

The Silver Lining

A LIGHT FOR BELIEVERS

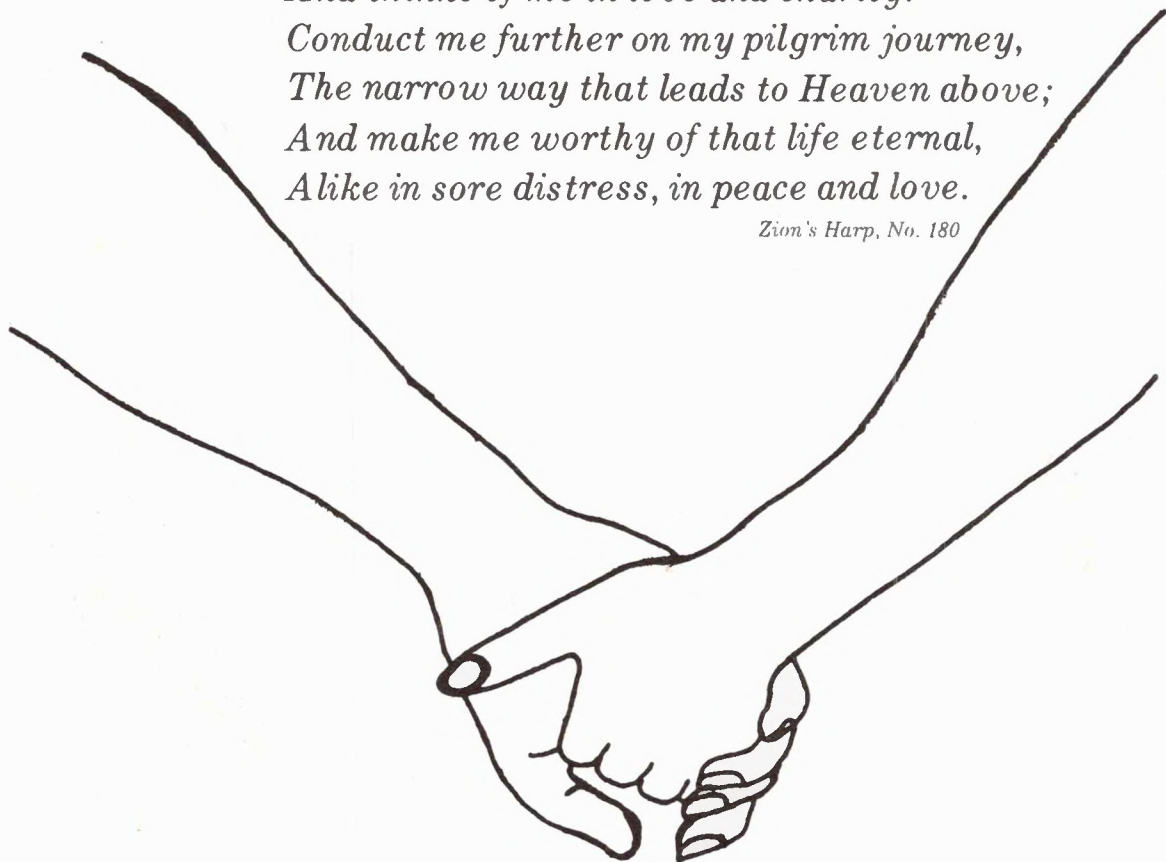
VOLUME 32

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NUMBER 6

*O Father hand, that guides me so securely,
O Father eye, that watches over me!
O Father heart, that hears my prayer so
surely,
And thinks of me in love and charity!
Conduct me further on my pilgrim journey,
The narrow way that leads to Heaven above;
And make me worthy of that life eternal,
Alike in sore distress, in peace and love.*

Zion's Harp, No. 180



Honor thy father . . .

SPREADING THE GOOD NEWS

For several years there has been a lot of discussion in the brotherhood concerning the vast amount of money our faith has contributed to the various Bible societies and just how effective the results have been in getting the Word distributed to the proper peoples.

On October 16, 1981, there was a joint meeting of the Apostolic Christian Mission Fund and World Relief Committees in Chicago, Illinois. A charge was given to the Mission Fund Committee to further investigate the activities of the Bible societies and to make a recommendation to the elder body that considerations and guidelines should be given to establish our own Bible distribution system.

Bro. Henry Grimm had been very active for about twenty years in monitoring the collections and making a report on how the money was divided among the various Bible societies. From August 1980 to August 1981, fourteen churches reported contributions in excess of \$39,000. Many other individuals and congregations also forwarded funds of which we have no record. But the American Bible Society reported that from January 2 to July 31, 1981, our churches had contributed in excess of \$20,000 which was immediately identifiable, and we're inclined to think that much more than that was donated.

Our investigation revealed that the Northern Bible Society, which our brotherhood had contributed to regularly for some years in the past, had lost their devoted secretary in November 1978, and they had ceased further distribution of Bibles or Testaments in 1979.

There was further concern as for many years several of our churches had written to the various societies directing them to not use their generous gifts to distribute such translations as "Good News for Modern Man" and other translations which were actually misleading or were an incomplete interpretation of the Word.

Generally there was favorable response. However, recognizing current trends, it was felt our objectives were not fully being met

and that we should seek substitute or alternate methods of distribution which would be more effective.

With the growth of our activities, especially in World Relief where they have had direct contact with many people who are in great need both materially and spiritually, it was strongly felt we should exercise as many opportunities as possible to supplement with the Word of God the generous donations of food, clothing, etc.

We are greatly encouraged to see that some of the local congregations have long had an active program in their own communities of sharing the Holy Scriptures with those in nursing homes, hospitals and other such institutions. It was noticed that many motels and hotels no longer provide Bibles which many of us have used in our travels throughout the world. Here is an opportunity to involve many of our brethren, and particularly our young people, in a most worthwhile pursuit. Some congregations have even gone so far as to advertise in the local media the availability of Bibles upon request. Bibles are then personally delivered by some of our brethren.

Just as an example, on our recent trip to India to visit the work of the Rural Gospel and Medical Missions of India, the Peoria congregation provided money to buy in India the Word of God printed in the local dialect of the area. The children and loved ones in the homes on the Mission and in the community gladly received these gifts of love.

It is further felt that when our brethren who have been active in World Relief activities have occasion, this vehicle should be used to supply the Word of life and light. We can see the possibility of many avenues being opened, and also the answer to the many who inquire, "what can I do to further the Lord's work here upon this earth?" Actually the opportunities are unlimited and we want to encourage them thru the proper channels.

We are agreed that wherever possible within the framework of our own brotherhood we should lend ourselves in further spreading the Holy Scriptures and also our

beloved faith and doctrine.

Contributions can be sent either by congregations or individuals to the Mission Fund so identified. We intend to diligently pursue all avenues possible to provide Scriptures wherever there is a need and it is brought to our attention. We hope that in each congregation, under the direction of the shepherd and ministers, brethren would be available to share the teachings of our heavenly Father.

Congregations and individuals who still want to make their contributions directly to the various Societies have that privilege, but it is hoped that we will be able to establish the proper network within our own brotherhood to see that we get full value for moneys received.

It is hoped that at our next conference there will be some discussion on this important topic. Brethren are available from the Mission Fund Committee to visit the various congregations to share how this work is being accomplished in many areas. When we once have the privilege of seeing first-hand the

THE SILVER LINING

Grabill, Indiana 46741

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IN MEMORY — EDITORS:

HENRY SOUDER
EDWARD SOUDER

thrill and the joy of the reception in sharing this Holy Book we have a much better understanding of why we are encouraging better supervision and control of the vast amount of moneys being forwarded.

Let's all try to work together to share what we have with those who have not been so fortunate.

Humbly submitted,
Ben Maibach, Secretary-Treasurer
Apostolic Christian Mission Fund

**Silver Lining
1982 Financial Forecast**

Receipts:	
Dues at \$5.00	\$32,500
Interest	<u>\$1,000</u>
	<u>\$33,500</u>
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>
	<u>\$38,550</u>
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

**APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN
CHILDREN'S HOME**

Bob Cockburn

Greetings to each of you from all of us here at your Children's Home.

It is amazing how we are to attuned to the seasons and the weather. Our spirits seem to rise with the warmer weather and the chance to be outside again without having to take all the time to put on sweaters, coats, scarves, gloves, boots, etc. It seems to give us a feeling of freedom to be able to come in and go out

unencumbered. (My apologies to those of you in the warmer climates who may not know — or remember — the necessity of all the preparations to be made before going outside during the cold and snow of our northern winters.) Our children can once again run free and it is a delight to see and hear them enjoying this freedom. In just a few days they will be out of school and we will be able to see and hear them even more as they enjoy their Christian environment. Of course, they will be busy, too, as they work around the yards and gardens, go to our summer school, go to their jobs (the older children), and welcome and work with our summer visitors. There is also ample time for them to run and play and have fun. It is a joy to me to be able to see them being happy, for being happy may be a new experience for some of them.

Along with summer, we welcome our new houseparents in the west house. Bro. Marvin Fischer and his wife, Sis. Pat, are beginning to serve the Lord in their new capacity now. They have two children whom they brought with them, Carl and Lee. I am sure they would appreciate your prayers as they begin this new experience.

Sadly, we must say "good-bye" to Bro. Doug and Sis. Sue as they leave, after serving as houseparents since the first child was accepted over five years ago. They and their three girls will be living just a mile or so from the Home, so we will still see them often. We wish them God's blessings in their new undertaking, a landscaping business.

The Lord is still working to provide willing workers to serve Him, but I am not sure what the future holds. God has always provided in the past and will in the future.

Ronda is being graduated from high school and is planning to attend a beauty school in Fort Wayne. She also has plans to be married in June. We pray that she will feel God's nearness as she leaves us and begins a new life as an independent young adult.

Please pray for our converts and all of our other children. We have seen the power of your prayers.

**APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME
FOR THE HANDICAPPED**

"You tell what you are by the friends you seek,
By the very manner in which you speak,
By the way you employ your leisure time,
By the use you make of dollar and dime.

You tell what you are by the things you wear,
By the spirit in which you burdens bear,
By the kind of things at which you laugh,
By records you play on the phonograph.

You tell what you are by the way you walk,
By the things of which you delight to talk,
By the manner in which you bear defeat,
By so simple a thing as how you eat.

By the books you choose from the well-filled shelf;
In these ways and more, you tell on on yourself,
So there's really no particle of sense
In an effort to keep up false pretense."

— Author Unknown

Have you ever sensed in children the uncanny ability to see through a facade in personality? Our residents, too, have a special ability to discern. Deep within are locked many secrets, which we, who care for them, are challenged to unravel. Is it a little bit of Heaven within, granted to help make them so special? Is this why bits of unexpected wisdom come to the surface to surprise and humble us at times? We often wonder: What is the key to unlock what they have hidden? Surely love and kindness are important ones which reveal the sunshine of their souls, but there is more. Often we pray, "Lord, what wilt Thou have us to do?" Sometimes the answer is that we must wait until one day when we will understand.

Among those who meet this challenge on a daily basis is the team of residents' aides. This category of

the nursing department is to be commended for the endless love and patience given in the care of the residents, as they have the most one-to-one contact with them. There are now thirty full or part-time aides who work roughly 865 hours per week. The qualifications for being an aide sound simple and basic on the surface, since anyone interested only needs to be sixteen years of age or older. In reality, though, our aides are people who possess a great deal of stamina, energy, compassion and a desire to perform their best day after day, doing the routine chores all hours of the day and night. Weekends and holidays find them on the job as well. The aides are responsible for following the charge nurses' directions and requests. Often, in a sense, being the eyes and ears for the charge nurses, they report observations, evaluate behavior and instruct residents in many areas of hygiene, etiquette and all activities of daily living. They do the bathing, grooming, dressing, feeding, toileting and cleaning services for our residents at whatever level of care each individual resident needs. The aides are active members of the staff in planning and implementing the programs, being instructed in behavior modification techniques and data-collecting for the various programs. Each aide is required to complete a 120-hour state-approved program for training in caring for the developmentally-disabled resident. This includes thorough training in many areas of care. Each aide is trained in CPR and First Aid skills and is often asked to accompany residents on outings and appointments. There are aides who do the personal shopping for nearly 80% of our residents.

Many hours of repetition and self-motivation are necessary in the development of a "good" aide. We are fortunate to have aides who respect and care much for our dear residents.

The beautiful out-of-doors is once again ours to use. Exercise classes, bicycle riding, walking and picnicking are again a common sight on our grounds.

It has been said that what we are is God's gift to us, and what we become is our gift to God. With

prayer, yours and ours together, we shall attempt to make our gift to our Heavenly Father what He would have it to be.

ARIZONA, PHOENIX

Julie Hoerr

May 15 was a beautiful day in Phoenix. The weather was as lovely as the wedding of Bro. Todd Roth and Sis. Jill Beres, performed by Elder Bro. Richard Schupbach. Bro. Earl and Sis. Lorene Roth and Bro. Jim and Sis. Lois Beres are the couple's parents. Their buffet reception was held at McCormick Ranch Country Club.

The same weekend Carole and Paul Doolittle received word that her dear aged father, Bro. Henry Souder, was called from his physical suffering to his Heavenly Home on May 13. It is with a peace and a gratefulness that dear Carole and Paul could accept his relief of earthly pain and know he is with his dear wife, Sis. Leah, who preceded him in death on Dec. 1, 1981. Bro. Henry was 94 and had truly given much of his life in service to the Lord. He became a minister in Leo-Bremen in 1926. At the time Carole and Paul left for South Bend all the details weren't finalized. Bro. Henry leaves three grandchildren.

Ministering Bro. John Isch (Indianapolis) was our guest minister on May 2. He shared many precious teachings with us, including the four ways to communicate with God: (1) prayer, (2) hymns and praise singing, (3) reading His Word, and (4) meditation.

Our "in" hospital patients were Sis. Emma Sanders and Mary Ellen Klopfenstein. Our "out patient" surgery was Sis. Linda Mackley and emergency department patients were Sis. Linda Zollinger, Marcia Banks, and Ryan and Rick Banks. Sis. Minnie Farney is not able to be up and about at this time and we pray she may be with Bro. Roy in church next Sunday.

ARIZONA, TUCSON

Rose Huette

Amazing Grace! How Sweet the Sound, that saves a wretch like me! I once was lost, but now am found, was blind but now I see.

How beautiful it was to hear the testimony and witness the baptism

of Mary Bertschi on Apr. 17 and 18. We are happy and do rejoice as the angels to have Mary as our sister in faith. We know what a beautiful pathway it is to walk.

On that same day, in the evening, we were richly blessed by sharing communion. We wish to thank our Elder Bro. Richard Schupbach from the Phoenix, AZ church for sharing God's Word with us and helping with communion.

Recently, we were also pleased to have with us visiting minister Bro. John Kokonovich on a Wednesday evening. We wish to thank him also for his visit.

"For they have refreshed my spirit and yours: therefore acknowledge ye them that are such." I Cor. 16:18.

CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA

Mary Beth Klotzle

A few years ago, in the fall, we had a bad fire in the mountains. The ground was left almost bare with charred trees and underbrush. Then the rain came and homes were flooded with mud. As the seasons passed, little by little the trees and plants on the mountains grew back. It has taken some time, but this Spring the mountains are beautiful; greener than I've ever seen. Roses and other flowers have bloomed, and the wonder of God's creation again comes alive. We know the summer heat will soon overtake the newness of spring, but we have been sufficiently refreshed and are now ready for the sun's warm rays.

Isn't life just like nature sometimes? We are put through a test and at times feel completely wiped out and cast down. Yet we continue to pray and ask for God's help, and little by little our faith is built up and our trust becomes stronger. Once again, the wonder of God's love, promises, and blessings overwhelms us, and our heart is full of joy and thanksgiving. We are ready again to go forth and hold fast with the faith that the Lord will keep us true until we are called to go meet Him in Heaven.

Father's Day will soon be here, a good day to remember the special times spent with our dads, and to say an extra prayer of thanks to God for our father's love.

Emil and Sandee Minger are the

happy parents of a little daughter, Lyndie Marie. She has a sister, Moriah, and her grandparents are Bro. Bill and Sis. Frieda Minger.

COLORADO, DENVER

Marlene Leman

Plans are moving along for our move to Denver. We have felt our Lord's guidance all along the way and pray that He will continue to direct us. Our address is 16836 E. Harvard Pl., Aurora 80013 and our phone number is 303-696-1301.

As you read this, we should be moved so if you are planning to make a trip to Colorado, please call us or write to let us know.

The first Sunday in May we assembled with the loved ones in the Denver area. We also enjoyed visitors from Phoenix and Taylor. We are thankful for the fellowship we share and God's many and great blessings.

Bro. Ed Alt came to serve on the third Sunday of May. Several of his family were with him and there were visitors from Iowa, Kansas, and Oregon. What a blessed day! May God bless you, Bro. Ed, for your labors of love in behalf of the Denver church.

Mark Mullet, grandson of Sis. Katherine Reis, met with serious misfortune when the chain saw he was using slipped and severly cut his thigh. He was hospitalized for two weeks and is now recuperating at home. Although he has much pain, we are all thankful he is recovering.

Bro. Steve Scheitlin has finished another semester at CSU in Ft. Collins. He now has a summer job in Grand Junction which is over on the western edge of the state. We shall miss him this summer but trust he will feel the Lord's nearness.

Services will be held every Sunday from now on. We are assembling at the Victory Grange Hall, 2009 Tower Road, Aurora. Services start at 10:30 and 12:30 with lunch served in between. Everyone is welcome.

FLORIDA, FT. LAUDERDALE

Sally Gress

"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path." Psalm 119:105. We thank Bro. Glenn Price of Sarasota for sharing God's

Word with us this past month.

Anna Rose Lloyd is currently hospitalized after surgery. Our prayers are with her for a speedy recovery.

"He loves each of us as if there were only one of us."

St. Augustine

FLORIDA, SARASOTA

Doris and Diane Roche

We are happy to have the Port Charlotte group assemble with us again. Sis. Kay Eisenman is recovering from foot surgery. Bro. Elmer Jacobs was slowly recovering but this week has again been admitted to the hospital. May we prayerfully commit them to God for patience to endure.

On April 23 and 24, Elder Bro. Ben Maibach visited us and we had opportunity to hear the testimony of our new brother and sister, Lloyd and Margaret Pflederer. Their enthusiasm and desire for the Lord to be supreme in their lives was so apparent. We rejoice with them and also are deeply humbled and inspired to walk just as closely with our Lord. Steve Alexander has surrendered his heart and will to our Lord Jesus Christ, and can now join his wife, Sue, in sincerely seeking the Lord for his promised guidance and peace. God is so good! We are thankful for another convert, Barbara Mashburn, who has yielded to our Father's call. "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." Romans 10:13.

Al Dygart has felt the peace and joy of the Lord, and is looking forward to baptism.

Our visiting ministers were Bro. Harry Sutter, (Fort Lauderdale, FL) and Bro. Joe Schrock (Congerville, IL).

GEORGIA, ATLANTA

Brenda Stoller

The visiting ministers this past month were Bro. Lavoyd Moore of Athens, AL and Bro. Walt Steffen of Millford, IN. May God richly bless them as they brought many precious teachings to us.

We continue to have services the second and fourth Sundays of every month. We appreciate those who worship with us. If you will be traveling through Atlanta and would like further information con-

cerning our gathering, contact Bro. Linn Stoller at (404) 471-0349.

**ILLINOIS,
 BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL**

Charlene Knobloch - Mary Huber

The Lord has blessed us with many "new babes" this last month. Dave and Wilma Kieser gave their testimonies and became our brother and sister and are "new babes" in the Lord.

Then, we were given "new babes" in the flesh as Ron and Sis. Monique Carter have a little girl, Megan Elizabeth. She has a sister, Rachael, and is the granddaughter of Bro. Adam and Sis. Margaret Maurer. Tyler Jordan is the first child for Steve and Shelly Hari. Bro. Everett and Sis. Bev. Hari and the Robert McCalls are his grandparents. Bro. Charles, Sis. Paula, Matthew and Kendra welcomed little Jeremy Michael Knapp into their home. May God grant these new parents the wisdom to raise their children so they can someday find "The Way."

Hospitalized recently were Mida Fehr and Dan Kieser. We wish them both a speedy recovery.

ILLINOIS, BRADFORD

Shirley Kieser

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

Helen Steiner Rice

Nathan Stoller and Sherrill Stahl recently announced their engagement. They plan to be married June 26. Their parents are Bro. Nate and Sis. Martha Stoller and Lloyd and Betty Stahl, Dunlap. We wish Nate and Sherrill God's blessings and guidance.

We thank our visiting ministers, Bro. Byron Stoller (Gridley), Bro.

Jim Leman (Roanoke), Bro. Marvin Schmidgall (Eureka) and Bros. Joe Stoller, Art Baurer and Walt Herrmann (Princeville). May the Lord bless these brothers for their labors of love.

ILLINOIS, CHICAGO

Kathy Schlatter

"Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be known unto God." Phillipians 4:6. He gave us life - more abundantly. He promised us answers to every need. Can we not understand why He would have us remember to be appreciative, to be thankful? A stained glass plaque I have reads, "Oh Thou who has given us so very much, grant us one thing more ... a grateful heart." Perhaps the testimonies of faith of those so recently converted are most necessary for us from time to time in that we are reminded of the overwhelming praise and thanksgiving we owe Him. Without such thankfulness welling up within our hearts, can we claim to still have our first love?

"It is joy unspeakable and full of glory, Oh the half has never yet been told." (B.E. Warren, p. 30, Heavenly Highways) Brad Eisenmann, son of Bro. Dale and Sis. Judy, has joined us on the road to the kingdom of Heaven. Sat. evening, May 22, he poured out his heart to share with us the turmoil before he surrendered his all to Christ, the peace he now has, praise God. Elder Bro. Joe Braker, Morton, IL, assisted our Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann, with his testimony and on Sun. at his baptism. The Lord opened His storehouse with bountiful teachings and exhortations. Bro. Joe shared the thought that perhaps love, joy, and peace were almost automatically granted with one's conversion, courtesy of the earnest of His Spirit, of course; but that longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness temperance, the other fruit, only come through the growth and pruning of more time with Him. In communicating to us His will, Bro. Floyd Schmidgall, Morris, MN, and Bro. Ken Eisenmann, Cissna Park, contributed much also to our bounteous

blessings. I especially identified with an experience of Bro. Ken's when he was yet unconverted. He farmed with his father and in particular one day when they were both plowing, convicted in heart and soul, he thought of the verse, "Two men shall be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left." Luke 17:36. And he continually checked, row after row, to see if his father was still there. I, too, remember, the terrible bottomless, empty feeling I would get, checking to see where mom and dad were, when they were gone unexpectedly -- and oh, the relief when they reappeared. But that wasn't peace, that relief, because on the sidelines, my mind would keep saying, "This could have been the end; next time maybe it will be. Will I still be unprepared?" Christ would gather us all in, yet we must turn around and want Him to change our heart and soul and mind. To our ministering brothers and all who served in any way Sunday, with thanksgiving we commit all glory and honor to Him who gave them strength and humility. "And he hath put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our God: many shall see it, and fear, and shall trust in the Lord." Psalm 40:3.

"The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord: and he delighteth in his way." Psalm 37:23. Thus we believe, Bro. Phil and Sis. Charlene Feldman and their daughter Calista (formerly having worshipped in Francesville, IN) have been led to the Chicago area as a special addition to our congregation. Bro. Phil has a job with a computer firm in Oakbrook, and they are living in Wheaton. We look forward to much fellowship and spiritual joy with them.

We miss dear Sis. Verna and Bro. Morris Stedman, especially Sunday, for we draw even more closely together on days of celebration, as was Brad's baptism. Sis. Verna is recuperating from major surgery, necessitated by the finding of cancer. We shudder, but we pray even harder, knowing of their faith and His faithfulness. He keeps us in the hollow of His hand, and it is well with our soul. For both Sis. Verna and Bro. Morris, we beseech the Lord that He would cover them with His love and grace and restore

health as much as is in His will.

"To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven; A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted. . ." Ecclesiastes 3:1,2. The Lord did some reaping recently. He called home Sis. LaBeth Metz's mother, Sis. Mary Metz, Forrest, and Bro. Merle Hodel's father, Bro. Alvin Hodel, Roanoke. We do not grieve for those who are gone, for they were ready and the footprints they left are true and steady. But for their spouses and their dear families, we pray an extra measure of His balm and strength, for someone precious is gone. Yet may we all be hopeful, even in sorrow, for Heaven has more loved ones now, so that death in Christ should be less of an unknown. There are those awaiting and He is there.

I have heard it said that the best thing a father can do for his children is love their mother. Truly that is of extreme importance; however, there is a higher priority. A father should most of all love the Lord with all his heart, soul and mind. Then all the rest can be added unto him -- and to his children. Certainly those of us who have (or have had) fathers of that spiritual stature (including my husband and myself) have known His love, peace and contentment in action. In this world the contentment that we have seen is such a contrast; our fathers' acceptance of what God has given teaches us a godly lesson. Loving fathers expect a good deal from their children, yet those expectations are not of amassing great riches or fame. Most importantly, they expect that we answer when He calls our name.

ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK

Melba Funk — Joan Waldbeser

Try A Smile

If your world seems dark today,
And your blues won't go away —
Curve your lips and try a smile.

When your pains refuse to leave,
Do not fret or cry or grieve —
Just force a grin and try a smile.

When your troubles keep you torn,
Trust in God, don't be forlorn —
It will help to try a smile.

Everett Wentworth Hill

Our hospital patients this month have been Bro. Ezra Feller who submitted to open heart surgery and is in the Mercy Hospital, Urbana, IL, as well as Sis. Lil (William) Feller who also had surgery.

Tal Kaufman, son of Sis. Gladys and Bro. Don Kaufman, has found peace with his Lord and Saviour. On May 8 we assembled to hear his testimony and were privileged to witness his baptism on the following day. We truly rejoice when another soul can lay aside his old sinful life and find a new and joyous walk with the Lord.

Our dear elderly Bro. Lucien Kuntz, who has worshiped with us for many years, has chosen to take up residence at the Fairview Haven Nursing Home in Fairbury, IL. We are happy for him, as we know he will enjoy his new home, but we do miss seeing and greeting him in our congregation.

Sis. LaNae and Bro. Arlyn Rudin joyously welcome to their home, little Traci DeAnn, who was born on May 15. Welcoming her is her little sister, Erica. Her grandparents are Dorothy and Alvin Rudin and Sis. Vera and Bro. Lester Laukhuf (Latty, OH).

ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE

Carol Craig - Shirley Ifft

The Sunday School is our delight.
We love it more and more.

Tis here we learn to do the right
And live forever more.

We hear the truth, so pure and
clear,

Of Jesus' love so sweet and dear;
There we are taught to lift our
eyes

To Him who lives on high.

We thank you loving teachers too,
For all your love and care.

You teach us of the heav'nly
home,

How we may enter there.

And when we leave our Father's
house,

And journey thru this world of
strife,

Oh may your loving counsel then,
Show us the path of life.

Hymns of Zion No. 73

We have four new teachers to help teach our Sunday School children. They are Bros. Ralph

Knapp and Mike Schieber and Sis. Boni Ott and Sis. Carol Craig. We wish them the grace and strength of the Lord as they carry out this responsibility.

Our visiting minister this month was Bro. Roy Wieland (Bay City, MI). We thank Bro. Roy for his labors. A number of the Bay City congregation came with Bro. Roy and his family.

After enduring two surgeries, we are thankful that Bro. Clarence Miller is now recuperating at his home. Our thoughts and prayers have been with him during this trying time.

Father's Day is a day set aside to show our respect and love for our fathers. We wish them God's richest blessings as they seek to raise their families in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

ILLINOIS, ELGIN

Ruth Ann Getz

Paul, by way of comparison, wrote to the Hebrew people in Hebrews 12:9 of how the fathers of their flesh had corrected them, and they gave them reverence, and then went on to ask "Shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits and live?" It seems that in various places the scripture has instructed that fathers correct their children and yet with pity and love bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. With the constant demands placed on our time from the pressures of modern day living, we need to diligently seek out the time and opportunity to maintain interpersonal relationships with our children as the Lord would have us to do. It is so precious to know, to experience and to see that we still do have fathers who are willing, by the Grace of the Lord, to train their children in the ways of the Lord. To each one of those fathers we wish to extend encouragement to continue in his work, so that his children will know the way in which to train up their children in years to come.

On May 15, we came together to the house of the Lord to share in Holy Communion and were deeply blessed. We are so thankful that the Lord still allows his children to partake of this blessed sacrament, that we can search out our own hearts,

and that we may partake worthily as the scripture indicates.

On this same week-end, Bro. Gary Anliker was called to the ministry. We sense the deep responsibility this places on not only Bro. Gary, but also his wife, Sis. Edith. We know God would not call him to this work without first going before him to prepare the way. Our prayer is that Gary can continue to feel the direction of the spirit and be submitted to it. We so appreciated the support and love shown us by Bro. Josh Broguard and Bro. Art Bahler (elder brethren from Fairbury) who came to assist Bro. Nathan Steffen on this week-end.

Sis. Elizabeth Anliker spent a few days in the hospital and then was transferred to Mary Margaret Nursing Home in Elgin. We know that the hours grow long and even the smallest activities of daily living are very burdensome to Sis. Elizabeth, but may the Lord sustain her spirit that it may grow stronger with each passing day.

Others of our loved ones have suffered illness in one way or another and our prayers have gone out for them. Bro. Sam Graf and Otto Foell have been hospitalized and are home again. Sis. Anna Holliday and Nan Stettner are presently hospitalized.

Our sympathy is extended to Sis. Sandy Kinsinger in the passing of her uncle, Lloyd Banwert, of Antioch, IL. May she and her family know we are with them in prayer. While Sandy's parents were in the Elgin area attending Lloyd's funeral, her father, Bennie Jones, became ill and required hospitalization for several days. We are happy he is improved enough to return to his home in Marion, IL.

ILLINOIS, EUREKA

Melba Mangold

Among our visitors one Sunday were Bro. Ken and Sis. Darlene Hoerr of Peoria and Bro. Everett and Sis. Beverly Hari of Bloomington. Our thanks go to the brothers for ministering to us.

Bro. Alan and Sis. Sharon Martin are the happy parents of a baby boy, their first child. Brent Alan was born on April 20. His grandparents are Bro. Lester and Sis. Ruth Martin and Bro. Richard and Sis. Edna Leman of Remington.

We welcome Sis. Rita (Huette) Wettstein to our congregation. She and Bro. Jon were married in Tremont on May 2. We wish them God's blessing as they begin life together.

Evn Paul was born to Bro. Paul and Sis. Kris Schmidgal on May 11. He has a little sister, Angela. His grandparents are Bro. Marvin and Sis. Dorothy Schmidgal and Bro. Richard and Sis. Marge Rocke.

"Hand in hand, O may love bind us,
for each other's welfare strive."

No. 237 in the Zion's Harp

This song was sung at the wedding of Bro. Bruce and Sis. Sheri Martin on May 16. We hope God will continue to be the important part of their life as they establish their new home. Their parents are Bro. Louis and Sis. Arletta Martin and the Wm. Grubbs of Houston, TX.

ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY

Carol Bazzell - Joann Zehr

Several homes were blessed with sweet little babies. On April 22, Daryl Steven was born to Bro. Dennis and Sis. Diane (Hoffman) Rassi. Grandparents are Bro. Arnold and Sis. Lydia Rassi, Tremont. Karla Kay was born to Robert and Cheri Kaisner on April 25. Grandparents are Bro. Merle and Sis. Marge Kaisner and Sis. Dorothy Hoffman. First time grandparents are Willard and Arlene Walter as Tom and Carol (Walter) Glotfelty, Hudson, welcomed Rachel Ann on April 23. Great-grandmother is Sis. Ruth Walter.

We extend a special thank-you to Bro. Bruce Leman, Roanoke, who ministered to us on May 9.

Our high school graduates this year are Sis. Marie Bahler (Bro. Arthur and Sis. Suzanne); Charlotte Fehr (Bro. Glenn and Sis. Kathryn); Lori Fehr (Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Linda); Sis. Ann Huber (Bro. Jess and Sis. Donna); Sis. Janet Steidinger (Maurice and Alma); Dan Thames (Bro. Phil and Sis. Kay); Dan Walter (Bro. Richard and Sis. Colleen); Sis. Michelle Walter (Bro. Jim and Sis. Juanita); and Jon Zimmerman (Ed and Shirley). May they always seek God's guidance and help as they seek employment or en-

ter college.

The following poem was handed to me too late to be submitted before Mother's Day, but I felt it was surely every Mother's concern and is fitting at any time.

ARE ALL THE CHILDREN IN?

I think of times as the night draws
nigh

Of an old house on the hill,
Of a yard all wide and blossom-
starred

Where children played at will.
And when the night at last came
down,
Hushing the merry din,
Mother would look around and
ask,

"Are all the children in?"

'Tis many and many a year since
then,

And the old house on the hill
No longer echoes to childish feet
And the yard is still, so still.

But I see it all as the shadows
creep,

And though many the years have
been

Since then, I can still hear
Mother ask,

"Are all the children in?"

I wonder if when shadows fall
On the last short, earthy day,
When we say goodbye to the
world outside,

All tired with our childish play,
When we step out into the other
land

Where Mother so long has been,
Will we hear her ask, just as of
old,

"Are all the children in?"

Author Unknown

ILLINOIS, FORREST

Jan Bachtold - Kathy Leman

We have been blessed with a number of visiting ministers. Bro. Art Baurer, Princeville; Bro. Fred Knapp, Congerville; Bro. Kenneth Deitz, Bradford; Bro. Duane Kilgus, Fairbury; and Bro. Al Schneider, Rockville have all lent themselves in the service of the Lord and brought us His Word.

Bro. Josh Broquard and Bro. Art Bahler, Fairbury, have also served

us in helping Bro. Perry serve the congregation Communion on Sat., May 8. It is with reverence that we remember our Lord's suffering and death there on Calvary.

Hospital patients were Sis. Dorothy Rieger (Harvey), Sis. Martha Koehl, who resides at Fairview Haven, Bro. Clarence Kachelmuss, Sis. Sarah Koehl, and Dale Zimmerman.

Sis. Mary Metz was laid to rest on May 7. She was an example for us all as she waited patiently for God to call her home. Surviving are her husband, Bro. Joe, one son, Bro. Gene of Forrest, three daughters, Sis. Carolyn Frank (Bro. Tom) of LaCrosse, IN, Bonnie Roecker (Bill) of Morton, and Sis. LaBeth, Chicago. Also surviving are two brothers, Bro. Edward Stoller of Gridley and Bro. Elmer Stoller, Forrest, and two sisters, Sis. Martha Stoller, Forrest, and Lola Schlipf (Carl), Gridley. May God comfort the hearts of this family where the help of man cannot reach.

A reminder to our congregation that July is Silver Lining collection month. Subscription rates are \$6.00. Please give any address or subscription changes to Bro. Ron and Sis. Carol Koehl.

ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD

Verna Hartter

"Honor Thy Father..."

F — athers are the "family" man
important his role in God's
Infinite plan;
fostered by God from the very
beginning
When He created Adam —
Father of all ever living.

A — s Adam, he, too, must toil
every day
"by the sweat of his brow",
fam'ly needs to allay.
Yet always aware of the much
greater needs —
wise use of our time that it yield
fruits and not weeds.

T — o trials and tests and hardships
he's prone.
Help he seeks to endure at the
foot of the throne;
knowing God has all answers,
for problems, solution,

so he "asks, seeks, and knocks" without hesitation.
 H — is life is a "living" Book all well may read —
 as he journeys through life — by his words and his deeds.
 He's never too busy to advise, guide and share
 how to find God's "better way" unceasing his prayers!

E — xample of love, faith, trust, hope, understanding;
 to correct us lest we, on self would be depending.
 Exhorting to walk in accord with God's Word;
 to be "doers" of same; not unheeding when heard.

R — espect them highly, prize, esteem and love.
 Rich gift — a father! from the Father above.
 Learn from his experience; teachings can make us wise to attain lasting reward and that Home in the skies.

S — o "honor thy father," 'tis command of God;
 and, He, here will bless as life's journey we trod.
 Not only today, but each day remember anew —
 fathers are rare gifts from God to me and to you!
 (Sis. Clara Nohl)

Dale and Susie Wyss are happy parents of a new son, Justin Warren, born on May 4. He has a brother, Joshua Paul, and his grandparents are the Paul Snellenbergers of Eureka, and Bro. Roy and Sis. Shirley Wyss.

Our sincere thanks to Bro. Don Manz, Junction, who was willing to minister to us this past month.

We are happy to have Bro. Denny Martin back with us, after having a bout with a back injury. Also, little Andrew Knobloch (Bro. Dean and Sis. Jackie) has had leg surgery and is now in a body cast. He has returned home, and may God add His healing Power.

A very dear sister, and pillar of the church, Sis. Elsie Landis passed away on April 30. Funeral services were held on Tues. May 4. Surviving are four sons, Sherman of

Washington, Bro. Bruce and Raymond of Morton, and Gilbert of Stamford, Conn., seven daughters, Elizabeth Streitmatter, Sis. Dorothy Krantz, Morton, Sylvia King, Washington, Mabel Adams, Salt Lake City, Utah, Sis. Violet Reeser, of this congregation, Florence Mabee, Peoria, and Elsie England, Circleville, Ohio.

We extend our sympathy to the family in the passing of their dear mother, who they loved so dearly. Our sympathy also goes to Sis. Jackie Knobloch in the passing of her father of Peoria, Ill. May the Lord be a great strength to her at this time.

"Our sincere thanks to all friends, neighbors and relatives for their loving expressions of sympathy at the passing of our dear mother, Elsie Natalie Landis. Flowers, food, cards, and memorials in her name were deeply appreciated."

The Landis Family

ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY

Carol Klopfenstein

As we shared in Holy Communion our thoughts were on the suffering Savior and how much He did in our behalf. Elder Bro. Jesse Beer of Milford was with us to assist our Elder Bro. Edwin Ringger. He was also with us for Sunday services the following day. Bro. Jesse gave us an impressive illustration of what Jesus did for us. He compared it to our being in jail awaiting execution for a serious crime. Before the final day a friend comes to visit, who looks just like we do. When the two of us are left alone together he says, "You are not ready to die, but I am. You walk out of here in my clothes and I'll wear yours and stay to take your place." In like manner, Jesus put on our sin-stained garment and went to the cross so we could wear His cloak of righteousness and go free. As the choir sang Sunday evening at our monthly singing, "If that isn't love, what is?"

Sis. Jill Schlipf was a hospital patient this month, but is now home and feeling much better.

We were blessed by the visit of ministering Bro. Bill Hodel from Roanoke.

Address Changed?

INCLUDE OLD AND NEW ZIPS

ILLINOIS, MORTON

Phyllis Farney - JoAnn Roecker

We extend our sympathy to Sis. Ruth Strunk and Sis. Ella Geiger and their families, upon the passing of their brother, Elmer Wasner of Remington, IN. May God comfort and bless his family and friends.

We shared the Lord's Supper on Saturday evening, April 24. We were richly reminded of our Lord's suffering upon the Cross. May we each one continue to uphold our precious faith and strive to walk closer to our Heavenly Father. We thank Bro. Leroy Huber, Eureka, IL, for coming and helping our Elder Bro. Joe Braker serve Communion. May our Heavenly Father bless him for his labors of love.

We extend our sympathy to the Landis family upon the passing of their mother, Sis. Elsie Landis. May our Heavenly Father comfort and bless her family and friends.

Sunday, May 2, Church potluck was held at our Morton Apostolic Christian Fellowship Hall. We enjoyed much delicious food and fellowship. We closed a blessed Sabbath Day by singing praises unto our Heavenly Father.

Sis. Rose Teubel was suddenly called Home. Her funeral was held on May 6. May our Heavenly Father comfort and bless her family and friends.

Bro. Mark and Sis. Esther Stephens welcome into their hearts and home, Amy Jean. Amy was born on May 5. The happy grandparents are Bro. Clarence and Sis. Emma Herman and Bro. Frank and Sis. Shirley Stephens, all of Morton.

We have had the following loved ones who have recently spent time in the hospital: Sis. Ellen (Bro. Al) Koehl, Sis. Anna Stoller, Sis. Louise Stoller, Sis. Edna Fite, Sis. Lucy (Bro. Bruce) Schmidgall, Sis. Anna Yentes, Sis. Leah Hoffman, Eileen Yentes, Bro. Phil Rapp, Henry Stieglitz, Louise Weishaupt and Bro. Mark Peters. May we continue to pray for these loved ones and all who are shut-in or ill.

We were privileged to hear the testimonies of three dear souls, Marlene Milazzo, Todd Braker (Elder Bro. Joe and Sis. Shirley) and Kevin Leman (Bro. Howard and Sis. Gloria) on Saturday evening, May

15. We witnessed their baptisms on Sunday, May 16. May our Heavenly Father richly lead, guide and direct them as thy walk the narrow pathway of life.

The family of Sis. Rose Teubel wish to thank all those who remembered their mother with prayers, gifts, cards and deeds of kindness during her illness and subsequent death. Your deeds of kindness will long be remembered. May God bless all who were so kind.

Our thoughts and our prayers go out to all our graduates. We wish them the Lord's blessings and His nearness as they graduate onto higher schools of learning or go out to work at their vocations.

We wish to thank Bros. David Wiegand, Champaign-Urbana, IL, Dale Eisenmann, Chicago, IL, Greg Rassi, Chicago, IL, Harvey Grimm, Bern, KS, Carl Wyss, Washington, IL, and Don Wagenbach, Washington, IL, for ministering God's Holy Word unto us. May our Heavenly Father richly bless them for their labors of love.

Father's Day is a special day set aside giving all of us that special moment to reflect on the many fond memories of our father. There have been so many poems written for the occasion, but one really only needs to pause and recall some of our yesterdays to feel a full and happy heart.

Mothers were there to "mend" a wounded knee, making certain that special shirt or dress was ironed just so and fixing "your special dish" on not a special occasion. We see so many "visible" things from mother. She taught us so much at her knee.

Sometimes father isn't quite as visible. He is the head of our home, the "bread winner," and usually away from home most of the day. Greeting father at the end of the day is the highlight of a young child's day.

Who is the patient listener? Who is the loving guide who has sufficient knowledge? Who seems to "sense" something before it gets told? Who knows when "no" means "I love you?" Father does!!

As a young child, our sight is "short," as a young adult, our vision clears a little and finally in adulthood we see more clearly what our father's role has been.

Father had been the quiet strength within our home. He has shown us his height when on his knees in prayer and his strength and courage when he shed tears along side us.

Rich is the child who has experienced the love and care of a Christian father. May we celebrate Father's Day everyday and each day give thanks for these men of God.

ILLINOIS, PEORIA

Mary Plattner — Mary Ann Plattner

"With thoughts of Dad come thoughts of days the heart will always treasure." This month we lovingly think of our fathers, who with special love have set a Godly example.

We have been abundantly blessed this month with visiting ministers and wish to thank each one. They were Elder Bro. Andy Virkler (Bay City), Bros. Hartzler Kaisner (Detroit), Marvin Leman (Bradford), Charles Sauder (Tremont), and Don Wagenbach (Washington).

We congratulate Martha Fehr (Bro. Bud and Sis. Sherri) and Mitchell Moore (Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Moore) on their engagement. They are planning a June 12 wedding.

At Home, 'tis well! With God in
close relation,
The soul forgets the sorrow it
has borne,
With pains o'er-come on that
bright, golden morn,
Rejoices in our God's sublime
salvation.

At Home 'Tis Well!
Zion's Harp No. 170

We express our sympathy to Sis. Laura Koehl and her family on the death of her husband and their father, Bro. Jack Koehl.

George and JoAnn Hicks have a new little boy, Matthew George. He is welcomed home by his brother, Christopher. His grandparents are Bro. Oscar and Sis. Mildred Hoerr and Mr. and Mrs. Ron Weber.

Allison Rose was born to Brian and Nancy Harvey. Her grandparents are Bro. Jim and Sis. Virginia Hoerr.

Our hospital patients this month were our ministering brother, LeRoy Hartman, Bro. Al Kiefer, Juanita Kiefer, Sisters Mary Platt-

ner, Emma Messer, Corda Leman, and Mary Tanner. We pray that God will heal each one according to His will.

We enjoyed having the Goodfield Choir at our May hymn sing.

Our annual Choir Benefit Dinner was held May 8.

Correction

We extend our sympathy in the loss of their sister, Sophie Clauss, to her brother, Emil Schubert, and her sisters, Louise Koehl and Clara Speck.

ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE

Arlene and Arlys Martin

How Would You Feel?

--If God gave us the same amount of time and attention that we devote to him?

--If God offered as many excuses as we do, and if the excuses were no more justifiable than ours?

--If God's promises were no more certain than ours?

--If God withheld His blessing from us as we withhold our offerings from Him?

Robert G. Lee

Visiting ministers have been Bros. Charles Sauder of Tremont, Duane Kilgus of Fairbury and Bob Meyer of Bluffton, IN.

On May 16 the engagement of Bro. Allan Herrmann to Sis. Rose Streitmatter was announced. Parents are Bro. Robert and Sis. Esther Herrmann and Bro. Burton and Sis. Martha Streitmatter, all of our congregation.

Cleo Gerst, wife of Bro. Dick, had surgery on her feet and is recovering at home. Bro. Chris Frank was also a hospital patient and is worshipping with us again.

Sympathy is given to Bro. Walter and Sis. Doris Christ and family. Sis. Doris' mother, Sis. Rose Teubel of Morton passed away May 3.

Sis. Emma Asal wishes to thank everyone for the cards, gifts, visits and other remembrances for her 80th birthday. Everything is deeply appreciated.

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

ILLINOIS, ROANOKE**Joyce Hodel — Carol Rumbold**

Our dear Sis. Anna Hernfeldt passed from this life into eternity. It is encouraging for us to see those who keep the faith until the end.

A few days later the Master picked for His bouquet a tiny bud, Jared Hodel, infant son of Bro. Chuck and Sis. Rita. We extend our sympathy to them, their son, Kevin, and grandparents, Betty Hodel and Bro. Ray and Sis. Emily Eisenmann of Cissna.

Our dear Bro. Alvin Hodel, 73, has gone to his eternal home. We shall miss his quiet manner and easy smile, and we extend our deep sympathy to his wife, Sis. Emma, and his sons, Gene (Roanoke) and Bro. Merle (Chicago), and their families. May God's love be their comfort.

God has blessed four homes in our congregation with baby girls this month. Holly Nicole is the darling new daughter of Bro. Rick and Sis. Raylene Zimmerman. She will get plenty of love from Robin, Jeremy, Joni, and Heidi and grandparents, Bro. Rich and Sis. Helen Zimmerman and Bro. Ray and Sis. Betty Wagenbach.

Bro. Duane and Sis. Rachel Schroeder welcome Lindsey Anne with joy. Jesse and Allison and grandparents, Alma Schroeder and Bro. Howard and Sis. Edith Sauder, make up Lindsey's family.

Bro. Tim and Sis. Linda Martin's first child, Abby Therese, arrived May 11. Her grandparents are Bro. Jim and Sis. Helen Martin of our congregation and Bro. Melvin and Sis. Carolee Unsicker of Peoria.

A second daughter, Annie Christine, was born to Bro. Steve and Sis. Joyce Hodel. At home to welcome her is Katie. Grandparents are Bro. Ben and Sis. Ruth Ann Hodel and Bro. Dick and Sis. Mabel Getz, all of our congregation.

At the last family sing of this season, our own Prairie Choristers sang for us. Their efforts were a pleasure to us, and also to God, we believe.

Bro. Marvin and Sis. Pat Fischer and their two sons yet at home believe it is God's will that they give of themselves and their time as houseparents at our children's home in Leo. We know they will find God there, the same as He is here.

We appreciate Bro. Tom Leman's labor of love in ministering to us.

"Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things."

Philip. 4:8

ILLINOIS, TREMONT**Dorothy Wagenbach - Phyllis Lang**

As Father's Day is this month, our minds think of the love and devotion of our earthly fathers. We recall many things about our childhood, but our father's love for God and our church was deeply embedded in our hearts. May the Lord continue to bless our fathers.

The engagement of Bro. James Lang and Sis. Lynnette St. George (Chicago) was announced. Parents are Walter and Helen Ripple and Bro. George and Sis. Phyllis Lang. We wish them God's blessings as they make their wedding plans.

May 2 was the beautiful wedding day for Sis. Rita Huette and Bro. John Wettstein (Eureka). Parents are Bro. Ken and Sis. Arlene Huette and Harold and Loretta Wettstein. May God's blessing be upon their home.

We are happy to welcome a new baby, Laura Ann Sauder. Parents are Bro. Howard and Sis. Janice Sauder. She is welcomed by sisters, Carol, Christy and Jenny. Grandparents are Bro. Dave and Sis. Eunice Beutel and Bro. Willis and Sis. Pauline Sauder.

We were very saddened by the sudden death of our beloved Sis. Elizabeth Woerner. She was a shining example of God's love in action, spending most of her life in service to others. She was especially dear to me as she was like a mother-in-law. I observed and marveled at the selfless manner in which she lived her life. She will be greatly missed but we feel this is the blessed end she has so humbly striven for since her youth. She was the adoptive mother of one daughter, Mrs. George (Grace) Schmidgall; three sons, Richard Lang (Santa Monica, CA), Neil Lang (Tampa, FL) and Bro. George Lang (Tremont); two brothers, Carl Woerner (Tampa,

FL) and Bro. Chris Woerner (Tremont); and one sister, Sis. Pauline (Willis) Sauder.

A hospital patient this month was Sis. Louise Wagenbach (Bro. Simon). We are happy to see her assemble with us again.

Special thanks to Bro. Ron Heininger, Bro. LeRoy Huber, Bro. Vernon Wettstein and Bro. John Steiner for faithfully ministering to us.

We extend our best wishes to our high school graduates: Sarah Gschwind (Aaron and Iris), Lisa Dill (Bro. Ken and Sis. Sandy), Sis. Diane Steiner (Bro. Dan and Sis. Shirley), Kerry Prather (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Caroline), Gene Beutel (Bro. Alvin and Sis. Carol), Sheila Largent (Bill and Margeta), Nancy Koch (Bro. Paul and Sis. Florence), Bro. Chuck Koch (Bro. Elmon and Sis. Janice), Kevin Rinkenberger (Ray and Clea), Renna Michel (Bro. Paul and Sis. Helen), Kim Koch (Jerry and Bonnie) and Nancy Sinn (Bro. Carl and Sis. Mary Ellen). We trust that they all will seek God's guidance as they step forth into the stream of life.

Sis. Florence Koch wishes to thank all for the cards, gifts and prayers while she was in the hospital and, also, for all the food brought to her home. Also thanks to the men's group for their beautiful singing.

ILLINOIS, URBANA**Charlen Banwart**

"Friendly was to me Thy invitation, dearest Lord! So, in my humble station Heavenward my steps shall e'er proceed. . ." (Zion's Harp No. 90). Sis. Rita Richardson, daughter of Sis. Lucille of Phoenix, AZ, gave her testimony of faith and was baptized on the first Sunday of May. Our Elder Brothers, Ed Hohulin and Bob Grimm of Goodfield, were with us to carry out this important work.

At our annual business meeting, Sisters Margie Heintz, Pam Furrer and Sherry Fritz were elected to serve as Sunday School teachers. Bro. Keith Hanson was elected to serve as an usher and Bro. Wayne Banwart was elected to be a trustee. We appreciate their willingness to serve and may God bless their efforts.

We welcome Sis. Anne Walder back to our community after two years of study in Arizona. She is employed at Carle Foundation Hospital.

"May we in perfect love be found when we Thy table, Lord, surround; Keep soul and body purified; Thy blessings, Lord, be multiplied upon this feast." The Communion Hymn (Zion's Harp No. 200) was sung at or Communion Service. Elder Bro. Edwin Ringger of Gridley accompanied our elders and we appreciated their timely messages.

Elder Bro. Don Sauder (Roanoke) and Elder Bro. Perry Zimmerman (Forrest) were with us recently for Wednesday evening services. Other visiting ministers in the recent past include Bro. Merle Kaisner (Forrest), Bro. Ken Hoerr (Peoria), Bro. Kenny Weerts (Cissna Park) and Bro. Todd Feller (La Crosse).

Sis. Cheri Joos is our new Silver Lining reporter. She lives in Champagne and is employed as an elementary school teacher in Rantoul.

ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON

Joan Schick - Mary Schick

"Hear, ye children, the instruction of a father, and attend to know understanding. For I give you good doctrine, forsake ye not my law. For I was my father's son, tender and only beloved in the sight of my mother. He taught me also, and said unto me, let thine heart retain my words: keep my commandments, and live." Prov. 4:1-4.

As we set aside Father's Day to show thanks and appreciation to our fathers, let us remember the godly wisdom they have taught us and put it to practice. May the younger fathers learn by example to bring their children up in the fear and trust of God.

We appreciate all who take part in the functioning of the church. At our annual business meeting, we elected Sisters Barb Banwart, Millie Drete and Vickie Hodel and Bro. Ron Messner as Sunday School teachers; Bro. Harvey Martin as trustee; and Bro. Harvey Martin as trustee; and as ushers. May the Lord give much grace as they all take on their new responsibilities.

Special thanks to Bro. Glen Dill (Tremont) and Bro. Ron Heiniger

(Bloomington) who preached the Word to us this month.

INDIANA, BLUFFTON

**Gayla Baumgartner
Tammy Gerber**

"Enclothed in all Thy righteousness and innocence I'd be, that I might stand before my God, from sin made pure and free." Zion's Harp No. 163

On the weekend of May 15 and 16, we heard the testimonies and witnessed the baptisms of four precious souls: Bro. Doug Kaehr (Bro. Rich and Sis. Karen), Sis. Linda Eisenmann (Roger), Sis. Shelly Kaufman, and Bro. Dick Everett (Sis. Rita).

Visiting ministers this month were: Bro. Homer Reinich (Toledo), Bro. Gene Bertschi (Roanoke), Bro. Ben Manz (Junction), and Bro. Robert Grimm (Goodfield). May the Lord richly bless them for their labors of love.

On April 28, Bro. Jim and Sis. Jeanne Rinkenberger were blessed with their third son, Joel David. Linc and Luke welcome their new brother.

Bro. Mark and Sis. Sherri Longenberger are the happy parents of their first child, Tara Lynn. She was born on April 29 and is the granddaughter of Bro. Doyle and Sis. Jane Frauhiger and Bro. Bill and Sis. Betty Longenberger.

Krystal Ann is the name given to the third child of Bro. Gary and Sis. Barb Schwartz. She was born on May 5.

Kevin and Sara Beaty welcome into their hearts and home their second child, Jared Neil. His grandparents are Bro. Phil and Sis. Gloria Kaehr.

Christopher Justin is the first child of Mike and Sheryl Mayne. Maternal grandparents are Bro. Jay and Sis. Dorothy Kipfer.

Our prayers are always with those who have spent time in the hospital: Sis. Ann Frauhiger, Sis. Deb Reinhard, Bro. Bob Aschliman, Bro. Eli Gerber, Sis. Elizabeth Schwartz, and Bro. Jacob Graber.

"Heaven's dwelling, peaceful habitation, which for me the Father hath prepared! When I reach my journey's destination let Thy mansions unto me be shared. Take me, Jesus, to that blessed peace where

as Salem's citizen I e'er shall see Thy face."

Hymns of Zion No. 267

Two precious souls have gone to their blessed rest, Bro. Ed Kipfer and Sis. Mary E. Steffen (Bro. Bill). May their families feel the comfort of the Lord.

"Trust in the Lord with all thine heart, and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths." Proverbs 3:5-6.

May God direct the paths of each of our high school graduates: Sis. Becky Baumgartner, Sis. Jenny Baumgartner, Kirk Baumgartner, Tanya Baumgartner, Tom Bertsch, Bro. Trent Bucher, Bro. John Eisenmann, Sis. Cindy Gerber, June Gerber, Bro. Kent Gerber, Sis. Lynn Gerber, Richard Gerber, Sis. Tammy Gerber, Bro. Vince Gerber, Jim Isch, Greg Kaehr, Jennifer Kaehr, Sam Kaehr, Kurt Kipfer, Ron Leman, Sis. Sherri Longenberger, Sis. Deb Macklin, Bro. Denny Meyer, Sis. Fawn Moser, Courtney Pfister, Trent Reimschisel, Jaci Ringger, Nick Ringger, Andy Shively, Sis. Brenda Steffen, Toby Steffen, and Bro. Keith Stoller.

Graduating from Ball State University is Bro. Gene Gerber. Completing nurses' training are Sis. Patsy Pfister as an RN and Sis. Laura Gerber as an LPN. May the Lord lead them as they walk with Him in the future.

INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE

Jacki Huber

Graduation is a special time, especially for sixteen of our dear brothers, sisters and friends. On Wednesday, May 12, Francesville church's annual Graduation Program was held. The following graduates received Bibles as has been the custom here: Tony Albrecht (Roger and Marilyn), Rod Erb (Don and Millie), Bro. Todd Denton (James and Sharon), Sis. Jodi Getz (Bro. Keith and Sis. Doris), Sis. Donna Gudeman (Bro. Willis and Sis. Margaret), Bro. Randy Gudeman (Bro. Wendell and Sis. Marcella), Sis. Tammy Gudeman (Bro. Jim and Sis. Lois Ann), Dan Gutwein (Bro. Elden and Sis. MaryLee), Loren Gutwein (Edwin and Mary B.), Suzanne Gutwein (Bro. Fred and Sis. Madeline), Tom

Gutwein (Bro. Edison and Sis. Chrisann), David Overmyer (Bro. Danny and Sis. Carol), Larry Pfloderer (Bro. Bob and Sis. Norm), Sis. Karleen Westfall (Bro. Karl and Sis. Mary), Randy Wuethrich (Bro. Richard and Sis. Nola), and Reggie Wuethrich (Bro. Bob and Sis. Phyllis).

Four visiting ministers were in Francesville this past month. We pray God's blessings will be with brothers Harold Gramm (Morris), Vernon Schwab (Wolcott), and elder brothers Alfred Bahler (Wolcott), and Jesse Beer (Milford), for proclaiming God's word to us. Brothers Alfred and Jesse assisted Bro. Wendell in the testimonies of seven souls Wednesday and Saturday evenings, April 21 and 24 respectively. On Sunday, April 25, Bro. Jesse remained with us for baptisms. We warmly welcome 7 lambs into the flock. Sisters Jill Bogart (Bro. James and Sis. Eleanor), Madeline Gutwein, Deb Anliker (Bro. Earl and Sis. Liz), Heidi Gutwein (Bro. Fred and Sis. Madeline, Granddaughter of Madeline Gutwein who was also baptized), Bro. Bob Huber (Bro. Bill and Sis. Betty), Sis. Lily Vogt (Bro. Ron and Sis. Diane), and Bro. Frank Gutwein (Edwin and Mary B.) are all new members of God's family. What a privilege!

We will miss Bro. Phil, Sis. Char and their daughter Calista Feldman as they are moving to the Chicago area. We hope they'll come visit us often!

A little addition has been added to the congregation. Trevor Michael is the new baby boy of Ron and Karen Benakovich, born on April 18. Three brothers are excited about having a new little baby to watch and the grandparents are Bro. James and Sis. Eleanor Bogart and Mr. and Mrs. John Benakovich.

Sis. Maxine Novotny has been in our thoughts and prayers, as she was hospitalized this past month.

Our sympathy is extended to JoAnn Curtis and her three children as their loved father and husband, Roy Curtis, Sr. passed away. May God be with you is our prayer.

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

INDIANA, LACROSSE

Lu Ann Feller - Connie Knoblock

"Search me, O God, and know my heart: Try me, and know my thoughts: And see if there by any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting." (Psalm 139:23, 24). Communion services are always such a cleansing to the spiritual man, and the love and unity of brethren is felt stronger than ever. It was such a blessing for our congregation to share communion services with Elder Bro. Aaron Steffen (Alto, MI). Other visiting ministers were Bros. Art Ringger (Indianapolis), Bill Schlatter (Junction, OH) and Larry Wenninger (Latty, OH).

Bro. Glen and Sis. Sandy Heinold have their third child, Mark Aaron. Mark joins his brother, Eric, and his sister, Melinda. Grandparents are Bro. Aaron and Sis. Grace Heinold and Bro. Gene and Sis. Libby Ann Moser (Elgin, IL).

Our congregation is very proud to have seven high school graduates: Dale Bucher (Sis. Gwen), Sis. Lynne Bucher (Bro. Ken and Sis. Carol), Marsha Bucher (Bro. Garry and Sis. Lois), Jim Cambern (Jim and Joan), Marlene Meiss (Bro. Roland and Sis. Jo), Jeannie Nuest (Bro. Gene and Sis. Norma) and Ken Nuest (Bro. Elvin and Sis. Jan). Also, Bro. Scott Frank (Bro. Ed and Sis. Lea) was graduated from Purdue University, and we are so happy that he and his wife, Elaine, have decided to settle in the area.

We surely welcome Bro. Ed and Sis. Carol Troxel and their two little boys to our congregation. They moved from Remington and are now living in LaCrosse. We wish them God's blessings.

Bro. Bert and Sis. Marie Bucher are hospital patients. Both suffered accidents and are nursing broken bones. May God encourage them and make all pain bearable. Also, we wish the same for Karen Heiniger, who spent time in the hospital as well.

AN EXCHANGE OF WILLS

I want my heart so cleared of self
 That my dear Lord can come
 And set up His own furnishings,
 And make my heart--His home.

And since I know what this requires,
 Each morning while it's still,
 I still slip into that secret room,
 And leave with Him--MY WILL.

He always takes it graciously,
 Presenting me with His;
 I'm ready then to meet the day
 And any task there is.

And this is how my Lord controls
 My interest, my ills,
 Because we meet at break of day,
 For an EXCHANGE OF WILLS.

INDIANA, LEO

Mrs. Al Frautschi

Mrs. Phil Schlatter

A day in June has been designated as Father's Day. It's a perfect time to show our thanks of all the times you've shown your love, dear Dad. "Ever since I rode piggy-back on your shoulders or you pushed me high in the air on the swing, you've been a symbol of strength to me, a source of protection. It was always so satisfying to see you smile at me with pride when I did something well, and to have your understanding when I made some childish blunder. Thank you for being there when I needed advice. Thank you most of all for standing at the crossroads of life to point the upward way, the way to heaven. Thank you, my dear Christian father."

Fathers work to support their families and while the work-a-day world claims much of their time, may each father reserve time for his family lest he sees himself in this little story: As this Dad came home from work one evening, he overheard his small son talking with his mother about heaven. As he listened to the conversation, he heard the boy say, "I don't suppose Daddy will be there, will he? He'll be too busy at the hardware store."

Elder Bro. Edwin Ringger, Gridley, assisted our Elder Bro. David Bertsch in testimonial and baptismal services for Tim Stoller, son of Bro. Ernest and Sis. Dean Stoller, and David Stieglitz, son of Bro. Marvin and Sis. Joan Stieglitz. Welcome, David and Tim, to the "Family of God."

Elder Bros. Jesse Beer, Milford,

and David Bertsch explained and summarized the spiritual helps of the Church Conference report.

Prayers are offered for Bro. George Zimmer who is presently hospitalized.

Congratulations go to our high school graduates, Sis. Patty Souder, daughter of Sis. Irma and the late Bro. Edward Souder, and Ronda Krugh at our children's home with Bro. Doug and Sis. Sue Kellenberger.

Summertime is vacation time for many. Those who travel to other countries will need valid passports which is a reminder that the only valid passport to Heaven is signed in Jesus' blood.

Other thoughts to ponder: The person who only occasionally samples God's Word rarely develops a taste for it.

He who offers God second place offers Him no place!

When praying, do not give God instructions --- just report for duty.

The Lord takes notice, not only of what we give, but of what we have left.

Have you seen the bumper sticker: "If you love Jesus, tithe. Anybody can honk!"

INDIANA, MILFORD
Mary Haab — Gwen Steffen

Take my life, and let it be
 consecrated, Lord, to Thee;
 Take my hands, and let them move
 at the impulse of Thy love.
 Take my feet, and let them be Swift
 and beautiful for Thee;
 Take my voice, and let me sing
 always, only, for my King.
 Take my silver and my gold, Not a
 mite would I withhold;
 Take my moments and my days; Let
 them flow in ceaseless praise.
 Take my will and make it Thine, It
 shall be no longer mine;
 Take my heart, it is Thine own, It
 shall be Thy royal throne.

Hymns of Zion No. 106

As Tim and Marlene Steffen (Bro. Walt and Sis. Dorothy) prepared for baptism, we sang these beautiful words. What a prayer it is, not just for these two dear souls, but for all of us that we could give our life to Christ in this manner. How we must

strive consistently that it be less of self and more of Thee that guides us on our homeward journey. Elder Bro. Nathan Steffen (Elgin, IL) assisted Elder Bro. Jesse Beer and Bro. Elmer Hartter in this joyful work. Bro. Uriel Gehring (Burlington, IA) also ministered to us. How we appreciate the Lord's ability to use brethren to have His gospel expounded upon. Other visiting ministers this month were Bro. Paul Gasser (Akron) and Bro. Glenn Price, Jr., (Sarasota). Each dear brother uses the spiritual gifts as given with his own manner of presentation; yet all are inspired by our great God to give us truth and show the way of salvation.

I know that God is with me
 For He warms me with His love,
 He walks among the flowers
 And He paints the sky above.
 I know that God is with me
 For He whispers in my ear.
 "Be not afraid my little one
 For I am always near."

Patricia Emme

Bro. Howard Beer, Sis. Flossie Hartter, Justin Bell (Sis. Ann and Wes), and Sara Frantz (Sis. Sandy and Steve) have been hospital patients this month. We know God's presence is such a comfort to them and to their families. We do have to remember as we pray for recovery, as well as for other things, that we should ask that His will be done and that God would grant us the ability to accept this. How easy it is to pray for our own will and wonder why we haven't been answered as we desired.

John and Pam Lehman (Bro. John, Sr. and Sis. Madine) have heard and answered the Master's call and have been lifted from the waters of sin. Isn't it precious that Christ's death has caused our despairing cries to be heard so that we can be safe on the peaceful shore of salvation?

Christy Beer (Bro. Phil and Sis. Millie) and Kent Doty were united in marriage on May 16 at our fellowship hall. We ask the Lord to richly bless this union that they may submit themselves one to another in the fear of God.

Each Day

I watched him playing in his crib
 This tiny little lad.
 And thought of all the years ahead
 For me to be his dad.

So soon I watched him as he went
 Inside the grade school door.
 The first few years had quickly
 passed,
 But there would be lots more.

I watched him walk across the stage,
 And high school days were done.
 I hardly could believe my eyes—
 That this man was my son.

So much of life is still ahead;
 In fact, it's just begun.
 But now I realize anew
 How fast the race is run.

So as the years go rushing by,
 I'll try to make each day
 To count for something that's
 worthwhile
 Before it slips away.

This is the day the Lord hath made;
 Rejoice then and be glad.
 And never cease to thank the Lord
 For those two words, "Hi Dad."
 Eugene Clark

INDIANA
PURDUE UNIVERSITY
Deb Anliker

Our annual spring picnic was held on April 28 and the officers for next year were elected. Though it was a cool evening, it was a blessing to all who made the effort to attend.

Our last service for the spring semester was April 29. We were privileged to have brethren from the Milford congregation with us. We appreciate their efforts to travel and be with us to fellowship around the Word of God.

As spring has drawn to a close, so has this semester at Purdue. This year's graduates are: Sisters Dolores Topp, Verene Von Tobel, Carla Gutwein, Denise Topp, and brothers Scott Frank and Max Hoerr. We wish God's blessings on all who have graduated as one phase of their life ends and another begins.

We would like to thank all who have attended and participated in Purdue services this year. Your deeds of love and kindness and your

constant support are very greatly appreciated. May God richly bless you now and in the days to come.

INDIANA, REMINGTON

Annette Bahler — Beth Virkler

Come within, come within,
Of thy church the Head to be!
Speak to us the peaceful message
Of thy love, we wait for thee,
Of our covenant the author,
Come, to hold with us this feast of
love,
From above, from above.

Sanctify, sanctify,
Sanctify this living bread
To our inward animation,
As thy body unto death
Thou didst give in consecration.
Let our spirit, free from worldly
mind,
Heaven find, heaven find.

Prince of life, Prince of life!
Showers from thy blessed flood
Bring, and quench our souls so
thirsty,
As thy sacrificial blood
For us flowed in great compassion,
Give us strength in all eternity
True to be, true to be.

Zion Harp No. 24

On the Saturday evening, May 1, we sought to experience the full depth of these words as Bro. Ed Lanz and our elder, Bro. Alfred Bahler led us in holy communion. It is a most renewing occasion as we feel the welcome zeal come into our hearts to deny ourselves more diligently for our Savior who suffered for us.

What is life? Is it being successful financially? Is it becoming well-known so that our name and picture appears in neon lights? Is it getting married and raising a family? Is it studying many books to become wise in worldly knowledge? Is it traveling from place to place to meet and learn about places and people? We find the answer in the Bible. We are told there that the greatest goal of our life should be to seek our Salvation, with the Grace of God, deny our sinful self and then to redeem our time, using it wisely to the glory of God. We experienced the course of life this past month as we laid two dear souls in their

graves. In one of the funeral services we were told that a funeral has two purposes: one is to offer comfort to the bereaved family and the other is to make each of us look at ourselves in the mirror of God's Word and ask ourselves, "Where are we going in Life? Have we received hope for our soul after our body turns to dust?" May this be the most important question in our lives . . . to live for eternal things denying that which is temporal. Elmer Wasner, 75, passed away after a lengthy illness. He is survived by his wife, Nettie (Clauss), one son, Russell of Remington, and one daughter, Janice McAllister of Roselawn, IN.

"I want to thank all our friends and relatives who remembered Elmer through his four years of confinement . . . for all the cards, visits and the ministers that visited and offered prayers. We are ever so grateful and sincerely appreciated the many deeds of kindness and the many cards with gifts of love in Elmer's passing. Thank you all and God bless you." (Nettie Wasner and family)

Sis. Lillie Frey, 85, passed away on May 7. She was raised in Fairbury and married Bro. Edward Frey from Remington who preceded her in death in 1970. She is survived by nine children: Sis. Velma Wilson (Remington), Sis. Norma Wasner (Remington), Sis. Mabel Wuetrich (Francesville), Sis. Evelyn Lehman (Altadena), Sis. Lois Bahler (Remington), Lloyd and Wally (Remington) and Marge Stoller and Carolyn Bahler (New Haven, IN).

If we would study the systems of the body, the tiniest cells and their functions, we would find a body designed by a creator that is thoroughly amazing and incomprehensible. It has been stated that if man were to build a computer that could perform all of the functions of the brain, it would take a computer the size of the Empire State Building to complete such preciseness. We who have experienced consistently ample health often do not stop and think of all the functions that are going on inside of our human bodies. To those of our brotherhood and friends who experience the pain and suffering of disease, we have the opportunity to lend a hand of comfort and help in

their hours of recovery. Recently, Sis. Diane Isabell and Sis. Marge Pitman submitted to major surgery and both have been spared of any major complications for which we thank our great God.

Zachery Michael is the name given to the baby boy of Mike and Sis. Jayne Price. His grandparents are Bro. Herb and Sis. Mary Jo Schieler of Remington and Thelma Price of Fowler.

What is graduation? Common sense tells us it is when we receive an academic degree after a completed course of study. But Webster also tells us that it is to pass from one stage of experience to the next. Couldn't we compare this with our spiritual life? The Bible tells us that we are to grow up in Christ and I like to think of graduating every day from our sinful nature and pressing on towards Christ. Finally, we long for that day when we can graduate from this earthly pilgrimage into the heavenly kingdom. Our academic graduates this year are: Doug Getz (Bro. Maurice and Sis. Eileen), Calvin Schneider (Bro. Ken and Sis. Loretta), Scott Bahler (Bro. Walter and Sis. Esther), Kevin Clauss (Paul and Wilma), Cindy Waibel (Bro. Gene and Sis. Diane) and Michele Zickmund (Bro. Andy and Sis. Mary). Graduating from nurses training as a registered nurse is Luanne Steffen (Bro. Ray and Sis. Lucille).

The Bible Contains

The Bible contains the mind of God, the state of man, the way of Salvation, the doom of sinners, and the happiness of believers. Its doctrines are holy, its precepts are binding, its histories are true, and its decisions are unchangeable. Read it to be wise, believe it to be safe, and practice it to be holy. It contains light to direct you, food to support you, and comfort to cheer you. It is the traveler's map, the pilgrim's staff, the pilot's compass, the soldier's sword, and the Christian's charter. Here paradise is restored, heaven opened, and the gates of hell disclosed. Christ is its grand subject, our good its design, and the glory of God its end. It should fill the memory, rule the heart, and guide the feet. Read it slowly, frequently, and prayerfully. It is a mine of

wealth, a paradise of glory, and a river of pleasure. It is given you in life, will be opened in the Judgment, and will be remembered forever. It involves the highest responsibility, rewards the greatest labor, and condemns all who trifle with its holy contents.

(Author Unknown)

INDIANA, SOUTH BEND

Nancy Lehman — Karen Lehman

God's Tender Care

When trouble comes, as it does to us all,
 God is so great and we are so small—
 But there is nothing that we need know
 If we have Faith that wherever we go
 God will be waiting to help us bear our pain and sorrow, our suffering and care —
 For no pain or suffering is ever too much
 to yield itself to God's merciful touch.

Helen Steiner Rice

Let us each have Faith to wait upon God and have Him direct our lives.

We're thankful to have Bro. Brad Baumgartner from the Bluffton congregation attending our South Bend church. We warmly welcome him and wish him God's blessings.

Bro. Bob Meister is now back in Peoria, IL after a year in college. We hope to see him return next year.

We held our annual spring clean-up and enjoyed the fellowship along with the nice weather.

We are blessed to have two graduates from high school. They are Dean Lehman, son of Bro. Wayne and Sis. Shirley Lehman and Sis. Karen Lehman, daughter of Bro. Verne and Sis. Leona Lehman. We wish them much of God's grace in their next step in life.

Our dear Bro. Henry Souder, who spent many years in the ministry, passed away on Friday May 14. Surviving are one daughter Carol (Mrs. Paul) Doolittle, three grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren, and one sister, Mrs. Mary Gerber. Our sympathy is extended to his family.

This month Bro. Mark Barr, (Detroit, MI), Bro. Paul Gasser

(Eureka, IL) and Bro. Walt Rager (Toledo, OH) were our visiting ministers. It's such a blessing to be able to have the word of God spoken in its truth and sincerity. We thank each one of them for their love.

Sis. Helen Martin was dismissed from the hospital and is now at home regaining her strength.

INDIANA, VALPARISO

Claudia Thomas — Mary Huber

We at Valparaiso had a very inspiring day spent with Bro. Don Sauder and Bro. Jim Leman from Roanoke, Ill. After services we heard the beautiful voices of the Prairie Choristers, which truly lifted all of our hearts in one accord. We want to thank them for visiting us.

We also had a very lovely mother-daughter dinner this month. We want to thank all the moms and daughters for coming. Isn't it amazing how far a mother will go for her daughter? To the ends of the earth? This is Love.

To all the graduates at Valparaiso and across the land, we want to wish you all the best for your future life ahead. May the Lord be near you in all your plans.

As we sit and see nature so beautifully unfold before our eyes, we can truly say this is a submission to God. The flowers so gracefully unfold, the trees so simply come forth in green. Nothing loud, nothing harsh, just simple submission to what God wants nature to do. May we as people with human natures learn from God's creation. Then we, too, can sing the songs of the birds that are so sweet to hear. Psalm 150:6 "Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord. Praise ye the Lord."

Happy Father's day to all fathers everywhere. May your blessings be many from your Heavenly Father down to your family. May your wisdom be from above, first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be entreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy. James 3:17.

A farmer had but one son. His conversion was the object of daily thought and prayer.

The time of camp meeting came before it was possible to finish the seeding. When the opening day

came the farmer hitched up his wagon and invited the family to go to the camp meeting.

"But Dad," said the boy, "you aren't going to leave the field by the lane unseeded? It will never be in as good form again this season."

"The field will have to take its chances," said the father. "The meetings have first place."

During the meetings, the boy was converted. Less than a year later, he came down with a fatal illness. As the boy neared death's door, just before he slipped out into eternity, he put his arms around his father and drew him close. With a shining face the boy whispered, "Dad, I'm so glad you let the field wait."

Gordon R. Upton

INDIANA, WOLCOTT

Laurel and Kris Widmer
 Suzanne Hoerr

Bro. Denny and Sis. Connie Stoller welcome their precious little daughter, Havilah Mae, born to them on April 28. Paternal grandparents are Bro. Richard and Sis. Viola Stoller. Sarah Amaris brings joy to the home of Bro. Max and Sis. Suzanne Hoerr, born to them on May 1. Also rejoicing are grandparents, Bro. Gene and Sis. Verna Lehman and Bro. Max and Sis. Katie Hoerr of Peoria.

We thank visiting minister, Bro. Marshall Heinold of Washington, IL, and his family for worshipping with us on May 2.

Congratulations to our three high school graduates: Jeff Bahler, son of Bro. Lowell and Sis. Karla; Bruce Furrer, son of Bro. Vernon and Sis. Jan; and Sis. Becky Schwab, daughter of Bro. Vernon and Sis. Arlene. We wish them God's guidance and direction as they ponder their future plans.

IOWA, BURLINGTON

Kim Salek - Edith Massner

Brad Gehring and Gale Burd were married on May 4. Brad is the son of Bro. Uriel and Sis. Judy Gehring. Gale is the daughter of Dennis and Emily Burd of Burlington. We wish Brad and Gale much happiness in their married life.

Tim and Gena Heiniger are the parents of a son born recently. He has been named Nicholas Ray. Grandparents are Bro. Harvey and

Sis. Leola Heiniger. Also, Bro. Kent and Sis. Deb Obermann now living in Memphis, TN, are the parents of a daughter born May 11. She has been named Mehgen Elyse. Grandparents are Bro. Bill and Sis. Rosie Obermann of Burlington and Bro. Dan and Sis. Ruth Knochel of Detroit, MI. We wish both new families much happiness and wisdom in the raising of such precious gifts from God.

We have two high school graduates this year. Rodney Scheitlin, son of Bro. Ken and Sis. Charity and Ruth Ann Schumacher, daughter of Bro. Mike and Sis. Elizabeth. Ruth Ann was graduated at the semester break and is now attending nurses' training and living in Burlington. Kirk Massner received his Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Iowa and is attending the University Dental College now. Greg Obermann, son of Bro. Bill and Sis. Rosie Obermann graduated from the University of Iowa Dental College. We wish all of our graduates much success in the new beginnings they undertake.

Mary Gehring, daughter of Bro. Uriel and Sis. Judy has been quite ill recently with hepatitis. We were glad that she was feeling well enough to attend church last week. Also, Sis. Bertha Gehring, mother of Bro. Uriel is in the hospital. We pray for God's nearness and strength in this difficult time for her and her family.

Bro. Dale Strassheim spent two Sundays with us recently. We enjoy having Bro. Dale and his family and wish to thank them for their efforts in serving us.

IOWA, ELGIN

Eleanor Butikofer

Greetings in the name of our dear Saviour. Spring means flowers, birds, field work, gardening, meadows growing lush, baby lambs romping about and so forth; it indeed is a lovely season in every sense of the word. I like this:

The year's at the spring
And day's at the morn
Morning's at seven
The hillside's dew pearled
The lark's on the wing
The snail's on the thorn;
God's in his heaven
All should be well with the world.

I'm really happy to inform you

that a pair of bluebirds are living in one of our bird houses not too far away from our home

Northern New England is becoming home for many more cardinals according to reports. When we have cardinals we really have a bonus. They stay all year around and if one feeds them all the year, summer and winter, one sees the parents bringing the fledglings to the feeders which is, in our estimation, a real treat to observe the colors and to hear their songs.

Sis. Marie Butikofer appreciated everything that was done to make her ninety-second birthday a pleasant one. A host of friends and relatives called at her home on the fifth day of May which was the day of her birth. She has six sons and three living daughters. Marie can vividly recall many interesting experiences of former days. At the moment I am thinking of how she taught a one month term for four years of what was called German school. This consisted of the following subjects: reading, writing, grammar and music. The last session was in 1914. Personally, I always appreciated her ready smile and the interest she had in everyone. May God continue to bless her.

Sis. Elizabeth Moore lives with her mother who is Sis. Marie of whom I am writing. The two together exemplify real companionship in love and care.

If you would make a man happy, do not add to his possessions but subtract from the sum of his desires.

Bro. Lonnie Butikofer has recently begun working at St. Joseph's Hospital located at New Hampton, IA, as the Director of the nursing service. We feel that in this position he will be finding many opportunities to show his Christian character for which we are thankful.

The only way on earth to multiply happiness is to divide it.

IOWA, GARDEN GROVE

Eileen Funk

Be kind and be gentle
To those who are old,
For kindness is dearer
And better than gold.

We are looking forward to our spring Vacation Bible School starting June 7 through June 18.

Teachers and children all seem to learn and receive a blessing from it.

Our monthly potluck and singing was enjoyed by all. Our visitors for that day were Bro. Bert and Sis. Vi Funk and their children, Sis. Marion (Morton), Jane Bertsche, Detric, Isaac (Springfield), and Crystal Narath (Francesville, IN) and her parents. It was a blessed day for all.

IOWA, IOWA CITY

Susie Gramm

Recently our small congregation was privileged to partake of Holy Communion. Sharing this intimate and blessed sacrament with our fellow believers would have been impossible if Christ had not been willing to die on the cross and shed his innocent blood for our sins. "Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, ... that henceforth we should not serve sin." Romans 6:6. How ungrateful we would be not to commemorate our Saviour's death and resurrection with thanks and praise. "Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over him." Romans 6:9. A special thanks to Bro. Paul Butikofer (Elgin, IA) and Bro. Roy Grimm (Taylor, MO) for being with us that day.

Other visiting ministers to our congregation have been Bro. Paul Eisenmann (Burlington), Bro. John Steiner (Oakville) and Bro. Jon Schmidgall (Oakville). We appreciate the continual efforts of these brothers to minister to us.

Amy Christine, born May 10 is welcomed with love and joy by her brother, Tim, her sister, Sherry and her parents, Bro. Joe and Sis. Connie Gerst. Grandparents are Bro. Fahey and Sis. Marie Gress of West Bend and Bro. Paul and Sis. Elva Gerst of Oakville.

IOWA, LESTER

Alice Metzger

Many special blessings were ours when Elder Bro. Corbin Bahler and Sis. Virginia were with us the weekend of April 25. He and Elder Bro. Leo Moser read and expounded on the memorandum from the annual conference. We can learn and live by the words we hear. Sunday evening we were led to calvary in spirit and partook of Holy Communion.

ion.

We appreciate the visit of Bro. Ben Wysong, Sabetha, who ministered here.

Our hearts are thankful to report that Julie Feucht (Bro. Gus and Sis. Martha) has turned to the Lord in repentance.

Two babies came to bless the homes of loved ones on May 17. Greg Louis was born to Bro. Mark and Sis. Audrey Metzger. He has one brother and the grandparents are Bro. Fred and Sis. Esty Metzger and Lou and Tina Moser. Natalie Jo is the firstborn to Bro. Donn and Sis. Joyce Moser. Her grandparents are Bro. Si and Sis. Edith Knobloch and Bro. Jake and Sis. Donna (Moser) Metzger.

Hospital patients were Liz Wulf (Emil) and Joni Wulf (Bro. Dale and Sis. Becky).

Our prayers go with our high school graduates as they embark on careers or schools of higher learning. Our graduates are Tim Feucht (Bro. Gus and Sis. Martha), Dave Gerber (Bro. John and Sis. Donna), Dean Meyer (Bro. Raymond and Sis. Twyla), Blair Metzger (Bro. Gene and Sis. Delores), Denis Knobloch (Bro. Nathan and Sis. Irene), Jerry Knobloch (Orvie and Lauretta), Lou Knobloch (Gilbert and Sis. Vicki), Stan Knobloch (Bro. Dale and Sis. Mary Ellen), Sue Jones (Alvin and Marilyn Metzger), Kim Knobloch (Bro. Alfred and Sis. Lucy), Sis. LuAnn Metzger (Bro. Fred and Sis. Esty) and Becky Metzger (Bro. Bob and Sis. Rosella).

We also have a few college graduates. They are Stan Wulf, from ISU at Ames; Julie Feucht and Donna Knobloch from Nettleton Business College, Sioux Falls; Shirley Knobloch and Sis. Brenda Knobloch from ICC at Emmetsburg and Leroy Wulf from Worthington Jr. College. We wish them success in their chosen careers and even more pray their spiritual lives will be firmly grounded.

IOWA, OAKVILLE Jerilyn Wagenbach

"For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come." I Cor. 11:26.

Our communion service was held on April 17. As we partook of the

Lord's Supper, we were reminded of the great sacrifice He made that we might have salvation. Sharing in this work and in the ministry this weekend were Elder Bro. Alfred Bahler (Wolcott) and Bro. Earl Kilgus (Remington).

On April 25 we learned of the betrothal of Sis. Lora Massner (Bro. Eric and Sis. Norma) to Bro. Kenny Wuthrich of Pulaski (Bro. Russell and Sis. Karoline). We wish this couple the guidance and blessing of the Lord.

Sunday, May 16, brought more visitors into our midst. We appreciate the efforts of ministering brothers. Virgil Metzger (Champaign), Wayne Anliker (Forrest) and Paul Eisenmann (Burlington). That evening we held a potluck supper at the new Fellowship Center. The meal was followed by a singing and dedication service for this building which we hope to use in a manner pleasing to the Lord.

IOWA, PULASKI Mary Wiegand - DeAnn Wuthrich

The flowers are blooming and the signs of spring are everywhere. How wonderful it is to see the earth turn green after such a cold winter. This is just another one of God's miracles.

In the tiny petal
Of a tiny flower
that grew from a tiny pod
Is the miracle
and the mystery
of all creation and God.

Helen Steiner Rice

We are always thankful to have visiting ministers with us. Sharing with us this past month were Bro. Kenny Knapp (Taylor) and Bro. John Schmidgall (Oakville). We truly want to thank them for their labors of love in the Lord.

Sympathy is extended to Bro. Richard Teubal and his family in the death of his mother, Sis. Rose Teubal.

Graduating from high school this year will be Dan Metzger, son of Bro. Roy and Sis. Evelyn Metzger.

The announcement was made of the engagement of Bro. Kenny Wuthrich, son of Bro. Russell and Sis. Karoline Wuthrich, and Sis.

Lora Messner, daughter of Bro. Eric and Sis. Norma Messner (Oakville).

Hospitalized this month was Cody Townsend, son of Danny and Sis. Lynn Townsend. We wish him a speedy recovery.

IOWA, WEST BEND Elma Mogler - Judy Fehr

Spring is here and there is evidence of rebirth everywhere as we look about. The splendor of nature is a miracle in itself, and once again we become very much aware of the Supreme Creator and the greatness of His power.

Two precious little "miracles" have blessed two homes. Bro. Norm and Sis. Polly Zaugg became parents of Nancy Ann on April 22. Her grandparents are Sis. Emma Meyer of Lester and Bro. Oscar and Sis. Frances Zaugg. Joel and Teresa Kellenberger became parents of Todd Eli on May 5.

Elder Bro. Sam Anliker and his wife Sis. Clara came to visit her father, retired Elder Bro. Paul Banwart, who has not been able to assemble with us for some time. We did appreciate Bro. Sam, who served us to well from the pulpit with God's Holy Word.

It is always a concern when loved ones must be hospitalized as have Bernadine Jurgens, Sis. Eunice Fehr, Sis. Emma Luthi, and Sis. Katie Dogotch. We are always thankful to the Lord when all can be well again.

We want to express our sympathy to the family of Tami Samek, bride-to-be of Leo Banwart from our congregation, who has had to experience the great loss of a ten year-old sister in an accident.

We are sorry that we omitted the graduate Shannon Fehr, son of Eldie and Verdell Fehr, from our list last month. We trust the Lord will bless him in whatever pathway he may choose.

When Father Prays

When father prays, he doesn't use
the words the preacher does;
There's different things for dif-
ferent days, but mostly it's for
us.

When father prays, the house is still...his voice is slow and deep. We shut our eyes; the clock ticks loud, so quiet we must keep.

I can't remember all of it, I'm little yet, you see;
But one thing I cannot forget, my father prays for me.

Unknown

May God bless all fathers everywhere on Father's Day.

To Know Each Other Better

We enjoyed a visit one afternoon with Sis. Emilie Bruellman as she shared with us a little of her life history. We were thankful that her only daughter Sis. Ruth Sigsbee, could be with us also.

Emilie Mueller was born July 25, 1892 at Hauptswil, Switzerland, daughter of Louis and Emilie Mueller. She grew up in the city where her father was a bookkeeper.

Sis. Emilie came from a large family and they lived on one floor of a large home. Another family lived on the other floor, and together they shared a large "wash kitchen" as well as a washline. Sis. Emilie recalls that there was an enormous amount of wash to do, and it was one of the many duties she was assigned to help with. It seems the whole family worked hard.

"In a way, I think they worked a little harder there than we do here," Sis. Emilie feels, but they did have some time to play games on the large veranda which was attached to their home.

Sis. Emilie's family had both an organ and piano, so at the age of nine, she began taking piano lessons from a "very strict" teacher. She remembers getting her hands tapped when she didn't play well enough, but perhaps that is why she still is able to play her own pump organ so well. While visiting, she delightfully recalls the times when her brother and sister would sit down and play at the same time, "and it was really beautiful."

At 16, she finished high school, but feels that it wasn't as much schooling as we have over here. She recalls going up in the Swiss Alps only once and that was with the whole school for a class trip.

They lived close to the church and she enjoyed their "Fersomlag" very much. They attended every Sunday.

As a young girl, she was employed by a lady who had an ironing service. She had to be taught how to do the ironing. During that time period, clothes also had to be starched quite heavily.

On June 19, 1923, Sis. Emilie was married to Adolph Bruellman. Bro. Adolph, who was a stone cutter by trade in Switzerland, had been to the United States two times before he met his bride and they were married. They lived in Switzerland for only two months before coming to the United States to make their home.

Well prepared to set up housekeeping, Sis. Emilie took dishes, pans and linens with her in a "steamer trunk". It took ten days to cross the ocean and "like everybody else," she was seasick for five days. Never again did she see her homeland, though many times her heart has really yearned for it and her loved ones there. She has two sisters who live in Zurich and one brother in Basel.

For the first three months after they arrived in this country, they lived with Bro. Adolph's brother, Bro. Emil Bruellman. Then they moved to town into a house which would be "home" for approximately 50 years.

Through the years, Sis. Emilie stretched curtains, raised vegetables, strawberries and raspberries to sell, and kept a spotless house. Bro. Adolph worked as a farm laborer some, but his main occupation was digging tile ditches by hand.

At the age of 50, Sis. Emilie felt the need to repent and later, at the age of 74, Bro. Adolph also repented. It was a sorrowful time for Sis. Emilie when Bro. Adolph died in 1962 after suffering two years in a sanitorium with tuberculosis.

Sis. Emilie lived alone for many years in their home before moving to the community apartments. It's interesting to note that she learned to drive a car at the age of 56. She continues to enjoy knitting, raising flowers and, above all, playing her beautiful oak pump organ. A visitor is fascinated by her ability to play by ear, and her eyes twinkle as she

plays her favorite hymn, "O, blessed Sun, whose splendor...." (Hymns of Zion—No. 178). She loves to sing, and a touch of Swiss heritage is felt when you hear her with her rich Swiss accent. She greatly looks forward to the weekend visits of her daughter, Sis. Ruth, who is married and lives in Algona. She is faithful to come, and it is then that they can attend church together; for this, we know that Sis. Emilie is thankful.

JAPAN, SHIODA

Vicki Ramseyer

On April 17 our congregation was visited by Bro. Saburo, Sis. Shizuko and their daughter Sis. Hiroko Utsuki, from the Tokyo congregation. What a blessing to feel God's nearness when we fellowship together with His children.

Sunday, April 25, 18 of us from the Shioda and Tokyo congregations got together in the home of Sis. Yoshiko Sakuta for a singing. Sometimes it really strikes us that we have been privileged to be able to come to this country, learn to know and love these dear brothers and sisters, and help with the work here.

At this time there is still not a sister available to come to Japan to teach in our kindergarten. I feel certain that this is God's work and that He must be leading someone! We are praying that the sister God is leading right now will soon be able to share her convictions with her elder and the brothers on the mission committee.

JAPAN, TOKYO

Yoshio Yamazaki - Marie Inoue

On March 28, Mr. Kimio Hara visited our Assembly. He is a student from Shioda church area and had just returned from a visit in the U.S. While there, he visited the homes of our churches, namely Bro. Jim and Sis. Sharon Fehr of West Bend, IA and Bro. Keith and Sis. Sharon Kellenberger of Elgin, IL. May the Lord bless each one who cared for him. We believe he received good influence during his stay.

This spring we have two graduates: Seiji Sakuta, son of Shoji and Sis. Yoshiko Sakuta graduated from elementary school, and Grace Klaus from senior high school.

A sister told me last Sunday she believes God puts a protective hand over the children of His children to shield them from dangers and evils. May this be the lot of Seiji and Grace as they enter the gates of higher learning. Grace, daughter of Bro. John and Sis. Betty, plans to join her sisters in central Illinois to study nursing.

Seiji enters a large junior high and we pray he will find the pathway of mother and grandparents who love the Lord.

We bid farewell to Sis. Hiroko Utsuki on May 2 as she has gone to N.Y. City to be with her sister for a time. She will be sorely missed in our assembly, and we pray for God's special grace and blessing to provide for her during her stay there and until we meet again.

KANSAS, BERN

Linda Esslinger

Once again the graduation season has come upon us. Graduating from high school are Michael Strahm, son of Bro. Alpha and Sis. Mamie and Judd Meyer, son of Bro. Louis and Sis. Mavis. Carol Rokey, daughter of Bro. Joe and Sis. Lila is graduating from a Vo-Tech school in nursing. Our college graduate is Martha Grimm, daughter of Br. Paul and Sis. Katie, from K-State.

Hospitalized were Bro. William Meyer and Dwight Edelman due to a mishap.

Bro. Jon Schmidgall was a visiting minister.

Bro. Aaron Strahm passed away April 24, 1982 at the age of 88. Services were held April 26, 1982. He is survived by his two children, Vernon and Loree.

KANSAS, FT. SCOTT

Jamie Marti

Our college graduate this spring is Bro. Roger Kraft. We wish him God's blessings with his new job.

Our hospital patient this month was Sis. Lucille Schurter. We are thankful she was able to return home.

KANSAS, GRIDLEY

Doris Bahr - Julie Strahm

Here we are, you and I, sitting in God's waiting room — again. He didn't answer our petition with a

Yes, no, perhaps or maybe.

But He said, "Wait here!"

So here we are, you and I, sitting in God's waiting room — in yet another Holding pattern.

I wait with you!

Wait for the Lord, He will come and save you!

Be brave, stout hearted and courageous

Yes, wait and He will help you.

Author Unknown

This reminds me so much of the dear ones who have recently had to "endure and be still" as they have been subjected to bodily afflictions. Hospitalized have been Sis. Esther (Sam) Kraft, Karen (Randall) Somerhalder, Sis. Ungela Strahm, Sis. Lydia Young, Bro. Loren (Liseten) Strahm, and Bro. Brian Bahr.

Sis. Jeanie Young (daughter of Harvey and Karen Young, and granddaughter of Sis. Lydia Young) gave her testimony of her true conversion by faith in Jesus Christ and His shed blood and was baptized Apr. 25. We wish to share our joy yet of another soul who has chosen to walk this same pathway of life. Kip Edelman, son of Bro. Albert and Sis. Jeanie, has expressed this very desire. Let us fervently draw closer one to another so that the 'Inn' may always be made ready to receive those who wish to be cared for.

Sis. Anna Raaf was called Home. Funeral services were May 1. May the Lord bless and comfort her dear family. Sis. Anna and her dear sister, Sis. Mary Raaf, have both been in a nearby home and have been missing from our assembly for quite some time.

One of our dear friends was taken to his rest on May 12. Frank Knapp, husband of Kathryn Knapp passed away, unexpectedly to all of us. Our sincere sympathy is extended to Kathryn and her dear family. May the Lord bless each of them and all who remembered them in their time of need.

We are sorry to have missed reporting the birth of a precious daughter born to Randall and Karen Somerhalder. Belatedly, we wish to share in their joy of the birth of Ashley Renee, born Jan. 15. Ashley has a brother, Justin, six years old. Her grandparents are Bro. Joseph and Sis. Edna Somerhalder and Mr.

and Mrs. Orville Tyson of Waverly.

KANSAS, KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

Mary Wernli

Well Done

There is one thing I most desire,
As fades life's golden sun:
It is not fame nor wealth in gold,
But these two words, "Well Done."

So as I travel o'er life's way,
It's not the name I've won,
Nor is it that I've traveled far:
But only God's "Well Done."

Now this is what I hope for most,
When this life's battle's won.
That as I stand before my Lord,
He'll say to me, "Well Done."

This does not mean that in the fray,
I've all the battles won:
It simply means I've passed my test,
When Jesus says, "Well Done."

—Howard E. Gilham

Serving us in the labor of the Lord this past month were Bros. Ben Wysong, Roger Aberle, and Elder Bro. Sam Huber (Sabetha), Bros. Bill Emch and Roy Wernli (Lamont) and Bro. John Lehman (Bern).

Graduates this semester from our group are Bro. Eric Huber, Sis. Ramona Strahm, Martha Grimm, and Sis. Mary Wernli. May the Lord grant them all His grace and blessings as they continue their journeys through this life.

KANSAS, KIOWA

Janice Bahr - Gay Farney

Each year, two days are set aside to honor two very special people; Dad and Mother. In my opinion, the most beautiful gift God can give any child, next to our Lord Jesus Christ, is a set of Godly parents. Parents who love their God above all else and rear their children to love and live for Him also. The two days we set aside, of course, are Mother's Day and Father's Day. When they come around this year, and we take time to show Dad and Mom our deep love and respect for all they are to us, let's remember also to fall upon our knees in thanksgiving to our God for making it all possible in the first place.

We were so happy to welcome

Elder Bro. John Bahler, his wife and two granddaughters, Rockville, CN, into our midst one Sunday this month. They were on their way through, traveling back home. We deeply appreciate our messengers of God's Word, who come into our midst and lend themselves to teach us from the Gospel. It was a blessed day for all of us.

Our hospital patients this month included Sis. Elizabeth and Wilmer Diel, who both underwent tests; Sis. Alice Tanner, who had surgery on her hip, though still suffering from a broken collar bone; and Meagan Farney, daughter of John and Cheryl Farney, who was in several days for observation. We miss our loved ones when they are ill, and pray that our merciful God will soon grant them health so they can again be in our midst.

We would like to extend our deepest sympathy to Tillie Diel and family at the passing to her sister, Sis. Anna Raaf, Gridley. May our God be an ever-present and abiding comfort in their loss.

May God richly bless the marriage of Susan Guthrie and Tim Moriarty who exchanged their vows in the home of her parents, Bro. Richard and Sis. Florence Guthrie on March 1. Susan and Tim are making their home in Hays, KS, where they both are presently working. Elder Bro. Ronald Nelson officiated the wedding service.

KANSAS, LAMONT

Mary Isch

I once thought that after I prayed it was my duty to do everything that I could do to bring the answer to pass. He taught me a better way, and showed that my own effort always hindered His working, and that when I prayed for anything, He wanted me to wait in the spirit of praise, and only do what He bade me. It seems so unsafe to just sit still, and do nothing but trust the Lord. The temptation to take the battle into our own hands is often tremendous.

We all know how impossible it is to rescue a drowning man who tries to help his rescuer, and it is equally impossible for the Lord to fight our battles for us when we insist upon trying to fight them ourselves. It is not that He will not, but He cannot.

Our interference hinders His working.

"... and he shall bring it to pass"
(Psa. 37:5)

Streams in the Desert

A son, Jacob Frederick, was born to Bro. Tom and Sis. Jeri Knobloch on May 2. Bro. Lloyd and Joan Luthi are the maternal grandparents and Bro. Nathan and Sis. Irene Knobloch (Lester, IA) are the paternal grandparents.

KANSAS, SABETHA

Clara Steiner - Judy Hartter

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.

Lord, lead us then by Thy strong
hand

As pilgrims through this desert
land;

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

Zions Harp No. 200

We were again renewed in heart and spirit when we partook of Holy Communion. We need to look daily to the old rugged cross and remember the suffering of our precious Savior. Elder Bro. Lester Hartter, Bern, KS, assisted our Elder Bro. Sam Huber.

Bro. Nathan Grimm and Sis. Julie Edelman have recently been hospitalized. May God grant his healing power to each one.

Our recent graduates are Danny Wenger (Bro. Harvey and Sis. Arleta) from high school, Bro. Eric Huber (Bro. Sam and Sis. Jeanette) and Sis. Ramona Strahm (wife of Bro. Edwin) from Kansas State University. We wish them God's blessings and grace as they go on through this life.

The engagement was announced of Sis. Marcel Meyer (Bro. Eli and Sis. Lois) to Bro. Eric Huber (Bro. Sam and Sis. Jeanette). Also recently engaged was Steve Metzger (Doug and Betty) to Elizabeth Farley of Highland, KS.

Our sympathy is extended to the family of Bro. Dave Brunner. Bro. Dave passed away May 5. Surviving are his wife, Sis. Susie; one son, Loren from Deer Park, TX; two daughters, Sis. Loree Plattner (Bro. Henry) and Sis. Mildred Strahm (Bro. Walter) both of Sabetha; one sister, Lydia Wenger of Sabetha; ten grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.

KANSAS, WICHITA

Priscilla Frank

The world always needs
Mothers who give guidance
by the lives they live...

Mothers who teach
young hearts to find
beauty...compassion
and peace of mind...

Hadin Marshall

I came across this poem while in search of a Mother's Day card. I thought it so fitting for all our mothers who have been such great examples by the lives they have lived and for the beauty, compassion and peace of mind we have found because of their efforts to teach us about Christ.

In this day of absent mothers I'm thankful we have such examples to help lead the young mothers in their child-rearing years. Many women today work outside the home and have to work doubly hard to teach their children the love of God. None the less, whether a working mother or a housewife, it all takes time and effort to do the job right. God, in his infinite wisdom, knows each of our situations and each of our needs. I'm so thankful that we have him to call upon for guidance. Child rearing is a beautiful experience which is not granted to all. Let's not waste the opportunity granted unto us that have children. Take the time to pray and ask God how to wisely lead your children. We will be eternally accountable for the souls he has placed in our care. Take time to seek his wisdom on how to discipline. Every child is not alike; each responds differently, but there is a discipline method effective for each child. He knows what will work best. It may not be according to the mode of today, but, it will be the best. Also,

take the time to get to know your children as they really are beautiful creations. Learn to know what their strong points are. God has blessed each of us with certain talents that he has designed in us to help fulfill his plans for our lives and to fulfill some need in his chosen people. Find out what your children's special talents are and help to develop them. Develop some wholesome attitudes along with this. Let them know they have these special talents only because God has blessed them with them. Help them to appreciate this special kindness of God, that, they may learn to appreciate him young in their lives. Teach them young to seek the wisdom of God. Remember good morals are not always taught by words, but sometimes they are caught by witnessing our reactions to situations. Keep your armour up and be the examples children need today.

Last, but definitely not least, let your children know you appreciate them. Tell them daily you love them and that you're thankful for them. Do this both in word and deed. It helps to build good self-esteem. We all need to feel loved and appreciated; regardless if we're two or 92. Make a conscious effort to let others know you care. Thank God for the mothers you were blessed with. Develop good relationships with them. For truly a mother and child relationship is a relationship that is too special to let slip into the past. Let's always keep it in the present.

We have four parents who have reasons to feel thankful and proud as they watch their children complete and accomplish goals they have sought after. Robert Langhofer (son of Bro. Al and Sis. Judy) and Ronald Reeves (son of Wayne and Sis. Roxanne Reeves) will graduate from high school. Bro. Mike Bowers (son of Bro. Milton and Sis. Lillian) will graduate from Salina area Voc-tech School and Don Warner (son of Bro. Howard and Sis. Anne) graduates from Pittsburg State. To all the above graduates we wish God's blessings as you seek employment or higher stages of learning.

MICHIGAN, ALTO

Jane Grawburg

We have had a busy and

prosperous month, once again, here at Alto. Graduating this year are Sis. Deana Price, Sis. Treasure Steffen, and Bro. Robert Schrenk. Our prayers are with these dear ones as they venture onward, earnestly trying to meet the goals they have set for themselves. Special congratulations go to Lauri Schrenk, daughter of Bro. Tom and Sis. Joan Schrenk, as she graduates from college this year.

It's twin boys for Bro. Kurt and Sis. Luanne Kaeb! Aaron and Benjamin, the 7-lb. twins, have been welcomed home by their two sisters, Melanie and Heidi, and by their brother, Loren. Their grandparents are Bro. Alfred and Sis. Hermine Kaeb of Bay City and Bro. Noah and Sis. Marguerite Blough of Alto.

Tom and Michelle Oesch are very excited about Thomas Michael, their first little bundle of joy. He is warmly welcomed by his grandparents, Bro. Joe and Sis. Melva Oesch.

May God bless these dear families now, and help them to grow and prosper.

Visiting us this month was Bro. LaVoyd Moore of Athens, AL. We certainly want to thank him for sharing his weekend with us and especially for enlightening us with God's Holy Word.

Father's Day is just around the corner. Let's remember Dad; he's just great! Thank you, Dad, for being just the way you are.

MICHIGAN, BAY CITY

Linda Ramseyer

Our congregation was saddened by the death of a dear sister during the past month. Sis. Lydia Freidinger was called home to be with our Lord and Saviour. Her presence will be missed by her survivors who are: three sisters; Sis. Kathryn Wieland, Laura Clara Mudge and Lillian Roes; five brothers; Bro. Sam Wieland, Bro. Erwin Wieland, Alfred Wieland, Harvey Wieland and Elmer Wieland; and several nieces and nephews.

We send a prayer to those who have been ill this month. Sis. Elsie Pashak has been ill for the past few weeks and has not been able to assemble with us. Sis. Loretta (Winston) Mosher had been hospitalized

for a while, but we are glad that she has been able to come home and return to church to worship with us.

We were privileged to have Bro. Floyd Wieland of Detroit with us for a Sunday. We thank him for being willing to come and minister God's word. Bro. Robert and Sis. Betty Schlatter are rejoicing with their new grandson. Matthew Robert was born to Bill and Trudy Schmidt of Clawson, MI. Joshua helped to welcome his new brother home. Also rejoicing are Bro. Norman and Sis. Leonore Knochel with the births of two new grandchildren. Jim and Kay Knochel welcomed Jenay Marie into their home. Sarah is happy to have a baby sister. Benjamin Michael is the first child of Bro. Robert and Sis. Patsy Bragiel. Benjamin's paternal grandparents are Frank and Sis. Irma Bragiel.

Once again, we were reminded of our dear Savior's love for us, as we were privileged to partake of Holy Communion. "And he took bread and gave thanks, and brake it, and gave unto them, saying, This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me." St. Luke 22:19

MICHIGAN, DETROIT

Bonnie and Helen Popp

We had a very special weekend with the group visit of our Children's Home. Many activities were enjoyed, and it was a good time for sharing and fellowship. We pray a blessing upon each and every one of our visitors. I hope these children may find this true in their lives:

Reassurance

The Lord is with me. He will ever shield.

And comfort me, supply my every need.

No good thing will the Lord withhold, but yield

The best to me. He clothes me; He will feed

And nourish me. His words have grace and power

And they sustain me each and every hour.

(from Shield of Faith
by Roy Z. Kemp)

We were also glad to have a visiting minister with us, Bro.

Homer Reineck of Toledo.

Bill and Trudy (Schlatter) Schmidt welcomed into their hearts and home a new baby, Matthew Robert, born April 20. We wish this young family a special blessing.

Bro. George Popp had hip replacement surgery and is doing well in recuperation and therapy. Many prayers are offered for a full and speedy recovery.

MINNESOTA, MINNEAPOLIS

Deb Tilbury

We have been blessed with several visiting ministers. Bringing us God's Word were Bros. Floyd Schmidgall (Morris, MN), Edwin Bahler (Remington, IN), Ken Lawson (Fr. Lauderdale, FL), and Joe Stoller (Princeville, IN). We thank them and their families for worshipping with us.

On May 23 Elder Bro. Harold Messner was with us and brought us the exhortation for communion which will be in June. This was also our annual meeting. Those elected to fill the following offices were: Bro. John Olson — Sec. Treas., Bro. Ken Schmidt — Sunday School teacher, Bro. Ray Schmidgall — sub. teacher, Bro. Perry Virkler — Trustee, Sis. Josie Esterling — World Relief, and Sis. Barb Olson — craft night.

MINNESOTA, MORRIS

Rhonda Zeltwanger — Jan Schock

We are so happy that the Lord is still working in the hearts of man and the door of Grace is open. Tim Feuchtenberger has found peace and now awaits baptism. May we each encourage him and show him our love.

May 1 and 2 was a very special weekend because we were privileged to have Elder Bros. Gene Marti (Lamar, MO) and Leo Moser (Lester, IA) serve us Holy Communion. Also, Bro. Gene Metzger (Lester, IA) was with us. Other visiting ministers this month were Elder Bro. Sam Huber and Bro. Carl Hartman (Sabetha, KS). We thank them for their labors of love and time.

Minnie Schlupp has been a hospital patient. We pray that she will soon be home and feeling better.

Our graduates this month are: Julie Fehr (Bro. Lloyd and Sis.

Diane), Tim Feuchtenberger (Bro. Wally and Sis. Diane), Rick Gramm (Bro. Harold and Sis. Ila), Christine Koehl (Gerry and Deloice), Ruth Koehl (Bro. Ernest and Sis. Gladys), Fred Moser (Bro. Bill and Sis. Joyce), Jon Moser (Bro. David and Sis. Norene), Pat Schmidgall (Bro. Gene and Sis. Dorothy) and Sue Zeltwanger (Bro. Bill and Sis. Betty). May God bless each one of these young adults as they enter a new time in their lives, a time of decisions and responsibilities. May they each make that most important decision of all. "Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shall say, I have no pleasure in them;" (Ecclesiastes 12:1).

Our sympathy goes to Bro. Alpha and Sis. Pearl Moser and their family in the loss of Sis. Pearl's mother, Mrs. Anna Trost. "Most all of the beautiful things in life come by twos and threes, by dozens and hundreds. Plenty of roses, stars, sunsets, rainbows, brothers, and sisters, aunts, and cousins, but you have only one mother in the whole world." Author anon.

We have two engagements to announce. Tom Furrer (Bro. Glen and Sis. Eileen) and Jill Johnson plan to be married in June. Merle Spohr (Mr. and Mrs. Wilbert Spohr) and Jean Lembcke are planning a July wedding. We wish both young couples God's blessings as they start their homes.

MINNESOTA, WINTHROP

Carol Messner — Mary Lou Schmidt

"Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!" Psalm 133. Our beloved Elder Bros. Leo Moser and Lester and Harold Messner gave the memorandum exhortation on Saturday evening. Following Sunday afternoon services, the blessed Sacrament of Communion was served to our small congregation. "The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ?" I Cor. 10:16 The word communion means being one with God, hence comes the self examination of ourselves. We thank these brethren, and Bro. Art Nohl of

Morris, for their labor of love in the Lord this blessed weekend.

Hospital patients this past month have been Bro. Connie Messerli, Bro. Ray Messner, and Sis. Mary Lou (Dick) Schmidt. We pray the Lord will be ever at their sides to give the needed strength on their road to recovery.

Our annual Sunday school voting took place recently. Bro. Connie Messerli was voted in to replace Bro. Dennis Messner on the hail aid committee. Bro. Kenneth was chosen to replace Bro. Dennis in Sunday school. Bro. Dean Messner and Bro. Verl Schmidt, Sis. Patti Dapper and Sis. Carol Ann Messner were also voted into Sunday school. Sis. Mary Lou will continue as our Silver Lining reporter. May the Lord continue to be at their sides as they seek to serve in these various offices.

Our special prayer for our graduates this year is "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom." Prov. 1:7. The following are being graduated this year: Kim (Bro. Marvin and Sis. Jerry Messner), Coleen (Bro. Roy and Sis. Rose Alice Howk), Paula (Bro. Ernest and Sis. Marcelle Dapper), Sandra (Bro. LeRoy and Sis. Joanne Messner), Garrett (Al and Sis. Donnabell Nelson), Brad (Bro. Kenneth and Margaret Messner), Jason (Sis. Carol Ann Messner), all from high school and Todd (Sis. Carol Ann Messner), from Willmar Jr. College. "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and He shall direct thy paths." Prov. 3:5-6

MISSOURI, LAMAR

Becky Hohulin — Sandra Marti

What a blessed day we enjoyed on May 16. As a family of believers we had the privilege to partake of Holy Communion. Words just can't express the contents of our hearts when we assemble together to remember our dear Lord's suffering and what it means to us. We thank Elder Bro. Lester Hartter, Bern, KS, for ministering to us on that day.

Marla Kay arrived on April 23 to brighten the home of Billy and Pam Greene. Eric also welcomes a baby sister. Sis. Cecile Braker is Marla's

grandmother.

Sis. Marie Stewart is confined to the hospital at this time. It is our prayer that God will ever be by her side and that she could again return to her home. Sis. Cecile Braker and Sis. Linda Banwart also spent some time in the hospital, but we're thankful that they are back home.

We congratulate our high school graduates who include Tom Frieden (Bro. Virgil and Sis. Bernice), Martin Hohulin (Bro. Martin and Sis. Edith) and Bev Mayfield. May they look to God for guidance in their future lives.

MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS

Becky Gudeman

We were indeed blessed by Bro. Joe Zimmerman (Morton) and Bro. Kent Heimer (Taylor) as they ministered the word to us this month. We thank them for their efforts and may God bless them, their families, and the others who have traveled to be with us and share the love of God.

We are so thankful for those in the area who have contacted us and have shared a desire to worship. We welcome any others to call Dan and Becky Gudeman, 14359 Lake Tahoe, Chesterfield, MO 63017; 314-275-2227.

Services are scheduled for the second and fourth Sundays of the month, and are now being held at the Ben Franklin Motor Hotel, 4645 N. Lindbergh Blvd.

MISSOURI, TAYLOR

Loida Hodel

The day was long, the burden I had borne
Seemed heavier than I could longer bear,
And then it lifted — but I did not know
Someone had knelt in prayer;
Had taken me to God that very hour,
And asked the easing of the load,
and He
In infinite compassion had stepped down
And taken it from me.

(Apples of Gold)

Clarence Kolthoff (father of Sis. Linda Heimer) was a hospital (surgical) patient, and since then he and Rosella have moved to Shelbina,

MO, where he is getting along as well as can be expected.

Sis. Rose Hoerr had the misfortune to fall and break her wrist.

"Love works in ways that are wondrous and strange, and there's nothing in life that love cannot change." (Helen Steiner Rice) Amy Hoerr (Bro. Rob't and Sis. Emma Dee) and Rusty Adrian (Gen and the late Russell of Hannibal, MO) were married Apr. 24 at the Fellowship Hall by Elder Bro. Roy. We are glad to have a new family in our church circle and may God bless this union.

Apr. 22 is a day we will long remember when God called our dear Bro. Geo. Hoerr from his earthly life — a happy day for him, but leaving an empty spot within his family, our church, and the whole neighborhood. Our lives have been enriched because of the close association with Geo; his friendly, quiet manner will be missed by the young, middle aged, and old in our church, in which he was a staunch pillar. May God be with Sis. Betty, their daughter, Sis. Joann, and Bro. Marvin Wiegand, grandsons, Steve, Mark, Phil and Danny Wiegand, and his sisters, Anna, Rachel, and Lydia Hoerr of Peoria. May their cherished memories be a source of comfort and always keep the one they loved close to them. Services were held on Sun. Apr. 25, with our local ministers in charge. We sorrow not, even as others who have no hope.

We are happy to have two families back with us — Bro. William and Sis. Ruth Cottrell, who have been living in Florida, and Dave and Sis. Marijane Foote, who have been living in Ontario. Once again God had fulfilled His promise — "...the Lord watch between me and thee, when we are absent one from another." Gen. 31:49

Special visitors this month were Elder Bros. Sam Huber (Sabetha, KS) and Leroy Huber (Eureka, IL) and ministering Bros. Wayne Miller (Ft. Scott, KS) Kenny Dietz (Bradford, IL), Lenny Meyer (Chicago, IL) and Uriel Gehring (Burlington, IA). Thank you all for reminding us that "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away." Matt. 24:35

Since Mother's Day is past and Father's Day is coming up, I'd like to

share the following poem:

As children we can't comprehend or fully realize—

The meaning of our parents' love,
How tender and how wise
Their patience and forgiveness,
That are part of every day.
The unexpected "little things"
They do in their dear way.
Years go by before we know
The depth of their concern
Or the love in their protectiveness
It takes so long to learn.
How wonderful our parents are
As we look back and see
Through older eyes and wiser hearts
Their love and loyalty.
It's these and many other things,
That makes them grow more dear
With every thought and memory
With every passing year.

(Author Unknown)

Graduates this year are Sisters Peggy Sutter (Bro. Gerald and Sis. Marj) and Louanne Hoerr (Bro. Louis and Sis. Ruth), Bro. Greg Haab (Bro. Paul and Sis. Kathy), and Roger Sutter (Bro. Dick and Sis. Charlene). May you enjoy God's richest blessings and may he always be your help and guide along the way.

Sis. Betty Hoerr and family wish to express their sincere thanks and appreciation to everyone who shared in their sorrow in any way at the sudden death of their husband and father, Bro. Geo Hoerr. May God bless each one.

NEW JERSEY, UNION CITY

Ed Aeschleman

We are very grateful to Bro. Dan Stoller for coming to our little church with his family and for serving us with the good and holy word of life. We thank God who always provides for our needs.

We were delighted to have Sis. Hirko Utsuki from Japan worship with us. She will be spending some time in New York City and we hope to see her often.

Sunday, May 16 was a particularly blessed day for us all. Our elder brothers John and Corbin Bahler from Rockville, came to read the Conference memorandum and to share the Lord's supper with us in remembrance of the Lord. A number of other families from Rockville also visited us that day and the too

few hours were filled with uplifting exhortations and blessed fellowship.

NEW YORK, CROGHAN

Alice Virkler

We are glad to report this month that Bro. Gerald and Sis. Polly Grau have been able to assemble with us again after a year's absence since Gerry's stroke last May. We are thankful to see the improvement in his condition and pray that he will continue to improve with each day.

Also able to assemble again since their hospitalization are Gwen Lehman, John Farney and Sis. Irene Farney. Sis. Pam Herzig has not been able to be with us and Sis. Sarah Farney remains a medical patient at this time.

May our almighty God grant strength and grace to each one as the need may arise for them.

AUGUST is collection month for SILVER LINING in the Croghan congregation. Contributions can be given to the reporter.

NEW YORK, NAUMBURG

Rachel Snyder

Sis. Rachel Rohr has returned to Kallett's Home from the Lowville Hospital. Also, Bro. Everett Virkler has returned home from the hospital after having tests.

Naumburg and Croghan congregations have had some singings for a few of our elderly who have had birthdays: Emma Virkler at Kallett's Home for her 87th, Sis. Clara Merz for her 99th and Sis. Pearl Colgrove for her 91st.

OHIO, AKRON

Joyce Gasser

Bro. Greg and Sis. Sarah Henico were blessed with a baby girl and they named her Mara Ann. Other children are David, Lisa, Greg, and Ben.

We congratulate our graduates at this time. Bro. Eric Graf, son of Bro. and Sis. Leon Graf graduates as a Pharmacist from Ohio Northern University including 11 weeks of externship at Akron General Hospital and two area pharmacies. He will be taking his tests to become a Registered Pharmacist.

Two sons of Bro. and Sis. Bob Graf are graduating from Akron University: Wiley has attained a Bachelors Degree in Civil Engineering after a

five-year course and plans to continue studies. Colin has an Associate Degree in Transportation.

Todd Graf, son of Bro. and Sis. Art Graf graduates from high school.

We are sorry for those that have been hospitalized or hurt and wish them well. Sis. Rose Pamer is in the Akron General Hospital. Karen Ritzman, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Bob Ritzman, was in the hospital a couple days. Mike Ritzman, son of the Paul Ritzmans, broke his arm. Jeff Ritzman, son of the Earl Ritzmans, broke his ankle.

We appreciated guests from Fairbury, Illinois, favoring us with a weekend visit, and are grateful for Bro. Merle Kaisner ministering inspiring sermons to us.

OHIO, COLUMBUS

Andy Hunyady

"Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled." Matt. 5:6

"Blessed" means more than "Happy". Blessedness is a divine gift having to do with the spiritual life. In the Sermon on the Mount Jesus had a heart-to-heart talk to the multitude. Some, the indifferent and curious, soon would discover that they have other engagements or weak hearts and would drift away. The others, which "hungered and thirsted after righteousness" remained and followed Him up the new heights. May God help us that we never lose the desire for his righteousness!

Change of location.

Beginning in June and thereafter, our meeting place will be: The Worthington Seventh-Day Adventist School, 860 Griswold Street, Worthington, Ohio, located $\frac{3}{4}$ mile west of I-71 exit on SR 161 (our former location). Time of services remain unchanged, 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

Our heartfelt thanks to the beloved brothers who came to minister God's word, Eld. Bro. Joseph Ramsier, Rittman, Oh., Charles Hemmer, Peoria, Ill., and Pete Baltic, Mansfield, O. May the Lord bless their labors and reward them richly.

OHIO, JUNCTION

Les Manz

Spring 1982 means graduation to Marilyn Gerber and Eileen Gerber Lewis, twin daughters of Richard and Eleanor Gerber, and Barbara Manz (Bro. Eli and Sis. Evelyn). No doubt, as these young people look into the future, their minds are filled with career and personal decisions and almost unlimited opportunities in the wonderful land we are privileged to live in. We trust their minds are also often filled with the seriousness of life and the needs of their undying souls. A fitting piece of advice to graduates and many other young people is described in this little poem I learned shortly after graduation a few years ago. I don't know the title or the author, and perhaps the words are not exactly like the author penned them, but the meaning is maintained as the poem says:

Kneel down by the side of your
mother my boy,
You have only a moment I know
And stay while I give you this
parting advice,
It is all that I have to bestow.

You leave us to seek your employ-
ment my boy,
By the world you have yet to be
tried.
But in the temptations and trials
you face,
May your heart to the Saviour
confide.

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

You'll find in your satchel a Bible
my boy,
It's the book of all others the
best.
It will teach you to live and pre-
pare 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.

Bro. Ray Sinn (Latty) was our visiting minister this month. Our thanks go out to Bro. Ray and our home ministers for giving of themselves to explain to us God's Word.

OHIO, LATTY
Cheryl Wenniger
Patty Rigenbach

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

Among Thy seed, Thy chosen host.
Immersed with Christ, I'm dead to sin;

Thy Spirit now shall live within."

No. 41 Zion's Harp

Two more souls may make this claim with the Lord as they declared their vows in the baptismal waters on May 16. Bro. Alfred Bahler (Wolcott) was with us as we listened to the testimonies and baptismal vows of Christy Keysor (Bro. George and Sis. Sharon) and Marlene Reinhard (Bro. Dan and Sis. Dolores). Also ministering to us was Bro. Sam Schlatter (Junction).

Several visitors gathered with our congregation on May 2 to witness the wedding ceremony of our Sis. Diane Stoller (Bro. Russell and Sis. Melvane) and Bro. Tom Hartzler (Bro. Joe and Sis. Marian) of Rittman. Sharing the Word with us at this joyous occasion were ministering brothers Wendell Gerber (Bluffton), Art Gudeman (LaCrosse) and Kenneth Indermuhle (Sardis). We pray that Sis. Diane may be a blessing to the Rittman congregation as she was here at Latty.

God has placed His healing hand upon loved ones from our congregation as they are recovering nicely from recent illnesses or injury. Those hospitalized this month were Bro. Charles Dunham, Sr. (Sis. Laura), Bro. Don Stoller (Gail), Betty Stoller, Jennifer Wenniger (Bro. Dave and Sis. Deb) and Matt Stoller (Bro. Don and Gail). We thank the Lord for his power and grace to heal.

It was nice to see many loved ones return home as we dedicated our

new fellowship hall. Ministering brothers Ben Manz, Bill Schlatter, and Sam Schlatter from the Junction congregation shared with us during the weekend services and dedication. May God bless them for their efforts.

God has led two souls together to share in His love through holy matrimony. Bro. Jerry Rager (Bill and Sis. Elsie) and Sis. Julie Stoller (Bro. Glenn and Sis. Edith) have announced their engagement and plan to be united as one in the Lord. May God bless them in their planning that He may be glorified through their love.

We would like to welcome Sis. Joan Graf and her husband Bob to our congregation. They have moved to the area and have been assembling with us. May they always feel right at home. Recently, God has blessed them with a beautiful baby girl, Melinda Marie. Sharing in their joy are maternal grandparent, Sis. Marie Bauman, and paternal grandparents, Bro. Bob and Sis. Alma Graf.

The month of May is a busy time of year with graduations. Our high school graduates this year were Jody Brigner, Mary Grant (Bro. Tom and Sis. Delores) Sis. Christy Keysor (Bro. George and Sis. Sharon), Bob Sinn (Bro. Walt and Sis. Renee), Phil Sinn (Bro. Ray and Sis. Ann), Sis. Lanna Stoller (Bro. Gale and Sis. Janet) and Rhonda Stoller (Bro. Justus and Sis. Ruby). May they seek the Lord's guidance in their future plans and ever trust in Him.

OHIO, MANSFIELD
Lucille E. Groh

...But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him. Luke 15:20.

English history records that a child of nobility was stolen from his home and sold to a chimney sweep. The natural parents spent much money trying to locate their dear kidnapped child, but to no avail. Some years passed and the son was old enough to do some work and the evil man, into whose hands he had been placed, decided to use him in his dirty job of cleaning chimneys. The poor lad worked hard and one day was assigned to work in the

very home from which he had been stolen while yet too young to remember. After sweeping the chimney of one of the spacious rooms, he was so tired he flung himself upon a clean bed and dropped off to sleep. The lady of the house entered the room. At first she was very upset to see the filthy figure on the beautiful bedspread. Suddenly, something in the expression of the dear little fellow drew her closer and a moment later with a cry of joy she threw her motherly arms around her long lost boy. The filth and dirt of the street meant nothing now. In her joy, the soiled dress and bedspread were forgotten. This is just a faint picture of our Heavenly Father watching and reclaiming his wayward returning child. What a wonderful Heavenly Father we have.

Our congregation was saddened at the sudden passing of a father, Bro. Ted Schauwecker, age 82. He was born in Baden, Germany. He is survived by his dear wife, Sis. Mathilda Novotny Schauwecker, three daughters, Dorothy Robertson, Donna Strome and Carolyn Roberts, and two sisters. We will miss Bro. Ted as he was so kind and had a hearty handshake for all. The following poem is submitted in his memory:

God looked around His garden
And he found an empty space
And then looked down upon this earth
And saw a tired loving face.

He put his arms around you,
He lifted you to rest
God's garden must be beautiful
For He only takes the best.

It grieves our heart to lose you
But a solace here we find
Because in life you sought the Saviour
The greatest treasure God gave to mankind.

As we loved you, so we will miss you
In our memory you'll be near
Loved, remembered, thought of often
God will help to dry our tears.

All the pain and grief is over
Every restless tossing past

You are now at peace forever
Safely home in heaven at last.

Sis. Ruth Weiss was recently hospitalized as well as Eldon Zody who recently fell and has a broken hip. Little Jenny Banks at this time is in Cleveland at the Rainbow Babies and Children's hospital and has had surgery on her leg.

The Vesper Choir presented its annual Spring program on May 16. Many attended and listened to an inspiring program of praises to our Heavenly Father.

OHIO, RITTMAN

Janette Blough

We spent a blessed Sat. evening and Sunday, May 8 and 9, hearing the testimony and witnessing the baptism of five dear souls. We welcome Sis. Darlene Steiner, Sis. Lori Acker, Bro. Bob Riggenschach, Bro. Brian Acker and Bro. Harvey Landis into our fellowship and wish them the Lord's blessings. Bro. Joe Ramsier was assisted in this work by our deacon, Bro. Henry Dotterer, and by Bro. Rudy Graf and Bro. Eugene Pamer of Akron.

March 27 was the wedding day of Tammy Riggenschach and Tim Morris. Tammy is the daughter of Vernon and Sis. Martha Jane Riggenschach. We wish them much happiness in their life together.

The month of June brings with it the time of graduation. Our high school graduates are Greg Bachman, John Bauman, Regina Boltz, Mary Lou Gasser, Tom Gerber, Sharon Indermuhle, Dan Marty, Lesa Mathys, Suzanne Rufener, Jenee Schar, Alan Steiner, Sis. Darlene Steiner, Tom Stoller, Kevin Trent, Andy Woyat Norman Zollinger, Bro. Joe Dotterer, Lori Peyton, and Wendi Saurer. We wish them our Lord's guidance as they choose their paths.

Those of our congregation who have been hospitalized are Bro. Frank Nussbaum, Sis. Katherine Bachman and Bill Young. Sharon Hartzler had the misfortune of fracturing her arm and has to wear a cast for a while. We hope the Lord's healing hand will return our dear ones once more to good health.

We have three new babies to report this month. Sis. Pat and Bro. Jim Rufener are the first time parents with the birth of a little boy,

Jesse Lee. His grandparents are Sis. Doris Gasser and Bro. Ike and Sis. Verna Rufener. Great-grandparents are Sis. Myrle Rufener, Bro. John and Sis. Elda Hartzler, Bro. Raymond and Sis. Grace Marty, and Bro. Carl and Sis. Freda Gasser of Girard. Debbie and Don Steiner have a new little girl, Michelle Lynn. Michelle has a little brother, Michael, to help care for her. Grandparents are Willard and Sis. Marian Steiner. Ed and Joan Gasser have a third little boy, Bryan Robert, born to them. His two little brothers are Chad and Kevin. Grandparents are Bro. Joe and Sis. Nina Gasser.

Our sympathy is extended to Sis. Caroline Emch, Sis. Velma Hartzler and Bro. Alvin Winkler in the loss of their brother, Ben Winkler. Funeral services were held May 19.

OHIO, TOLEDO

Josephine Rehklau

Mary Ann Weigele

We have some recent graduates. Sandy Brietwieser graduated from high school. Sis. Alice Harmon received her certificate as an EKG technician. Bro. Mark Masters is graduating from Bowling Green State University. We have enjoyed Mark and his family attending church here while he was in college. Graduation is an important milestone in life and we wish these people the best as they go on in life.

As the school year draws to a close we are looking forward to Vacation Bible School the third week in June. Although enrollment seems small this year, we realize each child is important. We pray the Lord will bless this undertaking.

June is the month where we have a day set aside to honor fathers. As I was thinking about this I remembered how I felt as a small child. Often my father was out of town at night on business. When bedtime came I felt frightened and uneasy and wished Daddy were home. When he came home I felt secure just knowing the "head of the house" was home and all was well. We have a blessed security knowing our Heavenly Father is always there if we put our faith and trust in him.

OREGON, PORTLAND

Barbara Moser

Each of us has a special way to say

"I love you" on that special Sunday. Here is one daughter's unusual and touching tribute to the mother she'll always cherish,

Thank you, God,

For pretending not to notice that one of Your angels is missing and for guiding her to me. You must have known how much I would need her, so You turned Your head for a minute and allowed her to slip away to me. Sometimes I wonder what special name You had for her. I call her "Mother."

To think of not having her with me is unbearable. I don't know what I would have done without her all these years. She has loved me without reservation — whether I deserved to be loved or not. Willingly and happily, she has fed me, clothed me, taught me, encouraged me, inspired me and with her own special brand of gentleness reprimanded me. A bit of heaven's own blue, her eyes reflect hope and love for You and her family. She has tried to instill that love in us. She's not the least bit afraid of work. With her constant scrubbing, polishing, painting, and fixing, she made every house we've lived in a beautiful home. When I'm confused, she sets me straight. She knows what matters and what doesn't; what to hold on to and what to let go. You have given her an endless supply of love. She gives it away freely yet never seems to run low. Even before I am aware I have a need, she is making plans and working to supply it. You gave her great patience. She is the best listener I have ever met. With understanding and determination she always seems to turn a calamity into some kind of success. She urges me to carry my own load in life but is always close by if I stumble under the burden. She hurts when I hurt. She cries when I cry. And she will not be happy until she sees a smile on my face once more. Although she has taught me to pray, she has never ceased to invoke Your richest blessings upon me. Thank the other angels for filling in for her while she is away. I know it hasn't been easy. Her shoes would be hard to fill. She has to be one of Your greatest miracles, God, and I want to thank You for lending my mother to me.

In April our congregation voted to have Sis. Cynthia Miller as a Sun-

day School teacher and Sis. Barbara Moser as the Silver Lining reporter. May God guide our thoughts and prayers as we take on these new responsibilities.

We want to take this opportunity to again thank the brothers who so willing came out to the Portland area in March to help work on the cabin on the Oregon coast. They were: Bro. Carrol Gerber (Bluffton), Bro. Walt Steffen (Milford), Bro. Urban Baurer (Cissna Park), and Bro. Melvin Knapp (Cissna Park). Those of us who were able to be at the cabin that week were blessed beyond measure by the wonderful fellowship that we shared. Thank you again brothers for all your labors of love.

We thank Bro. Ed Knecht, Silverton, for ministering the precious Word to us on Mother's Day. We sincerely appreciate the efforts of each of our dear brothers that bring us the Word of God each and every Sunday. May we never forget to thank God every day for these faithful brothers.

As the vacation time draws near, we pray for the safe journey of each one of you. And if any one plans to come to the Northwest, around the Seattle, WA area, we would be very pleased to have you give us a call. We appreciate anyone that will be in the area. Our phone no. is 206-952-5914. Our address is Raymond Moser 33703 33rd. Pl. S.W. Federal Way, WA 98003.

OREGON, SILVERTON

Rose Lee Kuenzi

Graduation time is here again and our congratulations go out to all the graduates across the land and especially to our Oregon students who have reached a new level in their goals for the future. Sis. Cynthia Miller (Min. Bro. Robt. and Sis. Pearl Miller, Portland) has completed her studies at Portland Comm. College to become a registered nurse; Todd Kuenzi (Bob and Linda Kuenzi) will graduate from Silverton Union High School and Kenny Knecht (Min. Bro. Ed and Sis. Judie Knecht) has completed the Eighth grade and looks forward to attending Mollala High School next year. A singing-reception for these three will be held on May 30 at the home of Bro. Rich and

Sis. Rosa Lee Kuenzi.

Many thousands of inspirational words will be spoken at graduations this month but few will surpass the kind invitation extended in verse two of our Song Number 168 in the Zion's Harp, "Tarry Not!": "Offer the lively, the cheerful and beautiful flower, Offer with gladness and willingness thy youthful power to Christ, thy friend, Who thy soul e'er will defend, Safe in His Heavenly power."

Our dear Sis. Barbara Metzger was a surgery patient in Salem General Hospital in April. We are happy and thankful to report that she is recovering rapidly and is once again able to assemble with us.

PENNSYLVANIA, PHILADELPHIA—DEVAULT

Dolores Rapp

In March we were anxious for Spring's arrival and now we have been rewarded. One must visit the East at this time to fully appreciate God's beautiful creations. The Philadelphia area is full of blossoming dogwoods in pinks and white and the azalea bushes in their brilliant array of softest pinks to the most vibrant fuschias plus rusts and lavenders. This past week the lilacs and redbuds have added their colors. Home owners aren't content to plant just one tree or one bush, but have planted them in multiples to produce masses of color. Therein lies the secret to the beauty of Spring in the East. But the color won't stop with the dogwood and azaleas; the rhododendrums will soon put on their display which will be as breathtaking as their predecessors. Thank you Lord for giving us eyes to behold your magnificent glories.

In the same train of thought, our eight Sunday School children saved enough pennies to purchase seventy young hemlock, blue spruce, and white pine seedlings. On Apr. 23 all the families, children included, met at the church and together planted the young trees. In years to come, when the trees are grown, our children can look back and know they played a part in their being.

For the past four years Bro. John and Sis. Kathy Clough have acted as foster parents to Donnie F. besides caring for their own five children.

He came into their home at the age of two years as an abused child, starving for love and affection. What a miracle this family accomplished with the help of the Lord and generous helpings of love. It has been amazing to see Donnie become a healthy, happy, intelligent child, though he does have a speech problem because of his early mistreatment. He is now being adopted by a loving couple in the area. We know the Clough family will miss him but they are happy that he will have a permanent home.

On Apr. 6 my mother, Sis. Salome Beyer (Mrs. Henry), of Morton passed away. As all mothers, she is sorely missed, but I cannot wish her back to her previous life as an invalid. Now, she has her new body and is free to walk in God's heavenly home.

We were happy to have Bro. Glen Greenbank (Akron) spend six weeks worshipping with us. He returned to his home Apr. 30.

Our guests this past month have been from Akron, Detroit, Rittman, and Rockville.

DOWN MEMORIES LANE

To the believing families and their dear children,

As I go back on Memories Lane to my youth, I want you to go with me as I recall incidents of my life. There are lasting impressions that have stayed with me all these years. The importance of having been reared in a Christian home and the church which we attended with our parents is ever foremost in my mind and heart.

One of the pleasant memories is going to church quite regularly. As we entered the modest brick church home the smell and sweet aroma of freshly made coffee for the noon lunch between the morning and afternoon services was always delightful. We ate at tables covered with checkered red tablecloths and the good coffee with buttered rye bread, seasoned with caraway seed and cheese was a delightful meal, even for young children.

It was not our privilege to attend Sunday School while we lived at Mansfield, Ohio, for this was conducted before the morning church

services. At times I sat with father on the front benches, and the order was, to "sit still and be quiet". More often I sat with mother and the orders were the same but not quite so strict, as mothers are often more lenient and tolerant.

I recall that the German songs all sounded alike and I concluded that the songs were all sung on the same melody. Little did I think or know that in the future years I'd be assigned to help translate these German songs from German to the English language, as they now appear.

In our home we were all expected to sit at the table after a meal, while father read from the Bible and led in prayer. As our parents often had devotional singings in our home, we learned to love and respect the members of the church and silently hoped someday be a part of them also. I had an inner conviction that I wanted to go to heaven to be with my parents.

How I shuddered to think of being lost and going where evil men go, such as murderers, liars, thieves and even such who disobeyed their parents. I didn't want to live with such company in eternity.

I recall how an aged cousin came to our home with his guitar and played and sang the lovely old Hymn, "Just Over The River" which left an impression on my heart. When we were preparing the songs for Hymns of Zion that sweet song was included as a memory of childhood.

I just feel, you, my dear friends and children of the various families, have the same mind, so let me encourage you to go to Sunday School regularly, to attend the afternoon service and to take part in the occasional Christian Programs. All of these activities will be precious memories as you grow up.

Have you, dear children, ever asked dad and mom when rising to a new day, "Dad or Mom, what can I do to help you today?" Have you ever thought of giving them a gift of love for their Birthday or for some other occasion? Not to boast nor do I remember the deed, but mother told someone in the family I was the only one of the children who ever gave her a bouquet of flowers. These naturally were picked in spring in

the woodlands. I still love to share God's lovely things with dear ones for their comfort and encouragement.

Father had a few basic rules to live by and he wanted his children to know and to practice them. He said, "Children, go to church and be honest."

Sometime ago while responding to an invitation for an evening meal, their little four-year-old boy came to me at the door and asked to take my coat and hat, as a matter of courtesy and love and I thought how sweet of him.

I know that children are inclined to quarrel and even fight with each other, but it is a precious thing in youth if you can cultivate kindly words and acts with each other. I'll share an experience I had at about the age of eight or ten years while standing on the outside of the church door at our church at Mansfield, Ohio. I got into a quarrel, for what reason I do not recall, which led into a fight. The boy was stronger than I, and a least had longer arms, and I got the worst of it. I went into the church crying and sat down on the bottom steps inside. An older sister saw me weeping and came to comfort me, and then turned me over to my mother. It was the one and only fight, but it taught me to be loving and kind to everybody.

Since we all make mistakes, and at times do foolish things, it is precious if you can be moved to say to the ones you have wronged, "I'm sorry". If you feel thus, it will prepare the way for you to say I'm sorry to God when you know you have done wrong.

You are all my precious friends, even those who are younger. Now, since I am past four score years old I want you to know I love you and hope someday when Jesus gathers in the believers with their children that we can live forever with each other in the House of many mansions. If you love Jesus in your childhood and youthful ears, God will prepare your heart to receive the Lord into your heart by faith and repentance and have the promise of eternal life. The dear Lord Jesus has been with me for sixty-one years, and I can say and sing with the song writer,

"Oh how I love Him Saviour and

friend
How shall my praises ever find end?
In ages un-numbered on heaven's shore
Thus will I praise Him
forevermore."

Bro. Henry Beer

SILVER THREADS

"Thank you, Dad,
For loving me"

I was a child, you held me
I fell and got hurt, you comforted me.
I started school, you helped me
I disobeyed, you disciplined me.
I was happy, you laughed with me
I caused much grief, you loved me
I rebelled, you had patience with me.
I asked questions, you advised me
I saw my need, you prayed with me.
I felt cast down, your heart wept with me
I received God's grace, you rejoiced with me.
I try and say "thanks", you smile at me
So I'll thank God, He'll hear me;
And will bless you, Dad, for loving me.

Anon.

Remembrance is a Golden Chain,
Death tries to break, but all in vain.
To have, to love, and then to part is the greatest sorrow of one's heart.
The years wipe out many things
but this they wipe out never,
The memories of those happy days,
when we were all together.

Author Unknown
In memory of Al & Helen
Hunzicker
The Children

Tribute To A Father

Blessed is the man,
To whom his work is a pleasure,
By whom his friends are encouraged,
With whom all are comfortable,
In whom a clear conscience abides,
and
Through whom his children see God.
William Arthur Ward

Our Father's Need

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

Author Unknown

Tribute to a Farm Dad

I wish that you could know a man
Who views a greening, plush
farmland
And sense the feeling that he
knows
Of tasseling corn in long, straight
rows.
He sees that same corn appear
In countless hills, from year to
year,
Yet, never do I cease to trace
A hint of awe upon his face.
His skin is tinged a red earth tone
Where fifty summer suns have
shone,
And underneath his "straw hat's"
brim
Are hazel eyes and stalwart chin.
Sinewy hands and arms so strong
From sending bales of hay head-
long
Have succumbed to a gentler task
And cradled up a newborn calf.
It never fails ... he always knows
Just where to find the first wild
rose,
And gathers several fragrant
blooms
To grace a small farmhouse's
rooms.
I hear his prattle at early dawn

Calling his "little cattle" on.
And later, as the dusk draws nigh
He croons an Irish lullaby.

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

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

Linda C. Robinson

Patterned Ways

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

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

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

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

Roy Z. Kemp

Sermon . . .

(Continued from Page 32)

sanctioned. Counterfeit Christian — how does that sound? Who accepts that? We don't want counterfeit money. Do we want to be a counterfeit that represents Christianity? Oh! Satan delights in that. Satan certainly delights in that.

We have to wonder and look. Is there a spark of God in us? Can we find the spark in others? Throughout lives people have to consider carefully. "...Is not her king in her? Why have they provoked me to anger with their graven images, and with strange vanities?" Jer. 8:19.

Then verse 20 says, "The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved."

This is a farming community, and we know that the combines come and we try to save each berry. We don't mean to be greedy; the purpose of the harvest is to gather in. We gather what the Lord has provided. Harvest is now past. Suppose that the Lord's last harvest had passed and we weren't gathered in; that we weren't saved and that we were here now. What then?

We know what happens to the berries that fall to the wayside. When drivers are careless with the trucks and go at a high rate of speed, the berries blow off. What some had been careful to save is wasted. Think about the Spiritual harvest, dear souls, about the ingathering of God. God isn't going to be careless and slothful with his ingathering. Each is a very precious berry. Each one is a very precious soul; each of us, each one. God has made a special effort to save us. A very special effort to save each berry, each fruit, because He created us.

Grain is planted in the ground and we plant wheat, we reap wheat; if we plant barley, we reap barley, and so on. What are we planting today? Are we sowing seeds of kindness? Are we sowing the seed that is the Word of God? That is what is to be harvested. What are we planting, dear souls? The seed of kindness, the seed of love? When we are

gathered in, what will happen to us? What will God do when He has gathered us in? We read here of the last judgment when God will separate the sheep from the goats. With which shall we be?

We always like to say nice things, and we like to be kind to people. When someone who has lived a wild and riotous life, with no change that we could see, passes out of this life, with all our hearts we would like to say he or she is going to heaven, but we don't know. We don't know if that person has repented or been converted as the Scripture teaches. We would like to say, well, they have been kind. They have done nice deeds and so on. But that isn't what the Scripture says is the way to the kingdom of heaven. There will be a separation, a division. God will say yea and nay.

Jesus Christ made a tremendous accomplishment. Think of the old rituals. The high priest offered the sacrifice. He sprinkled the blood seven times. He didn't stop at six and he didn't go on to eight. It had to be exactly seven times. The priest followed the ritual carefully, and when he had finished the sacrifice for the sins of the people, the children of Israel, he washed himself.

The Lord Jesus Christ, after His crucifixion, became the perfect sacrifice for you and for me and for all souls throughout the world. After that sacrifice was completed, He became victor over death and the grave. He then went to sit in heaven at the right hand of God. When the Son of Man comes again with the holy angels, He shall sit upon the throne in His glory. He didn't need to wash himself; He was lifted up into God's kingdom.

"And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats: And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left." Matt. 25:32, 33. "He shall set..." He shall place all where they are to be. And what will we have to say about it? Will we have an excuse? The preceding verse said, "And cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

Will our jaws be set and locked shut so that we can't even offer an excuse of any kind about why we couldn't become converted to the cross? Could we try to speak with our jaws locked together, try to offer a feeble excuse of some kind? "Lord, I didn't have time. Lord, I had to care for my mother," and so on. Do we find some excuse today? Is there some reason that we feel we can't serve Jesus Christ? He has time for us. He had something of great value, the Lord Jesus did. He had something of great value while He was here upon this earth, and He sacrificed it. Do you know what it was that He had? It was his life.

We also value our lives, but we are just sojourners here; we're just passing through. Are we taking time to smell the flowers as we go, or are we too busy with the world? Are our eyes so dulled that we are not ashamed of abomination? Does nothing embarrass us anymore? Do we blush from time to time? Can we stop and smell those flowers? Can we stop and greet our brother or sister? Can we stop and tell some soul about Jesus?

When we come together, we don't want to be harsh; we don't want to be hard; we don't want to be cold; we don't want to be overbearing or beligerant. We like to do whatever we can to attract souls. We want to attract them with love and kindness and express as compellingly as we can to each and every heart the love of Jesus. But do you know that Jesus told the people that they were hypocrites? Do you know that John the Baptist didn't "pull any punches?" He stood very boldly and told the people that they were sinning.

Today we don't want to hurt anyone's feelings. We don't want to drive someone out of the church. People come to hear the Word, and they don't want to be told this or that and be driven away. But, my dear hearers, we don't want to be mealy-mouthed either. We want to tell salvation as it is. We want to be gracious to you; we want to tell you the truth, ... that is in the Holy Scripture.

He who has ears to hear, please hear. The Lord is God the Master, the Creator of this universe. There will be a separation. God's going to

separate us. There will be no bargaining. When we deal with men and have differences, we barter back and forth; we trade; we split the difference, and so on. "I want so much." "No," the other man says. "I'll only give so much, and we split the difference and trade." We will not bargain with the Lord, dear ones.

Let us be concerned about the way we are living. Are we absorbed in the world, or are we absorbed with the Christian walk of life? Are we absorbed in that? Do we try to help souls who are indecently clothed, to guide them to the Lord, or do we look without embarrassment? Are we ashamed of the nakedness that's being exposed to the world? Are we concerned about the intoxication of the world? People are being overcome with alcohol; they are not thirsty for the Spirit. They are not thirsty for the Word of God. People satisfy the flesh, and God forgive us, if we follow that path in life.

We push Him aside; we just think "not me." But when we think of "me," when we think of ourselves, let's think about our soul's salvation. Let's think about being thirsty in the spirit. The water that God can give can be everlasting water.

Luke-warmness, you know what that was - an old water jug with a gunny sack on the outside. Mother or wife would sew a gunny sack on there, and it would sit in the shade. Pick it up, hang it over an arm, and take a drink. It was luke-warm, and we would spit it out. Better not to even have a drink. God doesn't want a soul like that, luke-warm. He says in the Scripture that He will spew it out of His mouth. He wants us hot or cold.

Can't we be on fire for the Lord, dear souls? I know it's cold outside, but what's in our hearts? Isn't there something that's burning for Jesus? Isn't there something that's on fire for the Lord? Oh! Isn't it "All that thrills my soul is Jesus?" I hope so, dear souls. "The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved." That's a quotation from this Scripture in Jeremiah. Let's look forward to the harvest, dear souls. Let's look forward to the summer and let's say, "Lord, I'm saved."

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SERMON BY ELDER BRO. RONALD NELSON OF KIOWA, KA

Text: Jeremiah, Chapter 8, St. Matthew, Chapter 25

Let us think, for a moment, about the summertime. We used to get very thirsty as we drove our open tractors. We had water jugs and the water got so hot that we didn't want to drink it; but when we got thirsty enough, we did.

We read here. "Then shall they also answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto thee?" Matthew 25:44.

We sang about thirst. I generally close the hymn book, but I happened to keep it open today. I don't know why, but I guess it is part of the scripture that has fallen open here. We sang, "As a hart for water panteth. . ." A hart is a type of deer. Did you ever see animals after they have run and run? When they stop, their sides pump so. They pump and pump, and they are so thirsty for water. Their sides thump and thump and thump.

Sometimes we get thirsty while we are working. We know how refreshed we are after a cool drink. Have we ever been so thirsty in the Spirit for a drink of everlasting water from the Heavenly Father that it could be as satisfying to the inward spirit? Are we that thirsty today? Are we really that thirsty today?

Why should we be thirsty? We have everything. We have air-conditioned tractor cabs, air-conditioned homes, air conditioned cars. There is no need for thirst. We are not exposed to the "world." We feast upon what Satan has for us, and we are not thirsty for God's word. We are filled with corruption, or we could be.

What happened to the children of Israel? Did we catch this in the writings which we just read?

Teachers misled the people, death rather than life being chosen. "For they have healed the hurt of the daughter of my people slightly saying, Peace, peace; when there is no peace." Jeremiah 8:11.

Verse 12 continues, "Were they ashamed when they had committed abomination? Nay, they were not at all ashamed, neither could they blush: therefore shall they fall among them that fall: in the time of their visitation they shall be cast down, saith the Lord."

Are we not in such a condition today? Do we see the world like this today, not ashamed of their abomination? Here's the point; "neither could they blush." When we become embarrassed, sometimes we blush, don't we? Our complexion changes. When we see the blood run to people's faces, we know immediately that they are blushing. People today are not ashamed. They don't even blush. Is that what's happening? On television people see lewdness and immorality. They don't even blush anymore; they say, "Oh, I'm used to that." It's sad. An executive from Proctor and Gamble said, "we are removing sponsorship from 50 programs." He only gave three reasons: too much sex, too much violence, and too much profanity. Only three reasons.

A former mayor of Chicago was asked by one of his personnel, "Aren't you embarrassed about this?" And his answer was, "Nothing embarrasses me." Are we also in this state, dear souls, that we aren't embarrassed anymore? At one time, if we saw a picture out of character or out of order, we were embarrassed and ashamed to look at it. It's in the mail today. People thrive on the lust of the eye. They're not embarrassed; they don't blush.

They thrive on lewd and lascivious magazines today. What happened to God's children? They didn't become embarrassed anymore; they weren't ashamed. "Therefore shall they fall among them that fall: in the time of their visitation they shall be cast down, saith the Lord." Jer. 8:12.

Are we sometimes ashamed of things in this life, and are we embarrassed to hear what someone says? When some country boys or girls come to town and see something of bad character, they are embarrassed. They haven't been exposed to the ways of the world. The city folks kind of laugh and say, "Look at them; they don't know what's going on."

We are not ashamed anymore. We are not embarrassed at what the world has to offer. We cease to blush, and say, "Oh, I am used to that. I accept it now." That's the problem. People are accepting sin. It isn't according to Scripture. Immorality is still wrong, according to God's word, but the mortal accepts it.

What does the Word have to say about it, dear souls? "Behold the voice of the cry of the daughter of my people because of them that dwell in a far country: Is not the Lord in Zion? Is not her king in her?" Jer. 8:19.

People wonder where the king of Jerusalem is. People look to Christians today, to those who profess to be Christians, and wonder. "Is God in those individuals?" There are two kinds of money; that which is printed by the government and is lawful, legal and accepted, and that which is counterfeit. Someone else makes it and it isn't the "real McCoy." It isn't the true product that the government has

(Continued on Page 30)