

# The Silver Lining

A LIGHT FOR BELIEVERS

VOLUME 32

APRIL, 1982

NUMBER 4

*"Because He lives . . . We too shall live!"*

Now upon the first day of the week, very early in the morning, they came unto the sepulchre, bringing the spices which they had prepared, and certain others with them. And they found the stone rolled away from the sepulchre. And they entered in, and found not the body of the Lord Jesus. And it came to pass, as they were much perplexed thereabout, behold, two men stood by them in shining garments: And as they were afraid, and bowed down their faces to earth, they said unto them, Why seek ye the living among the dead? He is not here, but is risen . . .

Luke 24:1-6a

## CHRISTIAN ACTION

Bro. Paul Gasser, Akron, Ohio

We are thankful to again be in another Easter season, and we rejoice in the glorious resurrection of our Saviour. In John 21 we have a record of some short and direct instructions which Jesus left His followers before His ascension. "Cast the net . . . , Bring of the fish . . . , Come and dine." Then after they had eaten, Jesus told Simon Peter: "Feed my lambs, . . . Feed my sheep . . . , Feed my sheep . . . , Follow me . . . , Follow thou me."

Whether pertaining to our physical life or to our spiritual

being, Jesus still wants His followers to understand the simple, direct, and very effective message of salvation. Although the Lord has paid the price for our salvation, and done the greater part, there is still some action required of us if we are to reap the greatest blessing. The words: Cast, Bring, Come, Dine, Feed, and Follow, indicate our action.

It is easy for us to try to apply the desired action to other people. However, it is so important for each of us after we have been redeemed to remember what the Lord said to

Peter when he asked Jesus, "Lord, and what shall this man do?" Jesus had already outlined Peter's work for him, and he was not to be distracted by the assignment given to another. We note that our Lord answered Peter, ". . . what is that to thee? Follow thou me." We can see the importance of each of us carrying out obediently the specific duties the Lord has for us. When we have carried out our Lord's instructions willingly and faithfully, we believe the blessing of: "Ye shall find" will also then be our good fortune.

## ENGRAFTED CONTRARY TO NATURE

Romans: 11-24

Bro. Henry Beer — Minister, Milford, IN

The wonders of growth in plants, of blossom, and of seed and fruiting time has always been fascinating to me.

The Apostle Paul made a short reference to a process of reproduction, which reveals his keen perception of the laws of God for our knowledge and inspiration.

Generally the cycle of growth is carried on by the sowing of the seed, then by the division of mother plants, then by the process of grafting.

The Apostle drew out comparisons of spiritual truths of the soldier in armour, of the athlete in contests, of the orchardist in his care of trees and of the vine.

When the orchardist finds he has an unfruitful tree or one which bears poor quality fruit, or possibly one that does not bear annually, he decides rather than to remove the tree to use the process of grafting.

In nature a bud, or a small living branch called a scion is inserted into the growing area of the tree to cause it to bear fruit on the newly inserted graft. After the scion has begun vigorous growth, large parts of the upper growth will be removed, giving place to the newly engrafted bud or scion.

This is a process of putting a good

fruitful bud on an unfruitful or unprofitable tree, or in other word, putting the good on the bad. This is the natural way to which Paul refers.

But our relationship to Christ is completely reversed. In the process of grafting contrary to nature, the bad is grafted into the good. Christ is the only true and productive and profitable one or tree which can supply the strength and the nourishment to all men of all nations. In Him is the sap and life stream of vigor and strength to nourish the bud or unprofitable scion which we were. How wonderful to become a part of this divine nature by faith and repentance and by baptism we are engulfed into His being. Even though our growth at first may be slow, we are thus implanted into the tree of life, contrary to life, but effective for fruit bearing now and in all eternity.

In conclusion, to summarize this meditation, Paul meant that in nature the good is put on to the bad, but in Christ the bad is put on to the good. This proves as the song writer has written, "Christ receiveth sinful men, even me with all my sin, purged from every spot and stain, Heaven, with him, I enter in."

and irrigation water which the Grimm brothers are helping to coordinate. The Moser's checked on relief projects including the work at Hospital Albert Schweitzer.

On February 23, 1982, Elder Bros. Ben Maibach, Roy Grimm, Carl Kinsinger and Bro. John Klotze left for India to review and formulate policy at the Rural Gospel and Medical Mission of India and visit the India Fellowship administered by David Kurut. They had a blessed trip and returned home safely on March 16, 1982. A full report will follow later.

The World Relief Committee and the Apostolic Christian Church is certainly grateful and thankful, first to our dear Heavenly Father for giving us the opportunities to serve Him and secondly to all who have participated financially and physically, volunteering their time and talents to clean, sack, and truck the grain, collect and truck the hay, and inspect and visit recipients to assure us they are accomplishing their intended purpose.

May God richly bless you all for supporting the World Relief effort.

## APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN WORLD RELIEF COMMITTEE REPORT

Jim Hoerr

Secretary, World Relief Committee

Grain shipments in January, 1982, totaled 12 semi-loads (420,000 lbs.) of corn bagged and delivered to export locations in New Jersey and Louisiana. Local brethren cleaned and bagged corn at Francesville, Indiana (6 loads), Bluffton, Indiana (2 loads), and Eureka, Illinois (4 loads). The grain was consigned to International Aid for distribution to Somalia, Africa, Haiti, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras. Additional brethren and friends accompanied trucks to the export docks to help load grain into the ocean-going containers for ship-

ment.

During January, the brethren in Kansas provided 2 semi-loads of hay for cattle feed taken to Heifer Project International in Little Rock, Arkansas. Bro. Loren Strahm accompanied this shipment and attended the annual meeting of Heifer Project where the 1982 aid program was explained.

Bros. Ken and Jess Grimm, Bro. Rod and Sis. Naomi Moser checked projects in Haiti during February. The World Relief Committee provided funds to assist in a well-drilling project in Haiti for drinking

### THE SILVER LINING

Grabill, Indiana 46741

USPS 496780

#### EDITORIAL STAFF:

Lynn Stieglitz  
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Albert Frautschi  
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The editorial staff wishes to acknowledge and thank all of the volunteers from the Leo Apostolic Christian Church who willingly give of their time to handle the many address changes, help mail the monthly issues and spend hours in editing. May God reward you.

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#### IN MEMORY — EDITORS:

HENRY SOUDER  
EDWARD SOUDER

# URGENT NEED FOR HOUSEPARENTS

## To our brothers and sisters in faith:

Greetings in our dear Saviour's name, and we pray the Lord's grace and blessings be with you.

"And a vision appeared to Paul in the night, there stood a man of Macedonia, beseeching him and saying, Come over into Macedonia and help us." Acts 16:9

"as we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith." Gal. 6:10

The Apostolic Christian Children's Home has been operating at capacity level for some time, thanks to the support of our many brethren and friends, and to our brothers and sisters who have willingly come to fill the staffing needs of the homes. The Home has provided Christian homes, families, and love for many children in the past and is doing so now.

There is a need for houseparents for one home. This would be a fulltime responsibility for the brother and sister. Houseparent applicants, aged 21 or over, brother and sister in faith, and with the approval of their local elder, may send their resume and letter of application to:

Bro. Nelson Beer  
R 1, Box 101  
Milford, IN 46542  
219-658-4607

or  
Elder Bro. David Bertsch  
R 2  
Grabill, IN 46741  
219-627-2923

or  
Bro. Bob Cockburn  
P.O. Box 151  
Leo, IN 46765  
219-627-5138 or 219-627-5468

The brother and sister, with qualifications as houseparents, will receive compensation monthly starting at a yearly rate of \$13,000.00, paid health insurance, room and

board, and a paid one week vacation after one year of employment.

All resumes will be promptly and prayerfully answered.

Counseling elders Bro. Loren Stoller  
Bro. Alfred Bahler  
Bro. Wendell Gudeman  
Bro. Orville Ringger  
Bro. Jesse Beer  
Bro. David Bertsch

## APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S HOME

**Bob Cockburn**

Once again, I take my pen (typewriter, actually) in hand to update you on the happenings at your Children's Home. As with most of you, we are eagerly awaiting Spring, and the rebirth that goes along with it. We have been spared from the severe flooding that occurred along the St. Joseph River just down the road from here, although many people were not. We are thankful that the waters have receded and that many thousands of people have come to our area to help with the cleanup. It speaks well of many of you that you came to help, not only when the waters were rising, but also when the cleanup operations are taking place.

Aside from the recent display of the power which transcends the power of man, things are rather routine here. The children are already anticipating summer vacation, even though spring break has not come to pass as yet. The staff are all working on plans for our summer program, plans which could include you if you are willing. We depend heavily on volunteers to help in the classroom, in the gardens, in the houses, and anywhere else that the personal touch of caring people would be helpful. If you are interested in helping, please let us know.

We have recently had many of our children express a desire to follow the Lord. Although we do not know what this will lead to, we feel that for them to even think about this most important step in their young

lives is progress, as many of them had no knowledge before coming here of God or His Son, Jesus Christ. Your prayers on behalf of our children are very much needed, not only now, but always.

Since my family and I came here three years ago, we have seen only steady progress in the Home. Many children have been helped to see what God can do, as well as what a family should really be like. Our houseparents have provided Christian love, guidance, and care for these children and the results have been blessed. Not only have children been shown a better way of living, through the Christian homes that you have provided them, but a number of them have come to repentance because of what they have had the opportunity to experience here. Wouldn't it be a shame if this were halted now, after so much has been accomplished? And yet, without Christian people to carry on this labor of love, I do not know what the future holds.

Many of you are aware that we will be losing our two houseparent couples very soon. Without houseparents it will be rather difficult to provide Christian families to these needy children. I cannot believe that there are not couples in our church that could not come and provide for these children, and yet, as of today, not one couple has approached us concerning this matter, let alone two couples that are needed if this work is to continue uninterrupted. The appeal has gone out for some time now; the time is growing very short. If you have felt God's direction in this important area, please do not hesitate. I would be happy to talk with anyone interested and clear up any questions you may have. The need is great and it is now.

The work is a challenge, but it is important; God has blessed the Home in the past, and, I feel, will continue to bless it in the future. Many of you have visited us and seen the changes that have been wrought in our children. We are thankful for all of you who have helped us in any number of ways (by your presence, your gifts, and most importantly, your prayers) to help our children. Please continue to

pray that God's will be done in the lives of our children.

Spring is upon us and it is a time of change. As the Home enters a major period of change, please remember us; we need the prayers of those we love.

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### THE HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED MORTON, IL

"Low in the grave He lay, Jesus, my Saviour; Waiting the coming day, Jesus my Lord . . ." (Gospel Hymns, #323)

"Oh, who among the sons of men, By word or song or deed or pen, Can ever fittingly convey The meaning of this blessed day . . ." (Hymns of Zion #89)

Yearly the season of Spring assumes its role in the calendar of time near to the time we observe Easter. Humanity cannot ignore the fact that behind the changes in the seasons is the power of the Creator of all things; and for those who are in tune, it can be found expressed in hymns and in the pulpits across the land. With renewed inspiration, we realize there are those intangibles which are more precious than material wealth. We know that the riches of faith and love fill hearts with compassion, creating a joy appropriate for all seasons.

"Up from the grave He arose, With a mighty triumph o'er His foes; He arose a Victor from the dark domain, and He lives forever with His saints to reign. He arose! He arose! Hallelujah! Christ arose! . . ." (Gospel Hymns, #323)

Spontaneously, then, we go forward with renewed enthusiasm, each to his post, joyously endeavoring to become an harmonious part of the whole Plan of our Heavenly Father.

The current outing is a springtime, indoor camp-out at a Girl Scout campground. The previous ones have always been in the summertime; therefore, it is with enthusiasm that we look forward to this one. Packing food for three meals, bedrolls, clothing, and personal things for twenty residents and the accompanying staff is no small task, but past experience has proved it has been worthwhile.

On a visit to the Maintenance Department, we find that with six full time people, the major responsibilities include the upkeep and maintenance of the grounds and building, including the house-keeping. The transportation for all health appointments, for field trips and for school and workshops is another phase of this department. In the summer, there are many trees and shrubs to be cared for, as well as many acres of mowing. In the winter, snow removal is a major operation. The driveways must be kept clear for emergency use, should the need arise. Our two vans, two buses, tractor, lawn mower, and other outside equipment must also be kept in prime condition. It is a never-ending task to maintain the equipment in all departments. This includes furnaces, washers, dryers, sinks, toilets, stoves, and all of the residents' personal things, such as bicycles, radios, wheelchairs, etc. The upkeep of walls and floors is a major operation. There are many walls to paint and floors to strip, wax, and buff constantly.

Housekeeping is an on-going operation. Fifty-two double-bed rooms, two living rooms, office wing, laundry, kitchen and dining room, and physical therapy and activities rooms must be cleaned daily. With the many hallways and windows, the job is never ending.

A complete fire drill and safety program is also provided to instruct all personnel on the use of fire extinguishers and on the duties which they must perform in case of a real fire. The facility has a back-up diesel generator to take over in case of power failure. A 24-hour, seven-day-a-week on-call service is provided for emergency use.

The major challenge of the maintenance supervisor is to keep the facility as clean and well-maintained as one would want his own home kept. With close to eighty residents and approximately that many staff, this is truly a challenge.

Christ instructed His own that "faith without works is dead" and to "occupy until I come." Therefore, whatsoever we can accomplish, we hope to do to His honor.

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

### ARIZONA, PHOENIX

**Julie Hoerr**

"But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word." Acts 6:4. God has richly blessed us this month with those willing to lend themselves to His ministry. Our fourteen ministers were Elder Bro. Don Sauder (Roanoke), Francis Rother (Morton) Arthur Nohl (Morris), Paul Gasser (Akron), Elder Bro. Roy Grimm (Taylor), Arthur Baurer (Princeville), Earl Gerber (Forrest), William Hodel (Roanoke), Marvin Stieglitz (Leo), Loren Knapp (Tucson), Todd Fellar (LaCrosse), Elder Bro. Roy Sauder (Peoria), Clarence Dietrich (Silverton), and Jim Funk (Tucson). Thank you to each of these brothers for sharing God's Word with us.

During the weekend of Feb. 20 and 21 we were privileged to host the Fort Sam Reunion. During the week prior, many of our visitors enjoyed bus tours to Tucson and to Northern Arizona. On Saturday evening a singing was held at the Holiday convention center. On Sunday we received greetings from 32 congregations. In the afternoon a church dinner was enjoyed by many and evening services were held as we were blessed with nine guest ministers.

During the month of February and March, arrangements were made on several Sundays for those who wished to eat at Ferguson's Cafeteria. We then enjoyed a singing or evening services. As this is the middle of March, many of our dear winter family are leaving; we pray they may safely return to their homes and look forward to their return next winter.

Rick Emory was born Mar. 2, to Roger and Marsha Banks. Big brothers, Roger and Ryan, welcome little Rick, as do grandparents, Bro. Floyd and Sis. Clare Banwart. Mar. 13, little Carl Robert was welcomed by parents, Bro. Curt and Sis. Caroline Kaufman (Tucson). Carl's sisters, Carrie and Catherine, are pleased to have a little brother. Grandfathers are Bro. John Kaufman, (Phoenix) and Bro. Albert Zeltwanger (Latty).

On Feb. 28, the engagement of Bro. Todd Roth and Sis. Jill Beres

was announced. Bro. Todd's parents are Bro. Earl and Sis. Lorene Roth. Sis. Jill is the daughter of Bro. Jim and Sis. Lois Beres. A May 16 wedding is planned. We surely wish them God's guidance and blessings as they look forward to becoming one in our Lord.

We are most grateful to God for His loving care and gift of health to Bro. Roy and Sis. Minnie Farney. Truly it is a joy to have them in our midst when we assemble. Some of our dear ones have been ill or hospitalized this past month. Hospital patients were Sis. Gladys Fisher and Herb Mohrman. Bro. Gene and Sis. Marge Fehr were both ill and unable to gather with us.

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**CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA**  
**Mary Beth Klotzle**

"Then the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews, came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you." John 20:19

What joy there must have been among the disciples at the sight of their risen Lord and what peace must have flooded their hearts. Being in such great fear they were suddenly comforted by the presence of Christ. We, too, can cast out all fear and receive God's peace because He sent His Son to die for our sins and to rise victorious over death. We are so very thankful to have the hope within our heart of meeting our Lord someday . . . a hope which we must strive to be more worthy of.

This past month we were again fortunate to have visiting ministers, renewing our faith and trust in the Lord. They were Bro. Clarence Dietrich (Silverton), Bro. Jim Hoerr (Peoria), Bro. Paul Gasser (Akron), Bro. Clarence Yackley (Phoenix), and Bro. Loren Knapp (Tucson). Elder Bros. Roy Grimm (Taylor), and Ben Maibach (Detroit) were with us on the evening before they, our elder Bro. Carl Kinsinger, and Bro. John Klotzle left for India. They have returned home safely and felt much encouraged upon leaving India. There is still much work to be done with the Rural Gospel and

Medical Missions of India, and we've been entreated to continue to pray for spiritual help in India. We thank the Lord for guiding the brothers in their discussions and decisions. May He bless them for their labors of love and concern. They also were privileged to visit the Japan churches and were richly blessed by the fellowship.

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**CALIFORNIA, MAYWOOD**  
**Ben Ammann**

We were thankful to be provided with God's word while our ministers, Bro. Carl Kinsinger and Bro. John Klotzle, were on their missionary trip to India. Our visiting ministers were: on Feb. 28, Bro. Jim Hoerr (Peoria, IL), on Mar. 7, Bro. Clarence Yackley (Phoenix, AZ), and on Sunday, Mar. 14, Bro. Loren Knapp (Tucson, AZ).

We were pleased to see Bro. Ed Ruhle meet with us but he is still ailing some.

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**COLORADO, DENVER**  
**Marlene Leman**

Bro. Charles Marti of the Lamar congregation was the minister who came to serve March 7. Visitors are always so welcome, so he and all those who came with him were greatly appreciated. May God bless you, Bro. Charles for your labor of love.

The week-end of March 21 we were again privileged to assemble with the loved ones in Denver. We are so happy that Bro. Nathan Steffen, our elder in Elgin, IL, was able to be with us. His love, concern, and encouragement was deeply felt by all who assembled. May God reward him richly.

We encourage anyone traveling in the area to contact Sis. Vera Jivan and to assemble with the brethren and friends if possible. Her phone and address are: 303-798-4424, 5819 S. Lowell Blvd, Littleton, Colorado 80123. Services are held the first and third Sundays of each month at the Victory Grange Hall, 2009 Tower Rd., Aurora. Services start at 10:30 and 12:30 with lunch served in between.

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

**CONNECTICUT, ROCKVILLE**  
**Dorothy Viens**

**The Soul Of A Child**

The soul of a child is the loveliest flower  
 That grows in the Garden of God.  
 Its climb is from weakness to knowledge and power  
 To the sky from the clay to the clod.  
 To beauty and sweetness it grows under care  
 Neglected 'tis ragged and wild  
 Tis a plant that is tender, but wondrously rare  
 The sweet wistful soul of a child.

Be tender, O Gardener, and give it its share  
 Of moisture, of warmth and of light,  
 And let it not lack for the painstaking care  
 To protect it from frost and from blight.  
 A glad day will come when its blooms shall unfold  
 It will seem that an Angel has smiled  
 Reflecting a beauty and sweetness untold  
 In the sensitive soul of a child.

Author Unknown

On March 3, Bro. Bob and Sis. Lynette Goric were blessed with the birth of a son, Andrew Peter. Andrew has a sister, Leah and grandparents Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Christine Virkler and Sis. Janet Goric. Though he is tiny and a tender young plant in God's Garden, we know that God is able to care for him.

Bro. Harold Lanz and Bro. Ed Ludwig have been hospital patients. May they ever feel God's presence and the prayers of those that love them.

Bro. Roy Wieland (Bay City) spent Sunday, March 14 with us. We thank Bro. Roy for his willingness to bring God's precious Word to us.

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**FLORIDA, FT. LAUDERDALE**  
**Sally Gress**

We've been blessed with many visiting ministers this past month. We wish to thank Elder Bros. Sam Anliker (Lamont, KS) and Leroy Huber (Eureka, IL) and also Bros. Art Gudeman (LaCrosse, IN)

Harold Gramm and Floyd Schmidgall (Morris MN) and Robert Beebe (South Bend, IN). We've received many blessings from our times of fellowship with our many visitors.

Sis. Esther Meister and Anna Rose Lloyd have been hospital patients recently. They are now home and doing well.

Prayer should be the key of the day and the lock of the night.

Thomas Fuller

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### FLORIDA, SARASOTA

**Doris and Diane Roche**

On Feb. 21 a dinner honored Bro. Bob and Sis. Mary Reiman with a Christian farewell until that time when we hope to all be reunited. May God bless and help them through this change of surroundings. We will miss their sweetness and kind words. Our loss is another's gain and so we pray they will find some dear ones in Peoria, IL. May fond memories abide with us and showers of blessings be bestowed upon them.

Bro. John Joas thanks all who offered kindness and love through prayers, gifts, cards, and visits while he was hospitalized and during his recovery from surgery.

Sis. Irene Zeigler has been unable to attend services and we have missed her sweet smile. We pray that God will bless her with new courage and strength to again be among us.

Sis. Emma Marti (Rockville, CT) had the misfortune of breaking her wrist while visiting and we wish her well upon her return home.

We pray God will give the needed strength to the hospital patients this month. They are Frank Krsogacin and Sis. Sue Eisenmann. Sis. Sue has returned home now, recovering from surgery. May God take their hands and hold them tight, for we cannot walk alone.

Our prayers have been for Elder Bro. Ben Maibach on his recent trip to India. May he have felt the love and concern of us all.

Visiting us were Elder Bro. Sam Anliker (Lamont, KS), Bro. Clarence Kachelmuss (Fairbury, IL), Elder Bro. Edwin Ringger (Gridley, IL), Bro. Bob Meyer (Bluffton, IN), Elder Bro. Leroy Huber (Eureka,

IL), and their wives. We have been so blessed with food for the soul; may we benefit and not let the efforts of these brothers be in vain. We encouraged them to return for the wonderful summer climate and see how beneficial it can be.

Our annual church cleaning was done and our gratitude and thanks are extended to all who helped. We also wish to thank the willing hands who helped when the city water was piped to the church.

You are my God and I am your man,  
I will worship you with the works of  
my hand.

And thoughts of my mind. And the  
love in my heart.

If the world could know — If they  
could understand,

Ah, the exquisite touch of the  
Creator's hand.

Brings a blur to my eyes but makes  
my vision clear.

Kemper Crabb

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### GEORGIA, ATLANTA

**Brenda Stoller**

"For where two or three are  
gathered together in my name,  
there am I in the midst of them."  
Matt. 18:20

Even though we are small in number, the spirit of the Lord was among us as Bro. Henry Dotterer (Rittman) and Ken Schneider (Remington) ministered to us. May God bless these brethren and their families who traveled many miles to share the love of God.

It is a real blessing to have visitors stop in and worship with us. If further information is needed concerning our church gathering, please contact Bro. Linn or Sis. Brenda Stoller at (404) 471-0349.

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### ILLINOIS

**BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL**

**Mary Huber**

We have been richly blessed with visiting ministers this past month. Bro. John Isch from Indianapolis, Bro. Dave Keiser and Bro. Marv Leman all gave us very inspiring messages. May they be rewarded for the time they shared with us.

A new family will be established in our church as the engagement of Sis. Emily Keiser to Bro. John

Maurer was announced. May God bless them with much love and happiness together.

We wish to extend our sympathy and prayers to Sis. Eileen Maurer and her family on the illness and passing away of her mother. "For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain." Philip. 1:21

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### ILLINOIS, BRADFORD

**Shirley Kieser**

Mother's Day is loving day of remembrance for those of us who don't have our mothers here on earth anymore, a day of appreciation and love for a dear mother's presence, and for those of us who are mothers, to be humbled by the very thought, are we anywhere near what we are supposed to be — as so beautifully mentioned in this poem:

#### What Is A Mother?

It takes a Mother's Love to make a house a home, A place to be remembered, no matter where we roam . . . It takes a mother's patience to bring a child up right, And her courage and her cheerfulness to make a dark day bright . . .

It takes a Mother's thoughtfulness to mend the heart's deep "hurts", And her skill and her endurance to mend little socks and shirts . . .

It takes a mother's kindness to forgive us when we err, To sympathize in trouble and bow her head in prayer . . .

It takes a mother's wisdom to recognize our needs And to give us reassurance by her loving words and deeds . . .

It takes a mother's endless faith, her confidence and trust to guide us through the pitfalls of selfishness and lust . . .

And that is why in all this world there could not be another who could fulfill God's purpose as completely as a Mother!

Helen Steiner Rice

The Lord brought us many good teachings through our Bro. Marshall Heinold (Washington). We thank him and his family for their visit.

Bro. Dan and Sis. Sandy Guingrich and Bryce, welcome Trevor Adam, born Mar. 13, as the newest member of their family. Bro.

Ed and Sis. Doris Guingrich and Bro. John and Sis. Dolly Schick are the grandparents. Little Ryan Pyles, only one week old, was hospitalized with pneumonia. Bro. Dennis and Sis. Becky are happy to have him home again.

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**ILLINOIS, CHICAGO**

**Kathy Schlatter**

Does the reason we seek the Lord make a difference? Is one reason better or worse than another? Some of us came because of separation. We were separated from God by sin, but we may have moved forward because we felt separated from friend or relative, spouse or child by a very real distance. Some of us were drawn by love. 'Twas ultimately the love of God reflected in the prayers and words and actions of many. We only knew there was a yearning in us to be that kind of loving person, to have that special charity to spread abroad. Some of us knew the starkest fear, fear of hell, fear of our sins for which we faced eternal damnation. Some of us came because of crises, turmoil in our lives, and we saw PEACE in only one direction. Some of us came because life was empty and happiness fleeting; we saw no purpose in it until He filled our cup, promised us eternal joy and gave us Himself and His guidance for our lives. For whatever reason, when we finally yielded to the tugging of the Spirit, He answers every need — yesterday and today and forever.

Yet there are many who have not come, who have turned and looked in His direction perhaps, who may have even taken a few steps, only to look back. But none of their excuses is, or ever will be "good enough." Unlike the answers we may give a child: "Maybe..." or "Sometime..." which tend to give the impression of an action that may never happen, the only satisfactory answer is "Yes, now, Lord."

The amount of intensity of prayer does not give us the right to demand a particular answer or make an appointment for the time of the answer from our God. Graciously, righteously, He makes Himself known to us through our conversations in prayers. Therefore we must listen. (I need to work on my

listening skills, learning from the pauses as well as the melody.) But whatever else we pray for, may we never forget our ministers, brothers chosen from the body. If they are hurt by non-support or outright criticism, the whole body can run a fever. The prayer of two or three gathered together has limitless power, by the promise of God. Perhaps someone's prayer is the reason you or I answered His call. Let's not knock it, nor His ministers. Bro. Carl Wyss, Washington, lent himself in our behalf that the glory of the Gospel might be revealed, repeated and renewed in us. We thank him and we praise the Lord. May such humble brethren be continually rewarded.

Sis. Lynnette St. George has a new family. And our joy knows no bounds. "The Lord again has given His counsel and His will..." No. 138 Zion's Harp. Sat. evening, March 6, Lynnette gave her testimony of her true conversion by faith in Jesus Christ and His shed blood and was baptized Sun. March 7 by Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann, in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost. May the Lord gather us close around her and give her special direction all the days of her life.

We are of such a contrary nature. Humility brings spiritual growth, yet we often are full of pride. Patience is required for the Lord's time to be fulfilled, yet we often run ahead in thought and deed. Our various walks of life would call forth great spiritual strength, but we cannot be strong unless we are weak, acknowledging our need.

"Hast thou not known? Hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? there is no searching of his understanding. He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength. Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men 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; and they shall walk, and not faint.

Is. 40:28-31

**ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK**  
**Melba Funk — Joan Waldbeser**

**At Easter**

Now the golden hours of Easter  
 Come again across the land,  
 Bringing hope and faith and courage  
 And new strength to understand.

Hearts respond to warmth of  
 springtime  
 With display of all things new,  
 So deep shadows can be lifted  
 To reveal a brighter view.

Then each life can find new purpose  
 In rebirth of all God's things  
 To inspire the golden moments  
 With the love that Easter brings!

Spring is coming and how thankful we are after a long, hard winter! We can see many things coming to life that seemed so dead and still. It reminds us once again of God's wonderful plan. As Helen Steiner Rice said, "For in God's plan both men and flowers, can only reach 'bright sunny hours', by dying first to rise in glory, and prove again the Easter Story."

It seems we have had many sick folks through the winter months. Hopefully our list will become shorter as spring arrives. Sis. Emma Wahl, Sis. Anna Marie Young, Sis. Anna Sauder, and Sis. Mattie Bauer were hospitalized this past month. Surgical patients were Lyle Young and Bro. Willard Rudin.

Bro. Ben Neukomn moved to the Restmor Nursing Home in Morton on Feb. 22.

"We would like to express our sincere appreciation for the many prayers, cards, visits, gifts, and expressions of love and concern we have received during the time of my illness. The love shown to us has been heartwarming and humbling. May God bless all for your kindnesses to us. It has been our prayer that all things be done according to God's will. May we all appreciate even more our beloved Lord, church, and faith as we each daily draw closer to our eternal home."

Bro. Steve and Velma Rinkenberger

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**Address Changed?**  
**INCLUDE OLD AND NEW ZIPS**

**ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE**

Carol Craig — Shirley Ifft

We all have cares and problems we  
cannot solve alone  
But if we go to God in prayer we are  
never on "our own" . . .  
And if we try to stand alone we are  
weak and we will fall,  
For God is always Greatest when  
we're helpless, lost and small,  
And no day is unmeetable if on  
rising our first thought  
Is to thank God for the blessings  
that His loving care has  
brought . . .  
For there can be no failures or  
hopeless, unsaved sinners  
If we enlist the help of God who  
makes all losers winners . . .  
So meet Him in the morning and go  
with Him through the day  
And thank Him for His guidance  
each evening when you pray,  
And if you follow faithfully this daily  
way to pray  
You will never in your lifetime face  
another "hopeless day",  
For like a soaring eagle you too can  
rise above  
The "Storms of life" around you  
on the wings of prayer and love.

Helen Steiner Rice

We are happy that Susan Funk  
(Bro. Virgil and Sis. Shirley) has turned  
her heart and soul to Jesus  
Christ. What a joy it does create in  
our hearts to see our loved ones  
depart from their sinful ways and  
seek to do God's will.

The Lord has blessed us with a  
number of visiting ministers this  
month. Bros. Dave Wiegand (Cham-  
paign), Bruce Leman (Roanoke),  
Marvin Schmidgall (Eureka), Ken-  
neth Knapp (Taylor), and Roger  
Aberle (Sabetha) labored in our  
behalf with which we are thankful.

We are thankful that Sis. Peninna  
Miller and Ray Baer are now back  
worshipping with our congregation.  
Both were hospitalized earlier this  
month but are now home again.

Spring is here and Easter with it.  
We can never be thankful enough  
for what Christ has done for us so  
that our sins may be washed away  
by His blood and that we may have  
life eternal in heaven above. We  
must thank Him daily for dying on  
the cross and not just at Easter

time.

"Thus it is written, and thus it  
behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise  
from the dead the third day: And  
that repentance and remission of  
sins should be preached in his name  
among all nations . . ."

St. Luke 24:46-47

**ILLINOIS, ELGIN**

Ruth Ann Getz

As Moses lifted up the brass ser-  
pent in the wilderness so that  
whosoever would look upon it could  
survive the fiery serpent's bite  
(Numbers 21:6-9), so we, being born  
into sin, can look up to our Saviour  
on the cross and realize that His  
blood was shed for our atonement.  
"And I, if I be lifted up from the ear-  
th, will draw all men unto me" (John  
12:32). Such encompassing love!  
How can we but humbly utter  
gratefulness and thanksgiving each  
day? Not to one who remained on  
the cross, but to one who became  
victor over death and arose from the  
grave to live forevermore! Perhaps  
our feelings can best be expressed in  
the beautiful hymn of praise "Behold  
the Lamb of God" which says:

"O, slaughtered Lamb, by whom the  
seal was broken,

That gave me comfort and eternal  
cheer!

My faith sends up to yonder Zion's  
mountain,

A look of longing to thee, Lamb so  
dear!

Thou art, O Lamb, now raised on  
high,

What wonder that my thoughts  
would ever to thee fly."

Yet more: 'And I, when I shall be  
uplifted

Above the earth, shall draw all  
men to Me!'

O blessed word! Let care and pain be  
lifted

From off my heart, as I flee unto  
thee.

O draw me by thy love so sweet,  
While others choose to follow vain  
and self deceit.

O Lamb of God, who bled for my  
transgression,

And for my guilt on Calv'ry's brow  
hast trod!

Who could unto such great love give  
expression?

Who is like thee, thou chosen Lamb  
of God?

As often as my pulses beat,  
I lay my life, my blood, my all at  
Jesus' feet."

We felt grief and anguish in a very  
intense way when we first heard of  
our Sis. Carole Steffen's automobile  
accident in which Carole suffered  
severe injury — even near to death.  
But in a miraculous way the Lord  
has brought about His healing and  
Carole has been able to return to her  
home and family. The Lord has been  
gracious!

Laura Michelle, born Feb. 21, has  
come to bless the home of Bro. Ed  
and Sis. Gayle Schambach. Jeremy  
and Emily complete their family.  
Olive Lamp and Bro. Ed and Sis.  
Jenny Schambach are the grand-  
parents. May these young parents  
receive their wisdom from above in  
rearing their small children.

We welcomed ministering bro-  
thers Carl Feucht (Lester) and Earl  
Banwart (West Bend) this past  
month. The oneness in the Spirit  
that we can feel from community to  
community is a great blessing to us,  
one that we should covet always.

**ILLINOIS, EUREKA**

Melba Mangold

The engagement of Sis. Rita  
Huette of Tremont and Bro. Jon  
Wettstein was announced recently.  
They are planning a May wedding;  
we hope God will be with them in the  
future as He has in the past. Their  
parents are Bro. Ken and Sis.  
Arlene Huette and Harold and  
Loretta Wettstein.

We were glad to have Elder Bro.  
Bob Walder of Congerville and Bro.  
Charles Sauder of Tremont along  
with their families visit us one Sun-  
day. We appreciated the sharing of  
the Word by the brothers.

Dwane and Tami Fehr are the  
happy parents of a new little son,  
Jacob William, born Feb. 23. He was  
welcomed home by his sister, Katie.  
His grandparents are Sis. Lula Fehr  
and Harold and Donna Sauder of  
Eureka.

We have reason to rejoice as two  
more dear souls have answered the  
calling of the Lord. They are Mary



Ann Link, who lives in Eureka and has been assembling with us for some time. Also Jim Wettstein, son of Bro. Art and Sis. Donna. We know that God will be with them as they begin to live a new life and wish that more could learn to know of His love.

We feel fortunate that as the Easter Season is here we can really know what it means as explained in the song "He Lives" from the Melodies of Praise, (p. 86):

"I serve a risen Saviour, He's in the world today;  
I know that He is living, whatever men may say,  
I see His hand of mercy, I hear His voice of cheer,  
And just the time I need Him He's always near.  
He lives, He lives, Christ Jesus lives today!  
He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way.  
He lives, He lives, salvation to impart!  
You ask me how I know He lives? He lives within my heart."

#### ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY

**Carol Bazzell — Joann Zehr**

A little son, Brent Daniel has joined the family of Bro. Norman and Sis. Lola Young. He was born Feb. 24 and has one brother, Bruce, and three sisters, Julie, Bonnie, and Lana.

Death came very suddenly to our dear Sis. Lorene Broquard, 67. On Mar. 7 she slipped away quietly and unexpectedly. She is survived by Sis. Alene, with whom she made her home, and sisters Louise Bach and Elsie Denick. How it reminds us all that our spiritual house should be in order, not knowing at what hour He will call. Our sympathy is extended to the dear sisters who are bereft.

We appreciate the efforts of our visiting ministers, Bros. Ron Heiniger (Bloomington), Edmund Kloter (Goodfield), and Earl Banwart (West Bend).

Feb. 21 was the 50th wedding anniversary of Bro. Sam and Sis. Anna Steffen. Due to illness, they were unable to have the reception that was originally planned. Their children are Sis. Louise Furrer, Bro. Richard Steffen, Bro. Earl Steffen, and Hartzell, deceased. They also

have seven grandchildren and one great-grandson.

Also, Bro. Donald and Sis. Ione Broquard celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary on Mar. 17. Their children hosted a singing in their honor. They are the parents of Bro. Sam Broquard, Sis. Nancy Zimmerman, Sis. Jane Luthi, Sis. Diane Kaeb, Crystal, and Bro. John, deceased. They have 6 grandchildren.

We surely wish these dear couples God's abiding grace further on as they both have experienced joy and sorrow on their pathways.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to everyone who remembered me with gifts, cards, etc. while I was in the hospital and since I am home, and also on my birthday.

Sis. Anna and Bro. Emil Hertlein

We want to express our thanks to our many brethren, friends, and relatives for remembering us with many cards, gifts, and phone calls for our Golden anniversary. We especially appreciated the love shown since we were shut-in due to illness, during this time. May God bless each one who shared with us in any way. This will always be gratefully remembered. Also, a special thanks for he many get-well wishes Bro. Sam received while in the hospital.

Bro. Sam and Sis. Anna Steffen

#### ILLINOIS, FORREST

**Jan Bachtold — Kathy Leman**

We have been blessed with a number of visiting ministers. Bringing us God's Truth were Bro. Jim Rinkenberger, (Bluffton, IN), Bro. Hartzle Kaisner, (Detroit, MI), Bro. Merle Kaisner, (Fairbury), Bro. Mike Rinkenberger and Bro. Bob Walder, (Congerville), and Bro. Noah Gerber, (West Bend, IA).

Hospitalized were Bro. Ray Wenger, Alan Gerber, (Bro. Earl and Sis. Esther) Sis. Nathalia Honegger, Kaylene Knapp, (Bro. Glenn and Sis. Laura) George Bach, and Kara Hoffman (Sis. Elsie).

Kenny and Debbie Roth have been blessed with a bundle of love, Nicholas James. Bro. Lester and Sis. Ruth Roth, Forrest, and Bro. Jim and Sis. Leota Byrd, Roanoke are the grandparents. May God bless this family circle.

Sorrow intermingles with joy. The congregation was saddened at the passing away of a dear brother, Albert Wenger. We extend our sympathy to his wife Sis. Nathalia and children Sis. Mary Bachtold, (Bro. Marvin), Edward, Bro. Richard, Marvin, Sam and Sis. Marge. Surviving brothers are Bro. Clarence, Eureka, and Bro. Ray, Forrest. Sisters are Sis. Aldine Wackerle, Sis. Laura Wenger, Sis. Edna Wiegand, (Bro. Paul), Forrest, and Sis. Wilma Fisher, Roanoke. Bro. Merle Kaisner conducted the funeral service on March 12.

We are happy to report that Edward Wenger, Nathalia and the late Bro. Albert, has turned to the Lord in repentance. May God give him grace to build a firm foundation.

#### ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD

**Verna Hartter**

#### Christ Arose

Up from the grave He arose,  
With a mighty triumph o'er His foes;  
He arose a Victor from the dark domain,  
And He lives forever with His saints to reign.

He arose! He arose!

HALLELUJAH! CHRIST AROSE!

(Tab. Hymns 205)

We can truly rejoice this Easter season because our Saviour gave His life, so that we might have life more abundantly in Him!

Sis. Evelyn Hofmann has submitted to foot surgery, and we are happy to observe that she is getting along quite well.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Sis. Elizabeth Hartman, who has returned from the hospital, and also Sis. Margaret Newlin, who is scheduled for surgery Tuesday. May they both feel the love and power of our wonderful God. We also pray for our Bro. John Streit, who has not been able to assemble with us for sometime.

The following poem was submitted in Memory of our Bro. Jesse Hunzicker:

#### When I Am Gone

When I am gone and leave behind  
A cherished friend both true and

kind,  
 Don't grieve for me and think of  
 dead  
 As many folks have often said,  
 But think of life, what ere it be  
 Eternal when we've changed to see  
 The life beyond the naked eye,  
 For living souls shall never die!

When I have climbed the weary hill  
 And earthly flesh is cold and still,  
 Don't think of me beneath the sod,  
 But try to think that I'm with God.  
 Tho' life may seem to pass away,  
 We just have changed from night to  
 day  
 Except a seed may seem to die  
 It cannot grow up toward the sky.

When I have reached the final goal  
 This life can give the human soul,  
 I'll lay my every burden down,  
 And leave behind my fleshly gown.  
 If you should ever think of me,  
 Remember life shall ever be,  
 For though I seem beneath the sod,  
 I've only gone to live with God.

Author unknown

The family of Bro. Jesse Hunzicker wishes to thank everyone for the many deeds of kindness, sympathy and love shown to them at the time of the loss of their loved one.

Sis. Elizabeth Hartman wants to thank everyone who offered prayers for her while she was in the hospital, for cards, gifts of money and flowers. She appreciated it very much! May God bless you all.

#### ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY

Carol Klopfenstein

We welcome our new brother and sister, Steve and Donna Ringger, into the fellowship of God's children. They were baptized into the death of Christ and are now new creatures in Him. So often we are reminded that there is no higher calling nor more illustrious standing than to be a child of God and a partaker of His grace. True satisfaction and contentment come when we are not ashamed of the gospel of Christ and are gladly willing to be His ambassadors with distinction, who are set apart from the ungodly pattern and shallow pursuits of the world about us. While others seek to make impressions with their individual beauty or intelligence, we seek to

impress the world with the beauty and divine wisdom and love of Christ. While others wonder about their identity and their status or social standing, we "sink all thought of self effacing into love's ocean, all embracing." (Zion's Harp #74) We don't want the world to think we're just like they are. We hope to appear different and to act different in a very positive and favorable way. We hope they can see and sense that we have something very special that absorbs us so fully, that the usual cares and pursuits of the world are very trivial by comparison.

Because the world values such attributes as beauty, intelligence and wealth so highly, the vast majority of the human race who are not especially endowed with them are left feeling very inferior and lonely. In the pure love of Christ, however, there is no loneliness and inferiority. He is always by our side and we feel the warmth of his love and companionship. The fruits of the Spirit are the attributes we cherish, and they increase among God's children as we each esteem the other higher than ourselves, considering the enormous value of every human soul. God doesn't care if we are beautiful to look at, or especially intelligent by man's standards. That which is highly esteemed among men is an abomination in the sight of God.

And so in the family of God no one is inferior. Each one has infinite value because he possesses an undying soul that has been redeemed by the precious blood of Jesus Christ.

The marriage engagement of Bro. Jim O'Shea to Sis. Becky Hohulin of Goodfield was announced. Also Sara Kuntz, daughter of Bro. Clyde and Sis. Wilma, is engaged to be married to Steven Garman of Pekin.

We appreciated the visits of Elder Bro. Bob Grimm of Goodfield, ministering Bro. Jim Leman of Roanoke and Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann of Chicago.

Our hospital patients were: Bro. Si Kiefer, Sis. Barb Kiefer, Todd Kiefer, son of Bro. Larry and Sis. Barb, Bro. Ray Ringger, Bro. John M. Schlipf, Barb Ringger and Sis. Betty Schmidtgal. Nearly all of them are back home now and doing

much better.

"I would like to thank you for the cards, gifts and prayers while I was in the hospital. May God bless you all." Sis. Betty Schmidtgal

#### ILLINOIS, ILLINOIS STATE

Jane Herrman

We enjoy our Thursday evening Bible study at ISU and certainly God will bless each minister who lends himself to such a worthy endeavor. Our ministers and topics this month were Bro. Bob Pflederer (Bible Verse Memorization and Decision Making), Bro. Jim Hoerr (Giving), and Bro. Don Sauder (Discipline). We received many good teachings from the studies and only pray that our earthly schooling is secondary to our spiritual growth.

"Speak Lord, in the stillness,  
 While I wait on Thee;  
 Hushed my heart to listen  
 In expectancy.

"Speak, O blessed Master,  
 In this quiet hour;  
 Let me see Thy face, Lord  
 Feel Thy touch of power.

"For the words Thou speakest,  
 They are life, indeed;  
 Living bread from Heaven,  
 Now my spirit feed!

"Speak, Thy servant heareth!  
 Be not silent, Lord;  
 Waits my soul upon Thee  
 For the quickening word!"  
 Author Unknown

#### ILLINOIS, MORTON

Phyllis Farney — JoAnn Roecker

Gotthold and Anna Tanner and Sis. Frieda Hoerr (Peoria) rejoice at the birth of their grandson, Andrew Bryce Hoerr. Andrew was born on January 11 to Bill and Ruth Hoerr. Brett and Becky are happy for a baby brother.

Sis. Mona Hall wishes to thank all who were so kind in remembering her while she was in the hospital and since coming home. May God bless each one of you.

Bro. Willis Geiger was called Home. His funeral was held on February 25. May the Lord bless and comfort his wife, Sis. Ella, his family and friends.

We rejoice with Leslie Hicks as she gave her testimony of faith on February 27 and we witnessed her baptism on Sunday, February 28. We wish Sis. Leslie God's blessings and grace as she will now walk the narrow path of life.

The oldest member of our Morton congregation was called Home to be forever with the Lord. Our dear Sis. Katherine Pflederer was 99 years old. Her funeral was held on March 2. Sis. Katie was special to many of us. Although confined to her wheel chair, she had a smile for each one she would meet. Sis. Katie enjoyed coming to church up till the last. She was blest with a cheerful countenance and enjoyed visiting with loved ones. May our Heavenly Father comfort and bless her family, Sis. Marie Pflederer, Sis. Margaret (Bro. Levi) Ricketts, and friends.

After enduring a long illness, Sis. Mary Baum was relieved of her suffering and was called Home. Her funeral was held on March 4. May God comfort and bless her family and friends.

We have had the following loved ones recently spend time in the hospital: Janet Simpson, Sisters Marge Kaufman, Inez Steiner, Eunice Albers, Ann Hauter and Bros. Sam Roth and Chris Wiedman. May our Heavenly Father continue to be with them and all who are ill or shut-in at home. May we remember them in our prayers.

ILLINOIS, PEORIA

Mary Plattner — Mary Ann Plattner

The stone wasn't rolled  
away from the tomb  
So that Jesus could leave  
He was already gone.  
It was rolled away  
so that doubters like me  
Could look in and cry,  
"I believe! I believe!"

LeRoy Thomas

Feb. 21 was the wedding of Bro. Walt Plattner and Sis. Louise Schmier.

We were happy to hear of the engagement of Sis. Martha Christ and Bro. Bob Plattner. They are planning a Mar. 17 wedding. We wish these dear ones God's richest

blessings.

Our dear sister Freda Kipfer was laid to rest on Mar. 1. Surviving are her sisters, Sis. Marie Kipfer and Carrie Kuck, at the Apostolic Christian Home.

The funeral of Suzanne Eshelmann was Mar. 2. Her survivors are her parents, Otha and Sis. Emma Eshelmann, and her sister, Marilee.

Mar. 4 was the funeral of Emil Kammerer. We express our deepest sympathy to these families who lost their loved ones.

Among the hospital patients this month were Sis. Priscilla Bittner, Sis. Emma Hoerr, Sis. Inez Steiner, and Ryan Leathers. May the Lord comfort each one and restore them to health again where it is His will.

Sis. Carrie Stiegele, of our Apostolic Christian Home, celebrated her 101 birthday on Mar. 5. She is the oldest member of our Peoria congregation.

We want to welcome back to Peoria Bro. Robert and Sis. Mary Reiman from Sarasota, FL. They will be living at our Apostolic Christian Home.

The Sunday School Bible Class held its 13th annual pancake and sausage supper on Feb. 27. The Bible Class students and teachers want to thank everyone who helped at the supper, donated to the country store, and supported this activity.

"We wish to express our heartfelt thanks for all the prayers, cards, and gifts for our sister, Freda Kipfer, and us during her illness and death."

Carolyn Kuck and Marie Kipfer

ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE

Arlene and Arlys Martin

"Whether we like it or not, it takes time to be holy. God can grow a mushroom overnight, but it takes years to grow a majestic oak." — W. W. Wiersbe.

Visiting ministers who encouraged us to ponder the Word daily and to apply it to our lives have been Bros. Bruce Leman of Roanoke and Glenn Dill of Tremont.

Rachael Lynn was born on Mar. 3 to Bro. Bruce and Sis. Mary Stoller.

Grandparents are Bro. Joe and Sis. Emily Stoller of Princeville and Bro. Al and Sis. Judy Langhofer of Wichita, KS.

Troy Endress, 2-year old son of Bro. Jerry and Sis. Luann Endress, had heart surgery on Feb. 17. He is home and feels fine.

Sis. Betty Herrmann, wife of Bro. Eugene, had surgery Feb. 19. She has recovered and is worshipping with us again.

Bro. John Dapper was a hospital patient in Feb. He is home again at the Eureka Apostolic Christian Home where he resides.

Sis. Elizabeth Stoller is ill. We wish her God's blessings.

We extend our sympathy to Sis. Grace Streitmatter in the passing of her brother, Kyle Wayne Stogsdill of Centralia on Mar. 8.

ILLINOIS, ROANOKE

Carol Rumbold — Joyce Hodel

Three crosses stood grimly side by side

On the hill of Calvary;

On each a suffering man had died;

Two for their crimes, the Other for me!

"If Thou art the Christ," they taunting said,

"Come down from the cursed tree;"

He heeded no jeering word they said,

But bowing His head, He died for me!

—Anon.

Springtime brings new life. A second son was born to Bro. Herb and Sis. Susie Hodel on Mar. 3. His name is Justin Benjamin and his older brother, Derek, can't wait until he grows up! Grandparents are Bro. Ben and Ruth Ann Hodel and Bro. Don and Sis. Judy Feller of Morton.

Two sisters gave birth to their "first" within a week of each other. Lorna and John Robison have a new son named Adam John. Grandparents are Bro. Merlyn and Sis. Jan Getz and Mrs. Joan Robison of Rome. Dan and Boni Oltman brought home a sweet daughter, Rebekah Sue. Grandparents are the Robert Oltman's of Benson and Bro. Merlyn and Sis. Jan Getz.

Bro. Keith Fischer (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Marge) and Sis. Doris Hodel (Betty) exchanged their sacred vows on Feb. 28. May God's name be honored in their home as they establish it.

We are thankful for our visitors this month. Bro. Rod Huber and Bro. Kent Heimer shared the Gospel with us.

Baby Amanda Lynn Monk, daughter of Bro. Dan and Sis. Charlene, had a short stay in the hospital but now is at home and happy. Jared Allen Hodel, as well as Bro. Chuck and Sis. Rita, are in our prayers. Their new son has been cared for in the hospital since his birth. The new little daughter of Bruce and Rita Sauder has also required hospital care. God surely takes care of all the little children. Sis. Anna Hernfeldt has moved into the Roanoke Nursing Home from her small home in Roanoke. We wish her well and are happy she is close to home.

"Our Lord has written the promise of the resurrection, not only in . . . the Bible . . . but in every leaf of springtime." — M. Luther

#### ILLINOIS, TREMONT

**Phyllis Lang — Dorothy Wagenbach**

We are thankful to have Bros. Jim Byrd (Roanoke) and Ron Heiniger (Bloomington-Normal) as our visiting ministers this month. May God richly reward them. Also our thanks to Bro. Dave Kieser (Princeville) who helped Bro. Dan Koch expound the Conference teachings to us one Wednesday evening. May we ever be faithful and obedient followers.

Announcement was made of the engagement of Sis. Rita Huette and Bro. John Wettstein (Eureka). Parents are Bro. Ken and Sis. Arlene Huette and Harold and Loretta Wettstein of Eureka.

The engagement of Margaret Lay and Danny Staker was also announced. Parents are Mr. and Mrs. John Lay and Bro. Weldon and Sis. Doris Staker. We wish both couples God's blessings in their undertaking.

Hospital patients were Carol Sauder (Bro. Howard and Sis. Janice) and Bro. Alvin Beutel. Sis. Karen Pfloderer was also

hospitalized following a car accident. Her life was miraculously spared, for which we give God thanks. We are happy that all are back assembling with us again.

Bro. Pete and Sis. Debbie Aberle are the happy parents of Randall Jordan, born on Feb. 24. Grandparents are Bro. Vernon and Sis. Bernice Stoller (Princeville) and Bro. Ernie and Sis. Frieda Aberle.

Our sympathy goes out to the Schweigert families in the death of their aunt, Leah Williams, of Pekin. She was always faithful to assemble with us and we will miss her.

Ron and Tammy Wagenbach and son, Paul, have moved from our congregation to the Bradford area. We will miss them but know they will enjoy going to the Bradford church.

Bro. Ed Koch wishes to thank all for their gifts, cards, prayers, and visits while he was ill. May God bless all for their kindness.

#### ILLINOIS, URBANA Charlen Banwart

#### The House By The Side Of The Road

"There are hermit souls that live withdrawn,  
In the peace of their self-content:  
There are souls like stars, that dwell apart,  
In a fellowless firmament;  
There are pioneer souls that blaze their paths,  
Where highways never ran —  
But let me live by the side of the road  
And be a friend to man.

Let me live in a house by the side of the road  
Where the race of men go by —  
The men who are good and the men who are bad,  
As good and as bad as I.  
I would not sit in the corner's seat,  
Or hurl the cynic's ban —  
Let me live in the house by the side of the road  
And be a friend man.

I see from the house by the side of the road,  
By the side of the highway of life,  
The men who press with ardor of hope,

The men who are faint with strife.  
But I turn not away from their smiles nor their tears,  
Both parts of an infinite plan —  
Let me live in the house by the side of the road  
And be a friend to man.

I know there are brook-gladdened meadows ahead,  
And mountains of wearisome height;  
That the road passes on through the long afternoon,  
And stretches away to the night.  
And still I rejoice when the travelers rejoice  
And weep with the strangers that moan,  
As I live in my house by the side of the road  
And be a friend to man."

Sam Walter Foss

We welcome Edwin and Cynthia Fischer and their baby daughter, Danielle, who have moved to Charleston from Morton and are assembling with us. We also welcomed Bro. Ron Heiniger (Bloomington) and Bro. Bob Pfloderer (Morton) who ministered to us recently.

#### ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON Mary and Joan Schick

#### Noah's Carpenters

Many hundred years ago  
They ventured to remark  
That Noah had some carpenters  
To help him build the ark.

But sad to say on that last day  
When Noah entered in,  
Those carpenters were left outside  
And perished in their sin.

How sad to say they may have helped  
To build the ark so great,  
Yet they heeded not God's word  
And awful was their fate.

Today the same sad fate exists  
Among the sons of men,  
They help to build the so-called church  
Who are not born again.

They stay behind for sacrament,

They work, they sing, they pray,  
Yet never place their faith in Christ,  
The Life, the Truth, the Way.

Another judgment day will come,  
As sure as came the flood,  
And only those will be secure  
Who shelter 'neath Christ's blood.

Author unknown

Our ministering brother reminded our congregation that we should be earnest in prayer for the unconverted. He said how much more burdened we would feel if we would be held over hell's pit of fire for only a few minutes. Let us all remember how blest we are that our loving Father gave us the grace to be forgiven and saved. We must never forget to pray for these loved ones who are not redeemed.

We appreciated Bro. Arnie Gerst (Chicago) and Elder Bro. Art Bahler (Fairbury) for the Word they brought us.

We are happy to report our Bro. Ron and Sis. Pam Messner have had their first child. Daniel John was born on March 13. May he be a joyful addition to their home.

#### INDIANA, BLUFFTON

Gayla Baumgartner  
Tammy Gerber

On the weekend of Mar. 6 and 7, seven more souls were added to the fold. They are: Bro. Sid Schwartz (Bro. Ervin and Sis. Alice), Sis. Jackie Reimschisel (Bro. Bob and Sis. Louise), Sis. JoAnn Frauhiger (Bro. Doyle and Sis. Jane), Bro. Jeff Steffen (Bro. Ken and Sis. Roberta), Bro. Gary Compton (Sis. Betty), Bro. Bruce Aschliman, (Bro. Harold and Sis. Luella), and Sis. Deb Macklin, (Carl and Betty). May God bless each one.

By the light of God's love and direction, the engagement of Sis. Leonda Pfister (Bro. Ted and Sis. Rose) to Bro. Lynn Stieglitz of Leo (Bro. Marvin and Sis. Joan) was announced on March 7. They are planning a July 11 wedding.

Bro. Jim and Sis. Jenny Fiechter were blessed with their second son, Quinn Alan. Clint welcomes his baby brother.

Steve and Jan Kaehr were blessed with the arrival of a son, Clinton Michael.

Bro. Mark and Sis. Kristie Meyer welcomed into their hearts and home a little girl, Cecily Anne.

Bro. Mark and Sis. Barb Gerber welcomed into their hearts and home their first child, Seth David. He was born on March 16.

Visiting ministers this month were: Bro. Wendell Gudeman (Francesville) and Bro. Max Reimschisel (Wichita, KS). We want to thank these brothers for their labors of love and wish them God's richest blessings.

May God ever care for the dear ones who have spent time in the hospital: Sis. Esther Giesel, Sis. Erna Kipfer, Pati Troxel, and Bro. Eugene Maller. Our thoughts and prayers are always with those who are sick or shut in.

#### INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE

Jacki Huber

#### I Believe In Children

I believe in children — little ones, big ones, chubby and thin ones. There is faith in their eyes, love in their touch, hope in their attitudes. I thrill with them at life's joys, run with them through tall grasses, bow with them in worship, and hold them close in tragedy. I believe in children — the fragile dream of yesterday, life's radiant reality today, and the vibrant hope of tomorrow. Yes, I believe in children, for wherever I go, to mountain village, industrial center, or open country, I find yesterday's children who were nurtured in the things of Christ at work in the building of the kingdom of God.

Unknown Author

Two babies have brightened the lives of many in our congregation. Sarah Dawn is the third girl in Bro. Roger and Sis. Janet Overmyer's home. She was born March 2. Two sisters, Lana and Deana will no doubt be "Mother's helpers". Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Vogt and Bro. Lee and Sis. Velda Overmyer.

Jason and Nathan Huber are very happy to have a precious baby sister, Julie Marie, to entertain. Bro. John and Sis. Bev Huber are the parents of Julie, who was born Mar. 15. Mr. and Mrs. Paul Krulik

and Bro. Eugene and Sis. Mildred Huber are the grandparents.

We were blessed with three visiting ministers this past month. Bros. Lester Huber (Lexington), Gene Lehman (Wolcott), and Don Gudeman (LaCrosse) took time out of their schedules to be with us. May God bless them for their efforts.

We rejoice with four of our local brothers and sisters who have made the decision to walk hand-in-hand throughout life. The engagements were announced of Sis. Penny Neihouser (Bro. Perry and Sis. Sally) to Bro. Todd Denton (James and Sharon) and Sis. Monica Gutwein (Bro. Nate and Sis. Ad) to Bro. Mike Fritz (Bro. Harold and Sis. Sherry of LaCrosse.) We wish them God's nearness always in their lives together.

Hospital patients this month were Bro. Nick Gutwein and Sis. Fern (Bro. Sid) Leman.

#### INDIANA, INDIANAPOLIS

Bobi Erb — Lynn Klopfenstein

Our spirits were enlightened and encouraged through the guidelines of the memorandum. We sincerely thank Elder Bros. Orville Ringger (Bluffton) and Alfred Bahler (Wolcott) for expounding upon these most wonderful truths.

Since Indianapolis is the capital of our state, many conventions and meetings are held in the city. We appreciate the opportunity this gives for many of the brethren to attend our church and worship with us.

#### INDIANA, LACROSSE

LuAnn Feller — Connie Knoblock

How thankful we were to gather in our beloved church after missing several services due to vandalism. Our Lord surely was watching over us because fire attempts were made in three places, but nothing suffered more than minor damage. We rejoiced when even the Sunday School children exclaimed how glad they were to go to church.

We were very thankful to have two visiting ministers to celebrate their parents' 25th wedding anniversary (Bro. Aaron and Sis. Grace Heinold). Bro. Marshall Heinold (Washington, IL) and Bro. Bill Schlatter (Junction, OH) spent a

blessed day with us. We were reminded that Jesus gave 100 percent when he died for us. He certainly deserves no less than our all. Even 99 percent isn't good enough. Let's encourage each other to take up our cross daily, deny ourselves, and follow Him. Bro. Gene Lehman (Wolcott, IN) also fellowshipped with us. May God bless our ministers for lending themselves in His service.

Our congregation was happy to welcome several "tiny" additions to the church. Samuel Jordan Frank was born to Bro. Bill and Sis. Jo Frank. His grandparents are Bro. Ed and Sis. Leah Frank and Bro. Clarence and Sis. Emma Knoblock (Bradford, IL). Also, Kristi Ann Massner joined her sister in Bro. Randy and Sis. Mary Lynn's family. Bro. Lynn and Sis. Mary Ann Feller and Bro. Eric and Sis. Norma Massner (Oakville, IA) are the grandparents. Finally, Scott David was the first child born to Bro. Roger and Sis. Sue Levy. His grandparents are Bro. Ralph and Sis. Carolyn Levy and Bro. John and Sis. Edith Mayer (Indianapolis, IN).

Hospital patients this month were Bro. Elmer Heiniger, Jim Camburn, and Sis. Lena Hitz.

We sympathize with Paul and Karen Heiniger in the death of Karen's mother, Mrs. Majorie Tucker.

#### Good Friday Margaret E. Sangster

A grim day, a dark day,  
A day of tears and rain;  
A day of blackened, tortured clouds,  
A day of bitter pain.  
Who could have dreamed, on such a  
day,  
That love would live again?

A tall hill, a steep hill,  
That led to fear and loss;  
A grim slope, without hope,  
And at its top a cross.

Sad footsteps, a pathway  
Through insults madly hurled!  
Above it all, high courage  
Like some bright flag unfurled.  
His footsteps — their echo —  
Were heard around the world.

I want to thank everyone who remembered me with cards and love gifts. I tried to answer each letter but may have missed someone. I am now at the Parkview Haven Retirement Home, Francesville, IN. I would enjoy hearing from you. Thank you and God bless you.

Sis. Clara Heiniger

INDIANA, LEO  
Mrs. Phil Schlatter  
Mrs. Al Frautschi

#### March, April, May

"Sin, repentance, and pardon are like to the three vernal months of the year, March, April, and May. Sin comes in like March, blustering, stormy, and full of bold violence. Repentance succeeds like April, showering, weeping, and full of tears. Pardon follows like May, springing, singing, full of joy and flowers. Our eyes must be full of April, with the sorrow of repentance and then our hearts shall be full of May, with the true joy of forgiveness." (Thomas Adams)

Our congregation was blessed by the ministry of visiting minister, Bro. Arthur Bahler, (Fairbury, IL).

Announcement was made of the engagement of Bro. Lynn Stieglitz, son of Bro. Marvin and Sis. Joan Stieglitz, and Sis. Leonda Pfister, daughter of Bro. Ted and Sis. Rose Pfister, (Bluffton).

Young Curt Klopfenstein, son of Bro. John and Sis. Linda, suffered a broken arm while the family was in Texas.

Sympathy is extended to Sis. Bertha Steiner in the death of her son-in-law, Virgil Ely, husband of Alberta (Steiner) Ely.

The major flood in Fort Wayne and the surrounding area made national and international news. Many have experienced great material losses; but, there was no loss of life. Both His power and His mercy were evident in the flood.

"Justified by faith: My hand of faith reaches up. His hand of grace reaches down. Our hands meet and clasp at the Cross of Calvary." When we have made this experience, the question, becomes, "Who am I that a King should bleed and die for me?"

It's a question I'll never be able to answer this side of Heaven."

We are thankful for God's continued grace as David Stieglitz and Tim Stoller have found peace with God and man and are looking forward to their time of testimony and baptism.

May the Hope of Easter make yours a blessed day!

INDIANA, MILFORD  
Marcy Haab — Gwen Steffen

"... be filled with the spirit; speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord,..." Eph. 5:18-19

The South Bend congregation joined us on Feb. 28 for a singspiration. A blessed evening was spent in offering song and word to His glory.

Hospital patients this month have been Bro. Andy Kammerer, Marc Beer (Bro. Lee and Sis. Sandy), Jennifer Hively (Lynn and Theresa), and Sis. Tina Lehman. Submitting to surgery were Bro. Matt Pamer, Bro. Steve Haab, and Jeff Haab (Bro. Don and Sis. Martha). Sis. Aldine Reimschisel was confined to her home after falling and Sis. Dorothy Martin had the misfortune of fracturing her wrist. We offer prayers for these loved ones who need healing, knowing that all things are possible through Christ if it is His will.

Bro. Chris Huber (Francesville) and his family spent a Sunday with us. Thank you, Bro. Chris, for proclaiming God's Word to us and for sharing your family and your time.

Bro. Dick Steffen will be the Milford representative for the Apostolic Christian Children's Home at Leo. A lot of prayer and thought are necessary as decisions concerning this project are made, and our prayers and support are offered for Bro. Dick, that in all things His will might be done.

Mar. 13 and 14 was a blessed weekend as two souls were baptized following their testimonies of faith. Sis. Amy Kroh (Bro. Lew and Sis. Mim Speicher) and Bro. Clark Schieler (Bro. Will and Sis. Sue) are now truly ready to stand up for

Jesus, having been clothed with the gospel armor. May the steps taken be directed by God's grace and strength. Bro. Alfred Bahler (Wolcott) assisted with this joyous occasion. Bro. Earl Kilgus (Remington) ministered to us that day, also. We appreciate their labors of love.

Bro. Henry and Sis. Alice Beer have returned from their stay in Florida. It was good to see the Lord could allow them to enjoy the warmth and comfort of the South and protect them as they returned.

We extend our sympathy to the family of Sis. Anna Stieglitz. Sis. Anna passed away after being in failing health and confined to her home several years. What a comfort it is to know she can be in the land of joy where she shall see His face.

"All my iniquities on Him were laid — He nailed them all to the tree. Jesus the debt of my sin fully paid — He paid the ransom for me."

—Moore

We rejoice, as do the angels in heaven, knowing that Sonia Tinkey (Sis. Ginny and Don Hoover) has answered the Master's call and decided to live for Jesus. How thankful each of us must be that the Lord Jesus died on the cross and paid the price for our sins. He alone did it, and He did it alone.

"My Savior climbed Golgotha's hill,  
Bearing His heavy load.  
As painfully He upward toiled  
Along that uphill road,  
Great drops of sweat and drops of  
blood

Dripped for a cause sublime.  
The cross He bore, the thorns He  
wore  
Were His; the sins were mine!

They nailed Him to the cross of pain,  
And there He died to win  
The evil, stubborn hearts of men  
And save them from their sin.  
He laid His life, a bridge across,  
Whereon we all may pass  
Unto the Father's loving arms  
To be redeemed at last."

M. Mae Fisher

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

### INDIANA PURDUE UNIVERSITY Verene Von Tobel

When I survey the wondrous  
cross,  
On which the prince of glory died,  
My richest gain I count but loss,  
And pour contempt on all my  
pride.

See, from His head, His hands,  
His feet,  
Sorrow and love flow mingled  
down;  
Did e'er such love and sorrow  
meet,  
Or thorns compose so rich a  
crown?

Were the whole realm of nature  
mine,  
That were a present far too small;  
Love so amazing, so divine,  
Demands my soul, my life, my all.  
Tabernacle Hymns III #314

We feel so unworthy and thankful as we reflect on Jesus' sacrifice for our sins. As spring blooms in our lives, we think of God's power. Brother Mike Fritz, (Francesville) and Sister Monica Gutwein, (Francesville) announced their engagement on Mar. 14. Brother Mike is a resident of West Lafayette.

Bro. Nick Gutwein was in the hospital for unexpected surgery last month and is feeling better now. He and his wife, Sis. Suzanne, are also residents of West Lafayette, where Nick is a student at Purdue.

Here at Purdue, we are ready for an active spring after such a long, snow-bound winter. We are practicing for college weekend and planning a picnic for the near future. Our last service for the semester is on Apr. 29. We want to thank all those who support our services here at Purdue each year. This includes: God first, ministers, brothers, sisters, and friends. May God continue to work wherever we gather in His name!

### INDIANA, REMINGTON Annette Bahler — Beth Virkler

This month we heard an exhortation about the Lord's servant Job. Bro. Ed Frank spoke to our

congregation about the importance of praying for our enemies and to bless them that curse us. Then the Lord will have mercy on us just like he did for Job who continued so steadfast in his faith when it was tried to the uttermost. Also, Bro. Andrew Virkler from Bay City was with us for a Sunday.

Bro. Herman Beckley spent some time in the hospital recovering from eye surgery.

### INDIANA, SOUTH BEND Emma Lou Gerber

"I have trodden the winepress alone . . ." (Isa. 63:3) "Jesus of the Cross, the center figure, and on either side of Him is a thief. Where were the Twelve, the faithful dozen who had the inestimable privilege of walking with Jesus and of being trained by Him — where were they? Judas betrayed Him; Peter denied Him; Thomas doubted Him; and they all forsook Him and fled. Let us go back to Calvary, fall down at His feet, look up into His face, and seek to understand His heart till such a love for Him shall be kindled as shall gather up and focus all the forces of our lives into a burning and shining flame!"

"Oh, let me live as if He died

But yestertide;  
And I myself had seen and touched  
His pierced side."

Mrs. Chas. E. Cowan

Sis. Marie Germann's husband, Ernest, has been released from the hospital and is doing as well as can be expected.

We know the Lord is the Rewarder of Good Deeds. May we again say "thanks" to the following selfless brethren who recently gave of their time and talents, sharing insights in the Word: Bro. Karl Westfall and family, and Bro. Gray (Francesville), Bro. Rod Huber and family (Valparaiso) on mid-week service, Bro. Kenneth Weerts (Cissna Park), and Bro. Ray Sinn (Latty).

Our congregation was invited to Milford for their Family Night Sharing Program. We thank them for this privilege, remembering the adage . . . the families that pray together stay together.

The children of Bro. Wayne and Sis. Shirley Lehman had Open House on Sunday, March 14, in celebration of their parents' 25th wedding anniversary. Many relatives and friends enjoyed a time of sharing and fellowship.

The family of Sis. Hazel Clauss wishes to thank each and every one for their prayers, words of encouragement, cards, and visits during her illness and at the time of her passing away.

#### INDIANA, VALPARAISO

Mary Huber — Claudia Thomas

This month we had Bro. Karl Westfall (Francesville) with us, as well as Bro. Ken Eisenmann (Cissna Park) and Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann (Chicago). We are very grateful to the Lord for bringing us these brothers to minister the word.

We are also very thankful as we can watch the plan of salvation unfold in front of our own eyes. We have two more souls who have come to Jesus in repentance. They are Jon Holbrook and Ed Lester, husband of Sis. Caroline Lester. It is truly a joy to see the new birth of a soul. We pray that the grace will continue to be granted for them to go onward on the path to life everlasting.

#### A Mother's Request

"What do I want for Mother's Day" you ask, my fair young daughter and my stalwart son. "Only that you should finish up the task that, in life's evening, seem but just begun — the task that I can never now complete, of setting forth the Way, the Life, the Truth, except you lend to me your eager feet, your questing spirits and your gallant youth."

"What do I want for Mother's Day? No gift that any purse could buy. But one request I make of you: that, daily you might lift the Cross of Christ and publish, east, west, north and south, the tidings of His grace. These feet grow slow, this fading eyesight dim; Only in you, my children, is my place of witness found — my going on with Him.

"What do I want for Mother's Day? Just this: Your hands, your hearts, your voices for my Christ; this is the ultimate of earthly bliss.

There is no comfort I have sacrificed for you that was too much. So do not bring the casual token . . . but, when ways grow rough, then light my twilight with remembering your mother's God, for you, is still enough."

Helen Frazee-Bower

#### INDIANA, WOLCOTT

Suzanne Hoerr

Laurel and Kris Widmer

Sometime, sometime we'll understand. . . We extend our sympathy to Nancy Furrer Harris over the tragic death of her husband, Terry.

#### In The Garden Of Gethsemane

Before the dawn of Easter  
There came Gethsemane. . .  
Before the Resurrection  
There were hours of agony. . .  
For there can be no crown of stars  
Without a cross to bear,  
And there is no salvation  
Without FAITH and LOVE and  
PRAYER,

And when we take our needs to God  
Let us pray as did His Son  
That dark night in Gethsemane —  
"Thy will, not mine be done."

Helen Steiner Rice

#### IOWA, BURLINGTON

Edith Massner — Kim Salek

Bro. Uriel and Sis. Judy Gehring wish to announce the engagement of their son, Brad, to Gale Burd. Gale is the daughter of Dennis and Emily Burd of Burlington. Brad and Gale are planning a May wedding.

Bill Frank has spent some time in the hospital recently. Also, Jill Marshall had foot surgery done. We wish them both a rapid recovery.

A visiting minister spoke some time ago on the subject of unity and gave us some interesting thoughts to think about. The Apostle Paul preached that if the church is going to prosper, then all must be of the same mind. Unity is needed for growth. He went on to mention that if we truly put ourselves second to others then there will be no cause for contention. If we abase ourselves then God is the one who lifts us up. But if we set ourselves apart from others, as being higher than them, then we will fall into the snare, right

where Satan wants us. However, if we keep ourselves in subjection and measure ourselves according to God and in the light of His word, then we will see just what we really are and realize that all we have is a gift from Him. There will then be no way that we can set ourselves apart from others and our unity becomes much easier.

There is so much talk of the state of the economy. This minister went on to say that, "yes, it's true, the world is gloomy and wicked and things sometimes are really bad, but we have a power that is much greater than all the evil of this world." That power can and will sustain us if we allow it to. We are the ones who miss out on the blessings if we will not allow that power to work in our lives. This power is what helps us through every day. Christ did not come to defeat only His enemies, he came to defeat our common enemy, Satan and Sin. How thankful we should be that we have someone who loves us this much, to give all for us while we yet slumbered in sin.

#### IOWA, DES MOINES

Phillip Webber

We shall soon be completing our sixth year of monthly meetings, during the school year, at the Johnston Lions' Club, just north of Interstate 80 on the edge of Des Moines. Singing and Sunday School start at 1:00, and Worship Service at 1:30. We plan to assemble each second Sunday of the month, but encourage visitors to contact our counselling minister, Bro. Noah Gerber (West Bend), to check on any schedule changes necessitated by special calendar considerations.

We rejoice that students and young working people from the Ames and Des Moines area take the time to assemble with us, and always feel grateful to the ministers and brethren who travel in to help fill our little gathering. Even though our address list scarcely contains a dozen names, we often have several dozen in attendance, and sincerely welcome any and all who may be in the area temporarily or for a longer time. This city also presents exciting potential for anyone whose work might bring them to the area.



Special thanks go to all the ministering brothers who have spent themselves on our behalf. Most recently, Bro. Wayne Fehr (West Bend) shared the Word, emphasizing the mercy of the Lord whose commandment to every sinner is "neither do I condemn you — go and sin no more." May many souls turn to Him while these precious words can still be heard.

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**IOWA, ELGIN**

**Eleanor Butikofer**

Greetings in the name of our Lord. We are delighted to see the mounds of snow diminishing in size and to actually see new patches of green grass in various spots. The highlight of yesterday was the appearance of a robin, giving us a thrill. Hopefully, we will soon see a number in the area, thus giving us the assurance that spring time has actually arrived. What compares with the early morning caroling of a robin red-breast? May God be praised for his many lovely creations.

Sis. Lena Schupbach reached her 103rd birthday on March 10. She wishes to thank her friends and relatives who so generously remembered her with visits, cards, notes, and gifts. She appreciated every gesture. Among the floral gifts she received there was an azalia from a friend in California, red tulips from her nephew and wife, the Geo. Schupbachs, as well as daffodils and a rose from others. Bro. Orville and Sis. Sarah Moore brought her a birthday cake. Sis. Lena helped in many ways in various homes during her younger days. When you see her face wreathed with smiles as she talks with folks, you can fairly feel the love she has for her many relatives and friends. Her niece, Sis. Ruth Schupbach, cares for her Aunt Lena in a loving manner, which includes reading to her, thus helping to pass the time.

We recently enjoyed a very blessed weekend when Elder Bro. Ed Ringger and his wife, Sis. Geraldene, (Gridley, IL) spent March 13 and 14 with us. On Saturday evening we listened to the conference conclusions which was a blessing. In addition, Mrs. Gene Moore gave her testimony of having found peace

with God and man. On Sunday we rejoiced with Julie as her baptism took place. We certainly welcome Sis. Julie into our brotherhood.

Our Elder Bro. Paul was thankful to have Bro. Ed Ringger in our midst to assist in the events that took place. Thanks are very kindly extended to every one who participated.

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**Now It Is Done**

Ah, now it is done! Now I fear not to die,  
 For death hath no terrors when  
 Jesus is nigh,  
 The body from pain and from labor  
 hath rest;  
 The spirit soars up to the home of  
 the blest.

Now it is accomplished! With heart  
 and with mind  
 To thee, my dear Saviour, I now am  
 resigned!  
 I'll ever be faithful in life and in  
 death,  
 Abiding in Jesus unto my last  
 breath.

Zion's Harp #209

On the occasion of the celebration of his eightieth birthday, Herbert Hoover said, "The older I grow, the more I appreciate children. Now, at my eightieth birthday, I salute them again. Children are the most wholesome part of the race, the sweetest, for they are freshest from the hand of God. Whimsical, ingenious, mischievous, they fill the world with joy and good humor. We put them to bed with a sense of relief — and greet them in the morning with delight and anticipation. We envy in them the freshness of adventure and the discovery of life. In all these ways, children add to the wonder of being alive. In all these ways, they help to keep us young."

Marcy Banwart, daughter of Bro. Alvin and Sis. Phyllis of West Bend will graduate some time in May from an accounting course which she is pursuing in the technical school located at Calmar, IA. She has been staying in the home of Bro. Tim and Sis. Kathy Butikofer in Elgin. We certainly appreciate her fellowship.

**Be Of Good Cheer**

All sunny skies would be too bright,  
 All morning hours mean too much  
 light  
 All mirthful days too gay a strain,  
 There must be clouds, and night,  
 and rain,  
 And shut in days, to make us see  
 The beauty of life's tapestry  
 God knows and cares for us always.

There will be a World Relief  
 sewing at the home of Sis. Marie  
 Butikofer on March 23.

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**IOWA, GARDEN GROVE**

**Eileen Funk**

On Feb. 14, we rejoiced over the birth of Buck and April Parmer's first baby—a sweet baby boy, Aaron Howard. His grandparents are Bro. Bill and Sis. Verle Funk and Ernie and Donna Parmer. Buck and April's new address is Derby, IA.

We are happy to have Bro. Mark Larson move to our area. He will be farming. His address is Weldon, IA 50264.

We see the promise of spring and are looking forward to warmer weather again. We thank God for His protection during the winter months.

The third Sunday of each month is our monthly church supper and singing, which is enjoyed by all. We sure enjoy the fellowship of our visitors and invite you all to come and worship with us.

True happiness can be achieved only by living a balanced life.

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**IOWA, IOWA CITY**

**Susie Gramm**

Chris, Wendy, and Lisa, along with their parents, Bro. Brad and Sis. Joyce Eland, welcomed the arrival of Ryan James to their family on Feb. 27. Grandparents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Clara Frank (Oakville) and Ethel Eland (Mediapolis, IA).

Signs of spring are appearing here in Iowa City. The snow is nearly gone and the sweet warbling of robins is music to our ears. Springtime is so refreshing to the soul. After the winter God sends the Spring...

"Springtime is a season  
 of Hope and Joy and Cheer,

There's beauty all around us  
to see and touch and hear. . .  
So, no matter how downhearted  
and discouraged we may be,  
New Hope is born when we behold  
leaves budding on a tree. . .  
Or when we see a timid flower  
push through the frozen sod  
And open wide in glad surprise  
its petaled eyes to God. . .  
For this is just God saying —  
'Lift up your eyes to Me,  
And the bleakness of your spirit  
like the budding springtime tree,  
Will lose its wintry darkness  
And your heavy heart will sing' —  
For God never sends the Winter  
without the Joy of Spring."  
by Helen Steiner Rice

Special thanks to Bro. Marvin Schmidgall (Eureka, IL), Bro. Harold Schmidgall (Gridley, IL), Bro. Bill Gerst (Alto, MI), and Bro. Vernon Wettstein (Congerville, IL) for faithfully ministering God's precious Word to us.

#### IOWA, LESTER

Alice Metzger

If we but had the eyes to see God's face in every cloud, If we but had the ears to hear His voice above the crowd, If we could feel His gentle touch In every Springtime breeze And find a haven in His arms Neath sheltering, leafy trees. . . If we could just lift up our hearts Like flowers to the sun And trust His Easter Promise and pray, "Thy Will Be Done", We'd find the peace we're seeking, The kind no man can give, The peace that comes from knowing He Died So We Might Live!

Helen Steiner Rice

United in holy matrimony on February 28 were Sis. Lois Knobloch and Bro. Rodney Mogler. Their parents are Bro. Si and Sis. Edith Knobloch and Bro. Howard and Sis. Lollie Mogler. We rejoice with them as they develop their Christian home.

Announcing their engagement were Bro. Merle Knobloch and Sis. Shelley Messner. The parents are Bro. Albert and Sis. Salome Knobloch and Billy and Sis. Marilyn Messner (Winthrop). Also engaged are Bro. Curt Kellenberger, son of Bro. Henry and Sis. Elaine, and Sis. Martha Braker, daughter of Bro.

Raymond and Sis. Luetta (Lamar, MO). May God bless them during this special time in their lives.

Joel Allen was born to Gary and Sis. Rhonda Teslaa on March 6. He has two brothers.

Hospital patients were Bro. Bill Wulf and Emil Wulf. Sis. Betty Jean Leuthold, who was hospitalized for several weeks, is grateful to all who remembered her in prayers and deeds. All are home again and feeling much better.

#### IOWA, OAKVILLE

Jerilyn Wagenbach

On Feb. 19, Denise Marie was born to Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Janet Lanz. She has one brother, David, and grandparents, Elder Bro. Ed and Sis. Joan Lanz and Bro. Hartzell and Sis. Marian Schmidgall.

With spring approaching, many are beginning their spring house cleaning. A large number gathered for our annual spring cleaning of the church building on March 8 and 9. We are also nearing the season when we remember our Lord's death and suffering. May we do a little soul-searching, or "spring cleaning" of our spiritual house, as we look forward to celebrating Holy Communion.

As God's children, we look to His Word as our guide in life, and appreciate the efforts of our ministers as they help to bring forth the message of salvation. Our visiting ministers the past month have been Bros. Carl Wyss (Washington), Marvin Schmidgall (Eureka), Uriel Gehring (Burlington), Chris Huber (Francesville), and Harvey Heiniger (Burlington).

The remodeling of our newly purchased Fellowship Center is progressing quite well. All who have helped with this project realize the truth of the statement that "many hands make light work". Our trustees for the building are Bros. Robert Frank, Robert Lanz, John Schrock, Floyd Rowell, and ministering Bro. John Steiner.

The most generous vine, if not pruned, runs out into many superfluous stems and grows at last weak and fruitless; so does the best man if he be not cut short in his desires and pruned with afflictions.

Wings Of Silver: Long Suffering

#### IOWA, PULASKI

Mary Wiegand — Ginny Wuthrich

It has been a long, cold winter, but spring is coming. Each new season is another of God's miracles. As we get ready to work the ground and sow the seed for another crop, we surely ask for God's blessings on our efforts. Without them all would be in vain.

Bro. Glenn Funk (Garden Grove) was with us one Sunday. He urged those of us with small children to be patient with them and be the best example we can for them; so that they, too, will want to become one of God's children.

Bro. John Steiner was also here one Sunday. One of his many thoughts was that we can be sorry every day of our lives for wrongs we have done; but, until we repent and the "truth be in us," we have no hope. ". . . Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish." Luke 13:5 Thank you to both of these brothers for coming and all who came with them.

Bro. Ronald and Sis. Janice Rinkenberger and Tony, April, and Brenda welcomed little Anne Marie into their home recently. Bro. Cleo and Sis. Esther Rinkenberger are the little one's grandparents.

Sis. Laura Wuthrich has been in the hospital for some time but is home again.

#### Faith Is The Key To Heaven

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

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

Helen Steiner Rice

#### IOWA, WEST BEND

Judy Fehr — Elma Mogler

We experienced a beautiful day on Feb. 21, when Sis. Joleen Schmidt, daughter of Sis. Betty and the late Bro. Rich, and Bro. Rod Edelman, son of Cliff and Sis. Barbara, of Sabetha were united as one-in-the-Lord. Elder Bro. Eugene Marti (Lamar) performed the ceremony, with ministering Bros. Elmer

Schmidt (Winthrop) and Roger Aberle (Sabetha) present. We trust the Lord will go with them wherever their married pathway leads.

"He could have called ten thousand angels to destroy the world and set Him free . . . But He died alone for you and me." These are words that bring a deeper meaning to the hearts of Karol Banwart (Bro. Alvin and Sis. Phylis) and Twyla Schmidt (Sis. Betty and the late Bro. Rich) since they have turned their hearts to the Lord. We rejoice with them and pray that they will be given much grace.

We were saddened to hear of the sudden death of Mrs. Max Wilcox, mother of Gloria Wilcox, the fiancée of Tim Mogler. There are many times we must go on without our loved ones, but we trust the Lord will go with Tim and Gloria as they are married on March 27.

This time we have several who have had to experience a hospital stay, and we thought it would be fitting to include this poem:

I needed the quiet so He drew me  
aside,  
Into the shadows where we could  
confide.  
Away from the bustle where all the  
day long  
I hurried and worried when active  
and strong.

I needed the quiet tho' at first I  
rebelled,  
But gently, so gently, my cross He  
upheld  
And whispered so sweetly of  
spiritual things;  
Tho' weakened in body, my spirit  
took wings  
To heights never dreamed of when  
active and gay,  
He loved me so greatly, He drew me  
away.

I needed the quiet. No prison my  
bed,  
But a beautiful valley of blessings  
instead —  
A place to grow richer in Jesus to  
hide.  
I needed the quiet so He drew me  
aside.

Mary Louise Clark

Those on our hospital list include Bro. Edwin Wirtz who had back surgery, Bro. Arnold Metzger had a tear duct replaced, Bro. Fahey Gress had delicate ear surgery, Sis. Mary Gerber (Manuel) was admitted for tests, Reuben Anliker had surgery, and Lyn Schmidt (Bro. Dwaine and Sis. Lucille) was transferred to Rochester for emergency surgery. At this time Sis. Sid Schmidt (Dick) is still confined to her home but is getting along nicely. May we always remember the sick in our prayers.

After experiencing a blustery January, what a joy it was to look from our window one morning early in February to see a most beautiful sight. In the west, from horizon to horizon, unhindered by clouds, was the most colorful rainbow we had seen in a long time. In a short while it faded from our sight, but it reminded us that God has not forgotten the promise He made so long ago.

#### JAPAN, TOKYO

Marie Inoue — Yoshio Yamazaki

It is very beautiful today and we are thankful that God created such a beautiful earth for us. Spring is just come right around the corner. Spring is the most beautiful season of the year. The Song of Solomon (2:11-13) says, "For, lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone; The flowers appear on the earth; the time of the singing of birds is come, and the voice of the turtle is heard in our land. The fig tree putteth forth her green figs, and the vines with the tender grape give a good smell . . ."

Sister Hiroko Utsuki showed us her slide pictures of Israel last Sunday afternoon. We were really interested in them. It would be nice to go there sometime if it is the Lord's will.

Sister Reiko Furuya comes from the country church to our Tokyo church the last Sunday of each month for helping in the translation of the Zion's Harp with some assistance from Bro. Akito Inoue. We pray the Lord will bless their work. Sis. Reiko works very diligently in this work.

We are surely looking forward to all our March visitors, among them

will be the dear elder brothers on the return trip from India. May God provide for each of them and give His special blessing on their ministry.

#### JAPAN, SHIODA

Vicki Ramseyer

Satoo Ozawa (a dear friend of the church) who has been quite ill, is now able to be home. I had the pleasure of meeting her recently, and could feel the bond of Christian love even though we couldn't understand each other's language.

Mrs. Ijima and her daughter Rena, are both home from the hospital again. We wish them God's perfect healing, and look forward to the day when they are able to assemble with us.

On March 11 we were able to welcome the four brothers who were returning from India. What a special blessing for Sis. Kathy to have her father here again for four days.

I was privileged to return to the states for a short while during my father's illness. My family joins me in a sincere thank-you for all the prayers and support we received during his illness.

#### KANSAS, BERN

Linda Esslinger

Mother

Your loving eyes  
looking down on me  
Have taught me much  
of divinity.

Your folded hands  
eloquent and fair  
Have been for me  
small books of prayer.

Your simple faith  
in powers that be  
Outstrips each page  
of theology.

And I who doubted  
good and grace  
Have found God's smile  
on your dear face.

Opal Winstead

On March 2, a daughter, Joyce Rae, was born to Keith and Debbie Meyer. She has an older brother,

Joshua. Grandmother is Sis. Pearl Meyer.

Bro. Andy Locher was hospitalized.

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**KANSAS, FT. SCOTT**

**Jamie Marti**

"And he took bread, and gave thanks, and brake it, and gave unto them, saying, This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me." Luke 22:19. On February 27 we gathered together to partake of Communion. We thank Elder Bro. Gene Marti (Lamar, MO) for being with us.

March 7 was the wedding day of Sis. Carol Miller and Bro. Dean Steffen of Elgin, IL. Parents of the couple are Bro. Wayne and Sis. Pearl Miller and Bro. Earl and Sis. Kay Steffen of Elgin. Visiting ministers with us that weekend were Elder Bro. Sam Huber (Sabetha), Elder Bro. Nathan Steffen (Elgin, IL), Bro. Walter Steffen (Milford, IN), Bro. John Lehman (Bern, KS), and Bro. Lloyd Kraft (Gridley, KS).

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**KANSAS  
KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY**

**Mary Wernli**

"... I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content." Phil. 4:11

Paul, denied of every comfort, wrote the above words in his dungeon. A story is told of a king who went into his garden one morning, and found everything withered and dying. He asked the oak that stood near the gate what the trouble was. He found that it was sick of life and determined to die because it was not tall and beautiful like the pine. The pine was all out of heart because it could not bear grapes, like the vine. The vine was going to throw its life away because it could not stand erect and have fine fruit as the peach tree. The geranium was fretting because it was not tall and fragrant like the lilac; and so on all through the garden. Coming to a heart's-ease, he found its bright face lifted as cheery as ever. "Well, heart's-ease, I'm glad, amidst all this discouragement, to find one brave little flower. You do not seem to be the least disheartened." "No, I am not of much account, but I thought

that if you wanted an oak, or a pine, or a peach tree, or a lilac, you would have planted one; but as I knew you wanted a heart's-ease, I am determined to be the best little heart's-ease that I can."

"Others may do a greater work,  
But you have your part to do;  
And no one in all God's heritage  
Can do it so well as you."

They who are God's without reserve, are in every state content; for they will only what He wills, and desire to do for Him whatever he desires them to do; they strip themselves of everything, and in this nakedness find all things restored an hundredfold.

Streams In The Desert

Visiting ministers this month were Bro. Al Langhofer, Wichita, Bro. Lloyd Kraft and Bro. Tim Zimmerman, Gridley. We appreciate everyone who assembles with us on Wednesday evenings. May God bless and reward each one richly.

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**KANSAS, KIOWA  
Janice Bahr — Gay Farney**

He carried the cross to Calvary,  
Carried its burden for you and me,  
There on the cross He was crucified  
And, because He suffered and bled  
and died,

We know that whatever "Our  
Cross" may be,  
It leads to GOD and ETERNITY...  
For who can hope for a "crown of  
stars"

Unless it is earned with suffering  
and scars,  
For how could we face the living  
Lord  
And rightfully claim His promised  
reward

If we have not carried our cross of  
care  
And tasted the cup of bitter  
despair...

Let those who yearn for the  
pleasures of life,  
And long to escape all suffering and  
strife,

Rush recklessly on to an "empty  
goal"  
With never a thought of the spirit  
and soul...

But if you are searching to find the  
way  
To life everlasting and eternal day—

With Faith in your heart take the  
path He trod,  
For the Way Of The Cross is the  
Way To God.

Helen Steiner Rice

You would think that God, who gave a world of poor lost sinners everything He possessed, would eventually tire of our ungrateful ways and stop blessing us as He does. Looking back upon this past month, where blessings are concerned, we have had more than our share. It was our turn to hold Services at the Manor one Lord's Day this month and the joy is ours when we see how much it means to the loved ones there. We have also been blessed with two new little babies. Kami Deann was born to Brad and Deb Ott, and Cody Dan was born to Dan and Pam Frieden. Besides a sister, Robin, to welcome her, Kami has four loving grandparents. They are Bro. Marvin and Sis. Irma Ott, and Naida and Jim Becker of the Howard, KS area. Cody's grandparents are Bro. Joe and Sis. Mildred Frieden, and Don and Darla Johnson of Alva. Bro. Jeff and Sis. Frieda Frieden are great-grandparents for the second time in two months. May God be ever with these precious babes, and grant that, as they grow in size, they may also grow in love for their God.

Have you ever wished that an evening would not end? This was truly our feeling one Tuesday evening this month when ministering Bros. Edwin Bahler, Remington, and Art Noehl, Morris, were both in our midst for special services. One brother in faith summed it up perfectly. "My only regret is that they were both here the same night."

Along with showers of blessings, there come some clouds, and when our loved ones are ill, it clouds our skies of blue. Sis. Emma Diel suffered a stroke, but we are thankful she is better now and can again be at the Manor. Bro. Arnold Ott, and Sis. Lavern Roth also are home after short hospital stays, but Bro. Reuben Farney is still in Cherokee, and Hubert Reed, husband of our dear Sis. Edna Reed is still in Enid. Let us never forget to pray to the Great Physician for our loved ones who are ill. No one else could know

their needs as He does.

We would extend our deepest sympathy to Sis. Elizabeth Diel and family at the passing of her uncle John Scripsick. May our Lord be a comfort at this time of loss.

Have A Beautiful Easter!!

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**KANSAS, LAMONT**  
**Mary Isch**

**Eternal Spring**

Easter comes with cheeks aglowing,  
 flowers bloom and streams are  
 flowing,  
 And the earth in glad surprise  
 opens wide its Springtime eyes . . .  
 All nature heeds the call of Spring  
 as God awakens everything,  
 And all that seemed so dead and still  
 experiences a sudden thrill  
 As Springtime lays a magic hand  
 across God's vast and fertile land.  
 Oh, how can anyone stand by  
 and watch a sapphire, Springtime  
 sky,  
 Or see a fragile flower break  
 through  
 what just a day ago or two  
 Seemed barren ground still hard  
 with frost,  
 but in God's world no life is lost . . .  
 And flowers sleep beneath the  
 ground  
 but when they hear Spring's  
 waking sound  
 They push themselves through  
 layers of clay  
 to reach the sunlight of God's day  
 And man, like flowers, too, must  
 sleep  
 until he is called from the  
 "darkened deep" . . .  
 To live in that place where angels  
 sing  
 and where there is Eternal  
 Spring!

Helen Steiner Rice

"For our light affliction, which is  
 but for a moment, worketh for us a  
 far more exceeding and eternal  
 weight of glory; while we look not at  
 the things which are seen: but at the  
 things which are not seen: for the  
 things which are seen are temporal;  
 but the things which are not seen  
 are eternal."

II Corinthians 4:17,18

Visiting ministers this month  
 were Bro. Edwin Bahler and his  
 wife, Sis. Lois (Remington), and

Bro. Tim Zimmerman and his family  
 (Gridley). We appreciate their labor  
 of love and wish them the all power-  
 ful spirit and grace that flows from  
 the Heavenly Father and Jesus, His  
 precious Son.

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**KANSAS, SABBETHA**

**Judy Hartter — Clara Steiner**

Bro. John and Sis. Cornelia  
 Aberle became the parents of a  
 precious baby girl, Carrie Louise, on  
 Feb. 28. She is welcomed home by  
 her sisters, Rachel, Jeanne, Myra  
 and Sarah.

We also rejoice with De Vere  
 Meyer (Bro. Harlan and Sis. Floren-  
 ce) who has given himself to God in  
 repentance. May God ever be near  
 De Vere and his wife, Michelle, as  
 they now take this important step  
 together.

Our annual business meeting has  
 been held recently. Bro. Martin  
 Beyer was elected as our new  
 trustee, Bro. Gordon Huber was  
 elected as the Fellowship Center  
 trustee and Bro. David Hartter as an  
 usher.

We welcome Sis. Shellie Massner,  
 from the Detroit congregation, who  
 has come here to make her home.

Among our hospital patients this  
 month were Bro. Dave Brunner, Sis.  
 Fanny Bahr and Sis. Esther Meyer.  
 Our thoughts and prayers are  
 always with those who are sick or  
 shut in.

Congratulations are extended to  
 Bro. Rod Edelman (Clifford and Sis.  
 Barbara) and Sis. Joleen Schmidt  
 (Sis. Betty Schmidt, West Bend)  
 who were married Feb. 21. Also to  
 Shari Wenger (LaVon and Erma)  
 and David Eisenbise, who were  
 married March 6. May God be with  
 them as they travel life's road  
 together.

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**KANSAS, WICHITA**  
**Priscilla Frank**

As March blows into the Wichita  
 area, I'm reminded of a poem I read  
 on the back of the Guidepost  
 magazine:

March they say,  
 Comes in like a lion  
 And goes out like a lamb.

Dear God,  
 In my everyday faith,  
 Help me to be

Lionlike: bold and stalwart;  
 And,  
 Lamblike: gentle and  
 tenderhearted,  
 Following the perfect example  
 Your beloved Son set for me.

Eleanor Sass

The Wichita congregation has  
 been blessed again in several ways.  
 On March 14 we added another  
 brother to our fold as Mike Bowers  
 (son of Bro. Milton and Sis. Lillian)  
 was baptized. May God bless him  
 with the characteristics listed in the  
 poem above. Also, Bro. Al and Sis.  
 Judy Langhofer were again granted  
 the wonderful privilege of being the  
 grandparents of Rachel Lynn born  
 to Bro. Bruce and Sis. Mary Stoller  
 of Princeville. We wish them all a  
 blessed and beautiful experience as  
 they watch Rachel grow.

Bill and Nancy Epps were also  
 granted the privilege of becoming  
 grandparents this month as their  
 daughter, Gina Hardison gave birth  
 to their first grandchild, Brandy  
 Dawn Hardison. May the Lord also  
 bless all of you as you share your  
 new joy.

With much regret we say farewell  
 to Bro. Rocky and Sis. Melinda Gilt-  
 ner who will be leaving our  
 congregation the first part of April  
 to make their home in Indiana. We  
 will greatly miss this young couple  
 and all the services they have ren-  
 dered. May God bless them both as  
 they leave us to travel upon this new  
 road in their life. We pray the sun-  
 shine you have shed here will also  
 shine there.

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**MICHIGAN, ALTO**  
**Jane Grawburg**

Those of us who joined together to  
 hear the tapes of the Brothers' Con-  
 ference have, indeed, been richly  
 blessed. We heartily thank all the  
 brethren at the Conference for the  
 work that has been accomplished,  
 and for the love and the deep con-  
 cern that have come from each and  
 every one of them.

Bro. Elmer and Sis. Delila  
 Schrenk have returned home after a  
 winter's stay at Zapata, Texas. We  
 are very glad to have them with us  
 again.

Bro. Otto Schlatter (Sis. Pat) and  
 Steven Schutte (Sis. Sandy) were  
 both hospitalized this month. We

pray that our Lord will bless, and that all will be well for both Steven and for Bro. Ott.

Bro. Ted Steffen (Bro. Aaron and Sis. Loretta) warmed our hearts with his testimony and baptism a few weeks ago. The ministering brethren joining us were Bro. Joe Waibel from Bay City and Bro. Mark Bahr from Detroit. We thank these brothers for their labors of love and pray that all will be well for Bro. Ted.

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**MICHIGAN, BAY CITY**

Linda Ramseyer

**His Hands**

The hands of Christ  
Seem very frail  
For they were broken  
By a nail.

But only they  
Reach heaven at last  
Whom these frail, broken  
Hands hold fast.

John Richard Moreland

As Easter time approaches, we remember our dear Saviour, who suffered on the cross and died for our sins. May each one of us hold fast to Christ's hands as He is holding fast to ours.

We were glad there are those who have been able to come home from the hospital after somewhat lengthy stays. Sis. Faye (Bro. Frank) Wackerle had been hospitalized for several weeks, but has now been able to return home. Sis. Leaf Laracey was hospitalized in Ann Arbor, MI, but has since returned home, also. We were also glad to see Sis. Louise Lambert home after spending a few months with her son.

Bro. Herb (Sis. Naomi) Ramseyer was recently hospitalized after suffering a heart attack. Our prayers are with him and we trust he will soon recover. Bro. Herb received a surprise visit from his daughter, Sis. Vicki Ramseyer, who is now teaching in Japan. Sis. Vicki was able to come home to see her father, but has since returned to Japan again.

The Lord has blessed Jerry and Michelle Knochel with their first child, a son Jeremy Phillip. Bro. Norman and Sis. Leonore Knochel

are Jeremy's grandparents.

Sis. Ida Wieland was recently called home after living her life here on earth for the Lord. Sis. Ida is survived by her husband, Bro. Sam, one daughter, Sis. Florence Wieland of Bay City and three sons, Bro. Merle and Bro. Don of Bay City and Bro. Wayne of Peoria, IL. She is also survived by 11 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren, as well as three sisters, Sis. Emma Wackerle, Sis. Eula Maibach and Sis. Lydia Wieland, all of Bay City. Our prayers and thoughts are with Sis. Ida's family as they continue on life's pathway.

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**MICHIGAN, DETROIT**

Helen and Bonnie Popp

"I am a stranger here, within a  
foreign land;

My home is far away, upon a golden  
strand;

Ambassador to be of realms beyond  
the sea,

I'm here on business for my King."

E. T. Cassel

I thought of this poem in reflecting upon the trip to India and Japan by our Elder Bro. Ben Maibach as well as by Bro. Roy Grimm, Bro. Carl Kinsinger, and Bro. John Klotzle. I asked Bro. Ben for a few brief comments to include in this article. Their trip was a very full one in many ways, and they saw many awesome sights. There is extreme poverty, such as we have never seen, and the lack of water during the dry season is devastating. However, they were uplifted to observe the depth of spiritual understanding of the people there — even though many can neither read nor write. These people have a good understanding of the scriptures concerning repentance and other matters. While there, 11 souls were baptized in a mountain pond under a bright sun. En route home, they stopped in Japan and while there, shared in Holy Communion at Tokyo. Certainly a trip such as this cannot be told in a few words. With such a full trip now behind them, they are grateful to be home. — And we at home are also grateful for the safe journey and return of these brethren. Also, we are grateful they were willing to be in a foreign land

on business for their King.

Hospitalized this month were Walt Bauer and Sis. Alice Polk. We had a concern for them both and have offered our sincere prayers on their behalf. May they find each day brings about an extra measure of strength. And may they know a special comfort that can only come from on high.

We were glad to have with us Bro. Ron Steiner (Rittman). May God bless him for lending himself in ministering unto us. We appreciate his visit.

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**MINNESOTA, MORRIS**

Jan Schock — Pam Sutter

"As arrows are in the hands of a mighty man, so are children of the youth. Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them. . ." Psalm 127:4-5

Bro. Greg and Sis. Denise Gramm are excited parents of a daughter, Stephanie Lynn. Her brother, Justin and grandparents Bro. Harold and Sis. Ila and Bro. Todd and Sis. Karen Feller share their joy. Bro. Tom and Sis. Ruth Schmidgall and daughter Rachel have a new baby boy, Matthew John. Grandparents are Bro. Floyd and Sis. Vila and Bro. Carl and Sis. Evie Hoerr. A daughter, Fonda Lyn, was born to Bro. Arnie and Sis. Sharon Koehl. Her sisters, Annette, Brenda, Connie, Dawn, and Emily, as well as grandparents Bro. Euph and Sis. Eunice and Mildred and Virgil Sauder welcome her. Robyn Sue is the new sister of little Rhonda Wulf. Parents are Bro. Jerel and Sis. Linda and grandparents are Bro. Leonard and Sis. Vi. Gary and Sis. Doreen Moser rejoice in the birth of Nicole Sue. Her brother Jason and grandparents Bro. Alpha and Sis. Pearl and Bro. Ed and Sis. Lois Koehl will enjoy her!

Bro. Joe Moser was a patient this month and we're thankful he is home again.

Jim Wulf (Bro. Leonard and Sis. Vi) has turned to Christ. We give him our prayers and may he build on that solid rock.

Bro. Stanley Schaefer (Bro. Anton and Sis. Verna) and Sis. Beverly Sauder (Virgil and Mildred) have announced their engagement. May they have a blessed life. "If we love

one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us." I John 4:12

### "Why Should He Die For Such As I"

In everything both great and small  
We see the hand of God in all,  
And in the miracles of Spring  
When every where in everything  
His handiwork is all around  
And every lovely sight and sound  
Proclaims the God of earth and sky  
I ask myself "just who am I"  
That God should send His only Son  
That my salvation should be won  
Upon a cross by a sinless man  
To bring fulfillment to God's plan—  
For Jesus suffered, bled and died  
That sinners might be sanctified,  
And to grant God's children such as I  
Eternal life in that home on high.

Helen Steiner Rice.

### MINNESOTA, WINTHROP

**Carol Messner — Mary Lou Schmidt**

Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it: Psalm 127. An open-house pot luck was held on March 21 to dedicate our new fellowship hall at Winthrop. Bro. Noah Miller and Bro. Donald Miller and families, and others of the Minneapolis congregation were there to share in our dedication service. "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell in unity." Psalm 133:1. May God richly bless each and every one who shared in this labor of love. May we always be as thankful to God, as we are now!

On March 28th, the 25th Silver Wedding Anniversary of Bro. Marlyn and Sis. Lois Messner was hosted by their children and families at our fellowship hall. We certainly rejoice with them and wish them many more years together.

Bro. Raymond Messner is once again hospitalized and undergoing more tests. Bro. Walter Messner is also having some tests done. We wish these dear brothers God's grace to bear their burdens.

With Mother's Day approaching, we found this poem quite fitting.

### Memories Of Mother

The memories of by-gone years, My mother's love, my mother's tears;  
The thought of all her constant care,

doth bring the answer to her prayer.

Oh Mother, when I think of thee,  
'Tis but a step to Calvary:  
Thy gentle hand upon my brow,  
Is leading me to Jesus now.

Anonymous

None will ever replace your mother. Treasure her while you can!

### MISSOURI, LAMAR

**Becky Hohulin — Sandra Marti**

What a joy fills our hearts when we hear that a dear soul has a desire to become one of God's children. We rejoice with Bill Luthi (Bro. Ray and Sis. Marilyn) who has turned to God in repentance. Our prayers are with him.

We are also thankful that two loved ones have asked for God's guidance as they considered marriage. On March 14, the announcement was made of the engagement of Sis. Martha Braker, Bro. Raymond and Sis. LuEtta, to Bro. Curt Kellenberger, Bro. Henry and Sis. Elaine, from the Lester, Iowa congregation. We wish them God's blessings.

Our eyes behold one of God's miracles when we see a precious, new baby. Tim and Terri Braker have a new son, Trent A., born on March 15. Big brother, Teague, welcomed him home. Bro. Leonard and Sis. Bonnie Braker are Trent's grandparents.

Several of our loved ones have spent some time in the hospital this past month. Karla Luthi, Bro. Ray and Sis. Marilyn, were in as surgical patients. Sis. Rose Widmer, Terry Braker, and Jim Kibler have been in as medical patients. We're thankful that all have been able to return home.

Our dear Savior has done so much for us. May we be willing to bear our cross as we journey toward Heaven. Surely it will be best for our soul, if we, too, sincerely pray, "Thy will, not mine, be done."

### MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS

**Becky Gudeman**

We are thankful for the support and prayers given to us in starting services here in St. Louis. We especially thank the brethren from Taylor, MO, and Cissna Park, IL. May the Lord bless them for their

endeavors.

Services are scheduled for the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month. We encourage any in the area to come and worship with us. For verification of time and location please contact Dan and Becky Gudeman, 14359 Lake Tahoe, Chesterfield, MO 63017; Phone 314-275-2227. Services can not always be held at the same location.

### MISSOURI, TAYLOR Stephanie Gerber

"Our Lord has written the promise of the Resurrection, not in books alone, but in every leaf in Springtime."

Tapestries of Life

As we look around us and see everything starting to unfold, coming out from their winter rest, we must recall the promise God gave us of the return of each new season. "while the earth remaineth, seed time and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease." Gen. 8:22

We are thankful to hear that Evertt Wenneker, father of Sis. Marge Sutter (Bro. Gerald), is home and recuperating from a recent surgery. May the Lord watch over each one in their sunset years of life.

The annual World Relief meeting for the Western churches was held at the Taylor Fellowship Center on Saturday, March 6. Projects reported on included the new project brochure, the Children's Home, the Home for the Handicapped, the grain shipments, sewing projects, homes for the elderly and the eastern European churches. It was a very informative and blessed day. As these labors of love are performed, I am reminded of the words Jesus spake, "Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me." On March 7 Bros. Ken Sauder (Mansfield), Vernon Leman (Eureka), and Earl Banwart (West Bend) were our visiting ministers, as many stayed over from the meeting. May God bless each one for the blessings they brought to us.

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

Sis. Esther Isch underwent minor foot surgery which confined her to her home for several days.

We greatly appreciate the visit of ministering brother Dan Stoller, his wife, and others from Rockville on the last Sunday in February. Our morning prayers were richly answered as we enjoyed a day of Christian fellowship and the truth of the Holy Word of Life.

**NEW YORK, CROGHAN****Alice Virkler**

Bro. Paul and Sis. Lisa Schamback have welcomed their first son, Dale Louis, who was born on March 1. Karla and Heida welcome their new little playmate. He will also be loved by his grandparents, Bro. Dave and Sis. Lois Schamback, and Ray and Arlene Grau.

On Wednesday evening, March 17, we were with the Naumburg congregation for a covered-dish supper and evening of fellowship and singing. How thankful we are that the stone was rolled away and through the love and concern of our Heavenly Father we are able to assemble together and enjoy the fellowship one with the other. May each of us ever strive to walk this path of life in the footprints made by our Lord and Savior while He was on this earth.

Our hospital patients this month were Bro. Ted Virkler, Sr., Bro. Bernard Martin, Sis. Irene Farney, and Sis. Louise Purvines. We are thankful that they have returned home and hope they can all assemble with us again soon.

**NEW YORK, NAUMBURG****Rachel Snyder**

We think of the loved ones who are in the hospital and pray that the Lord will give them patience to endure all suffering and trials. They are Sis. Rachel Rohr and Sis. Florence Herzig.

Those who are able to be home after spending some time in the hospital are Sisters Viola Karcher, Barbra Bachman, and Corine Virkler, and Bro. Theodore Herzig. We hear that Sis. Corine Virkler has to go in again. May God be with her.

It was nice to see Sis. Pearl Col-

grove back in our midst again after being absent for some weeks.

Many blessings were felt as we gathered Wednesday evening at the Naumburg church for a covered dish dinner with singing after. The love of God could surely be felt.

"Those who bring sunshine to the lives of others cannot keep it from themselves."

Author unknown

**OHIO, AKRON****Joyce Gasser**

The Easter season gives pre-eminence to the resurrection. We are thankful that we have a living God who answers prayers. In Heb. 5:7, Jesus offered prayers, "unto him that was able to save him from death." The Greek word that is translated 'from' is also translated 'out of'. God answered the prayer and although Jesus died, God saved Him out of death. Psalm 2:7 records God's declaration: "Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee." Acts 13:33 further records: "He hath raised up Jesus again; as it is also written in the second psalm, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee."

Jesus had cried: "Thou art my father, my God and the rock of my salvation," and God answered, "I will make him my firstborn." Ps. 89:26,27

Knowing that God made Jesus His firstborn (firstbegotten), we rejoice that when we cry out to God and are born again, or begotten of Him, He also becomes our Rock of Salvation. On this promise lies the hope that we will be resurrected.

**OHIO, COLUMBUS****Andrew L. Hunyady**

How quickly the weeks, months, and seasons fly by. Hopefully another winter is behind us, and, as spring approaches, our thoughts turn to the beautiful season of Easter, and with it, the deep thought of how it came about and what it means to us, who have had the blessed experience of being born again into the family of God. Paul, an apostle of our faith, puts it among the many of his writings: "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us" Rom. 5:8. The

love of God, how beautiful, yet so sad because the innocent One without spot and blemish and without sin had to die the cruel inhumane death to save such who justly deserve that punishment for their sins and iniquities. Should we, then, whose sins were forgiven, take our Christian profession lightly?

We are so thankful for God's love and rich blessings from day to day. Brethren came to worship with us from Mansfield, Rittman, Latty, and Junction, Ohio and Remington, IN. Our visiting ministers were Bro. Merril Laukhuf (Latty) and Wallace Ramsier (Mansfield). To all our heartfelt thanks. Though our number is small, your visits mean so much to us all. Please continue to bear us in your arms of love and prayers.

Again our new address and phone number: Andrew and Theresa Hunyady, 4800 Moreland Drive W, Columbus, Ohio 43220. 614-459-9713. Services: 2nd and 4th Sundays each month at the Holiday Inn, North, I-71 and SR 161, 10:30 and 12:30.

**OHIO, GIRARD****Karen Laparo**

Shepherd of mortals, here behold  
A little flock, a wayside fold  
That wait Thy presence to be blest—  
O Man of Nazareth, be our guest.

Daniel Henderson

We can truly feel God's presence as we gather on Sunday. How thankful we are that we are all healthy and able to attend church.

We have been richly blessed to have many visitors this month. Our visiting song leaders were: Bro. John Rufener (Sis. Emily), Akron; Bro. Larry Rufener (Sis. Susan), Rittman; Bro. Elzie Graf (Sis. Esther), Akron; and Bro. Ken Maibach (Sis. Ann), Rittman. We sincerely thank them and all those who came with them.

As Easter approaches, a quote comes to mind:

"God expects from men that their Easter devotions would in some measure come up to their Easter dress."

Robert South

Let us be careful to keep God foremost in our thoughts and not be carried away with thoughts of our



outward appearance.

### OHIO, JUNCTION

Les Manz

Justin Jonathan Izgherian is the latest addition to the Junction church. We rejoice with Bro. Paul and Sis. Sharon, Teddy and Micah on the birth of this healthy child.

There are many stories of the tragic flood which recently hit our area causing thousands to evacuate their homes and millions of dollars worth of damage. I think especially of the story of two young boys who climbed a tree to try to save their lives from the rising water in a nearby town. As I heard the story, my mind drifted to thoughts of how things must have been in Noah's time. Quite probably, men also climbed trees to escape the rising waters then. Without a doubt, as they sat on a branch seeing nothing but water rising everywhere, they must have thought how they wished they had listened to Noah's 120 years of preaching. Surely, if God didn't spare those who hadn't listened to Noah, we cannot hope for mercy on that Great Judgment Day if we don't heed the teachings given to us today in God's Word.

### OHIO, LATTY

Cheryl Wenninger

Those hospitalized this month were Jordan Miller (Bro. Roger and Sis. Kay), Bro. Ulrich Kipfer (Sis. Frieda), and Rachel Schieler (Bro. Darl and Sis. Cindy). Let us continue to remember our shut-ins in prayer.

Bro. Ed Frank (LaCrosse, IN) ministered the Holy Word to us. We pray that the Lord will bless him for his efforts.

Brian Allan has come to gladden the home of Bro. Dave and Sis. Debbie Wenninger. His playmates are Jennifer and Todd. Grandparents are Bro. Don and Sis. Josephine Wenninger and Betty and Louis Daeger. Also glad for a playmate are Amy, Brad, and Shelley Grant. They welcome Allan Ray into their home along with their parents Bro. Phil and Sis. Gloria. Grandparents are Bro. Tom and Sis. Delores Grant, and Bro. Dale and Sis. Doris Fiechter (Bluffton, IN). Julie Ann is the newborn daughter of Bro. Keith and Sis. JoAnne Klopfenstein. Also welcoming her

are Jay, Jaymee, and Joni along with grandparents Bro. Marvin and Sis. Mary Klopfenstein and Kathryn Waltz. May God ever grant these parents the necessary grace and wisdom to raise these little ones to someday love and serve him.

"The road to Heaven does not bypass the cross." At this time of year may we think of what our Lord and Savior did for us on Calvary. Not only the fact that He died and shed his blood, but that He was victorious over death so we may have a Hope of Eternal Life. May we continue to pray for those who still stand without the door of grace.

### OHIO, MANSFIELD

Lucille Groh

Two precious souls have given their hearts to Jesus. On Sunday, March 14, it was announced that Harold and Catherine Armstrong have received precious peace. We also rejoice with them and thank the Lord for touching their hearts and drawing them to Him.

Harold "Hank" was also recently hospitalized and although he was "taken aside by the master", he could in the quietness find his precious peace. His dear wife, Catherine, although left at home alone, could also feel the Saviour's presence and received her peace nearly at the same time and hour. How beautifully the Lord works.

Others hospitalized and who could feel the Lord's strength were Sis. Katherine Bocka, who had major surgery, and is now recuperating at home; Sis. Alma Beer, hospitalized for a heart condition, Bro. Richard Sauder who is presently hospitalized and undergoing tests and our aged Bro. Aaron Sauder was also hospitalized and is home again.

The home of Bro. Ron and Sis. Kaye Rufener has been blessed by the arrival of a new little son, Joshua Carl, born Feb. 19. Bro. Wayne and Sis. Nina Rufener and Bro. Carl and Sis. Ruth Beery are the happy grandparents.

Thursday evening, March 11, we were pleasantly surprised when arriving at church to find Bro. Harold Kraft from Ft. Scott, Kansas. We received an evening blessing and thank him for his visit.

A little girl lived near a cemetery

and although she had to pass through it after the sun was set, she never seemed to be apprehensive. Someone finally said to her, "Aren't you afraid to go through the cemetery?" "Oh, no," she said, "I'm not afraid, for you see, my home is just beyond." Child of God, are you afraid of the cemetery? You ought not to be, for now that Christ is risen, our home, too is just beyond.

### OHIO, RITTMAN

Florence Hartzler — Janette Blough

At Easter time we should reflect on the Love of Jesus and how He suffered and died because of man's sins, and most wonderfully, how He overcame death and rose from the dead, just because of His love for us. I was told of a young Sunday School student who was asked why Jesus felt forsaken of God when He hung on the cross. The student replied "God cannot tolerate sin and Jesus became sin when he bore the sins of the whole world upon the cross." Oh that we might always be thankful for all He has done for us. How He loves you and me.

Our thanks are extended to Bro. Don Wagenbach (Washington), Bro. Bill Brake (Sardis), Bro. Ray Sinn (Latty), and Bro. Don Manz (Junction) for visiting us and bringing us the word of God as food for our souls.

Funeral services were held for Sis. Helen Szakal who passed away at the Apostolic Christian Home. Our sympathy is extended to her family and loved ones.

We are so happy to report that three more souls have turned to our Lord in repentance. They are Sherri Zollinger, daughter of Bro. Ed and Sis. Shirley Zollinger of Phoenix, Rose Hilty, daughter of Sis. Ruth and the late Bro. Herb Hilty, and Harvey Landis, son of Bro. Vernon and Sis. Lib Landis. We wish for them all the wonderful peace from God.

Bro. Dave Ramsier was hospitalized this month for surgery. Sis. Susan Murray has been on crutches with a cast on her leg. We pray our dear ones will be returned to good health once again.

Sis. Pat and Bro. Rich Steiner are the parents of a new little baby, a

son named Scott Richard. Scott has three little sisters, Lisa, Myra, and Laura, to help care for him. Grandparents are Bro. Erv and Sis. Jane Klotzle, and Bro. John and Sis. Wilma Steiner. Great-grandparents are Bro. John and Sis. Elda Hartzler.

Also welcoming a new little bundle, a girl, Becky Marie, are Dale and Sis. Elaine Dotterer. Becky has a little sister, Bonnie, and her grandparents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Donna Leman of Forrest and Bro. John and Sis. Betty Dotterer. Sis. Bertha Bauman is her great-grandmother.

Sis. Jody and Bro. John Calame are the parents of a second little son, Joshua Eric. Little brother Johnny will be happy for a little playmate. Grandparents are John and Sis. Margaret Calame.

Our thanks go to Bro. Forest Hartzler for his help with Silver Lining material.

Also, May is the month for the collection of Silver Lining dues for our Rittman congregation. Dues of \$5 should be given to either Sis. Florence or Sis. Janette.

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**OHIO, TOLEDO**

**Josephine Rehlau  
Mary Ann Weigele**

**Cross and Crown**

Must Jesus bear the cross alone,  
And all the world go free?  
No, there's a cross for everyone,  
And there's a cross for me.

O precious cross! O glorious crown!  
O resurrection day!  
Ye angels, from the stars come down  
And bear my soul away.

Gospel Hymns

We are looking forward to our Sunday School Easter program to be held on April 4.

Sis. Susan Hilton has been in the hospital for surgery. She is making a good recovery at home.

As a dog always relentlessly barks at the squirrels which he sees, so should we continually renounce the sin and unrighteousness which can so easily beset us.

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Address Changed?

**INCLUDE OLD AND NEW ZIPS**

**OREGON, SILVERTON**

**Rosa Lee Kuenzi**

Spring is always welcome, but it is especially welcome after a severe winter. Often it seems we must suffer adverse conditions before we can once again fully appreciate our daily blessings. With Spring also comes work for farmers and added responsibilities for many. Perhaps now would be a good time to ponder the following thoughts: "Burdens We Choose To Carry" "I compare the troubles which we have to undergo to a great bundle of fagots, far too large for us to lift. But God does not require us to carry the whole at once. He mercifully unties the bundle, and gives us first one stick, which we are to carry today, and then another, which we are to carry tomorrow, and so on. This we might easily manage, if we would only take the burden appointed for us each day; but we choose to increase our troubles by carrying yesterday's stick over again today, and adding tomorrow's burden to our load, before we are required to bear it." John Newton.

We have a sweet little boy in our midst who has been around for some time, but his birth announcement was missed. We rejoice with Bro. Nick and Sis. Mary Kuenzi and welcome their new baby, Marvin Lee. He was born October 3, 1981, and joins Marie, Marilyn, Mark and Martha at home. Grandparents are Lee and Louise Kuenzi of Salem, OR, and Louis and Jean Kiezer of Bloomington, IL.

We wish to thank Bro. Garth Steffen, Portland, for ministering the Word to us this past month.

Correction: In reporting the Ordination service of our own minister Bro. Clarence Dietrich this reporter failed to mention that he was ordained Deacon. We apologize for any confusion this omission may have caused.

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**PENNSYLVANIA,  
PHILADELPHIA  
DEVAULT**

**Dolores Rapp**

Spring is just a few weeks away, but a recent snowfall left us with a twelve inch accumulation here in the mountains of eastern Pennsylvania. We are eager for the arrival of sun-

ny skies and warm weather, as with them our guests return to bless our congregation.

While Bro. Ed Aeschleman and his family were enjoying the warmth of sunny Florida, Bro. Lee Bahler (Rockville) ministered to us on Feb. 14. He was accompanied by his wife, children, and thirty other guests who served dinner that day. We five families here in Philadelphia were grateful to Bro. Lee for his ministry and all who came to worship with us. We urge them to return soon and bring others with them.

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**TEXAS, ZAPATA**

**Margery Koehl**

Among many other visitors who have friends and relatives in the Zapata area, we were privileged to have visiting ministers Bro. Art and Sis. Sandy Nohl (Morris), Bro. Noah and Sis. Laura Miller (Minneapolis, MN), Bro. Noah and Sis. Emma Gerber (West Bend, IA), and Bro. Alpha and Sis. Mamie Strahm (Bern, KS).

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**VIRGINIA,  
NEW MARTINSVILLE**

**Minnie Weltz — Della Witschey**

The annual meeting of the Apostolic Christian Church Cemetery Association was held in the home of Minnie Weltz on March 1, with Mr. and Mrs. Delbert Indermuhle, Kenneth Indermuhle and William Brake from the Sardis Church in attendance. Many items were considered for the good of the association and the all day meeting will be held again as usual on June 27. Our weather has been comfortable with good rains and now and then a bit of green can be seen among the dead branches of the trees and bushes.

Harry Burton has had two hospital stays recently, but at this time is home and recuperating. Frank Barth underwent surgery again on March 1, but is home again and doing well, is able to go in the car and enjoys the outdoors after so many weeks in hospitals.

Miss Elda Schupbach, daughter of the late Lewis and Mary Deitrich Schupbach passed away on March 8 after a very brief illness. She was preceded in death by three brothers and two sisters. Surviving are two

sisters, Miss Della and Mrs. Ross (Lena) Durig, and several neices and nephews. Services were held on March 11 and interment was in Green Lawn Memorial Park.

W. E. Durig who has been ill for many weeks continues to improve and is able to get out and enjoy the sunshine.

Mrs. William Murdock visited recently with their son Tim and family in Tulsa, OK, having been transferred there from Los Angeles, CA.

Mary Ann Brothers continues to have eye problems and at times is very uncomfortable with pain.

Miss Della Witschey is doing very well and still enjoys quilting but is limited because of her recent ankle and leg surgery. She enjoyed another birthday on March 16.

#### Sermon . . .

Continued From Page 28

athletic events in which many of us used to participate. There are meetings prior to a game in which the coach sits down with the team and goes over the weak points of the opponents. Scouts go to the games and search for those things. If one particular individual on a team is weak in a certain area, players try to capitalize upon that weakness. That is just part of the game. The devil does the same. We all have areas in which we are weak and he knows it, perhaps better than we do. That is why we get into deep spiritual trouble if we are attempting by our own strength to resist sin.

Peter says, "Whom resist stedfast in the faith . . ." I Pet. 5:9. In other words, he is saying that the only way we are going to gain a spiritual victory is by being in the faith, by doing things by faith, by daily accepting the help that God is willing to give, and by being humble.

We can be encouraged by knowing that the same trials are overcome by the rest of the brethren, who are also walking in the world, but Satan will try to prevent that. He will tell us such things as, "You, alone, are experiencing this. Look at your brethren. Look at your sisters around you. They aren't failing in this respect. Are you going to be

able to make it? Is it going to be worth it? If you are going to fail anyway, in the end, why not just give up and enjoy life right now? Eat, drink, and be merry, live for today." As we view people around us in whose lives faith is not a visible factor, it seems that they subscribe to this theory.

Yet, dear ones, time passes swiftly and we are living not only for today. We do experience the joys of the Lord today and I believe that God wants us to, but we are preparing for eternity. ". . . the God of all grace . . . hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus." I Pet. 5:10. That's our goal: eternal glory!

Our lives should be lived so that they glorify Him while we are here on the earth, not lived for self honor. That is why pride should not be a part of our lives. That is why humility must be present so that His grace can continue to come!

". . . after that ye have suffered a while . . ." I Pet. 5:10. Here is another blow to the idea that once we have the Lord on our side, all is well and nothing can go wrong. The Word of God, inspired by His Spirit, tells us that the only way we will be perfect, established, strengthened, and settled is to suffer first. I think that should encourage us. "To him be glory and dominion for ever and ever." I Pet. 5:11.

"Greet ye one another with a kiss of charity." I Pet. 5:14. This direction is under attack from time to time, but we know that it leads to greater spiritual love and peace for all of us who are in Christ Jesus.

We pray that if any are here today who have not yet experienced such love and peace, that it might be your desire to do so. Time is running out. Even though we may enjoy more time than some as a nation, life is uncertain. We do not even know what the remaining hours of today will hold.

Let us go back to the idea that to be made perfect in God's sight we will have to suffer. If we suffer for the Lord, we will gain spiritually.

There is a little story which you may have heard before but I think, considering the verses that we have read together, that it is fitting. A lady found a cocoon. She was interested, so she brought the little object into the house to see what

might develop, what might come forth from the cocoon. She waited, patiently and time went on.

Finally, she noticed a little change at one end of the object, and she and her family watched with interest. They saw the creature that God had created begin to emerge. But the opening through which it tried to come was small, and the object inside (I'm not familiar with the scientific terms) really had a struggle. It would gain just a little bit of ground and then seem to lose strength and have to rest for a while. The lady thought, "Well, I've got to help in some way." So she took a sharp little scissors and widened the opening. Then the butterfly or the moth that was inside, still in a form that was not beautiful, made its exit very easily. She was surprised to see that its wings did not unfold in beauty as they expected; it remained lifeless and soon died. It was perplexing to her so she went to someone who understood what had happened. This individual told her that the struggle had to be part of the life cycle.

It was only through putting forth much effort to come through the narrow opening that the life giving fluids within its body were forced to the outer extremities, giving it life and beauty as God had created it.

There is a spiritual parallel here. If we don't have a struggle, if our entrance into the realm of spirituality is without battle, without effort, then the life that God wants each of us to have is not going to penetrate, to permeate, all parts of our being. When the tests come, I am afraid we will come up short.

As James said, when we are tempted, let us count it as all joy. It is the will of God that there will be tests and trials in life, but they are for our ultimate good.

May we be encouraged and strengthened by the verses that we have read together today. May the thought upon our hearts as we depart to go our separate ways be the same as Peter's: "Peace be with you all that are in Christ Jesus." I Pet. 5:14.

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

CHARLES WALDER  
EAST LYNN, ILL 60932

## SERMON BY BRO. LARRY WENNINGER OF LATTY, OH

Text: I Peter 5

Dear ones, this passage of Scripture is encouraging. It is not a new message, but something which we have experienced. It is that He cares for us. The apostle tells us that, because God cares we can cast our anxieties and fears at His feet.

We sing in a hymn that we should take our burdens to the Lord and leave them there. In another song, it has been written that we take our burdens there and bear a song away. If we approach life in this way, we will find that it works.

Throughout life, we are probably going to reap as we sow, again referring to some of the truth contained in the Scripture.

Today, we often hear the phrase, "the bottom line," meaning our chief concern. We can go into a lot of detail about a particular aspect of life, and what really matters is the end result, what it all comes down to.

I think that if we were to reduce many of the teachings we've heard today, perhaps throughout our spiritual journey they could all be expressed as in part of verse five that we have read together: "... for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble." I Peter 5:5.

We often hear and talk about humility. Perhaps we don't like to think about ourselves or describe ourselves as humble, because I think we have all heard it said, "Humility is something which when we think that we have it, is already lost." If we analyze that for just a little bit, I think we'll agree that that is probably the way that it is.

In order to have humility we must continually strive for it. I know that this is a rather rough analogy, but I have often compared a striving for

humility with chasing a piece of paper on an extremely windy day. At times we become frustrated as we begin to chase this object. We almost have it within our grasp, and then that next gust of wind comes along and takes it just a little bit farther. We have to keep trying. If we stop, or if we give up and say, "Let it go," then we are never going to have it. I think that humility can sometimes be viewed in this way.

It (humility) is something that we must have that we must strive for, if we are going to have grace. Without grace, we are lost before we start. The battle is over before it is even begun. We can see why it is imperative that we strive to keep pride from our lives.

We realize that pride will be, to some degree, in each of us. That is why it is important that we struggle and realize that we are in a battle. As Peter said, Satan goes about "as a roaring lion, . . . seeking whom he may devour." I Pet. 5:8.

I think that we have reached a time when we can turn to books and writings by Christian people in areas that apply to daily aspects of our lives, to our relationships with our families and with one another, and gain quite a bit from them. But there seems to be, in so many of these, an underlying attitude that once we have become children of God, life is full of joy and happiness, and that we always walk in the light of the Lord, experiencing His blessings. We know that there is a lot of truth contained in that. God is gracious. He is merciful. He is often content to forgive us and probably we don't really deserve that forgiveness.

But I think that if we expect life, to use a popular phrase, to be "just a

bowl of cherries," we are going to miss the intent of Peter's warning when he tells us that we need to be sober and to be vigilant because the adversary is going about as a roaring lion seeking to devour us. (We know that he is speaking in a spiritual sense.)

Dear ones, we have to experience that spiritual battle if the grace that we need to survive (and again we are speaking spiritually) is to be present in our lives.

Peter tells us to be humble and submit ourselves "one to another" and James tells us to be humble and submit ourselves to God, but in each case we are told that "God resisteth the proud." I Pet. 5:5 and James 4:6.

We then receive a double blow. We not only lack the spiritual help, this grace or unmerited favor, but we are also resisted by God. That would be a sad condition to find ourselves in if we are to resist this Satan that Peter writes about.

In plain, common, everyday language, there is not one of us here who is a match in our strength, with Satan. If we attempt by our own abilities to withstand the subtle approaches of Satan, we are not going to be the victors. It is just that simple. We must keep this in mind, daily realizing that the threat is real and that we can lose our way.

The proponents of eternal security are dangerous to our walk of life because they give us false hope that once we have found peace with God, we can't be lost. Do you see how that diminishes the idea of a battle and the idea that we have to fight for our spiritual lives? It is, I believe, a very successful tool of Satan.

Clever methods are used in  
Continued on Page 27