

The Silver Lining

A LIGHT FOR BELIEVERS

VOLUME 32

MAY, 1982

NUMBER 5

In Honor of Mothers



HOLD FAST TO THE RIGHT

Come and sit by the side of your mother my boy,
You have only a moment, I know.
But stay 'till I give you this parting advice,
It is all that I have to bestow.

I gave you to God in the cradle, my boy,
And I taught you the best that I knew.
And as long as God's mercy permits me to live,
I shall never cease praying for you.

You leave me to seek your employment my boy,
By the world you have yet to be tried.
But in the trials and temptations you meet,
May your heart in the Saviour confide.

You will find in your satchel a Bible, my boy,
It's the book of all others the best.
It will help you to live and prepare you to die,
And will lead to the gates of the blest!

Hold fast to the right, hold fast to the right,
Wherever your footsteps may roam.
Oh, forsake not the way of salvation, my boy,
That you learned from your mother at home.

BUT THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT IS . . .

by Bro. Edwin Bahler, Minister, Remington, IN.

- LOVE:** The adoration or devout affection of man toward God; the kindness and charitableness man should show toward others. St. Mark 12:30, 31
- JOY:** A strong feeling of happiness arising from the expectation of the hope of salvation. Phil. 2:16-18, Lam. 3:26.
- PEACE:** In a state or condition of order and harmony; a state of reconciliation after strife or enmity; being in full harmony and fellowship with God and our brother and sister in Christ (as far as we are able). St. John 14:27, Rom. 12:18
- LONGSUFFERING:** Patiently enduring over a long period of time: sickness, injury, misfortune, abuse; bearing those things in others we consider wrong but know we cannot change. II Tim. 3:10
- GENTLENESS:** Mild and amiable in nature or disposition; kindly patient, easily entreated and easily instructed. II Tim. 2:24, 25
- GOODNESS:** Moral excellance, virtuous, righteous, well behaved, charitable, generous. I Tim. 4:12
- FAITH:** A total belief in and a complete dependance on God, believing what we know to be true but cannot see with physical eyes. Heb. 11:1, 17
- MEEKNESS:** Being submissive and compliant unto God and the directives He has given in His Word. St. Matt. 5:5
- TEMPERANCE:** Under subjection, self-controlled, not given to excess; habitual moderation. Tit. 2:2
- . . . against such there is no law; and they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts.
- Gal. 5:22-24

REPORT TO THE APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH WORLD RELIEF COMMITTEE RURAL GOSPEL MEDICAL MISSIONS OF INDIA APRIL, 1982

Greetings, dear ones.

God blessed and protected us four brothers on our recent trip to India and Japan. In accordance with the decisions reached at the joint meeting held with the Missionary Committee in October, 1981, this trip was undertaken to review the status of the Mission in India with particular emphasis on providing spiritual advice and counsel. Here is a summary of our observations and

activities.

SPIRITUAL WORK

We were privileged to hold a one day Convocation with all of the Mission's spiritual workers. About twenty attended, including the pastors, evangelists, preachers, and some of the India Board of Trustees. There was an eagerness reflected by these Indian people to receive spiritual guidance and counsel. It was obvious that there is a

great need of shepherding. The Elder Brothers shared with them many important scriptural teachings and doctrinal advice beginning with the background of our church's involvement with the Bhagwats and our sense of obligation, their responsibilities under the Constitution and Articles of Faith contained therein, the distinction between the Mission's spiritual work (doctrine) that will be supplied by us and the material administrative work, an in-depth explanation of the Apostolic Christian Church's Faith, Doctrine and organization including the fundamental scriptural truths involving conversion, walking as a true born-again Christian, the organization and order of the church, church discipline, and the duties and responsibilities of the pastors, evangelists, preachers and church members. A number of questions were asked. Holy Bibles in the Marathi language provided by a donation of the Peoria congregation were distributed here and at the Mission Compounds at Khardi and Nasik Road and to the hinterland congregations.

THE SILVER LINING

Grabill, Indiana 46741

USPS 496700

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Lynn Stieglitz
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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

On a trip to the hinterlands we visited the Mission congregations at Badahr, Jakhana, Balhana, and Mhasdi. While at Jakhana, eleven souls were baptized in a very moving service beside a jungle pool. It was humbling to hear their expressions of thanksgiving to God for their richest treasure, their souls' salvation! This, in spite of the fact that they live in abject poverty. We could not help but ponder the comparison of who truly is the most blest, we, or they without the burden and weight of material possessions. Upon reflection, one of the elder brothers wrote, "I believe the work is good and to God's honor. The tribal people need assistance materially and spiritually and especially leadership from the United States. They will probably never be Apostolic Christian people as we know the church and I question even thinking this could or should be attempted or encouraged. They are babes, one generation removed from witchcraft with a far different culture, background, education, and heritage. They are lambs who need help and I feel it is our privilege to give aid and direction as long as they will accept it."

There is opportunity for expanded spiritual work. While there, we interviewed six former Mission spiritual workers and reinstated four of them. They will be carrying God's Word to additional tribespeople. The greatest need in India is for our prayer support for the spiritual work.

MISSION ADMINISTRATION AND ORGANIZATION

We were impressed with the new India Board of Trustees which now numbers ten. They all expressed an intense interest and desire to assist the Mission on a voluntary basis (except for the paid Administrator). We held two formal meetings with them. The first was a recitation of our understanding of the problems facing the Mission and the need for resolutions including the value of their insight into the "Indian mind." The second meeting, at the visit's end, was a review of our trip observations, prioritization of the steps needing to be taken, and a delegation to each of them as overseers of the various arms of activity.

They were receptive to this approach.

MEDICAL WING

New medical work has begun in the remote village of Balhana. Rooms attached to the church have been equipped for this purpose. Dr. Natekar, one of the Trustees, donates his time and services every Sunday and treats 200 or more native patients. The Mission provides the medicines and supplies. This brings a good number of people who then have the opportunity to attend the Sunday worship services. We also reviewed the need for a similar facility at the tribal village of Mhasdi. If this develops as hoped, there would be an opportunity to use a full time doctor in this locality.

ORPHANAGES

The orphanages at Khardi and Nasik Rd. continue to provide boarding facilities for a total of 49 boys. They are adequately provided for and seem to be quite well disciplined. There is opportunity to incorporate some types of vocational training for the older boys. The India Board of Trustees have been asked to develop such a program. We distributed toys and athletic equipment at both orphanages that was provided by the Altadena Sunday School.

AGRICULTURE

Time did not permit us to visit the farm land at Vadner. We have a concern about the veracity of the hired Hindu farmer and have taken steps to protect the cash sugar cane crop. The India Board of Trustees have been asked to evaluate the long term potential for this arm. In principle, the self-help concept is good. The practicality of it due to its distance from the compounds needs to be determined.

LEGAL

We met in Bombay with the lawyers who are handling the Bhagwats' estates and the Mission Registration. Additional documents have been processed that required certification by the Indian Consulate in San Francisco. It could still be a year until these processes are completed. The Indian courts and legal mill grinds slowly.

OVERVIEW & SUMMARY

In balance, we felt we could see progress sufficient to merit con-

tinued involvement as mentioned above. There are still many problems facing the Mission involving the presence of Hindu elements living on the compounds and other squatters who refuse to move. We examined each case in detail, selecting what we felt to be appropriate paths toward resolutions and or compromise. We inspected an available facility at Dindori, 15 miles outside of Nasik, should the sale and acquisition of properties be the only way out. It will all take time and much prayer. We distributed the love gifts to the Mission workers provided by the WRC which were sincerely appreciated. At this time, there is no further need for financial support from the WRC. Rather, prayers on behalf of the India Mission work for its furtherance of God's Word and the unity of hearts and minds is urgently needed. We thank God for His traveling mercies and entrust this important work in India to Him. Humbly submitted by Bro. John G. Klotzle

**Silver Lining
1982 Financial Forecast**

| | |
|--|-----------------|
| Receipts: | |
| Dues at \$5.00. | \$32,500 |
| Interest. | <u>\$1,000</u> |
| | \$33,500 |
| Expenditure: | |
| Printing | \$31,680 |
| Postage | 6,000 |
| Misc. Supplies: | |
| Paper | 100 |
| Label Stripper | 520 |
| 8" discs | 100 |
| Address changes and Postage due | <u>150</u> |
| | \$38,550 |
| Projected Deficit | \$5,050 |

Due to increases in printing costs, and a 170% increase in postage costs this year, a projected deficit of \$5,050 is forecast. To overcome this deficit an increase in annual dues to \$6.00 will be needed starting with the dues collections for July 1982. All labor from the reporters, staff, packaging and mailing staff is volunteer.

Thanking all of the faithful supporters of the Silver Lining who make this church publication possible.

Bro. David Bertsch

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

Doug Kellenberger

An important reference was made by our administrator, Bob Cockburn, in the last issue of the "Silver Lining". It said that many of our children have recently expressed a desire to follow the Lord. To them that desire is real and it needs to be fostered by our support, understanding, and Biblical teaching. The request was made for your intercession for them; please do. They need that, as well as to seek and believe for themselves. For the conversions and for all the spiritual successes that have been accomplished here in the six years of the Home's existence, the praise should go to God because it is His goodness that leads men to repentance (Rom. 2:4).

The following essay by one of our boys is an identification of the seed in his heart:

The Ideal Man

I think the ideal man is a person that is kind, gentle, loving, and most of all lives by the Bible.

The ideal man is not a hating man, or a person that lies, but is a man that can stand up for himself.

An ideal man does not have to have money, fashion, or good looks, but he can be the ideal man in his own way.

You can be married or single, it does not matter. The ideal man should have a sense of worth, personal achievement, and the need to create. The ideal man can not be perfect.

by Gary Hensley

The existence of these good seeds, as well as any good thing taught them, however, is undermined by one very strong deterrent - insecurity. Insecurity from abandonment, neglect, or abuse drains a child's energy. Where that energy is

normally spent in reading, inquiring, maturing, and creating, instead is used for worrying, surviving, and blaming themselves. All the spiritual truth in the world sometimes is not enough to satisfy a child who is struggling with the fear from insecurity.

The very need for security exists within the heart of each of God's children also. We need to know that His love will never change and that He will never leave nor forsake us. A lack of it immobilizes the believer into only constantly worrying about God's acceptance of him (Luke 19:21), whereas the realization of it frees that person to be productive for God and His Kingdom. No wonder the Lord states that from His Word we are to know we have eternal life when we believe in the Lord Jesus Christ (I John 5:13).

The plea has gone out for houseparents to help alleviate some of this insecurity in children. Whether the Lord is working in you to help souls at home or here at the Children's Home, please trust Him and follow.

A note from Bob: We have a current opening for a single sister (at least 21 years old) on a full time, permanent basis to serve as an assistant houseparent. If you are moved by the Lord to consider this, please discuss it with your local elder, and then contact the Home. We also have openings for houseparents. How many of us are called but give excuses as those in Luke 14:16-20? The Lord does not want excuses, He wants laborers.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

At this season of the year there are days set aside to show respect and esteem to mothers and fathers. We think especially of the mothers and fathers of those who live here at the Home. As we reminisce with them about the time when their child was born, about the adjustments that were necessary on the part of everyone, and about the many happenings from then until now, we cannot help but think of such words as patience, fortitude, deep sympathetic understanding, and enlightenment. Renewed courage was often gained as they prayed, "Even so, Father, for so it

seemed good in Thy sight." (Matthew 11:26) With this attitude of yieldedness, a new surge of selfless love became a reality.

Then when the time came for a new chapter in the lives of the children, we were privileged to take over where they left off. As we slowly became acquainted with their loved one and gradually eased them into a structured program, we found the niche where they are comfortable. But again our thoughts are of the mothers and fathers. While there are many here who are helping the new resident feel loved and needed, the parents are left to make their necessary adjustments alone. And so we say to the mothers and fathers of our residents, we appreciate all of their efforts for their loved ones. We think we understand, in part at least, what their mission in life has been. Prayerfully, we intercede for a blessing of Peace upon them. May they always entertain the hope that one day with glorious new bodies and minds, both they and their loved one will remember their sojourn on earth as a beautiful tapestry woven by the Master Weaver.

We welcome to our Home a new resident, Ruth Ann Blessman from Tucson, Arizona. She is the daughter of Eleanor Johnson and the late Harold Blessman. Her bubbly, enthusiastic personality has already added lots of interest among our "family". When asked what her favorite foods were, she replied that she like almost everything. Her favorite pastime is crocheting, though she is adept at many types of handwork. Birthday time for Ruth Ann is July 10. Welcome, Ruth!

Since nursing is a very important aspect of the care given to our residents, we shall pay a visit to the nurses employed at our Home. Nursing, the support group of the medical profession, has over the years brought to mind a nurturing, caring, serving profession, associated primarily with healing the sick. In recent years there has been the added aspect of promoting "wellness" and "preventive medical supervision". We here at the Home for the Handicapped are more totally involved in this complete definition than many of our peers in other areas of nursing. We strive to

project the image of the handicapped as individuals with special needs and abilities, rather than as chronically ill people.

Our nurses here at the Home feel they are a privileged group, for they are entrusted with not only the care of many families' loved ones but with their total environment for an indefinite period of time. They, as do all the staff, feel a dedication to meeting not only physical needs but the emotional and psychological needs as well.

In accepting and adjusting to new residents, we find ourselves each and every time identifying with a family which has had its own struggles, trials and success in adapting to a "special" family member. We have learned so much from these families! We find ourselves not only exploring the medical backgrounds of our residents but the special personalities that make their individualities.

Nursing here involves an expertise in not only basic medical nursing skills, but in the behavioral sciences as well. The function of our Director of Nursing is to supervise and direct this total over-all care of each resident. "Care" is a term that needs to be meditated upon daily, for as we reflect upon our Lord's care, patience, love and mercy for each of us, we in turn feel renewed in allowing His love to shine here.

Supervising involved specific duties, such as working with the Administrator on the number and level of nursing personnel, the training, planning and instituting of in-service education; and evaluating staff for wage increases, developing objectives, policies and job descriptions for nursing service. It also includes preparing work schedules and ordering supplies for the nursing department. Supervising also involves coordinating nursing services with other patient care services, such as medical, pharmaceutical, dietary, activities, restorative services and habilitation planning. There is also the responsibility for the contents and accuracy of all medical records. All of this is very fulfilling and provides many opportunities to guide and serve our very "special" people which the Lord has entrusted to our care.

Enthusiasm for spring and the lovely Easter season were a bit tempered with the thirteen inches of snow which fell during Easter week, but we are nonetheless grateful for the reminder that there is One who is still in control.

ARIZONA, PHOENIX

Julie Hoerr

During the evening of Palm Sunday we had Communion (Matt. 26:26). After a service on The Sacramental Supper, Elder Bro. Schupbach was assisted by Deacon Bro. Noah Herrman (Tucson).

Our Good Friday services were brought to us by Bro. Robt. Pflederer (Morton, IL). Not only do we thank him but extend a welcome for a return visit as several were away on Easter vacations.

On Apr. 10 we heard the testimonies of Robert and Sharon Harris and on a beautiful Easter Sunday witnessed their baptism. We welcome Bro. Robert and Sis. Sharon into the fold.

Wanda Esslinger and Roel Guerra were united in marriage in an outdoor ceremony on Apr. 3. Her parents and several of her family traveled from Bern, KS.

On Mar. 31, Jim and Sis. Lyola Ringger welcomed a grandson, Timothy William. He is the son of Bro. William and Sis. Karen Ringger of Bradford, IL. Three sisters also welcome little Timothy.

Sis. Emma Sanders was hospitalized but is able to be at home now. We thank God for His healing Touch.

After several nice rains, blossoms burst forth and everything is green and beautiful. Although our birds aren't colorful, they sing beautifully and happily each morning. We also enjoy many hummingbirds now as everything is in bloom.

ARIZONA, TUCSON

Rose Huette

Again, we have much for which to be thankful. The weather has been beautiful. The desert is in bloom, and I never get tired of the beauty of the green cactus and the many flowering desert growth.

I want to apologize for not getting the Silver Lining written in time for the past issue. In Feb. we has so many happy things

happen. On the 13th and 14th of Feb. we had the Phoenix and California Bible Classes and many more loved ones come to visit us. Going to Mt. Lemon on Saturday was a special treat for those who could go. We want to thank all who came to help make it an enjoyable week-end. On the following two Wednesday evenings we had many beautiful blessings as we were privileged to have with us many couples from the Fort Sam Reunion. The count would probably be about 55 the first Wednesday, but not as many the following Wednesday. With the group were many visiting ministers. I won't list them but just say thanks and God bless you all for coming. It meant so much to our congregation to have you.

We are happy to welcome into our little church two new babies.

On Mar. 13 Sis. Caroline and Bro. Curtis Kaufman welcomed a new baby boy Carl. He has also made his two sisters, Carrie and Catie, happy to have a little brother. His grandparents are Bro. Albert Zeltwanger from Latty, OH and Bro. John Kaufman from Phoenix, AZ.

On Mar. 13 Lisa Huette welcomed a son, Dustin Brian. His grandparents are Bro. John and Sis. Rose Huette. Sis. Martha Blessman and Bro. Maynard Beery have both been hospitalized but have improved and returned home again. J.C. Johnston was in the hospital for surgery but is doing better. We want to wish them all a speedy recovery.

CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA Mary Beth Klotzle

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!
(Tabernacle Hymns #205)

With joy in our hearts we sang this hymn together at our early Easter morning singing on the mountain. We have gathered many times on Easter morning, and one cannot but help to feel joy deep inside when surrounded by the splendor of God's beautiful creation.

On Palm Sunday we shared Holy Communion and were renewed in the spirit of love and thankfulness. We must strive to have our hearts prepared everyday as well as at the time of Communion.

Bro. Tom Klotzle arrived home safely from a trip to Japan with traveling companions Sis. Edith Graf and Bro. Fred Wyss. He encourages all to go who have the way open. It is truly an experience filled with blessings.

Doris Kaisner has been hospitalized, and we trust the Lord will be near to her in this time of suffering.

COLORADO, DENVER Marlene Leman

Brothers that have come to serve in the ministry in the past month are Bro. Clarence Dietrich (Silverton, OR) and Bro. Bert Butikofer (Elgin, IA). We are thankful that God does so richly provide for spiritual needs through brothers willing to be spent in this manner. Both Bro. Clarence and Bro. Bert had family with them and all visitors are deeply appreciated. We trust God will add the increase to the words spoken and that the brothers will be richly blessed.

Believing that God is directing us, we purchased a home in the Denver area in March. Our address will be 16836 East Harvard Place, Aurora, CO 80013 after about the middle of June. We ask that you remember the little flock in Denver in your prayers that all might be done according to God's will and that many will find it a blessing to assemble there.

Beginning the first Sunday in June, services will be held every Sunday. Services are held at the Victory Grange Hall, 2009 Tower Road, Aurora. Starting times are 10:30 and 12:30 with lunch served in between.

CONNECTICUT, ROCKVILLE Dorothy Viens

We again have two dear souls who have expressed a desire to forsake the paths of sin and to walk in the footsteps of the Saviour. Barry Lanz (Bro. Richard and Sis. Frieda) and Ellen Foote (Bro. Arthur and Emily) have both made good progress in laying a foundation on

Jesus Christ, the Rock of our salvation. May He ever be near them, granting His grace and help along the way.

Bro. Eugene Pamer (Akron, OH) and Bro. Joe Aberle (Sabetha, KS) visited us this month, bringing God's precious word to us. May God ever bless our ministering brothers for their willing service.

We bid farewell to Bro. Guy Gottie, who has left our congregation to continue his schooling in the Chicago area. He will be worshipping with the Chicago congregation. We will miss Bro. Guy but we know that the ties of love and prayer for one another can keep us close even though we are separated in this life.

Bro. Martin Luginbuhl was a hospital patient, but we are thankful that he is able to assemble with us once again.

As we observe the beauty of God's creation as the buds of Springtime begin to enfold, may we ever be reminded of the new life that God has given us and be sure to nurture and encourage our Spiritual man to bear fruit as the Lord would direct us.

FLORIDA, FT. LAUDERDALE Sally Gress

On Easter Sunday Elder Bro. Joe Braker and Bro. Ralph Garber, both of Morton shared with us the message of the Risen Christ. That evening we held our annual Sunday School picnic at a local park.

On Sat., Apr. 17, Holy Communion was served by Elder Bros. Joe Braker and Dale Eisenmann (Chicago).

The next evening we all enjoyed a time of fellowship at a potluck supper. We thank these brothers for giving their time to us during their vacations.

FLORIDA, SARASOTA Diane and Doris Rocke

A mother is a blessing —
So gentle, kind, and wise,
She's the first to give
encouragement,
The last to criticize —
The one you know will be there
Whenever skies are gray,
The first to lend a helping hand,

The last to turn away —
 Each special thing about her
 Is so lovely to recall —
 A mother is a blessing,
 The most precious one of all.
 Mary Dawson Hughes

Our Elder Bro. Ben Maibach has returned from his adventurous trip to India. We pray for God's blessings on their many hours and efforts for these needy ones.

Bro. John and Sis. Ann Wagler have our thoughts and prayers while staying in Alaska. We miss them and pray for their safe return.

Bro. Elmer Jacob has returned home and is slowly improving after a week in the hospital. Our sisters Helen Laparo and Sandy Price are recovering from minor surgery. May we all remember the needed assurance for these loved ones.

Visiting ministers this month, along with their wives, were Bros. Ben Maibach, Wendell Gudeman, Dale Eisenmann, Leland Hirschey, Ken Sauder and Ron Heiniger.

On Easter Sunday our church was well-filled and the Sunday School gave us a very impressive Easter program.

Elder Bro. Ben Maibach and Bro. Dale Eisemann held communion services Good Friday evening. We pray that love and peace may abide among us all.

GEORGIA, ATLANTA

Brenda Stoller

It was a real blessing to be able to gather together for three Sundays last month. We are so thankful for the brethren who make it possible for us to hear God's precious Word. Those who ministered to us were Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann (Chicago), Bro. Francis Rother (Morton), and Bro. Ken Eisenmann (Cisna Park). May God bless them, their families and their home congregations.

In moving to Atlanta, we were reminded of how our forefathers moved here and there establishing churches through the years. It has been a real blessing to be used by the Lord these past two years in establishing a gathering for believers and friends in the Atlanta area. The potential for growth is so great and the opportunities so many, that we feel the Lord has a

definite reason for our gathering here. We would sincerely encourage anyone seeking employment, or possibly schooling, to look to this area. Although a change in location may present certain hardships, such as leaving family members or a well-loved church, it provides new opportunities and joys for the child of God to be a witness for Christ.

We are scheduled to meet on the second and fourth Sundays of the month at the Ramada Inn in Marietta. Services begin at 10:30 and 12:00 with lunch in between. If further information is needed, you may contact Bro. Linn or Sis. Brenda Stoller at (404) 471-0349.

ILLINOIS BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL

Charlene Knobloch

We have enjoyed a blessed Easter beginning with the program by the Sunday School children and Sunrise Services on Easter Sunday, in which we were privileged to have Bro. Byron Stoller of Gridley with us. Communion services have had a special meaning to all.

Other visiting ministers were Virgil Metzger (Champaign-Urbana) Don Sauder (Roanoke), Ken Schneider (Remington), Elmer Witzig (Gridley) and our own Elder Bro. Dan Koch (Tremont). We thank these dear brothers for lending themselves in the Lord's service.

We welcome our new brother and sisters in faith. Ivan and Maxine Stoller and Karen Brummitt gave their testimonies and were baptized the weekend of Mar. 27-28. May we all pray for sufficient grace to continue on this path and be together one day with our God.

We rejoice with David and Wilma Kieser who will have the opportunity of giving their testimony. Our new converts are Ryan Huber, Danny Kieser and Tim Stoller. May we give them our love and pray that God will give them the needed grace to do His will.

Lucas Adam is the first son of Bro. Kevin and Sis. Dixie Knapp. Big sister Alesa welcomes her baby brother into the family circle.

Hospital patients have been Sis. Bonnie Kaeb, Bro. Ray Bauer, Matt Kupferschmid, and little ones Andrew Walter and Julie Gudeman. Our love and concern goes out to

each one and we are happy to have them back with us. Bro. Stan Vogel is currently in the hospital for tests.

Our congregation is privileged and so thankful to have our winter vacationers home again, as we truly miss each and everyone who is away.

ILLINOIS, BRADFORD

Shirley Kieser

An excited family of three little girls, Mother and Dad welcomed 11 lb. 2 oz. Timothy William Ringger on March 30. Bill and Karen are his parents and his grandparents are Bro. Jim and Sis. Lyola Ringger, Mesa, AZ and Bro. Roy and Sis. Donna Ehnle, Bradford. Great-grandparents are Sis. Julie Ehnle, Peoria, and Bro. Henry Ringger, Eureka.

Our thanks are extended to ministering brothers Bob Walder, Congerville, Paul Eiesenman, Burlington, Don Manz, Junction and Clifford Grimm, West Bend. We also wish to sincerely thank our Elder Bros. Dave Kieser, Princeville, and Bob Grimm, Goodfield for their love and concern as they served us Holy Communion.

Little Greg Dietz, son of Mike and Kim Dietz, and Bro. Don Knobloch were hospital patients.

Our graduates this year are Heidi Hausman, Mary Ann Ehnle, Roseann Stahl, Mary Ann Kieser, Joni Leman, Carol Kieser, and Mark Rumbold. College graduates are Tim Kieser, agriculture, Russell Ehnle, horticulture, and Pam Kieser, associates degree in radiologic technology. Congratulations, graduates and we wish you God's guidance and blessings.

ILLINOIS, CHICAGO

Kathy Schlatter

We have two rooms, side by side. One is a bedroom, recently housecleaned, painted and carpeted. The other is called a den. Crooks and crannies there have not seen a dustrag for many a day. In the one, everything has a place, and the colors are coordinated. In the other, some things are coordinated, what you can see of them, under piles of unfinished projects and "maybe-we'll-need-sometime" articles. The one is comfortable, usable, clean. The other has potential, but it's full

of restlessness because of all that is undone and unused so far. Perhaps we might compare these rooms to two souls, side by side on a church pew. In the one, Christ has been allowed to keep the cobwebs of worry and beetles of business swept out. Christ the Master Decorator has harmonized talents and events for His own best service. This one invites others to come and to be at peace in his/her company because of the Spirit within. Alas, in the other soul, converted or not, Christ has not been called upon for days. His work piles up unfinished, untouched. None can venture in too far, lest they trip or become tarnished also. What kind of room are you, am I?

"This is the day that the Lord hath made. . ." Psalm 118:24 The Easter season is a time of reflection as well as one of rejoicing. Partaking of communion Sat., Apr. 3, we truly felt joined as one in His Spirit. Bro. Lenny Meyer and Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann fed us first from His Word, and then we shared the bread and the wine. We were taken back to the time when the children of Israel first were "passed over" by the Lord's mercy, as they were obedient to His commandment. Blood has to be shed; yet if they had not painted it on the doorposts, their first born would have died. Likewise, when Christ broke bread and shared the wine at His last supper, it symbolized the blood soon to be shed, the body dying — not only for the Jews, but for all. However, though the Lord's sacrifice has been made, we are required to apply the blood to our own individual heart's doorpost, else the consequences of our sin is required of us. And what happened after the first passover, the last supper? 'Twas no time of peace and relaxation. We are reminded in Exodus 12:11: "And thus shall ye eat it; with your loins girded, your shoes on you feet, and your staff in your hand; and ye shall eat it in haste: it is the Lord's passover." Much more exertion was required, in the crossing of the Red Sea, in going to the Cross. In one case, all physical bondage ceased; in the other the bondage of the law was exchanged for our freedom, possible through the death and resurrection

of Christ Jesus. So should we look to communion as a commemoration of freedom, a reminder of our reasons for gratitude, a step upward toward a higher plane of being prepared for the battle and being used in His army. We are to be readier than before.

We always appreciate our Sunday School children's special song program at Easter, leading us from the cross to the grave to the victory symbolized by the empty tomb. "O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? . . . thanks to be God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord." I Corinthians 15:55, 57-58

To open our hearts to a newcomer is a privilege and a joy. Bro. Guy Gottier (Rockville, CT) has come to Chicago this spring to attend the National College of Chiropractic and work toward his degree there. We pray that though he is far from familiar territory and relatives, he will feel the warmth and love of our Christian family here, be uplifted and encouraged and feel at home.

How great Thou art! Sis. Lynette St. George and Bro. Jim Lang (Tremont) are experiencing more blessings of the Lord, given "pressed down, and shaken together, and running over," (Luke 6:38) as their engagement was announced Sun., Apr. 18. Sis. Lynette's parents are Walter and Helen Ripple, Plano, Texas. Bro. Jim's are Bro. George and Sis. Phyllis Lang (Tremont). Sis. Lynette and Bro. Jim look forward to a June 6 wedding, as He permits. Sis. Lynette works for A.D.P. (Automatic Data Processing) in Oakbrook. Bro. Jim has been working on his M.B.A. through Bradley University and will be continuing toward that degree at Northern Ill. Univ. (DeKalb), as well as being a teaching assistant there. "And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight." I John 3:22 We pray for a special time of anticipation for Bro. Jim and Sis. Lynette as they look forward to ad-

ding a new dimension to the spectrum of love He has given.

We were delighted to have Sis. Marie Kulyan worship with us Sunday. She had been hospitalized, and we felt the loss of her fellowship. Our prayers are that she might continue to grow stronger, Lord willing, that we may be ministered to by her wisdom, given from Above.

"Strength and honour are her clothing; and she shall rejoice in time to come." Proverbs 31:25 We remember our mothers, especially at this time. They have given so much to us. My own mother is, next to my husband and daughter, my dearest earthly friend. Since she and Dad just helped with the painting, my daughter asked hopefully, "When I'm grown up, will you and Daddy come and help me paint and do things?" Of course, I said, "yes", but I tremble at my perception (of what I expect) of myself as a mother because of the legacy my mother has given and continues to give. Yet I am so blessed because she is my mother. And I know my husband's mother (now in Heaven) through her impact on others. My mother-in-law, too, is leaving such Son-lightened paths of Christian works behind her. We should not glorify our mothers, for each would rather have Christ's accolade than any here on earth. But we must let them know how dear and beloved, trusted and admired they are. Sometimes, at least speaking for myself, I have been cruel and unthinking. I hope, by the grace of God, I no longer am. And mothers, God gave us our children and our love for them. Surely we must trust Him with them and lean on Him in our everyday caretaking. That's how our mothers did it.

ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK
Melba Funk — Joan Waldbeser

A Mother's Prayer

Oh, give me, God, the wisdom that I need
To mold the tender lives within my care;
Give me the power that I may subtly lead
Them into righteous fields to settle there.
I ask for them no rainbowed path of ease;

I ask for them no store of wealth or fame;
I only ask that by their lives they please
You and the world with an untarnished name.
I know that man is weak and life is strong,
And sometimes honest roads look very drear;
That winning laurels often takes too long,
And luring vistas from all sides appear . . .
But while I have my young beneath my wing,
God, help me guide them right in everything.

Hospital patients this month have been Dave Kupferschmidt, Sis. Irene Hauptli, Sis. Kathryn Martin and Sis. Lil Feller, all medical. Sis. Ollie Feller has submitted to cataract surgery. She is progressing nicely at this time.

On Good Friday evening we gathered together to partake of Holy Communion. It is very humbling as we remember the Lord suffered and died upon the cross for all of our sins. Bro. Edwin Ringger (Gridley, IL) was with us to help serve the Lord's Supper.

Bro. Robert Beebe (So. Bend, IN) was with us on Wednesday evening, bringing us a very inspiring message. May the Lord bless these dear brothers for their efforts in our behalf.

ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE
Carol Craig — Shirley Ifft

A Mother's Prayer

Let me not be too ready to guide my children's stumbling feet, but allow me to be ever near to bind their bruises.

Give me a sense of humor that I may laugh with them but never at them.

Make me a wise mother, O Lord. Keep me calm and give me patience to bear the small, irritating things in the daily routine of life.

Give me tolerance and understanding to bridge the gulf between my generation and that of my children.

Let me refrain from preaching with words.

Keep me from forcing their confidences, but give me a sympathetic ear when my children come to me.

Help me to teach them that life must not be filled with compromises, but must be replete with victories.

Make me humble.

Keep my children close to me, O Lord, though miles may separate us.

And let Thy light so shine upon me that they, too, will perceive Thy glory. Amen.

Ruth Simrall Mackey

May each of us be more thankful for our Christian mothers and strive prayerfully to raise our children in the fear of the Lord.

Sis. Aeninna Miller was hospitalized this month. We are so thankful that she was able to assemble with us Sat. evening, April 17, to hear the testimony of her dear helpmate, Clarence, and to witness vows and baptism. We welcome Bro. Clarence into the fold and truly rejoice with them. Elder Bro. Josh Broquard, Fairbury, was here to assist Elder Bro. Bob Walder in this important work. The following day we appreciated the many teachings and warnings Bro. Josh shared with us.

Bro. Richard Hasty returned to California for some surgical adjustments on the pain-relieving device he had implanted several months ago. Even with the assistance of the device, Bro. Richard has continued to suffer much pain and was advised that a warmer, dryer climate may be more beneficial. He, Sis. Katie and their daughter, Kim, have moved from our area to Arlington, Texas. Our thoughts and prayers go with them and we wish them a full measure of God's grace and wisdom to hold fast to their faith.

ILLINOIS, ELGIN
Ruth Ann Getz

Paul wrote to Timothy in II Timothy, 1:5 and called to remem-

brance Timothy's unfeigned faith. He first observed this faith in Timothy's grandmother, Lois, and then in his mother, Eunice. Apparently the faith of those two generations of mothers had been demonstrated to Timothy in such a way that he, too, was able to have faith and could believe unto salvation. As mothers today, we continue to be challenged to keep the faith that was so clearly demonstrated to us by our own mothers. We dare not let this legacy slip, lest our own dear children would lose touch with the source of their salvation. We thank God-fearing mothers everywhere for the testimonies of faith that they have left us. May we, as mothers today, strive to keep the faith pure! May we so clearly demonstrate it to our children that they will be able to carry it to their children.

Bill and Melody Schambach, Jr., have been blessed with a new son, Jacob Michael, born Mar. 4. Jacob has a small brother, Kyle, at home. Bro. Bill and Sis. Schambach, Sr., and Elvis and Gail Kellenberger are the grandparents.

A second son, David Gerald, has been born to Bro. Chuck and Sis. Debbie Kellenberger. David was born Apr. 8 and is welcomed by Brian. Bro. John and Sis. Wava Steffen and Sis. Marilyn Kellenberger are David's grandparents.

To both of these families we extend our best wishes and pray that they will be given grace to rear them in the way of faith.

There was joy in our hearts when the engagement of Sis. Candi Weiss (daughter of Bro. Paul and Sis. Joyce) and Bro. Tim Aberle (son of Bro. Ernest and Sis. Frieda — Tremont) was made known to our congregation on Palm Sunday, and again on Apr. 18, when the engagement of Bro. Keith Leman (son of Bro. Richard and Sis. Edna — Remington) and Sis. Libby Meyer (daughter of Bro. Harlem and Sis. Florence — Sabetha) was made known. May the Lord dwell with these two young couples as they betroth themselves to one another so that their love can be entwined into a threefold cord.

Sis. Marlene Leman recently fractured her shoulder and found it

necessary to have her arm in a sling. Thankfully, the shoulder is healing nicely.

Bro. Morris Willeart has been hospitalized for an appendectomy and is recuperating at home. He expressed thankfulness for the love and prayers felt during his illness and has asked that the Lord bless all who remembered him.

Ken Schurter required several days of hospitalization in Greenville, IL while returning from a vacation with his parents, Harvey and Sis. Ruth. We are thankful that he was able to return home with them again.

Sis. Martha Zierke and Mary Lindoerfer also have spent time in the hospital during this past month. Our health is a precious commodity that so often we give little heed to until the body fails in one way or another and then we again remember that it is through the Lord that our well being is kept each day.

Several of our brethren have been bereaved of loved ones and it is heart-rending to see and to share their anguish with them, but this we willingly and gladly do out of Christian love. Sis. Dawn Mengler has been bereaved of her grandfather, Roy Mengler, and Bro. Dave Jepson of his father, Carl Jepson, who passed away after several months in the hospital. We particularly grieve now with Sis. Martha Zierke whose son, Norman, passed away very suddenly. And finally our sympathy is also extended to Sis. Sarah Kellenberger in the unexpected death of her nephew, Bro. Dennis Messner (Winthrop).

Great blessings were received when various ministering brethren from distant communities visited us and brought teachings from the Word of God. When the week becomes long and burdensome, we long for the moments of refreshing around God's word and it is a great joy to meet and greet brethren of like mind. These brethren were: Everett Hari (Bloomington), Duane Kilgus (Fairbury), Bruce Leman (Roanoke), Nathan Stoller (Bradford), and Marshall Heinold (Washington).

Address Changed?

INCLUDE OLD AND NEW ZIPS

ILLINOIS, EUREKA

Melba Mangold

The engagement of Sis. Sherri Grubb and Bro. Bruce Martin was announced. They are planning a May wedding. We wish them much happiness as they plan a new life together. Their parents are Bro. Louis and Sis. Arletta Martin and the Wm. Grubbs of Houston, TX.

On Saturday evening, April 3, we were thankful to partake of Communion, to remember the suffering of our Lord and to be renewed in Spirit. Elder Bro. Josh Broquard and his wife, Sis. Marie, were with us for the weekend. We appreciated his willingness to serve us, both Saturday evening and on Sunday. We had a church potluck supper and singing on Sunday which was enjoyed by many of us.

Bro. Gene and Sis. Carol Zobrist have a new granddaughter, Tara Kae. She was born April 5 to their son and his wife, David and Lisa. Her maternal grandparents are Farrel and Connie Salyer of Goodfield.

Sis. Esther Kaeb, a resident at the Home, died on April 13. Her funeral services were at Fairbury, her home church.

Bro. Richard Frank was in the hospital for surgery but is home again and getting along fairly well.

Elder Bro. Edwin and Sis. Pat Ringger of Gridley, IL were our welcome visitors on a Wednesday evening. We especially thank Bro. Edwin for his message of how we are to be good "Christian Soldiers," armed to battle against Satan.

"Am I a soldier of the cross,
a follower of the Lamb?
And shall I fear to own His cause,
or blush to speak His name?
Sure I must fight, if I would reign;
increase my courage Lord;
I'll bear the toil, endure the pain,
Supported by Thy Word."

Tabernacle Hymns

ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY

Carol Bazzell — Joann Zehr

God has truly blessed us as we rejoice in having a new brother and sister in faith. Marion and Barbara Meiss gave their testimony of faith and were baptized March 28. We wish this dear couple much grace and the nearness of the Holy Spirit

to guide them upon their pathway.

On the evening of Palm Sunday, our Sunday School children gave their program of the Easter story. We appreciated their efforts as they sang to us and reminded us of the suffering and death of our Lord. As our children walked out, the congregation sang, "Have You any Room for Jesus?" We hope each one of us can answer, "Yes".

On April 2 our elder brothers were assisted by Bro. Perry Zimmerman as we partook of Communion. What a privilege, responsibility, and humbling experience it is to break of the bread and drink of the cup that was given in our behalf.

Our visiting ministers this month included Bros. Virgil Metzger, Champaign, Wayne Anliker, Forrest, Robert Pfladder, Morton, and Glenn Dill, Tremont. We thank each one for being with us and ministering God's Holy Word.

Saturday, April 17, was the funeral of our sister, Esther Kaeb. She passed away Apr. 13, at the Apostolic Christian Home in Eureka. Surviving are two stepsons, David, Fairbury, and Alpheus, Bay City, MI, and two sisters, Clara Neukomm, Fairbury, and Mary Yentes, Morton. Our sympathy is extended to her loved ones as she has now finished her course and is at rest.

Bro. John Weidman is now home recuperating after a lengthy stay in the hospital. We are sorry to report Sis. Elsie Denick has been ill and hospitalized. Sis. Salome Zimmerman has a smile in spite of the affliction she carries. A farm accident has broken the leg of little Kristofer Bachtold, son of Terry and Judy. He will be hospitalized for some time and we trust that the Great Physician will heal where it is His will. We want to remember each one in thought and prayer and be willing to render any deed of kindness to help ease another's burden.

The family of Lorene Broquard wishes to express their appreciation for the prayers and many deeds of love and kindness shown during the sudden death of their dear sister and aunt. God bless all of you.

John and Lydia Weidman want to thank all who remembered him in thought, deed, and prayer while he was hospitalized for ten weeks. May

God bless you all for your kindness.

Elsie Denick wishes to thank everyone for the love, prayers, cards and gifts during her stay at the hospital and since returning home. A special thanks goes to the ministers for their uplifting visits of which she feels so unworthy. God bless each of you.

ILLINOIS, FORREST

Jan Bachtold - Kathy Leman

We ask God's blessings upon the union of Sharon Roth (Bro. Les and Sis. Ruth) and John Payne who were married March 29.

Our hospital patients were Bro. Terry Young (Sis. Peggy), Sis. Ella Honegger, Bro. Joel Gudeman, who, with his wife Sis. Ernestine, resides at Fairview Haven, and Bro. Emil Sohn (Sis. Anita).

We thank Bro. Merril Laukhuf (Latty, OH) for the many spiritual teachings he imparted to us on Easter weekend.

It was a joyous weekend when Alan Gerber was added to the fold as a brother in Christ. Bro. Art Bahler (Fairbury) shared with Bro. Perry Zimmerman in this blessed undertaking.

We want to welcome Bro. Larry and Sis. Donna Bachman and sons Eric and Adrian to our congregation. They have recently moved from the Rittman, OH area.

With Mother's Day recently past and Father's Day in the near future, the following prayer is a fitting tribute to our dear parents and families everywhere.

Almighty God, Heavenly Father, who seest our families and the homes in which Thy people dwell: Deliver us, we beseech Thee, from vain-glory, selfish pride, and every cause of bitterness. Endue us with faith, temperance, and patience. Knit together in true affection those who in holy wedlock have been made one flesh. Turn the heart of the parents to the children, and the heart of the children to their parents, in mutual respect and love, and make us kindly affectioned to one another in the spirit of Thy blessed Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Unknown

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

ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD

Pam Wiegand

Visiting ministers this past month have been Bro. Walt Anliker, Eureka, Bro. Art Baurer, Princeton, and Elder Bro. Dan Koch, Tremont. We really appreciate the sermons they brought to us.

After our Good Friday services, we were able to partake of Communion. It was once again a very special evening. We only wish our Elder Bro. Ed Hohulin, who was hospitalized at time, could have been with us.

We are glad to see Bro. John Streit back in church with us, and Sis. Gerri Plattner back home after both were hospitalized. Albert Knapp is presently hospitalized.

Gary and Patti Musselman have a new baby girl, Jenell Ann, born on March 30, (her Grandma Musslemans 24th anniversary). The proud grandparents are Bro. Norm and Sis. Eileen Musselman, and Mrs. Barbra Graning of Bloomington.

Bro. John Streit wishes to thank everyone for the cards, prayers, and especially the visits during his hospitalization and recovery.

Sis. Gerry Plattner also wishes to thank all those who sent cards, food, and gifts, and for all their prayers.

ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY

Carol Klopfenstein

"Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called..." I Tim. 6:12

We are glad to be fortified when we are reminded that we must contend for the faith and press for the mark of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. Our faith must be an active one that requires us to steadfastly resist the devil and his worldly lures. The prince of darkness does not let us alone, but does his best to deceive us and make us slothful in our spiritual walk. Recently we were glad to be stirred up by way of remembrance when our elder brother spoke on "temptation". Then the brother who offered prayer requested that the Lord help us to always remember that we are not living in a playground but rather on a battlefield.

The marriage engagement of Bro. Stan Ringger, son of Bro. Fred and Sis. Mary, to Sis. Colleen Hodel.

daughter of Bro. Roy and Sis. Jeanne, was announced.

April 10 was the wedding day for Sarah Kuntz and Steven Garmna. Sarah is the daughter of Bro. Clyde and Sis. Wilma Kuntz.

Bro. Reuben and Sis. Emily Stoller celebrated the 50th anniversary of their wedding day on April 3. What a special blessing God provides in a beloved companion with whom to walk the path of life. When we are united in Him, our joy in one another increases over the years and we grow ever closer and treasure our love for each other even more.

Bro. David and Sis. Vicki Zehr are the happy parents of their first child, Matthew David. He was born March 19 and is the grandson of Bro. Dave and Sis. Emmy Steffen and Bro. Paul and Sis. Wilma Zehr, all of Gridley.

We appreciated our special visitors this month. The Francisville choir was with us on March 21 and ministering Bro. Art Ringger of Indianapolis was with us on Easter.

Our hospital patients included Sis. Ella Schlipf who broke her leg, Bro. Albert Grusy and Sis. Vyra Stoller. We are glad that they are now recuperating at home.

Bro. Silas Kiefer, who was in the hospital last month, wishes to thank everyone who remembered him with prayers, cards, flowers, gifts and visits. It sure helps to know people care. May God bless all of you.

ILLINOIS, ILLINOIS STATE

Jane Herrmann

ISU had their annual Easter program at Bloomington church on Apr. 8. The ISU group sang a few songs and Bro. Chuck Hemmer gave an inspirational message.

With Easter behind us and the beauty of nature surrounding us as Spring and Summer approach it makes our hearts want to sing out in praise to God for all He has given us. "But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." I Cor. 15:57

Finals are approaching as the spring semester comes to an end. The last week for the ISU students is May 3 to 7.

Before The Threshold Of My Day
 I've much to do today, dear Lord,

But let me kneel a bit
 Before the threshold of my day,
 That I may enter it
 With mind serene and heart made
 fresh
 With fragrant heavenly dew,
 That every moment of the day
 I'll be reflecting You.
 Alice H. Mortenson

ILLINOIS, MORTON

Phyllis Farney — Joann Roecker

The winter snows have faded away and the glories of Spring are once again with us. Spring flowers are such a delight; struggling and reaching for the sun, they burst forth with vivid colors and show signs of new life. Springtime is such a special time.

We rejoice and with love welcome Bro. Tom Zimmerman and Sis. Cindy (Mrs. Eddy) Fischer into our fellowship. They gave their testimonies on Mar. 20 and were baptized on Mar. 21. Our love and prayers are with our new brother and sister as they walk in faith. Such as the beautiful new spring flowers, so are the new creations in Christ, only never fading away, only growing more each day, striving for their Heavenly goal.

The family of Willis Geiger would like to express their appreciation for many acts of kindness during his lengthy illness and hospitalization and death.

Sis. Rose Teubel sends a special thank you to all! While ill she appreciated the many prayers, cards and plants. A "birthday-card shower" was enjoyed very much. It means so much to be remembered. She sends her special thanks to one and all.

Sis. Inez Steiner also sends her expression of thanks for being remembered while in the hospital. She appreciated everyone's kindness. The funeral service for Trina Hamann was Mar. 16. Little Trina was the nine yr. old grandchild of Sis. Lois Hamann of Morton. Trina's parents are Jerry and Norma Hamman. Trina has a twin sister Trisha, another sister Angela and a brother Jerry at home. Our prayers are with this dear family during their time of sorrow. Trina's death was sudden after only a brief illness. May God shelter this family in His love and give comfort and understanding to

them.

The family of Sis. Katie Pflederer sends these lovely thoughts,

Perhaps you sent a lovely card
 or sat quietly in a chair,
 Perhaps you sent a funeral spray
 if so, we saw it there.
 Perhaps you spoke the kindest
 words
 as any friend could say,
 Perhaps you were not there at all
 just thought of us that day.
 Whatever you did to console our
 heart,
 we thank you so much, whatever the
 part.

We take this time to express our deepest sympathy to the family of Sis. Salome Beyer. Sis. Salome laid aside the cares and toils of this life and entered into sweet rest with her Savior on Apr. 6. Her funeral service was held on Good Friday. Our prayers are with her family during this time. May God comfort and sustain them in their loss.

Yes, we serve a risen Savior. Easter was a beautiful, sunny day. We rejoice with all who were able to have their entire families together on this Lord's day. We cherish these times of fellowship together. We were especially blessed and privileged to have Bro. Glenn Dill of Tremont with us. May God richly bless him for coming and sharing with us.

Mother's Day always brings loving memories of all our younger days. We see so many beautiful cards it's often difficult to find just the right one. The greatest blessing is having the love of a Christian mother. Early in our lives, at the knee, so to speak, we learned of Jesus and His love. How thankful we are for her patience and love. While doing some needlework I came upon this piece. it's for our "Mother-in-Love".

To His Mother

'Mother-in-law they say, and yet,
 Somehow I simply can't forget
 'Twas you who watched his baby
 ways
 Who taught him his first hymn of
 praise,
 Who smiled on him with loving
 pride
 When he first toddled by your side.

'Mother-in-law' but oh, 'twas you
 Who taught him to be kind and true.
 When he was tired, almost asleep,
 'Twas to your arms he used to creep;
 And when he bruised his tiny knee,
 'Twas you who kissed it tenderly.
 'Mother-in-law' they say, and yet,
 Somehow I never shall forget
 How very much I owe
 To you, who taught him to grow
 You trained your son to look above,
 You made of him the man I love,
 And so I think of that today,
 Ah, then with thankful heart I'll say
 "OUR MOTHER"

Unknown

The evening of May 7 was chosen for our Mother-Daughter banquet. This was a special time of fellowship for everyone. A special note of thanks to our committee and all the excellent helpers who made this such an enjoyable evening.

May we be ever mindful of those who are confined to beds either in the hospital or at home. Sometimes we are so busy when we are up and about we forget those less fortunate. May all those confined feel the love and goodness of our Lord Jesus. While walking through a "valley" we are given the precious quiet moments to know He truly cares for us and does meet our every need.

ILLINOIS, PEORIA

Mary Plattner — Mary Ann Plattner

There's magic in a mother's touch
 And sunshine in her smile,
 There's love in everything she does
 To make our lives worthwhile . . .
 There's kindness and compassion
 In a mother's warm embrace,
 And we see the light of heaven
 Shining from a mother's face.

Harriet Lee Price

Let us never take for granted one of the most precious gifts that God has blessed us with; our dear God fearing mothers.

May the Lord richly bless the union of Bro. Bob Plattner and Sis. Martha Christ. They were united in holy matrimony on March 17.

We were very blessed again this month to have two visiting ministers with us. We thank Elder Bro. Ed Lantz from Oakville and Bro. Hart-

zel Kaisner from Detroit for their labors of love.

We are thankful that three dear souls found their need to repent and be baptized. Mike Fehr (Wade and Marge), Andrea Hodel (Bro. Irvin and Sis. Sharon), and Margaret Triplett (Bro. Wilbur and Sis. Louise) were baptized on March 21.

We were very happy to hear the Lord has led two souls together in our congregation. Bro. Tom Hoerr (Bro. Tom and Sis. Jeanette) and Sis. Becky Feucht (Bro. Walter) announced their engagement on April 4.

Hospital patients this month were Opal Wright, Sis. Anna Hoerr, Sis. Mabel Weber, Sis. Lillian Ramseyer, Sis. Hulda Plattner, Jaunita Kiefer, Bro. Jack Koehl, and David Aeschleman. We pray the Lord will strengthen each one.

We were privileged to host the singing of the combined choirs on March 28. It was a very blessed evening as they sang praises to our Lord. We also wish to thank Bro. Wendell Gudeman from Francesville for his inspiring message that evening.

Our Sunday School Easter program was April 4.

We again were united with our brother and sisters as we partook of the Lord's supper on April 4. What a blessing and privilege it is to take Holy Communion. On April 15, our brothers and sisters at the Apostolic Christian Home were able to take Communion.

Sister Priscilla Bittner wishes to thank everyone for their prayers, gifts, gifts of money and the many beautiful cards while in the hospital and now in the nursing home. All was surely appreciated and may God bless each one. Bro. Al Kiefer and his wife Jaunita wish to thank all those who remembered them with cards, flowers and gifts while in the hospital and at home.

ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE

Arlene and Arlys Martin

Many times we like to tell people how to live but are reluctant to tell them how to die. Visiting ministers who shared the Word with us and who talked about eternal life have been Bros. Harold Schmidgall (Gridley), Joe Braker (Morton), LeRoy Hartman (Peoria), and Al

Langhofer (Wichita, KS).

We were privileged to partake of Holy Communion on Mar. 31. Bro. Joe Braker of Morton assisted our Bros. Dave Kieser and Joe Stoller in this sacred event.

Our Easter program by the Sunday School students was held Apr. 4 at our Fellowship Hall. It was good to be there.

Rodney Lee Wagenbach was born Apr. 11 to Bro. Daryl and Sis. Julie Wagenbach. Grandparents are Bro. Ray and Sis. Betty Wagenbach of Princeville and Ed and Helen Hodel of Roanoke.

Sis. Nancy Menold (wife of Bro. Fred), Sis. Betty Wagenbach* (wife of Bro. Ray), and Lavina Sloan had surgery. They are recovering and are worshipping with us again.

We are happy to see Hilda Streitmatter with us again. She has been ill since last August.

Sis. Elizabeth Stoller is still on the sick list and is unable to worship with us.

Two jackets were left at our church this winter. One is a small man's jacket with an Envoy label. It is dark brown and is imitation fur-lined with the leather look. The other is a medium boy's, wine-colored, dark blue fur-lined Parka. If these belong to you, you can pick them up at our church in Princeville.

ILLINOIS, ROANOKE

Joyce Hodel — Carol Rumbold

As Spring is a time of new beginnings, so too, a refreshing new life in the Lord was begun by our Bro. Randy Leman (Bro. Bruce and Sis. Marge) and Bro. Dennis and Sis. Marybeth (Bro. Bill and Sis. Helen Leman) Zimmerman. We are thankful to welcome these three young souls into God's family. May we work together for the preservation of our precious fellowship.

We share in the joy of the March 28 wedding of our Bro. Ed Stoller (Bro. Rich and Sis. Barb) and Sis. Boni Hodel (Bro. Bill and Sis. Betty). We are confident the unwritten guiding principle of their home will be . . . "as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." Joshua 24:15.

So swiftly another year has passed, and we were again privileged to be served Holy Communion. It was not difficult on that quiet and peaceful evening for us to

erase remembrances of petty differences that may have arisen between some of God's children during the past year, in light of the unlimited forgiveness Jesus shared unto the whole world at His death. That periodic return to Calvary is refreshing to our spiritual lives. Elder Bros. Bob Grimm (Goodfield) and Loren Stoller (Latty) gave of their time on that occasion.

Needing the healing hand of the Great Physician this month were Brian Hoffman, Harvey Pfister, Bros. Alvin Hodel and Mel Rocke, and Sis. Anna Hernfeldt. Each of these dear ones is improving to one degree or another. If it be God's will, we pray this may continue.

Visiting ministers serving us were Bros. Fred Knapp (Congerville), Marvin Leman (Bradford), Marvin Schmidgall (Eureka), Merle Kaisner (Fairbury), and Elder Bros. Perry Zimmerman (Forrest) and Dan Koch (Tremont).

"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." Song of Solomon 2:11-13

ILLINOIS, TREMONT

Dorothy Wagenbach — Phyllis Lang

Our thanks go to Bro. Joe Braker (Morton) for helping serve Communion on April 3. We were renewed in spirit with a determination to strive to do better.

On April 4 our Sunday School presented us with the wonderful Easter story. We again say "thank you" to the teachers for lending themselves so willingly to teach our youth.

Jerod Todd is the name given to the precious baby boy of Jay and Julie Hangartner, born February 27. He has a brother, Benjamin, to help take care of him. The grandparents are Jerry and Sis. Melba Hangartner and the late Mr. and Mrs. Darrell Petri.

Bro. Earl Sauder was hospitalized for surgery. Sis. Ruth Frank (Bro. George) also had eye surgery. Both are back assembling with us again. Sis. Clara Sauder (Bro. Levi) was also hospitalized for a few days and

now she is at Restmor Nursing Home in Morton.

Sis. Florence Koch (Bro. Paul) had surgery and is now recuperating at home. May God send his healing power to all those who have been ill.

The engagement of Bro. Tim Aberle and Sis. Candice Weiss was announced. Parents of the couple are Bro. Ernie and Sis. Frieda Aberle and Bro. Paul and Sis. Joyce Weiss of Elgin, IL. They plan a July wedding. We wish them God's richest blessings.

A baby girl, Tamara Jean, was born April 6 to Bro. Jerry and Sis. Kathy Zuercher. She has a sister, Tricia, and a brother, Aaron, to play with her. Grandparents are Bro. Curt and Sis. June Zuercher and Bro. Ernest and Sis. Frieda Schaefer.

At this time of the year, we again think of our Mothers and all they have done for us. We appreciate it all so very much.

ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON

Joan Schick — Mary Schick

We extend a warm welcome to our newest sister, Martha Schlatter, who joined the family of God Good Friday evening. We heard her testimony of how God graciously called her in her later years and how very thankful she is to Him. Her baptism followed and it was a blessing to all in attendance.

Our congregation held communion services on Saturday evening, April 17. Elder Bros. Roy Sauder and LeRoy Huber conducted the service. Also, ministering Bros. Fred Knapp (Congerville), Willis Weigand (Goodfield), and Silas Wagenbach (Tremont) visited our congregation this month. Our special thanks to these brothers and their families for lending themselves.

Bro. Russ and Sis. Sally Plattner were blessed with a baby, Troy Lewis. How thankful we are to hear of another healthy baby! May God bring much warmth and love to their home through little Troy.

Our ministering Bro. Don Wagenbach has been having back problems. We have missed him in our services as he must be off his feet for a couple of weeks. We pray God will heal his back and that he will soon return to the pulpit.

Our special thanks to all who

helped in our annual church housecleaning. How much easier it is when we all help each other clean, just as we all help each other in our walk of life.

Special Mother's Day wishes to all the much loved mothers in our church and all over.

"Tell Mother I'll Be There"

When I was but a little child,
how well I recollect
How I would grieve my mother with
my folly and neglect,
And now that she has gone to
heaven I miss her tender care,
Oh Saviour, tell my mother I'll
be there.

Tell Mother I'll be there,
in answer to her prayer
This message blessed Saviour
to her bear!

Tell Mother I'll be there,
Heaven's joys with her to
share;

Yes tell my darling mother
I'll be there.

Gospel Hymns No. 801

Turning to Jesus, just as your mother's prayer has pleaded for, would surely be the greatest gift anyone could ever give to his or her mother.

INDIANA, BLUFFTON

Gayla Baumgartner

Tammy Gerber

By God's love and guidance, Sis. Marcia Reinhard and Bro. Bob Steffen have announced their engagement. They are planning an August wedding. Their parents are Bro. Don and Sis. Sarah Reinhard and Sis. Marie Steffen.

Believing it is the Lord's will, Sis. Laura Gerber and Bro. Dee Neuenchwander announced their engagement and are planning to be married on Aug. 22. Sis. Laura's parents are Bro. Ralph and Sis. Devona and Bro. Dee's parents are Bro. Chuck and Sis. Doris of Indianapolis.

May God bless and guide both of these couples as they plan their lives together.

Bro. Jerry and Sis. Kathy Rauch are the parents of a son, Micah John. His grandparents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Bonnie Gerber and Bro. Jerome and Sis. Virginia Rauch.

Born to Bro. Mark and Sis. Barb Gerber on Mar. 16 was their first child, Seth David.

Bro. Tim and Sis. Vicki Fiechter are the parents of their first child, Kami Lyn. She was born on Mar. 18 and her grandparents are Bro. Alan and Sis. Carole Isch and Bro. John and Sis. Shirley Fiechter.

Dianne Kay is the name given to the first child of Steve and Crystal Bogart. She was born on Mar. 18. Bro. Orville and Sis. Naomi Ringger are the maternal great-grandparents.

A son, Jeremy Allen, born Mar. 29 is God's gift to Bro. Jerome and Sis. Gale Reinhard.

Bro. Ted and Sis. Jane Habegger welcome into their hearts and home their first son, Abraham Phillip. He was born on Apr. 12 and has two sisters, Lea and Elizabeth.

We were privileged to partake of Holy Communion on Saturday, Apr. 3. Assisting with this work were Bros. Edwin Ringger (Gridley) and Art Bahler (Fairbury). It is a very important and solemn occasion when we remember our Lord's suffering and death.

Those who spent time in the hospital this month are: Sis. Erna Kipfer, Sis. Hulda Heinhold, Bro. Charles Kaehr, Sis. Mary E. Steffen, Melissa Shriver (Randy and Kathy), and Emily Gerber (Bro. Jay and Sis. Deb). Our prayer is that God will comfort and heal each one who is sick or shut-in.

Bluffton hosted the World Relief conference on the week-end of Apr. 17 and 18. This meeting was a blessing for each one who took part.

We want to thank the brothers who gave of themselves to bring us God's Word this month: Elder Bro. Roy Grimm (Taylor), Elder Bro. Vernon Leman (Eureka), Bro. Jim Hoerr (Peoria), and Bro. Francis Rother (Morton). May God bless them and their families for their labors of love.

INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE

Wendy Gutwein

On Good Friday evening, we gathered in our Lord's House and once again heard of the great price that was paid for us. It is good for us to stop and really try to grasp the suffering Jesus went through, all the way from Gethsemane to His

agonizing death on the cross. How thankful and humbled we should be, realizing it was our sins He was atoning for!

Early Easter Sunday morning, many gathered at our Fellowship Center and enjoyed the blessings of our Sunrise Services. In the afternoon, our children told us what Easter meant to them through the songs and verses they sang for us during our Easter Program. It does me so much good to know they are learning the scriptures at such an early age!

Recently, one of our ministering brothers told us how important it is for us to learn "The Word." After all, it is part of the armor Christ has given us to fight the devil. ". . . And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the spirit, which is the word of God." Eph. 6:17

"A heron when attacked by eagle or falcon simply stands firm and quiet, using its bill as a sword, allowing the enemy to pierce himself through by his own force. The Christian takes his Sword, the Word of God. When attacked from within or without, the enemy is pierced through. Our battles become glorious victories when we have learned to say, 'It is written.'

1000 New Illustrations

Bro. Pierre Neihouser was in the hospital, but we are thankful to be able to say he is home again.

Our thanks go to Bro. Ron Heiniger (Bloomington) for visiting here with his family and ministering the Word to us.

INDIANA, INDIANAPOLIS

Bobbi Erb — Lynn Klopfenstein

How refreshing after the long winter to see the many signs of spring. Along with this time of year comes planning for Vacation Bible School. We always look forward to this week of teaching our children more about the Word of God.

Our Easter program was held on Good Friday. The children told of God's plan for us through Jesus's death and resurrection. On Easter morning we gathered at sunrise to celebrate the empty tomb. He arose on the third day, just as He said. (Matt. 16:21, Mark 9:9, Luke 9:22 and John 2:19) We also enjoyed our traditional Easter breakfast prepared by the brothers.

The engagement of Bro. Dee Neuenschwander and Sis. Laura Gerber (Bluffton) was announced on April 11. Bro. Dee's parents are Bro. Chuck and Sis. Doris, and Sis. Laura's parents are Bro. Ralph and Sis. Devona. Bro. Dee has been working in the Bluffton area for sometime now and they will make their home in that area. May God bless them and their families as they plan their future together.

INDIANA, LaCROSSE

Lu Ann Feller — Connie Knoblock

Our Lord has surely been with us for another month. Over 100 families were forced to evacuate their homes in the LaCrosse area due to heavy flooding. Our church was fortunate to escape any flood damage. What a blessing it was to use our building as a Red Cross food center and serve meals to the homeless and volunteer helpers. We were very thankful to be able to help in even a small way.

Visiting ministers this month were Bros. Dan Stoller from Remington, Steve Gutwein of Francesville, and Kenneth Dietz of Bradford, IL. We truly received a spiritual blessing from the meditations of these ministers and are very thankful they made the effort to fellowship with us.

Many of our winter vacationing brethren have returned, and we most certainly welcome them home. It is especially nice to have our ministering brothers Art Gudeman and Todd Feller back from their winter homes in Florida and Arizona.

Sis. Mary Ann Feller is home from the hospital and recovering from surgery very well, for which we thank the Lord.

The Business of the Day

It's just the way we carry through
The business of the day
That makes and molds the character—
The things we do and say;
The way we act when we are vexed;
The attitude we take;
The sort of pleasures we enjoy;
The kind of friends we make.
It's not the big events alone
That make us what we are;
And not the dizzy moments when

We're swinging on a star.
It's just the things that happen as
Along the road we plod.
The little things determine what
We're really worth to God.

— Patience Strong

INDIANA, LEO

**Mrs. Phil Schlatter
Mrs. Al Frautschi**

"Life is more meaningful, more
worth the living,
When you have a mother who's
thoughtful and giving,
A mother who teaches her
children to find
Life's greatest treasures—the
true, worth-while kind,
Who demonstrates love by
examples she's set,
By deeds she has done and the
trials she has met,
Who patterns her life to the
Power Divine

Thank Him if you're saying,
"Such a mother is mine."

(Part quoted from a card)

Many of us can only say, "Such a mother was mine," and with the song writer add: "Tell mother I'll be there, in answer to her prayer . . . heaven's joys with her to share." (Chas. M. Fillmore — Gospel Hymns p. 801)

Our congregation was blessed by the ministry of visiting Bros. Phillip Stettner (Bluffton), Kent Heimer (Taylor, MO), and Rod Huber (Valparaiso).

Vivid and deep reminders of His sacrifice on Calvary and of His glorious resurrection were brought by His Word in sermons, program and Sunrise Services.

John U. Steiner left this earthly life on Mar. 26 at the age of 93. He is survived by one brother, Menno J. Steiner, and six sisters, Anna, Elda, Esther, and Sylvia Steiner (Leo), Mary Getz (Elgin, IL), and Rhoda Schlatter (Spencerville, IN). The family expresses appreciation for all the sympathy and kindness they received.

Announcement has been made of the engagement of Sis. Susan Stieglitz, daughter of Bro. Oliver and Sis. Emmajean Stieglitz and Bro. Randy Gasser, son of Sis. Doris Gasser, Rittman, OH, and the late

Bro. Bill.

Sis. Adele Conrad is recuperating after a short hospital stay for eye surgery.

"God gives us joy that we may give; He gives us joy that we may share. Sometimes He gives us loads to lift that we may learn to bear; For life is gladder when we give, and love is sweeter when we share, and heavy loads rest lightly too, when we have learned to bear."

Author Unknown

Dear wanderer, Christ is the way;
why waste time traveling some
other way?

INDIANA, MILFORD

Marcy Haab — Gwen Steffen

"I once was an outcast stranger
on Earth,

A sinner by choice, an alien
by birth!

But I've been adopted, my name's
written down,

An heir to a mansion, a robe,
and a crown!

A tent or a cottage, why should
I care?

They're building a palace for
me over there!

Tho' exiled from home, yet
still I may sing:

All glory to God, I'm the
child of a King."

Gospel Hymns No. 302

Our congregation rejoices with the angles over a newly repentant soul who has been adopted by our King. Sonya Tinkey (daughter of Don and Sis. Ginny Hoover) has given her life to the One who gave His life for her.

There is nothing more beautiful than to be Heaven-bound as Tim and Marlene Steffen (children of Bro. Walt and Sis. Dorothy) can testify. They have prayerfully sought the Lord, have received His peace, and hope to be baptized soon. It's humbling to know God still cares for His own and continues His exhaustless call.

Knowing that the Lord will not test us above that which we can bear should be comforting to our hospitalized brothers and friend. Bro. Andy Kammerer was admitted to the University Hospital in Min-

neapolis, Minnesota for continued tests. Bro. Ray Haab spent several days in the hospital following surgery for an unfortunate accident with a chain saw. Little Jennifer Hively (daughter of Lynn and Teresa) was also admitted for tests. Our Lord alone says it best as we read in II Cor. 12:9, "My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness."

A little bundle of love was welcomed into the home of Bro. Matt and Sis. Karen Pamer. Their little girl, Chrystal Jane, was born Mar. 30. With thankful hearts they accepted this gift from God.

We had a most impressive Easter program which was held on Palm Sunday. Many participated expressing in word and song the story of Easter. His resurrection was celebrated again at our Sunrise Service. We learned the importance of living a good Christian life so we, too, can be resurrected with Him someday.

Jesus' last thought before His death was for His mother. How special she must have been to Him, and how special our mothers should be to us. No one can influence a little child's life more than his mother. Abraham Lincoln had great insight when he said, "No man is poor who has had a godly mother." As Mother's Day approaches let us be thankful for our godly mothers.

Life is changing for at least seven of our young men and women of our congregation as they will be graduated from their various levels of education. Being graduated from high school are Todd Beer, (son of Bernie and Peg), Greta Hurd (daughter of Bro. John and Sis. Carol), Jill Haab (daughter of Bro. Ray and Sis. Paula), and Marlene Steffen (daughter of Bro. Walt and Sis. Dorothy). Our college graduate is Jeff Hoerr (son of Bro. Bob and Sis. Marguerite). Having completed post graduate education is Teresa and Sis. Peg Beer (daughters of Bro. Phil and Sis. Millie). Teresa has received her doctor of optometry and Sis. Peg will be graduated as a medical technician. We are happy for each graduate and the goals they have attained, praying they will use their knowledge wisely.

A Graduate's Prayer

by Helen Steiner Rice

Father, I have knowledge, so will
you show me now

How to use it wisely and find a
way somehow

To make the world I live in a
little better place,

And make life with its problems
a bit easier to face . . .

Grant me faith and courage and
put purpose in my days,

And show me how to serve Thee in
the most effective ways

So all my education, my
knowledge and my skill,

May find their true fulfillment
as I learn to do Thy will . . .

And may I ever be aware in every
thing I do

That knowledge comes from
learning — and wisdom
comes from You.

INDIANA

PURDUE UNIVERSITY

Verene Von Tobel

Greetings brethren! Our spring semester is finally over and we want to wish our graduates God's blessings for the future.

Our annual picnic is planned for Apr. 28 before our last service on Apr. 29. At our picnic we gather to elect officers for next year and to hear future plans from our graduating students. Several students plan to attend summer school and look forward to early graduation. College enrollment seems to be less each year here at Purdue and we wish to encourage those planning an education to come to Purdue next fall. We glorify God for allowing us to gather over the last year and for keeping our visiting ministers in His care.

INDIANA, REMINGTON

Annette Bahler — Beth Virkler

There is nothing more encouraging to a believer than to see a friend turn from the world. We are thankful for the opportunity to witness the baptism of Bro. Ed Getz (Bro. Maurice and Sis. Eileen). Assisting in the services was Elder Bro. Perry Zimmerman (Forrest). We thank him for lending himself willfully in bringing forth the Word.

We also thank our other visiting

ministers, Bro. Clarence Kachelmuss (Forrest) and Bro. Edmund Kloter (Goodfield).

Sister Clara Braker (Bro. Ben) wishes to thank all those who prayed for her recovery from heart surgery. The many cards, letters, and visits were a blessing. She extends God's blessings to all who were there in time of need.

Bro. Eldon Getz (Sis. Charleen) and his son Matthew were injured in farm accidents this month. We pray for their recovery.

INDIANA, SOUTH BEND

Karen Lehman — Nancy Lehman

The heavens wept on that sad day,
 When Christ was crucified.
 The whole earth wore its
 sombre clothes
 Upon the day He died.
 But from these tears came
 forth the spring,
 And flowers were reborn.
 And from that cross on Calvary,
 There came an Easter morn.

— Vivian Merriman

Easter sunrise services were held followed by breakfast. It is truly glorious that "Up From The Grave He Arose."

We deeply appreciated visiting ministers Bro. Jesse Beer (Milford), Bro. Kenneth Weerts (Cissna Park), Bro. Al Langhofer (Wichita) and Bro. Walter Steffen (Milford).

Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman (Francesville), Elder Bro. Edward Frank (LaCrosse), and Elder Bro. Jesse Beer (Milford) shared the memorandum with us. May the Lord bless those who minister and stand for His loving work.

Bro. Louis Gerber has been hospitalized but is now at home. May God restore him back to good health. Others presently hospitalized are Ernest Germann and Sis. Helen Martin who is recovering from knee surgery.

Heal me, O Lord, and I shall be healed; Save me, and I shall be saved: For Thou art my praise. Jeremiah 17:14

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

INDIANA, VALPARAISO
Mary Huber — Claudia Thomas

A Misfit

A wise preacher has said: "Though I have a scientific mind and a university degree in sociology and philosophy; and although I am an expert in social service and an authority on Browning; and though I use the language of the scientific laboratory so as to deceive the very elect into thinking I am a scholar; and have not a message of salvation and the love of Christ, I am a misfit in the pulpit and no preacher of the Gospel."

Anonymous

Our church body is rejoicing this month because the Lord has given us another servant to proclaim the Gospel from the pulpit. Bro. Mike Thomas has been chosen to share in ministering God's word. He and his wife, Sis. Claudia, have four children, John, Kelly, Summer, and Mike to give them their whole hearted support. The congregation also gladly pledged their love and prayers for Mike and his family. Bros. Nate Steffen, Wendell Gudeman, and Ed Frank were with us to read the memorandum and assist in voting for a minister.

Sometimes when listening to hymns, our hearts grow so full of love and praise for God, it overflows and fills our eyes with tears. The last Wednesday night in March, a large group assembled to sing and listen to groups from Francesville praise the Lord in song. We never grow tired of listening to their beautiful music.

We were blessed with more beautiful music when different groups sang for us at the Easter program. It's always exciting to see our children singing in front of the assembly.

We were blessed with visiting ministers this month. Bros. Elmer Witzig (Gridley), Arnie Gerst (Chicago), and Chris Huber (Francesville) were among those preaching the Gospel to us.

INDIANA, WOLCOTT

Suzanne Hoerr

Laurel and Kris Widmer

We were privileged to partake of the Lord's Supper on March 28. We

thank Elder Bro. Dave Keiser, Princeton, for sharing the day with us. "I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing." St. John 15:5 We also thank Bro. Frederick Knapp of Congerville for ministering to us on April 4.

"Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away." James 4:14 William Lee Furrer, three year-old son of Bro. Don and Sis. Rita Furrer, passed away unexpectedly early Sunday morning, April 18. A tonsillectomy had been performed earlier in the week. Surviving with the parents are one brother, Troy, and two sisters, Sis. Donita and Sharon. We share their sorrow in the loss of this special little boy and pray the Lord will give them strength to bear it.

IOWA, BURLINGTON

Kim Salek — Edith Massner

April 4 was a special day, as Sis. Tonya Taeger (Bro. Dick and Sis. Dorothy) and Bro. Keith Lanz, Oakville (Elder Bro. Ed and Sis. Joan), were united in holy matrimony. One outstanding thought centered around Eph. 4:32: "And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you." Isn't this a good directive for all of us?

We were privileged to share Holy Communion on Good Friday evening. Our dear brothers, Ed Lanz and Harvey Heiniger, with God's grace, helped create a reverent and serious atmosphere as we remembered our Lord's suffering and dying for us.

Bill Frank spent a few days in the hospital; he is now recovering at home.

Mary Beth Gehring is ill, and may be confined for several weeks. She would appreciate hearing from friends.

A Mother's Meditation

Dear Father-God, I used to think that life might pass me by. I sang no songs; I wrote no books; I mostly stayed at home. But now I thank Thee, humbly and with all my heart,

for the best career of all, for I am placed, I find, where I may serve, every moment of my working day, those I love the best.

As I prepare the daily food, I bless it to the best use of every growing body, to maintain good health and strength and vitality in every member of the family.

As I dust and sweep and bring a loving order to the rooms within this house, I see it as a home, filled with love — Thy Perfect Love for us mirrored in our love for Thee and Thy Blessed Son, and by our own love for each other.

As I wash and iron small clothes and big, I give thanks for the abundance of material things we have, and for the dearer intangibles — love and faith and wisdom. As I wipe away quick childish tears and answer telephone calls, as I balance budget books and listen as a sounding board while problems are talked out, as I do all the myriad daily things for husband and for children, I thank Thee, Father, for this my place as center of a dear family circle. I am the lucky one, able to work in the surroundings that suit me best, serving those I love, keeping them fit and ready to do their best in every field their feet may touch.

Dear Father, show me how best to do my work. Help me be a channel for Thy love, Thy patience, Thy wisdom, and Thy faith. And be ever with me and with those I love. Amen.

(Copied from an old newspaper article — no date, no author.)

IOWA, ELGIN
Eleanor Butikofer

“Christ Arose!”

Low in the grave He lay, Jesus
my Saviour!

Waiting the coming day, Jesus
my Lord!

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!

Tabernacle Hymns No. 205

Easter Sunday has come and gone for 1982, but I feel that the above words found in the Tabernacle Hymn book helps us to realize our Saviour was victorious and we, too, can believe that we will live forever with Him in heaven, if we heed His call.

Father, we thank Thee for the gospels which refresh and invigorate our lives.

We are entering a beautiful season of sunshine, budding trees and shrubs, green grass, white clouds in the sky, and the melodious songs of many summer birds that have returned from their winter habitations. We have seen robins and are now looking forward to the day when the bluebirds will arrive.

Quilts were tied, bandages torn and rolled, soap was packed and some toy animals were stuffed at the last meeting of the World Relief volunteers at the home of Sis. Marie Butikofer.

We thank all who participated in the cleaning of our church recently. As formerly mentioned, cleanliness is next to Godliness.

The Rule of Three
Three things to govern . . .
temper, tongue and conduct.

We extend our sympathy to the family of John Grimm who passed away on March 24 at the Postville hospital. He was born Oct. 4, 1890 in Clayton County. His parents were John Grimm and Anna Elizabeth Eberhard Grimm. John is survived by his wife, Julia, two sons, Lawrence, Elgin, and Harold, Mears, MI; nine daughters, Pearl Woytash, Elgin, Margaret Price, Monroe, NC, Marie Bickford, Brawley, CA, Betty Mason, Grand Rapids, MI, Mabel Bessler, Lockport, IL, Dorothy Anderson, Chicago, IL, June Capper, Lansing, Alice Dhamers, Rock Island, IL, Verna Farrance, Rock Island, IL; 31 grandchildren and 28 great grandchildren.

Words That Speak

Among the little things which shape the destiny of man, words are the most powerful. When heard, they can give wings to the spirit or attach massive weights to the feet; they can lift man out of his troubles or bury him in worries.

Words are sculptured thoughts; but when voiced in the interest of a personal relationship, binding persons together as an invisible golden thread, they become more beautiful, more meaningful and more eternal than any sculpturing. They are vibrant with life itself, as well as love, friendship and esteem.

GARDEN GROVE, IOWA

Eileen Funk

We welcome to our congregation Sis. Bertha Moser who has just moved here from Meadows, IL (Gridley Church). Her mobile home is on the farm with her son-in-law and daughter Bro. Bill and Sis. Verle Funk. Her address is RR1 Box 28 A Garden Grove, IA 50103. 515-443-2662.

God has given us a beautiful spring, again, with the tulips and other flowers beginning to bloom.

This is in memory of my mother — a poem she wrote several years ago.

The love of God
The help of friends
And love at home
That never ends,
Songs of the birds,
Rain from above
The undying mercy
And undying love.

And to the weary,
Salvation for the soul
Comfort for the sick
Prayers — untold.

IOWA, IOWA CITY
Susie Gramm

The true meaning of Easter is unrecognized in many homes in America and around the world today. How thankful we should be that it is part of our heritage, and that Jesus so willingly said, “nevertheless not what I will, but what thou wilt,” as quoted from the gospel of St. Mark 14:36.

“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."
by Helen Steiner Rice

Visiting ministers to our congregation have been Bro. Kenneth Werts (Cissna Park), Bro. Walter Herrmann (Princeville), Bro. Ed Lanz (Oakville), and Bro. Duane Metzger (West Bend). May God richly bless them all for traveling the miles to minister to our small flock.

IOWA, LESTER

Alice Metzger

Three whose hearts were touched by God have answered His call and in repentance have turned their backs on the world to follow Him. They are Gloria Knobloch (Bro. Ezra and Sis. Marie), Paulette Feucht (Bro. Alfred and Sis. Marie), and Kent Mogler (Bro. Howard and Sis. Lollie).

Sis. Jenell Wulf and Bro. Roy Koehl, Morris, were united in holy matrimony on March 28. Among our many visitors for the day were ministering Bros. Harold Gramm, Floyd Schmidgall from Morris, and Bro. Nate Stoller from Bradford. Sis. Jenell will be greatly missed in our church but we believe she will soon feel at home in Morris.

On April 18 the marriage of Sis. Shelly Messner and Bro. Merle Knobloch took place in Winthrop. We rejoice with them as they establish a Christian home in our community.

Bro. Ronnie and Sis. Sandy Feucht welcomed Matthew Lee into their family on April 6. His grandparents are Bro. Alvin and Sis. Estelle Leuthold and Mr. and Mrs. Emil Feucht. He has three sisters and one brother. Wendi Ann was born April 9 to Bro. Rod and Sis. Twyla Bajema. She has two sisters and her grandparents are Bro. Fred and Sis. Esty Metzger and Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Bajema.

Our hospital patients were Bro. Jim Metzger and Mike Metzger. We are happy to report both are feeling better and are home.

"I saw them tearing a building down, A gang of men in a dusty town. With a yo, heave ho, and a lusty yell, They swung a ball and the sidewall fell. I asked a foreman if these men were skilled As the men he'd hire if he were to build. He laughed and said, 'Oh, no, indeed. Common labor is what I need, For these men can destroy in a day or two, What builders have taken years to do.'

"And I asked myself, as I went my way, Which role am I to play? Am I the builder who builds with care, Measuring life by rule and square? Or, am I the wrecker, who walks around, Content with a role of just tearing down." Author Unknown (But better said than I ever could)

IOWA, OAKVILLE

Jerilyn Wagenbach

Clint Caleb Larson was born March 23 to Bro. Jack and Sis. Kathy Larson. Nathan and Melissa are happy to have a new baby brother. Grandparents are Bro. John and Sis. Ruth Schrock, and Mr. and Mrs. Merlin Larson of Mediapolis.

On March 26, Elder Bro. Leroy Huber, Eureka, joined our Elder Bro. Ed Lanz as the memorandum was read to us.

Each time we hear the conclusions of the annual Brotherhood Conference we are reminded of our duty to uphold the precious traditions of our faith. We know that we must battle daily against Satan and the worldly pleasures, lest the Lord return and find no faith left on the earth.

The weekend of March 27 and 28 was a blessing to us all, as we heard the testimony of Larry Moser (Bro. Rod and Sis. Naomi), and welcomed him into the fold after his baptism. Elder Bro. Joe Braker, Morton, assisted in this work. We also appreciated the efforts of visiting ministers Bro. Kent Heimer, Taylor, and Bro. Merle Bucher, LaCrosse.

Sorrow was in our midst when our dear friend, Evelyn Finch, passed away March 26. She was born March 29, 1911, in Lyon County to Bro. Ernest and Sis. Anna Messner Frank. She married Freeman Finch on March 30, 1950; he preceded her in death on Jan. 2, 1969. Surviving are one brother, William Frank,

Burlington; and seven sisters, Sis. Esther Peterson, Sis. Augusta Johnson, Sis. Leola Heiniger, Martha Beuhler and Sis. Betty Baker, all of Burlington; and Sis. Marjoria Siegle and Sis. Liberty Gerst, of Oakville. May the Lord comfort the family of Evelyn, who attended church with us so faithfully the last few years of her life.

We pray that the Lord will grant an extra measure of grace and strength to Bro. Dale Frank who has been called into the ministry. His wife and family, Sis. Tina, and Danny, Brent, and Kelli, also have our prayers and support.

Bro. Keith Lanz and Sis. Tonya Taeger (Burlington) were united in marriage on April 4. Their parents are Elder Bro. Ed and Sis. Joan Lanz, and Bro. Dick and Sis. Dorothy Taeger (Burlington). We wish this couple the blessings and guidance of our Heavenly Father.

IOWA, PULASKI

Mary Wiegand - DeAnn Wuthrich

Spring has arrived and with it the time of sowing the seed. We surely ask God's blessings on our labors.

We had our annual meeting recently. Bro. Roy Metzger, Sis. Ginny Wuthrich, and Sis. Ernestine Wuthrich were elected to teach Sunday School starting this fall. Sis. DeAnn Wuthrich is our new Silver Lining reporter and Sis. Irene Musselman will be in charge of meals.

Lowell and Sis. Billie Cruikshank have been blessed with their fourth little girl, Jackie Ann. Kerri, Kristi, and Jill think she's pretty nice. Danny and Sis. Lynn Townsend also have a new little girl, Katie Marie. Josh, Jamie, Corey, and Cody think it is pretty nice to have a little sister.

Elder Bro. Harold Messner and Bro. Dale Strassheim were with us one Sunday. It was truly a blessed day and we could surely say it was good to be here. On Easter Bro. Virgil Metzger spent the day with us. He told of the love it took for Jesus to die on the cross for us.

Oh, the love that drew salvation's plan!
Oh, the grace that brought it down to man!
Oh, the mighty gulf that God did

span at Calvary!

Hymns of Zion No. 151

Sis. Elizabeth Wuthrich was in the hospital for a few days, but is back now and feeling fine. She just had her 80th birthday and wishes to thank everyone who remembered her. All the children were home so it was an especially blessed day for her.

IOWA, WEST BEND

Judy Fehr - Elma Mogler

Marcy, daughter of Bro. Alvin and Sis. Phyllis Banwart, has seen the need to answer God's call. We trust the Lord will grant her the much needed grace in this most important undertaking.

We ask God's blessings upon two marriage unions. Tim, son of Bro. Nathan and Sis. Lilly Mogler, was united in marriage to Gloria, daughter of Max and the late Marlise Wilcox, on March 27. Blake, son of James and Becky Banwart, was united in marriage to Vera, daughter of Mrs. Lavonna Christenson and the late Ralph Struthers. They became one on April 3. "What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder." Matt. 19:6.

Bro. Bert Thomann submitted to surgery this month, but is able to assemble with us again. Sis. Katie Dogotch has had eye surgery and is doing well. Our retired elder, Bro. Paul Banwart, is recovering after a short stay in the hospital. It seems the Lord always provides for His own.

It is the time of year when again we have youth graduating from high school. Some will leave for higher schools of learning. Whatever be their choice, may God go with them. Those who graduate from our area are: Doug Wirtz (Bro. Verner and Sis. Beverly), Melinda Fehr (Bro. Larry and Sis. Della), Bruce Banwart (Bro. Vic and Sis. Marilyn), Don Fehr (Judy Gates and Rodger Fehr), and David Banwart (Benjy and Betty).

On March 20, we were blessed by having our Elder Bro. Leo Moser and Paul Butikofer read the memorandum. It was very inspiring, and if we are obedient, God will impart His blessings. Then on Sunday, after inspiring sermons, we were among the blessed to be served the

Lord's Supper. It takes one back to the days when we repented, and with that first love, we cherished the Lord's forgiveness and the peace He shared unto us. May the Lord bless the brothers for their labors of love.

Bro. Ivan and Sis. Evelyn Schmidt wish to announce the engagement of their daughter, Janece, to Jay Schwartzkoph, son of Mrs. Elizabeth Schwartzkoph of Stuart, Iowa.

We would like to add these poems as a tribute to all mothers on Mother's Day.

HANDS

I held her hand in mine last night,
So very thin and worn.
But they held mine just as tightly
As the day that I was born.

Those gentle and expressive hands,
Etched by work and care,
Have folded o'er my bedside
Many times in humble prayer.

They've washed for me -- They've
fed me;
They've helped me be a man.
There's something of our Lord,
Himself
In every mother's hand.

Martin Buxbaum

SOMEBODY'S MOTHER

The woman was old and ragged and
gray,
And bent with the chill of the
winter's day.
The street was wet with the recent
snow
And the woman's feet were aged and
slow.

She stood at the crossing and waited
long,
Alone, uncared for, amid the
throng
Of human beings who passed her by,
Nor heeded the glance of her
anxious eye.

Down the street with laughter and
shout,
Glad in the freedom of "school let
out,"
Came the boys like a flock of sheep,
Hailing the snow piles white and
deep.
Past the woman so old and gray
Hastened the children on their
way.

Nor offered a helping hand to her,
So meek, so timid, afraid to stir,
Lest the carriage wheels or the
horses' feet
Should crowd her down in the slip-
pery street.

At last came one of the merry troop,
The gayest laddie of all the group.
He paused beside her and whispered
low,
"I'll help you across if you wish to
go."

Her aged hand on his strong young
arm
She placed, and so, without hurt
or harm,
He guided her trembling feet along,
Proud that his own were firm and
strong.

Then back again to his friends he
went,
His young heart happy and well
content.
"She's somebody's mother, boys you
know,
For all she's aged and poor and
slow.

"And I hope some fellow will lend
a hand
To help my mother, you un-
derstand,
If ever she's poor and old and gray
When her own dear boy is far
away."

And somebody's mother bowed low
her head
In her home that night, and the
prayer she said
Was, "God be kind to the noble boy
Who is somebody's son and pride
and joy."

Author Unknown

SHIODA, JAPAN Kathy Klotzle

"Watashi wo kinen suru tame, kono yo ni okonainasai." "...this do in remembrance of me." I Corinthians 11:24 Two languages were spoken, but we were one in the Spirit and the Lord as we shared in a meaningful Holy Communion service with our beloved visitors from America, Elder Bros. Roy Grimm (Taylor), Carl Kinsinger (Altadena), Ben Maibach (Detroit), and Bro. John Klotzle (Altadena). It was a perfect, fitting end to a few short days filled with spiritual blessings as our brothers spent time with us

on their return from India. Many of our congregation were privileged to share in this memorable experience with our brethren in the Tokyo church. Most likely, all of us who were gathered at that time will never be able to assemble together again here on this earth. But, we have a memory of those bright, precious moments spent together, and this strengthens the tie that binds us across the many miles.

Shioda church was blessed with services on Saturday evening and Sunday while our brothers were here. We thank them for willingly ministering to us, and thank God for the encouragement and uplifting we received.

Sis. Vicki Ramseyer has returned to us after spending a short time in America with her family because of her father's illness. We're so thankful that he has improved, and that God heard and answered our prayers on his behalf. May God continue to bless him with strength and health, and Sis. Vicki with a calm and peace as she serves God willingly in the place that He has called her to, far from home.

On the same day that Sis. Vicki arrived, we welcomed three special guests from America, Sis. Edith Graf (Akron), Bro. Tom Klotzle (Altadena), and Bro. Fred Wyss (Washington). We rejoice that God granted us the opportunity to share time here in Japan, and hope that they were able to receive blessings from their experience here, as they brought many to us. The fellowship in Christ meant so much, as did the many times that we spent singing of our Lord and our life in Him.

On Easter Day we once again reaped spiritual blessings. The day began early as we gathered at the river for a special service, remembering that joyful day when our Saviour victoriously arose. We ate breakfast together along the river, and then later assembled in church. That afternoon our Sunday School children told us the salvation message simply and plainly. Since quite a few children have recently entered our kindergarten and Sunday School, some of their parents may have been hearing the wondrous story for the first time. It was also impressive to those of us who have been blessed to hear the story

over and over. "Tell it again, tell it again, salvation's story repeat o'er and o'er; 'till none can say of the children of men, 'Nobody ever has told me before'."

JAPAN, TOKYO

Yoshio Yamazaki and Marie Inoue

Our dear American Elder Bros. Ben Maibach, Carl Kinsinger, Roy Grimm, and Sister Kathie's father, Bro. John Klotzle visited here in Tokyo Church on their way back from India on Mar. 14. We really thanked God that He sent them to us even for such a short time. Also we thank them that they stopped to see us even though they were so busy. March 14, Sunday afternoon, we had very blessed Communion Service with some of the Shioda Church members.

Our dear Bro. Saburo Utsuki became 82 years old on April 3, 1982. We young brethren should learn to come much more faithfully to church as he does.

Sister Kathie's twin brother, Tom Klotzle, visited here with Bro. Fred Wyss and Sis. Edith Graf two weeks ago and had a nice blessed fellowship with us. "Faith" is a wonderful thing! Anytime if we wish we can meet and greet together, even with such a far distance across the ocean between America and Japan.

We are going to have the Easter program preparations now especially for the Sunday School children. We wish to let them understand much more about Jesus' love and His resurrection. Also we'll be glad that they will turn to the Lord some day when they grow up.

Dear ones, we thank you again for your love and prayers, also you are always remembered in our daily prayer.

KANSAS, BERN

Linda Esslinger

A son, Bryon Lee, was born to Bro. Darrel and Sis. Gloria Stoller on Mar. 20. He is welcomed home by two brothers, Bruce and Barry. Grandparents are Bro. Harlan and Sis. Pearl Stoller, and Bro. Nathan and Sis. Lois Grimm (Sabetha).

We have discontinued our mid-week services. Now we have singing every other Sunday evening alternating with Sabetha.

Bro. Clarence Dietrich was a

visiting minister.

Bro. Dean Strahm was hospitalized due to a farm accident injury. Sis. Esther Moser was hospitalized for medical reasons.

Our minister, Bro. Harvey Grimm, had open heart surgery and is slowly improving. He has been missed, so we hope he will soon be able to preach God's word to us.

Bro. Roy and Sis. Lucy Rokey have returned after spending the winter in Zapata, TX. While there Sis. Lucy broke her hip. She wishes to thank all her relatives and friends for phone calls, and flowers and cards that were sent; also all the winter visitors that came to see her. God bless you all.

KANSAS, FT. SCOTT

Jamie Marti

We are rejoicing with our dear friend, Cheryl Miller, who has felt the need of a Saviour and wishes to walk in His Way. Cheryl's parents are Bro. Wayne and Sis. Pearl.

"The Son of man shall be betrayed into the hands of men; And they shall kill him, and the third day he shall be raised again." Matt. 17:22-23. After our Good Friday services, Our Sunday School children presented a short Easter program. Also with us on Easter Sunday was Bro. Earl Banwart from West Bend, IA. We thank him for ministering God's Word.

Our hospital patient this month was Adina Johnston, daughter of Paul and Debbie Johnston. We pray for her quick recovery.

KANSAS, GRIDLEY

Julie Strahm - Doris Bahr

Two "special days" are set aside each year to rejoice and be especially thankful for our parents. We are especially thankful for those who have trusted in the Lord. "Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right." Eph. 6:1. Submission to authority is the key principle to social harmony and peace. The Epistles admonish us to cooperate with the authority over us, knowing that such authority is God-ordained (Rom. 13:1-4) for our own good. "My son, hear the instruction of Thy Father and forsake not the law of thy Mother." Prov. 1:8 "Harken unto thy father that begot thee, and despise not thy

mother when she is old." Prov. 23:22
 "The Lord will give strength unto his people; The Lord will bless his people with peace." Ps. 29:11 Our dear friend, Kathryn (Frank) Knapp, and our dear Sister Esther (Sam) Kraft and Ungela Strahm have been enduring afflictions of the flesh. Please remember them in prayer.

KANSAS, KIOWA

Gay Lee Farney - Janice Bahr

On April 3, we had the blessed privilege of greeting one another anew after partaking together of Holy Communion. It is such a joy to come together in one heart and spirit to share the privilege of Communion. It truly is a privilege. We wish to thank Bro. Lester Harter, Bern, KS for traveling to Kiowa to help in our Communion Services.

This past weekend, we enjoyed having all the Kansas and two Missouri Sunday Schools. Bro. Edwin Ringger, Gridley, IL presented God's Word to the children with a joyfully warm, loving, and caring heart. We wish to thank all those who came the many miles to be with us, and also wish to thank all those who helped in all the preparation for the weekend.

Those hospitalized this month have been Sis. Minnie Schrock (now at Kiowa Manor), Bro. Sam Schrock, Sis. Alice Tanner, Sis. Esther Hodel, and Bro. Raymond Roth. Our prayers are with each of these dear souls for their return to good health.

Our visiting minister this month was Bro. Bill Emch and his wife, Sis. Susan, Lamont, KS.

KANSAS, LAMONT

Mary Isch

"The sweetest name in the English language," my own mother used to say. True, she was a sentimentalist, but surely we have the right to be sentimental when it comes to mothers. The very word "motherhood" has an emotional depth and significance few terms have. It bespeaks nourishment and safety and sheltering arms. It embraces not only the human state but the animal kingdom — the tiger fiercely protective of her cubs, the hen clucking over her brood and spreading her wings to shield them from storm. It speaks of the very

beginnings of life in the egg, and of nurture in the most critical stages thereafter.

Marjorie Holmes

Hospital patients have been Bro. Lloyd Luthi, surgery, Joann Luthi, surgery, and Bro. Fred Luthi, medical. Bro. Fred is making his home at the Madison Manor since being dismissed from the hospital.

John and Beverly Beyer Gilligan are the parents of a son, John Charles, born on March 17.

KANSAS, SABETHA

Clara Steiner - Judy Hartter

The Bern congregation assembled with us on Good Friday evening to hear the Word brought to us by Bro. Clarence Dietrich (Silverton). He also brought the Word on Easter Sunday.

We were privileged to be present as Lanette Meyer, Pam Edelman, and Jana Meyer gave their testimonies on Sat. evening. Their baptisms were held on Sunday. We welcome them as dear Sisters in Faith. Bro. Eugene Marti (Lamar) and Bro. Lester Hartter (Bern) were here to assist Bro. Sam Huber in this important work.

Also visiting us this past month was Bro. Vernon Leman (Eureka). We appreciate the visits of all the brethren. May God richly bless them in their labors.

The engagement was made known of Sis. Libby Meyer (Kansas City and Sabetha) to Bro. Keith Leman (Elgin, IL). May the Lord direct them as they make their plans for their future life together.

Hospitalized this month were Bro. Dave Brunner, Sis. Fanny Bahr, and Dave Meyer.

Excavation has been started for the new apartments at the Apostolic Christian Rest Home. It will be a 22-unit Congregate Apartment Complex adjacent to the present Home. It will have much to offer to those who desire to be in their own home but can no longer do the maintenance work on their present homes.

Our mid-week services have been discontinued for this season. We are once again having our Sunday evening singings twice a month alternating with Bern. They begin at 7:00 and everyone is welcome.

KANSAS, WICHITA

Priscilla Frank

"Christ Arose," by Robert Lowry so well expresses the Easter Story when he wrote:

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!

This is the joy of Easter to me. For truly Christ's Resurrection enables us to be victors in this dark domain and he lives forever that some day we as saints may reign with him. Surely this love is something uncomprehensible, that Christ would give Himself a ransom for us all; to be the Supreme Sacrifice that we might stand before our God without spot, wrinkle or blemish upon the resurrection day.

We have had several of our brothers and sisters in the hospital in the last six weeks. Bro. Virgil Barth for knee surgery, Bro. Arthur Thullschdeger for minor surgery, and Sis. Ruth Yackley, who yet remains in the hospital due to heart problems. Also Ungela Strahm is once again in for cancer treatments. We ask that you would keep our loved ones in your prayers that God might return them unto us in good health again.

MICHIGAN, ALTO

Jane Grawburg

Another month has passed, and Spring is now upon us. Those gathering the sap for maple syrup have been very busy. Soon it will be time to begin working the fields, preparing them for planting. Let's not forget our celebration of the Easter season and the feeling of love we hold so very dear in appreciation of our Lord dying on the Cross to save us. Can we gather in enough grace, peace, and joy in our hearts to make us worthy to receive this beautiful and most precious gift? Let's pray that we can—it's so wonderful!

Spring also brings back those who have been in the South during the winter months. We warmly welcome Bro. Dave and Sis. Bertha

Wingeier who have returned from their winter home at Sarasota, FL. We also welcome Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Eloise Blough, who spent the last month enjoying the beautiful South.

Spring is also a time for weddings. Tammy Starks (daughter of Sandy Fox and Larry Starks) and Bruce Wingeier (son of Bro. Dave and Sis. Bertha) gave their marriage vows on Saturday, April 17. We pray that God will provide, and that He will watch over this young couple as they begin their lives together.

We cannot forget those who have been ill or hospitalized this month. Fred Grawburg (father of Bro. Ferdinand) was in the hospital shortly before Easter. He returned home in a couple of days. We pray that all will be well with him.

Bro. Wallace Ramsier (Mansfield, OH) was with us last weekend. We deeply appreciated his message and heartily thank him for his labors of love.

We pray for special blessings for our mothers whom we hold so very dear to us. May God grant each one more grace, more faith and strength, and whatever else it takes to be a mother.

A MODEL MOTHER

"When God looked down upon the earth
And chose to put new blessing
here,
Gifts from above
To show His love
And lighten earthly joy and care,
He gave the sky the sunset glow;
Gave fragrance to the lily's blow;
To children's play,
And then to every yearning soul
He gave the gift of tenderest
worth.
A Mother."

Author Unknown

MICHIGAN, BAY CITY
Linda Ramseyer

We rejoice to be able to welcome a new brother into our church. Our congregation was privileged to hear the testimony and witness the baptism of Bro. Kurt Munsel. Kurt's parents are Bro. Fred and Sis. Delores.

Brenda Knochel and James Wrzesinski were joined together in marriage on March 27. Brenda's parents are Bro. Floyd and Sis.

Marian. Our prayers are with this young couple as they begin their life together.

We have had a few dear ones who have been hospitalized during the past month. Sis. Lydia Freidinger, Sis. Lena Lambert, and Sis. Bonnie (Bro. Robert and Sis. Betty) Schlatter were all in the hospital for short stays. We are glad they could all return to their homes.

Bro. Herb (Sis. Naomi) Ramseyer wishes to thank all whose prayers and kindness were felt by him during his recent hospital stay and illness.

We were pleased to have Bro. Homer Reineck from Toledo, OH with us for Easter Sunday. It is always a blessing to have the Lord's Resurrection ministered to us once again.

We should always be thankful for our dear Fathers and Mothers. May the Lord bless them at this time of the year, where days are set aside for us to show our love and kindness unto them.

MICHIGAN, DETROIT
Bonnie Popp

"For in thee, O Lord, do I hope:
thou wilt hear, O Lord my God."
Psalm 38:15.

I heard a sermon recently which centered around that word—hope. It seemed to bring to my mind a keen awareness of just how important hope is to the human soul. In so many respects, we must have a hope of better things to come. For the infirmed, it is the hope of recovery or a successful surgery, for the parent it is the hope of good things for the children. And certainly every human soul must hope for the best side of eternity, to spend the time unending with the one and only God in Heaven. It is my hope that somehow that which is in the Silver Lining would touch a soul to realize that hope and follow through with a life of faith and commitment through Christ Jesus.

We were glad for visiting ministers, Bro. Ron Allenbach (Kiowa) and Bro. Jim Ramseyer (Bay City). We pray for a special blessing upon them for their visit and for ministering unto us.

Sis. Vi Barton was in the hospital and is home following surgery. We are glad to see a quick recovery for

her.

We miss Sis. Shelle Massner who moved to Kansas following her high school graduation. We pray that the Lord will be close to her each and every day.

May God bless you and keep you
Safe - enfolded in His love;
May He ever guide your footsteps
By His wisdom from above!
May He keep you and uphold you,
May His blessings never cease,
May His face shine down upon
you,

And may He give you peace!

Jon Gilbert

MINNESOTA, MORRIS

Rhonda Zeltwanger - Jan Schock

"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-dove is heard in our land;" Song of Solomon 2:11,12

Bro. Sid and Sis. Cheryl Messner welcome a new son, Alex James, to their home. Grandparents are Bro. Frank and Sis. Gladys and Bro. Simon and Sis. Mary Ellen Wiegand. Their children, Quinn, Ryan, Joni, and Leah, are glad for a playmate.

Rob Schmidgall (Bro. Richard and Sis. Corrine) wants to give his heart to the Lord. We wish him God's grace and love that his life can be a testimony of faith to his friends and family.

Sis. Virginia Schmidgall (Bro. Don) was a surgery patient and we're thankful she is recovering well and will be home soon.

MINNESOTA, MINNEAPOLIS
Deb Tilbury

It feels like Spring has finally arrived. It was 60 degrees today for the first time in over five months.

We have had two weddings recently. On Mar. 13, Brent Miller and Kathy Main were married. Their parents are Bro. Noah and Sis. Laura Miller and James and Dorothy Main, all of Minneapolis. Randy Olson and Mary LaManna were married April 10. Their parents are Sis. Kathryn Olson and Nick LaManna of St. Paul. We want to wish both couples much happiness in their new homes.

MINNESOTA, WINTHROP

Carol Messner - Mary Lou Schmidt

On April 16, our congregation was saddened by the passing away of our dear Bro. in faith, Dennis Messner. He was our head song leader and also one of our Bible class teachers. Dennis always had a deep concern for our precious young friends. He was always ready and willing to open his home to our youth for fellowship. We will miss his helping hand and loving smile.

This poem was found in his billfold after the tragic plane crash which took his life.

The Cross In My Pocket

I carry a cross in my pocket
A simple reminder to me
Of the fact that I am a Christian
No matter where I may be.

This little cross is not magic
Nor is it a good luck charm
It isn't meant to protect me
From every physical harm.

It's not for identification
For all the world to see
It's simply an understanding
Between my Saviour and me.

When I put my hand in my pocket
To bring out a coin or key
The cross is there to remind me
Of the price He paid for me.

It reminds me, too, to be thankful
For my blessing day by day
And to strive to serve Him better
In all that I do and say.

So, I carry a cross in my pocket
Reminding no one but me!
That Jesus Christ is Lord of
my life
If only I'll let Him be.

And God reached out and took him by the hand; "Come with me," He said, "You have earned your place in Heaven."

Dennis hesitated, "But I have so many plans ... so much left to do." God nudged him gently, "You already have done more than most men. You've squeezed a lifetime of honorable work and living in a few short years."

"But my family --- they need me and will miss me," Dennis protested.

"Yes, the ache of separation will

be unbearable at first, but time is a great healer. The ache will eventually give way to beautiful memories --- to cherish in years to come. So come with me --- and rest in peace."

So Dennis has left our lives --- such a wonderful person; who gave so much, did so much, lived so much.

...And the memories will live on forever!

Bro. Dennis leaves behind his wife, Sis. Carol Ann; two sons, Todd and Jason, four daughters, Lisa, Amy, Jodi and Stephanie, all at home. Also, a daughter-in-law, Renee, Todd's wife; and a grandson, Andy.

Also surviving are three sisters, Sis. Donnabell Nelson (Alvin), Sis. Barb Mattes (Pat), Sis. Marcelle Dapper (Ernie); and one brother, Bill Messner, of Gibbon, Minnesota.

We can never begin to tell each and everyone of you, how much your prayers meant to us at the loss of our husband and father. Our grateful thanks are extended for all the cards, letters, kindnesses, and sympathy shown. It touched our hearts deeply and will always be remembered.

The Family of Dennis Messner The Winthrop Sunday School teachers and Bible class students wish to express their appreciation to the Morris Sunday School for their efforts of love and kindness shown unto them while recently visiting there. May God bless all of you!

With Father's Day approaching, we found this little poem quite appropriate.

Beatitudes for a Father

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

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

Anonymous

Andy, 8 month old grandson of Sis. Carol Ann Messner (Dennis), suffered a broken leg. He will be in a body cast for about 6 weeks.

MISSOURI, KANSAS CITY

Janice Lehman

We recently partook of Communion which was shared with us by Bro. Eugene Marti and Bro. Lester Hartter. It was a special service for us since this was the first Communion in our new edifice.

The engagement of Sis. Libby Meyer to Bro. Keith Leman of Elgin, IL, was made known to our congregation. May they feel the Lord's continued guidance.

The following poem was given to me by a recent convert. The poem can be paralleled to a travel agency giving away free train tickets. We can imagine how many people would respond! And yet the Lord offers us a "free train ride" and so few people take advantage of the free fare.

The Heavenly Railway

The road to heaven by Christ was made,
In Heavenly Truth the rails were laid.
From earth to heaven the line extends
To life eternal where it ends.

We are going home
The Bible is the engineer,
Which points the way to heaven so clear.
Thru tunnels dark and dreary bear,
It does the way to Glory steer.

God's love the fire, His truth the steam
Which drives the engine and the train,
All who would to Glory ride
Must come to Christ, in Him abide.

Repentance is the station then
Where passengers are taken in,
And where there is no fare to pay,
For Jesus himself is the way.

Come sinner, come, now is the time
At any station on the line,
If you will repent and turn from sin,
The train will stop and take you in.

Author Unknown

MISSOURI, LAMAR

Sandra Marti - Becky Hohulin

There seems to be little news this time, so we thought we would share this poem with you. Surely it does remind us that Jesus Christ is our answer to all of our life's problems

and perplexities.

What I Need

I need a strength to keep me true
And straight in everything I do;
I need a power to keep me strong
When I am tempted to do wrong.

I need a grace to keep me pure
When passion tries its deadly lure;
I need a love to keep me sweet
When hardness and mistrust I meet.

I need an arm to be my stay
When dark with troubles grows my
day;
And naught on earth can these
afford,
But all is found in Christ my Lord.
Theodore Horton

In the hospital for a short stay
was Ryan Braker, son of Terry and
Janelle Braker. He is home now and
feeling better.

Our Sunday School Bible Class
and their teachers are looking for-
ward to traveling to Kiowa, KS, this
weekend. We appreciate their
labors in hosting this Youth
Fellowship gathering. It is our hope
and prayer that they will receive a
blessing from being together.

MISSOURI, TAYLOR

Loida Hodel

"All things bright and beautiful,
All creatures great and small.
All things wise and wonderful
The Lord God made them all.
Each little flower that opens,
Each little bird that sings,
He made their glowing colors,
He made their tiny wings."

Hymns of Zion No. 207

Spring is indeed a beautiful time
and we are especially glad that in
this season of the year we were
privileged to have Elder Bro. Ron
Nelson (Kiowa,KS) come to assist
our Elder Bro. Roy in serving Holy
Communion on March 28.

Anew, Lord, we are bound to thee
Through Thy blest sacrament,
which we partook,
That joined in heart and hand;
To Zion's realm and holy land.
We journey on.

Zion's Harp No. 200

"Behold, I stand at the door, and
knock: If any man hear my voice,
and open the door, I will come in to
him, and will sup with him, And he
with me." Rev. 3:20

We are happy for Jim Moser who
has answered this knock, and wish
for him God's grace and help to con-
tinue on in this new walk of life.
Jim's wife is Ginger and his parents
are Bro. Earl and Sis. Janette Moser
(Elgin, IL).

Little Jeremy (Bro. Norman and
Sis. Sally Haerr) was a hospital
(medical) patient, but is home again
and doing well.

Our thanks to God for giving Bro.
Kenny and Sis. Phyllis Knapp a
special love and desire to reach out
and share their hearts and home to
three little brothers, Jason (6),
Michael (4), and Cory (2), who have
not been as fortunate as many of our
children and grandchildren. May
God bless Kenny and Phyllis and
their family for making this
possible, and may the little boys
be a special joy and happiness to
them as they are being cared for,
loved, and "trained in a way so that
when they are old they will not
depart from it."

A little sunbeam was added to the
home of Tim and Penny Sutter on
April 7. Joshua Eli has a little sister,
Tara; his grandparents are Bro.
Gerald and Sis. Marjorie Sutter and
the Amos Martins.

Our Sunday School children
presented their annual Easter
program on Palm Sunday and it was
enjoyed by many friends, parents
and grandparents. On Easter Sun-
day, Bro. Kenny Dietz (Bradford)
was our visiting minister. Timely
teachings, as well as encouraging
thoughts, were shared. Many
families were together and we are
grateful for this blessing.

"There's a special kind of
closeness

that only families know,
That begins with childhood trust
and deepens as you grow.
There's a special kind of hap-
piness,
in sharing little things,
The laughter, smiles and quiet
talks,
that daily living brings.

There's a special kind of comfort,
in knowing your family's there,

To back you up, to cheer you up,
to understand and care.
Of all the treasures life may bring
your family means the most,
And whether near or far apart,
that love will hold you close."

Author Unknown

It is a good thing to give thanks
unto the Lord. Psalm 92:1.

NEW JERSEY, UNION CITY

Ed Aeschlmean

Ministering Bro. Al Schnieder
from Rockville, his wife and several
others visited our small church the
last Sunday in March. The Holy
Word of truth and the good
fellowship brought to us by visitors
is very precious and encouraging to
us.

Richard Diggelman, his wife
Helga and their seven month old
son, Kevin, were able to come home
for a visit from South Korea where
they are presently assigned with
Eastman Kodak. Richard's parents,
Bro. John and Sis. Mary, were
privileged to see their grandson for
the first time and to enjoy the com-
pany of all. May God bless and
protect the young family when they
return again to South Korea in a few
days.

With sadness we report the sud-
den death of Robert Brinkerhoff, the
father of our dear friend, Cindy
Brinkerhoff. May God answer our
prayers and reveal His consoling
grace to Cindy, her mother,
brothers and sisters.

NEW YORK, CROGHAN

Alice Virkler

On Easter Sunday the Naumburg
congregation gathered with us for
the day. We are thankful for the
fellowship we could enjoy together
and, during the noon-hour we were
privileged to listen to what our Sun-
day School children have learned
about the death and resurrection of
our Lord and Savior.

Our mid-week services have
resumed. Services begin at 7:30 p.m.
on Wednesday evening and we alter-
nate locations with the Naumburg
Church.

Brad, Jr. and Joyce Herzig and lit-
tle Erin have welcomed a new son
and brother, Jacob Richard. Jacob
was born on April 5 and is loved by
his grandparents, Brad and Sis.
Regina Herzig and Richard and

Eileen Robbins.

Sis. Pam Herzig and her sister, Gwen Lehman, were hospitalized for several days and have been able to return to their homes. Sis. Sarah Farney is a hospital patient at this time. May God grant a measure of health to each one according to His will.

NEW YORK, NAUMBURG
Rachel Snyder

A funeral service was held Mar. 22 for Sis. Florance Herzig of Naumburg. She has left a sister, Sis. Natalie, who was very dear to her and a brother, Wayland, from California. Bros. Robert Beyer and Leland Hirschey conducted the service.

We have heard that Sis. Corine Virkler has been able to return home after having surgery.

We are beginning to resume mid-week services again for the summer months.

Sis. Maude Pelton is a patient at Carthage Area Hospital.

How great is the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ? The Apostle Paul tells us in his letter to the Corinthians, "For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that ye through His poverty might be rich." IICor. 8:9.

OHIO, AKRON
Joyce Gasser

With the angels in heaven, our hearts are rejoicing over two sisters who have turned to the Lord for their personal salvation: Erika Bako and Esther, whose husband is Tibor Zsoldos. They are daughters of Bro. Sandor and Sis. Kathy Bako. May the Lord work mightily in their hearts for a strong foundation upon Jesus Christ.

April 20 marks a silver anniversary for Bro. Carl and Sis. Kathy Graf, who have had the joy of 25 happy years together. They have returned from trips to Hawaii and Florida.

Sis. Edith Graf has safely returned from a blessed trip to Japan. On the trip also was Edith's great nephew, Bro. Tom Klotzle of California, and Bro. Fred Wyss of Washington, Illinois. They were with Bro. Tom's sister, Sis. Kathy Klotzle, and Sis. Vickie Ramseyer.

Sis. Edith says they felt the same love and kindness in the churches in Japan as in the States. They spent much time with the girls, who planned many things for them, and some Japanese families entertained them in their homes.

The age of four-score years has been reached by Ann Francis, who could observe her 80th birthday on March 27. She helps care for her husband, Bro. Stanley, who is home from the hospital. Walter Francis, Stanley's brother, who helps care for Stanley, is feeling better since he had a pacemaker inserted.

Cindy Collins, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Duane Collins, fell from a pony and broke her right arm. We're glad she can still attend school, and pray that it will heal completely.

We were blessed by having Bro. Gary Maibach minister to us. Also, we enjoyed a blessed weekend when several families from Bluffton honored us with a visit.

OHIO, GIRARD
Karen Laparo

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

We have been richly blessed to have many visitors. Our visiting ministers have been Bro. Eugene Pamer (Akron, OH), Bro. Robert Walder (Congerville, IL), and Bro. Gary Maibach (Rittman, OH). Visiting song leaders have been Bro. John Rufener (Akron), Bro. Larry Rufener (Rittman), Bro. Elzie Graf (Akron), Bro. Ken Maibach (Rittman), Bro. Dave Rufener (Rittman), Bro. Steve Pamer (Akron), Bro. Dean Maibach (Rittman), Bro. Bruce Maibach (Rittman), Bro. Marvin Ramsier (Rittman), and Bro. Ron Rufener (Mansfield). We sincerely thank them and those who came with them.

Sis. Louisa Lance has been hospitalized this month, but is at home again. Our prayers are with her and we hope she will soon be able to assemble with us again.

OHIO, JUNCTION
Les Manz

Jesus' death on the cross for our sins, and His resurrection for our justification were reviewed with us

on Easter Sunday as Bro. Paul Eisenmann (Burlington, IA) and Bro. Eugene Fetter (Toledo) brought the Word to the Junction congregation. The following weekend, we were reminded in another special way of Christ's death for us and His unending love for us as Bro. Rudolph Graf (Akron) and Bro. Loren Stoller (Latty) served us Communion. With renewed strength, we progress onward to Zion, thankful for what Christ has done for us and thankful for His servants who willingly bring us His Word.

Following a construction accident, Roger Manz was hospitalized a few days this month. It has been so refreshing to see some nice spring weather for all of us, but no doubt especially to Sis. Frieda Manz, who having been inside most of the winter, was able to be in church with us again on a nice spring Sunday.

OHIO, LATTY

Cheryl Wenninger — Patty Riggenbach

"Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you." St. John 14:27. Three of our converts were announced as having peace and are awaiting baptism. They are Kristy Keysor (Bro. George and Sis. Sharon), Rhonda Stoller (Bro. Justus and Sis. Ruby), and Marlene Reinhard (Bro. Dan and Sis. Delores). We pray for God's continued guidance in their lives.

Mar. 20 was the wedding of Roy Klopfenstein and Deborah Hubbard. Parents are Bro. Alvin and Sis. Ellen Klopfenstein and Mr. and Mrs. Don Hubbard. May God richly bless their married life together.

Those from our congregation hospitalized recently were Sis. Naomi Metzger; Bro. Melvin Stoller (Sis. Irene); Sis. Charlette Grant (Bro. Paul); Bro. Don Wenninger (Sis. Josephine) and Kylee Stoller (Bro. Don and Gail). It is our prayer that God will continue to grant His healing power to our loved ones.

"Lord, make me all a parent should be, that I may lead my child to Thee." Amanda Steffen is glad for her little sister, Nicole Joy, along with parents Bro. Donn and Sis. Karen. Grandparents are Bro. Elmer and Sis. Delema Steffen

(Bluffton) and Bro. Herb and Sis. Jane Gramm (Gridley). What a blessing from God to have a little bundle of joy to brighten their home.

God has heard and answered our prayers and blessed the hands of the builders in completing our Fellowship Hall. We pray that we may use this building as an honor and glory to our Heavenly Father. Chosen as trustees for the building were Bro. Don Wenninger, Bro. Dwight Stoller and Bro. John Laukhuf. Bro. William Stoller, Sr. was chosen as administrator. Lord willing, we plan to have dedication service for the fellowship hall April 25.

What More?

Could any mother wish for more?
I stand beside my open door
And look out on a world so
grand,
And yet confused on every hand;
I wonder what the future holds
For you, my child, as the scene
unfolds,
And in my heart there is just
one prayer,
"May God go with you
everywhere."

There are many things I could
wish for you,
And some of them might even
come true;
But I won't build castles that
crumble and fall,
For that would never do at all.
Dreams are made of such gossamer
stuff
That they vanish at even the
slightest puff;
And so, in my heart there's just
one prayer,
"May God go with you
everywhere."

Phyllis C. Michael

At this special time of year that is set aside to honor our mothers, may we ever be thankful for all that they have done for us. Not only in caring for us materially, but providing for our spiritual needs as well. We just pray for God's richest blessings in their lives.

OHIO, MANSFIELD Lucille Groh

There is an old saying that goes something like this, "The mother's

heart is the Child's schoolroom." Beecher.

A Sunday School teacher was trying to make his class understand the dependence of the branches on the Heavenly vine, and said, "Remember, children, Jesus is the vine and we are the branches. We draw our life and happiness from Him." When the lesson was finished a young lad spoke up. "Teacher", he said, "If Jesus is the Vine and grownup people are the branches, then we children must be the buds." How important a part our Christian mothers render in the lives of the small "buds". If these small buds become blighted, then there can be no branches and no fruit. How important it is that our Christian mothers continue to care and watch over the "buds" and bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

The things in my life that are
worthy,
Were born in my mother's breast
And breathed into mine by the
fragrance
Of her life by Jesus blest.
Author Unknown

On March 21, our congregation enjoyed a day of blessing when Bro. Don Manz (Junction) visited our community and proclaimed the Holy Word to us. Accompanying him was his dear wife, Sis. Connie, and their children.

On April 4 our Sunday School presented its annual Easter program and on April 9, Good Friday, Bro. Aaron Steffen (Alto) and Sis. Loretta and family were here. Bro. Aaron expounded the precious Word to us and we were drawn in spirit to Calvary. Bro. Aaron also ministered to us on Easter Sunday.

Easter sunrise services were held at the home of Bro. Wallace and Sis. Helen Ramsier. A goodly number attended and enjoyed an early morning blessing.

Loved ones hospitalized have been Bro. Vern Dotterer, who received a broken foot in an industrial accident, and Harold Armstrong. Sis. Cheryl Dotterer had eye surgery and we are thankful she is now able to attend services with us again as well as our two sisters,

Sis. Alma Beer and Sis. Catherine Bocka who are able to assemble with us once again. We praise God for His wonderful healing touch on these dear ones.

We regret to report that Mike and Dianne Matuck have moved from our community to Jacksonville, Florida. We will miss them in our fellowship. We might drop them a line from time to time to let them know we miss them. Their new address is:

Mike and Dianne Matuck
6121 Collins Rd.
Box 46 — 3 Seasons Mobile Home
Village
Jacksonville, Florida 32210

The following poem was given to me sometime ago from a dear sister who found it among some papers of her mother. This dear mother had a large believing family and was loved in our congregation:

Just yesterday it seems my
children
Played upon the floor
And I wiped countless finger
prints
From window pane and door.
I kissed away a thousand tears,
And tried to keep pace with
the hands,
That raced around the clock;
And oft when at the end of day,
Too tired to sleep in bed I
lay.
I'd think how nice when
children grown,
My time again would be my own.

So now I sit and rock alone,
My hands at rest, the work
all done,
No little tots upon the floor
No finger prints upon the door
No socks to mend, bruises to
kiss,
Oh, me! How could I know I'd
miss,
The very things I grudged to
do,
When I was young and sturdy,
too.
Dear God, if only there might
be
Someone again who needed me.

Author Unknown

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

OHIO, RITTMAN**Florence Hartzler — Janette Blough**

We received many rich blessings from visiting ministers this past month. We want to thank Bro. Paul Eisenman (Burlington, IA), Bro. Bob Walder (Congerville, IL), Bro. Ray Sinn (Latty, OH), and Bro. John Lehman (Bern, KS). Even though these men are from different states, this Word of God is still the same, and they brought us the same teachings, and the same good tidings. Aren't we thankful they all follow our Lord, Jesus Christ in the same way, and that God is the same yesterday, today, and tomorrow? The following comes to mind, written by John Wyrzten:

Yesterday — He died for me:

This is history.

Today — He lives for me:

This is victory.

Tomorrow — He comes for me:

This is mystery.

Oh friend, do you know Him?

Jesus Christ, the Lord!

The Lord has brought two dear souls together, and their engagement was announced. We pray the Lord will bless Bro. Randy Gasser and Sis. Sue Stieglitz, Leo, as they make their plans for their future together. The parents are Bro. Oliver and Sis. Emma Jean Stieglitz, and Sis. Doris Gasser and the late Bro. Bill.

Many friends and relatives of Bro. Raymond and Sis. Grace Marty joined together to offer their best wishes for their 50th wedding anniversary. They want to take this time to thank everyone for their cards, gifts, and good wishes at this happy time. They were blessed from the love shown to them at this open house.

Two little boys needed hospital care this past month. Even the young have pain as was experienced by Jerry Riegenbach (Joe and Sis. Karen) and Tony Stoller (Bro. Dale and Sis. Jeanette). They have recovered and can be in church again.

A pot-luck supper was held at the Fellowship Hall for Bro. Larry and Sis. Donna Bachman, who with their two boys, have left our area and are

now living in Forrest. We will miss them, but we pray they will be received with love in the Forrest church.

On the week-end of April 17 and 18, Rittman was host to the annual meeting of Apostolic Christian Homes. We enjoyed the many visitors who came for this meeting of the administration.

The Lord blessed many families with new little ones. A son, Rodney Eugene, was born to Bro. Dave and Sis. Linda Hartzler. This is their first child, and the grandparents are Bro. Eugene and Sis. Katherine Bachman, and Bro. Joe and Sis. Marian Hartzler. A daughter was born to Bob and Sis. Joan Graf, and is named Melinda Marie. The grandmother, Sis. Marie Bauman, has gone to Ft. Wayne to help care for their first child. The other grandparents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Alma Graf, Akron. April Dawn is the name given to the third daughter of Bro. Bob and Sis. Mardell Dotterer. The little girls, Michelle and Jennifer, are glad for a new sister. The grandparents are Bro. Henry and Sis. Martha Dotterer, and Bro. Delmar and Sis. Marguerite Stoller, Latty.

An engagement in the March issue was incorrect. We reported that Pam Bachman was engaged to Michael Musselman, but it should be Judy Bachman instead. We are sorry for this error.

Singing! What a beautiful way to praise the Lord! Isn't it wonderful that the Lord gave us voices to raise in song to Him? It seems we should all sing from all our hearts when we feel the Spirit move us. This doesn't mean a soft half-hearted tune, but a joyful melody that can uplift a broken-down soul, or maybe cause a friend to repent. A beautiful song, as a perfect sacrifice, is giving our best to God, not as a blemished lamb, but one that God will be satisfied with. Come, let us worship Him in hymns and spiritual songs, that we may receive a blessing. This is a privilege all should use, so let us lift our voice to heaven and praise the Lord, joyfully with enthusiasm. It will brighten many a heavy load, and maybe cause some soul to think of his or her salvation. We can look around us in church, and some do not even take the song book out of

the rack. The next time we gather in God's house, let us think about all the things God has done for us, and let us thank him in singing praise to His name, with joy! This should be for everyone, young or old.

Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands. Serve the Lord with gladness: come before his presence with singing. Psalm 100:1, 2

In II Chronicles 5:13, 14 we read: It came even to pass, as the trumpeters and singers were as one, to make one sound to be heard in praising and thanking the Lord; and when they lifted up their voice with the trumpets and cymbals and instruments of music, and praised the Lord, saying, For he is good; for his mercy endureth for ever: that then the house was filled with a cloud, even the house of the Lord; So that the priests could not stand to minister by reason of the cloud: for the glory of the Lord had filled the house of God. That must have been beautiful! It would have been wonderful to have been there in the temple Solomon had built to the honor of the Lord!

OHIO, SARDIS
Joyce Indermuhle

Our heartfelt thanks go out to those who minister unto us. We were once again filled to the overflowing when Bro. Gary Maibach, Rittman, OH. and Bro. Don Sauder, Roanoke, IL shared a Sunday with us.

Once again we look forward to our annual service in West Virginia. The date this year is June 27, 1982, the last weekend in June. There will be services in Sardis, Saturday evening, June 26, 1982 at 7:30. Song services will start at 10:30 on Sunday morning the 27th at the church in West Virginia. We look forward to the weekend and heartily invite all to come and join in the fellowship and Word that is shared.

With warm weather comes the opportunity to till the fields and plant gardens. We also have a duty to work in the Lord's vineyard. While the tilling and sowing may be a little more difficult, the reaping can be beyond greatest expectation. Take courage and toil on so that when Christ comes to claim us, the laborers will be working, and He will find faith.

OHIO, TOLEDO
Josephine Rehkla
Mary Ann Weigele
Mom

For the tireless efforts that
 you spent
 To keep us wholesome and
 content
 For your courage when our skies
 weren't blue,
 And a smile so much a part
 of you;
 For your patience with the
 tedious tasks
 And the questions that a small
 child asks;
 For your stories we so love
 to hear,
 And the million memories we hold
 so dear;
 For the love that's never failed
 a day,
 May God bless you, Mom,
 in every way.
 Dorothy Bettencourt Elfstrom

We were privileged to have Bros.
 William D. Gerst (Alto, MI) and
 Mark Bahr (Detroit, MI) and their
 families with us on Palm Sunday.
 Our visiting ministers brought to us
 God's Word of eternal life and may
 He bless them for their efforts.

Sis. Geralyn Beard (Bro. David)
 was in the hospital for medical care.
 We pray that God will give her a
 good measure of health.

OREGON, SILVERTON
Rosa Lee Kuenzi

This time of year, when mothers
 and fathers are especially remem-
 bered, brings to mind a blessing that
 could be taken for granted in our
 church communities because it is
 more common than uncommon. It is,
 none the less, a blessing. That is the
 opportunity that so many have had
 of growing up with stability. The
 stability of a home with loving
 parents, little or no unnecessary
 moving about from place to place
 and always the strength of the
 Church, continuously from infancy
 to adulthood. If you have had these
 seemingly "normal" blessings all
 your life and perhaps not thought
 how unique you are for having had
 them, (compared to millions of
 peoples in God's wide world) fall
 down on your knees beside your bed
 tonight and thank the Lord for this

precious possession that no amount
 of money could have purchased.
 Food for thought: Are we providing
 that stability for our children?

We wish to thank ministering Bro.
 Carroll Gerber, Bluffton, IN for
 sharing the Word of Life with us on
 March 28. A church potluck was held
 at the church. This fellowship is so
 dear to us and time spent with loved
 ones from afar lingers long in our
 hearts. We also want to thank
 ministering Bros. Robert Miller and
 Garth Steffen, Portland, OR and
 Walt Steffen, Milford, IN, for
 coming and joining us for the
 evening service.

Our thanks also go to the four
 ministers who held midweek ser-
 vices at Restless Surf, the coast
 cabin. Those who attended from our
 area reported having a blessed
 fellowship together.

TEXAS, ZAPATA
Margery Koehl

We were privileged to have with
 us Bro. Robert and Sis. Elna Grimm
 from Congerville, IL on Sunday
 Mar. 21. Bro. Robert assisted in
 serving Holy Communion to our
 congregation.

Sis. Mary Plattner is home
 recuperating after her recent
 surgery. We will be happy to see her
 smiling face in our midst again.

For the benefit of our winter
 visitors and of our residents who left
 early, it has been decided to pave
 the larger portion of our church
 parking lot. We hope to have the
 parking lot completed by this fall.
 We wish to thank all who have left
 contributions. If there are others
 who would wish to donate to this
 project, they may send their
 donation to our treasurer:

John Perdelwitz
 Box 1238
 Zapata, TX 78076

or

Leland Plattner
 Rt. 1 Box 200
 Zapata, TX 78076

SILVER THREADS

The Precious Legacy

Like the Bee and the Ant, folks have
 striven so hard
 To store food in the summer,
 winter's needs to retard

Also year after year they some
 treasures lay by
 For their health, and their comfort,
 till God takes them on high.

Now if by God's blessings their
 fortune mounts greater
 Than it takes to care for them till
 called by the Creator,
 How gladly they "WILL" all this
 earth's hard earned blessings
 To the ones they have fondled, yes,
 from childhood caressing.

Each parent is thankful when the
 children learn well
 As they teach them, Be faithful to
 God, and to tell
 Them to love every neighbor,
 (though at times this is tough);
 In the end we oft find this smooths
 many a mile, rough.

When we go back in history, we
 often can find
 Where the richest of people whose
 wealth great had climbed,
 Were saddened by children who
 their parents had spurned;
 "Knights Lost Heritage", SAD!
 When their fate they had
 learned.

How much sadder our fate, if our
 Father in Heaven
 Who has far greater riches than rich
 man's ever given,
 Would be so disappointed by our
 poor behavior
 That he'd say, "You have lost,
 you've spurned your Dear
 Savior."

Now the Father on High, has Great
 Treasure to give
 All his children on earth who with
 Whole heart will live
 For their Heavenly Father's good
 pleasure below;
 Then a Mansion in Heaven He will
 gladly bestow.

Just think of the beauties of streets
 of Pure Gold
 Where God and the Lamb, are its
 light we are told
 A bright home in Eternity, "TIME
 WITHOUT END!"
 This we wish for ourselves, all our
 children and Friends.

John Heiniger

What Is It Worth To You?

How much do you value your Bible,
And what is it worth to you,
The book with its sacred contents,
With its message consoling and
true?

I know that you value it highly,
And cherish each word and
command.
'Tis the guide in our pilgrimage
journey
Which leads to the Heavenly land.

Are you willing to share it with
others,
That they also may read and
believe?

Christ spoke that His Word should
be published,
Will you give, that they may
receive?

Ye Christians with means and
possessions,
With houses and funds in great
store,
Are you willing to honor the Master,
Our Lord, whom we love and adore?

'Tis the duty of saints and believers,
Of Christians who follow the Lord,
To give of their means and their
substance
For the spread of the life-giving
Word.

The worldling whose aims and
whose pleasures
Are centered on things of this time
Give naught of his means to the
Master
Nor the cause of the Savior divine.

Now billions are spent for
destruction,
Which men in their folly provide,
But how little is given to Jesus
Whose work will forever abide.

If you're planning to make an
investment,
Why not let it be for His Word?
Then the saved and the giver
together
Will receive an eternal reward.

His Word, so precious, has power
To accomplish the mind and intent
Of the Lord, who has promised to
bless it,
And prosper whereunto it is sent.

If you're walking in faith in His
nearness.
Are concerned for the lost far and
nigh,
You'll be liberal, wholehearted in
giving,
The Word of His grace to supply.

In the Book of divine revelation
There's a message for Christians to
read—
Lest we say: "We are rich, lacking
nothing,"
When the world stands in peril and
need.

—Henry Beer-
My Garden of Verse

Address Changed
Give Old and New Address
to Your Reporter.

Sermon . . .
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difficult thing to do. We think very highly of ourselves whether we want to admit it or not; and it is not naturally within the pride of man to admit that someone else is better than he. I don't believe that God desires that we should do that particularly; but He desires that we certainly should not think that we are better than anyone else, because we are all one in Him. We are all His children, all brothers and sisters to the Lord Jesus Christ, and we are equal in the sight of God. We should consider one another as equal, and we should live our lives accordingly.

"Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others." Phil. 2:4. That doesn't mean that we should look upon the things of others with covetousness, but that we should look with the same respect that we look upon the things of our own. We should not think, "This is mine and I shall care for it very well. This is not mine, and I don't care what happens to it." It is easy to do that, but we should be concerned for our brothers and sisters, especially for the things that are of the Spirit. We should mind the house of the Spirit. We should be willing and able to give the warning; and we should cer-

tainly be willing and able to set an example so that through it, to the praise and honor of God, others might take heart.

"Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross." Phil. 2:5-8.

If we look loved ones, for someone whom we can follow, we must not idolize anyone except our God. But many times we look at someone and say, "If I could only live my life as well as he." This is all right; but if we are seeking for someone to follow, why not seek out the Lord? He lived His life here in a perfect state. He was sin-free, and He did the same things that we are expected to do. "He made Himself," it says, "of no reputation." He made Himself as a servant. Imagine!

The Saviour of all mankind, God's only Son, came as a servant. He proved to us His willingness to serve others when He washed the disciples' feet; and He said, "...do as I have done to you." John 13:15. In this He meant, loved ones, that we should serve one another. By so doing, we would always help each other. You know, the servant always has to do the work. So, if we are all servants, we will all be working. If we are all working, just think what we can accomplish! God wants us to accomplish a great deal here, not only saving our own souls, but encouraging others.

We read in Psalm 103 (I thought they were such inspiring words) of all that God has done for us. It says that we should "Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits." Psalm 103:2.

Every day, loved ones, it is important for us to kneel down to our God and to thank Him for all our blessings. When we have our food, we should thank Him that He has been willing to provide for the needs of our bodies. We have never, any of us, known real hunger. I read one time that a man said he knew what hunger was because he always went to a restaurant. Well, this is sort of a

joke. But that's the way it has been with us. We have never known hunger. When we were hungry, we got something to eat. But there are those in this world, dear ones, who cannot do that. They do not have a place to get food. They have to suffer. There are those who live their whole lives knowing nothing but hunger. So, how thankful we should be that God has abundantly provided for us.

I was talking just before the service to a farmer and he mentioned, "Did you see the long line of corn going into the elevators?" Oh, I saw it, and it's a wonderful thing! Isn't it comforting to know that there is so much good food in this world, and especially in our nation? Shouldn't we be thankful for it? Shouldn't we support our government?

We should be thankful continually for the wonderful things that we have here. We should be like the men who established our nation. They came here so that they might find a place of peace and also a place where they could worship God as they desired. They were so thankful that God had blessed them that they established a day of Thanksgiving, the day which is soon to be celebrated.

If all the people of this nation would be prayerful and thankful for all that we have, and if they would support their churches, then dear ones, I believe that we would have nothing to fear. But it is not exactly like that. We know that there has been a falling away in our nation and that the churches have been weakened somewhat. Not enough emphasis is put there. There are so many more things to do on Sunday than to go to church. God cannot approve of this. We do not know how much longer He will allow it. As long as He does allow it, loved ones, let us, who know better, worship and thank Him.

"Who forgiveth all thine iniquities..." Psalm 103:3. How can sinful people become children of God? How could we ever be converted if God didn't forgive our iniquities? Conversion is the whole purpose of forgiveness. We come to God and admit before Him that we are less than perfect. We all are; we were born in sin. Unless we are willing to

acknowledge that we have been sinful and ask Him to forgive us, we cannot possibly become His children. We cannot become converted and renewed in mind unless we do this.

We must come in meekness with contrite hearts. We must not come with haughty hearts because God does not like pride. If we do come, we are told that He will forgive our iniquities. All He requires is that we come and ask Him; then He will forgive us.

"Who healeth all thy diseases..." Psalm 103:3. We know, loved ones, that we can become sick physically and also spiritually. We have all had problems, and many times we have had a better feeling after we prayed or looked into God's Word. I have had the experience, and I know it is the same with you, that when things weighed heavily upon us the Word of God gave encouragement.

Trials came to men long ago and through faith and reliance upon God, things worked out for good. It is recorded in the Old Testament (there is no better example) that the kings who followed God, found their nations well cared for. But when they turned from God, God removed His protecting hand and things didn't go so well. I believe that we will find that happens to us individually.

"Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies: Who satisfieth thy mouth with good things, so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle's," Psalm 103:4,5.

We know that once we have come to know God, we have been changed. We have seen it. We all know people who having lived very worldly lives, changed quickly after they committed themselves to God. They have replaced the desire for action, knowledge, and worldiness with love and moderateness. They have desired, then, to be more like God. It is a natural thing that, once we have come to know Jesus, we should be more like Him.

The Apostle Paul says in one place that when the last day comes, we will see Him and know Him face to face. It is something we all desire, something we all hope for, something we all can have. It is not

something that just some of us can have; but it is something all of us can have.

A week or so ago, I heard in a sermon of an account (I believe that all of us have heard things such as this) of someone who had come very near to death. Perhaps the heart had stopped, and the person for all practical purposes had passed out of this life; but he was revived. When he came back and was again conscious he mentioned that he had seen such beautiful things that he wished that he could have stayed there. I believe that these things have happened.

Some thoughts came to me then: Will we all see those beautiful things? Will only those who are on their way to that beautiful place see them? Or will those who are on their way to eternal suffering see them also? Will they have to pass them by? Will they long to go there but will have to go on instead to that place where no one wants to go? Will it be that those will cry out and beg for mercy? Will it be as it was in the times of the ark when the door was closed and the lost ones could not enter? I don't know, loved ones, but I know that it is promised here in this Word that only those who are true to God, who live for Him and submit to Him can be promised that wonderful reward!

We hope and pray that all of us will be able to remain strong. With God's help we can. So then, if we ever fear that we are going to fail, let us call upon the Lord. Let us call upon our God. Let us kneel before Him in prayer and beg Him to come to us, loved ones, in His unseen way, in the Spiritual way. We know that He is here today, and that He helps us in our efforts to live our lives in such a way that we may find our salvation.

May God grant us grace to that end. May He bless His Holy Word continually and all those who come to hear it. May many be renewed in the Spirit so that they might be inspired to know their God better, and may we who know Him be encouraged to remain faithful and true until our life's end. Then, when the time comes for us to pass out of this life, we will be at peace with God and with man.

May God bless this Word in that way.

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SERMON BY BRO. EDWARD A. AESCHLEMAN OF UNION CITY, N.J.

Text: Pslam 103 and Philipians 2:1- 16

We have read through sixteen verses of wonderful teaching by a remarkable man, the Apostle Paul, who gave his whole life to the cause of establishing the church of Jesus Christ which we enjoy today. Through Jesus' suffering upon the cross and the Word that we have been given, we find a way to work out our salvation and thereby become one with God. This satisfies all our needs upon this earth.

The Word tells us that if we seek these things first, all other things will be added. I believe that we have all experienced that this has been very, very true. If we are first willing to yield to Him, God in turn is willing to provide for our every need.

We are taught that if we ask in faith for whatever we need, He will provide it. He has done so. Many times God has provided even before we ask, because He knows what our needs are. God knows even our thoughts. He knows the future so that, as He sees how things are going to develop, He makes provision for His children.

Many times we can look back in our lives and say how wonderful it was that certain things happened the way they did. We should not think that these things happened "by chance;" they were directed by our Lord.

We have faith in Him, and believe that He will give us what is necessary. Also, even more than that, He gives an abundance beyond our needs both material and spiritual. We can enjoy the material things much more if we have received the Spirit of God and recognize and acknowledge from Whom the blessings come. Those who live in their old ways may have the same things, but they do not

fully appreciate that these things have come to them by the mercies, kindness, and love of God. There is no other who can give anything to us.

In turn, there is very little that we can do for God. What can we do for Him who created us? The most that we can do for Him is to acknowledge Him, to abide in His ways, to listen to and heed His Word, to appreciate that He sent His Son, and to appreciate what Jesus taught and did for us. Through Him, we can become children of God. Then we can be partakers of the beautiful home and the reward that He has in store for us.

The whole purpose of this Book, from beginning to end, is that all might know what God desires of us. What God desires of us, loved ones, is not that we should be under a great burden; rather, He desires that we should be in great joy. If we elect to do so, if we submit, then we can enjoy the freedom and peace that He alone can give to us. Through this, loved ones, we can enjoy the world that He has created for us to live in even that much more.

If we think of it that way, then I believe that we can realize what God sees when He looks down upon us, and how much He appreciates those who follow Him and do His will and and His work. He does not withhold from anyone, loved ones, for the rain falls upon all whether they are sinners or are redeemed in God. Yet, I believe that God likes to see that we appreciate His gifts. We like to know, when we give someone something, that they appreciate it. We like to have them acknowledge it, and we like to have them tell us that it is a nice gift and that they are thankful for it. So it is that God also

likes to know that His children appreciate what He had done for them.

In the chapter which we read the sub-caption says, "An exhortation to humility to Christ's example." It is always a good thing to be humble. As we have already mentioned, what we have was not created by us. We may have worked for some things, but they were given to us by God, and we should receive them in humbleness and in thanksgiving.

"If there be therefore any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any bowels and mercies, Fulfill ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind." Phil. 2:1,2.

Dear ones, I believe that there is nothing that God would appreciate more than to see us truly in one accord, of like-mind and having the same love. How can we have the same love? If we have the same love that the Lord Jesus has, if we have this within our hearts, then we will all have the same love.

As we know, the Lord loves us all and we love the Lord. Likewise then with the same love toward one another there would be true satisfaction, understanding, and a need for the fellowship of those who truly love one another in the Spirit. Therefore, we would be willing to minister to one another, willing to conduct ourselves so that we would not be offensive, and we would be willing not to be offended so very easily either. For there are many times when errors are made, loved ones, when we are offended when offense is not due.

"Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves." Phil. 2:3. A very

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