagenbach (Washington, IL). May our Heavenly Father richly bless them for their labors of love.

We have had the following people in the hospital this past month: Sis. JoAnn Roecker, Sis. Dorothy Belsley, Sis. Elaine Schmidgall, Bro. Robert Getz, Sis. Katie Brandt, and Sis. Charlene Herstein. May God be with them and continue their healing.

ILLINOIS, PEORIA

Mary Plattner - Mary Ann Plattner
To love and to be loved is the greatest happiness of existence.

Sydney Smith

It was high noon, and I was making my daily call home from the pay phone at the library to check on the mail. To a writer, the mailman is very important. So every day around noon, I chat with my wife. Then Ryan, our three-year-old simply must talk to Daddy.

Today when I said, "Good-bye, see you this afternoon," there was a pause. I thought perhaps he had

hung up. Then he said, very quietly, "I love you, Daddy." There was a click. He was gone.

I walked into the library stacks and sat down on a stool, wondering how four simple words coming from the mouth of a very small boy could shake my universe so.

You know how it is when something joyous happens to you. You want to share it. So right then and there, I said a prayer—maybe the most meaningful prayer of my whole life. I whispered, "I love you, Father."

God, my father. At times I've wondered if He really needs to know I love Him. I am so insignificant. Does He need to hear it from me?

Now I know. Every father needs to hear it.

I Love You, Father.

—G. J. R.

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 #209

We were privileged to hear the testimonies and witness the baptisms on April 25 and 26 of four dear souls. They were Larry and Barbara (Fehr) Reinbach, Holly Hermann (Bro. Harold and Sis. Ardith), and Linda (Witzig) Leathers.

May God fill their lives with His abundant joy and blessings.

The Lord again has brought two dear souls together. The engagement of Bro. Max Hoerr, Jr. (Bro. Max and Sis. Katherine) to Sis. Suzanne Lehman (Bro. Gene and Sis. Verna) of Wolcott, IN. They are planning an Aug. 9 wedding.

May 2 was the wedding date of Kimberly Metzger to Michael Rocke. Parents of the couple are Willard and Ann Metzger and Norman and Sis. Emma Rocke. We wish them the Lord's blessings.

We were happy to have Bro. Don Wagenbach from Washington in our congregation. We want to thank him for the blessings ministered unto us.

Among the hospital patients this month were Bro. Larry Reinbach, Ben Hancher, Oscar Hoerr, Luke Heller, Jack Koehl, Sis. Martha Streitmatter, Louise Baurer, Madge O'Moran, Marie Kieser, Mary Sawless, Perceda Huber, Dustin Plattner, Barbara Herman and Evelyn Thomas.

We pray that God will restore them to good health according to His will.

April 23 was the funeral for Roxanne Adams. She died a tragic death while in Florida with her husband. She is the granddaughter of Sis. Ella Hoerr.

Paul Metzger was laid to rest on May 4. He was a resident at our Apostolic Christian Home.

We extend our prayers and sympathy to these dear families who have lost loved ones.

Barbara Herman would like to "thank" all her dear friends who remembered her with many acts of love, kindness, flowers, food and cards during her recent hospital stay.

Elder Bro. Roy and Sis. Gertrude Sauder moved to their new duplex at the Apostolic Christian Home. There new address is:

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Sauder
1100 E. St. Luke's Ct.
Peoria, IL 61614

ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE

Arlene and Arlys Martin

In Matthew 6, Jesus told His disciples that a prerequisite to prayer is to hallow God's name. Our visiting minister who spoke to us and prayed with us was Bro. Kenneth Dietz of Bradford.

We welcome Sis. Lois Leuthold to our congregation. Sis. Lois and Bro. Steve Leuthold were married April 26 in Tremont. Parents are Bro. John and Sis. Shirley Leuthold of Princeville and Sis. Barbara Dill of Tremont.

We also welcome five babies. Alex Paul Stoller was born on Apr. 15 to Bro. Gale and Sis. Sonia Stoller. Alex's brother is Douglas and his grandparents are Bro. Joe and Sis. Emily Stoller and Bro. Burton and Sis. Martha Streitmatter—all of our congregation.

Carissa Joy Klopfenstein was born on Apr. 20. Her parents are Bro. Wayne and Sis. Carol Klopfenstein. Grandparents are Bro. Alvin and Sis. Ellen Klopfenstein of Latty, OH, and Bro. Reuben and Sis. Emily Stoller of Gridley.

Amy Nicole Knobloch was born on Apr. 21 to Bro. Loris and Sis. Patricia Knobloch. Amy's sister is Marla, and her grandparents are Bro. Ed and Sis. Lucille Knobloch of Princeville and Bro. Levi and Sis. Faye Pfister of Morton.

Lisa Marie Herr was born on Apr. 27 to Bro. Gary and Sis. Cindy Herr. Lisa also has a sister, Angela. Her grandparents are Elmer

and Marjorie Herr of the Gridley KS, area, and Otto and Eleanor Baer of our congregation.

Brian Joseph O'Kane was born on Apr. 30 to Joe and Donna O'Kane. Brian's grandparents are Glen and Connie O'Kane and Bro. Don and Sis. Mary Lou Streitmatter of Princeville.

At this time, Bro. John Joos is in the hospital with a heart problem. We wish him God's blessings and a speedy recovery.

ILLINOIS, ROANOKE

Joyce Hodel - Carol Rumbold

April 26 was the special day when Bro. Joe Aeschleman (Bro. Joe and Sis. Mardell) and Sis. Sue Schifferer (Bro. Howard and Sis. Pat) were joined in a marriage made in Heaven. Sis. Sue is welcomed by all.

The wedding of Shirley Wiedman (Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Wiedman) and Dean Anderson (Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Anderson) was celebrated on May 2.

Bro. Russell Plattner (Bro. Russ and Sis. Marge) and Sis. Sally Mangold (Bro. Melvin and Sis. Helen) exchanged their wedding vows on May 17. May all three couples share the abundant love of God throughout life.

Spring has certainly budded and blossomed in many hearts! It has been a number of years since three couples were engaged on the same Sunday. April 19 was the triple engagement for Bro. Brad Hodel (Bro. Bill and Sis. Betty) to Sis. Patti Aeschleman (Bro. Joe and Sis. Mardell), Bro. Tim Martin (Bro. Jim and Sis. Helen) to Sis. Linda Unsicker (Bro. Melvin and Sis. Carolee of Peoria), and Bro. Ben Leman (Bro. Sam and Sis. Anna) to Sis. Janet Knapp (Bro. Willis and Sis. Bernice of Congerville). May their engagement be a happy beginning to joy as they become one in the Lord.

The funeral of our Bro. Ben Fischer was held on Easter Sunday. This is the first Easter that Bro. Ben will truly experience that glorious resurrection, thanks to our Lord Jesus, who also had to die before He arose.

The birth of Spring also brought the births of two little girls. Staci Lyn was born to Bro. Tim and Sis. Cathy Hohulin. Grandparents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Marie Hohulin of Roanoke and Bro. Ralph and Sis. Katherine Klopfenstein of Gridley.

Marilyn and Bob Ott are the parents of their second daughter, Lisa Marie. Bro. Harold and Sis. Em Blunier and Bob and Elaine Ott are the grandparents. They are now a happy family of five.

We fellowshipped with Bro. Merle Bucher of LaCrosse on April 26, when he visited and ministered to us.

Those hospitalized this month were Sis. Martha Martin, Sis. Nettie Pfau, and Sis. Minnie Leman. Little Leigh has come home at last to Bro. John and Sis. Lynn Getz after a long stay in the hospital. She was carried to church for the first time on Mother's Day by her happy mom!

"God doesn't comfort us just to make us comfortable, but to make us comforters." —Unknown. May we all find in our hearts that comforting touch or word that someone may need.

ILLINOIS, TREMONT

Dorothy Wagenbach - Phyllis Lang

FAITH OF OUR FATHERS

Faith of our fathers! living still
In spite of dungeon, fire and sword,
O how our hearts beat high with
joy

Whenever we hear that glorious
word!

Faith of our fathers holy faith!
We will be true to thee till death!

Hymns of Zion #85

As Father's Day is this month, special efforts are usually made to try to show how much we appreciate our fathers. It would be impossible to express on paper the love and respect we feel for them. Most importantly, I want to thank you for guiding us to the Saviour. As a young child, I remember my father praying daily for light, grace and understanding. We are still in need of the same today.

Our visiting ministers for the month were Bros. Dave Keiser, Art Bauer, Steve Rinkenberger and John Steiner. Thank you, dear brothers, for sharing the Word with us.

Our best wishes and the Lord's blessing go to our newlyweds, Bro. Steve and Sis. Lois Dill Leuthold. Parents are Henry and Sis. Barb Dill and Bro. John and Sis. Shirley Leuthold.

Graduation time is here again. Our best wishes are extended to all the graduates.

Hanna Koch would like to thank all who remembered her birthday

with cards and gifts. May God bless all for your kindness.

ILLINOIS, URBANA
Charlen Banwart

HAPPINESS

Never ask of happiness
That you see it come
Trumpet-led in full parade
Marching to a drum.

Seldom will it pass for more
Than fragment of the whole
A small flag, a brief horn,
A drum's faint roll.

So hearken down the least day
Wherever it may be,
Watching lest a plume pass
And you not see!

Isabelle Longfellow

We have been blessed recently by visits from our Elder Bro. Ed Hohulin and Bro. Bob Grimm (Goodfield). They were here for our annual business meeting and to serve Holy Communion. Bro. Frank Sauder and Sis. Sue Core were elected to serve as Sunday School teachers. Bro. Loren Schrenk is our new Sunday School Superintendent. Bro. Bill Blunier was elected to serve as a trustee and Bro. Steve Fischer is our new usher. Sis. Margie Heintz is an alternate Sunday School teacher.

Bro. John Wiegand (Bro. Dave and Sis. Ethel) and Brent Hanson (Bro. Keith and Sis. Joan) are 1981 graduates from Urbana High School. We wish them God's blessings and protection as they continue their schooling in the future.

Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman (Francesville) and Bro. Byron Stoller (Gridley) brought the Word of Life to us on recent Sunday visits.

ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON
Mary and Joan Schick

"And when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me. After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, 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
On the peaceful Saturday evening after Easter Sunday, Elder Bros. Roy Sauder, Peoria, and Dan Koch, Tremont, shared Holy Communion with our congregation. We are so thankful that Jesus instituted this

holy act. He gives us this opportunity to recleanse our spiritual body.

We appreciate the visiting ministers who gave of themselves. They were Bros. Chuck Sauder (Tremont), Marvin Schmidtgal (Eureka), and Steve Gutwein (Francesville).

Our dear Bro. Ted Schick is in the hospital with a back problem. We pray for his rapid recovery through God's healing power.

Our converts, Faith and Melody Klaus, will be going home to Japan for the summer. They have finished their first year at Illinois Central College and plan to return in the fall. The Klaus parents live about sixty miles from the Tokyo church. Faith and Melody are looking forward to spending time with their brothers and sisters but would appreciate any letters of encouragement anyone might wish to write. Their address will be: Faith and Melody Klaus, 6233 Tokorozawa Hts., Tokorozawa-Shi, Saitama-Ken, Japan 359. We pray for a safe journey for them and a summer of love and a closeness with Christ.

"Hear, ye children, the instruction of a father, and attend to know understanding. For I give you good doctrine, forsake ye not tender and only beloved in the sight of my mother. He taught me also, and said unto me, Let thine heart retain my words: keep my commandments, and live. Proverbs 4:1-4. We are thankful for Christian fathers who have raised us in our precious faith. God's blessings to all fathers—Happy Father's Day!

INDIANA, BLUFFTON

Tammy Gerber
Gayla Baumgartner

God bless the precious little soul
Entrusted to your care;
God grant the baby many joys
For all of you to share;
God fill your home
With love and faith
And in the future, too,
May He bestow His blessings
On your little one and you.

Author Unknown

Bro. Steve and Sis. Julie Schwartz were blessed with their first child, Curtis Wayne. Jami Lyn is the precious bundle sent to Dave and Sis. Sharon Imel.

May 9 was the wedding day of Sheryl Kipfer and Mike Mayne.

Sheryl is the daughter of Bro. Jay and Sis. Dorothy Kipfer. We wish them many blessings in their married life.

Also on May 9, Mike Neuenchwander and Candice Schrader were united as one. Mike's parents are Bro. John and Sis. Irene Neuenchwander.

We received many blessings from our visiting ministers this month. Visiting us were Bros. Everett Hari (Bloomington-Normal), Pete Baltic (Mansfield), and Art Ringger (Indianapolis).

"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord." Col. 3:16. We wish to thank the choirs from Mansfield and Bloomington-Normal for sharing a blessed weekend with us on Apr. 25 and 26.

Hospital patients this month were: Sis. Priscilla Steffen, Bro. Glen Barger, Troy Kipfer (Bro. John and Sis. Sue), Bro. Jack Schwartz, Sis. Charlotte Kipfer, Bro. Edwin Moser, Sis. Evelyn Meyer, Bro. Ted Kipfer, and Keith Fiechter (Herman and Sis. Phyllis). May the Lord bestow good health to each of them, according to His will.

Our loved one, Sis. Josephine Gerber, was called from this life into her heavenly home. Her brothers and sisters surviving are: Bros. Ray, Elmer, Obed, and David, Sis. Judith Pfister and Sis. Ida Aschliman. May God comfort them in their loss.

Proverbs 9:10 says, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; and the knowledge of the holy is understanding."

Congratulations go to each of our high school graduates. They are: Craig Baumgartner, Jana Baumgartner, Kim Baumgartner, Sis. Lisa Clark, Sis. Sally Dotterer, Bro. Brian Fiechter, Bro. Lynn Fiechter, Mark Fiechter, Debbie Frauhiger, Troy Geisel, Jill Gerber, Nathan Gerber, Rita Gerber, Sis. Twila Gerber, Tim Habegger, Jerry Isch, Sis. Juli Isch, Kevin Ivens, Beth Kipfer, Bro. Jeff Leman, Kent Meyer, Lona Meyer, Sis. Ronda Meyer, Karen Moser, Bro. Rex Neuenchwander, Mona Lou Reinhard, Tom Reinhard, Stan Ringger, Angie (Steffen) McClain, Rose Steffen, Sis. Shari Stoller, and Sis. Angie Yergler.

Sis. Leonda Pfister completed nurses training this spring and is now a registered nurse. Sis. Becky Meyer graduated from Indiana-Purdue University in Ft. Wayne. Bro. Brad and Sis. Gayla Baumgartner are graduating from Ball State University. We congratulate them on their accomplishments.

INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE Wendy Gutwein - Jacki Huber

It seems this past month has been filled with many special days, beginning with the commemoration of our Lord's suffering and glorious resurrection. What a privilege we have to know He died for us!

Bro. Harold Gramm (Morris) spent Good Friday evening with us and then on Easter Sunday, Bro. Gene Lehman shared a few words with us at our Sunrise Services. The following Sunday, Elder Bro. Roy Grimm (Taylor), Bro. Hartzell Kaisner (Detroit), and Bro. Don Gudeman (LaCrosse) were here. Then on Mother's Day, Bro. Bob Grimm (Goodfield) taught us from God's Word. What a blessing it is to have ministers who rely on God's Holy Spirit to direct their sermons. We want to thank all of our visiting ministers for sharing with us.

We've had a couple more special days, especially within two of our families. Bro. Chris and Sis. Sharon Huber have been blessed with one more little girl, Tonya Alyssa. Chris, Shannon, and Angela complete this family circle. Grandparents are Bro. Eugene and Sis. Millie Huber. A new baby brother of Tracy and Janelle Anliker is Michael Dale. Bro. Wendell and Sis. Karel are their parents, Bro. Eli and Sis. Priscilla Anliker and Bro. Dale and Sis. Corrine Marti are their grandparents. These little babies already have a great blessing—parents who will teach them of the Lord. "And all thy children shall be taught of the Lord, and great shall be the peace of thy children." Isaiah 54: 13.

And finally, another special day for thirteen of our young people—graduation from high school. The graduates are: Alex and Alexis Gutwein (Bro. Ed and Sis. Chris), Carla Gutwein (Bro. Carl and Sis. Yvonne), Brent Gutwein (Bro.

Jim and Sis. Marion), Glenda Gutwein (Bro. Glen and Sis. Mary Ann), Matt Gutwein (Phil and Julie), Scott Metzger (Harvey and Marilyn Gutwein) Mark Overmeyer (Bro. Danny and Sis. Carol), Marcia Putt (Marshal and Marcel), Sis. Denise Topp (Louise), Angela Ward (Bro. Dale and Sis. Ann), Chris Wuethrich (Bro. Chris and Sis. Ruth), and Mark Wuethrich (Bro. Dave and Sis. Barb). Our church graduation program for the graduates was Wednesday evening, May 13. At the end of the program, they were each given a Bible. Then they were asked to use the Holy Book and not to put it in the bottom of a drawer and forget it. We pray they can heed these words and not only learn to know this Good Book, but also its Author.

MY BIBLE

In times of stress and sorrow,
In times of joy as well,
The Bible lifts and strengthens me
much more than I can tell,
For if God sees each sparrow fall,
then surely He can see,
All my cares and worries
And is watching over me.
Kay Andrew

INDIANA, INDIANAPOLIS Bobbi Erb

Another school year is coming to a close, and plans are well under way for Vacation Bible School. We are looking forward to a week of teaching children about Jesus and His Word.

An announcement was made of several spring jobs to be done on the church grounds. Many gathered together to paint, trim bushes and weed gardens. How easy the jobs can be with so many helping hands.

With saddened hearts we gathered for a farewell dinner for Bro. Ron and Sis. Pam Messner. They are moving to Morton, where Bro. Ron will be working at the Home For The Handicapped. Also, Bro. Brad and Sis. Laura Compton will be moving back to Bluffton. They lived in Russiaville and worshipped with us whenever they could. We will certainly miss them and pray for God's blessings upon them.

We are thankful the Lord has blessed our small flock with many willing servants to come and proclaim His Precious Word. We wish

to thank Bro. Merle Bucher (La Crosse), Bro. Ed Alt (Cissna Park), Bro. Dave Weigand (Champaign-Urbana), and Bro. Carol Gerber (Bluffton).

INDIANA, La CROSSE Pearl Nuest - LuAnn Feller

Draw us to Thee, O Lord; may we Still journey on to heaven.
In one accord thro' Christ our Lord
May Grace to us be given.

Zion's Harp

We rejoice when we can go to God's house and be drawn near to the Lord by the minister's timely warnings, given through the inspiration of God. On Easter Sunday, we enjoyed having Elder Bro. Ezra Feller, Cissna Park, and Bro. Lerry Wenninger, Latty.

We are happy that Lynn, daughter of Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Carol Bucher, has started her heavenly race, a race where we all can be a winner.

First-time parents, Bro. Tom and Sis. Cheryl Bucher, named their son Reid Thomas, born Apr. 29. Grandparents are Bro. Merle and Sis. Leona Bucher and Sis. Tillie Nussbaum, Bloomington. His great-grandparents are Bro. Bert and Sis. Marie Bucher. We were happy to hear the engagement of Sis. Jackie Jacobs (Mr. and Mrs. Norm Jacobs) and Bro. Joe Feller (Bro. Lynn and Sis. Mary Ann). May God add His blessings as they make plans for their new life together.

Many witnessed the marriage vows of Sis. Elaine Zimmerman and Bro. Scott Frank. We welcome Sis. Elaine to the LaCrosse congregation. Their plans are to live in West Lafayette, IN.

Joanie Cambern was a hospital patient. May God be the divine healer.

Our college graduates are Bro. Tom and Sis. Marsha Troxel (Bro. Phil and Sis. Mary). High school graduates are Bro. Dean Feller (Bro. Todd and Sis. Karen), Sis. Patricia Bucher (Bro. Merle and Sis. Leona), and Dawn Alies (John and Carol). May God bless their future plans.

Fathers are wonderful people
too little understood,
And we do not sing their praises
As often as we should,

For somehow, Father seems to be
 the man that pays the bills,
 While Mother binds little hurts
 And nurses all our ills,
 And Father struggles daily
 to live up to "His Image"
 As protector and provider
 And "Hero of the scrimmage."
 And perhaps that is the reason
 we sometime get the notion
 That Fathers are not subject
 to the thing we call emotion.
 But if you look inside Dad's heart,
 where no one else can see,
 You'll find he's sentimental
 And as "soft" as he can be.
 But he's so busy every day
 in the gruelling race of life,
 He leaves the sentimental stuff
 to his partner and his wife.
 But Fathers are just wonderful
 in a million different ways,
 And they merit loving compli-
 ments
 and accolades of praise
 For the only reason Dad aspires
 to fortune and success,
 Is to make the family proud of
 him
 and to bring them happiness.
 And like Our Heavenly Father
 he's a guardian and a guide,
 Someone that we can count on
 to be Always On Our Side.

INDIANA, LEO
Mrs. Phil Schlatter
Mrs. Al Frautschi

Those who have had the love
 and guidance of a Christian father
 have been blessed with a rich her-
 itage. Much work and caring has
 gone into providing for his family.

A FATHER'S HANDS

"A father's hands are gentle,
 A father's hands are strong,
 Guiding, helping, teaching,
 Showing right from wrong—
 The protection of a father's hands,
 And the love that's in their touch,
 Give the feeling of security
 A child needs so much—
 And although they may be rough
 from toil,
 A child still understands
 How much of life's true beauty
 Comes from a father's hands."
 By Mary R. Hurley from
 "A Tribute to Father"

Mothers and daughters, as well
 as other relatives and friends en-
 joyed renewed acquaintances, fel-
 lowship, and a program at a Spring
 Banquet, May 16.

Planning work is being done for
 Vacation Bible School scheduled
 for June 8-19.

How are your gardens doing?
 The following is one garden plan:
 Plant three rows of squash:
 Squash gossip. Squash criticism.
 Squash indifference.

Plant three rows of peas: Pur-
 ity, patience, perseverance.

Plant six rows of lettuce: Let-
 us be unselfish and loyal. Let us
 be faithful to duty. Let us search
 the scriptures. Let us not be weary
 in well-doing. Let us be obedient in
 all things. Let us love one another.

No garden is complete without
 turnips. Turn up for church regu-
 larly. Turn up with a smile, even
 when things are difficult. Turn up
 with determination to do your
 best for God's cause.

Cultivate well for a good har-
 vest.

INDIANA, MILFORD
Connie Beer - Marcy Haab

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 must be
 That they have no Heavenly
 Father
 Such as cares for you and me."
 Elizabeth Cheney

At this time of year, while
 thinking of Mother's Day and
 Father's Day, we are reminded of
 how precious our parents are.
 How grateful we should be for the
 love and virtues passed on to us
 by our forefathers.

Our visiting ministers this
 month were Bros. Carl Kipfer
 (Bluffton), Jim Byrd (Roanoke),
 and Elder Bros. Orville Ringger
 (Bluffton) and Loren Stoller (Lat-
 ty). We sincerely thank them for
 sharing their love and time with
 us.

Bro. Elmer Haab would like to
 say "thank you" for the many
 cards he received and prayers of-
 fered while he was ill.

Rhonda Stookey (Martin Jr.
 and Kathy) underwent surgery
 this past month.

A farewell singing was held for
 Bro. Bert and Sis. Karen Aeschli-
 man and family as they are mov-

ing to the South Bend area. We
 will sincerely miss them and wish
 them God's blessings in the fu-
 ture.

Congratulations are extended
 to our 1981 graduates! High school
 graduates are: Karmin Wieland
 (Bro. Cliff and Sis. Carol), Lynn
 Kaiser (Bro. Dick and Sis. Clara),
 Rose Pamer (Bro. Matthew and
 Sis. Karen), Robin Lehman
 (George and Jackie), Heather Beer
 (Bro. Phil and Sis. Millie), Chris
 Wolferman (Bro. Bob and Sis.
 Joyce), Sam Beer (Bro. Jesse and
 Sis. Shirley), Brad Beer (Bernie
 and Peg), and Thad Tinki, fiancée of
 Sonya Hoover (Don and Sis. Gin-
 ny). Becky Pelath (Bro. Bob and
 Sis. Marguerite) graduated from
 Purdue North Central with a de-
 gree in nursing.

May the road rise to meet you.
 May the wind be ever at your back.
 May the Good Lord keep you in
 the hollow of His hand.
 May your heart be as warm as
 your hearthstone.
 May God bless you always.

—Old Irish Blessing

INDIANA, REMINGTON
Beth Virkler - Annette Bahler

This month we pay tribute to
 our fathers. It seems as though
 we often celebrate this special day
 of the year without much deep
 thought to His true meaning. God
 has given a father a very impor-
 tant role in life by commanding
 him to be the head of the family
 and the chief authority of the
 children. In Proverbs 4:1 we read:
 "Hear, ye children, the instruction
 of a father, and attend to know un-
 derstanding." In a Father's Day
 message, a minister once said,
 "Now is the time to love your
 children. Tomorrow the baby won't
 be rocked, the toddler won't be
 asking 'why?' and the schoolboy
 won't need help with his lessons.
 Tomorrow the teenager will have
 made his major decisions." The
 best thing to spend on your child-
 ren is TIME.

"Blessed is the man to whom
 his work is a pleasure

. . . by whom his friends are
 encouraged,

. . . with whom all are comfort-
 able,

. . . in whom a clear conscience
 abides,

... and through whom his children see God."

(Author Unknown)

On May 2, Karen Clauss (Paul and Wilma) was married to Bradley Hood of Joplin, MO. They will be living in Joplin.

INDIANA, SOUTH BEND Gayle Bucher

OPEN YOURSELF TO THE JOYS OF LIFE

Mend a quarrel. Seek out a forgotten friend. Dismiss suspicion and replace it with trust. Write a love letter. Share some treasure. Give a soft answer. Encourage youth. Manifest your loyalty in word and deed. Keep a promise. Find the time. Forego a grudge. Forgive an enemy. Listen. Apologize if you were wrong. Try to understand. Examine your demands on others. Think first of someone else. Appreciate. Be kind: be gentle. Laugh a little. Deserve confidence. Decry complacency. Express gratitude. Go to church. Welcome a stranger. Gladden the heart of a child. Take pleasure in the beauty and wonder of the earth. Speak your love. Speak it again. Speak it still once again.

Unknown

Our congregation is looking forward to spending the first Sunday in our new church home. Final preparations are being made; and we all are extremely thankful for the love, prayers, volunteer help, and financial assistance we have received from our brethren and friends. We realize that without these blessings, our hope for a new church home would not have been possible. May the Lord richly bless and reward all those who have shared their time, talents, and gifts. We cannot adequately say thank you and trust that the Lord never forgets a good deed: . . . forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord. 1 Cor. 15:58.

Bro. Wayne and Sis. Shirley Lehman have announced the engagement of their son, Don, to Jill Myers. A wedding date of Sept. 26 has been set. Our prayers are with them as they look forward to making their sacred vows to one another.

We want to thank Bros. Chris Huber and Ken Eisenmann for

sharing their ministry with us this month. We received a rich blessing from their fellowship, as well as their ministry.

Our dear sisters Mildred Meister and Helen Martin were hospitalized recently. Our prayer is for their speedy recovery.

Casting all your care upon him for he careth for you. I Pet. 5:7

INDIANA, VALPARAISO Mary Huber - Claudia Thomas

This past month we received many blessings as Illinois Bros. Earl Gerber, Forrest; Jim Byrd, Roanoke; and Byron Stoller, Gridley ministered to us. One of the blessings of our church is the opportunity to listen to the preaching of God's word by many brothers who have had different experiences and tell it in different ways. The Lord uses these various methods to reach each of us. Our own Elder Bro. Ed Frank of La-Crosse was with us to instruct us in preparing for communion.

Both our building and our hearts were filled to overflowing when the Gridley choir ministered to us in song. Music can touch many a heart where words cannot reach and even our congregational singing should have melted even the hardest hearts.

The hearts of Bro. Roy and Sis. Aldene Frieden were warmed by the love their many friends and loved ones showed on their 40th wedding anniversary. We pray they can continue to enjoy many years of life together.

On Fathers Day we honor our fathers who gave so much to us. It seems we never appreciate our fathers so much as when we are grown and have children of our own. A father's responsibility toward his children is great.

What shall you give to one small boy?

A glamorous game, a tinsel toy,
A barlow knife, a puzzle pack,
A train that runs on a curving track?

A picture book, a real live pet . . .
No, there's plenty of time for such things yet;

Give him a day for his very own
Just one small boy and his dad alone.

A walk in the woods, a romp in the park,

A fishing trip from dawn to dark,
Give the best gift to that bright lad—

The companionship of his dear dad.
Games are outgrown, and toys decay—

But he'll never forget if you "Give him a day."

Author Unknown

INDIANA, WOLCOTT Suzanne Lehman

Laurel and Kris Widmer

"To everything there is a season and a time to every purpose under heaven. A time to be born and a time to die; A time to weep and a time to laugh; A time to mourn and a time to dance;

Ecclesiastes 3:1, 2, 4

A son, John Neal, was born Apr. 22 to Bro. Neal and Sis. Kris Widmer. Paternal grandparents are Ed and Sis. Gladys Widmer. Maternal grandparents are Bro. Sid and Sis. Fern Leman, Francesville.

Just as the birth of a child brings great joy to us, so the death of a child brings great sorrow. Rodney Stoller, two-month-old son of Bro. Denny and Sis. Connie Stoller, passed away Apr. 25. Though we cannot understand, we know that all things work together for good to those who love God.

A time to love . . . Ecc. 3:8. Bro. Gene and Sis. Verna Leman announced the engagement of their daughter, Sis. Suzanne, to Bro. Max Hoerr (Peoria). We wish them every happiness in their future together.

And a time of peace . . . Ecc. 3:8. Donita Furrer (Bro. Don and Sis. Rita) has expressed that she is at peace with God and men, and now looks forward, with our other three converts, to their day of baptism.

High school graduates are Bro. Steve Hoffstetter, Sis. Marcia Furrer, Lori and Loren Farney. Graduating from St. Elizabeth Hospital School of Nursing is Sheli Furrer. We wish all of them success in their future.

IOWA, BURLINGTON Judy Gehring - Kim Salek

On Good Friday evening Bro. Ed Lanz served Holy Communion to our congregation. It is always such an impressive time and it is so beneficial to us spiritually to be brought back to the cross and the suffering of our precious Lord and Saviour. I copied a statement

that I read somewhere and taped it above my kitchen sink. It reads, "Consider what it cost Him to bless us." How true that is. Communion and Easter are a good time for us to deeply reflect on what it did cost Him. Not only did He suffer extreme bodily pain, much more than any of us has ever borne, but to me the utmost pain was when he cried out, "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?" St. Mark 15:34. We remember how we felt as a result of the burden of our own sin. He bore and felt the pain of that sin for all of us. That burden had to be extremely heavy and painful. I often think of how sometimes when we are weary and tired it is so easy for the devil to tempt us, and so easy for us to want to give in to the temptation, simply because of weariness. Yet we need to go to the cross and remember our Lord. He was certainly more than weary and racked with pain, yet He took the jeers and taunts of those watching and He said nothing. They mocked Him and spit on Him and He took it all, knowing He truly was the Blessed and Holy Son of God and that He could come down from that cross. Only because of His extreme and infinite love for us did He bear it all—in silence. He wasn't too weary to care. Our Lord was surely a blessed example for us to follow. We only need to follow in His footsteps. "Remember what it cost Him to bless us."

Sis. Betty Baker had emergency back surgery recently and as yet has not been able to assemble with us. We miss her cheerful smile and pray for God's nearness and comfort for her in these long hours of convalescence.

IOWA, ELGIN Eleanor Butikofer

The farmers here have been very busy in their fields planting corn, oats, etc., so we know that spring time has arrived in reality. Also, the leaves and buds on the trees and shrubs are enhancing the landscape. The lilac blooms are just gorgeous and the blossoms on the bush cherries and wild plums brought added pleasure with their fragrance.

Since our last report, the barn swallows, brown thrashers, orioles, fly catchers, wrens and rose breast-

ed grosbeaks have made their appearance. I also heard the cry of a killdeer as it flew across the field.

We have a snowball shrub which is profuse with blossoms and a pair of redwinged blackbirds built a nest in it. At the moment, the female is sitting on their eggs. Hopefully, nothing will happen to destroy the nest. It is quite thrilling to have these birds so close to our house. I plan to report on further developments next time. God's creations are simply wonderful. May we ever honor Him and do His will.

THIS DAY

Show me some lovely thing this day

To keep my heart in tune,
A budded rose, a daffodil
Or a mellow, golden moon.

Show me some lovely thing this day

To make my glad heart sing,
Emerald tree tops, refreshing rain,
Or a robin on the wing.

Show me some lovely thing this day

So my wandering heart may dream—

A wishing well, a cobblestone path,
Or a shimmering, sparkling stream.

God has given us so many lovely things

May we ever take time to observe them.

Ron and Audrey Landherr of Cedar Rapids are the happy parents of a baby girl, Heidi Lynn, born Apr. 22. She has a brother, Christopher Ronald. The grandparents are Paul and Sis. Evelyn Pulfer of Elgin, IA, and Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Landherr of Staceyville, IA.

Among the Elgin High School graduates was Tracy, son of Bro. Bert and Sis. Beulah Butikofer. We wish him the best of everything this life can offer and may he ever feel the nearness of our dear Saviour.

We are thankful to Elder Bro. Leroy Huber (Eureka) for spending a weekend with us. The memorandum of the church conference was read and communion was shared while he was here.

Sis. Marie Butikofer reached her ninety-first milestone on May 5. Most of her children came to her home, May 3, to celebrate with

her. Friends and relatives who called to congratulate her and to visit on her birthday were very much appreciated. Her sister, Sis. Lena Schupbach, put forth effort to be among those who came, which pleased Sis. Marie very much, inasmuch as Sis. Lena has been quite weak. Sis. Marie wishes to thank everyone who remembered her with cards, telephone calls, and personal visits.

We are planning to have Bible school from June 1 to June 5.

Let us not be weary in well doing; for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. Gal. 6:9.

IOWA, IOWA CITY Sharolyn Metzger

A father is
neither an anchor to hold us back,
nor a sail to get us there,
but always a guiding light whose
love shows us the way.

George Douglas Webster

We enjoyed the fellowship with the Princeville-Bradford single group the weekend they visited us. It was a blessing to have our little church filled to capacity once again.

We appreciated the efforts of our visiting brethren who, by God's inspiration, ministered His Holy Word. They were Bro. Earl Banwart of West Bend, Bros. Ed Lanz and Jan Schmidgall of Oakville, Bro. Kenny Knapp of Taylor, MO, and Bro. Nathan Stoller of Bradford, IL.

Deb Knobloch, Sis. Joy Ringger, and Sis. Beth Mogler will truly be missed in our gatherings. May God be with them till we meet again. We look forward to the new students coming to our area this fall and the old ones that will be returning.

Ron and Audrey Landherr are the happy parents of a new baby girl, Heidi Lynn. Her brother Chris welcomes her home. The grandparents are Paul and Sis. Evelyn Pulfer of Elgin, IA, and Wilmer and Evangeline Landherr of Mason City, IA.

IOWA, LESTER Alice Metzger

Elder Bro. Loren Stoller, Latty, OH, was our guest minister the weekend of May 10. He and Elder Bro. Leo Moser served Holy Com-

munion after leading us to the cross and explaining "This do in remembrance of me." We are grateful for the timely messages that Bro. Loren brought to us and are thankful to those who accompanied him.

We welcome Sis. Elaine (Braker) Knoblock to our congregation. A reception was held for her and Bro. Terry after their recent marriage in Lamar, MO.

Sis. Rose Moser was taken to the hospital, but is feeling better and is again assembling with us.

In June we observe Father's Day, a special day to thank them for so much. They are the strength of the church, the family, and the community. They shoulder responsibilities and face the world each day in good times and bad.

At the age of 96 years, Grandpa Fred Metzger took his first plane ride. We were all delighted he could go to visit his daughters and their families in Illinois.

IOWA, OAKVILLE Jerilyn Wagenbach

Another dear little baby was born to Bro. Gary and Sis. Karen Schulz on May 16. Philip Edward is eagerly welcomed by his sister, Julie, and grandparents, Bro. Myron and Sis. Dorothy Schulz, and Elder Bro. Edward and Sis. Joan Lanz. How blessed we would be if we could have the innocent, trusting faith of a child.

How to Find Peace of Mind

Helen Steiner Rice

We listen to the newscasts that come daily to our ears,
We read alarming headlines that intensify our fears,
We grow more and more dissatisfied and feel less and less secure
As our days become more anxious and the future more unsure—
For with violence and dissension and chaos all around
We no longer feel with certainty that we stand on solid ground—
But in place of reading headlines that disturb our peace of mind
We should once more read the BIBLE and on its pages we would find
That this age is no different from the millions gone before

And that in every hour of crisis
God has opened up the door
To all who seek His guidance and trust His all-wise plan,
For God provides protection beyond that devised by man—
And while God's almighty power is not ours to understand,
We know Who Holds The Future and we know Who Holds Our Hand—
And to have the steadfast knowledge that we never walk alone
And to rest in the assurance that our every need is known
Will help dispel our worries and in trusting Him we'll find
Right in the midst of chaos God can give us Peace of Mind!

IOWA, PULASKI Ginny Wuthrich - Mary Wiegand

Serving us in the labor of the Lord this past month were Elder Bro. Raymond B a n w a r t, Fort Scott, Bro. Carl Wyss, Washington and Bro. Carl Hartman, Sabetha. We thank each of them and their families and wish them God's blessings for coming to be with us.

Our high school graduate this spring is Jean Wuthrich, daughter of Bro. Joel and Sis. Shirley Wuthrich. Graduating from eighth grade is Sally Teubal, daughter of Bro. Richard and Sis. Wilma Teubal. We wish them God's blessings in these steps of life.

IOWA, WEST BEND Elma Mogler - Judy Fehr

Do we really realize what it must be for our ministering brothers to stand before any congregation completely emptied of all self? We thank Bro. Dale Moore, Elgin, IA, and Bro. Joe Gerst, Iowa City, for relying on God and His Word to feed us on Easter Sunday. We so often fail to thank our home ministers, too, who continually do this for us. Please accept our humble thanks.

Sis. Marie Metzger had eye surgery at Marshalltown and Sam Mogler had eye surgery at Spencer this month. Both are doing well at this time. L e o n a McCue has also been a hospital patient but is able to assemble with us again. Good health is truly a blessing from God.

In June, we set aside a day to remember our fathers. Whether they are young or old, they have

a lot to offer and we appreciate them.

TO ANY DADDY

There are little eyes upon you,
and they're watching night and day;
There are little ears that quickly take in every word you say;
There are little hands all eager to do everything you do,
And a little boy who's dreaming of the day he'll be like you.

There's a wide-eyed little fellow who believes you're always right.

And his ears are always open and he watches day and night.

You are setting an example every day in all you do
For the little boy who's waiting to grow up to be like you.

Author Unknown

I LOVE YOU, DAD

Dear Dad, this note is to say
I love you more and more each day;

I love you for your years of toil,
And lessons taught me of the soil,

Your struggle to provide for me
And for each blessing given free.

I love you, Dad, for gifts unseen,
And your father shoulder on which to lean,

Your firm, yet gentle touch of hand,

And the magic way you understand.

Thanks for patience kind and strong,

And the way you straightened out the wrong.

Yes, Dad, I love you for your smile,
And prayers of thanks at eventide;

Good things you've taught I hold in store;

These gifts and many, many more.

Of all the blessings I have had,
One of the greatest is you, dear Dad.

Author Unknown

JAPAN, SHIODA Kathy Klotzle

"Now upon the first day of the week, very early in the morning, they came unto the sepulchre . . ."

Luke 24:1. Centuries have gone by since that first Easter Day, and yet this Easter morning we again gathered early to think on our risen Lord and sing praises of joy for the hope He has given us. After we sang beside the river and heard an Easter message, we enjoyed cooking breakfast over a fire and then eating together. Later in the day, our Sunday School children again told us simply and plainly of the greatest story on earth. As his part of our Easter program, one little boy spoke out loudly and clearly, "... Jesus died for everybody's sins and our sins, too." We pray that this message reached an open heart, that it will be remembered in days to come.

"Christian friendship is a treasure, Pure in nature, rich in measure, Filling us with heav'nly pleasure, While the moments last . . ."

Hymns of Zion, No. 53

We were reminded again of the blessed tie we share in Christ during the visit of our sisters in faith, Karen Bahler, Miriam Bahler, Carole Kloter and Nancy Mangold, all from Rockville. We were encouraged and strengthened by the fellowship we shared during their two week stay in Japan, and pray that God will continue to bless them as He did us by their visit. While they were here our home had the additional blessing of the members and friends of our congregations coming together for a singing. When the parting time came, it was hard to say farewell to our dear sisters, and yet what a joy to know that by the grace of God we will meet again someday forever, if not before on this earth. How can people who do not have this hope ever say good-bye to their loved ones?

"Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise." Ephesians 6:2. One day of the year is set aside to honor our fathers, and yet our love for them, our thankfulness to them, and our honor for them should be in our hearts each day of the year. May each of us as children strive after righteousness and Godly wisdom, for "The father of the righteous shall greatly rejoice: and he that begetteth a wise child shall have joy of him." Proverbs 23:24. And may each fa-

ther be given the grace and wisdom to teach his children of our Father in heaven and of His way of salvation. "And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord." Ephesians 6:4. On Father's Day, we pray that each of us, whether we be parent or child, will strive after our eternal salvation, living each day to the glory of God.

JAPAN, TOKYO

Yoshio Yamazaki - Marie Inoue

Easter Sunday we had a real blessed day. Many came to our morning Service and in the afternoon, we had our Sunday School Easter program. We really enjoyed having the children tell us the blessed Easter story. We are always amazed how God created such wonderful, marvelous, and beautiful children.

We had visitors from Rockville. The sisters came with Sisters Kathy Klotzle and Evie Blunier from the country church to visit us recently. It is surely like Jesus told us in John 14:18-19. "I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you. Yet a little while, and the world seeth me no more; but ye see me: because I live, ye shall live also." Just the same as in the Old Testament time, when we have visitors, they bring us much grace and blessings of God. We always give thanks to God when He sends us brothers and sisters with great encouragement from America.

The new school year began in April and the lunch program (for first graders) in May. When I asked my son how the lunch was, he said, "They didn't pray." This is probably the first time he found out that all men do not believe as Psalm 78:22 reads . . . They believed not in God and trusted not in His salvation.

KANSAS, BERN

Esther and Stella Moser

Lord, lead us by Thy strong hand
As pilgrims through this desert
land;

We are pursued by many foes;
Deliver us from all our woes,
For we are thine.

Zion's Harp, No. 200

The Lord's House was solemn

and peaceful as we partook of Holy Communion. We then sang the last four verses of the above hymn and rejoiced as we sang the words, "For we are Thine". Elder Bro. Sam Huber (Sabetha) assisted Elder Bro. Lester Hartter in this service.

Graduation time has come for many of our young folks. We wish them all many blessings as they travel along life's pathway. May they never neglect to take the most important step in life, to serve the Lord to life's end. Our high school graduates are Carol Rokey (Bro. Joe and Sis. Lila), Mike Esslinger (Waymer and Pauline), Duane Meyer, (Bro. Leroy and Sis. Helen), and Jeffrey Baumgartner (Bro. Leonard and Sis. Nancy).

We have two joy bundles to report. Monique Ann was born May 7, to Lynn and Marjorie Meyer. A brother Bjorn welcomes her. Paternal grandparents are Freemond and Ruth Meyer. Bro. James and Sis. Diane Kaeb have a tiny "preemie." Jody Lynn was born Apr. 25, weighing in at a little over two pounds. Jody will need to gain several pounds before she can be brought home. Grandparents are Bro. Don and Sis. Ione Broquard (Fairbury) and Bro. Elmer and Sis. Mary Lou Kaeb (Cissna Park). We extend best wishes to both families.

We received many blessings the past month through our visiting ministers and their families, namely, Bros. Lee Plattner (Zapata), Roy Wernli (Lamont), Clarence Dietrich (Silverton), and Roger Aberle, (Sabetha).

Several faces were missed in our congregation recently due to hospitalization: Bro. Edw. Lehman (surgery), Sis. Katie Grimm (Bro. Paul) surgery, and Elwin Strahm (emergency appendectomy). Some are able to be with us again. Gregory Grimm is in serious condition with many broken ribs and other injuries, caused when the tractor he was driving overturned on him. Greg is able to be home again on the "take it easy" list. May the Lord hold His healing hand over each one.

Please note: July is collection month for Bern Silver Lining subscribers. Please pay your reporters.

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

KANSAS, FORT SCOTT**Teresa Bahr**

We praise and thank our Heavenly Father for sending us showers of much needed rain to our area.

Lisa Sinn, daughter of Lester and Shirley Sinn, graduated from high school this spring.

Elder Bro. Gene Marti (Lamar) was with us on Mother's Day, May 10.

Tyler Matthew was born Apr. 23 to Bro. Lon and Sis. Debbie Banwart. Taira, Trista, and Trenton are his sisters and brother. Their grandparents are Sis. Mable Springer and Elder Bro. Raymond and Sis. Kathryn Banwart.

Kenton Wade was born May 11 to Greg and Kara Snyder. Quinton is his 2-year-old brother. His grandparents are Elder Bro. Gene and Sis. Mary Marti of Lamar and Carol and Elba Snyder of Sabetha.

KANSAS, GRIDLEY**Julie Strahm - Doris Bahr**

Consider man that heart of thine, Thy life and deeds behold-ing. Do thorns there grow, or (are there) fruits divine? (Zion's Harp, No. 108). These are thoughts we each as brethren in Christ pondered in our hearts as we prepared ourselves to partake of Holy Communion. Many of us were united together on May 24 with our Elder Brethren Sam Anliker, Lamont, and Sam Huber, Sabetha, to break bread and drink of the wine cup, in covenant with our Lord and in remembrance of His death.

A precious infant son, Loren Jacob, was born to Sis. Kathy and Bro. Scott Strahm on May 26. A daughter, Bridget Kay, awaits the arrival of her baby brother at home. Grandparents are Bro. Loren and Sis. Liseten Strahm and Bro. Leo and Sis. Thelma Dogotch, Morris, MN. Another precious son, Jeremy Lane, was born to James and Cathy Kraft on May 26. A big brother, Jamie, anxiously awaits his arrival home also. Grandparents are Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Nadine Kraft and Mr. and Mrs. Carol Paxson, Burlington, KS.

"Right away we thought of you And said a loving prayer, That God would bless you specially, And keep you in His care." (Helen Farries). Our thoughts and prayers have been with our dear Sis. Ungela Strahm as she has recently

been a medical-surgical patient in a Wichita hospital. Ungela is the daughter of Sis. Lena Strahm.

KANSAS, KIOWA**Janice Bahr**

Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my father's house are many mansions: If it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. St. John 14:1-3.

These precious words of hope have become a reality for our dear Sis. Martha Roth, who was called Home to her Lord at the age of 95. The memory of her beautiful smile will linger in our minds, because it was always there when any of us stopped by to say hello. Her family and her friends are deeply saddened to lose such a dear one who gave so much love to everyone. But we also deeply rejoice that her suffering is ended, and she is forever with the Lord whom she served faithfully for so many years. Praise God for such a blessed hope that is promised to all who believe.

It is hard to believe another school year is ended and many are graduating into high school or from high school. This year we have three who are graduating. They include Elaine Allenbach, daughter of Bro. Ron and Sis. Lois Allenbach, Linndy Frieden, son of Bro. Larry and Sis. Millie Frieden, and Nelson Tucker, son of Dale and Sis. Marie Tucker. As Elaine and Linndy move up to high school level and Nelson begins college, our prayer for them is best stated in Proverbs 3:5, 6. Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

We would like to thank Bro. Joe Aberle, Sabetha, for lending himself to share the Gospel with us when he was in our midst just recently. We know that our traveling brethren would sometimes rather listen than teach, but we do so appreciate their giving of themselves for the flock.

Our hospital patients this month were Sis. Esther Hodel and Floyd Schupbach. We pray the Lord who

knows all our pain will grant them relief and comfort in their suffering.

Father's Day! How blessed we are that God, our "Heavenly Father" saw fit to give us not only His own guidance and love, but someone here on earth to turn to, talk to, love, and trust. Someone we call, Dad, Papa, Pop, or whatever our own "special" name for him might be. I came across a poem, and when I read it I decided to share it with all the other fortunate children, like me, who have Christian Mothers and Dads who've been guiding lights and an inspiration throughout our years of growing up.

However rich the soil may be
In which a tree may root,
It cannot reach maturity
And bear the finest fruits
On what it draws from earth
below . . .

It also needs the sky,
A guiding light, a friendly glw,
And like that tree am I.

Charles S. Kinnison

Thank you, Mom and Dad. God bless you.

Due to our busy season, Wednesday evening services have been cancelled until Fall.

It is our fervent prayer that God will richly bless the home of Jon Ott, son of Bro. Marvin and Sis. Irma Ott, and Shawna Allison, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Morgan Allison, Lawrence. Jon and Shawna were joined in marriage on May 16 in Lawrence. As they start their new lives together, may the love of God, their love for each other and the peace of knowing Christ be an abundant portion of the home they share.

KANSAS, LAMONT**Mary Isch**

We here in the midwest have been blessed again with showers from heaven on the dry fields and meadows, and also that wonderful supply of pond water which we were so badly in need of. It has been over a year since we have had enough rain to make pond water. We have much to be thankful for again and may we not be selfish and think only of ourselves, but use it to the praise and honor of God. For in the scriptures we are taught to: "Give and it shall be

given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again.

Luke 6:38

LIVES DISTRESSED CANNOT BE BLESSED

Refuse to be discouraged,
Refuse to be distressed
For when we are despondent
Our life cannot be blessed—
For doubt and fear and worry
Close the door to faith and prayer,
For there's no room for blessings
When we're lost in deep despair—
So remember when your troubled
With uncertainty and doubt
It is best to tell our Father
What our fear is all about—
For unless we seek His guidance
When troubled times arise
We are bound to make decisions
That are twisted and unwise—
But when we view our problems
Through the eyes of God alone,
Misfortunes turn to blessings
And hatred turns to love.

Helen Steiner Rice

Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness. Isaiah 41:10.

Visiting ministers this month have been Bro. Lloyd Kraft, Gridley, and Bro. Harry Sutter, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida.

Sis. Matilda Emch is a medical patient in Newman Hospital in Emporia. We pray God's grace and strength be granted to sustain her in her every need.

KANSAS, SABETHA

Clara Steiner - Judy Hartter

Sis. Lena Hoerr, Taylor, and Bro. Noah Steiner, Sabetha, plan to be married May 31 at Taylor. They will live at home on his farm near Morrill, KS, and will attend Sabetha church. We extend a warm welcome to Sis. Lena, and hope they will have many happy years together.

We extend both our sympathy and congratulations to Joyce (Kellenberger) Woodworth. Sympathy is extended on the death of her husband, and congratulations are offered on the birth of her son,

born Apr. 17. He was named Kent Douglas II.

Bro. Carl and Sis. Sharon Strahm are the parents of a son born Apr. 13. He has been named Todd Charles, and is welcomed home by his five brothers.

Kyle Jacobs was born to Bro. Martin and Sis. Karen Beyer on Apr. 21. He also has five brothers to welcome him home.

High School graduates this year include Selena Bailey, Lesha Kellenberger, Terri Schweitzer, Sharon Strahm and Bro. Richard Meyer. Our congratulations are extended to all of them.

Hospitalized this month are Fred Strahm and Sis. Louise Meyer.

KANSAS, WICHITA Judy Langhofer

Two years ago, in Indiana, Elder Bro. Akito Inoue of Japan read a portion of scripture to the congregation. He began the sermon by saying that this particular scripture portrayed the "Father" image of God. It is easy to see that God gave mankind human instincts which are relative to His Divine Nature, whereby we could experience the affection of a human relationship within the framework of a family. Strange to say, animals, in a very limited sense, feel this same attachment to their offspring. We have all experienced, in some measure, this human love, for even the words, "father and mother" denote a feeling of love and respect; hence we pay tribute in our country, by tradition, to our earthly fathers and mothers by setting aside special days. This human love is relative to but different from spiritual love. Spiritual love is of God, revealed in the redemptive work of the Lord Jesus Christ on Calvary. Belief in this work of salvation by Jesus Christ, the Son of God, transforms our human love into spiritual love whereby we gain spiritual sisters, brothers, fathers, and mothers in the Lord. This same spiritual love "gives us power to become sons of God" and the ability to function within the household of God.

A young minister's wife confided that when she was converted she was given advice to find herself a spiritual mother within the household of God and take her as a friend and confidante. She be-

lieves this was very good advice, for even in a small church she has found that God has provided older brothers and sisters in the Lord who can ably serve as the spiritual fathers and mothers to younger ones in the faith. When asked what qualities she would look for in such a person she said, "One who would be a confidante, one possessing spiritual wisdom and knowledge, one who did not show respect of persons, one who showed love, compassion, and understanding of the needs of others." This description apparently is that of one who is bearing fruits of the spirit and through her discipleship is bringing forth even more fruit.

The oldest mother in our congregation who attends services is "Grandma Dora Young." She acquired the name "Grandma Dora" because she truly is a grandmother many times over as well as a great-grandmother and was also "Grandma Dora" to the many children she taught in the Wichita Sunday School for fifteen years. On May 12, she passed her 86th birthday. She was blessed with many cards and was willing to share them. One card, which came from a granddaughter, had a script which read, "Thank you for not only being a grandmother to me but also a friend." Sis. Dora is very alert for her age and remembers all her friends from early adulthood with fondness, and corresponds with those few who are still living. Her beautiful gift of song comforted the hearts of many, especially those of her children who well remember her love and tenderness in time of illness and need. She has a desire to attend Sunday services if at all possible, and rejoices just to be with those in the household of faith. Her desire is to be confident in God's mercies and loosed from all earthly ties.

A mother/daughter fellowship was planned by several of our young mothers. Teen-age daughters from the young peoples Bible class sang several beautiful songs and the story of Rachael and Leah was recited. A dinner was served and hand-made gifts distributed by those who planned the fellowship.

The annual election placed Bro. Jimmy Bowers as teacher of the

Young People's Bible Class. Sis. Melinda Ciltner was elected teacher of the three and four year olds. Bro. Lynn Frank was elected to the board of trustees.

The high school graduates this year are Mike Bowers, Laurie Galatin, and Jane Miller; Sis. Melinda Giltner and Okon Essien from Nigeria will have completed courses for degrees in higher education.

MICHIGAN, ALTO Jane Grawturg

Our hearts have been blessed by the many visitors we have had this past month.

Sis. Carol Fahrni, from the Home for the Handicapped, joined us for Easter this year. We certainly enjoyed having Sis. Carol with us and look forward to seeing her again.

Our hearts were warmed when a bus-load came from Chicago a few weeks ago. We thank Bro. Lenard Meyer and Bro. Arnold Gerst for the messages they shared, and for all the love extended throughout the weekend.

"It is in loving,
not in being loved
The heart finds its quest;
It is in giving,
not in getting
Our lives are blest."

Anon.

Hospital patients this month include little Annie Oesch, daughter of Bro. Fred and Sis. Donna Oesch. Freddie and Jennie Oesch, Annie's brother and sister, are happy that she is home and things are somewhat back to normal again.

We offer special love and prayers for Sis. Anna Wingeier who is a patient at Blodgett Memorial Hospital in Grand Rapids. May God grant her the richest of blessings.

There is never a day so dark and dreary

But God can make it bright.
There is never a night so black and void

But God can send His light.
So take to Him those hopeless things

That are tearing at your life. . .
The heart that puts its trust in God

Finds help to meet the strife.

R. L. Smith

We have a special wish for all our fathers this month:

We are glad that God made fathers
Out of men who once were boys;
Who remember we have troubles,
And need Dads to share our joys.

G. S. Clark

MICHIGAN, BAY CITY Patsy Bragiel - Linda Ramseyer

Once again, the Lord has richly blessed our congregation as we heard the testimonies and witnessed the baptisms of four souls. We welcome Sis. Tracey Pashak (Bro. Dean and Sis. Connie). Sis. Debbie Ramseyer (Bro. Jim and Sis. Marlene), Sis. Vonda Thayer (Ron and Nancy) and Sis. Cindy Sochacki (Henry and Sis. Helen Meylan). May the Lord be with them as they travel through life.

"Jesus took bread, and blessed, and brake it, and gave to them, and said, Take, eat; this is my body." St. Mark 14:22. On Sunday evening, following the baptisms, we were privileged to partake of Holy Communion. Elder Bro. Nathan Steffen from Elgin, IL, was with us to help our elder brothers on this weekend.

We were also grateful to have Bro. Homer Reineck from Toledo with us this past month.

A TRIBUTE TO DAD God took the strength of a mountain.

The majesty of a tree,
The warmth of a summer sun,
The calm of a quiet sea,
The generous soul of nature,
The comforting arms of might,
The wisdom of the ages,
The power of the eagle's flight.
Then God combined these qualities
And when there was nothing more to add,

He knew His masterpiece was completed.

And so He called it . . . Dad!

Unknown

MICHIGAN, DETROIT Helen and Bonnie Popp

"Serve the Lord with gladness: come before his presence with singing." Psalm 100:2

It was a blessing to all as we enjoyed the visit and fellowship of the Bluffton choir May 2 and 3. It was a very special weekend, and each one of us was moved of heart by the beautiful blending of voices and messages brought to us in their singing. May God bless them for their visit.

We have joy in our hearts as Candi Knochel and Mary Pentek

are announced as having found peace of heart and desiring baptism. Our group of converts are those young and those not so young; and each one is so special to the Lord—and to us as well.

The heart that prays will rise up comforted.

The heart that serves the Lord is filled with joy.

In all his days, he shall have meat and bread;

His faith is one that nothing shall destroy.

(from "The Shield of Faith"
by Roy Z. Kemp)

Our visiting ministers were: Bro. Homer Reineck, Toledo; Bro. Jim Rinkenberger and Bro. Phil Stettner, Bluffton. We do appreciate, and feel there is a special blessing, in these visits to share with one another.

Our Sunday School was invited to Kitchener, Ontario, the weekend of May 17 by our brethren there—the Fortenbacher family. Bro. Homer and Sis. Dorothy Reineck were there from Toledo also.

Our prayers are with Walt Bauer who had surgery and is in the hospital at this time. We wish for him a good and speedy recovery.

Have a blessing ready even on the darkest night,
Someone may need the comfort of that little glow of light;
You'll find that every happiness and every blessing, too,
Will be returned a hundredfold to you.

Amanda Blakely

MINNESOTA, MINNEAPOLIS Carol Virkler

We received many precious teachings from our visiting ministers. On Good Friday evening, we assembled to be reminded of the suffering of our Lord and Saviour. We were happy to have Bro. Nathan Stoller (Bradford) with us for these services. It was a blessed privilege to have Bro. Paul Fehr (Morris) in our midst on April 26, and Bro. Ken Lawson (Ft. Lauderdale) with us on Mother's Day, May 10. May the Lord richly bless all these dear brothers for coming and sharing God's Holy Word with us.

Our annual business meeting was held in May. Results of the recent elections are as follows: Sunday School teacher, Bro. John Olson;

substitute teacher, Bro. Ken Schmidt; church trustee, Bro. Bob Schmidgall; usher, Bro. Ray Schmidgall; Silver Lining reporter, Sis. Deb Tilbury; Children's Home correspondent, Bro. Jim Tilbury; host committee, Bro. Wes Hohulin; and children's craft committee, Sis. Joyce Hohulin. We pray for God's grace and guidance upon those who begin their new duties in September.

MINNESOTA, MORRIS Jan Schock - Pam Sutter

Sisters Tillie Kellenberger and Lillie Koehl were hospitalized this month. Both dear ones are home again and we'll remember them in our prayers.

Eric Bachman was born to Sis. Cathy and Bro. Steve. His brother Coby and grandparents, Sis. Vi and Bro. Leonard Wulf, welcome him. Twins were born to Bro. Mike and Sis. Diane Schmidgall. Trevor is thrilled with his brother, Rustin, and sister, Rekeeta, as are his grandparents, Sis. Anna and Bro. Paul Fehr and Sis. Virginia and Bro. Don Schmidgall. God be praised and thanked for these miracles of life.

Bros. Leo Moser and Steve Rinkenger visited us and served us Holy Communion. Many thanks to them and to Bros. Edwin Bahler and Sam Huber for their visit on Mother's Day. We were blessed with many impressive thoughts to think about.

MINNESOTA, WINTHROP

Carol Messner - Mary Lou Schmidt

"...Choose you this day whom ye will serve;..." Joshua 24:15. Two dear souls have chosen to serve our dear Lord and Saviour. Marilyn Messner (Bill) and Brenda Messner (Rick) gave their testimony before the cloud of witnesses and entered into the waters of baptism, becoming precious sisters in faith. They are also step-mother and daughter-in-law. "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold all things are become new." II Cor. 5:17

Elder Bro. Leo Moser was here to help Elder Bro. Harold Messner with this important work. Following the testimony service, our small flock was given the exhortation of the memorandum. Obedience to the Word is the key to a good Christian life. We thank these dear brothers for their con-

cern and love. In this troubled world, these shepherds need our support and prayers.

As God told Noah exactly how to build the ark, if it was to survive the flood; God tells us how to build our "Christian Ark," if we are to survive our journey to reach the yonder shores of Heaven. We must cling to the ark and not be tossed to and fro by every wind of doctrine; lest we become a cast-away.

Bro. Don and Sis. Viola Messner are moving to Peoria, IL. We certainly want to wish them God's warmest and richest blessings in their future move. We also want to express our appreciation to Bro. Don and Sis. Viola for all the love, kindness, and fellowship they have shown to all of us. We will miss seeing them in our Winthrop congregation. May God ever abide with us—no matter where we may be or live.

With Father's Day approaching, it is a blessing to live in a country that sets aside a special day for them. We as Christian people think also of our Heavenly Father. "Like as a father pitieth his children, so the Lord pitieth them that fear Him." Psalms 103:13

Beatitudes for a Father

Blessed is he whose feet leave the soiled problems of his workday at the door mat of our Lord; for he will discover room in his heart to listen to the needs of others.

Blessed is he whose home is built upon the Word of God, for his roof will be shingled with happiness; and all who pass by will see the goodness of the Lord.

Anonymous

Voting was held for Sunday School teachers. Bro. Jerry Messner, Bro. Stan Messner, and Sis. Nancy Messner were elected; with Bro. Dean Messner and Sis. Georgia Messner as substitutes.

Sis. Hazel Schmidt, wife of ministering Bro. Elmer, has been hospitalized again for the past three weeks. We pray God will ever stay by her side, and give her grace and strength to endure her lot.

Sis. Melva Messner (Roland) was hospitalized for a few days. We also want to wish her a speedy recovery.

Bro. Walter (Butch) Messner is now undergoing tests at Rochester, MN. We certainly hope and pray all tests will turn out fine.

MISSOURI, LAMAR Vera Marie Frieden Vera Mae Frieden

In days of youth seek ye the Lord,
His love and truth with one accord.
Go offer Him thy youthful days,
And walk within the Saviour's
ways.

Hymns of Zion #135

We were privileged to host the youth fellowship for the Kansas Sunday Schools on April 25 and 26. We were grateful to have Bro. Steve Gutwein (Francesville) with us to speak with the youth. We were also blessed to have Bro. Clarence Kachelmus (Forrest) in our midst that same weekend. We pray that these brothers will be blessed for their efforts.

And the Lord God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an helpmeet for him." Genesis 2:18.

The engagements have been made known of Nancy Hurst to Roger Marti and Mary Jo Searles to Kurt Marti. Roger and Kurt's parents are Bro. Charles and Sis. Alice Marti. May they ever seek God's guidance and direction as they plan their future hand in hand.

Let us remember our fathers on Father's Day, but also throughout the whole year.

A FATHER SPEAKS

Father in heaven, make me wise,
So that my gaze may never meet
A question in my children's eyes.
God, keep me always kind and
sweet,

And patient, too, before their
need;

Let each vexation know it's place,
Let gentleness be all my creed.
Let laughter live upon my face!
A Father's Day is very long,
There are so many things to do!
But never let me lose my song
Before the harvest day is through.

MISSOURI, TAYLOR Linda Hodel

"To be loved is to know happiness
and contentment,
To give love is to know the joy of
sharing oneself. . .
For it is through the miracle of
love,
That we discover the fullness of
life.

R. St. John

We are happy to announce the

engagement of Sis. Lena Hoerr to Bro. Noah Steiner, Sabetha, KS, and Steve Riney (Gene and Irene) to Marsha Bross (Denny and Betty) of Palmyra, MO. May God bless each of these couples in His own special way.

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

Hospital patients were Tom Cottrell, surgical, and Vernon Huber, medical. Emma Gerst has been ill and confined to her home in Canton, MO. We wish for all a complete and speedy recovery.

"The sunshine of life is made up of very little beams that are bright all of the time." (Aiken) Bro. Eric and Sis. Penny Knochel are parents of their second son, Joseph A. J., born Apr. 29. Benjie is the big brother and grandparents are Bro. James and Sis. Lois Sutter of our congregation and the Al Knochels of Remington, IN. "To surround our children with prayers, is to show them we care." (Daily Bread)

We extend our thanks to Bro. Wayne Miller who was our only visiting minister this month.

We're happy to have Bro. William and Sis. Ruth Cottrell back with us, for a season, after spending the winter in Florida.

We wish our high school graduates, Kevin Knapp (Bro. Kenny and Sis. Phyllis), Mark Wiegand (Bro. Marvin and Sis. Joann), Amy Hoerr (Bro. Robert and Sis. Em), and Lori Anne Hoerr (Bro. Don and Sis. Elaine) God's richest blessings. May He always be your help and guide along the way.

"Impressions of a Father

On your special day—consider the mark you are leaving on your children. Bring them up in the nurture of the Lord. Spend time with them. Show them love and consideration. Be a good example. Avoid inconsistency. Discipline with self control and loving concern. Be sure your children carry throughout their lives the right impression of a father.

"The best inheritance a father can leave his children is a Christian example." R. W. D.

May God bless our fathers on their special day and may we show them how much we love, appreciate, and need them. To those whose fathers are gone may we remember the happy times that we shared together.

NEW JERSEY, UNION CITY Ed Aeschleman

There are three sisters in faith in Union City who are afflicted with various physical handicaps which confine them to their homes. They are Sisters Bertha Weisert, Louise Buhler and Minnie Cook. During a recent visit with them, they all confessed a longing to be with God and gained strength from that hope and promise. It is a true God-given blessing to be privileged to approach life's end with anticipation of a heavenly reward, instead of fear of the world to come. Your prayers for these dear sisters, and others like them, are solicited.

Ministering Bro. Albert Schneider, his wife and others from Rockville visited Union City and gave of themselves to encourage us. We were all grateful for the power of God's Word as it came forth and for the good fellowship of faithful brethren.

NEW YORK, CROGHAN Alice Virkler

Our Sunday School children presented a short program of song and verse on Easter Sunday.

We assembled with the Naumburg congregation on Sunday, Apr. 26, and on Sunday, May 3, they assembled with us, while our elder brothers were in Rockville and Philadelphia.

At this time, our only hospital patient is Sis. Barb Virkler at Iowa City. We are thankful that Bro. Gerry Grau has been able to return home, although he is still confined at home. Bro. Jerome Farney also remains at home and has been unable to assemble with us for many weeks. Sis. Berdena (Bro. John) Widrick was able to be with us again on Sunday after having been a patient in Lowville and also at Upstate Medical Center in Syracuse. Sis. Lovina Farney has not been at church since being hospitalized several days in Lowville.

NEW YORK, NAUMBURG Rachel Snyder

We think of those who have had to spend some time in the hospital. They are Emma Virkler, Sis. Rosella Schulz and Sis. Natalie Herzig. We are glad that they all have been able to return home again.

A group from Croghan and Naumburg churches sang for Sisters Pearl Colgrove and Sarah Virkler for their birthdays. Sis.

Pearl lives in her home and Sis. Sarah resides in the Lowville Nursing Home.

PENNSYLVANIA, PHILADELPHIA Ed Aeschleman

Bro. Howard and Sis. Dee Rapp of Morton, IL, will make their home in Pennsylvania while he oversees a business venture. They plan to make Philadelphia their church home while here and we are grateful to God for this addition to our small flock.

Sunday, May 3, was a blessed day for us all in Philadelphia when our church was dedicated to God. Elder Bro. Rudolph Graf, supported by Elder Bros. Joe Ramsier, Orville Ringger, Robert Beyer and Norbert Steiner told us that a dedicated church should be given entirely to God's service just as our lives must be given to His service to satisfy the promises we made when baptized. Bro. Joe reminded us that the church building would decay and accomplish nothing without the church, the body of believers, to keep it alive and thriving and that both the building and the church must be dedicated to God's work. Many other teachings came forth as each of the Elders spoke to us, moving the congregation to tears of joy in the Lord. Brethren came from many churches in several different states to witness the event and to lend their support to the work that has been started here. May God reward His servants for giving of themselves and their love and may He richly bless our feeble efforts to use the beautiful building for the express purpose of furthering His cause here on earth. It is our hope and prayer that many brethren will come from throughout the land to share God's gift with us.

OHIO, AKRON Carolyn Miller

On Apr. 18, we heard the testimonies of Tom Graf, son of Bro. Carl and Sis. Kathy, and Marsha Graf, daughter of Bro. Leon and Sis. Janet; and then on Easter Sunday, Apr. 19, they were baptized. We were thankful to have Elder Bro. Joe Ramsier, Rittman, OH, and Bros. Walter Anliker, Eureka, IL, and Gary Maibach, Rittman, OH, with us.

On May 10, Bro. Steve Pamer, son of Bro. Eugene and Sis. Eleanor, and Sis. Arliss Walders,

daughter of Bro. Don and Sis. Martha, Rittman, were united in marriage in Rittman. We wish them God's blessings as they begin their life together.

Sis. Theresa Hunyady (Bro. Andy) has undergone eye surgery. We wish her a complete recovery.

Our high school graduates this year are Gregg Baumgartner, Chris Collins, Tim Gasser, Mark Graf, Sis. Marsha Graf, Bro. Tom Graf, Scott Graf, Carol Pamer, and Amy Ritzman.

WALK A LITTLE PLAINER DADDY

"Walk a little plainer daddy,"
Said a little boy so frail.
"I'm following in your footsteps
And I don't want to fail.
Sometimes your steps are very
plain,
Sometimes they are hard to see.
So walk a little plainer daddy
For you are leading me."

"I know that once you walked this
way
Many years ago.
And what you did along the way
I'd really like to know.
For sometimes when I am tempted
I don't know what to do,
So walk a little plainer daddy
For I must follow you."

"Someday when I'm grown up
You are like I want to be,
Then I will have a little boy
Who will want to follow me.
And I would want to lead him
right
And help him to be true,
So walk a little plainer daddy
For we must follow you."

Author Unknown

I submit the above poem for Father's Day as we all think of our fathers and of the grave responsibilities they have to their children.

OHIO, JUNCTION

Les Manz

"Jesus loves the little children . . ." Little Jeffery Wayne was born to Pete and Helen Hurd on May 7. He has two older brothers, Mark and Shawn. Grandparents are Bro. Emanuel and Sis. Louise Manz.

"There is beauty all around when there's love at home." Sis. Becky Manz (Bro. Eli and Sis. Evelyn) and Bro. Ken Zollinger from Rittman (Bro. John and Sis. Margery), are planning a July 12

wedding. We wish them the Lord's guidance and blessings as another "Christian home" is established.

There is joy in ev'ry sound,
When there's love at home.
Peace and plenty here abide,
Smiling sweet on ev'ry side,
Time doth softly, sweetly slide,
When there's love at home.
Hymns of Zion

May we appreciate our fathers, not only on Father's Day, but every day of the year, and may they realize a good example is the best sermon.

Dear Daddy,
When I'm a great big man like
you,
I want to do just like you do;
I's goin' to go just where you go,
I want to know all that you know;
I's just a growing awful big,
And walking in the tracks you dig;
I think it won't be very long,
I's growing' fast, and getting
strong,
And soon I'll go to town with you
And be your partner all day
through;
I'm just a little, great big man,
A gettin' like you fast's I can.

Dear Son,
I'm glad you want like me to be,
Yet, I must change some things
I see;
If you will do just what I do,
And follow me the whole length
through,
Then I will pray for strength and
power.
To walk the Christ-life every hour,
And leave tracks all along my way,
Which lead to joy and endless day.
Author Unknown

OHIO, LATTY

Cheryl Wenninger - Susie Sinn
Haste and seek your soul's salvation;
Heed the word of God today!
Zion's Harp #52

How thankful we are that three of our precious souls are seeking their souls salvation. They are Roger and Kay Miller (Kay is the daughter of Bro. Loren and Sis. Esther Stoller), and Todd Stoller. (Todd is the son of Bro. Russell and Sis. Melvne and the husband of Sis. Pam.) May they ever find the necessary grace to build their spiritual houses on a firm foundation.

"Remember now thy Creator in

the days of thy youth. . ." Ecclesiastes 12:1

We have many from our congregation who have completed their high school education. They are Sis. Annette Hackenjos (Bro. Myron and Sis. Lorene), Sis. Rosemary Eisenmann (Bro. Lee and Sis. Mary), Sally Stoller (Ken and Sis. Esther), Monica Stoller (Bro. Willis and Sis. Ellen), Lisa Stoller (Ralph and Ruth), Treva and Treva Laukhuf (Bro. Bill and Sis. Janice), Janis Plummer (Bro. Rex and Sis. Ann), Valerie Laukhuf (Bro. Ken and Sis. Marge), Kirk Stoller (Bro. Darl and Sis. Iva), Jason Williamson (Robert and Sis. Janet), Bruce Rosswurm (Bro. Dick and Sis. Eileen Whitman), Todd Sinn (Bro. Walt and Sis. Renee), and Gary Sinn (Bro. Ray and Sis. Ann). May the Lord direct their paths as they choose an occupation in life.

We were saddened at the passing of our dear sister-in-faith, Sophia Sinn. Surviving are three sisters, Sis. Emma Gerber (Bro. Elmer), Sis. Clara Stoller, and Sis. Louise Sinn, and one brother, Bro. George Sinn (Sis. Clara). We will miss Sis. Sophia's presence and support in our church, but we know that she is in "A Better Land."

Jordan Tyler is the newborn son of Roger and Kay Miller. Welcoming him into the family are his brother, Matthew and his grandparents, Bro. Loren and Sis. Esther Stoller.

Joshua and Jessica are glad for a little playmate, Johanna Jae, born to Bro. Stan and Sis. JaNahn Sinn. The grandparents are John and Sis. Lillian Schlatter and Bro. Carl and Sis. Tootie Sinn.

Gene and MaryAnn Baughman and Bradley welcome little Eric Alan into their home. The grandparents are Bro. Henry and Sis. Katie Breitwieser.

May God's blessings rest in these homes that the seed may be sown into these innocent hearts.

Our visiting ministers this past month were Bro. Walt Rager (Toledo), Bro. Paul Gasser (Akron), and Bro. Henry Dotterer (Rittman). We are thankful that these brothers permitted themselves to be led of the Spirit in ministering to us.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Sis. Wanita Laukhuf (Bro. Dwain), Bro. Ulrich Kipfer (Sis. Frieda), and Bro. Dave Stoller

(Sis. Irene). May His healing grace and strength rest with these loved ones.

Bro. Dan and Sis. Delores Reinhard wish to announce the engagement of their daughter, Sharolyn Sue to Walter C. Snodgrass, Jr., of Wathena, KS. A June wedding is planned at the Bluffton, IN, Apostolic Christian Church Fellowship Hall after which they plan to reside in Kansas.

Monica Stoller (Bro. Willis and Sis. Ellen) is engaged to Rocky Martinez of Paulding, OH. They plan a May 30 wedding.

May God guide and direct these two couples.

We are thankful to our Heavenly Father for the many blessings that He has given us. At this time of year, we are especially thankful for our earthly fathers. We have come to know and appreciate their good examples of serving the Lord. May we ever strive to keep the faith that our fathers have preserved.

OHIO, MANSFIELD Lucille Groh

At this time of the year, we think of our earthly fathers, those who are still living and those who have been called to come "home" by the Master.

At this time, I'd like to write about the oldest father of our Mansfield church, Bro. Aaron Sauder, who is 93 years old.

Bro. Aaron was born near Leo, IN, on Oct. 29, 1887. He was the son of Bro. Amos and Sis. Mary (Matthes) Sauder, and the grandson of Elder Bro. William Matthes.

At an early age of less than three years, Aaron's family moved to Mansfield.

He can remember when he was about 3 years old that while playing with a table fork, the fork slipped and ran into his eye. Through this accident, he lost the sight of his one eye. However, he has been very fortunate that up until recent years, he could always see well with his remaining eye. Although he is getting a cataract, he is still able to see some.

As a young boy, he remembers going to Ashtabula, OH, with his parents to witness the baptism of Sis. Leah Fernyak, who was baptized in a lake. As he recalls, the ice had to be broken for the baptism and Leah almost slipped away from the elder.

At the age of 14 or 15 years, his

family moved to Wolcott, IN, and he remembers the first church being built there. His father was the first residing minister there.

At the age of 16, an old faithful brother of the church had passed on to his reward and the thought came to Bro. Aaron, "If that would have been me that died, I would not have been prepared to meet my God." So God, with His finger of love, touched Bro. Aaron and he yielded to the Master's call. He moved back to Mansfield and later was baptized. One year after baptism, he started to lead singing in the church under the direction of old Bro. Peligren. One of Aaron's favorite hymns is the Zion's Harp song, "Praise Ye the Lord." Bro. Aaron was baptized by Bro. Joe Ingold on Oct. 31, 1909.

Bro. Aaron found himself in need of a help-mate. He prayed to God to show him who might be the one for him. One evening at a singing at Mother Isley's home, he shook hands with Sis. Katie Schneider and he knew in his heart she was the one for him.

Sis. Katie was only 11 years old when her mother died and she prayed to the Lord that she might live long enough to repent and someday go to heaven to be with her mother. This prayer was granted and on Feb. 17, 1908, at the age of 18, she was baptized.

Life has been a mixture of sunshine and rain for the Sauder family. They were blessed with nine children. All are living but one daughter, Sis. Bertha, who was called to her heavenly home several years ago.

Bro. Aaron worked for Central Delivery and drove a horse and wagon. He also worked for Remy's Wholesale Grocery as a shipping clerk for 23 years. He worked several other places and when he retired in 1961 at the age of 74, he was employed at the Ohio Brass Co.

Now in the sunset hours of life, Bro. Aaron and Sis. Katie are still able to assemble with us almost every Sunday. If they both live until July 30, 1981, they will celebrate 70 years of marriage. They still reside in the home which Bro. Aaron built many years ago located at 566 Harter Avenue, Mansfield, OH, and are able to still take care of each other.

When asked the question, "What is the recipe for a good Christian life?" Sis. Katie said, "love the

Lord with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your mind and love thy neighbor as thyself." What a beautiful answer.

Just starting a new life together are Joy Robson and Dave Sauder, who were married Apr. 11. Dave is the son of Bro. Kenny and Sis. Sue Sauder.

A sweet baby girl named Elizabeth Dee was born on Apr. 15 to Bro. Mark and Sis. Jeannine Masters. Bro. Jim and Sis. Clara Zimmers are the new grandparents.

On Apr. 25, Bro. Ben and Sis. Caroline Manz and family favored us with a visit. We thank Bro. Ben for sharing God's Word with us. We received many blessings from the Word.

It is a joy to report that another dear soul, Shelli Banks Fairchild, has given her heart to the Lord and on May 11, it was announced that she has found peace. Shelli is the daughter of Bro. Richard and Sis. Mabel Banks. We rejoice with her and wish her God's continued blessings.

We welcome Sis. Janet Kraft, formerly of Ft. Scott, KS, into our fellowship. She is working in Fredricktown in her father's new business there. We hope she will soon feel at home here.

May 16 was a wonderful evening spent together as our Elder Bros. Rudy Graf and Joe Ramsier assisted by Bro. Eugene Pamer, served us Holy Communion. Truly each one is strengthened and renewed again in the spirit after going, in spirit, to Calvary.

We want to thank our youth for serving lunch on Mother's Day.

Hospital patients since last month were Sis. Mabel Banks and Bro. Donald Cordrey, who had surgery. We are happy to report that Sis. Alma Beer and Sis. Millie Matthes have been released from the hospital and are slowly making recovery.

Our hearts are saddened to learn of the passing of our dear sister, Elizabeth Bucher Dotterer, 96, on May 18. We are thankful that she could be relieved of suffering and could be called "home" to the Master. She has lived at the Rittman Rest Home, and we have missed her presence in our assembly. She is the widow of Bro. Ben Dotterer who passed away a number of years ago. She is survived by her twin sister, Ella Widmer, and three sons, LaVern and Arthur of Mansfield and Edwin of Phoenix, AZ.

We trust our heavenly father will comfort the family in their great loss. We have the promise that "God will wipe away all tears from their eyes, and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any pain, for the former things are passed away." Rev. 21:4. They can again meet their dear mother who is awaiting their coming.

OHIO, RITTMAN
Janette Blough
Florence Hartzler

"But seek ye first the Kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." Matt. 6:33. The engagement of Bro. Ken Zollinger and Sis. Rebecca Manz of Junction has been announced. Bro. Ken is the son of Bro. John and Sis. Marjorie Zollinger and Sis. Rebecca is the daughter of Bro. Eli and Sis. Evelyn Manz. May God bless and guide them as they plan their lives together.

May 10 was the wedding day of Bro. Steve Pamer of Akron and Sis. Arliss Walder. We rejoiced with them and thank visiting ministers. Bros. Eugene Pamer and Ernest Graf of Akron and Bro. Bill Brake of Sardis, for bringing us God's Word on this day. Sis. Arliss's parents are Bro. Don and Sis. Martha Walder and Bro. Steve's parents are Bro. Eugene and Sis. Eleanor Pamer of Akron. May our Lord ever be the Master in their home to guide, direct, and bless them.

Anna Margaret is the little blessing born to Bro. Rowan and Sis. Judy Schar. Anna has sisters Joni, Janee, Natalie and Grethcen, and brothers Tim, Philip, and Nathan to welcome her home and to help care for her. Her grandparents are Glen and Sis. Ella Miller and John and Marie Schar. Great-grandmother is Sis. Maggie Bauman.

Bro. Ron and Sis. Karen Lapare and their little son have moved to Columbus where Bro. Ron will be going to school. Their address is 587 Harley Dr. #3, Columbus, OH 43202.

MY TASK

To Love some one more dearly
ev'ry day,
To help a wandering child to find
his way,
To ponder o'er a noble thought,
and pray,

And smile when evening falls.
This is my task.

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

Maude Louise Ray

OHIO, TOLEDO
Josephine Rehklau

Children do not realize
How deep is a father's love, how
wise—
They do not fully understand
The strength that's in his guiding
hand,
And yet he's always held above
The childhood things that children
love,
And as they grow the long years
through,
That love for him keeps growing
too,
Until they learn the full extent
Of what a father's love has meant,
The worries he's concealed within,
How really wonderful he's been.

Author Unknown

Bro. Mark and Sis. Jeannine
Masters have a daughter, Elizabeth
Dee.

Sis. Lois Newman is in the hos-
pital, having had surgery for a hip
replacement. It is our prayer that
she will have a good recovery.

OREGON, PORTLAND
Connie Steffen

We thoroughly enjoyed the visit
of Bro. Glen and Sis. Kay Hacken-
jos (Altadena, CA) when Glen so
lovingly ministered the Word to
us. He shared many wonderful
thoughts with us on two Sundays.
He mentioned how the disciples
walked with the Lord on the road
to Emmaus, and He opened the
Scriptures to them, but they didn't
realize who He was until He had
left them and then their eyes were
opened. Bro. Glen said that, so of-
ten today people don't realize how
the Lord speaks to them, and how
He walks with them, until He has
gone on, and perhaps then it is too
late. Bro. Glen also shared with us
a definition of two familiar words;
Grace: receiving what we've not
deserved, and Mercy: not receiving
what we deserve.

Father's Day is a time when we

can express, in some small way,
our appreciation to our fathers
for all they have done for us.
In our church families, we have
fathers of the faith that we should
appreciate, too. Our Bro. Ray Ban-
wart is one of ours, and we would
be very lonely without him. He is
always very willing to give of his
time in any way that he can be
used. On Sunday morning, he is
always upstairs to greet everyone
as they go up from singing with
the Sunday School children, and
we can feel his joy of being able to
be in the house of the Lord. He is
really a pleasure to visit with and
we can certainly learn many les-
sons from the wisdom he has ac-
quired through his years of living
for the Lord. Bro. Ray and Sis.
Margaret have lived in Oregon for
21 years and have been a joy and
real pillars to the congregation. I
hope we take a little time every
day to thank the Lord for these
dear senior members who are a
guide and help to us who follow
after.

OREGON, SILVERTON
Andy and Mary Jane Winkler

Once again, Father's Day is here
and we often think of our fore-
fathers who had to give their lives
for the freedom which we now en-
joy. We do not yet have to worry
about our freedom, which we
should be more thankful for. Our
forefathers were willing to give
their lives for their religious be-
liefs, so we who are living
now should stand against those
things which are not good for our
church and families. Morals seem
to have deteriorated so fast in the
last ten years. Satan is making
good use of the little time he has
left to deceive as many as he can.
He is trying to keep many from re-
penting until the world comes to
an end and it is forever too late.

Fathers have a great responsi-
bility to our families and church
that they teach their children the
fear of God in a kind, yet sincere,
way.

We want to thank Bros. Garth
Steffen and Robert Miller, Port-
land, for bringing God's Word to
us.

MY SON

My son, you answered earnest
prayers
When finally you came—

A little babe with wrinkled nose
To carry on my name.

My fondest dreams were bundled
there
In blankets white and blue,
And I was overjoyed, my son,
And filled with wonder, too.

No joy could equal your small feet
That followed after me
And your bright eyes aglow with
life
And curiosity.

Now you are a man, my son,
With worlds at your feet,
I pray that you will value life
As each new day you meet.

Keep faith in God and fellowman.
Consider each new day
A precious gem as yours to hold
While passing on your way.

Craig E. Sathoff

PATTERNED WAYS

I shall walk in my father's steps,
Not because it is easy,
But because I like the deepmarks
He always makes.
They are easy to follow,
Whether I trudge behind him
in the snow,
Through high grasses along the
dunes,
Or follow him through his
ploughed furrows.
When I was small, I had to stretch
My legs to match his stride.
Sometimes I failed,
But always I tried.

He shows no sign,
Nor has he ever shown a sign
He is aware of this, my following;
He sets his patterned mark for
me,
And filled with pride, I bravely
follow him.

Now, having grown a bit,
I tread behind
With ease. Occasionally,
(Unless I watch myself),
I walk with even longer stride
And overreach his tracks,
Making new ones of my own.

God grant that I shall mark
A patterned way
As clear for my own son.

Roy Z. Kemp

THE FORTUNES OF FATHER

The fortunes of father
Are found close at hand,
Precious as genius dug
From deep in the land.
But the treasures a dad
Keeps the nearest at heart
Were not fashioned and sold
In the jeweler's mart;
For the gold and the
Diamonds lighting his eyes
Are gifts from the Giver
Of all paradise;
The fortunes of father
Are found in the ones
He can proudly point out
As his daughters and sons!

TRIBUTE TO A FARM DAD

I wish that you could know a man
Who views a greening, plush
farmland
And sense the feeling that he
knows
Of tasseling corn in long, straight
rows.

He sees that same corn reappear
In countless hills, from year to
year,
Yet, never do I cease to trace
A hint of awe upon his face.

His skin is tinged a red earth tone
Where fifty summer suns have
shone,
And underneath his "straw hat's"
brim
Are hazel eyes and stalwart chin.

Sinewy hands and arms so strong
From sending bales of hay head-
long
Have succumbed to a gentler task
And cradled up a newborn calf.
It never fails . . . he always knows
Just where to find the first wild
rose,
And gathers several fragrant
blooms
To grace a small farmhouse's
rooms.

I hear his prattle at early dawn
Calling his "little cattle" on.

And later, as the dusk draws nigh
He croons an Irish lullaby.

Another day, another night,
He heads toward shining
farmhouse lights
And softly breathes a thankful
prayer
For the loving family waiting
there.

God, bless this farm dad all his
days
That we, his children, might
convey
The welling sense of pride we've
known
From such a fine example shown.

Linda C. Robinson

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

Sermon . . .

(Continued from page 28)

nerstone that each child of God
must build upon. Also, we must
have hope. We're told that the best
minister is the one who is the
greatest inspirer of hope. "For we
are saved by hope: but hope that
is seen is not hope: for what a man
seeth, why doth he yet hope for?"
Rom. 8:24.

Can you see Heaven this morn-
ing? You can't see it, but you can
feel it in your heart, can't you?
Christ said that the Kingdom of
Heaven is within us. We don't wait
until we get to heaven to be recipi-
ents of the joys of Heaven. We
have that joy when we do the will
of God, when we walk in Christian
love, and when we pray. We should
be faithful and live as a child of
God should live. Is there a reward
for that? I think that there is a
tremendous reward, a reward of
satisfied feelings.

We read together in one of the
Scriptures about receiving our re-
wards. I know that there may be
questions is some peoples' minds,
"If any man's work shall be burn-
ed, he shall suffer loss: but he
himself shall be saved; yet so as
by fire." I or. 3:15. He shall lose
his reward.

I personally think that Jesus will
be satisfied with us if we make
worthy efforts. The one who had
two talents was honorable in the
sight of God and God was as satis-
fied with him as with the one who
brought the five. ". . . unto whom-

soever much is given, of him shall be much required. . ." Luke 12:48.

But what about the reward for faithfulness? What about the reward for going to bed at night with a clear conscience? What about the reward for kneeling down and praying with a completely surrendered heart, asking Jesus for forgiveness? We are living in a robe of flesh.

Down deep in our hearts, we want nothing but what is right. We want to pattern our lives after that of Jesus Christ. That makes us happy; that makes us blessed. It unites and draws us together. But, oh, there is a dividing spirit, too. That is what Satan loves to promote. The uniting Spirit is the Holy Spirit. With it we walk in love. Love is magnetic and draws us together. Even hate breaks down in the presence of true love.

"Christ hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour." Eph. 5:2. We also read together in Isaiah, "Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and . . . buy. . . without money and without price." Isa. 55:1. If people could buy salvation, there would be a lot of tickets to Heaven. But, Jesus said, "I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes: even so, Father; for so it seemed good in thy sight." Luke 10:21.

"If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me." Mat. 16:24. We sing, "I must needs go home by the way of the cross." Would you like to have the cross taken out of your life? Maybe you don't have too much of a cross today, but if the Lord lets you live a normal lifetime, you will have. Everyone's faith will be tested.

Were there no test, how should it
proven be,
Who weak, who strong, Who true
or untrue be.

Zions Harp, No. 172

I must needs go home by the way
of the cross,

There's no other way but this;
I shall ne'er get sight of the Gates
of Light,

If the way of the cross I miss.

Hymns of Zion, No. 167

The cross is given to us for a

specific purpose. It will do one of two things: it will make us bitter, or it will make us better. Any person who accepts the cross of Christ will become better.

"But fornication, and all uncleanness, or covetousness, let it not be once named among you, as becometh saints." Eph. 5:3. We who have come out from the world and have been made new in Christ, who have repented by the grace of God, have acknowledged condemnation before repentance. You felt it, didn't you? Do you know what that condemnation was? It was the penalty of sin.

"For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." Rom. 6:23. That is what condemns; sin condemns.

"Neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor jesting, which are not convenient (they don't build up): but rather giving of thanks." Eph. 5:4. It says, ". . . let it not be once named among you" who have become saints. We have been called to a new life. There is a point of demarkation in our life. What will help us to draw that guideline? The Holy Spirit will guide us.

Did you ever feel the prompting or chastising of the Holy Spirit? I have. Why does the Holy Spirit chasten us? Because It loves us. It doesn't want us to wander away. It wants to keep us close on the path that leads to Heaven. It wants to give us a heart that is free from sin.

What did Jesus say when the woman taken in adultery was brought to Him? Those who brought her brought her for self-justification and not to help the poor individual.

A man once lay wounded beside the road between Jerusalem and Jericho. A priest and a Levite passed by. When a Samaritan came, he got off his animal and poured oil and wine upon his wounds. (The ointment for healing represented forgiveness or saving power through Jesus' blood.) Then he picked him up, took him to an inn, and gave two pence to the innkeeper, saying, "Take care of him."

The church has a tremendous duty and obligation which is to care for each other. When we become children of God, we also become shepherds of the sheep (the household of faith). There are always young brothers and young sisters coming into the household

of faith and they are going to look to older "sheep." There is a continuity of our faith.

There was a discussion about many of those who were here years ago, but who have now gone on. There were words of encouragement. They live on in our hearts. Their audible words are silent, but the footprints that they have left in the sands of time will lead many an earthly pilgrim onward and forward.

You and I have our opportunity today. But if the sheep go wrong, be very, very careful. We have the Word of God. As the songwriter said, "Thy word, oh, Lord, forever is the mirror."

If the sheep go astray, it will not be long until the lambs follow. They run right out into polluted pastures.

Did you ever read the shepherd's view of the Twenty-third Psalm? Perhaps many of you did. How carefully the shepherd looks over the pastures to see that they aren't infested with weeds, noxious weeds, and to see that the waters aren't polluted. If the sheep go wrong, it will not be long until the lambs are as wrong as they. If a "lamb" would be lost, think of the cost some "sheep" might have to pay.

We are called. We have the highest calling, brethren, and we are watchful and prayerful. We have a joyful life to live. "Rejoice in the Lord . . . and again I say, Rejoice." Phil. 4:4.

The Lord is at hand. He is at hand for every need and we can kneel down and pray. When Satan comes with flowery and glittering attractions of the world, let's be careful. Let's weigh them.

Prove ye, prove ye every spirit.
As the Master did command it;
Know their works, not words.

alone;

Men, as trees, by fruits are known.

Zion's Harp, No. 127

If we, by the grace of God, try to pattern ourselves after the Word of God, after the Spirit that Jesus has given to us, we will submit ourselves one to another in the fear of God. Then we will have not only a peaceful life, but we will also have a peaceful and blessed death.

Can you tell me anything more worthwhile than that? If you can, I'd like to hear it.

SERMON BY ELDER BRO. DAVID KIESER OF PRINCEVILLE, IL

Text: Ephesians 5:1-21

"Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God." This last verse is a tremendous help to us in keeping our spiritual growth moving in the right direction. It will also contribute to keeping harmony and unity among the brethren which is so important. "Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace." Eph. 4:3

Even though it was difficult for them to comprehend, the disciples knew that Jesus, their Lord and Master, would be taken from them. He had told them that His mission would soon be over and that He would go to the Father's house.

But He would not leave them alone; He would send the Holy Spirit, the Comforter. He told them to remain in Jerusalem until they received the outpouring of the Spirit. It would be their Guide-light, the gentle Watchman over their souls, to lead and guide them into all truth and righteousness.

Once, as the disciples were walking along the way, they disputed about something. Jesus asked what they had been talking about, but He knew what it was. They didn't answer Him, but they had argued about who would be greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven. Jesus told them that whoever wanted to be the greatest should become the servant of all.

As a songwriter said, "Oh, to be nothing, nothing!" That is the thing. Isn't it true that we should be as nothing by ourselves? Self is probably the greatest obstacle that we have to cope with. We have to continually work to subdue our old nature. It wants to rise up. But Jesus told us to be humble.

"What is humility?" has been asked. After all, we need a certain measure of confidence or trust or self-worth. Do we dare put it in that vein? Then, what is humility?

Is humility thinking more of one's self? It certainly isn't that. Is it thinking less of one's self? It's not that either. It's just not thinking of one's self at all.

"Let no man seek his own, but every man another's wealth." I Cor. 10:24. That is spiritual wealth. Satan is very, very cunning. He wants us to think of ourselves, which we really shouldn't do. We should think of others. But Satan will tempt us.

"Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children." Eph. 5:1. Children, when they are together, are fairly equal. We become children of God, but we have the mind and judgment of men and women. God has left to us the ability to choose. We by the grace of God should keep ourselves on a common level; that is where the believer belongs. Satan will try to make us think more highly of ourselves than we should.

We can read in the fortieth chapter of Isaiah, ". . . (we) are as nothing; and they are counted to him less than nothing. . ." Yet Satan will try to tell us that we are really "someone."

The Apostle Paul thought very well of himself in his unconverted state. But there was no saving grace by Paul; it was through Jesus Christ. When He confronted Paul on the way to Damascus, Paul lost "self" and won Christ!

If Satan can't persuade us to exalt ourselves (that's the first thing he will try to do), he will next try to push us down. He will try to convince us that we are of no value at all, that we have no place where we fit in.

A psychiatrist once told me that there is a certain level in everyone's life. When we go below that level, we don't feel as though we are a part of anything any more. He said that we have to have something that we can attach ourselves to. That "something" certainly should be none other than Jesus Christ!

Satan will try to push us down and if he gets us down and is still not satisfied with that, he will step on us. We don't belong in that situation. We have a measure of self-worth through Jesus Christ. The

Apostle Paul said, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." Phil. 4:13.

The Apostle Paul, who wrote the message that we read this morning, was able to deliver the most powerful message. King Agrippa said to Paul, "Almost thou persuadedest me to be a Christian." Acts 26:28.

Paul was so inspiring that people began to build their faith upon his ministry, but he corrected them. He said, "I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase." I Cor. 3:6.

We sing, "Ask ye what great things I know That delights and stirs me so? What the high reward I win? Whose the name I glory in? Jesus Christ, the Crucified."

We have read together: "Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children; And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling savour." Eph. 5:1,2. Walk in love, in holy love! It is a bright flame from Heaven, pure hearts revealed through purified love.

I remember visiting a sister who was sick. She was in bed. Oh, I can remember it well. I can visualize that picture. It was all worked around this little four-lettered word, "love." When I went up to her bed and pressed her hand, she said to me in German, "I love you so very much." That penetrated my heart. It was the love of Christ. What did she want? Her work was nearly done, and she wanted to meet those whom she loved in Heaven.

Oh, that love! In the thirteenth chapter of First Corinthians the Apostle Paul said, "Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, . . . though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not (Christ's love in my heart), I am nothing." I Cor. 13:1, 2.

Yes, we must have faith. Faith is the victory and faith is the cor-
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