

The Silver Lining

A LIGHT FOR BELIEVERS

VOLUME 32

JULY, 1982

NUMBER 7

God's Blessing To Our Nation Freedom To Worship

PSALM 67

GOD AND THE NATIONS

1 God be merciful unto us, and bless us;
and cause his face to shine upon us; Selah.
2 That thy way may be known upon earth,
thy saving health among all nations.
3 Let the people praise thee, O God; let all
the people praise thee.
4 Oh, let the nations be glad and sing for
joy: for thou shalt judge the people right-
eously, and govern the nations upon earth.
Selah.
5 Let the people praise thee, O God; let all
the people praise thee.
6 *Then* shall the earth yield her increase;
and God, *even* our own God, shall bless us.
7 God shall bless us; and all the ends of the
earth shall fear him.



My Country, 'tis of Thee.

S. F. SMITH, D.D., 1852.

(AMERICA. 6s. 4s.)

H. CARBY, 1743.

1. My country, 'tis of thee, Sweet land of lib - er - ty Of thee I sing; Land where my
2. My na - tive country, thee, Land of the no - ble free Thy name I love; I love thy
3. Let music swell the breeze And ring from all the trees Sweet freedom's song; Let mortal
4. Our fathers' God, to Thee. An - thor of lib - er - ty, To Thee we sing; Long may our

cres.

fa - thers died Land of the pil - grim's pride, From ev - ry mountain side. Let free - dom ring,
rocks and rills. Thy woods and templed hills. My heart with rapture thrills, Like that a - bove,
ton - gues awake, Let all that breathe partake, Let rocks their silence break The sound prolong,
land be bright, With freedom's holy light, Pro - tect us by Thy might, Great God, our King!

JAPANESE TEACHERS?

Many times the thought comes to us involved in the work in Japan, "is it in the Lord's will that we continue?" But over and over again we are reminded that we are not to despair but to have faith, and may the Lord increase our faith.

There is still a most desperate need for certified teachers to work in the school in Japan. This school, established many years ago, is located in Yamanashi prefecture near the capitol, Chofu, which is a city of about 25,000 people. Our church and school is located at Shioda which is a few miles to the east of the city in a village alongside a very modern expressway now.

We are privileged to have a pre-school class of youngsters along with the kindergarten class. One of the novelties that makes this school so impressive is that the students are taught in the English which of course is extremely popular in Japan.

Unfortunately we have not been able to find a replacement for Sis. Kathy Klotzle who finishes her two-year term and who has most kindly consented, because of her dedication to the work in Japan, to stay on until we can find a replacement which we hope is very soon.

Sis. Vicki Ramseyer finishes her term in July of '83, and it's vital that we have someone to follow in her footsteps.

I'm quite confident if you talk to the sisters who have been in Japan that you will find a great love for the work. Several have expressed a willingness and a desire to return and give more of their life, but we think this is rather unfair and just have a conviction that somewhere out in our brotherhood is a sister with a talent who had pondered in her heart what the experience would be like to love the Lord enough to make the necessary sacrifice to give of herself for a two-year stint.

The sister should be certified and qualified to teach elementary school, and although it is not a mandate we are particularly looking for those qualified to teach the younger children. The ability to play the piano would be a tremendous asset

but not an absolute requisite.

The purpose is to not only educate the children, but to provide a stimulus and incentive for the parents of these children to also come to church. Although we have only met with minimum success, one soul means more to God than all of the world. As time hastens on it's so important that we fulfill our obligation to share what the Lord has so generously given to us with those less fortunate.

If you have a concern or a burden and are interested, please first contact your local elder. If you can have the support of your home congregation, if you will contact one of the brothers on the Mission Committee, Bro. Willis Ehnle or myself we will be happy to answer any question you might have.

It is our sincere desire to continue the rotation system of alternating a sister each year. Consequently we would like to have a replacement for Sis. Kathy just as soon as possible. Although some knowledge of the Japanese language is an asset, only recently have we encouraged sisters to learn a little bit before they go over as lessons are available. But for many years our sisters did not exercise this option and it is not essential. Lessons can be taught by our sisters in Japan and our teachers have been continuing on an on-going manner during their stay in Japan as it helps to communicate with the neighbors, although most of our brethren and many of the Japanese speak both English and Japanese.

Trusting the Lord will provide as He always has, we await your contact.

Most sincerely,
Ben Maibach, Secretary-Treasurer,
Apostolic Christian Mission Fund

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN WORLD RELIEF COMMITTEE REPORT

"Notice to all world relief treasurer representatives"

The annual meeting of the World Relief Committee, Treasurer Representatives and all interested brethren will be held at Princeville Apostolic Christian Church, Prince-

ville, Illinois on Thursday, August 19, 1982, C.D.T. at 1:00 p.m.

Grain shipments are reaching their destinations. On June 19, 1982, Bros. Sidney Leman, Harvey Ifft and Mel Steffen of the Forrest, IL congregation, and Bro. John Knobloch of Remington, IN congregation, along with James Frank, Sr. of International Aid (Relief Agency handling the grain shipments) left for Haiti to inspect grain shipment results. The group plans to visit various locations receiving grain, along with several

Due collection for the Silver
Lining for July 1982 —

ILLINOIS —

Elgin

Forrest

Princesville

Peoria

INDIANA —

Francesville

KANSAS

Bern

OHIO

Columbus

THE SILVER LINING

Grabill, Indiana 46741

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

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IN MEMORY — EDITORS:

HENRY SOUDER
EDWARD SOUDER

other projects such as Care, Inc., International Childcare Hospital, Hospital Albert Schweitzer, Menonite Central Committee and Water of Life well project, if time permits. They will spend seven days visiting the various locations.

All 300 tons of corn, as of May 1, have now been shipped! The corn donated by the Apostolic Christian Church has gone to the below listed areas:

| | |
|----------------|---------|
| Somalia | 40 tons |
| Haiti | 80 tons |
| Bolivia | 20 tons |
| Honduras | 80 tons |
| Guatemala | 40 tons |
| El Salvador | 20 tons |
| Miami Haitians | 20 tons |

Since this shipment, 20 tons of processed corn meal was shipped to Poland on the first week of May. Additional shipments of relief supplies have been trucked for International Aid and MAP International by our brethren to various locations of need in the United States.

We greatly appreciate the prayerful and financial support given by all making the World Relief program such a viable and successful program. May God richly bless you all for your continued support as opportunities are presented to help the less fortunate and underprivileged ones.

On behalf of the
World Relief Committee,

Jim Hoerr, Secretary

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S HOME

Bob Cockburn

Have you ever not done something that later you wish you had? I just spent the last hour or so talking with some of our children here in the office, and as they were leaving I felt like hugging each of them. Unfortunately, I didn't. It is a trying time for our children (and all of us) as we experience the leaving of Bro. Brace and Sis. Brenda, the second couple to leave in less than a month. Even though Bro. Marvin and Sis. Pat Fischer are doing a great job with their new family and Sis. Judy and Sis. Jane, who are taking over as acting houseparents today, are

well-known to the children in the other house, the children are feeling a range of emotions, ranging from sad and lonely to angry and deserted. It is difficult to say "good-bye" to people who have been your moms and dads for so long a period. We trust that you will be praying for our children as they learn to deal with periods of change and as they can begin to accept others into their lives.

As I talk with our children, so many of them express their thankfulness that they have experienced the love of our brethren and friends and their desire to share in this Christian fellowship. It is encouraging to hear them talk of love and the warm feelings that they feel as this is a new feeling for some of them. As they live with us and attend church and Sunday School, we can only pray that the seeds are being planted in fertile soil and will bear fruit some day. As with ours, their understanding is limited at first, but as they hear the Word (and listen to it) they begin to more fully understand the Gospel message.

Not only are they hearing of Christ at church, they are also experiencing His love and care here at the Home. By living in a Christian family atmosphere, they can, many for the first time, begin to see life as so many of us saw it as we were growing up - a mom and a dad who loved and cared for us, rather than the broken homes and mental and/or physical abuse that they knew before coming here. We are still looking for couples and single sisters who wish to serve the Lord by helping children. If you are a couple interested in helping or are a single sister willing to work with a couple in order to provide for children who need lots of love and attention, please contact the Home.

We are also looking for a couple that is looking for two little girls. We have two sisters, ages seven and eight, who are looking for a permanent home. They have been with us for almost a year and are now eligible for adoption. If I told you they are perfect you would not believe me, so I will simply say that they are two girls who need a lot of patience, understanding and love. Please contact us if you might be

able to provide for these two young sisters.

We have begun our Summer Program and are thankful for the many volunteers who are coming to help us in our summer school program and with the many other things that need doing. Believe it or not, we are beginning to make preparations for our Annual Sale and Auction (thankfully, many of you have already been working on items for the Sale and we have received some handmade items to be sold or auctioned). Our sale date is Aug. 28, the last Saturday in August. Last year we were blessed with many quilts, comforters, baby blankets, craft items, woodworking objects (we appreciate our brothers' handy work, too), antique dishes and other antique items, etc. that so many of you helped make for the benefit of our children. Last year's Sale was a blessed day of Christian fellowship and we pray that, if Christ has not returned to call all believers home, this year will also be a day filled with Christian love and fellowship. Be sure to set aside a few days around Aug. 28 and join us.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

William Cullen Bryant once wrote: "Go forth under the open sky, and list to Nature's teaching." Have you tried recently to take a few precious minutes on an early summer morning to walk out into the sunshine to observe with reverence the dew-sprinkled flowers lifting their heads eagerly toward the sky; to listen to the songbirds, who though already busy with the duties of feeding their young, are singing for all the world to hear; to look up to notice how the trees lift their leafy arms to pray; to observe the quiet growth effort in young plants; to note the indescribable beauty of color everywhere about us; and above all, to feel that there is a power greater than ourselves to whom we owe thanks for all of this? What a beautiful setting in which to come to our Heavenly Father to ask for our assignments for the day! ("Only one life, 'twill soon be past; only what is done for Christ will last." Author unknown)

Three new residents have joined

our family circle. Scott Hanson, 11-year-old son of the William Hansons of Moline, Illinois, has two brothers and two sisters. His favorite food is pizza, pepsi and hot dogs. His favorite pastime is to play in water, and he loves music. Because he is a student at the Schramm School in Pekin, Illinois, his daytime hours are spent away from here. However, he will be partaking of our programs and activities in the evenings and on weekends. Birthday time for Scott is Dec. 22.

Janet Christensen, daughter of the Morton Christensens of Pekin, Illinois, was formerly living in Peoria and spending her daytime hours at Allied Agencies in Peoria. Janet has four brothers and four sisters, sixteen nieces and seven nephews. Favorite foods include ice cream; her favorite pastime is to do latchhook and to write. Birthday time for Janet is Sept. 16.

Donnie Parks, our newest resident, came to us from Pekin, Illinois. The son of the Harold Parks, he has two brothers, three nieces and two nephews. His favorite food is anything sweet and just "everything". Music is a favorite of Donnie's. Birthday time for Donnie is Jun. 18.

Summer is a happy time for our residents. Our understanding gratitude is extended to those who have invited residents to their homes for a lunch and a walk in the woods on one occasion and for a breakfast, a privilege to pick strawberries and other enjoyable activities on another occasion. Surely the Lord will bless your kindness!

Summer also brings the Fourth of July and our annual family picnic, when parents and friends are invited to a potluck picnic on the grounds of our Home. This patriotic holiday brought the following thoughts to the mind of Beatrice Drummond, when she wrote about "My America": "A place where I can freely visit wherever my feet would take me . . . where I can go to the church of my choice to worship in my own way and learn of the One who created this wonderful, unique, mysterious world of ours . . . a place where I can go and sit along a quiet stream and suddenly become a poet,

for there are so many things in nature to inspire one's soul . . . a place where I can study for a life's vocation of my own choosing . . . and where we can choose our national leaders by voting. My America . . . where fields of waving grain ripen in the sun and await the time of harvest . . .

"When I see Old Glory flying in the breeze, it brings a tear to my eye and a lump to my throat, because I know it represents my country and me. It is a symbol of freedom, beauty and history. May God always keep it flying over this land that I call home, and may we always be one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all!"

ARIZONA, PHOENIX

Julie Hoerr

Our graduates were honored with a Tea on May 23. High School graduates are Jim Emch, Jay Fehr, Monica Pulfer, and Bro. Tim Sutton. Graduated from grade school was Lex Beres. Their parents are Bro. and Sis. Jerry Emch, Bro. and Sis. Gene Fehr, Bro. and Sis. John Pulfer and Mrs. Sutton.

Bobby Dotterer (Bro. Bill and Sis. Sharon) sustained a green stick fracture of an arm but is doing fine now. What a blessing when the young know Jesus lovingly helps bear their pain. Then little Jill Dotterer (Bro. John and Sis. Jeanne) had the misfortune of breaking her arm, too.

Sis. Vida Traub was a surgical patient and is still recuperating at home. Sis. Linda Yackley had out patient surgery on her other foot and is up and around. We're glad to see Bro. Roy and Sis. Minnie Farney were in church at this time.

We enjoyed the Christian fellowship of the Tucson and Altadena Sunday Schools and youth groups over Memorial Day weekend.

Sis. Rachel Bauman left for Morton, IL, early so she could attend her niece's baptism. We certainly miss Sis. Rachel when she spends her summers in Illinois. Bro. Ed and Sis. Shirley Zollinger and family, Bro. Elmer and Sis. Clara Zollinger and Bro. Paul and Sis. Irene Emch, all traveled to Rittman, Ohio, for the baptism of Cheri Zollinger, June 13.

It is mid June and the weather is

lovely. We are enjoying many visitors in this beautiful valley. We have so much to be thankful for. Oh give thanks unto the Lord for He is Good!

ARIZONA, TUCSON

Lisa Bauer — Sandy Bauer

The Memorial Day Weekend was truly a blessing for our young members and Sunday School as they traveled to Phoenix for a weekend of fellowship with the California and Phoenix youth groups. We want to thank the Phoenix congregation for the love and effort they always put forth to make these weekends a special blessing.

Bro. Clarence Yackley (Phoenix) was with us last Sunday, bringing us a wonderful message from the Lord. We sincerely thank him for his efforts to be with us.

We have discontinued our mid-week services and monthly fellowship suppers for the months of July and August.

Even as we have all recently celebrated Independence Day, so we should always celebrate the independence that Christ has given us: "Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage." (Galatians 5:1).

CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA

Mary Beth Klotzle

Among the many blessings which the Lord has given us, are the opportunities we have to travel and meet with people many miles away who have the same faith and walk of life. Our Bible class and young folks enjoyed a week-end of fellowship with the Arizona groups in Phoenix over Memorial Day Week-end. We all wish to thank the dear ones there for their love and hospitality.

Sis. Rhonda Messerly from Peoria, IL, has moved to California, and is living with her sister's family. We're thankful for each one the Lord sends to us, and welcome Sis. Rhonda to our congregation.

Graduating from high school this year are Michael Messer (Bro. Carroll and Sis. Annabelle), and Sis. Wendy Locher (Bro. Leonard and Sis. Christine). Fred Witzig (Bro. Bill and Sis. Mary) graduated from

Jr. High. Sis. Wendy has plans to move to Central IL and attend ISU. We will miss her, yet support her in prayer for God's continuing guidance and grace. May the graduates look to God daily for His perfect will and direction in their lives.

Ron and Jane Eckerman welcome their first baby, Matthew Scott. Bro. Glen and Sis. Kay Hackenjos are the happy grandparents.

Doris Kaisner is able to assemble with us again and is doing much better. She wishes to thank all who remembered her with thoughts, prayers, cards and gifts during her recent illness.

Our visiting minister this month was Bro. Elmer Schrenk from Alto, MI. May the Lord bless him for sharing the Word.

COLORADO, DENVER

Marlene Leman

Greetings from Colorado! We arrived here June 16 and are at home at 16836 E. Harvard Pl., Aurora, CO 80013. Our phone number is 303-696-1301. We encourage anyone visiting the area to call or look us up and if you can possible arrange it, to worship with us.

Visiting ministers we've had in the past month are Bro. Joe Braker of Morton, Bro. Charles Sauder of Tremont, Bro. Max Remchisel of Wichita and Bro. Bob Walder of Congerville. We sincerely appreciate these brothers giving of themselves in our behalf. We pray that God will richly bless them.

Our services are held each Sunday at the Victory Grange Hall, 2009 Tower Road, Aurora. We start at 10:30 and 12:30 with lunch served in between.

CONNECTICUT, ROCKVILLE

Dorothy Viens

The month of June has brought heavy rains and flooding in many parts of the state, but along with that we have had many blessings showered upon us from on high.

We have been blessed through the visits of ministering brothers John Klotzle (Altadena, CA), Vernon Wettstein (Congerville, IL), and Bill Schlatter (Junction, OH). Elder brothers Norbert Steiner and Robert Beyer from the churches in Croghan and Naumburg were with us on the weekend of June 6 when

we heard the testimonies and witnessed the baptisms of four dear souls, now a brother and three sisters in Christ. They are Bro. Kevin Ballasy (Bro. Norman and Sis. Lavina), Sis. Jane Andrews (Clayton and Sis. Marion), Sis. Beth Schneider (Bro. Roy and Sis. Joyce), and Sis. Sue-Ellen Schneider (Bro. Wilbur and Sis. Marge). Then on Sunday evening we gathered to partake of the Lord's Supper sharing in the body and blood that He offered for us. May the Lord bless all of these dear brothers for serving us so well.

We have had several hospital patients this past month, but are thankful that the Lord has been good to each one. They are Bonnie Reutter, Sis. Bertha Lanz, Sis. Edna Gottier, Bro. Chris Luginbuhl, Sis. Debbie Crary and Sis. Emily Schneider. May the Lord be close to each one, as He knows their individual needs and can help and heal.

Our hearts go out in sympathy to Sis. Ruth Zahner, Sis. Edna Gottier and all of the Zahner family in the death of their loved one, Florence Zahner. We know that the Lord is only a prayer away from those who will go to Him for comfort.

As we set aside a day to remember and honor our earthly fathers, let us remember that our heavenly father wants a lifetime of service from us in exchange for the wonderful gift of His son that He so lovingly gave for all.

FLORIDA, FT. LAUDERDALE

Sally Gress

Pray as if everything depended on God and work as if everything depended on you.

Anonymous

Two farmers bought adjoining orange groves at the same time. One of them immediately began praying for his grove. He asked the Lord to send the right amount of sunshine, rain and protection from frost and insects.

When harvest time came, his trees yielded a sparse return, but the other farmer had a bumper crop. "Did you pray for your grove?" he asked the other farmer.

"Yes," he answered.

"So did I. Why wasn't my crop as good as yours?"

"Well," his friend replied, "When we had drought, I hauled bucket after bucket and watered my trees. When frost warnings came, I started my smudge pots. I sprayed for bugs. Oh, I prayed too, but I reckon the Lord gave me two hands and a brain to help Him in this business of growing. Prayers have a better chance of being answered if you help them along with your hands and feet."

Daily Guide Posts

Our annual elections were held recently. Bro. Roger Sauder was re-elected as Sunday school teacher. Sis. Judy Sauder is a newly elected teacher. Bro. Jeff Graf is a trustee and Sis. Kathy Sutter is in charge of church suppers.

A farewell supper and singing was held for Don and Rosie Lloyd. Don's employment takes them to Atlanta. We will miss them, but wish them all the best in their new home.

FLORIDA, SARASOTA

Diane and Doris Rocke

A Father can strengthen
Console and inspire
He's someone to honor
To love and admire.

To my father who is a reflection of the Heavenly Father — I pray you will be especially blessed.

Our high school graduates this year were Bro. Rod Martin (Bro. Rich and Sis. Aldine), Jeff Bryant (Gorden and Marilyn) and Brian Blunier (Bob and Lynn). Jeff will be attending the University of Florida at Gainesville and Brian will be going to the University of South Florida.

Elder Bro. Ben and Sis. Lorene Maibach have returned home to Detroit until July, when they will be returning for Barbara Mashburn's testimony and baptism. Bro. Mark Bahr (Detroit, MI) gave us some very impressive messages while visiting his family here.

Sis. Sandee Price, Sis. Helen Laparo and Bro. Elmer Jacob express many thanks for the love shown to them during their hospital visits. Hospital patients this time are Bro. Chris Leman, who had major surgery. At present, his con-

dition is satisfactory and he will be under therapy for awhile. Sis. Vera Martin had surgery on her feet. We ask for your prayers that they may feel the healing touch of our Lord.

Sis. Gloria Streitmatter (Bro. Jeff and Sis. Ruth) has left for Port-au-Prince, Haiti. She is going to work in a maternal child health clinic. She will be returning to college at Tallahassee this fall. Our prayer is that she will feel God's nearness and protection while away from her family.

Bro. Fred and Sis. Elizabeth have returned from Switzerland where they visited Elizabeth's 89 year old brother, nieces and nephews. While they were there, her niece had heart surgery. They also visited a granddaughter in Heidelberg, Germany, where her husband is stationed as an Army warrant officer.

The Bahler duplex which was donated to the Sarasota Church is vacant for anyone until the winter months. We welcome ministers to use this during the summer months free of charge. Our appreciation and thanks to Bro. Ed and Sis. Lois. For information call Bro. Bob Norr at 813-371-0128.

GEORGIA, ATLANTA
Brenda Stoller

We thank Bro. Bud Klopfenstein and his wife (Ft. Lauderdale) for coming and ministering to us this past month. May God richly bless them for being so willing to give of themselves.

ILLINOIS
BLOOMINGTON - NORMAL
Shirley Denick
Charlene Knobloch

We rejoice with our new converts, Harvey and Margaret Walter and DeAnn Anderson. They have made their decision to live for the Lord. Many prayers have been answered. We pray for sufficient grace for them as well as for ourselves.

May 29 and 30 will ever be remembered by our new brother and sister in faith as Jay and Terry Leman gave their testimonies and were baptized. We welcome them and also bid them farewell as they and little son Bryant have moved to Phoenix.

In a small congregation everyone

is needed and as they leave for business opportunities, they are surely missed. Also moving to Phoenix are Bro. Ron and Sis. Marge Lindenbaum and to Roanoke, Bro. Mark and Sis. Mary Huber and baby Mandy.

Our visiting ministers have been Elder Bro. Nathan Steffen of Elgin, Bro. Duane Kilgus of Fairbury, Bro. Jim Leman, Bro. Jim Byrd and Elder Bro. Don Sauder of Roanoke, Bro. Albert Aberle and Elder Bro. Dan Koch of Tremont. We thank each one for their messages in the service of the Lord.

On Sunday, June 6, Sis. Emily Kieser and Bro. John Maurer were married. Louis and Jean Kieser and Bro. Roy and Sis. Ann Maurer are their parents. We wish them God's richest blessings. As both are from Bloomington, we are happy to have a new home established in our congregation.

Our high school graduates are Tim Stoller, Jacqui Stoller and Brett Knobloch. We wish them well and pray that they will ever remember their Sunday School teachings.

At our semi-annual business meeting Bro. Ivan Stoller and Bro. Ray Bauer were elected as Sunday School teachers. We prayerfully support them and hope their terms can be an enjoyment and a blessing.

Bro. Dennis and Sis. Bonnie Kaufmann have a baby girl, Rebekah Louise, named for her maternal grandmother. Rebekah has two big brothers, Andrew and Matthew to help care for her.

Vacation Bible School was held the week of June 7-11. Many willing hands helped to spread God's word. Special messages were given by Bro. Virgil Metzger of Champaign, Bro. Edmund Kloter of Goodfield, Bro. Ron Heiniger of Bloomington, Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann of Chicago and Bro. Gene Bertschi of Roanoke. We thank these brothers for their messages and appreciate the miles traveled in our behalf.

ILLINOIS, BRADFORD
Shirley Kieser

As I look out my window I see our two youngsters with four pure white little bunnies, an old mother cat and her three kittens playing together on the grass. Our usually rowdy dog lies peacefully nearby. Watching

them all together reminds me of Isaiah 11:6. The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them. That picture of complete peace gives us courage to keep struggling on toward that heavenly goal where there shall be no more turmoil and tears. He will swallow up death in victory; and the Lord God shall wipe away tears from off all faces. . . Isaiah 25:8.

Our thanks go to visiting ministers Bro. Andy Virkler, Bay City MI, Bro. Joe Schrock, Congerville, Bro. Ken Knapp, Taylor, MO, and Elder Bro. Dave Kieser, Princeton. Their efforts on our behalf are much appreciated and we ask God's blessings on them.

Our sympathy is extended to Bro. Don and Sis. Delores Duckworth and family in the passing away of Bro. Don's father Fred Duckworth.

Sis. Emma Knobloch is home from the hospital after being a patient there several days.

Our new Sunday School teachers are David Kieser and Delores Duckworth. We ask the Lord's guidance and direction for them and thank Bro. Ehnle and Sis. Char Dietz, outgoing teachers, for their time spent teaching the children.

ILLINOIS, CHICAGO
Kathy Schlatter

It has been eleven years since my conversion, but I still find it difficult to grasp hold of His promise that when we are weak, He can make us strong. When I tremble inside, I lean so much more on Him. I'm not at that moment worried about standing straight and tall. I plead just to be kept on my feet, staying right side up (hopefully). I shudder and shake, and I cling so much more closely that the strength of God Almighty is manifest because the puny pride of Kathy Schlatter is not in the way. And so it goes for all of us. We can recognize it in others. I recently heard it said by a sister in faith that she knew a minister's sermon would be blessed — because he was so humble, concerned that all he preached would be His will. "Meekness is the noblest virtue . . ." No. 186, Zion's Harp.

Each worship service is a God-given chance to renew our vow made in the baptismal waters. Sunday, June 6, at the marriage of Bro. Jim Lang (Tremont) and Sis. Lynnette St. George, we were given special exhortations about love, so that we might, as the Bride of Christ, renew our minds in His love, and radiate that love to our spouses, children, church family, and individual family members, as well as to all whom we might be with at various times in our earthly walk. It was a blessing to see once again God's miracle of love wrought in two precious souls that are now on earth united to His honor and glory. Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann had the ceremony, assisted by Bro. Noah Herman (Tucson, AZ), Jim's grandfather.

For us in Chicago May has become a season of travel. This year we took our fifth bus trip, this time to Ft. Scott, Kansas. As always, those who plan to go sometimes cannot, but the rest, in a bus full of goodies and song-books, naps and giggles, communion of hearts and spiritual sharing, were blessed with a safe twelve hour trip, hospitality unbounded, and more fellowship with dear Ft. Scott brethren, some newly met, others fondly embraced once again. Such undeserved opening of heart and home was a joy and overwhelming pleasure. We were watched over again on our homeward journey, carrying many memories.

As in planning a major event, when so many people are needed at various times to give different amounts of time and talent to a project, so is the existence of a church. For thirty-five years (1937-1972) Chicago believers worshipped at 2120 Sunnyside, Chicago. There His love molded individuals into a unit with a single goal. There were those who came, and those who left, as now, but all were loved. The Word was preached. Many were called by His love, seen in the lives of the saints, were proved, baptized, and added to the fold. Advice was given by older and taken by the younger. Babies were born, grew up and got married, and some have gone on before us to Heaven's door. As a congregation we have been ten years in our church in Hillside, "the little brick church near Chicago," as

it was paraphrased by our children. So Sunday, June 20, 1982, was a day of returning, of gathering together memories. Some came many miles to go back to Sunnyside with us after our afternoon service. For some, as widows, on Father's Day, it was bittersweet. For some, it was all new, if our coming to Chicago was not yet quite ten years old. But for all, the memories shared, the visit was precious. 'Twas not a building praised but our God and His works glorified. Especially through the memories ran a theme of love and unity in a continuing story of refuge provided. We praise Him for His continued presence and bounty. May we ever hold hands and hearts together, in order to accomplish His perfect will.

After seventeen years of service, of rearing their children, of being closely entwined in the heart of our Chicago brethren, Bro. Arnie and Sis. Marge Gerst and their son John have moved to Quincy, IL, where Bro. Arnie has been working for seven months. Twenty years ago they left the Taylor, MO, church, and now they have returned. We rejoice for the Lord's leading; for all the blessings, through Him, that they have given each one in our congregation; for the beautiful memories. Bro. Arnie ministered unto us for fourteen years and worked well in combination with Bros. Al Fisher, Morris Frank, Dale Eisenmann, Lenny Meyer, and Greg Rassi. At their farewell singing they were wished many beautiful joys, but the most powerful, I believe, was the prayer that their family circle never be broken, not hereafter. We will miss them so much, yet we are grateful that Jenny (their daughter) still lives and works in our Chicago area. We look forward to being with her even more. Bro. Arnie and Sis. Marge have a part of us with them — and we have a part of them with us. "When we asunder part, It gives us inward pain; But we shall still be joined in heart, and hope to meet again." No. 156 Hymns of Zion.

Truly, to know that our God is Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending is a comfort, especially for ones who are at crossroads. Sis. Denise Romer-

sberger has received her B.S. in nursing from the University of IL and Sis. Jackie (Getz) Pflederer has her R.N. from the West Suburban Hospital School of Nursing. Bro. Ben and Sis. Jackie have moved on to Peoria where Bro. Ben will continue his work toward his M.D. and Sis. Jackie will be working at St. Francis Hospital. Beth Metzger, daughter of Bro. Boyd and Sis. Lois, has been graduated from Northwestern University and is now working for a computer softwares company in the area. Jill Leman, daughter of Bro. Paul and Sis. Milli Leman, has been graduated from high school and plans to attend the Univ. of IL, Champaign, in the fall. Jeanne Fisher, daughter of Bro. Frank and Sis. Gladys Fisher, has also been graduated from high school. She plans to attend the College of DuPage, Glen Ellyn. For all those who have reached an end, only to begin again, we wish the knowledge and love of God as they step forward into unfamiliar waters.

Bro. Matt Strahm has been added to our group of dedicated Sunday School teachers. We take them for granted so much, yet they are human and can be hurt by criticism or lack of support. We take this opportunity to give a special prayer of love and courage that each one may feel — as we believe — that the Lord may work through him or her to the best of God's guidance in each pupil's life. We would beg that each teacher could feel His nearness and our united agreement with them as parents and members of the body.

Several have had physical pain. Leo Grimm is hospitalized, Sis. Emily Lehmann was hospitalized for tests, and Karen Labadie, because of an accident, is still recuperating. We want them to know of our love and our prayers. We cannot heal, yet His loving Spirit can be a balm and we pray for them, each one. Sis. Verna and Bro. Morris Stedman thank everyone for all the plants, cards, and words of encouragement from so many. We don't want them to be forgotten either, for they covet our prayers.

ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK
Melba Funk — Joan Waldbeser
 On Jun. 5 and 6 we were blessed

to have Bro. Leroy Huber (Eureka) and Bro. Joe Stoller (Princeville) with us. On Saturday evening Bro. Leroy helped Bros. Steve Rinkenberger and Ed Alt read the memorandum. Other visiting ministers this month were Bro. Roy Grimm (Taylor, MO), Bro. Ray Roth (Kiowa, KS), Bro. Bob Beebe (South Bend, IN) and Bro. Karl Westfall (Francesville, IN). It is always up lifting to have ministers come to us from our neighboring churches to expound unto us God's Word. May they all be blessed in their labor for the Lord.

Bro. Harry and Sis. Mattie Bauer celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Jun. 6. We wish them God's blessings in the years ahead.

Hospital patients this month were Bro. Melvin Stock, Ben Farney, Sis. Clara Vogel and Sis. Lill Feller.

Graduating from high school this spring were Julie Bauer, daughter of Sis. Joyce, Julie Weerts, daughter of Bro. Ken and Sis. Myrna, Harvey Kaeb, son of Bro. Elmer and Sis. Mary Lou, Russ Walder, son of Bro. Dale and Sis. Dorothy. Sis. Marilyn Walder, daughter of Bro. Dale and Sis. Dorothy was graduated from the U of I. We wish them all good success in the future.

Darlene Kaeb, daughter of Bro. Elmer and Sis. Mary Lou, and Steve Walder, son of Bro. Melvin and Sis. Irma, have found peace with God and man and want to bring their testimonies to the church in the near future.

Our sympathy goes out to Sis. Kathryn Walder in the passing of her brother, Charles Reutter.

The first two weeks of June we had Vacation Bible School for the lower grades. Two evenings each week our Bible Class met with Bros. Ken Schneider, Mike Rinkenberger, Gene Lehman and Wayne Anliker who taught them on timely subjects.

We certainly cannot see into the distance, neither do we know what a day will bring forth. It seems the Lord leads through dark valleys at times to show us how very frail we are. On Apr. 24, 1982 Bro. Ezra Feller's life was hanging on a very thin thread. At this time his priority would have been "farewell, farewell, sweet hour of prayer". It seems in these latter days, wisdom and

knowledge have increased to where miracles seem to be performed for which we give God the glory and praise. We are thankful Bro. Ezra is experiencing a good recovery thus far and has been able to assemble with us once again.

Bro. Ezra and Sis. Ollie Feller stated that in times of dire need and physical weakness, they really appreciated their many dear friends and relatives who stood by so faithfully with visits and cards which had such rich meaning and sympathy. They cannot begin to express the feeling of gratitude for the many kind deeds, gifts and especially the many prayers uttered on their behalf. Their prayer is that the Lord will richly bless and recompense every deed of kindness now in time and then in eternity. May the Lord provide much grace so we can redeem the short time yet allotted unto us.

ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE

Carol Craig — Shirley Ifft

We apologize to our graduates for not mentioning their graduation in the last Silver Lining. Those who were graduated from high school were: Sis. Julie Knapp (Bro. Willis and Sis. Berniece), Tammy Knapp (Bro. Ralph and Sis. Linda), Simone Maurer (Bro. Heinrich and Sis. Trudy), Sis. Kim McClure (Bro. Bob and Sis. Sharon), Lorna Schieber (Bro. John and Sis. Alice), and Mark Schrock (Bro. Allen and Sis. Carol). Steve Baer (Ray and Dorothy), was graduated from college and Sis. Myra Steffen (Bro. Duane and Sis. Lois) was graduated from R.N. training. We extend our sincere best wishes to each of you and leave you with this thought . . .

"You have each been given a bag of tools,
A farmless rock and a book of rules;
And each must make, ere life has flown,
A stumbling block or a stepping stone."

Author Unknown to me

We received many good teachings when Bro. Bill Gerst (Alto, MI) and Bro. Dale Strassheim (Milford, IN) spent a Sunday with us. May God richly bless these brothers for their

labors on our behalf.

Sis. Arlene Banwart (Bro. Jerry) is a hospital patient and we intercede in prayer that she may enjoy the blessing of health soon.

We rejoice to have Bro. Clarence and Sis. Peninna Miller able to assemble with us after their hospitalizations. They both want to thank all who had them in their prayers while she was in the hospital and then for Clarence through his two operations. They certainly needed all the prayers that went out for them. They thank everyone very much for the cards and gifts of love, and the ministers who visited them.

As our annual brotherhood conference will soon be here, let us pray earnestly for our beloved elder brethren that they may feel God's presence in their midst and be directed by Godly wisdom. How equally important to pray that each of us, God's children, has a submissive and obedient heart to heed their loving warnings.

ILLINOIS, ELGIN

Ruth Ann Getz

When we bid farewell to dear brethren our hearts ache with a keen ache which is difficult to appease. Such was our experience when Bro. Tom and Sis. Marlene Leman and their family left our midst June 15 to make their home in Aurora, CO. It is our prayer that the Lord will ever so carefully watch over them there and as Paul wrote to the Corinthians (II Corinthians 13:11) we say "Finally, brethren, farewell. Be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace shall be with you."

Bro. Chris Gramm is also returning to his home (Gridley, IL) after spending a year with us. We will miss Chris going in and out with us, but we rejoice that he had the opportunity to have employment in his home town. May the Lord bless him there.

As if to fill the void, we gladly welcome into our fellowship Bro. Bill and Sis. Lana Schifferer and their family. They have moved into our area from the Gridley congregation, and we trust that they will find sweet fellowship among the

brethren here.

Sis. Anna Haas has returned to Elgin and is a resident at Mary Margaret Manor in Elgin. Anna's health has failed in recent times and has need of continued nursing care. May those who are entrusted with her care be inspired to extend it lovingly that Anna may be blessed even in these days of incapacitation.

June 10 the Sunday School children and their parents gathered together for a picnic. It is always an enjoyment to spend a few hours together with the children and to watch and observe them. We pray fond memories will be created within their hearts.

A faithful soldier of the cross has been called home and we miss her. Sis. Anna Holliday who reached her 90th birthday last Nov. 18, was laid to rest June 2. She was the daughter of Aaron and Jennie Burger Farney, and survived by two daughters, Mrs. Burn (Alice) Herod of Mt. Prospect and Mrs. Sheldon (Nancy) Hinderliter of Watseka. For more than 25 years, Anna served as a visiting nurse and long after she was no longer on the pay roll, she served her fellowman. Many people were warmed with her Christian love. We commit her now to her faithful creator. She has left a beautiful legacy for us all.

Again brethren and friends among us have experienced illness from the weaknesses of the flesh and we wish to remember them with loving concern bringing them before the heavenly Father. Sis. Della Kellenberger, Otto Foell, Walter Schubert, Bro. Don Schambach, and Thongma Chanthana (our Laotian friend) have been hospitalized and are home again. May the Lord continue to heal them and restore them to a full measure of health.

ILLINOIS, EUREKA Melba Mangold

We have enjoyed the visits of a number of ministering brothers these past few weeks.

Bro. Edwin and Sis. Lois Bahler of Remington were with us on a Wednesday evening. One Sunday, Bro. Earl and Sis. Esther Gerber, Bro. Wayne and Sis. Judy Anliker of Forrest and Bro. Kenny and Sis. Phyllis Knapp of Taylor spent the day with us. Bro. Raymond and Sis.

Laverne Roth of Kiowa were here another Sunday. This past Sunday, Bro. Marvin and Sis. Jane Leman of Bradford and Bro. Walter and Sis. Betty Herrmann of Princeville along with their families spent the day with us. We especially thank all the brothers for bringing us many inspiring and worthwhile messages from God's Word.

Bro. Steve and Sis. Lori Knapp are the happy parents of their first child. A little son, Tyler Cole, was born on June 11. His grandparents are Bro. Gerry and Sis. Nancy Knapp of Taylor and Bro. Roy and Sis. Wanda Leman of Eureka.

We have finished the two week Bible School for the younger classes and this week the Roanoke Bible class joined ours for a week of hearing the Word explained to them. We appreciated the efforts and time of Elder Bros. Dale Eisenmann, Chicago; Nathan Steffen, Elgin, IL; Leroy Huber, Eureka; and Bros. Bruce Leman, Roanoke and Ed Alt, Cissna Park in teaching the youth. May some seed have fallen on good ground and bring forth fruit.

ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY Carol Bazzell — Joann Zehr

This month two homes have been blessed with bundles from Heaven. On May 18 Bro. Richard and Sis. Dawn Huber welcomed their first daughter, Amber Dawn. She has three brothers, Jason, Timmy, and Isaac. Bro. Jess and Sis. Donna Huber and Mr. and Mrs. Ray Ellis are grandparents. Bro. Carl and Sis. Becky Kieser have a new little son, Trent Lee, born May 25. He has three sisters and one brother, Karla, Carolyn, Heidi, and Timmy. Grandparents are the Louis Kiesers of Bloomington and the Lee Kuenzis of Silverton, OR.

The weekend of June 6 was a blessing to us all as we heard the testimony of Ted Steidinger (Bro. Don and Sis. Alice). We welcome him as a dear brother into the fold with faith that he will be guided by our Heavenly Father throughout life's pathway.

We appreciate God's word brought forth to us by visiting brethren. May God grant the increase and bless the efforts of Bros. Carroll Gerber (Bluffton), Ken

Schneider (Remington) and Paul Gasser (Akron).

The engagement of Bro. Ivan Fehr (Bro. Glenn and Sis. Kathryn) and Sis. Cinda Zimmerman of Forrest (Bro. Allen and Sis. Carolyn) was made known. May God ever be present and bless them as they make their future plans together.

ILLINOIS, FORREST Jan Bachtold — Kathy Leman

"It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord, and to sing praises unto Thy name ,O most High."
Psalm 92:1

Truly we have many reasons to be thankful, including the visiting brethren who have so willingly given of themselves on our behalf. We wish to thank Brothers Everett Hari (Bloomington), Kent Heimer (Taylor, MO), Jim Byrd and Bill Hodel (Roanoke), Nathan Stoller and Roy Ehnle (Bradford), and Earl Kilgus and Ed Bahler (Remington). One of these brothers in mentioning how he appreciates the beauty of God's creation, brought to mind a little story I recently came across. The story is told of a little boy fishing with his grandfather on the banks of a river. Their conversation covered everything from where fish go at night to why the sun is so red on the horizon. In the stillness and beauty that come in summer twilight, the boy asked, "Gramps, can anyone see God?" "Son," his grandfather answered, "it's getting so I can't see anything but God." How true this is, as we don't have to look any further than the views from our windows to behold the beauty of creation.

Our recent hospital patients were Bro. Joe Kaisner (Sis. Ida), Henry Friedman (Sis. Marge), Sis. Nancy Honegger, Alan Ricketts (Bro. Nick and Sis. Jean), Bro. Dave Schmidgall (Sis. Alma Jean), and Kent Kafer (Ken and Gail). Our heartfelt prayers are with Sis. Dorothy Rieger (Harvey) who is hospitalized at this time.

"They shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away." Isaiah 35:10

We rejoice with Sis. Cinda Zimmerman (Bro. Al and Sis. Carolyn) and Bro. Ivan Fehr (Bro. Glenn and

Sis. Kathryn), Fairbury, who recently announced their engagement. May God be their Guide as they make plans for an August wedding.

We are looking forward to our annual Sunday School picnic, where old and young alike gather together to enjoy the blessings that God so abundantly bestows upon us.

ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD

Pam Wiegand

Peace in the Heart

If peace be in the heart
The wildest winter storm is full of
solemn beauty,
The midnight lightning flash but
shows the path of duty,
Each living creature tells some new
and joyous story,
The very trees and stones all catch
a ray of glory,
If peace be in the heart.

Charles Francis Richardson

We are so happy to have two new sisters at peace with God. Sis. Beth Mallory and Sis. Mickey Shemansky gave their testimonies on June 12 and were baptised the following day. We wish them God's blessings as they travel their new walk of life.

Our thoughts are with those who have not been able to worship with us in church. Sis. Louise Teubel has been sick in the Eureka Home. Bro. Bill Hohulin and Sis. Barb Wiegand were both hospitalized for surgery and are back home. May they all have speedy recoveries.

Bro. Steph and Sis. Donna Lou Baner and their two children, Kate and Jon, have moved to the Indianapolis area. We will miss them very much, but feel they were lead by the Lord. We pray He will stay near and richly bless them in their new home. Their address is: 5337 Winterberry Dr., Indianapolis, IN 46254.

Our thanks are extended to the two visiting ministers we had this past month — Bro. Raymond Roth (Kiowa, KS) and Bro. Gene Metzger (Lester, IA).

Sis. Marge Newlin wishes to thank everyone for the cards, flowers, visits, and prayers during her hospitalization and recovery.

ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY

Carol Klopfenstein

"If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above . . . Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth." Colossians 3:1-2 We were blessed when the ministering brother gave us this simple and complete answer to the problems many families experience in our society today. Those whose true affection is set on the things above do not have friction within their families. Peace and harmony flood the hearts of those in a Christian home where love rules and family members do not "mind earthly things". We appreciated these thoughts and others that Bro. Bob Pflederer of Morton brought forth when he recently spoke to us on the subject of "families" in the light of the Word of God.

Another brother once said that when we step one step closer to God, our joy increases. Jesus came that our joy might be full, and when our eyes are fixed on Him and not distracted by the world about us, indeed our joy can be full. The disciple Peter began to sink when he looked about and became fearful of the stormy water. But as the brother pointed out, he could do the impossible while he was looking to Jesus and could walk above the threatening sea. Likewise may we all have grace to walk on higher ground and never be overwhelmed by the waves of wickedness which swarm about us.

We have loving concern for our hospital patients, that God will always make their lot bearable and it could be His will, could grant them a speedy and complete recovery. Bro. Raymond Kuntz, Bro. Rudy Miller and Sis. Lorene Kiefer have been in the hospital this month.

Our Vacation Bible School was held the week of June 7. The theme was "Say a Prayer". Many of those who helped teach were blessed by the children's attentive hearts and innocent appreciation of the truth. What a great blessing it will be for these dear children who are taught to love and obey God and also love and obey their parents, if they can abide by it as they grow up. Jesus is such a perfect example of submission. He who was without sin, the unspotted Lamb of God, was

willing to listen to and obey His earthly parents who no doubt, being flesh and blood, had faults and shortcomings as all of us do today. It would seem to be so difficult for One who was faultless to submit to those who had faults. Nevertheless Luke 2:51 states that He "was subject unto them." Every boy and girl or person of any age who is tempted to disobey or disrespect his parents should realize that the Bible does not say "Obey your parents when you agree with them." But rather it says in Colossians 3:20, "Children obey your parents in all things for this is well pleasing unto the Lord."

ILLINOIS, MORTON

Joann Roecker - Phyllis Farney

"COME AND FOLLOW ME".

Special words for special little ones. This was the theme for Vacation Bible School this summer. We rejoice in the good attendance. VBS was held June 7-12. We want to express our heart-felt thanks to those who gave of themselves during this time. The weather cooperated and the children came away with precious Bible verses and lots of "special" gifts and projects.

Bro. Joe and Sis. Barb Zimmerman are happy parents of their first child. Eric Joseph arrived and blessed their hearts on June 3. Eric's grandparents are Bro. Joe and Sis. Millie Zimmerman and Bro. Bob and Sis. Lillian Getz.

We welcome home our dear Bro. Bob and Sis. Ellie Pflederer after their long but fruitful trip to Israel. Our love and prayers were with them on their journey.

We were given words of love and encouragement by Bro. Hartzell Kaisner (Detroit). We truly appreciate his being with us and may God richly bless him in his efforts.

Two dear sisters have entered into eternal rest. The funeral for Sis. Leah Hoffman was May 22. Funeral services were held on May 23 for Sis. Gladys Zobrist. We extend our sympathy to their families and continue to keep them in our prayers.

God has blessed the home of Bro. Doug and Sis. Gerry Kruse with a little girl. Jessie Renee was born on June 14. She was welcomed home by two happy little sisters, April and Haley Joy. Happy grandparents are

Walter and Jean McConkey and Bro. Dale and Sis. Joyce Domnick.

Those on our hospital and shut-in list at this time are: Leonard Harter, Sis. Olive Rein, Janet Simpson, Sis. Anna Stoller, Sis. Emma Bernhardt, Bro. Mark Peters and Bob Byrd. May we ever be prayerful for those who are having trials and are suffering. May God bless each one in His perfect will.

ILLINOIS, PEORIA

Mary Plattner - Mary Ann Plattner

As graduation has touched many of our brothers, sisters and friends, we pray that the future which is before them will hold their dreams of success, but most of all the plan of salvation which the Lord has prepared for us all.

This month our congregation has been blessed with three bundles of joy from heaven..

Marissa Elizabeth was born to Bro. Norm and Sis. Connie Hoerr. Amanda welcomes home her baby sister. Grandparents are Bro. Ray and Sis. Doris Steffen of Forrest and August and Marie Hoerr.

Joshua, Jesse and Mindy have a new playmate in their home. Tamara Joy was born to Bro. Bob and Sis. Myrna Hoerr. Grandparents are Bro. Joe and Sis. Lydia Herman and Bro. Max and Sis. Katie Hoerr.

First time parents are Bro. Denny and Sis. Gail Virkler. They were blessed with a son, Benjamin Andrew. Grandparents are Bro. Ben and Sis. Sharon Stickling and Elder Bro. Andy and Sis. Maxine Virkler of Bay City.

May the blessings of God's precious children bring warmth, laughter and love into their hearts and homes.

June 12 was the wedding day of Martha Fehr (Bro. Bud and Sis. Sheri Fehr) to Mitchell Moore (Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Moore). May God bless this union of love.

Visiting ministers this month were Elder Bro. Art Bahler of Fairbury and Bro. Hartzell Kaisner of Detroit. We wish to thank these brothers for their labors of love.

Among hospital patients this month were Sis. Sophia Hoerr and Bro. Ray Wiegand. We pray God will restore each one to good health according to His will.

May 22 was the funeral of Bessie Metzger. She was a resident of our Apostolic Christian Home.

Harvey Sammit was laid to rest on May 27. He is the brother of Dorothy Wiess.

We extend our sympathy to family and friends who have lost their loved ones.

Sis. Laura Koehl and her family would like to thank everyone for the many prayers, cards and gifts during Bro. Jack's illness and for the love and condolences after his death.

I would like to thank all of those who sent me cards, flowers, gifts and whose who brought suppers in to our home during my recovery from surgeries. May God bless you all for your kindness, prayers and love.

Sis. Mary Plattner

We want to thank the ministers who spoke at our Vacation Bible School. Elder Bro. Ed Ringger of Gridley, Bros. Ron Heiniger of Bloomington, Glen Dill of Tremont as well as our home church ministers.

I want to sincerely thank each and every vacation Bible school teacher and kitchen help. Your efforts were greatly appreciated for a job well done.

Sis. Chris Schmidgall

ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE

Arlene and Arlys Martin

You can never really know the joy of being loved by God until you have received His love gift to you — the Lord Jesus Christ. Visiting ministers who encouraged us to personally experience God's love have been Bros. Virgil Metzger (Urbana), Roger Aberle (Sabetha, KS), and Kenneth Dietz and Marvin Leman (Bradford).

Joshua Sinclair and Justin Herbert Bender were born on May 22 to Michael and Connie Bender. Mike and Jason are delighted to have twin brothers. Grandparents are Jack and Ruby Bender of Kansas City and Bro. Dick and Cleo Gerst of our congregation.

On Sunday, May 23, our high school graduates and their parents were honored at a breakfast at our Fellowship Hall. The graduates and parents are: Don Endress (Sis. Mildred), Darlene and Doreen Graham (Bro. Dick and Sis. Jean-

ette), Cindy Herrmann (Bro. Howard and Sis. Mary Ann), Teresa Knobloch (Bro. Ed and Sis. Frances), Sis. Audrey Martin (Bro. Ray and Sis. Edna), Denise Martin (Bro. Nate and Sis. Esther), Doug Stahl (Bro. Lyle and Sis. Betty), and Sandra Stoller (Bro. Joe and Sis. Emily).

Bro. Steve Streitmatter and Bro. Earl Grimm are our new Sunday School teachers. They will replace Bro. Lavern Berchtold and Bro. Ronald Rumbold.

Sis. Elizabeth Stoller wishes to thank everyone for the cards and deeds of kindness given to her during her recent illness.

ILLINOIS, ROANOKE

Joyce Hodel — Carol Rumbold

We wish a happy life together to Ken Fischer (Bro. Dave and Sis. Fran) and Ann Hausam (the Charles Hausams of Sunnyland) who were married on June 6.

Both of Bro. Ira and Sis. Doris Farney's sons were married this spring. On Mar. 27 Wayne and Laurie Martin (Bob and Lois) became united as one. Mark married Debbie Zimmerman (Bro. Morrie and Sis. Kathy of Goodfield) on May 22. We wish these couples a lifetime of happiness together.

We are thankful to have been recipients of visits by ministers who are willing to give of their time: Bro. Ray Roth (Kiowa, KS), Bro. David Bertsch (Leo, IN), and Bro. Uriel Gehring (Burlington, IA).

Our Bro. Glen Hodel and our Sis. Rose Barth spent some time in the hospital. Both of them are home again, and our prayers for them are that their recovery may continue at home.

No matter how kindly God blesses us in this life, let us remember to set our affections on those things that are above. Compared to God's wisdom, the world's riches are fool's gold.

ILLINOIS, TREMONT

Phyllis Lang — Dorothy Wagenbach

Visiting ministers this month were Bros. Fred Knapp (Congerville) and William Kupferschmid (Bloomington-Normal). We appreciate their visits and timely warnings. May God richly reward their efforts.

Bro. Levi Sauder is now making his home at Restmor Nursing Home in Morton. His wife, Clara, has been there for some time already. We are glad Bro. Levi still assembles with us on Sunday. We hope they enjoy their new home.

June 12 was the wedding date of Charles Brunner and Susan Baumann. Parents of the couple are Elmer and Dorothy Brunner and Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Baumann of Polo, Illinois.

The engagement of Bro. David Kaeb and Sis. Barbara Huette was made known to our congregation. Parents are Bro. William and Sis. Marilyn Huette and Bro. Elmer and Sis. Darlene Kaeb. We wish both couples God's blessings as they set up their homes.

Bible school was held the week of June 7. A thank you to all the teachers who so willingly gave of themselves to our youth.

ILLINOIS, URBANA
Cheryl Joos

Walk With Me

Walk with me, Oh Lord I pray.
 Give me strength throughout the day.
 Take my problems big and small,
 Lift me when I tend to fall.

Walk with me, Oh Lord I pray.
 Prompt me what to do and say.
 Let me feel you always there.
 Lift me when I feel despair.

Helen Parker

We wish our 1982 graduates God's blessings as they begin their journey down another path of life. Ben Wiegand and Kirk Boaz have been graduated from high school and John Simpson has been graduated from the University of Illinois.

What a joy to be able to travel thousands of miles and still feel the unity and love and to be able to fellowship in like mind and faith. We were encouraged by the visit of two sisters, Eva and Piroska Szabo, from Hungary. They are visiting various churches in Illinois and Indiana.

During the month of August there will be no mid-week services. These will resume in September when the college students have returned to

school. The Sunday School children had the privilege of attending Vacation Bible School from June 14-18.

Sunday School vacation is during the month of August. Sept. 12 will be the beginning of our regular Sunday School classes.

We welcome Bro. Lynn Fischer to our congregation. He has moved here from Bloomington, Illinois.

ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON

Joan Schick - Mary Schick

"If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."

II Chron. 7:14

How much this great nation of ours needs a healing touch from God - a touch to heal it of the sin and pride that has taken a hold of it so strongly. As we give thanks to God this Independence Day for the many freedoms we have, may we also say a special fervent prayer that the people of our nation could yet seek God and humble themselves before Him.

Our high school graduates this year are Marie Teubel, Karen Cagle, Debbie Crutchley, Sis. Lori Wyss, Lynette Heinold, and Kary Streitmatter. May the Lord be near each of them and guide them throughout their lives.

Our congregation was thankful and blest to hear the testimony of Elaine Winkler (Bro. Marshall and Sis. Jan) and witness her baptism on June 5 and 6. We warmly welcome her as our new sister in Christ and pray that she may continue to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Saviour.

Our annual vacation Bible school was held the week of June 7-11. As we remember what lasting impressions were made on us by our lessons and teachers, we realize how important it is to put God's teachings into the minds of our precious children. How willingly they accept and believe the word of God. Surely this is what Jesus meant when He said we are to become as a child.

Our many visiting ministers this month have been Bros. Noah Her-

man (Tucson), Hartzell Kaisner (Detroit), Nate Steffen (Elgin), Bill Schlatter (Junction), Joe Stoller (Princeville), Fred Knapp (Congerville), and Kenny Knapp (Taylor). We appreciate the willingness of these brothers to be used as instruments of God in speaking to us.

INDIANA, BLUFFTON

Tammy Gerber

Gayle Baumgartner

By God's love and guidance, Sis. Lynn Gerber and Bro. Brad Fiechter have announced their engagement. They are planning a September 19 wedding. Sis. Lynn's parents are Bro. Lester and Sis. Rosemary Gerber and Bro. Charles and Sis. Maxine Fiechter are Bro. Brad's parents.

On June 12, Kelli Meyer and Kent Lesh were united in marriage. Their parents are Bro. Les and Sis. Carolyn Meyer and Ray and Roberta Lesh.

June 12 was also the wedding day of Sonja Meyer and Richard Yeates. Sonja's parents are Bro. Vernon and Sis. Carol Meyer.

On June 19 Julie Ringger and Joe Stroup were united as one in marriage. Their parents are Bro. Dave and Sis. Maxine Ringger and John and Betty Stroup.

May God be near to each of these couples as they walk the path of life together.

Trevor Fredrick is the name given to Greg and Tonya Frauhofer's first child. His paternal grandparents are Bro. Tom and Sis. Rose Frauhofer.

Alan and Terri Bertsch are the parents of their fifth child, Misty Dawn. Rose, Adam, Andrew and Anthony welcome their new sister.

We thank Bros. Simon Wagenbach (Tremont), Aaron Steffen (Alto), Earl Kilgus (Remington), Art Gudeman (La Crosse) and Homer Reinich (Toledo) for bringing us the Word of God this month. We pray that they may always feel our love and appreciation for their labors.

Hospitalized this month were: Bro. Joe Meyer, Bro. Charles Kaehr, Bro. Jacob Graber, Bro. Lewis Gerber, Krystal Schwartz (Bro. Gary and Sis. Barb), Jesse Frauhofer (Bro. Steve and Sis. Irene), Bro. Herman Strahm (Sis. Eleanor), Sandy Ringger (Bro. Kendall), Robert

Herring (Sis. Nancy), Sis. Sophia Gerber, Sis. Ida Meyer and Troy Kipfer (Bro. John and Sis. Sue). May prayers and messages of cheer continue for those who suffer.

Beyond the sunset, O glad reunion, with our dear loved ones who've gone before; In that fair home-land we'll know no parting, Beyond the sunset forever more.

Hymns of Zion No. 172

Sis. Erna Kipfer passed away at the age of 71. Although she could not attend church for some time, she had loved and served her Lord for many years. We extend our sympathy to her husband, Bro. Bill, and children, Bro. Richard Kipfer and Janeil Johnloz and their families.

Sis. Gladys Kipfer's son, Tom, passed away at the age of 38 in Toledo, Ohio.

On June 6, at the age of 86, Pearl Longenberger went to her blessed rest. Our prayers and sympathy go to two of her sons, Bros. Harry Longenberger and Bill Longenberger of our congregation and the rest of her family.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Gerber wish to thank everyone for the beautiful cards and gifts on their 50th wedding anniversary.

INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE

Wendy Gutwein

"Every happy marriage is made of three things — a loving husband, a loving wife, and the everlasting love of God."

Unknown

Five couples from our congregation were joined in marriage this past month. They are: Bro. Mike Fritz (Bro. Harold and Sis. Sherry) to Sis. Monica Gutwein (Bro. Nate and Sis. Ad); Bro. Keith Schladenhauffen (Bro. Everett and Sis. Luella) to Sis. Delores Topp (Dale Topp and Louise Topp); Anita Boehning (Dick and Phyllis) to Jeffrey Hensley; Brad Gutwein (Phil and Julie) to Kay Fahrenbacher; Dean Speece to Leona Yaggie (Bro. Irvin and Sis. Lois). We pray for the blessings of God on the union of these hearts.

One solemn Wednesday evening, we gathered together to partake of the Lord's Supper, with Elder Bros. LeRoy Huber and Ed Frank helping our Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman.

With renewed hearts we departed, thinking of all our Lord suffered for us, and desiring to live a more surrendered life for Him.

Bros. Virgil Metzger, Marvin Stieglitz, Ed Bahler, Rod Huber and Elmer Schmidt were our visiting ministers this past month and we thank them for being faithful ministers of the Word, and for the blessings we received from their visits here.

Bro. Glen Gutwein is hospitalized at this time, and we pray if it be the Lord's will, he'll be home soon and feeling well again.

INDIANA, INDIANAPOLIS Bobbi Erb — Lynn Klopfenstein

"Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth and the life; no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." John 14:6. Our theme for Vacation Bible School which was held June 7 through 11, this year, was "Come Follow Jesus." Sixty-five children enjoyed a week of learning about Jesus and His disciples. On Friday evening we had a picnic for all the children and their parents, followed by the program. In closing we, as parents, were challenged to continue to teach our children to follow Jesus.

Visiting our congregation and ministering God's Word to us this month were Bro. Earl Kilgus (Remington) and Bro. Gene Lehman (Wolcott). We appreciate their labors and also our own ministers. We pray continually that the Holy Spirit will inspire them in teaching God's Word.

INDIANA, LaCROSSE

Lu Ann Feller — Connie Knoblock

It's so easy to take for granted the precious privilege of being brought up in a Christian home. Our vacation Bible school concentrated upon the theme, "The Values of a Christian Home." Those who are blessed to have such a home should appreciate it! Our congregation was happy to welcome our speakers for Bible school week: Bros. Don Wagenbach (Washington, IL), Ken Schneider (Remington), Chris Huber (Francesville), and Art Ringger (Indianapolis).

A special "Parents' Program" was held on June 13 following afternoon

services. It was especially nice to have the Washington church choir participate with many songs of praise. What a wonderful thing it is to glorify God's name through hymns and spiritual songs!

We ask the Lord's hand upon several in our congregation who were hospitalized. Bro. Bob Gudeman (Sis. Diana) and Karen Heiniger (Paul) were surgical patients and Sis. Lucille Heiniger (Bro. John) and Sis. Melva Bucher (Bro. Vernon) were hospital patients.

INDIANA, LEO Mrs. Phil Schlatter Mrs. Al Frautschi

Vacation Bible School was another golden opportunity to learn more of His living Word. It is a prayer of the teachers that the seed sown may yield a harvest to His glory. It's a great privilege to be a Christian; but it also brings its responsibilities to tell others. "...be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear." I Peter 3:15. "Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." II Timothy 2:15. If we are to give an answer for our faith, we need to be acquainted with the Word for you can no more explain something you don't know than you can come back from where you haven't been!

Bro. David and Sis. Sharon Pfister and their three daughters welcomed a son, David Edward. Grandparents are Sis. Mayme Getz and Bro. Levi and Sis. Lillian Pfister.

Kevin Souder has been released from the hospital. We rejoice with Kevin and his parents, Dwight and Sis. Betty Souder, that he was miraculously spared in an accident and that he is making a good recovery.

The name of Nancy Pfister was unintentionally omitted from our high school graduates. She is the daughter of Robert and Sis. Janice Pfister. We wish Nancy joy and continued success in the future.

Many prayers for the leaders of our nation and praise for our freedom of worship rise as another national birthday is observed.

"Only one life, so live it well
 And keep thy candle trimmed and
 bright;
 Eternity, not time, will tell
 The radius of that candle's light."
 (Sadie Miller)

INDIANA, MILFORD

Marcy Haab — Gwen Steffen

We rejoice with Wally and Martha Wuethrich, for on May 23 they celebrated their golden wedding anniversary with many family and friends. We pray the Lord will continue to bless their life together. Among the relatives who shared this special day with them was Eureka's Elder Bro. Leroy Huber. We want to thank him for his labor of love.

Bro. Dan and Sis. Debbie Beer are the happy parents of a little daughter, Julia May, who was born May 27. Julia's grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Carl Shearer of Milford and Bro. Cap and Sis. Mary Ann of our congregation.

Our promotion program was held June 6. Each year the children present to the congregation, through song and Bible verse, what they have learned. Our new high school freshmen received their own Bibles and the remaining high school students received various song books.

We are thankful that Sis. Flossie (Bro. Elmer) Hartter is home now after spending a month in the hospital recuperating from surgery. It is a joy to see her back in church again.

On June 13 we were blessed by the visit of ministering Bro. Ben Manz (Junction, OH). We appreciate so much the efforts he and his family made in coming to Milford.

With the angels in heaven we rejoice, for another soul has turned his back to the world. Looking up to Jesus for his salvation is Dave Doll, son of Bro. Pete and Sis. Becky.

Knowing one's soul is worth more than the whole world is sobering to us. We feel such a joy to know there are still those seeking the Lord; yet for those who are still standing outside the gate we have such a deep concern, especially those of our own families. How important the family is in today's world!

Out of this concern came the theme (The Christian Family in

Today's World) for our Vacation Bible School. We extend our heartfelt thanks to our ministering Bros. Kent Heimer (Taylor, MO), Bob Meyer (Bluffton), Rod Huber (Valparaiso), and Steve Gutwein (Francesville) and their families for the many miles traveled and hours spent in giving of themselves to bring us God's message. It must thrill Jesus' heart to have such willing servants.

As Father's Day draws near we wish to thank our fathers for bringing us up in a Christian home teaching us to love and obey God's Word.

INDIANA, REMINGTON Beth Virkler — Annette Bahler

"And though I have the gift of prophesy and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge, and though I have all faith. . . and have not charity, I am nothing." I Cor. 13:2. Charity is defined as having leniency in judging others, generosity toward the needy, love for ones fellow man, and help given. These definitions were exactly the ingredients that were needed in our vacation Bible school this month, toward the children and young adults. The theme this year was "Keep my commandments and live." Prov. 7:2. By grace we strove to keep the commandments of love, generosity and help to them. When the children and young adults come to vacation Bible school to hear the truth, we not only live, as believers, by keeping His command, but also point them to the way of their spiritual life. The visiting ministers who gave generously of themselves were Bro. Ken Werts (Cissna Park), Bro. Don Gudeman (LaCrosse) and Bro. Ray Sinn (Latty). We especially thank them, the teachers, and all the help given from many.

Sis. Marge Pitman wishes to thank all who gave her support through cards, letters and prayers towards her recovery from surgery.

INDIANA, SOUTH BEND Karen Lehman — Nancy Lehman

"and that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in

Christ Jesus." II Timothy 3:15

It is truly an important time of life to teach a child of God's plan when they are young. It seems they are always so eager to learn. We had our Vacation Bible School June 14 thru 18.

It's been a year since we have been in our new sanctuary. God has richly blessed us with the fellowship of Brethren and we encourage many others to visit us. Our new church is located South of Mishawaka on 331 at Madison Road.

This month's visiting ministers were Elder Bro. David Bertsch (Leo), and Bro. Art Gudeman (La Crosse). We warmly thank them for spending time with us along with our other visitors.

Sunday school elections were held this month. Sis. Nancy Lehman was elected as Nursery school teacher. Bro. Bert Aeschliman was elected as teacher for the Middler Class. We have added a fourth class. It's a joy to see our Sunday School classes growing. "Seek ye the Lord while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near." Isaiah 55:6

It's wonderful to know that the Lord is still working in souls of all ages while there is still yet day of grace and time of salvation. We rejoice with Sis. Marie Germann as her husband, Ernest Germann has turned his life over to the Lord.

INDIANA, VALPARAISO

Mary Huber — Claudia Thomas

Our congregation had the joy of having Bro. Dan Stoller (Remington) and Bro. Elmer Schmidt (Winthrop, MN). We thank them very much for their labor of love.

Our Sunday school enjoyed a picnic and a time of fellowship and love for one another. This is something our children will remember as a part of growing up. Let us try to show them these good memories, away from the ways of the world.

This is a time of year to thank the Lord that we live in a free country, that we can have the freedom of religion, and not to abuse this. May we also remember the many, many Christians that are being persecuted in communist countries. They have never known what it has been like to have freedom to worship. But, our true freedom is in Jesus dying for

our sins. As the apostle Peter said, "That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honor and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ: Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory; Receiving the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls." I Peter 1:7-9.

INDIANA, WOLCOTT
Kris and Laurel Widmer
Suzanne Hoerr

Bro. Max and Sis. Suzanne Hoerr have returned to Peoria for the summer. We will all miss them and their daughter Sarah. They plan to return for the fall semester at Purdue.

A son, Bradley Scott was born to Bro. Neal and Sis. Kris Widmer. He has a big brother John to welcome him home. Maternal grandparents are Bro. Sid and Sis. Fern Leman. Paternal grandparents are Ed and Sis. Gladys Widmer.

Vacation Bible School for the Wolcott and Remington Sunday School classes was held at Remington.

IOWA, BURLINGTON
Edith Massner — Kim Salek

On May 16 a short dedication service was held at the Fellowship Center. (The old Huron School had been renovated into a condition in which we hope it can be useful.) The Oakville, Burlington and Iowa City congregations all joined to sing praise to God in the evening.

Sunday services were impressive as the brother read and meditated on II Corinthians 1, especially verse 8: "--we were pressed out of measure, above strength, insomuch that we despaired even of life." The apostle Paul had different trials than we have today, but don't these very words still apply at times in our lives?

We elected new Sunday School teachers; they are Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Lucinda Scheitlin. Bro. Dale and Sis. Evelyn Massner will be the substitutes. Sis. Rosella Oberman is to serve on the Food Committee. We pray that each may have His special grace and favor to carry out the

duties in a godly way.

Scott Massner, son of Bro. Dale and Sis. Evelyn, had the misfortune of hurting his foot. Because of a cut ligament, he had to stay off of it for a while. We are glad to see him back in Sunday School again!

We were especially grateful for the visit of Bro. Leroy Huber and those with him. There are so many encouraging thoughts in Psalm 119, and we were again reminded of these precious Words. If only it could be our "meditation all the day", as verse 97 says!

Our dear Elder Bro. Ed Lanz, visited us on two Wednesday evenings. We do appreciate his willingness to be used in speaking God's Word, as well as his calm and patient ways.

IOWA, ELGIN
Eleanor Butikofer

"June, month of roses
 white yellow and red
 Their fragrance all over
 the garden is spread"

It is indeed a delightful time of the year. The meadows and hay fields are lush, the corn rows are visible as are the vegetable and flower rows. This year we set out various hued geraniums, interspersed with colors of many descriptions in a row with some petunias for a beauty spot. Our young bluebirds have already left their nest, however we do hear the warbling of the parent birds which is most enjoyable.

Congratulations are due to Nancy Moore of Fredericksburg, IA as she recently was graduated from high school. She is a delightful girl and the daughter of the Robert Moores. We wish her success in all of her future endeavors and ask God to bless her. Her grandfather, Bro. Emil Moore, was in the ministry until his passing away in 1956.

There were twenty-one children who attended the Bible school session. They displayed a lot of interest in the various types of learning. Sis. Gloria Frieden was the one who carried the greatest responsibility in teaching; she was aided by some of the mothers and by Sis. Karla Moore. Thanks to all who participated.

We were privileged to have two

ministering brothers visitors since our last report. They were Bros. John Steiner (Oakville) and Duane Metzger (West Bend). We thank them for their efforts in explaining the scriptures. May God bless them for their kindness.

His Coming

He comes to us as one unknown without a name, as of old by the lake side He came to those men who knew him not. He speaks to us the same words, "Follow thou me," and sets us to the tasks which He has to fulfill for our time. He commands. To those who obey whether they be wise or simple, He will reveal himself in the toils, the conflicts, the suffering which they shall pass through in His fellowship and as an ineffable mystery; they shall learn in their own experience who He is. May we ever thank God for His love and mercies.

"Great and marvelous are Thy works, Lord God almighty; just and true are thy ways, thou King of saints."

Revelations 15:3

IOWA, GARDEN GROVE
Eileen Funk

On June 6, we were privileged to be served communion by our visiting Elder Bros. Sam Huber (Sabetha) and Ed Lanz (Oakville). It was a blessed day. We enjoyed the others also who came to share this occasion with us.

Our vacation Bible School was from June 7 through 18. We had a good attendance with a number of new faces from our local communities. We really appreciated Sis. Vi Funk (Morton) for coming to teach a class and be our song leader. May God bless her labors of love.

Our children and young people shared with us some of the teachings they learned in VBS. Their program was the last day of Vacation Bible School. "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it." Proverbs 22:6.

IOWA, IOWA CITY
Susie Gramm

We were privileged to host Iowa Churches Week-End here the 12th and 13th of June. What a blessing it

was to have our little edifice filled to capacity. It would be wonderful if that were a weekly happening, but we are thankful and confident of the promise in Matthew 18:20, "For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them."

Father's Day has come and gone, and I am reminded of a poem by Clifford Lewis. This little poem should be a gentle reminder to all of us as well as to Fathers to be a good example.

"Someone is Following You"

Don't forget that day by day
Someone is following you;
Be careful what you say,
Be careful what you do.

Don't forget as you go along
Someone is following you;
Watch to avoid the wrong,
Watch the path you pursue.

God help you this to see
Someone is following you;
Be strong! His witness be,
Be strong! Live always true.

Visiting ministers have been Bro. Harvey Heiniger (Burlington), Bro. Bill Gudeman (Elgin, IL) and Bro. Wayne Anliker (Forrest).

IOWA, LESTER

Alice Metzger

Our entire church and Sunday School was in attendance for a special groundbreaking service for our new church on May 23. Elder Bro. Leo Moser led the service by reading Isaiah 65:21 and expounding on the privileges and responsibilities we are undertaking. Bro. Dale Wulf spoke of Jesus being the cornerstone and how the foundation of our faith is laid in the Sunday School. All joined together in singing "The Believing Family" from Zion's Harp.

We are thankful to Bros. Bill Hodel (Roanoke) and Marvin Schmidgall (Eureka) and those who accompanied them the weekend on Jun. 6. Many timely teachings were brought to our attention.

The Morris congregation very graciously entertained the Youth Fellowship group from area churches on June 12 and 13. We are

grateful for their kind hospitality.

The engagement of Sis. Clara Wulf (Bro. Jake and Sis. Alice) to Bro. Doug Schock (Pulaski) was announced... We have two precious baby boys in our church family. On Jun. 3 Andy Lee was born to Bro. Terry and Sis. Elaine Knoblock. He is their first born and his grandparents are Bro. Gus and Sis. Florence Knoblock and Bro. Raymond and Sis. LuEtta Braker (Lamar). Christopher Lee was born June 11 to Bro. Bruce and Sis. Alice Metzger. He has one sister and the grandparents are Bro. Eli and Sis. Alice Metzger and Bro. Ervin and Sis. Elma Mogler (West Bend).

Sis. Emma Gerber fell in church and broke her arm. Several others have received broken bones in minor accidents. Our hospital patients were Sis. Rosella Metzger, Bro. Larry Leuthold, Bro. Earl Knobloch, Bro. Gus Knoblock, Bro. Wes Moser Troy Metzger (Bro. Bill and Sis. Charlotte), and Kristi Kellenberger (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Shirley). May God add His healing touch to all.

The marriage of Shirley Knobloch, daughter of Bro. Art and Sis. Elgeva, and Bob DeSmet took place on Jun. 19. They will be living in our community and we pray God will bless their home.

IOWA, OAKVILLE

Jerilyn Wagenbach

What Is A Baby?

A baby is a gift of life
born of "the wonder of love,"
A little bit of eternity
sent from the Father above,
Giving a new dimension
to the love between husband and
wife
And putting an added new meaning
to the wonder and mystery of life!
Helen Steiner Rice

Two new babies have been added to our congregation. Ashley Noel was born May 23 to Bro. Brian and Sis. Cindy Wiegand. She has a sister, Natalie, and grandparents, Bro. Joe and Sis. Lois Wiegand, and Lewis and Sis. Carol Albrecht (Francesville).

Bro. Tom and Sis. Vera Lindeen, and Steven, welcomed Kathleen Susan into their family on June 2.

Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Lindeen (Swedesburg, IA) and Bro. Bernard and Sis. Leah Schaer (Pulaski), are the happy grandparents.

Sis. Edna Wiegand extends her heartfelt thanks to all who remembered her with cards of good wishes, flowers, prayers, money, and prepared food during her recent hospitalization and recovery at home. She wishes that God would bless each one for their thoughtfulness and love.

We enjoyed our many visitors the past few weeks. Among them were ministering brethren, Bro. Charles Hemmer and Bro. Jim Hoerr of Peoria, Bro. Kenny Knapp, Taylor, and Bro. Fred Knapp, Congerville. Our fellowship with loved ones is truly a blessing. "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together..." Hebrews 10:25.

IOWA, PULASKI

Mary Wiegand - DeAnn Wuthrich

On May 23 we received many blessings as a group of young brothers and sisters from Oakville were here along with some other company. Also with us that day was Bro. Roger Aberle and his wife from Sabetha. Among the many thoughts Roger left with us was to stick with the ship and as long as God is at the helm of our ship we will reach the Heavenly shore safely.

Of any storms we have no fears,
We have a well built ark,
And at the helm we have a Man
Who guides this saving bark.
If He commands the wind and sea
The billows no more roll;
Thru all the dangers He will bring
Us safely to our goal.

Hymns of Zion No. 48

We are surely looking forward to welcoming Sis. Clara Wulf from Lester, IA, here later this year, when she and Bro. Doug Schock are married.

Elder Bros. Ed Lanz and Paul Butikofer were with us recently to serve us Holy Communion. It is always uplifting to be reminded of the Lord's death and suffering.

To break Thy bread we now have
gathered,
In covenant to drink Thy wine;
As brethren we unite together,

That unto death we might be Thine.
This promise we, with heart and
will;

Give grace our promise to fulfill.

Zion's Harp No. 26

The brothers also urged us to remain steadfast in our faith so that the Lord will find faith when He comes again.

IOWA, WEST BEND

Elma Mogler - Judy Fehr

We are always happy to have visitors in our midst, and were pleasantly surprised to have Bro. Dale Wulf (Lester) with us for mid-week services. We appreciate his effort in our behalf.

We are very happy for Jamie Schmidt, son of Bro. Jerry and Sis. Judy, and Linda Helleseth of West Bend who recently announced their engagement. Also, our best wishes go to Rod Schmidt, son of Sis. Betty and the late Bro. Rich, on his engagement to Jill Bronson of Grand Junction, CO.

Bro. Martin and Sis. Doris Zaugg received a gift from Heaven when they became parents of Ruth Joy on May 14. Her grandparents are Bro. Oscar and Sis. Frances Zaugg and Bro. Elmer and Sis. Matilda Fehr. We wish them God's blessings.

Bro. Joe Benninger and Sis. Tillie Mogler had eye surgeries this past month, and Gail Schmidt (Bro. Dwaine and Sis. Lucille) was hospitalized for a tonsilectomy. We are thankful for God's Healing Hand.

It has been the privilege of our Bro. Philip and Sis. Katherine (Zaugg) Fisher to walk down life's pathway as husband and wife for fifty years. They were both reared in our church and our community. Bro. Philip and Sis. Katherine enjoyed many years on their farm until moving to town in 1976.

They have four living children—Harold, West Bend; Philip, Jr., Lone Tree; Lois Lloyd, Mason City; and Eileen Hoover, Minneapolis. They also have five grandchildren to enjoy and love. They lost one son, Robert. We know that the loss of a young son at the age of 26 was not easy to bear, but they bore the cross of sorrow bravely.

In the year of 1967, they felt the

need of repentance and were added to the fold.

Bro. Philip has not been able to enjoy our Iowa winters because of his health, so they do spend some time in the southern states during the coldest months.

May God keep them both as they continue to walk hand in hand.

JAPAN, SHIODA

Kathy Klotzle

"Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil. . ." Psalm 23:4. We ask for your prayers that the Lord will be with our dear Sis. Asakawa as she occasionally faces times that the doctors think may be her last. We hear from the experiences of so many that as a child of God nears the end of their time on this earth, Satan tries harder and harder to regain a soul he has lost. Please join us in prayer for this dear, aged sister.

It's a joy to gather as brothers and sisters in our Father's house. We're thankful for our visitors from far and near who bring us the blessing of their fellowship. Our small group was increased by a welcome visit from Bro. Saburo and Sis. Shizuko Utsuki from Tokyo. We also were blessed to once again greet and worship with Bro. Hisato Inoue, Francesville, who has returned to Japan for awhile.

"Jesus will heal Miss Ramseyer." Words of faith from a young child, a faith that has been proven true. Sis. Vicki was injured in a bicycle accident recently, but we're thankful to watch the rapid, remarkable healing power of God.

CONCERNING A KINDERGARTEN TEACHER

Sis. Kathy Klotzle has agreed to stay on for the time being inasmuch as no certified teaching sister has clearly felt called of God to come. It is still my hope and prayer, though, that this need will be met and that a qualified sister will be coming to complete the two year term which Kathy will be starting in September. If Kathy stays one more year and then returns with Sis. Vicki Ramseyer we will have gotten off our rotation system of one new teacher each year. To have one of the two teachers somewhat acquainted with Japan and the language is very help-

ful. Anyone qualified who would feel led to consider coming and who could possibly be excused from her present position, should please talk with her local Elder, and if he approves, contact Bro. Ben Maibach, Secretary and Treasurer of the Missionary Committee or Bro. Joe Ramsier, Chairman of the Missionary Committee.

Willis R. Ehnle

KANSAS, BERN

Linda Esslinger

The Translation

He who walks a wooded country lane
And crosses through a meadow fair,
or rests beside a running brook —
Can he deny that God is here?
He who holds a tiny, frail bird
And feels the rapid-beating heart,
Then frees it and sees it fly away —
Can he say God has no part?
And he who sees a rose unfurl —
Exquisite, fragile petals grow,
Can he believe in happenstance
Evolved from long, long ago?
I see many manifestations —
Call them miracles, if you will —
But these things tell me God has
lived,

And my heart tells me He lives still.

Shirley Kelly Mears

On May 20 Sis. Heidi Baumgartner (daughter of Sis. Nancy and Bro. Leonard) and Sis. Kim Meyer (daughter of Sis. Janet and Bro. Robert) gave their testimonies and on May 21 they were baptized. We welcome them into our fold. We appreciate having Bro. Noah Gerber (West Bend, IA) minister God's word to us.

Sis. Gerty and Bro. Dennis Esslinger were blessed with a son, Ashley William, born on May 21. He is welcomed home by a brother, Anthony. Grandparents are Sis. Arlene and Bro. Martin Esslinger, and Sis. Julia Messner (Winthrop, MN).

Mr. and Mrs. Elwin Strahm are the parents of a daughter, Katie Elizabeth, born June 7. She has a brother, Benji, to welcome her home. Grandparents are Sis. Mildred and Bro. Alvin Strahm and Sis. Leola and Bro. Edward Lehman.

On June 16 a son, Nathan John, was born to Roberta and Carroll Plattner. Grandparents are Sis.

Marie and Bro. John Plattner (Sabetha).

Sis. Sophia M. McClanahan, age 86, passed away on June 9. Services were held on June 12. We extend our sympathy to her surviving sisters and brothers; Sis. Sarah and Sis. Amanda Meyer and Bro. Roy Meyer. Communion services were held on June 13. Bro. Sam Anliker (Lamont, KS) assisted Elder Bro. Lester Hartter.

Sis. Lila (Joe) Rokey and Sis. Cynthia (Rod) Strahm were hospital patients.

KANSAS, FT. SCOTT

Jamie Marti

On May 29-30 we were privileged to have a group from the Chicago, IL congregation with us. Ministering God's word to us that weekend were Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann, Bro. Lenny Meyer and Bro. Greg Rassi. We thank these brothers for their labors.

"Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it." Prov. 22:6. The week of June 7-11 we held our Vacation Bible School. Let us always be a light and example for these children.

KANSAS, GRIDLEY

Julie Strahm - Doris Bahr

There is a saying "There are no strangers - only friends who have never met." Do you often times feel lonely - even amidst your own fellowship? We, ourselves have the capability to lay the groundwork for a Christian friendship that does not have to be lonely. People need to live through experiences together, good and bad, in order to sense the need for a mutual Christian friendship between them. We can begin today by going to people that others may forget, then make it a personal habit to share an encouraging word to any person we happen to be around. There may be those who will never warm up in spite of our efforts of warm friendship—these people can be intimidating; but they can be shown the example of Christ and can possibly be won in a loving way. We don't need to be lonely! Prayer and a willingness to serve the Lord in a friendly attitude are ingredients needed to find our

friends and fellowship one with another.

A precious daughter, Jessica Erin, was born to Brenda and Dale John on June 26. Grandparents are Faye and Glen Kraft. Greatgrandparents are Bro. Sam and Sis. Esther Kraft.

A daughter, Melanie Marie, was also born to Lanette and Kevin Basil on April 3. Belatedly we wish to share in their joy. A son, Amos, welcomed her home. Grandparents are Bro. Ephraim and Sis. Dorthy Young. Sis. Lydia Young is the greatgrandmother.

Twin daughters were born to Merrill and Donna Smith on June 25. Rebecca Marie and Rachel Leah were the names chosen for the two bundles from heaven. A son, Jacob, welcomes them home. Grandparents are Bro. Joseph and Sis. Edna Somerhalder, and Mr. and Mrs. William Smith of Olpe. With thankful hearts these dear parents each have their responsibility to return these gifts from God, as they rear these little ones to love and serve Him as their Master.

Hospitalized was Sis. Wilma Young. We miss our loved ones when they are ill, as we have missed the assembling of our dear Sis. Ungela Strahm for quite some time now. We pray our merciful God will grant each one a measure of enduring comfort from bodily afflictions.

Our recent graduates were Paige Metzger, Senior; Philip Metzger, 8th grade; both sons of Bro. Eldon and Sis. Dorene Metzger. Trent Edelman also graduated from the 8th grade. He is the son of Bro. Albert and Sis. Jeanie Edelman.

KANSAS, KIOWA

Janice Bahr - Gay Lee Farney

May 22 was the date chosen for the marriage of Nelson Tucker, son of Sis. Marie and Dale Tucker, and Linda Tyree, daughter of Harry and Bernice Tyree (Alva, OK). Nelson and Linda are making their home in Kiowa. We ask God's blessing on this union.

This week, June 14-18, is our week for vacation Bible School. We have had a good turnout, averaging 35 children. We pray for the Lord's guidance for each of these young

souls.

May 30 was our Sunday to have services at the Rest Home. Our busy season around Kiowa, and the rest of Kansas, is about to begin. We are ready to harvest the beautiful wheat crop. Although, harvest has been delayed by recent heavy rains, we have faith that the Lord will provide.

Our only hospital patient this month has been Gay Farney. She wishes to thank everyone for their prayers and kindness during her hospital stay. God bless each of you.

KANSAS, SABETHA

Judy Hartter - Clara Steiner

Our visiting ministers this month were Bro. Leo Moser (Lester, IA), Bro. Art Nohl (Morris, MN) and Bro. Charles Sauder (Tremont, IL). We thank them for their visits and hope they will return again soon.

Hospitalized this past month were Sis. Verna Strahm, Sis. Lena Wenger, Sis. Julie Edelman, Sis. Mary Aberle and Bro. Joe Steiner.

Amanda Elizabeth was born May 21 to Sis. Beth and Jere Herold. She has a brother and two sisters to welcome her home.

We recently had our Sunday school election for the coming year. Selected were Bro. Rodney Edelman, Bro. Fred Aberle and Sis. Jan Mogler. Serving as substitutes will be Bro. Doug Grimm, Sis. Ruby Grimm and Sis. Sharlyn Huber.

Bro. Willard Bahr was re-elected to the Board of the Apostolic Christian Home.

Bro. Willis Garber, 95, passed away June 16. He is survived by a brother, Sylvan Garber, of St. Joseph, MO. Services were held Sat., June 19 and burial was in Sabetha Cemetery.

The family of David Brunner thanks everyone for all deeds of kindness shown to them through the illness and death of Bro. Dave. May God bless all.

KANSAS, WICHITA

Priscilla Frank

As I think of Fathers' Day and the many reasons I'm thankful to have a father, one reason stands out far above the rest. A reason that is supported and explained in these several verses. In Isaiah 38:19, "...

the father to the children shall make known thy truth," and in Deuteronomy 11:1-2, "Therefore thou shalt love the Lord thy God and keep his charge, his statutes and his judgements, and his commandments always. And know ye this day for I speak now with your children which have not known and which have not seen the chastisement of the Lord your God, his greatness, his mighty hand and his stretched out arms."

As children, we do not always know what you, as parents are experiencing or what trial of faith may be raging within. We are able however to witness your reaction to the situation and to see what example of faith you will leave behind. We're thankful for the examples of faith you as fathers have been to us, your children. For this reason above all else, we salute you, our fathers, on Father's Day.

May God guide your steps and may you too share your God and his truth with your children. I'd like to share a few words of wisdom that were handed down to me by my husband's grandfather a few days before he died. Little did I know that these would be his parting words to me. We'd been reading in James chapter one and as I finished the chapter he said, "Faith, Faith, it really is the key to life. The answer when there is no answer." These words come to me many times when the battle's raging. May they comfort you also as you stand fast in the Lord while rearing the precious charges he has placed in your care. Be the examples needed today. For children have the uncanny ability to copy the examples of those they respect—regardless if their example has been good or bad. May you too pass the heritage of faith to your children. God bless you.

We have had several happy occasions take place in our congregation this month and it just so happens to have happened in one family. This family has been doubly blessed as they gave their daughter's hand in marriage and their son and his wife were blessed with their first child. Jane Miller (Bro. Godfrey and Sis. Emma) was joined in marriage to Mark Carson (Mr. and Mrs. Robert Carson) on June 5. Then on June 15, Chris and

Deanna (Mr. and Mrs. Glen Corfman) were blessed with Denita Lee Miller. We pray God will bless both of these couples as they embark upon their new roles in life.

MICHIGAN, ALTO

Jane Graburg

Summer is here. The time has flown by so very swiftly. Many, many things have happened during the past month.

We congratulate Sam and Randi Oesch of Watford City, ND, on the birth of their daughter, Jessica Leigh. Bro. Joe and Sis. Melva Oesch are her grandparents.

We apologize to Fritz Byam (Doug and Marilyn Byam of Hickory Corners, MI) and Diane Wingeier (Stan and Elaine Wingeier of Saginaw, MI) for omitting their names in our list of graduates last month. May God grant both of you the grace and strength necessary to pursue your goals in life. You have our best wishes for a most successful future.

Sis. Brenda Patten was hospitalized a few months ago for surgery. Our prayers have been with her for a speedy recovery.

Bro. Tom and Sis. Joan Schrenk and their family have moved. We certainly do miss them; and, we just have to hope and pray that God will watch over them as they make their new home in Birmingham, AL.

Sis. Eloise Bocka has returned to her home in Mansfield, OH. We pray that all will be well with her this summer and as she furthers her education in the fall.

Michelle Steffen, daughter of Bro. Carl and Sis. Myrna, has decided to follow the path our Lord has laid down for her. We wish you many wonderful blessings, Michelle. Our love and prayers will always be with you.

Carol Graham, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Graham, and Chuck Schrenk, son of Bro. Tom and Sis. Joan Schrenk were united in marriage a few weeks ago. May God watch over this young couple as they begin their life together.

We offer our sympathy and our prayers to Sis. Ellen Oesch and her family, at the sudden passing of their father and husband, Bro. Ernie, whom we all loved so very much.

Visiting us at this time were Bro. Joe Waibel and Bro. Andrew Virkler, both of Bay City, MI. We thank these brothers for the special love and kindness they have shared with all of us.

MICHIGAN, BAY CITY

Linda Ramseyer

The Lord has blessed us during the past month when Bro. Ernest Graf (Akron, OH) came and spent a Wednesday evening ministering God's word to us. We thank Bro. Ernest for visiting our congregation.

Our prayers are with those who have been hospitalized during the past month. Sis. Louise Lambert was a medical and surgical patient, but has since been able to return home. Also, Sis. Lois Waibel has been a surgical patient and our thoughts are with her during this time.

On June 12, Vern Ramseyer and Roxane Rowland were united in marriage at Monticello, MN. Vern's parents are Bro. Earl and Sis. Mary Ramseyer. May the Lord bless them as they begin their life together.

MICHIGAN, DETROIT

Bonnie Popp

We are thankful for the labor of love in sharing God's word with us, as Bro. David Wiegand (Urbana, IL) visited with us.

MINNESOTA, MINNEAPOLIS

Deb Tilbury

Our congratulations go to Keith and Kevin Miller (sons of Bro. Don and Sis. Bernardine) who were graduated from high school this year. May God guide and bless them.

June 12 and 13 our Bible class and teachers traveled to Morris for the annual Youth Fellowship. We thank them for all the time and effort that they put forth to make it a success. It is so nice to renew old friendships and meet new people.

Mrs. Maxine Larson had surgery and is now recovering at home. We pray that if it is God's will, she will soon be assembling with us again.

We appreciate all those who worship with us when on vacation in Minn. or Wisc.

MINNESOTA, MORRIS**Rhonda Zeltwanger - Jan Schock**

If any life of mine may ease the burden of another, God give me love and care and strength to help my ailing brother. Prayers have gone out for Bro. Charlie Koehl, Bud Nohl, Don Luthi and for our loved ones Ruby Luthi and Esther Spohr as they spent time in the hospital. A guardian angel watched over little Kevin Joos (Bro. Harold and Sis. Deb) and spared his life in a farm accident.

Bro. Dave and Sis. Nancy Wulf became parents of their second daughter, Kara Rose. Bro. Leonard and Sis. Vi are her grandparents. Timothy James was born to Bro. Jim and Sis. Rowena Furrer. Two sisters and Bro. Glen and Sis. Eileen welcome him home too. Bro. Verle and Sis. Christa Sauder are excited parents of Heidi Ann. Virgil and Mildred are grandparents once again!

Our thanks and appreciation go to brothers Marvin Schmidgall, Kent Heimer and Leland Plattner for their visits and God-inspired messages. We hosted the annual Sunday school picnic here and want to especially thank Bro. Ken Dietz, Bro. Ken Lawson and all the Sunday school teachers for coming and sharing in a blessed weekend. Bro. Ken encouraged the youth to remember their God in everything they do.

MINNESOTA, WINTHROP**Carol Ann Messner
Mary Lou Schmidt**

Psalm 71. "By thee have I been holden up from the womb. Cast me not off in the time of old age: forsake me not when my strength faileth. I will go in the strength of the Lord. For thou art my rock and my fortress."

Elder Bro. Andrew Virkler and his wife traveled to Minnesota last weekend. Many blessings from the word and Christian fellowship were shared with us. We do thank them for remembering our small congregation.

We have had many hospital patients this past month. Joe Messner, son of Bro. Marlyn and Sis. Lois, had knee surgery. Bro. George Messner had a serious case of the

flu. Both are recovering quite nicely. Bro. Walter Messner and Bro. Ray Messner once again underwent tests.

"Children are an heritage of the Lord." Psalm 127:3. Bro. Dick and Sis. Mary Lou Schmidt have a precious new son, Benjamin James, born June 9. Darrin, Rachael, Corey and Clint welcome their new brother home. Paternal grand parents are Bro. Elmer and Sis. Hazel.

Bro. Mark Schmidt was chosen as superintendent of our Sunday school for the coming year.

Something happens when we pray,

Powers of evil lose their sway,
fear, despair and sin give way;
Therefore, let's pray!

Anon.

MISSOURI, KANSAS CITY**Janice Lehman**

For every house is builded by some man, but he that built all things is God. Hebrews 3:4.

The dedication Service for our new edifice was held on June 6. It was a day that will long be remembered as we enjoyed the many visitors who came to share the joy of dedicating another house of worship to our Almighty God.

Among the visiting ministers were Elder Bros. Ben Maibach, Eugene Marti, Ron Nelson, Raymond Banwart, Lester Hartter, Sam Anliker and Bros. Leland Plattner, Loren Strahm, Roy Wernli and Joe Aberle.

Other special visitors were Bro. Clarence and Sis. Geraldine Beyer and Bro. Paul and Sis. Irene Emch who were responsible for the planning and the beginning phases of building. Bro. Ron Kellenberger (Washington, IL) helped bring the building to completion after Bro. Clarence and Sis. Geraldine returned to their home in Phoenix, AZ.

We welcome Sis. Brenda Knobloch from Lester, IA who has sought employment in our area.

MISSOURI, LAMAR**Becky Hohulin - Sandra Marti**

" . . . This one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things

which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." (Philippians 3:13, 14)

What a joy fills our hearts when we hear that a dear soul has taken a step in faith, and desires to become one of God's precious children. We rejoice with Beverly Mayfield, who has turned to God in repentance, and our prayers are with her as she continues her walk of faith. Beverly's parents are Howard and Jane Mayfield.

God has entrusted the care and keeping of a new little son, David Joseph, to Bro. Ervin and Sis. Sandy Knecht. At home, to help keep this trust and care, are sisters, Michelle, Malinda and Denise, and brother Daniel. Grandparents are Bro. Fred and Sis. Emma Knecht and Morris and Opal Muberry. We know that little David will bring much joy to many lives.

A triple blessing came to us on Memorial Day as we were blessed with three visiting ministers. Bro. Mike Rinkenberger (Congerville), Bro. Tim Zimmerman (Gridley, KS) and Bro. Bill Emch (Lamont) all shared timely teachings with us. May God reward them for their labor of love.

We offer our best wishes for the marriage of Mary Jo Searles and Kurt Marti. Mary Jo is the daughter of Jess and Clara Belle Searles and Kurt is the son of Bro. Charles and Sis. Alice Marti. May God bless them and guide them as they start their new home together.

MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS**Becky Gudeman**

We want to thank brothers Gene Bertschi and Bruce Leman and their wives, sisters Dorothy and Marjorie for traveling the distance from Roanoke to bring us the inspired Word of God. Bro. Roy Grimm and his wife Sis. Donna, also spent a Sunday with us. We are so thankful for these blessings and we trust the Lord for His guidance concerning our services here in St. Louis.

Moving away from an established congregation certainly has its disadvantages. Yet, in starting these services it has been a real privilege to meet others in the area who desire to worship with us, and to meet

those traveling from a distance to be with us. ". . . For I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content." Phil. 4:11.

We encourage any in the area to contact us at 314-275-2227. Services are held the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month at the Ben Franklin Motor Hotel, 4645 N. Lindbergh Blvd.

MISSOURI, TAYLOR

Loida Hodel

We enjoyed the annual Sunday School picnic and the song program presented by our children on June 6. "Thank-you" to the teachers and students, young and old, and may God richly bless each one who had a part.

"Not flesh of my flesh, Nor bone of my bone, But still miraculously my own. Never forget for a single minute, you didn't grow under my heart, but in it!"—"A Mother"—We are so happy for Bob and Paula Heimer who have adopted a dear little four month old boy, "Adrian Lee". Bro. Rod and Sis. Naomi Moser (Wapello, IA) and the Robert Whistons (Palmyra, MO) are grandparents. May they enjoy their little "Heritage of the Lord" and trust in His help and guidance with this important responsibility.

Congratulations and God's blessings to first time parents, Dave and Sis. Marijane Foote (Clayton, IL) on the arrival of "Jennifer Mari" on June 14. Grandparents are Edward and Doris Miller (Tremont, IL) and Lester and Connie Foote (Pekin, IL).

Ginger Moser (Jim) is recuperating at home following a short hospital (medical) stay. We are always grateful to God for His healing powers, especially when a mother is so needed in the home.

Our thanks to visiting ministers Bros. Carl Weiss (Washington) and Vernon Schwab (Wolcott, IN). We appreciate hearing the Holy Word taught in different ways but basically the "same old story."

God Bless America

"America the Beautiful" —
May it always stay that way —
But to keep "Old Glory" flying
There's a price that we must pay...
For everything worth having

Demands work and sacrifice,
And freedom is a gift from God
That commands the highest price...
For all our wealth and progress
Are worthless as can be
Without the faith that made us great
And kept our country free...

May we remember to thank God for this gift as we commemorate July 4.

NEW JERSEY, UNION CITY

Ed Aeschleman

Sometimes small congregations like ours have little or no news to report. However we feel it is important to have our church represented in "The Silver Lining" every month so that brethren everywhere know that the church doors at Union City are still open, as they have been since the 1890's when our humble sanctuary was built. The Good News of our Lord goes forth from the pulpit each Sunday for all those who are inclined to come and hear. May God add His blessing and allow the work to continue.

NEW YORK, CROGHAN

Alice Virkler

O may we all united stand
By holy tie and sacred band,
As members of Christ's body here,
Led by Thy Spirit true, sincere,
With one accord.

Zion's Harp, Hymn No. 200

The words of this beautiful hymn were sung together on Sunday evening, June 13, when we were privileged to assemble together in the Naumburg Church to partake of Holy Communion. How fortunate and blessed we are when we are reminded of the Lord's love and suffering for each of us. May this holy act renew our love of God and His Son, and may we go forth with new strength and grace throughout the coming days. We want to thank Elder Bro. John Bahler for being with us on this occasion and for serving with our Elder Bros. Robert Beyer and Norbert Steiner once again. During the day we assembled together at the Croghan Church for services. We thank Bro. Dan Stoller for being with us to share God's teachings.

On Wednesday evening, June 9, Bro. Vernon Wettstein and his family from Congerville were with us in the Naumburg Church. We are thankful that God's word still goes forth in its truth and purity and brothers are given the words to speak unto us in this latter day and time. May many turn their hearts to Him while yet there is time.

Mark Hitchcock and Leah Farney exchanged wedding vows on May 29. Their parents are Clint and Doris Hitchcock of Lowville and Bro. Don and Sis. Alice Farney. Mark and Leah will be living in Syracuse where they will be employed in the nursing field. May they look to God for their strength and guidance as they begin their life together.

Our hospital patients this month were Bro. Ted Virkler and Gloria Virkler in Lowville, and Bro. Clyde Virkler in Watertown. Bro. Clyde was a surgical patient having surgery on his feet.

High school graduates this month were Mark Widrick, son of Gilbert and Betty, and Ed Farney, son of Bro. Don and Sis. Alice.

Sis. Pam Herzig was called Home from this life of pain and suffering early in the morning of June 12, at the age of 26 years. For many of these years Sis. Pam was unable to go in and out as she would have liked to go, but throughout all of her discomforts her light always shone brightly to everyone about her. She was able to work with her hands and many times would give gifts of love to cheer those who were sick or to welcome new babies into our young families. She also was given the talent of letter writing, and as was mentioned in the funeral service, she wrote many letters to comfort and cheer loved ones who were sick and hospitalized even when her discomforts were much more than those to whom she was writing. Her love and kindness shown to all will never be forgotten and we are so thankful that Our Lord in His wonderful love and mercy has taken her to her reward where she can again enjoy perfect health and be with Him forever. Our deepest sympathy is extended to her parents, Bradley and Sis. Regina, her sister, Gwen Lehman, her brother, Brad, Jr., her niece and nephew, and her grandparents, Bro. Art and Sis. Betty

Herzig, and Bro. Ted and Sis. Amelia Belle Virkler. Her funeral was held on Monday, June 14, by Bros. John Widrick and Norbert Steiner.

The following poem was read at Sis. Pam's services and gives us a little insight into her life and thoughts.

'Tis Sure

'Tis sure I'll never travel far
Within this life I know;
The miles might be so very few
That I shall ever go.
My world's a very little place,
And yet, I've seen it all;
My heart has roamed the country-
side
Through summer, spring and fall.

Mine is an ever lovely world,
Perhaps you never see;
Because it is so small a place
Each joy entrances me.
I live in love and rich content
With beauties, rare and pure;
And if the miles I go are few,
The joys are vast — 'tis sure.

By Garnett Ann Schultz

NEW YORK, NAUMBURG

Rachel Snyder

Elder Bros. Robert Beyer and Norbert Steiner were at Rockville on June 6 so the Croghan congregation assembled with us for the day.

On Wednesday evening Bro. Vernon Wettstein was with us and proclaimed the Word to us. We thank him and may he come again.

Elder Bro. John Bahler was with us on Jun. 13 and helped our elders serve us communion. Bro. Dan Stoller also was with Bro. John. We thank them very much for coming.

OHIO, AKRON

Joyce Gasser

"I will bless the Lord at all times: his praise shall continually be in my mouth." Ps. 34:1. We ought to be talking of God, as He says in Ps. 71:24: "My tongue also shall talk of thy righteousness all the day long" and three times He says: "... talk of all his wondrous works" (I Chr. 16:9; Ps. 105:2; Ps. 119:27); and "... talk of thy doings" (Ps. 77:12); and also to "... talk of thy power" in Ps. 145:11.

We appreciated separate

weekend visits from Bro. Art and Sis. Suzanne Ringger (Indianapolis) and from Bro. Merrill and Sis. Martha Laukhuf (Latty). The messages of both Bro. Art and Bro. Merrill were most inspiring.

We are sorry that Sis. Barbara Graf and Sis. Bonnie Bako both underwent surgery and pray for them to gain strength speedily.

OHIO, COLUMBUS

Andy Hunyady

"Give unto the Lord the glory due his name; worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness."

Psalm 29:2

We thank Bro. Delbert Indermuhle (Sardis) for ministering God's word to us on Sunday, May 23. A brief, but blessed, fellowship followed with loved ones from Sardis and Rittman. It was our last meeting in the Holiday Inn.

On Sunday, Jun. 13, we held our services at our new location — the Seventh Day Adventist School. A very quiet place that lends a more appropriate mood for worship and meditation. We all felt the presence of the Lord in the spirit.

One year old Justine Bell, son of Wes and Sis. Ann Bell (Milford, IN) underwent serious head surgery on May 19 at the Columbus Children's Hospital. We are grateful to God for the skill of the surgeons and the miracle of healing by our Great Physician. He is doing well and went home with his parents on May 28.

We miss our Ohio State Univ. students who have gone home for a well deserved summer vacation; Bro. Stanley Sauder and Sis. Judy (Mansfield), Carlton Schlatter (Junction), and Malinda Matuch (Mansfield).

We are now meeting at the Seventh Day Adventist School, 860 Griswold Street, Worthington, Ohio. (North Cols.), located about ¾ mile west of I-71 and a short distance north of State Route 161, (Dublin-Granville Rd.) (A white S. D. A. Church sign is on the corner of 161 and Griswold.)

OHIO, GIRARD

Karen Laparo

"The two great prizes of human life are fellowship with God and in

Him fellowship with one another."

Charles H. Brent

Visiting ministers this month have been: Bro. Ernest Graf (Akron), Bro. Ken Indermuhle (Sardis) and Bro. Ray Sinn (Latty). Visiting song leaders have been: Bro. John Schambach (Akron), Bro. Dale Hartzler (Rittman), Bro. Walt Beery (Rittman), Bro. Ben Blough (Rittman), Bro. Leon Graf (Akron), Bro. Vincent Hartzler (Rittman), Bro. Dave Steiner (Rittman), Bro. Joe Rufener (Rittman) and Bro. Earl Beery (Rittman). May God richly bless them for the blessings they have brought to us.

OHIO, JUNCTION

Les Manz

Words of encouragement to stay on the straight and narrow way came to us from our visiting ministers, Bros. Earl Gerber (Forrest), Gary Maibach (Rittman), Eugene Fetter (Toledo), and Charles Sinn (Ft. Scott).

June was welcome home month for Phil Schlatter (Sis. Esther) who is back in the States for his final year of duty in the Air Force. Phil had been in Europe for a couple of years, most recently in Germany. We also welcomed Maburn and Sis. Julia Hale home to the Junction Church for a few weeks this month. They have now returned to their home in Central Florida.

Hospitalized this month were Sis. Mary Manz and Barb and Peggy Manz (Bro. Eli and Sis. Evelyn). I am sure all of our loved ones appreciate it when we remember them with cards and prayers when they are not feeling well.

This farming season, it seems we have had almost more than adequate rain to date. The rain has made our crops grow but has also brought, at least what seems to me, more weeds than normal. I guess we should not be surprised that we have to fight weeds, for God told our first parents in Genesis 3:18 that we would always fight weeds. In a recent sermon, we were reminded that as we continually work at cultivating our fields to keep out weeds, so we must continually "cultivate" our minds to keep out evil thoughts, "planting" thoughts which are wholesome for our souls and "weeding out" evil thoughts.

OHIO, LATTY
Patty Riggerbach
Cheryl Wenniger

During the month of July our country celebrates its independence and freedoms. Our appreciation for our country is expressed in the following poem:

America

America means more to me
 Than woodlands green and fertile
 plain,
 Or field on field of ripened grain.
 America means this to me:
 It means religious liberty.

America — O land so blest!
 I love thy snow-capped mountains
 high!
 I love thy blue, ethereal sky.
 For this I'm grateful unto thee —
 Thy free-born citizen to be.

America means this to me:
 Here I, my children, safely live.
 May I receive, and nothing give?
 Except what God demands of me
 I give my faithfulness to thee.
 America! thy name I love.
 A people mixed from foreign strand,
 Find peaceful refuge in this land.
 May God preserve thy liberty,
 And let His peace rule over thee!
 Henry Beer

May we always be thankful for the privilege we have of living in a country that gives us the opportunity to worship our God as directed in God's Holy Word.

Bro. Bill Eisenmann (Bro. Lee and Sis. Mary) has completed his course of study in accounting and has graduated from Indiana-Purdue University. Sis. Patty Riggerbach (Harlan and Sis. Dolores) has also graduated from The Defiance College with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Dental Hygiene Education. May God ever use them in their careers as lights to those around them.

We are thankful for God's continued healing grace to our loved ones as some have met with accident or have been hospitalized. They are Bro. Ulrich Kipfer (Sis. Frieda), Sis. Maria Hefner, Bro. Roy Rager (Sis. June), Gene Baughman (Mary Ann), Bro. Dwain Laukhuf (Sis. Waunita), and Valerie Laukhuf (Bro. Ken and

Sis. Marge).

Bro. Todd and Sis. Pam Stoller are the happy parents of a new baby boy, Ryan Russell. He is welcomed by Heidi, and grandparents Bro. Russell and Sis. Melvane Stoller (Latty) and Sis. Mary Ellen Gerber. (Rittman).

On June 18 we held our annual Bible School Program. The children sang songs and recited verses about what they had learned during the week. May the seed that has been planted in these young hearts flourish and grow that the children may recognize their need for a Savior and someday surrender their all unto Him.

OHIO, MANSFIELD
Lucille Groh

THEN SHALT THOU CALL,
 AND THE LORD SHALL ANSWER;
 THOU SHALT CRY AND HE SHALL SAY HERE I AM. (ISA 58:9)

How wonderful to know that as often as we call on the Lord, He will hear our prayer. Our new Bro. Hank Armstrong and new Sis. Katherine Armstrong testified on May 22-23 of their great need for a Saviour and of the love and mercy He granted them. Sis. Katherine said the first time she was introduced to the Apostolic Christian Church was as a visitor in Michigan. She felt a blessed feeling come over her and she knew for a fact that this was the faith she was looking for. She again received this same beautiful feeling when she received her peace. How thankful we all are that they could make this beautiful experience and are now numbered in the family of God. Bro. Hank was not able to be baptized in the church, but received the same faith and love through sprinkling at the hospital. We welcome them as our new brother and sister in the Lord.

Bro. Rudy Graf and Bro. Joe Ram-sier were here for that blessed weekend. Other visiting ministers who served us this past month were Bro. Harold Kraft (Ft. Scott), who served on May 20. During the week of June 7-11, Bro. Larry Wenninger (Latty), Bro. Paul Gasser (Akron), Bro. Ben Hartzler (Rittman), Bro. Ben Manz (Junction) and Bro. Bill

Gerst, (Alto) were with us for Vacation Bible School. With us on June 13 was Bro. Charles Sinn (Ft. Scott). We all want to thank them for their labors of love. The Lord granted us a beautiful week of spiritual blessings.

Our 1982 Senior graduates are: Judy Beer (Bro. Joe and Sis. Sue), Mark Matuck (Jerry and Helen) Tami Oesch (Sis. Katherine) Vicki Sauder (Bro. Dick and Sis. Carolyn) and Kevin Washington (Bro. Barney and Sis. Beverly). College graduates are Betsy Oesch and Mary Oesch (Sis. Katherine). We wish them all God's leading in all that they do.

Jerry and Helen Matuck recently announced the engagement of their daughter, Melissa, to Dudley Sulzener, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Sulzener. Their wedding date has been set for October 9, 1982.

Loving prayers are being said on behalf of loved ones who have been hospitalized this past month: Bro. Ora Sauder, Bro. Kenneth Sauder, Bro. Martin Kleshinski and Bro. Jesse Beer. Bro. Robert Beer is still confined to his home as well as Sis. Millie Matthes and Sis. Barbara Bricker, who are residents of nursing homes. So often we think of them and let's visit them occasionally.

OHIO, RITTMAN
Janette Blough
Florence Hartzler

"Blest be the tie that binds, our hearts in Christian Love. . .", the love of God felt in two hearts, was reflected in the faces of Bro. Tom Hartzler and Sis. Diane Stoller as they were united as one, May 2, in Latty. May Sis. Diane feel the love here in Rittman as she felt in Latty, and may the Lord bless their life together.

"Holy love, bright flame from heaven, only to pure hearts revealed. . .", this love was shown to two dear ones who have recently announced their engagement, and we extend our good wishes to Bro. Tom Jenkins and Sis. Debra Steiner, as they make their plans for their future together. The parents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Betty Steiner and Don and Clara Jenkins.

"Baptized into Thy name most holy. . . I claim a place, though weak and lowly among Thy seed, Thy

chosen host. . .," we were privileged to hear the testimonies of three dear ones, and then to witness their baptisms the following day. We welcome into our brotherhood Sis. Kim Blough, Sis. Sherri Zollinger, and Sis. Rose Hilty. We thank Bro. Bill Brake (Sardis) for his love shown on that day, as he brought us the Word through the spirit of God. We also rejoice that another dear soul has found the grace to repent, and is seeking peace from God, and that is Norman Beery, husband of Sis. Audrey, and son of Ted and Sis. Rhea. May he find this peace that passeth all understanding, and the world knows not of.

Needing hospital care this past month were Bro. Will Rigggenbach and Sis. Minnie Hartzler, and Bro. Jesse Beer from the Home. Many others of our loved ones have been ill, and can't come and go as we. Hymn 36, Zion's Harp comes to mind: "As the sultry days of summer swiftly ripen earthly grain, So in days of dire affliction Shall our faith its growth attain. And beneath this heat and burden Shall the Christian be prepared For his happy home in heaven, Where God's bliss and joy is shared. Soon, perhaps you too may enter Where the golden harps resound; Where the saints the palms are bearing And the faithful ones are crowned; Therefore, cling to Christ your Savior; Daily wrestle, hope, and fight; With Him pierce through all the darkness Into His eternal light."

The Lord has blessed many homes with new babies. First time parents are Bro. Neil and Sis. Donna Gasser with the birth of a son, Adam Ray. The grandparents are Bro. Don and Sis. Martha Walder and the late Bro. Robert and Sis. Elda Gasser. A little girl, their first child, was born to Bro. Ken and Sis. Becky Zollinger and is named Laura Rebecca. The grandparents are Bro. John and Sis. Marjorie Zollinger and Bro. Eli and Sis. Evelyn Manz (Paulding). Little Matthew Phillip was welcomed at the home of Bro. Roger and Sis. Sue Saurer. Glad for a little brother are Todd, Timothy, and Andrew. The grandparents are Bro. Harry and Sis. Esther Saurer and Bro. Walter and Sis. Freda Rehklau (Toledo). Mike and Tina Ramsier are the

parents of a new son named Dustin Paul. One brother, Logan, is glad for a playmate. The grandparents are Bro. Jim and Sis. Dorothy Ramsier and Paul and Faye Beegle (West Salem). Joseph Gary is the name given to the new son of Bro. Gary and Sis. Terry Zollinger. Ben and Bridget are glad for a brother. The grandparents are Bro. Charles and Sis. Lillian Zollinger. A fourth son was born to Bro. Matt and Sis. Gail Steiner and is named Aaron Ezra. His brothers are Nathan, Joel, and Luke, and the grandparents are Bro. Alvin and Sis. Eldora Steiner and Sis. Doris Gasser and the late Bro. Bill. A son, their first, was born to Jean and Barry Smithberger and is named David Alan. He has two sisters, Carrie and Patricia, to help take care of him. The grandparents are Ken and Lillian Rupp. May all these families feel the help of the Lord as they raise these precious little souls, that in the proper time, they may know the Lord.

Sis. Eva VanNostran has moved into the Home Apartment, and we pray the Lord will bless her in her new home.

OHIO, TOLEDO
Josephine Rehklau

Let us place ourselves in God's
 loving care

By starting the day with a
 morning prayer,

And when night falls and the
 world is still

Let us meditate on His Holy Will!
 Helen Steiner Rice

We extend our sympathy to the family of Thomas Kipfer. He departed this life June 4. Surviving are his wife, Sis. Janet; daughters, Michele and Heidi; his mother, Sis. Gladys; and brothers and sisters. Bro. Orville Ringger was with us for the services.

Ryan, Kevin and Nicholas Sancier (Sis. **Connie and David**) were in the hospital for a tonsillectomy. We wish them a good recovery.

OREGON, PORTLAND
Barbara Moser

A son honoureth his father . . . if then I be a father, where is my honour? (Mal. 1:6)

It is not surprising that there are many more references in the Word of God to "father" than there are to "mothers" when one takes into account how important it is for an individual to understand the Heavenly Father. It is impossible for one to comprehend the "Father image" of God without experiencing an earthly father.

There are some who may disagree as to which one is the more influential in the life of a child to his immediate goals in daily living. Generally speaking, the father is the one who establishes the long-range ambitions, those ideals for which to strive in order to become a success in life.

"It is extremely difficult for a person to establish right relationships with the Heavenly Father without having first established healthy and loving relationships with his earthly father. How does one experience God as Father if he has never known a father's love, concern, support, protection, sharing and understanding, discipline, wisdom or even his firm warm hand?

"A child deems what is important to his father as being paramount to him. As God's child one wants to please Him because He knows it pleases Him. What is important to God is significant to His child.

"Father knows best" is an old maxim, but sometimes the child must experience his own choice in order to appreciate more the wisdom of his father. The Heavenly Father allows His children to do their own bidding in order to more fully appreciate God's will.

"Fathers many times think they are needed only for special favors desired by the son or daughter. The Father in heaven is noted for granting special favors to His own.

"A child revels in his times of fun and fellowship with his father. How it thrills the child of God to have those moments of sweet communion with his Father above.

"A father labors day after day to be a provider for his family. One of God's attributes is that of being The Provider of all our needs.

"The father takes time to hear and understand the difficulties of his child. Father God knows all about our troubles. He hears, He un-

derstands and promises to lighten our burdens.

"It is not therefore a responsibility, a challenge of utmost importance for a father to be really a "father" to his children? The father who knows God the Father will be the most complete father, the most honored father. He cannot risk being less."

By Marie Taylor
(Streams in the Desert)

Jim Steffen (Bro. Garth and Sis. Connie) has left for Fort Bliss, TX to take basic training in the Army National Guard. We pray that God will be by his side and keep him in His tender care.

We are eagerly awaiting any dear ones who wish to spend a few days or a week out here in the Portland area. If anyone needs to be picked up at the airport, please give either Bro. Bob Miller (503-771-7834) or Bro. Garth Steffen (503-761-4531) a call and they will be willing to come and pick you up.

Our graduate this year is Sis. Cynthia Miller (Bro. Bob and Sis. Pearl Miller) from the school of Nursing. We wish her God's richest blessings in the future.

OREGON, SILVERTON

Rosa Lee Kuenzi

SUMMERTIME. The word means so many different things to each of us. Little children rejoice at the thought of no school. Mothers can't help thinking about the extra work of summer's dust, gardening, canning, taking meals to the field or feeding tired dirty men at odd hours of the day, or night. The men know that long hours of labor are ahead of them, with the worry of the weather's effect on the crops. But, even so, isn't there a little of the child in all of us that looks forward to the sunshine, the picnics and potlucks, the company coming to visit, the joy of seeing the garden coming up or the fruit shelves fill with neat rows of jars of fruits and vegetables or watching the breeze rustling through the lush green fields of corn? There's no question, summer is a busy time, and a hard working time of year, but we have so much to be thankful for and we will have even more to be thankful for at the summer's end if we do not

let our busy schedules crowd out time for the important things of life that are so aptly mentioned in our Hymns of Zion, Song No. 112, "Take Time To Be Holy".

Take time to be holy, Speak oft with thy Lord; Abide in Him always, And feed on His Word; Make friends of God's children; Help those who are weak; Forgetting in nothing His blessing to seek.

A dozen or so families gathered at the Silverton City Park early Memorial Day morning for a breakfast cook-out. Scrambled eggs, hash browns, bacon, toast, coffee cake and fresh fruit made up our menu. There's something about the open air that encourages hearty appetites.

On Memorial Day afternoon a potluck chicken bar-b-que was held at the home of Bob and Linda Kuenzi. Many were there to enjoy the supper, the fellowship and singing in the evening.

Sunday, June 13, was our dear older Sis. Margret Wanner's birthday. She has reached her mid-eighties and is so often an inspiration to us all. She had a full day, starting when a few brothers and sisters met at her house before church to sing a few songs for her. She was in church all day, as she usually is, and received many well wishes and cards. In the evening a singing was held at the home of ministering brother Ed and Sis. Judie Knecht for "Aunt" Margaret, as we all affectionately call her. Both Silverton and Portland congregations were invited and several other birthdays were also mentioned. Birthday cake and ice cream were served to around 70 people. Our dear older brothers and sisters mean so much to us, may they be ever near to the Lord.

We want to thank Bro. Robert Miller (Portland) for ministering to us one Sunday this month and we also want to mention that we have enjoyed the fellowship of our visitors from Lester, IA, Phoenix, AZ, Bloomington, IL, Fairbury, IL and Altadena CA.

Sis. Margret Wanner was called to her eternal rest with her Lord and Saviour on June 19.

The annual dues collection for the Silver Lining is being taken up during the month of July.

PENNSYLVANIA, PHILADELPHIA

DEVAULT

Delores Rapp

Communion services and reading of the memorandum were held May 9. Elder Bro. Corbin Bahler of Rockville and Elder Bro. Nate Steffen of Elgin lent themselves for this beautiful service in God's honor. The brothers were accompanied by their wives. Bro. Nate's son, Phillip, and his wife, Deborah, of Clarendon, VA, also joined us. Following the services a church dinner was enjoyed by all.

Sermon . . .

(Continued from Page 28)

the things that please the flesh, that satisfy the carnal nature. We see a person born of the Spirit who desires to please God and is humbled when he cannot please the Lord as often and as well as he wishes.

We have all been born of the flesh, and if we are born according to the flesh, we shall also then die according to the flesh. But, if we are born again according to the Spirit, then death in this life is just a passing on to be present with the Lord.

If we have only been born once, we will then face two deaths: first, the death of this body, a departing out of this life; second, an eternal death, an eternal separation from God, and existence where the Lord Jesus said that the ". . . worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched." Mark 9:44.

Beloved ones, if every word spoken in this Word of God is going to come to fulfillment, what manner of men ought we to be? We should flee for refuge and safety before the night comes when man can work no more!

We read together that there will be no warning. We know that some have predicted definite days for the coming of the Lord, and that people have sold everything that they had and then waited for Him to come. Certain sects have prophesied, but the days came and went and they

had to revise their prophesies. Not so with the Word of God, beloved ones.

We read here, "For as the lightning, that lighteneth out of the one part under heaven, shineth unto the other part under heaven; so shall also the Son of man be in his day." Luke 17:24.

Haven't we, on a summer night, looked out and seen the lightning light up the fence posts, the fields, and the trees? All of a sudden it was as light as if it were daylight. Then in an instant, we were again in the darkness. That is the way that lightning lightens up the whole sky and then is gone. Will there be time then to seek the Lord, beloved ones? No.

We read that the five foolish virgins, who saw that their lamps were going out and went to buy oil, came back and found that the door was shut. But God is so good to us. He wants everyone to find salvation today. He wants to make it known that all are welcome to come to the Saviour. Whether we are big sinners or little sinners in the eyes of man means nothing. All have sinned and come short of the glory of God.

There has been a price paid for your sins and mine. It was paid when the Lord Jesus hung upon the cross of Calvary. Not one of us can say, "We have to pay," or, "We do not have the means to buy." The price has already been paid. We must humble ourselves under the almighty hand of God to find kinship with our Lord Jesus. Then we will understand the words which we sing, "Jesus paid it all; all to Him we owe."

In this life it often happens that there is a birthday party and some are left out. Those who were not invited feel bad; maybe their best friends were invited, and they weren't. Perhaps there is a dinner and only a select group are on the invitation list. Others are left out. Beloved ones, it is not so with the heavenly kingdom. In the heavenly feast, all are invited. The Word reveals that whosoever will, may come. "Whosoever will" includes everyone.

Satan might say, "The Lord isn't interested in you. You've sinned too much. You've hardened your heart too much. The Lord doesn't care for

you. He is just interested in those who have turned to Him." That is not the truth.

The Lord Jesus Himself told about a man who had 100 sheep. When only 99 were safe in the fold, he sought the one sheep that went astray. He was happy when he found it, and carried it in his arms to the fold.

That is what the Lord Jesus desires today, beloved ones. He is out seeking and He is out searching for the lost sheep that has gone astray. We do not seek the Lord, beloved ones; He seeks us so that we might in turn seek Him.

We are to respond when He seeks us. We read in the Scripture that when the Lord calls, we should say, "Here I am." The Lord says that if we do not answer His call, there will come a time when we will call and He will not answer.

Do you see the responsibility that we have to listen to the Word of God, to know the Word of God, to know what God wants in our lives, and to yield ourselves to the Lord?

It is not as hard as Satan makes it seem, if we are only willing. Satan paints a black picture. He does not let us see the joy within the heart, the peace with God, the freedom from condemnation, the freedom from the fear of leaving this life unprepared. Oh, what a great burden it is to bear by yourself. Jesus has borne this for you already if you will only turn to Him.

Whatever the circumstances are, God will make a way. Whatever the opposition might be, God will make a way for every upright heart that desires to seek the Lord in Spirit and Truth.

The Lord Jesus spoke of His suffering: "But first must he suffer many things, and be rejected of this generation." Luke 17:25.

He continued: "And as it was in the days of Noe, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man. They did eat, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, and the flood came, and destroyed them all." Luke 17:26,27.

Beloved ones, the Lord Jesus spoke of Noah. Noah was not just a myth. Noah was a real man, a man who feared God and found grace in

His sight. God told Noah to build an ark. So Noah built an ark and he built it on dry land. He looked rather foolish. I imagine the neighbors thought that maybe he was "touched in the head," building an ark on dry land. Such a big ark, too, more than he could ever need. But God told him how to build and gave him the blueprint. Noah did not question God; he just built as God told him to build.

Neither should we question God about the blueprint and the plan of salvation. Why did sin come in the first place? Why do we have to repent? Why do we have to be redeemed? Beloved ones, God made the blueprint. Can the clay say to the potter, "Why?" No. We must be willing, then, as the Lord lays the blueprint out before us, to have the faith to work as Noah did. Noah not only believed God, but he put his hand to the hammer and to the saw, and went to work to build the ark. It was then a place of refuge. Our faith will be a place of refuge when the Lord comes as lightning that shines from the east and the west.

"You must give up so much," the world says. "How can you live for the Lord and leave so many joys behind?"

I believe, dear ones, that Noah felt and heard the same mockery from those who stood without. But when the rains came down, the waters came up from the deep, the floods came, the small hills were covered, and then the larger hills were covered, Noah's faith did not look so foolish after all.

We are building, beloved ones, for the time when the Lord comes. When our earthly tabernacle is dissolved, will we have a building not made with hands, eternal in the heavens? Or, will we be as those in Noah's day who stood outside the door knocking only to find that God had shut the door?

"Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded." Luke 17:28. In other words, it was business as usual. People continued on as they always had, and they really weren't too concerned for tomorrow.

Today our president gathers many people together to consider

what is wrong with the economy, and still men's hearts fail them for fear of what is going to come. Beloved ones, we who have our faith anchored in the Lord, come what will, should not fear or be discouraged, but know that the Lord will provide. Those who have no hope in God, fear when their financial security crumbles into the dust and comes to nought. This is a time of perplexity and yet people are buying and selling rather than drawing close to God.

"But the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed them all. Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed." Luke 17:29 and 30.

We who belong to God have His promise that He will take His own from this world before the Lord Jesus allows the pouring out of the wrath of God upon the world because of sin. Jesus will take us to be with Him in the air.

"For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord." I Thes. 4:16,17.

What a wonderful thing! It might be sooner than we realize. To meet loved ones we have laid to rest, to meet them not in the old body that is decayed and waxed old but in a new glorified body, will be thrilling.

After Lot was brought out of Sodom by the angel, fire came down and destroyed that wicked city. So it shall be in the time of the great tribulation that will be centered in the Holy Land. The Jewish nation will be tried as a crucible in the fire, and only a certain remnant will survive.

Jesus said that ". . . Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled." Luke 21:24.

How near are we to the "time of the Gentiles" being fulfilled? We see the Jew back in his own country, in Jerusalem, and yet there is no temple where Solomon built his temple, where Jeshua and Zerubbabel built it later on. Now there is a Moham-

edan mosque there.

Beloved ones, we do not know if this must be fulfilled before the Lord comes. I don't really think so myself. I think the temple will be built again in the time of the great tribulation, because we can read that the Anti-Christ will come into the temple saying that he is God. But I don't believe that it has to be built again before this "lightning" will flash from the east and from the west. Then we will all be changed and taken out of this world of trouble and sorrow. But, what will happen to you dear friends, who neglect your soul's salvation?

"In that day, he which shall be upon the housetop, and his stuff in the house, let him not come down to take it away: and he that is in the field, let him likewise not return back. Remember Lot's wife." Luke 17:31,32.

We know that Lot's wife looked back and turned into a pillar of salt. We are told that the houses in the Near East had flat roofs, and that people would often go up on the housetops. One stairway from the roof led down into the house, and another stairway on the outside led down into the fields and courtyard. The Lord is telling us that it is so urgent to escape the wrath to come that we should not go down into our houses to seek anything precious to take with us. We should flee on the outside stairways before destruction comes and all is burned up.

The Lord speaks to us today as He did to others long ago when He said, "Whosoever shall seek to save his life shall lose it; and whosoever shall lose his life shall preserve it." Luke 17:33.

If we serve our own will and own desires, we are going to lose our lives; but, if we are willing to subjugate our lives to His will, the same shall save it.

Jesus spoke of the separation of the saved from the lost when He said, "I tell you, in that night there shall be two men in one bed; the one shall be taken, and the other shall be left. Two women shall be grinding together; the one shall be taken, and the other left. Two men shall be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left." Luke 17:34, 35, 36.

We might ask how some can be in bed, some can be in the fields, and

some can be grinding at the mill at the same time if the coming of the Lord is in the twinkling of an eye. Beloved ones, the coming of the Lord will be world-wide. For some it will be night and they will be in bed; for others it will be daytime and they will be working in the fields or grinding at the mill. When the Lord comes there will be a separation instantly for all those who are ready from those who are not. In this life we mingle together one with another, but after that time the separation will be sealed forever. There will be no more time for reconciliation with God. There will be no more time to repent and turn to the Lord. Dear ones, it is now that the Lord is giving us an opportunity to be reconciled to Him.

We will be tried by fire, so to speak. What will abide the fire, beloved ones? The gold. Gold is a precious metal that becomes more pure in the fire. It is not burned up. Those who become as golden treasure to the Lord are those with humble spirits and contrite hearts. On the day of judgment the earth will burn with unquenchable fire. Who will abide, and pass through the fire? Those who are redeemed. Those who have been reconciled to the Lord Jesus.

On the way to church this morning, we saw a barn burning. It was completely destroyed. It had stood there for possibly a generation, perhaps longer. Someone had built it, and many people had worked therein; but the time came when it burned to the ground completely. Nothing was left but ashes. It would be the same with your life and mine outside of Christ.

Let us obtain that true treasure, the gold that can stand the test of time and the fiery trials of judgment, so that when this life is over, it will be as we sing:

"Let others seek home below,
Which flames devour and waves
o'erflow;

Be mine a happier lot to own—
A heavenly mansion near the
throne."

This is God's wish for everyone who has heard the Word in this morning hour.

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

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SERMON BY ELDER BRO. NATHAN STEFFEN OF ELGIN, IL

Text: Isaiah 45 and St. Luke 17:20-37

We have an interesting portion of old covenant Scripture before us in this chapter from Isaiah. Possibly 100 or 200 years before the birth of Cyrus, Isaiah spoke of him, the king, ". . . whose right hand I have holden, to subdue nations before him." "I, the Lord, which call thee by thy name, am the God of Israel. . . I have surnamed thee, though thou hast not known me." Isa. 45:1,3,4.

We know, beloved ones, that Isaiah prophesied during the times of many kings, one being Hezekiah. Possibly 100 years after Isaiah died, Israel was taken captive by Nebuchadnezzar, the king of Babylon. The Israelites were brought to Babylon for 70 years. It wasn't until after the Babylonian kingdom was destroyed when the Medes and the Persians took over, that King Cyrus reigned. Some of the Israelites were in his court, Daniel for example.

It was by the commandment of Cyrus that Zerubbabel and Jeshua and their brethren rebuilt the temple in Jerusalem. This had been prophesied many, many years earlier. Isaiah prophesied it and had named Cyrus by name as we read today. God had chosen Cyrus to rebuild the temple at Jerusalem and it came to pass. He told these men of Israel to build the foundation where the temple of Solomon had been.

What is a prophet? Is it any one who says, "Thus saith the Lord?" Not so. The Word tells us how we should try the prophets. If a prophet prophesies something, and it comes to pass, then this is a prophet of the Lord. If it doesn't come to pass, then it is not a prophet of the Lord. It is not like some of whom we hear today who are maybe 50% right or 66 $\frac{2}{3}$ % right. Everything that is in the Word of God is 100% right. All prophecies in the Word of God will be

fulfilled.

We read that Isaiah spoke of Cyrus long before his time. He also declared that God was the Lord and that there was no other.

"Let the potsherd strive with the potsherds of the earth. Shall the clay say to him that fashioneth it, What makest thou? or thy work, he hath no hands?" Isa. 45:9.

Beloved ones, can we say as clay in the potter's hands, "Why do you form me this way?" Or should we murmur or complain about our lot in life? Should we grumble about why this happens to us or that? We should not question our Maker; for we know that all that happens to us, whether it seems good or evil according to our own thinking, is for the welfare of our souls. We should accept it that way. We should bow before our God in humility and as clay in the potter's hands, be molded according to His will.

Beloved ones, if we let the Lord mold and shape us, he will make of us vessels meet for the Master's use, vessels of honor, vessels that will stand the fiery tests of the day, vessels that can enter into life everlasting.

But, if we remain hardened of heart, proud, thinking that our achievements and our own goodness is enough to attain the righteousness of God, beloved ones, then we will find, as the Scripture tells us, that ". . . all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags." Isa. 64:6.

Even though we might look good in the eyes of men, and in our own eyes, the day will come when our works will be tried by fire. All that is as wood, hay, and stubble will be burned up. Only that which is as gold, silver, and precious stones will abide in the fire and be able to enter into life everlasting.

We read together in St. Luke's

gospel: "And when he (Jesus) was demanded of the Pharisees, when the kingdom of God should come, he answered them and said, The kingdom of God cometh not with observation." Luke 17:20.

Just what is the meaning of this, beloved ones? The present kingdom of God is not the visible kingdom which the Pharisees expected. They were looking for an army, for a ruler who would overthrow the Roman yoke and would restore to them the status of a nation. They did not see with spiritual eyes; they saw with physical eyes. They could not comprehend the Spiritual kingdom within the hearts of men.

There was one Pharisee, Nicodemus, who came to Jesus by night and told Him that he knew that He was a teacher from God. Jesus said, "Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God." John 3:5.

Nicodemus wondered how that could be. He asked whether a man could enter again into his mother's womb and be born. Jesus answered, "The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit." John 3:8.

The Holy Spirit working in the hearts of men began this kingdom of God which can be in your heart and mine, if we are willing to let the Spirit work in our lives.

Therefore, the kingdom comes "not with observation," but we see the results, do we not? The Spirit comes, and the Spirit moves within the heart. We do not know how it works, and yet we see the results, beloved ones. We see the evidence of a new person in Christ Jesus. We see a person who no longer desires

(Continued on Page 25)