

# The Silver Lining

## A LIGHT FOR BELIEVERS

VOLUME 32

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NUMBER 5

*She riseth also while it is yet night, and giveth food to her household, and a portion to her maidens.*

*She perceiveth that her merchandise is good; Her lamp goeth not out by night.*

Proverbs 31:15 and 18

### *A Tribute To Busy Mothers*

A busy mother you may ask,  
"How can I do these many tasks?"  
'Tis true you can't do every one  
But do what counts when day is done.

The children you and Father raise  
Will someday leave to go their ways.  
What do you think will come to mind  
As thoughts back through their memories wind?

A shirt that needs a button on,  
Or Mother praising God in song?  
A garden with its share of weeds,  
Or when they helped plant tiny seeds?

Their Sunday shoes with all their scuffs  
Their jacket with its tattered cuffs?  
The time you had the house so clean,  
No smudges on the windows seen?

So soon forgotten those will be;  
But things of lasting worth they'll see —  
The times you gathered round to bring  
Praise to the Lord as all would sing.

The time you said that God is near  
When frightened by a childish fear;  
The time you stopped your work so quick  
When call for help came from the sick.

The Bible verses that you drilled  
As with God's Word their minds were filled;  
The stories read at end of day,  
The times you knelt with them to pray.

The comfort given when they cried  
Because their only puppy died;  
The times you held their hands so tight  
When walking from the barn at night.

Oh, busy mother, don't despair  
When dust collects on here and there;  
And may God's wisdom you bestow  
To guide your children as they grow.

(Author Unknown)

Submitted by:

Sis. Beth Virkler — Remington, IN

*Her children rise up, and call her blessed; Her husband also, and he praiseth her.*

Proverbs 31:28



# FIRST IMPRESSION OF INDIA

Bro. Wendell Gudeman

(Bro. Wendell Gudeman visited several of the Rural Gospel & Medical Missions of India's Tribal Congregations with Bros. Joseph Ramsier, Roy Grimm and John Klotzle. Taped on January 25, 1983 in India.)

As our plane landed, we could see scenes I had never fully observed before. I have been to Haiti and other poverty areas, but here in India, it's different. The people here in India have bright eyes; some have peace upon their faces, some have trouble upon their face that tells a life story. When we meet those who come to us, holding out both hands, it gives you a feeling immediately that they have something in their heart that is much like we feel in ours. When you read their eyes, you see a kind of expression that is much like "back home" when we see brethren that we haven't met for a long time. Standing in the background are many people who have an expression on their faces as though they are pondering what the future holds and wondering what these Christian people have that they don't have.

As we start out through the country, I remember as a boy in school reading about two-wheel ox carts in India. I did not realize that it's so prevalent today to see that wooden wheel and the oxen pulling their load. People are walking. Their dress is so commendable. The women are covered. They seem to be very polite. They are not forward. All of these scenes made deep impressions upon us.

Coming to the place where we met believers is an experience that is hard to comprehend. In the little villages that we visited, there is an unseen dividing line between believers and unbelievers. I believe I could have told within 95% accuracy those who were Christians and those who were not. Believers came to us with outstretched hands and a greeting of "Salam, Salam!" You could tell the Christians by their dress. They were clean. All the Christian women were covered for prayer and worship with their different colored saris and their manner is that of Christian behavior.

To hear them lift up their voices and sing in the Marathi language grips our hearts. I lean over and ask one of the

Indian Pastors what they are singing and he says, "Jesus Christ is Lord!" One hymn was repeated over and over. When I asked what they were singing, the answer was, "Teach Us To Pray." They are all songs exalting Jesus Christ.

Then I asked them, "Do these people have what we have, are they born again?" The Pastor tells us, "Oh yes, everyone of these, for they no longer serve idols but Jesus Christ, the Son of God who died on Calvary's cross!" I had always thought that the people of India of the Hindu faith were serving a man, but it's not quite like that. As we drive through the country, we see idols; stones with marks painted on them. These people worship idols much like the Apostle Paul spoke about at Athens where he found they worshiped the "unknown god". There he declared unto the people the known God and Jesus Christ, the Savior of the world. Here on the other side of the Earth we find these pastors doing just what the Apostle Paul did; declaring unto the people the Christ, the Son of God. They must be telling them the true Word, because we see the people responding.

The pastors sat with us. At first we felt unworthy as they brought garlands to put around our necks. We felt like saying, "Don't give us this honor, give it to the Lord." But they wanted to honor us from America. They wanted to show kindness to us in the best way they could by bringing these garlands of flowers to us. In America, we would have invited them into our homes and our hearts and would have given them any comfort they needed. They gave us their very best. It must have taken hours for those dear people to string those live flowers of different kinds and colors with very fragrant aromas. As we drove through the country we didn't see these flowers growing, so they must have gone to great lengths to get them and put them together for us in such a beautiful manner. It made us feel very unworthy.

It will be hard to really relate to the people back home what we saw as we assembled with the tribal congregations. The meeting place is a thatched roof held up by wooden poles. We saw believing women with their heads

covered, sitting on one side and the believing men on the other side with the children intermingled in the group. Their dark eyes were fastened on the one who spoke. What impressed me so much (and I hope I'll never forget it) is when we were speaking they looked right at us, with respect. But, when their Pastor interpreted, standing right beside us as we spoke, they no longer looked at us but looked at their Pastor. They drank in every word that he said. Their minds were not on their visitors, their minds were on the Word of God. As the Pastor spoke, he often used what seemed to us like a lot of expressions of joy, some of sternness and some of teaching. Many times the little group of believers would all smile in unison because it touched their hearts simultaneously. Then they would be very quiet and serious, but those dark eyes would be fastened upon their own Pastors.

Another thing that impressed me were the children. They sat quietly. They didn't stir. The obedience and

## THE SILVER LINING

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IN MEMORY — EDITORS:  
HENRY SOUDER  
EDWARD SOUDER



the courtesy in behalf of the Word of God, their reverence toward the true and living God was something that we can even learn from. Children have great respect. When they pray, every eye is closed. They don't "peek"! I did, I wanted to see how they prayed! From the little children on up to the old, they put both their hands together, finger to finger and thumb to thumb, reverently, with eyes closed until the prayer was over. Not one opened their eyes and looked around. Then, when the Pastor came to the end of the prayer, they all said "Amen" in unison. The Pastor kept his head down just a little bit longer and then they all very reverently raised their heads.

When they sang, it was, as stated in the Scripture, "in simplicity and Godly sincerity". They worship the Lord. There are possibly some Scriptures that are hard to explain to these people. The reason is that we came halfway around the world, approximately 12,000 miles, but most of these people spend their entire lives never moving more than 30 or 40 miles from the place where they were born; living in extreme poverty.

When we came under their thatched roofs, I saw for the first time what Bro. Roy and all the brothers have been sharing with us from their previous experiences. They told of cow dung floors. I believe if I would have dropped anything from my hand onto the floor and picked it up, it wouldn't have

bothered me. We went into one poor little assembly place and they had cow dung plastered on the walls. You could lean against that wall. It's the way of life here. Sometimes we get everything out of focus. The loved ones sit right on the floor. Tonight as we're leaving this area, I could have sat with them and been very comfortable. These types of lessons are hard to comprehend for us who often sit in soft chairs.

The spirit of Christ that we have beheld, the way they sing with expression, and the way the little children join in unison; it was very precious to us. The pastors here are very dedicated pastors, looking to us for counsel and direction. They have one thing in common, and that's the welfare of their flocks. They want to keep them together and protected from false teaching. Their hope is to spread the Word to those that do not know the Truth. Their task is not easy. I think we have it easier at home because there are so many of us. We have four ministers in our church and over thirty Sunday School teachers.

Here in India, the harvest is great, but the laborers are few. They are doing the very best they can, and we have confidence that if the Lord tarries, there will be those who will carry on the Gospel story in India. Let us remember them in prayer and may the Lord send forth laborers into His harvest fields. To whom much is given — much is required. <<

tried to destroy man, even the children of promise. The children of Israel were punished many times, led away captive or destroyed in some way by God. Sometimes He used kings or governments to accomplish His end. We can look at the rise and fall of many nations in history. They rose from bondage to spiritual faith, from spiritual faith to great courage, from great courage to liberty, from liberty to abundance, from abundance to complacency, from complacency to apathy, from apathy to dependence and then back to bondage.

The rise and fall of nations, can also be applied to faiths, churches and individuals. As prosperity abounds in our country, we have to be more watchful. Satan's work thrives much more in prosperity than persecution. With the prosperity we have enjoyed in our nation, we have to be very cautious that we will not have to again endure dependence and be drawn back to bondage. Knowing what happened to the children of Israel, we should be more diligent in our calling as the peculiar people of God.

God told Abram what He was going to do and that it would not be completed until the iniquity of the Amorites was full. Genesis 15:14-16. The handwriting is on the wall today for our nation and all Gentile people. Paul writes in Romans 11:25, "For I would not brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fullness of the Gentiles be come in."

May we be watchful and prayerful as we can see all the prophecies in the word being fulfilled in our very day. May we, as Isaiah writes, "Seek ye the Lord while He may be found and call ye upon Him while He is near." Is. 55:6. May we all realize there is no better time to do this than today. <<

## GODLINESS — LIBERTY

Elder Bro. Robert Beyer  
Naumberg Congregation

We thank God for the manifold blessings that we appreciate and enjoy in this great land of ours. We pause to think about what our forefathers endured to make it possible for us to enjoy the many good things of life. We should not take these blessings for granted but, on bended knee, thank God daily for them. May He continue to look down upon us, and our nation, with the same promise as He did to Solomon in II Chronicles 7:14. "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. "How far have we, as a nation, strayed from the truth and

the basic principles of a godly life today? Our prayer should be as in I Timothy 2:1-2, "That supplications, prayers, intercessions and giving of thanks be made for all men, for kings and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty." What more could we wish and pray for as children of God? May we enjoy what Paul wrote to Timothy. "Godliness with contentment is great gain." I Timothy 6:6. We should thank Him daily for all blessings and pray if it is His will that these blessings may continue to be ours in the future.

In early scripture, God warns that, "My spirit shall not always strive with man," Genesis 6:3. Satan has always

### APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

Dwight Eisenhower once said, "One of the fine things about silent prayer is that it shuts out the noise of the world." And how we long, sometimes, to escape from the pressures which we all experience, and how necessary and strengthening it is! Christ at various times told his disciples to "Come ye apart and rest awhile . . ." (Mark 6:31) The challenge is to accomplish this when there are so many opportunities to do



good to those who are in need, to spend time visiting the aged and discouraged, to help the disabled or handicapped to cope from day to day, to give assistance to a brother in need of food and clothing, to let a neighborly light shine to those about us in addition to struggling for our own needs and for the whole needs of our families and our loved ones.

In addition to the beautiful and comforting escape to prayer, there are techniques at our command to fortify and renew ourselves even in the midst of great activity. Perhaps if we stop to think about it, we will remember that it is the quiet, little happenings which can uplift us. Have we ever correlated the fact that it is the storms (weather-wise and otherwise) which cause turmoil, and that it is the sunny, peaceful time which comes quietly and brings about a tranquil feeling? It follows then that we search for the daily little gems to fortify us. What are they and where can they be found? Would it not be beneficial to begin each day with an eager search and then at the end of the day give thanks for having found them? There is that special touch of the hand; the innocent, but guileless expression of love from a child; a brief ray of sunshine on a cloudy day; a quiet look of understanding; silence, when a cruel word could have been said; the exuberant song of a sparrow on a rainy day; a warm, forgiving and encouraging smile from a fellow-pilgrim or an unexpected, small courtesy. These are all so fleeting that in our pre-occupation, they are easily forgotten. But let us not forget them. Let's rather forget the negative punches in life which damage the peace of heart and soul. This challenge can be met by believing in Philipians 4:13, which reads, "I can do all things through Christ, which strengtheneth me."

Continuing our "tour" of the Home which began recently, we want to visit the Kitchen Department. The significance of the kitchen here is much like the kitchen to children of a family in a home anywhere. Upon coming home from a day at workshop, school or PARC, many will drop by and ask, "What's for dinner? I'm starved." M-m-m, it smells good!" The mother hearts which so lovingly prepare the food and manage this department cannot help but season their labors with love after comments like this. Often after the meal is over, there will be

remarks like, "Oh, that was good!" One of the beautiful things about our residents is that a comment such as this is completely genuine and equals to beautiful compensation for many long hours of labor from the early hour of 5:30 a.m. until after the evening meal is cleared away. Eighty-six residents are served at breakfast; forty-one residents and 25 staff are served at lunch and 86 residents and sixteen staff are served at dinner. Thirty residents are on 1000-calorie diets; fourteen are on 1500-calorie diets; three are on diabetic diets and four are on bland diets. An idea of quantity is realized when we say it takes 25# of potatoes for salad or 35# of rolled roast for one meal. Twice a week, we bake all of our own bread, buns, pies and cookies. About twenty loaves are baked twice a week, and how we enjoy the aroma! Breakfast is served at 7:30, lunch at 12:00, and dinner is at 5:00. Eight residents help in the dining room, clearing off, washing and resetting the tables for the next meal. Once a month, there is an evening birthday party for those who have birthdays during that month. Usually the families involved come, bringing decorated sheet cakes and ice cream for everyone at this time. Then on the actual birthday, a small cake with a candle is served to the individual and is shared with the other three at this table. When there is a Bake Sale at Workshop, the kitchen bakes something for the individual to take to contribute to the cause.

As all departments are, we are subject to visits from governmental inspections. Cleanliness, of course, is of prime importance. Proper equipment, accident and fire prevention and quality of food are constantly under surveillance.

Many precious memories remain. Remarks like, "M-m-m, that was good. It tasted just like Mom's" is more than reward for our efforts. One goal of this department is not only to provide the food needs of our residents, but to convey to them that this is their home where they are loved and truly cared for.

#### ATTENTION

**In the future, only the month of your subscription renewal date will appear on your address label. Disregard the year.**

#### APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S HOME Bro. Bob Cockburn

Once again, it seems, winter is upon us. We are setting cold temperature records, receiving winds and snow, and, in general, complaining. We stop our complaining, though, when we hear of the weather many others are receiving and we become more thankful for what we have. Isn't this so true in many aspects of our life? We complain until we realize that we are not as unfortunate as we believed. When we look around, we realize that we are truly blessed.

Of course, winter is not really upon us. Spring is; and with it comes the awakening of the earth and all that grows thereon. It is a time of change, a time of renewing, a time for spreading out. How thankful we should be that God does not allow the world, or us, to be stagnant.

Here at the Home we are experiencing change as well. Not only have we had an almost 100 percent change in staff (with the exception of one member), we have been adding children as well. Just to bring you up to date, our children now number thirteen. These include Thelma (11-17-67), Bertha (1-10-69), John (5-11-70), Chuck (9-18-71), Gary (5-6-67), Debbie (8-21-66), Greg (10-6-66), Jay P. (3-22-65), Wendy (10-24-67), Dawn (10-7-66), Robin (8-28-69), Lee Alan (8-19-69) and Jay I. (6-7-68).

The newest member of the staff is Bro. Uriel Gehring, from Burlington, IA. He has been accepted as the new administrator. I pray that God's blessings and guidance will be with Bro. Uriel as he undertakes the great responsibility of administering the Home and its program. I will certainly miss being here, but as the old saying goes, "you can take the man out of the Home, but you can't take the Home out of the man".

Jay P. is another who will soon be leaving. Jay is finishing high school this month and will be striking out on his own. Hopefully, he will not stray too far away and will always remember that he is one of our Home's family members. He was one of the first children that came after I did, and we have come to love him very much in the past four years. I am sure that he would covet your prayers and help as he begins a new part of his life.

Thanks for a blessed four years.



## HELP NEEDED AT THE CHILDREN'S HOME — NEED FOR ALTERNATE HOUSEPARENTS

Bro. Bob and Sis. Karen Indermuhle will have served their commitment of one year as houseparents, in August.

There will be a need for alternate houseparents to help to continue on with the work of caring for these children and youth with Christian love.

"Train up a child in the way he should go and, when he is old, he will not depart from it." Proverbs 22:6

The qualification requirements for the alternate houseparents are:

1. Must be a brother, sound in faith, upholding church doctrine and order, married to a sister in like standing.

2. Must have the support of his home church elder.

3. Must be able to command respect of children, as well as adults.

4. Desirable age between 21 and 60 years. Consideration will be given to all applicants.

5. A resume is required to be sent with your request for an interview.

6. This position is full-time.

7. Training or studies in child care, social work, nursing profession, counseling or teaching would be helpful. We have a staff development program and "on the job" training to help you carry out your duties.

8. Additional information concerning duties, salary, insurance and other compensation, can be obtained by writing or calling:

Bro. Uriel Gehring  
Box 423  
Grabill, IN 46741  
(219) 627-5468 or (219) 627-5138

Bro. Oliver Stieglitz  
Route 3 Box 321  
Grabill, IN 46741  
(219) 657-5168

Elder Bro. David Bertsch  
Route 2  
Grabill, IN 46741  
(219) 627-2923

All requests and resumes will be promptly and prayerfully answered.

"When my father and my mother forsake me, then the Lord will take me up." (Psalms 27:10). There is an ever increasing great number of children who have been forsaken, and only a

small number of Christian homes available to provide for them. The Lord needs willing workers to provide for these young souls.

The Children's Home  
Board Members

### ARIZONA, PHOENIX

#### Ron and Ev Hoerr

And as they did eat, Jesus took bread, and blessed, and brake it, and gave to them, and said, Take, eat: this is my body.

And He took the cup, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them: and they all drank of it.

St. Mark 14:22-23

On the evening of April 10 it was our privilege to partake of Holy Communion and enjoy the blessings of being a Christian. Bro. Noah Herman came from Tucson to assist Elder Bro. Richard Schupbach in serving the Lord's Supper.

We truly have enjoyed our many winter visitors and winter residents. Thank you for coming and please return.

Peace is a bonus of righteousness.

Our visiting ministers were: Bro. Leland Hirschey (Naumburg, NY) and Bro. Loren Knapp (Tucson, AZ).

The March 27th church supper and singing was another wonderful evening of fellowship. We were blessed with many visitors.

Hospitalized this past month were Sis. Frances Schrenk, Sis. Ora Schrenk and Sis. Alice Baumgartner. We are thankful to have these sisters back in church again, as well as Bro. Ervin Rokey, who has been absent due to surgery. Bro. Elmer Zollinger also was hospitalized and is back to church.

It is very nice to have Floren Klopfenstein in our midst again.

After spending three months in Phoenix, and expecting to fly home on Wednesday, Sis. Barb Ringer received a phone call on Friday from a local hospital offering her a job. We welcome you as a resident, Sis. Barb.

"A man is born into the world" John 17:21. On April 3, Easter Sunday, Bro. Doug and Sis. Rebecca Germann became first-time parents to Kyle Robert. Little Kyle's grandparents are Bro. Robert and Sis. Jean Knapp of Eureka, IL and Alberta Germann of Valparaiso, IN.

On April 4, Jordan Eugene Fehr arrived to make Terry and Zanna Fehr

first-time parents. Grandparents, Bro. Gene and Sis. Marge and "Uncle" Bro. Jay Fehr drove to California to meet little Jordan.

Harlan and Vivian Ramsier became grandparents of Matthew Dana on March 1. Matthew's parents are Dana and Barbara Ramsier of Tucson.

Spring has arrived with an excess of three inches of rainfall and 50 inches of packed snow in Northern Arizona. "The time of the singing of birds is come." Solomon 2:12. Here in Phoenix we are truly enjoying the beauty of their song. There are so many ways to "delight thyself in the Lord." Ps. 37:4.

John Kaufman will be glad to accept your Silver Lining dues at church. Those of you who receive Silver Lining, but do not assemble with us may send \$6.00 to: The Silver Lining, c/o David Bertsch, Grabill, IN 46741.

### ARIZONA, TUCSON

#### Sandy Bauer — Lisa Knapp

After church services on Easter Sunday, everyone remained to see the Sunday School Easter Program. It was a blessing to hear their young voices sing and recite verses relating to the resurrection of Christ. We were all reminded how special and important Easter really is.

The following Sunday, April 10, we held our monthly fellowship supper. The weather was so warm that the supper was at a park, and everyone enjoyed being outside and in the sunshine.

### CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA

#### Mary Beth Klotzle

Once again we enjoyed the beautiful Easter season. Early Easter morning a group of all ages met and went up a nearby mountain to sing hymns of praise and remember that first Easter. Later in the day we were drawn even closer in heart and spirit as we were able to share Holy Communion. May we keep in mind always the suffering of our Saviour and thank Him daily for dying that we might be saved. God blesses us in so many ways that our hearts are often overwhelmed by His almighty love.

We rejoice to know that Ted Klotzle feels the peace which God so lovingly provides to every sincere repentant soul. We pray the Lord will continue to strengthen Ted's faith and trust as he awaits the time of baptism.

This past month Bros. Bill Dotterer



(Phoenix), Leland Hirschey (Naumburg), Kent Ringger (Bluffton) and Elder Bro. Bob Walder (Congerville) were our visiting ministers. Bro. Bob helped in reading the Memorandum which is a good reminder for us all to continue to strive to be faithful. We thank each of our visitors for their willingness to serve and for their love.

As Mother's Day comes this year, let our prayers to God be those of thanksgiving for our mothers' love. Also, let us pray that He will continue to put that special love into each mother's heart, so that every child may be a receiver of such love.

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

"Now it is accomplished! I'm no longer mine;  
 Lord, I will forever and always be Thine,  
 For Thou hast created and purchased me too,  
 Baptized with Thy Spirit, Thou makest me new."

Zion's Harp #209

We welcome Lee Ruegsegger as a beloved new brother in Christ. What a joy to witness the miracle of conversion, then to behold the baptism and sealing of the Holy Spirit. We are so thankful that some of us were able to travel to the church where Bro. Lee was raised at Bay City, MI, for this joyous occasion. We pray that Bro. Lee, as well as all of us, will lead that quiet and peaceable life that we can hear the still small voice of the Holy Spirit.

Bro. Noah Herman of Tucson, AZ was our visiting minister in March. We do so appreciate these brothers who come to serve us. May God bless you, Bro. Noah.

The weekend we spent in Bay City, Bro. Glenn Hackenjoes of Altadena, CA came to minister to our congregation. We are sorry to have missed him but are thankful to him and to God for his service. We trust God will reward you Bro. Glen.

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

In this time of the year when we set aside a day to remember and honor our mothers, it would do us good to reflect upon all that our mothers of faith have taught us. Some of us have had many "mothers" who have instructed us in

the ways of truth. How we always remember all that we have learned from them, and seek to in turn instruct our own children and those about us in the ways of the Lord.

Sis. Fannie Lanz (Bro. Arthur) is able to be in church again after being hospitalized for a broken hip. We are grateful that her fall was not more serious and that she is able to be up and about again. May she and Bro. Art feel God's nearness during her recuperating hours.

Sis. Elizabeth Erismann wishes to express her feelings of gratitude to all who remembered her with cards and many kind deeds when she recently celebrated her birthday. May God reward all.

The entire congregation here will sorely miss Sis. Hiroko Utsuki who is leaving soon to go back to her home in Tokyo, Japan. Sis. Hiroko has been in the states for almost a year, living with her sister in New York City. She often came to Rockville for the weekend and traveled to many other churches as well. Parting on this earth is so hard, but what joy we can have to think of that home up yonder, where we shall never have to part from each other, but can share in the joy and fellowship of the Lord forever. What a comfort it is to know that prayer knows no bounds and can span the many miles that will now be between us.

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**FLORIDA, FT. LAUDERDALE**  
**Billie Klopfenstein**

Our Good Friday services and our Easter services were truly a blessing for each person that attended. Elder Bro. Joe Braker and his family were here and we always appreciate all of his efforts on our behalf. On Easter Sunday evening our annual egg hunt and picnic for the Sunday School was held at a local park. Much good food and good fellowship was enjoyed by everyone present.

The following Saturday evening we were served Holy Communion by Elder Bros. Joe Braker, Bob Grimm and Corbin Bahler. The Sunday services were again inspiring. In the evening we gathered at our fellowship hall for a potluck supper and hymn sing. Bro. Joe closed the evening by reading the love chapter, I Corinthians 13. It was truly a love-filled weekend. We are so grateful that these Elder brothers were willing to travel so many miles to serve us.

Other ministering brothers who visited us recently were Bro. Homer Reineck of Toledo, Bro. Art Gudeman of LaCrosse, and Bro. Merrill Laukhuf of Latty. Bro. Al Schneider has also been in our midst and we are thankful for each of these ministering brothers and their wives.

Bro. Dick Haefli of Peoria underwent open-heart surgery here in Ft. Lauderdale. He became ill while here on vacation. Many prayers were uttered in his behalf and we are happy to report that he is doing wonderfully.

When something disagreeable happens to us a common expression we use is "what did I do to deserve this?" But somehow we rarely use it when referring to the many good things that come our way. Those are often taken for granted, many times accepted without even a thank you. In reality, we are deserving of nothing good, especially God's great love which reaches out to save us through Jesus Christ. How special a love that gives so much for ones so undeserving!

Thought for the day: "God's word in our hearts must show in our actions."

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**FLORIDA, SARASOTA**  
**Doris and Diane Rocke**

The Easter message portrayed by the Sunday School classes was most rewarding in reminding us of our Savior's suffering for each of us. We thank the teachers for the effort and work involved, especially for bringing love to the shut-ins in the nursing home where our Sis. Marie Martin is recovering.

Good Friday eve we were given the opportunity to share Holy Communion. How important it is to have our hearts ready for the coming of our Lord and meeting our Master above. Elder Bros. Ben Maibach and Dale Eise-mann gave of themselves for this blessed occasion. "This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of Me." Luke 22:19.

Visiting ministers this month with their wives were Bro. Merrill and Sis. Martha Laukhuf (Latty, OH), Elder Bro. Dave and Sis. Ruth Kieser (Princeville, IL), Elder Bro. Ben and Sis. Lorene Maibach (Detroit, MI), Elder Bro. Dale and Sis. Judy Eisenmann (Chicago, IL), Bro. Floyd and Sis. Perseda Wieland (Detroit, MI) and Elder Bro. Corbin and Sis. Virginia Bahler (Rockville, CT). We thank all the brothers who gave of themselves



these past months in ministering, song-leading, ushering, kitchen help or whatever it may have been. We look forward to visits both summer and winter. May God richly bless each of you. We especially thank Bros. Joe Schrock, Homer Reinick and Art Gudeman for the good teaching we received thru their labors this winter.

Ground breaking services were held April 3. Bro. Ben was here and we have begun construction on our church edifice. The first work started April 11. May each one contribute in love and unity that the Lord's house may be blessed.

Sis. Minnie Nuest has traveled to Illinois for the funeral of her brother, Francis, who passed away unexpectedly. May she find courage and comfort from above in her sadness of losing her dear and only brother. During these tears of sorrow, may she feel we are standing by with a sympathetic prayer.

#### GEORGIA, ATLANTA

##### Nancy Foltz — Charmin Sellers

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

Our appreciation goes to the following ministers who came to minister and worship with us: Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman (Francesville, IN); Elder Bro. Dave Kieser (Princeville, IL); Bro. Merle Kaisner (Fairbury, IL); Elder Bro. Loren Stoller (Latty, OH); and Bro. Edmund Kloter (Goodfield, IL). We were given instructions and food for thought for our Christian walk of life. Among some of the things we were reminded of was obedience, "children to parents, servants to masters", "not as menpleasers but as servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart", and to "set your affections on things above not on things on earth."

We have had several visitors who stopped to worship as they were traveling either on vacation or business. We welcome all visitors. Our services are held each 2nd and 4th Sunday at the Ramada Inn, Int. 75, Marietta, GA. The time of worship is 10:30 a.m. Occasionally it may be necessary to change the date of worship, so if you plan to be in the area and need any information, call Nancy Foltz at 404-451-9191 or Don Sellers at 404-923-0721.

Give Your Address Change  
to Your Reporter

#### ILLINOIS, BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL

##### Shirley Denick Charlene Knobloch

As we have shared a blessed Easter, we are especially grateful to our Elder Bro. Dan Koch and Elder Bro. Art Bahler of Fairbury, who led our communion service. It also takes many willing hands to prepare the program given by the Sunday School children; the children who perform so beautifully are truly an inspiration. And it takes many willing hands to plan the Easter Sunrise Service; as well as the Easter Breakfast. Each year the number attending increases, and we marvel at God's wondrous blessings. As a small church, each and every one is needed to do the Lord's work.

As it takes many willing hands, it is with sadness that we see a family move from our community. Bro. Keith and Sis. Cathy Steffen and their beautiful children are moving to the Peoria area where Bro. Keith is employed. We shall miss them, their ready smiles, their willing hands and pray that the Lord will continue to bless them in their new home.

Matt Kupferschmid has taken Wendy Belsly as his bride. Parents of our newest couple are Bro. Louis and Sis. Vilas Belsley of Morton and Bro. Bill and Sis. Sue Kupferschmid of Normal. We wish them God's richest blessings as they begin their life together.

#### ILLINOIS, BRADFORD

##### Shirley Kieser

The Bond of Love — each for the other and both for God. This was brought out impressively in song and in the wedding ceremony of Ken Elsasser and Karen Wagenbach. May God bless them as they walk life's pathway together. Bro. Duane and Sis. Doreen Elsasser and Bro. Ray and Sis. Betty Wagenbach of Princeville are their parents.

Jennifer Lynn has come to add joy and blessings to the home of Mike and Kim Dietz and Steven and Greg. Sis. Hilda Dietz is her grandmother.

Bro. Bill Elsasser has returned to his home after being hospitalized, and his strength is slowly improving.

Visiting ministers, Bros. Earl Gerber (Forrest), Art Baurer (Princeville), Ken Knapp (Taylor), Don Manz (Junction) and Si Wagenbach (Tremont), left us with much food for thought. May God

be their rewarder for efforts put forth on our behalf.

The true meaning of Easter was expressed to us in song by our Sunday School children. Then again the Lord's suffering and dying were made vivid in our minds, and we were led in thought to that last supper and to the cross as we partook of Holy Communion. Elder Bro. Dave Kieser was assisted by Elder Bro. Leroy Huber (Eureka) in this sacred service.

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

Youth Fellowship was held at Bradford with over 400 children attending. Whether these young people realize it or not, they were serving the Lord for an hour each Sunday evening in their singing. Their songs spoke all about love and mercy, but judgement too. They were reminded of the stark difference in the songs they sang together here at church with their parents and the music they purchase for amusement written by brazen, sinful men and sung with only evil intent upon their emotions. Our prayer is that this multitude of children, our children, will see through this evil force, by God's grace, and come to know the Lord in fullness and realize His mercy is everlasting and has endured even to their generation as it further states in the 100th Psalm. In order for them to take advantage of it, they simply must ask.

Mother's Day — a day to remember a dear Mother and a day to remember to be a good Mother.

#### ILLINOIS, CHICAGO

##### Kathy Schlatter

Conscience is too often a forgotten word, even among Christians. Instead of always listening to what the Spirit and the Word together tells us, perhaps we look at our brother or sister and say, if they can do that, so can I. A historic reference to Sir Thomas More seems to put the danger so clearly. Sir Thomas was asked to affirm, time and time again, an oath which he could not, according to his conscience, agree. (He was later beheaded for that "treasonous" refusal.) A friend of his, the Duke of Norfolk, so much wanted Sir Thomas to be freed from imprisonment and harassment. So he reminded Sir Thomas of the hundreds who had signed, including himself. For himself, he said, he didn't understand the im-



portance of the oath, but couldn't Sir Thomas come along with him and the rest, "for fellowship's sake". But Sir Thomas replied to that temptation, on this wise: "and when you are sent to heaven for doing according to your conscience, and I am sent to hell for not doing according to mine, will you then come along with me, for "fellowship's sake?"

"And be renewed in the spirit of your mind..." Ephesians 4:23. What can be more invigorating than the Word as it is proclaimed from the lips of willing preachers? Elder Bro. Dave Kieser (Princeville), Bro. Arnie Gerst (Taylor, MO) and Bro. Ron Schambach (Elgin) were our recent visitors. Through our love and obedience to the Word, we hope we may show them true appreciation for their efforts.

"Wherefore he saith, Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light." Ephesians 5:14. Thus, Gingi Bozzay, daughter of Bro. Tibor and Sis. Pearl Bozzay, as we, awoke from the deadness of sin and reached out toward the light of the Lord. On Sat., March 26 she gave her testimony of faith, and on Sun. she was baptized and received the fullness of the Spirit. Elder Bro. Dave Kieser assisted our Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann in this special work of the Lord. Our hearts delight in Sis. Gingi, yet we are still prayerful as she attends Triton College and continues the battles of life — with Christ at the helm. The joy of such a heavenly event, including the hope of stirring other souls and binding ours more firmly together, is beyond telling. Truly we are grateful that Randy Meyer, son of Bro. Lenny and Sis. Charlotte Meyer, could no longer deny the conviction of sin. As his heavy burden is rolled away, we continue to pray for deep and lasting roots to anchor him as a new young plant in the Lord's salvation.

We look forward to communion not only as a remembrance, but also as an anticipation. We prepare for taking communion so that we being cleansed, may be filled anew with His oneness of Spirit, His holy power. With our Chicago brethren, we celebrated communion Friday evening, April 15, with our Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann and Bro. Lenny Meyer serving. We enjoyed the blessing of having new sisters experiencing their first communion. And we look ahead to the celebration of the heavenly wedding banquet awaiting

those who love Him, and for this we must continuously be in preparation, that He may find in us when He comes.

Christ spent many pleasant hours in Bethany with some of His dearest earthly friends, Mary, Martha and Lazarus, plus He is known as the "Rose of Sharon". These and family considerations are the reasons that the newest member of the Rassi family has been named Bethany Rose. She arrived April 4 to be welcomed by a host of family and friends. Bro. Greg, Sis. Carla, Rachel, Matthew, Andrew and Nathan Rassi are her dear family. Her grandparents, thankful for another healthy granddaughter, are Bro. Eli and Sis. Pearl Rassi and Bro. Carl and Sis. Rose Vierling, both of Morton. May all enfold her with love.

Sis. Nancy Pfeifer had minor surgery and is recuperating at home. We pray for her speedy recovery (being almost selfish) for her quick smile and listening ear are always needed among us.

Sis. Martie Grivet wishes to thank all of the brothers, sisters and friends who gave spiritual and material assistance (gifts and time) to her during her late husband, Bro. Jim's illness and passing. "... ye have well done, that ye did communicate with my affliction." Philippians 4:14.

Have you ever heard the song about children putting "beans in their ears?" One line goes something like, "I think that all grownups have beans in their ears." The point seems to be that children and their parents don't always listen to what one another is really saying. That old silly song made me wonder how often the Lord looks down at me, His child, and sees me "putting beans in my ears," doing something I'm specifically told not to do (becoming wrongly angered, gossiping, murmuring...) — which also prevents me from listening well to His Spirit's instruction. Lord, please help me not to "put beans in my ears." "If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit." Galatians 5:25.

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**ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK**  
**Wilma Walder — Joan Waldbeser**

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

I Corinthians 11:26

We were privileged to partake of holy communion with our brethren on

Good Friday evening. Bro. Ed Frank (LaCrosse) was here to assist in this most important work.

Having repented and finding peace with God and man, four of our friends are awaiting baptism. They are Denise Kaufmann, daughter of Bro. Walter and Sis. Aldine; Patti Walder, daughter of Bro. Les and Sis. Dorothy; Eric Kaeb, son of Bro. Elmer and Sis. Mary Lou; and Russ Walder, son of Bro. Dale and Sis. Dorothy.

Sis. Emily Hari and Bro. Vernon Bucher (LaCrosse) were united in holy matrimony on Wed. eve., April 13. We will miss having Sis. Em in our midst but wish her God's nearness as she makes her new home in the LaCrosse area.

April 17 was the wedding day of Bro. Eldon Steffen and Sis. Melba Funk. Parents of the couple are Bro. Charles E. and Sis. Bena Steffen (Congerville) and Bro. Jacob and Sis. Sophia Funk. They having committed themselves to God and now to each other, wish to share their lives as husband and wife.

May God's blessings be with both of these couples and their families as they walk the path of life together.

Our visiting ministers this month were Bros. Gene Lehman (Wolcott), Clarence Kachelmuss (Forrest), Ed Frank (LaCrosse), Merle Bucher (La Crosse), Joe Gerst (Iowa City), Ed Bahler and Dan Stoller (Remington), Ray Sinn (Latty), Fred Knapp (Congerville) and Dave Wiegand (Urbana).

Hospital patients this month were Sisters Clara Vogel, Emily Hari, Lena Bucher, Rosie Martin and Bro. Jeff Young. We are thankful they all have returned home.

Sis. Louella Jacob and her son Wayne and his family wish to extend their heartfelt thanks to everyone for all the love, prayers, gifts, food, flowers, cards and telephone calls at the passing of their loved one. They especially wish to thank the ministers for their words of comfort and the kitchen committee for their kindness at the funeral. May God richly reward each and every one of you.

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**ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE**  
**Carol Craig — Kay Roth**

Mother is a word called "love"  
And all the world is mindful of  
The love that's given and shown to  
others  
Is different from the love of mothers...



For mothers play the leading roles  
In giving birth to little souls,  
For though "Small souls" are heaven  
sent

And we realize they're only lent,  
It takes a Mother's loving hands  
And her gentle heart that understands  
To mold and shape this little life  
And to shelter it through storm and  
strife. . .

No other love than Mother Love  
Could do the things required of  
The one to whom God gives the  
keeping

Of His wee lambs, awake or sleeping —  
So Mothers are a "special race"  
God sent to earth to take His place,  
And Mother is a lovely name  
That even Saints are proud to claim.

Helen Steiner Rice

The Lord has given a special bundle  
of joy to Bro. Dennis and Sis. Gay  
Knapp. Little Rachel Irene was wel-  
comed home by her parents and big  
brother and sister, Kevin and Lori. Her  
grandparents are Bro. Glenn and Sis.  
Jeanette Knapp, Mr. Richard Fanning,  
Cleveland, OH and Mrs. Nancy Ritch  
of Leesburg, FL.

Our best wishes go out to two young  
couples who have announced their  
engagements. They are Kris, daughter  
of Sis. Alma and the late Bro. Harold  
Schieber, to Keith, son of Mr. and Mrs.  
Art Noe; and Joanne, daughter of Bro.  
Hans and Sis. Arlene Hinrichsen of  
Goodfield to Alan, son of Bro. Keith  
and Sis. Pauline Roth. We wish both of  
these couples God's rich blessings as  
they plan their lives together.

Sis. Esther Miller had been hospital-  
ized this month for surgery. We are  
thankful to God that she is able to be  
recuperating at home. May God give  
her the strength that is needed.

We would like to extend our sym-  
pathy to the Eglin family for the pass-  
ing away of their dear sister, Esther  
Reel. May the Lord be present during  
their time of need.

## ILLINOIS, ELGIN

Ruth Ann Getz

The trees are budding and they look  
so good. There seems to be great  
promise that wells up in the soul when  
we see the earth begin to bud, but then  
we notice the obstacles: Will the cruel-  
ness of the freezing weather snatch the  
chance for the young bud to bear fruit  
even before it can come into full

bloom?; If, perchance, the late freeze is  
withstood, will the insect prove to be  
devastating to reaping the harvest?;  
Should the fruit mature to perfection,  
is there not yet fear that the late rains  
will blemish the fruit so close to har-  
vest?

We think of the fruit as the produc-  
tion of our lives and the lives of our  
children; and we see the obstacles that  
prevent the fruit from developing. We  
note that whether we are in the "seed-  
time of life or the harvest" (Gen. 8:22)  
there are obstacles that threaten  
development. We would tend to faint  
and say how can we help but to be  
stunted in growth? How can we pos-  
sibly bring forth a perfect fruit.

Then we bolster our faith and call to  
remembrance the precious passages in  
the word that says "For this is my  
blood of the new testament, which is  
shed for many for the remission of  
sins." (Matt. 26:28) and "Being justi-  
fied freely by his grace through the  
redemption that is in Christ Jesus:  
Whom God hath set forth to be a propi-  
tiation through faith in his blood, to  
declare his righteousness for the re-  
mission of sins that are past, through  
the forbearance of God." (Romans  
3:24, 25). We can only bring the perfect  
fruit by being covered by the blood of  
Christ! What abiding peace to be  
washed in the blood through the offer-  
ing of a broken and contrite heart.

Sympathy is extended to Esther  
(Moser) Grams in the passing away of  
her husband, Carl. Esther is a sister to  
Sis. Ida, Ruth, and Florence Moser, all  
of Elgin.

Sympathy is also extended to Ernest  
Reber in the passing away of his wife,  
Helen. May the Lord's comforting  
hand reach down and touch these  
people who suffer loss.

While the Lord can comfort those  
who are in bereavement, he can also  
heal the sick and infirm, and so we  
bring before him in prayer those who  
have suffered illness: Sis. Mary Weiss,  
Sis. Mary Moser, Sis. Mary Leuthold,  
Bro. Albert Schambach, Margaret  
Gould and Anna Gerdau (mother of  
Sis. Jeannette Moser).

The Lord has blessed the home of  
Bro. Eugene and Sis. Sue Braun with  
little Matthew Robert, born April 14.  
Phillip and Timothy will be big  
brothers to Matthew and Sis. Cecelia  
Braun and Sis. Mary Jane Hirschey are  
the grandmothers. Matthew has been  
hospitalized for a few extended days,

but will hopefully be home with his new  
family soon.

## ILLINOIS, EUREKA

Kathy L. Rocke

We enjoyed a blessed weekend,  
March 19-20, when two dear souls  
were added to the fold. We welcome  
Sis. Kathy S. Rocke (Bro. Eldon and  
Sis. Ida Mae) and Sis. Vicky Knecht  
(Bro. Ernie and Sis. Judie) to the fold as  
our sisters-in-Christ.

We enjoyed many visiting ministers  
that weekend to share our joy. They  
were Elder Bro. Bob Grimm (Good-  
field) and Bros. Ervin Knecht (Lamar,  
MO), Mike Rinckenberger (Congerville)  
and Carl Wyss (Washington).

Believing it is God's will, we heard  
the engagement announcement of Bro.  
Kent Leman (Bro. Roy and Sis.  
Wanda) and Sis. Christine Schmidgall  
(Bro. Ray "Barney" and Sis. Millie) of  
Minneapolis, MN on March 20. They  
are planning a July 3 wedding in  
Lester, IA. We wish them God's richest  
blessings as they plan for their life  
together.

On March 26 we gathered together  
to partake of the Lord's Supper. Elder  
Bro. Andy Virkler (Bay City, MI) as-  
sisted Elder Bro. Leroy Huber and Bro.  
Walter Anliker for this solemn occa-  
sion, reminding us of the Lord's suffer-  
ing and sacrifice for our sins and that  
His blood has made atonement for our  
sins. We appreciate Bro. Andy's will-  
ingness to come and serve us. After  
services on Sunday, we all enjoyed a  
church potluck and singing at the  
Goodfield Fellowship Hall.

On Wednesday evening, March 30,  
we enjoyed listening to the Sunday  
School children present their Easter  
program. The Roanoke Bible Class  
sang four songs with our Bible Class. It  
is always inspiring to watch and listen  
as each class brings forth the wonder-  
ful Easter story. HE LIVES!

Ministering Bros. Larry Wenninger  
(Latty, OH) and Mike Rinckenberger  
(Congerville) shared the Word with us  
on April 10. May His blessings be with  
each of them.

Bro. Carl Knepp has spent some  
time in the hospital and recently has  
returned home. May God be his Com-  
forter and Strength.

We will be commemorating Moth-  
er's Day on May 8. "Favour is deceitful,  
and beauty is vain: but a woman that  
feareth the Lord, she shall be praised."  
Proverbs 31:30. May we be thankful



for our God-fearing mothers every day, not just one day a year.

The sweetest sounds  
To mortals given  
Are heard in mother,  
Home, and heaven.

W. G. Brown

"Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints." Psalm 116:15. Our hearts were deeply saddened at the passing of Bro. Wayne Kupferschmid, 64. He was called home on April 13. Our sincere sympathy goes to his dear wife, Sis. Laura; three daughters, Loretta Leman (Roseville, MN), Phyllis Miller (Congerville) and Beverly Foster (Clinton, MO); and three sons, Tom, Lon and Bro. Ed (all of Eureka). May our Heavenly Father comfort and sustain our loved ones and may we all strive for that time when we, too, will depart this life.

#### ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY

##### Carol Bazzell — Joann Zehr

It was very touching as our Sunday School students presented their annual Easter program Sun., Mar. 27. We trust each one will be blessed for their efforts put forth.

Each year the Board of Directors from our Church Homes throughout the United States have a meeting. It was Fairview Haven's turn to host this year's annual meeting on Sat., April 9. All of the 11 Church Homes were represented, and we enjoyed all those who visited here.

May God bless the two couples who were recently united in marriage. On April 3, Sis. Marsha Moser (Bro. Lloyd and Myrna) and Bro. Nathan Fehr (Bro. Wayne and Sis. Norma) were married. Also married on April 10 were Sis. Jill Bachtold (Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Viola) and Bro. Richard Wenger (Sis. Nathalia and the late Bro. Albert) of Forrest.

We also welcome two new babies. Douglas Paul was born to John and Sis. Judy Dohman on April 9. He has two brothers, Tony and Michael, and his grandmothers are Sis. Alma Bolliger (Tremont) and Mrs. Shirley Dohman (Fairbury). Lucas Michael was born to Jeff and Lisa Kilgus on April 15. He has one brother, Matthew, and his grandparents are Bro. Duane and Sis. Arlene Kilgus and Mrs. Toni Munz, Fairbury.

A special thanks is extended to the

various brothers who visited us and ministered God's precious word. They were Bros. Noah Gerber (West Bend), Dale Moore (Elgin, IA), John Lehman (Bern), Clarence Kachelmuss and Earl Gerber (Forrest), and Elder Bro. Sam Anliker (Lamont).

It seems we have had many from our congregation who have been hospitalized for various reasons, including surgery, during the last month. We are thankful for those who have been able to return to their homes, and may God ever be near to those who remain in the hospital.

Bro. Emil Hertlein, 90, passed away April 17. We extend our sincere sympathy to his wife, Sis. Anna, and to his two children, Olga Huette (Wing), and Eugene Hertlein (Sullivan).

As we know, even our nation has set aside two Sundays of the year wherein we pause and pay special tribute to our mothers and fathers. We feel that surely this is pleasing to God as He so well reminded in the Ten Commandments "Honour thy father and thy mother; that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee." (Exodus 20:12). Further, we realize that special days as these are often especially heart-touching to those who have laid to rest their dear mothers or fathers. However, may we ever be thankful for all the "precious memories" which we do have and may we ever strive to walk in the ways that they have taught us.

#### ILLINOIS, FORREST

##### Jan Bachtold — Kathy Leman

It is such a blessing to be able to travel over many miles from congregation to congregation and still find that same warm love that we all know so well. We wish to thank Bros. Hartzell Kaisner (Washington), Gary Anliker (Elgin), Robert Beebe (So. Bend, IN), and Bruce Leman (Roanoke) for sharing with us. We are so thankful for faithful brethren who willingly give of themselves to bring us the precious Word of Life.

We have had quite a number of hospital patients. May we always remember these dear ones in our prayers, as their needs are special during their times of illness. Hospitalized recently were Kara Hoffman (Sis. Elsie), Rachel Kelson (Bro. Paul and Sis. Sherri), Sis. Leona Ricketts (Bro. Meredith), Bro. Eli Walter (Sis. Eldora), Bro. Joel Gudeman (Sis. Ernestine), Bro. Paul Honegger (Sis. Martha) and Bro. Henry Kilgus (Sis. Lydia).

We ask God's blessings upon the union of Bro. Rich Wenger (Sis. Nathalia) and Sis. Jill Bachtold (Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Vi) who were married April 10 in Fairbury. We certainly welcome Sis. Jill into our congregation.

We also extend best wishes to Julie Huette (Bro. Art and Sis. Velda) and Mark Shambrook. They are planning a May 21 wedding.

Sis. Dorothy Bachtold wishes to extend her sincere thanks to her family, relatives and many friends who remembered her with flowers, gifts, cards, food and visits during her stay at the hospital and since returning home. May God bless each one.

A thought: May our Lord's sweet hand square us and hammer us, and strike off all kinds of pride, self-love, world-worship and infidelity, so that He can make us stones and pillars in His Father's house.

Samuel Rutherford

#### ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD

##### Pam Wiegand

Two baby boys were born this past month. Matthew Allen was born on March 22. His parents are Mark and Joan (Hohulin) Steffen. He has one older sister, Jackie. Brent Lee is the son of Bro. Randy and Sis. Cindy (Wiegand) Schmidgall. He was born on April 3 and has one older sister, Angela.

Once again the Lord has come to claim one of our loved ones. Sis. Lydia Holliger (Reeser) passed away on April 5. Our heartfelt prayers go out to her family. Sis. Lydia has recently resided at the Eureka Home.

Visiting ministers this past month were Elder Bro. Don Sauder (Roanoke), Elder Bro. Bob Walder (Congerville) and Bro. Don Manz (Junction).

#### ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY

##### Carol Klopfenstein

I want to be faithful, I want to be true.  
I want to be faithful in all that I do.  
I want to be faithful through every test.  
I want to be faithful; I'll give Him my best.

Frank Garlock

Faithfulness is a consistent loyalty to God day in and day out, in "all that we do." God has promised us He will



always be faithful. He will never fail us and we can safely depend on Him in everything. Many of us have made a similar promise in the baptismal waters to remain true and faithful to God all the days of our life. And so by His grace, we must strive to never fail Him so that He and others can safely depend on us. How wonderful it is when we are loyal and dependable — always ready to help out and support one another. We will never walk out of a job partly done, or leave our brother or sister struggling alone when we are faithful. Many older brethren have been heart warming examples of true faithfulness, never wavering in their support of the church and its God given authority. They remained faithful in their doctrine and in prayer through many years of battle with Satan's cunning devices. Many older sisters have inspired us with their faithful diligence through the years as they looked well to the ways of their household, and did not eat the bread of idleness. The heart of their husbands and all of us could safely trust in them. (Proverbs 31:11, 27)

Then when a faithful soul goes to her eternal rest, it encourages those of us who remain to be strengthened and established in our most precious faith, that we too might overcome until the end.

Sis. Anna Meyer Miller, 79, departed this life on April 19. She married Joseph Miller, Jan. 22, 1961 and he died July 11, 1962. Our special sympathy is extended to her brothers, Bro. Joseph Meyer of Bluffton and Bro. Amos Meyer of Fairbury; her sisters, Sis. Ida Gerber of Bluffton, Sis. Lillian Wright of Bluffton, and Sis. Margaret Leman of Roanoke.

We are glad that Bro. Raymond Meiss is home from the hospital again, and we hope he will be blessed with improving health in the days ahead. Sis. Verena Kuerth was also in the hospital and is now home.

Bro. Mark Campbell of Gridley was announced to be married to Sis. Marsha Schmidtgall of Morton.

We appreciated the visit of ministering Bro. Bill Hodel who was here to talk to the Bible Class at their annual Easter breakfast.

We are glad to welcome Sis. Lucille Hoffman into the fellowship of believers. She gave her testimony and was baptized on April 13.

Elder Bro. Roy Sauder of Peoria was

with us when we were privileged to partake of Holy Communion. We thank him for his labor of love.

#### ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY Renee Baurer

We were glad to have ministering Bros. Bill Hodel, Chuck Hemmer, Edwin Bahler, Ken Hoerr, Dale Eisenmann and Bob Pflederer each spend a Thursday evening with us. We were also happy to have Bro. Marvin Leman speak to us at our annual Easter Program which was held on March 31.

On April 9 and 10, Purdue University hosted College Weekend. The theme was "Spiritual Growth", and we learned that just as it is necessary for plants and animals to have growth in order to live, so must we continue to grow in our spiritual lives. The entire weekend was beautiful, and once again we would like to thank the Purdue students and others in the surrounding area for their efforts in making it such a blessing. We hope, as another semester comes to an end, that we have grown closer to the Lord and that we will continue to do so.

#### ILLINOIS, MORTON

##### Phyllis Farney — JoAnn Roecker

We are rejoicing with Sis. Tammy Garber (Bro. Ralph and Sis. Lynn) and Bro. Keith Hinrichsen (Bro. Hans and Sis. Arlene) as they were married on March 27. May the Lord be the head of their home and bless them as they will now walk life's pathway together. We will surely miss Sis. Tammy's presence here in Morton, but we know she will find warm welcome with the Goodfield brethren.

Bro. Ed and Sis. Dorothy Belsley recently celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary and wish to thank all who remembered them with gifts of love. May God bless all who were so kind.

Bro. Bill and Sis. Jane Martin recently celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary and wish to thank all those who remembered them with gifts of love. May God bless all who were so kind.

We are rejoicing with Sis. Marcia Schmidtgall (Bro. Bruce and Sis. Lucy) and Bro. Mark Campbell (Charles and Margaret of Gridley) as the Lord has shown and directed them to walk Life's pathway together. May God bless them as they shall now "become one in Christ Jesus".

We wish to extend our sincere sym-

pathy to the families of Louis Kaisner and Daniel Schlipf. May our Heavenly Father comfort and bless their families and friends.

We are very thankful to our Heavenly Father for giving Brent Braker (Elder Bro. Joe and Sis. Shirley), Becky Garber (Bro. Ralph and Sis. Lynn) and Gary Psinas the grace to heed His loving call, repent and become converted. We heard their testimonies on Saturday evening, April 16. We witnessed their baptisms and welcomed our two brothers and sister-in-faith on Sunday, April 17. May God continue to lead, guide and direct them as they now walk the narrow pathway of life.

Christian mothers gently lead their children on the narrow pathway of life. They lovingly help each of their children to seek out their soul's salvation. They fervently pray for their family. They are there to help each family member over the "rough" spots in life. May each of us continue to pray for our mother or may we have precious memories of mother who has gone on before us.

We have had the following loved ones spend some time in the hospital: Pat Bertschi, Marie Milazzo, Eliza Ackerman, Emma Schmidgall, Frank Milazzo, William Berger and Bro. Wilbert Funk. May the Lord continue to be with them and all who are sick or shut-in.

We want to thank Elder Bros. Ben Maibach (Detroit, MI) and Wendell Gudeman (Francesville, IN) for ministering God's Holy Word unto us. May the Lord richly bless them for their labors of love.

#### ILLINOIS, PEORIA

##### Susi Herman — Margo Marx

She opens her mouth in wisdom, and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue. She looks well to the ways of her household, and does not eat the bread of idleness. Her children rise up and bless her; her husband also, and he praises her, saying: Many daughters have done nobly, but you excel them all. Charm is deceitful and beauty is vain, but a woman who fears the Lord, she shall be praised. Give her the product of her hands, and let her works praise her in the gates.

Proverbs 31:26-31

During May, the month of Mother's



Day, may we all take a few moments to be thankful for our mothers.

There is something so special in gathering together on Palm Sunday and breaking bread together. We were reminded of Christ's suffering on the cross and of His shed blood which can save every soul.

We rejoice that we can welcome two new brothers and three new sisters into our fold. They are Sis. Barbara Herman, Sis. Eva Gillott, Sis. Lois Nelson, Bro. Jim Huber and Bro. Michael Weigand. May God richly bless each one as they journey forward in their Christian walk.

Hospitalized this month were: Jamie Hoerr, Sis. Andrea Hodel, Gertrude Mundle, Bro. Dick Haefli, Carl Ehnle and Otto Kinsinger.

We thank our visiting ministers, Bro. Noah Herman (Tucson, AZ), Elder Bro. Art Bahler (Fairbury), Bro. Dwayne Metzger (West Bend, IA) and Bro. Harold Schmidgall (Gridley) who so willingly shared their messages with us.

We extend our sympathy to the friends and relatives of Frances Neust, Albert Heiniger and Fred Fletcher who have passed away.

Oria and Sis. Vera Irions, Sis. Mary Plattner and Jamie Hoerr wish to thank everyone for the flowers, cards and most of all, the love and prayers that were sent their way while they were in the hospital. May the Lord bless each one.

A July 10 wedding is planned for Jamie Hoerr (daughter of Bro. Ken and Sis. Darlene) and Martin Zimmerman (son of Bro. Bruce and Sis. Myrna of Morton). Where God in truth abides, where two join hand and heart, we find a three-fold cord, not lightly rent apart.

Zion's Harp #79

### ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE Arlene and Arlys Martin

The safest place to be is in the center of God's will. Visiting ministers who spoke of God's will in our lives have been Bros. Hartzel Kaisner of Washington and Roy Ehnle of Bradford.

Our Sunday School Easter program was Sunday evening, Mar. 27, at our Fellowship Hall. We are pleased that our young people will spend an evening with us to share the good news of Jesus Christ.

Sympathy is given to the family of Bro. Mike and Sis. Sharon Menold. Sis.

Sharon's mother, Eunice Smith of Peoria, passed away Mar. 22.

Hospital patients have been Bros. Lavern Berchtold and Fred Schafer. Both have recuperated and are assembling with us again.

Sis. Martha Herrmann is recuperating at her home in Florida from leg surgery. Her address is 1140 Rolling Acres Drive, Deland, FL 32720.

### ILLINOIS, ROANOKE

#### Joyce Hodel — Carol Rumbold

Two of our sisters-in-faith have been granted rest from this life. Sis. Minnie Gerber, 86, left no earthly family, so that makes us, her brothers and sisters-in-faith, her only family. Sis. Barbara Schlupp passed away at age 87, and is survived by two sisters, Sis. Ida Wenger and Sis. Elizabeth Schlupp; and a brother, John. We extend our sympathy to those who loved Sis. Minnie and Sis. Barbara and also to our Sis. Doris (Bro. Ira) Farney, in the loss of her father, Henry Essig.

What a quiet and solemn hour of Communion we spent with our Lord, recalling His suffering and death in our stead. Our thanks go to Elder Bro. Sam Anliker and his wife who came from Lamont, KS to spend the weekend with us, and also to Elder Bro. Joe Braker, Morton, who joined Bro. Sam and our Bro. Don in serving Holy Communion to us.

Also ministering to us was Bro. Marvin Leman of Bradford. Bro. Everett Hari of Bloomington-Normal taught us some fine lessons in faith at our monthly Bible Study. Our prayer would be that God would enrich the lives of our brothers who minister to us.

Bro. Roger Wiegand and Sis. Kathy Leman embarked March 20 on a new pathway of life together as husband and wife in the Lord. It is a joy for us to behold what God has joined together, and we rejoice with them and their parents, Sis. Lena Wiegand and Bro. Rich and Sis. Rachel Leman, all of Roanoke.

This was the year for the Roanoke-Eureka Easter program to be held in Eureka, where the Roanoke Bible Class joined the entire Eureka Sunday School in presenting the program. We trust both the singers and the listeners received a blessing.

We would not want Good Friday to come and go without pausing to gather together in God's house. As always, we

were blessed as we gathered in His name.

### ILLINOIS, TREMONT

#### Dorothy Wagenbach Carolyn Bolliger

Visiting ministers this month were Bros. Kenneth Dietz (Bradford) and Kenneth Eisenmann (Cissna Park). We heard many good teachings and sincerely thank them for lending themselves on our behalf.

On March 27 our Sunday School presented their Easter Program which we all enjoyed. Our thanks to the children and their teachers.

Sis. Frieda Schaefer (Bro. Ernest) was hospitalized with eye surgery. Sis. Karen Beutel (Bro. Dean) and Sis. Wilma Pulfer (Bro. Leo) also had surgery. We are happy to see all back assembling with us again.

Madelyn Herman is recuperating at home from a fall. We hope it won't be too long till she can come to church again.

Announcement was made of the engagement of Sis. Teresa Huette and Bro. Dale Schock of Elgin, IL. Parents are Bro. Ken and Sis. Arlene Huette and Bro. Frank and Sis. Lois Schock. We wish them God's blessings in their undertaking.

Our heartfelt sympathy goes to our dear aged sister, Katie Oertle, in the death of her son, George. May God be her comforter in her time of sorrow.

We are happy to welcome Gene Beutel (Bro. Alvin and Sis. Carol) into our blessed fellowship. We are thankful for each soul that can find the true way.

A precious baby boy, Gregory Edward, was born March 29, to Bro. Dean and Sis. Karen Beutel. He was welcomed home by his sister, Stephanie. Grandparents are Bro. Dave and Sis. Eunice Beutel and Bro. Robert and Sis. Dorothy Wagenbach.

A sweet baby girl was born to Darryl and Peggy Stoecker on April 16. She was named Ashleigh Marie. Grandparents are Bro. Gene and Sis. Anne Koch and Clifford and Helen Stoecker of Pekin.

Reported late was the birth of a son to John and Karen Sitler of Erie, IL. He was born Feb. 19 and was named Matthew David. His brother Shawn helps take care of him. Grandparents are Leroy and Jackie Sauder of Clifton, IL and Kenneth and Donna Sitler of



Moline, IL. Great-grandmother is Sis. Minnie Sauder of our congregation.

On Saturday evening, April 16, we gathered to partake of Holy Communion. Bro. Ed Lanz (Oakville) was here to help Bro. Dan. We thank you for coming, Bro. Ed. We were again solemnly reminded to try to do just a little better. May God give us grace to that end.

As it is nearing Mother's Day, may those of you who still have your mother, remember her on her special day. Also may we who have lost our mothers remember all the precious memories and cherish them.

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**ILLINOIS, URBANA**  
**Cheryl Joos**

We want to thank Bro. Hartzell Kaisner (Washington), Bro. Carl Wyss (Washington), and Bro. Ron Heiniger (Bloomington) for bringing us God's message.

March 27, Palm Sunday, the Sunday School children presented their version of the Easter story. We were all taken back to the Cross where we so often need to go and were reminded there is power in the blood.

Bro. Harold and Sis. Sherry Fritz are the proud grandparents of their first grandchild, Cheree Dawn, born March 19 to Bro. Mike and Sis. Monica Fritz of Lafayette, IN. May God bless the new parents and grandparents.

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**ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON**  
**Lily Schick**

On Easter Sunday, the day our Lord arose, we were privileged to have ministering Bros. Harold and Marvin Schmidgall with us. May He be their rich Rewarder for "rightly dividing the word of truth." (II Timothy 2:15)

Bro. Gordie Gerber was transferred to Lafayette, IN. He and his wife, Sis. Kathy, moved there recently. We pray that even though they will no longer be worshipping with us, that the common bond of God's love will continue to bind our hearts. May He bless them as they make their home in a new locality.

The proud parents of another son, Jacob, are Tom and Carol Schick. Jessica, Nathan, and Lindsay, his sisters and brother, will welcome him home for now they'll have someone else to play and share with, love and care for. The grandparents are Bro. John

and Sis. Dolly Schick and Gene and Helen Boswell.

Having had a bout of illness, Sis. Anna Thomas has been in and out of the hospital several times. Now that she is home again, we pray that the Lord will bless her with health and strength once more. It was nice to have her in our midst again as she was able to come take communion with us.

Our own Elder Bro. Roy Sauder was assisted by Elder Bro. Edwin Ringger from Gridley in giving us communion, for which we were most thankful. Truly it is a privilege to partake of the Lord's supper. We know that we should live each day so that when we close our eyes at night we have His peace and are ready to meet Him. Sometimes, we seem to need a reminder. Truly our Savior's suffering and His total sacrifice is brought to mind again as we follow His command that "ye shall observe this thing for an ordinance to thee and to thy sons forever" (Exodus 12:24), "for as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come." (I Corinthians 11:26).

Just think, where would we be if He hadn't submitted to the will of His Father in the Garden of Gethsemane? He was tempted not to drink of that bitter cup of death, but He knew that if He didn't He wouldn't fulfill His purpose for coming to this earth. Ever since Adam and Eve's first transgression, mankind was counting on His coming to deliver him. Mankind's deliverance was not possible without the supreme sacrifice of His own body. It wasn't that He simply had to die for us. He had to suffer physical and spiritual anguish. Innocent Himself, He had to bear the sins for all, whoever came or would ever come upon Earth, and die suspended between heaven and earth, forsaken even by His source of strength, His Father in heaven. Yet He said, "Nevertheless, not as I will, but as thou wilt." (Matthew 26:39)

We can never be thankful enough for all our Savior has done for us. The devil tried him with every temptation we could ever be tried with. Jesus remained perfect though He had flesh and blood as we. Our Lord submitted totally to His calling, even though He was tempted not to. Yet because He did, we have that precious plan of salvation and all sufficient grace to live for Him until life's end. We know that whatever trail or test we must endure,

it will never be as severe as our Savior endured for us. May we follow more closely to His perfect example, and say as He did in the Garden, "Not as I will, but as thou wilt."

He has arisen! Our Lord is no longer here on Earth to walk and talk in His physical being. He has ascended into heaven! Yet His spirit is with us each moment of the day, and He has gone to fulfill His promise of a Heavenly Home for all those that remain true and faithful.

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**INDIANA, BLUFFTON**  
**Jan Ringger — Linda Kipfer**

"And he took bread, and gave thanks, and brake it, and gave unto them, saying, This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me."

"Likewise also the cup after supper, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you."

Luke 22:19, 20

We thank Elder Bros. Dan Koch (Tremont) and Aaron Steffen (Alto) for sharing the Word with us on Palm Sunday and for assisting our ministering brethren in the rite of Holy Communion. Other visiting ministers this month were Bro. Dale Strassheim (Milford) and Bro. Dan Stoller (Remington). May our Heavenly Father bless them for being His willing servants.

Bro. Larry and Sis. Pauline Gerber announced the engagement of their daughter, Sis. Twila, to Bro. Terry Longenberger (Bro. Harry and Sis. Devona). We wish them the Lord's guidance as they prepare for their wedding day on June 26.

Those of our congregation hospitalized this month were Tony Gerber (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Ann), Bro. Bill Gerber, Bro. Everett Geisel, Sis. Naomi Ringger, Sis. Marjorie Ringger, Sis. Lydia Kaehr, Sis. Aldine Schaefer, Bro. Roger Compton, Sis. Martha Moser and Sis. Bev Miner.

"Every child comes with the message that God is not yet discouraged of man." R. Tagore

A dear baby daughter, Julie Kay, was born to Bro. Larry and Sis. Debbie Reinhard. Her family includes her sister, Rachel, and grandparents Sis. Sarah Reinhard and Bro. Don and Sis. Mary Gerber.

Bro. Derryl and Sis. Peggy Aschli-man have become the parents of their first child, Elizabeth Rose. Bro. Mill-



ard and Sis. Alice Aschliman and Bro. Lester and Sis. Rosemary Gerber are her happy grandparents.

Easter Sunday was especially joyous for Bro. Herb and Sis. Gwen Baumgartner and their four children, as Rebecca Sue joined their family. Grandparents are Bro. Roger and Sis. Mildred Baumgartner.

Phillip Ryan was welcomed to the home of Bro. Craig and Sis. Jean Steffen and their three daughters. Grandparents include Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Elizabeth Schwartz and Bob and Betty Steffen.

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**INDIANA, BLUFFTON NORTH**  
**Peg Fiechter**  
**Kathy Longenberger**

I asked the Lord, How much do you love me? He said, This much, stretched out His arms and DIED.

Author Unknown

Becky Edington has begun her walk with the Lord. She is the wife of Tom and has two children, Grace and Rachel. Also repenting is Connie Bertsch. Connie is the daughter of Bro. Leonard and Sis. Wava Bertsch. All of us wish them God's grace in their new walk of life.

Troy Moser and Lindy Booker are engaged to be married. They are the children of Bro. Tom and Sis. Janet Moser and Dave and Becky Booker. "Bless be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love; The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above."

Hymns of Zion #156

We have two families who have moved away from us. They are Mark and Diane Mason (375 S. Main, Apt. 26, Bellville, Ohio 44813). Mark and Diane have two children, Kara and Aaron. Also leaving us are Bro. Gary and Sis. Kari Miller. They have three children, Jeremiah, Lindsay and Brady. Their new address is 2451 S. Hiram, Wichita, KS 67217.

Those who have been sick were Bro. Ted Kipfer (Sis. Theresa), Marci Neuenschwander (daughter of Bro. Ted and Sis. Deb), Lawrence Gerber (Melvena) and Sis. Lydia Steffen from Swiss Village.

A precious bundle has arrived at the home of Steve and Donna Geisel on March 26. Little Sarah Jeanette will also be welcomed by her grandparents, Bro. Jim and Sis. Dorothy. Train up a child in the way he should go: and when

he is old, he will not depart from it. Proverbs 22:6.

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**INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE**  
**Arlene Metzger**

We want to thank Bros. Jon Schmidgall of Oakville, IA and Mike Thomas of Valparaiso along with their families for their visit and sharing of God's Holy word.

On Good Friday, our assembly was filled as brothers, sisters and friends once again heard of the price that was paid by our Lord so that we could have eternal life. How we pray that not one will be left behind on that Great Resurrection Day.

As the sun was coming up for a new Sabbath day, many gathered at our Fellowship Center for Resurrection Services. In the afternoon our children joyfully told of Christ's death and resurrection in verse and song.

We announce the engagements and upcoming marriages of Kevin Wuethrich (Bro. Chris Lee and Sis. Ruth) to Connie Tiede, and Corrine Gutwein (Bro. Nate and Sis. Adeline) to Mike Dornhecker. We wish them God's blessings and guidance, and pray that they will put God at the head of their homes.

It was so nice to see Bro. Pierre Neihouser assemble with us again after spending time in the hospital. How we appreciate and love the pillars of our church. Sis. Ann Ward (Bro. Dale) has recently returned home after time in the hospital. Our many thoughts and prayers are constantly with Sis. Peg Bucher (Bro. Elmer).

A mother is a blessing —  
 so gentle, kind, and wise,  
 She's the first to give encouragement,

The last to criticize —  
 The only one you know will be there

Whenever skies are gray,  
 The first to lend a helping hand,

The last to turn away —  
 Each special thing about her

Is so lovely to recall —  
 A mother is a blessing,

The most precious one of all.

Mary Dawson Hughes

We have two first-time mothers in our congregation who are experiencing this added blessing in their lives. Bro. Mike and Sis. Monica Fritz with open arms welcome little Cheree Dawn. First-time grandparents are Bro. Harold and Sis. Sherry of Champaign,

IL and also Bro. Nate and Sis. Adeline Gutwein. Andrew Thomas is the new little son born to Bro. Brad and Sis. Becky Barnes. His grandparents are Bro. Elmer and Sis. Peg Bucher.

With fervent prayer on our hearts and trusting the Lord would be with us, a group in the church sponsored a Vietnamese family so that they could flee communist rule in Saigon and come to America.

The Duc and Thu Van Nguyen family arrived in Francesville in May, 1982. They live in an apartment at the edge of town. They have three daughters: 9 year old Tram, Yung who is 8, Mai 5, and an 18 month old son, Dong. Duc is employed at a large hog facility and Thu has a newspaper route.

Can we comprehend the adjustments that have to be made to a new language, culture, and people, without familiar family and friends?

We are thankful they attend church regularly and the children participate in all the Sunday School activities.

On behalf of the Van Nguyen family and the sponsors we want to thank everyone who has shown love, concern, and help in any way.

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**INDIANA, INDIANAPOLIS**  
**Lynn Winslow — Judy Dubach**

It has been stated that there are four thieves that can rob us of our joy. Think on each one carefully. They are: circumstances, people, things, and the worst thief of all, worry. Is any one of these a joy-stealer in your life? If so, how do we capture these thieves and keep them from taking away the joy that is rightfully ours in Christ? The answer is: We must cultivate the right kind of mind. If outlook determines outcome, then the attitude of mind that we cultivate will determine our joy or the lack of it. In the four chapters in Philippians, Paul describes four attitudes of mind that will produce joy in spite of circumstances, people, and things and that will keep us from worrying.

We were privileged to partake of the Lord's supper on the quiet Saturday evening of March 19. Elder Bro. Alfred Bahler and Bro. Joe Braker of Morton came to serve us this sacred rite. We thank them and appreciate their efforts toward us.

Bro. John and Sis. Mary Isch gave us a Biblical tour of the Holy Land with a slide presentation of their trip. It was very interesting and inspiring to see all



the holy places we read of in the Bible. We thank them for all the effort put forth to get it together so nicely so that we could all share in the beauty of this holy experience.

On Good Friday evening we gathered together for an Easter program with the Sunday School children. The adult choir also sang some Easter songs. On Easter morn, we had a 7:30 Sunrise Service followed by a breakfast prepared by the brothers. Truly a blessed morning for all who attended.

Bro. and Sis. Tom Freed are the parents of their fourth son, Matthew Lee, born March 6. Grandparents are our Bro. and Sis. Chuck and Doris Neuenschwander and Bro. and Sis. Allen and Edith Freed of Phoenix.

Bro. Von Heyerly (Bluffton) was dismissed from Methodist Hospital after being a patient for 5 weeks. We're thankful God answered the many prayers in their behalf and that they can be together as a family again.

#### INDIANA, LACROSSE

**Lu Ann Feller — Connie Knobloch**

"This union of our hearts  
Shall stand through grace in Jesus;  
We walk the path of life  
While cheer and trust increases.

Where God in truth abides,  
Where two join hand and heart  
We find a three-fold cord,  
Not lightly rent apart."

(Zion's Harp No. 79)

Bro. Vernon Bucher and Sis. Emily Hari were united as husband and wife on April 6 in Cissna Park, IL. We are very happy to welcome Sis. Emily to our congregation and pray for God's blessings in their marriage.

The engagement of two young couples was announced to the congregation. Sis. Lu Ann Feller (daughter of Bro. Lynn and Sis. Mary Ann) and Bro. Tom Troxel (son of Bro. Phil and Sis. Mary) are planning a July 10 wedding. Also, Sis. Marsha Bucher and Bro. Dennis Weiss of Valparaiso are engaged to be married. Marsha is the daughter of Bro. Garry and Sis. Lois, and Dennis is the son of Richard and Evelyn Weiss. May God guide these couples as they make plans, and may He always be the center of their union.

It was a blessing to share the Lord's supper with Bro. Nathan Steffen of Elgin, IL. "In Christ ye are my brethren

duly; we share salvation through His grace. We drink one cup; we break one bread; One Savior suffered in our stead." (Zion's Harp No. 25)

Other visiting ministers were Bros. Gene Lehman (Wolcott), Byron Stoller (Gridley, IL), Jim Rinkenberger (Bluffton) and Art Ringger (Indianapolis). Also, our Bro. Art Gudeman and his wife, Sis. Mary, have returned from their winter home in Florida. We are so thankful for the words of our ministers and for the opportunities of fellowship their visits bring us.

On Palm Sunday we were privileged to have the Francesville choir take part in our Easter program. It is a wonderful thing when the voice God has blessed us with is used to His name's glory. We are glad so many made the effort to do just that.

#### INDIANA, LEO Thelma Schlatter Marjorie Frautschi

"There are two seas in Palestine. One is fresh, and fish are in it. Splashes of green adorn its banks. Trees spread their branches over it and stretch out their thirsty roots to sip of its healing waters. Along its shores the children play, as children played when Jesus was there. He loved it. He could look across its silver surface when He spoke His parables. On a rolling plain not far away, He fed five thousand people.

The river Jordan forms this sea with sparkling water from the hills. So it laughs in the sunshine. Men build their houses near it, and birds build their nests. Every kind of life is happier because it is there.

The River Jordan flows on south into another sea. Here is no splash of fish, no fluttering leaf, no song of birds, no children's laughter. Travelers choose another route, unless on urgent business. The air hangs heavy above its water, and neither man nor beast nor fowl will drink.

What makes this mighty difference in these neighbor seas? Not the River Jordan! It empties the same good water into both. Not the soil in which they lie; not the country road about!

This is the difference. The Sea of Galilee receives but does not keep the Jordan. For every drop that flows into it another drop flows out. The giving and receiving go on in equal measure. The other sea is shrewder, hoarding its income jealously. It will not be tempted

into any generous impulse. Every drop it gets, it keeps.

The Sea of Galilee gives and lives. This other sea gives nothing. It is named the Dead Sea. There are two kinds of people in the world. There are two seas in Palestine."

(Original source unknown)

Communion services were held. This sacred, holy rite of the Lord's Supper was conducted by Elder Bros. David Bertsch and Aaron Steffen (Alto, MI). Other visiting ministers, who also brought the blessing of His Word, were Bros. Vernon Leman and Walter Anliker (Eureka, IL), and Roy Wieland (Bay City, MI).

A new blessing in the home of Bro. Brace and Sis. Brenda Wieland is little Brett Matthew who joins Jaret and Daisha in this happy family. Grandparents are Bro. Edwin and Sis. Gerlene Ringger (Gridley, IL) and Bro. Roy and Sis. Margaret Wieland (Bay City, MI).

Bros. George Zimmer and Steven Bollier were each hospitalized for a short time. We are thankful that Jim Williams has recovered from surgery and that he and his wife, Velma, are able to attend services again.

The congregation welcomes Bro. Uriel Gehring as administrator of the Children's Home and as a minister. He, his wife Sis. Judy, and daughter, Rachel, moved from Burlington, IA. They are now at home in Grabill.

These lines which were seen on a restaurant wall remind us this Memorial Day to appreciate privileges which cost great human sacrifice:

I am an American — FREE  
To speak without fear  
To worship my own God  
To stand for what I think is right  
To oppose what I believe wrong  
To choose those who govern my  
own country.

Another special day observed in May is Mother's Day. Proverbs 31:28 says: Her children arise up and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her. In Proverbs 31:30 we find: A woman that feareth the Lord, she shall be praised.

Only if a mother knows Jesus Christ as her own Savior and Lord can she successfully establish a home and raise her children in His love.



**A MOTHER'S PRAYER**

"Father in Heaven, make me wise,  
 So that my gaze may never meet  
 A question in my children's eyes . . .  
 God keep me always sweet,  
 And patient, too before their need;  
 Let each vexation know its place,  
 Let gentleness be my creed,  
 Let laughter live upon my face!

A mother's day is very long,  
 There are so many things to do!  
 But never let me lose my song  
 Before the hardest day is through."  
 Margaret Sangster

**INDIANA, MILFORD****Marcy Haab — Gwen Steffen**

The springtime brings a real testimony of God's handiwork as we observe much of His creation burst forth into radiant beauty. Our congregation saw God's greatest handiwork in two tiny babies born this March. Katie Lynne was welcomed into the home of Bro. Rich and Sis. Andria Stoller on March 26. Rejoicing with them are grandparents, Bro. Walter and Sis. Imogene Aschliman (Bluffton) and Bro. Harold and Sis. Mary Stoller (Gridley, IL). Harold and Angie Higginbotham were blessed with a little boy born March 29. Neal Anthony's happy grandparents are Bro. Bill and Sis. Anne Troup and Audrey Higginbotham (Nappanee).

Having spent some time in the hospital recently were Bros. Matthew Pamer and Walt Steffen, Sisters Luella Beer and Frieda Ruch and Tricia Wuthrich (Bro. Stan and Sis. Linda). No matter what trials may come, God is always there to comfort us in time of need.

This month we were blessed by the visits of ministering Bros. Vernon Leman (Eureka) and Harold Emch (Girard). We wish to thank them for teaching us more about our Lord.

Several of our young people will soon be completing their high school education. Among the graduates are Angie Higginbotham (Harold), Gina Hurd (Bro. John and Sis. Carol), Steve Price (Bro. Tom and Becky), Sis. Julie Schieler (Bro. Will and Sis. Sue), Jill Walferman (Bro. Bob and Sis. Joyce), Barb and Bev Wuthrich (Bro. Alan) and Eric Beer (Bro. Levi and Sis. Kathryn). Our prayer is that wherever these young adults are led, that they will use the knowledge that they have obtained wisely.

We are especially thankful for this time of year when we can honor our mothers for caring not only for our material needs, but also our spiritual needs. As Jesus deeply loved His mother, let us do likewise.

**INDIANA, REMINGTON**  
**Beth Virkler — Annette Bahler**

We are always thankful for the new little arrivals. Dale and Marcella Tyler have a new daughter, Krystal Dawn. They also have a son, Kerry, to welcome her. Grandparents are Bro. Art and Sis. Norma Wasner of Remington and Ada Mae and the late Don Tyler of Remington. Also receiving a new daughter, Jacquelyn Marie, is Jeff and Jean Beckley. They also have a son, James. Grandparents are Elmer and Nancy Beckley and Jerome and Mary Siefert. We wish them God's blessings.

Glen Braker (Bro. Ben and Sis. Cara) will graduate this spring from Purdue, as well as Duane Waibel (Bro. Harold and Sis. Arleta) and Bart Zickmund (Bro. Andy and Sis. Mary). We wish them the success above what this world can give, the success through service to the Lord.

Forget about man-measurement of success in this world. Follow the course charted two thousand years ago — the only course to true happiness and real success.

Money and power too often afford the prestige which they seek. The world measures wrong as it measures success.

Charles Schwab as president of the world's largest steel company was a financial success — but he died broke after living on borrowed money the last years of his life. A Mr. Whitney went from the New York Stock Exchange to Sing Sing. Many a tycoon in Wall Street has closed the doors to his office suite — and committed suicide.

Stalin and Mao were men of power and their slaves acclaimed them a success. But, remember Hitler and Mussolini had their day before God, and decent men tired of their evil.

Jesus knew the definition of success. He gave it two thousand year ago, but the world refuses to understand. "Whosoever will be great among you,

let him be your minister;" the words are emphatic. But knowing of man's ignorance he repeated: "And whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant."

The world may yet learn. Parades and monuments may yet honor those who cared not for success, but achieved it through humble service.

Jesus had the one and only measurement of success in this world. Believing that and following Him, we have success during this life's span and in the life to follow." — The Christian Index

**INDIANA, SOUTH BEND**  
**Nancy and Karen Lehman****Thought For Mother's Day**

We all remember Mother on her special day.  
 We send her gifts and flowers and lovely cards that say  
 How very much we thank her for the things that mothers do,  
 The sacrifices that they make; but when this day is through  
 We're prone to take for granted her precious love and care,  
 The fact that when we need her, Mother's always there.  
 She will never mention it, nor ask for any praise.  
 The joy of doing things for us is her reward always.  
 But just the same, it would be nice, if we'd find time to say  
 Just one small word of heartfelt thanks to Mother — every day!

N. B. Lybarger

Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity. Psalm 133:1

Visiting ministers this month were Bro. Vernon Schwab (Wolcott), Elder Bro. Jesse Beer and Bro. Dale Strausheim (Milford), Bro. Walt Rager (Toledo, OH), and Bro. Art Gudeman (LaCrosse). We appreciate the support and love of the brethren to minister to us.

**INDIANA, VALPARAISO**  
**Jill Hitz — Vera Nuest**

It takes courage to tell someone about your faith in Christ. It isn't easy to stand before a loved one or friend, much less a total stranger, and tell him



what you believe about Jesus Christ. People don't want to talk about things like that. Right? Besides, you're afraid that you'll break the good relationship you now have. Furthermore, if you wait a little longer, the Lord may give you a better opportunity to witness your faith. Not necessarily true. Our dear Jeanie Zetlwanger, daughter of Bro. Lyle and Sis. Marilyn took advantage of the love and fellowship shown to her while vacationing in Phoenix with her sister! What a joy for parents to see their children come to the Lord. Ecc. 12:1 says, "Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when you shalt say, I have no pleasure in them."

Michelle Renee Bucher has brought joy into the heart and home of Bro. Dean and Sis. Patty Bucher. Michelle's little brother Bryan welcomes a playmate. Grandparents are Sis. Gwen Bucher and Wayne and Judy Poarlb-berg. Proverbs 22:6 says, "Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it."

There's a new name(s) written down in glory: Bro. Dennis Weiss and Bro. Joe and Sis. Sue Kimmer. We wish the Lord's blessings in their walk of life; in every decision may they find the spirit of God.

"Whereof I am made minister, according to the dispensation of God which is given to me for you, to fulfill the word of God." Col. 1:25. Bro. Bob Beebe, from the South Bend congregation fulfilled the word of God on March 27. We thank him for his efforts and good deed! Always among us it seems are those who are sick and suffering. Please remember Sis. Tillie Heinold, Bro. Willis Feller and Sis. Esther Neuffer. All have been in the hospital and need the prayers of those they love.

We rejoice with Bro. Dennis Weiss and Sis. Marsha Bucher, daughter of Bro. Garry and Sis. Lois of LaCrosse, IN as their engagement was announced on April 17. In Gen. 2:24 we read, "Therefore shall man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife, and they shall be one flesh."

Mother's Day is a special day in which we honor our mothers. How much better to love and care for our mother while she is living, than to regret and wish we could when she is gone!

### INDIANA, WEST LAFAYETTE PURDUE UNIVERSITY Debbie Anliker

Once again this past month we were blessed with brethren who came to gather with us and share God's Word. We enjoyed having Bro. Lenard Meyer (Chicago) and Elder Bro. David Bertsch (Leo), with us. May these ministering brethren, and those who travel the miles to hear God's precious Word, be richly blessed for their efforts.

Special thanks go to all who attended, and took part in college weekend at Purdue this past month. Your help and efforts ensured that it was a blessed weekend for all.

"Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God."

Hebrews 12:1-2

### INDIANA, WOLCOTT Elaine Bahler — Lorene Furrer

A new home has been established with the marriage of Chris Bahler and Teresa Lank on March 26. We wish them the Lord's richest blessings in this important step of life. Their parents are Bro. Alfred and Sis. Frances Bahler and Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Lank (Templeton).

We are so thankful for all our ministering brothers who so freely give of themselves in the service of the Lord. We want to especially thank Bro. Earl Kilgus (Remington) who ministered to us on March 20 and Bro. Merle Bucher (LaCrosse) who spent Easter Sunday with us.

Our deepest sympathy is extended to the family of Bro. Sam Furrer who was laid to rest April 10 at the age of 86. Surviving are two daughters Mrs. Winsford (Arlene) Wood, Mrs. Verna Laffoon; one son, John Furrer; two brothers, Herman and Carl Furrer; and one sister, Sis. Lena Strahm of Gridley, KS. Bro. Sam will be sadly missed by the Wolcott congregation.

Lee Blume, infant son of Bro. Larry and Sis. Lynell Blume was hospitalized for treatment of bronchitis. We are thankful he is now home and doing well. Sis. Marilyn Schieler has been

confined to her home. We pray that she may soon enjoy renewed health and strength and can again assemble with us.

Our congratulations are extended to our high school graduates: Sis. Patsy Bahler (Bro. Lowell and Sis. Karla), Bro. Rob Lehman (Bro. Gene and Sis. Verna), and Kevin Hofstetter (Bro. Ted and Sis. Lynetta). May the Lord direct their paths as they seek further education or employment.

We rejoice with our new converts and pray that God will grant them the much needed grace that they might build a firm foundation.

The family of Bro. Sam Furrer wishes to express their heartfelt thanks for all the cards, visits and prayers while he was hospitalized and the many expressions of sympathy at his death. It was all greatly appreciated.

Thanks so much for the prayers, calls, cards, visits and gifts of love while I was in the hospital and since returning home. God bless each of you.

Sis. Marilyn Schieler

### IOWA, BURLINGTON Kim Salek — Edith Massner

Bro. Blaine Applegarth had minor surgery, but has been able to assemble with us again. We trust he will have a complete recovery.

Elder Bros. Art Bahler and Ed Lanz read the Memorandum to us. It was such an inspiring evening. Surely we were all moved in heart to a closer walk with God.

Some of our sisters were able to go to the World Relief meeting in Peoria. Perhaps they can share some of the thoughts of the day with the rest of us from time to time.

On March 23, Bro. Uriel Gehring announced to our congregation that they would be moving to Grabill, IN (Leo) to be the administrator at the Children's Home. It is really quite a thing for our little congregation to lose a minister, especially since he was the very first minister in the history of the Burlington Church. Bro. Uriel and Sis. Judy came here in 1961. They have the confidence that God is leading them, thus being an inspiration to all of us to make sure we are allowing God to lead and guide us each day. We wish them every blessing of God in this undertaking and will be comforted with the thought that we can pray for one another. They intend to move on April 21.



Announcement is being made of the engagement of Mary Beth Gehring (Bro. Uriel and Sis. Judy) to Darren Giesick (Mr. and Mrs. Melvin). Plans are being made for a July 23 wedding. We hope they will always feel very welcome in our Burlington Church even if her parents are not there.

Bro. Duane Metzger surprised us with his visit the Wed., eve. before Easter. He read an appropriate chapter, St. Luke 22. We were reminded that it is so often our own "self" with whom we struggle, striving to be thankful, humble, loving and forgiving. We would save ourselves much grief if we'd spend more time praying before we come into the depths of despair. May God help us labor within our own hearts.

Bro. Dale Strassheim helped bring us the Easter message. We know we are so blest to live in a land where we have freedom of religion and so many other blessings, but we do need to be reminded!

Little Julie Ryner, infant daughter of Jerry and Kim, was relieved of earthly distress on April 11. Her great-grandmother is Sis. Esther Peterson. Services were held by Bro. Harvey Heiniger.

Bro. Alvin Rechkemmer had the misfortune of breaking a bone in his lower leg. He is thankful for his daughter, Cora (Ron Ater) who is taking care of him in her home.

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**IOWA, ELGIN**  
**Gloria Frieden**

#### THE BLESSED MORROW

Midst the darkness, storm and sorrow,  
 one bright gleam I see;  
 Well I know the blessed morrow  
 Christ will come for me.  
 Midst the light, and peace in glory  
 of the Father's home,  
 Christ for me is watching, waiting,  
 waiting till I come . . .

On April 3 that "blessed morrow" came for Sis. Marie Schneider as she slept quietly away to go to be with her Lord. We will certainly miss this pillar in our church who led an exemplary life of humbleness, faithfulness and patience. Our sympathy goes to the surviving brothers, sisters and their families: Dr. Robert Schneider (Postville), LaVern and Jacob (Elgin), Mrs. George (Sis. Eleanor) Butikofer, Mrs. Ervin (Sis. Ruth) Metzger (both of

Elgin) and Mrs. Chester (Betty) Curtis (Minneapolis, MN).

Other hospital patients this past month were Bro. Floyd Frieden and Sis. Marie Butikofer.

On March 26 and 27 we were happy Bro. Lester Hartter (Bern, KS) could be with us to assist Bro. Paul with Holy Communion and the reading of the Memorandum.

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**IOWA, IOWA CITY**  
**Joyce Eland**

As Mother's Day approaches I cannot but consider my own failings as a mother. How much I need the Lord's guidance and love to help me! I find the following poem by Leslie Pinckney Hill very expressive:

#### The Teacher

Lord, who am I to teach the way  
 To little children day by day,  
 So prone myself to go astray?

I teach them knowledge, but I know  
 How faint the flicker and how low  
 The candles of my knowledge glow.

I teach them power to will and do,  
 But only now to learn anew  
 My own great weakness through and  
 through.

I teach them love for all mankind  
 And all God's creatures, but I find  
 My love comes lagging far behind.

Lord, if their guide I still must be,  
 Oh, let the little children see  
 The teacher leaning hard on Thee.

Those of us in the Iowa City area were again blessed in having several brothers assist in the ministry of God's Word. Brothers visiting in the past few weeks included Earl Gerber (Forrest), Art Baurer (Princeville), Ed Lanz and Dale Frank (Oakville), Steve Rinkenberg (Cissna Park), Duane Metzger (West Bend), and Harvey Heiniger (Burlington). We thank these brothers and their families for their support. We are also thankful for our other visitors who have enriched our fellowship. With our small congregation each additional person means a lot!

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**IOWA, LESTER**  
**Alice Metzger**

We were privileged to experience an uplifting and solemn occasion when

we were again led to the cross and could partake of Holy Communion on April 17. Elder Bro. Sam Anliker and Elder Bro. Leo Moser read the scripture and expounded on its importance to our undying souls. This same weekend we heard the testimony and witnessed the baptism of Bro. Stan Wulf. It reminded us of our own conversion and how thankful we were when we could feel God's help in our battle against Satan. We welcome Stan as a brother-in-faith. He is the son of Bro. Bill and Sis. Leona. Other ministers with us for this occasion were Bros. Earl Banwart, Jon Schmidgall and Doug Schock. We are thankful that God directed them into our midst. Bro. Alpai Moser was our visiting minister for mid-week service.

The engagement of Sis. Cris Schmidgall and Bro. Kurt Lehman (Eureka) was made known. We ask God's blessing upon them in this special time in their lives.

Hospital patients have been Sis. Nancy Gerber and Sis. Elaine Kellenberger. Both are recuperating and doing well.

Bro. Eli and Sis. Alice Metzger welcome a new grandson into the family. Peter Eli was born March 31 to Jack and Sue Ellen Metzger. His maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Keith Stratton, and he has one brother.

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**IOWA, OAKVILLE**  
**Jerilyn Wagenbach**

The weekend of Feb. 19 and 20 was one of great joy as we welcomed three new sisters and three new brothers into the fold. They were Debbie, Jerry, and Jeff Wagenbach (Bro. Gerald and Sis. Bonnie), Colin Wagenbach (Bro. Paul and Sis. Dorothy), Jan Stoeker, and Juanita Gerst (Randy). Elder Bros. Eugene Marti (Lamar, MO) and Nathan Steffen (Elgin, IL) assisted as the converts gave their testimonies and were baptized. We prayed for these dear ones throughout their repentance, and our prayers do not stop now — they still need our support as they continue in this walk of faith.

Elder Bro. Arthur Bahler (Fairbury) was present as we gathered with the brethren at Burlington to hear the reading of the Memorandum on March 19. May each one find a humble heart and the willingness to accept these teachings as we struggle to preserve our faith. ". . . Hath the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacri-



fices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice. . . ." I Samuel 15:22.

March 27 was the wedding day of Bro. Curtis Eberhardt (Bro. Joe and Sis. Ruby) and Sis. Jean Wuthrich, Pulaski (Bro. Joel and Sis. Shirley). We wish them the Lord's guidance and blessings as they establish their new home. We welcome Sis. Jean into our congregation.

The Easter season was a time of reflection upon our salvation, made possible by the sacrifice of the Perfect Lamb. The blood, sprinkled on our hearts causes the Death Angel to "pass over" us. We were reminded of the transition from the Passover Feast, celebrated by the children of Israel, to the Lord's Supper, instituted in the New Testament, as we partook of the Communion on April 9. Elder Bro. Sam Huber (Sabetha) assisted in this work.

Bro. Curt and Sis. Kathy Frank were blessed with a new daughter on April 12. Lanae Dawn has one brother, Ryan, and one sister, Christy, to welcome her home. Grandparents are Bro. Ernest and Sis. Bernice Frank, and Elder Bro. Edward and Sis. Joan Lanz.

Each child that is born has a mother — and we all appreciate these loved ones who have sheltered us, cared for us, guided, encouraged, and chastised us. Indeed, they would do anything in their power to see that only good comes to their children. Yet, we do not show our love and appreciation for them often enough. Mother's Day comes only once a year, but, Mothers — we love you every day!

#### IOWA, PULASKI

**Mary Wiegand — DeAnn Wuthrich**

"The voice that breathed o'er Eden, That earliest wedding day . . ." On March 27, Sis. Jean Wuthrich and Bro. Curt Eberhardt were united in marriage by Elder Bro. Ed Lanz. Their parents are Bro. Joel and Sis. Shirley Wuthrich and Bro. Joe and Sis. Ruby Eberhardt from Oakville.

May God bless your marriage,  
 May God bless your love,  
 And make the years bright  
 With His light from above . . .  
 And bring so much joy  
 To the home you will share  
 You'll know that His presence  
 Abides with you there.

With us on the wedding day were Elder Bros. Ed Lanz (Oakville), Carl Kinsinger (Altadena) and Bro. Virg Metzger (Champaign, IL). We thank them for helping make this a blessed day.

Bro. Albert Wuthrich spent a few days in the hospital following a knee injury. We are happy that he is getting along fine.

Bro. Carl Wyss (Washington, IL) was with us recently. He urged us to meditate on what we read. After a hard day's work we sometimes find ourselves almost too tired to read the Bible, so when we do read it may just be "words". It is important to "think on these things" as there is a message in God's Word for us; and no matter how many times we read certain passages we can always find something new.

Happy first-time parents are Bob and Janice Teubel Johnson. Little Russell Aaron made grandparents, Bro. Richard and Sis. Wilma Teubel very happy, too.

#### IOWA, WEST BEND

**Elma Mogler — Polly Zaugg**

We are thankful when we have visiting ministers assemble with us. Bro. Joe Gerst (Iowa City) and Bro. Al Langhofer (Wichita) richly provided us with spiritual food for thought.

The dear Lord has placed two new babies in our congregation. Bruce and Julie Rongved are parents of Michael Ray. Grandparents are James and Becky Banwart and Roger and Betty Rongved. Little April also welcomes him home. Bro. Roger and Sis. Rhonda Reker are parents of a daughter, Rachel Rena, and her grandparents are Bro. Vic and Sis. Marilyn Banwart and Ray and Dorothy Reker. Little Stephanie welcomes her home, too. May they be blessed as they tenderly care for the little ones.

Harold Fisher was a pneumonia patient in the hospital this month. We are thankful he was able to assemble with us again the past Sunday.

As Spring again arrives, we think of graduation. The young people from our congregation who will be leaving our local schools are: Byron Anliker (Bro. Leonard and Sis. Helen), Ray Banwart (Paul Jr. and Emmy), Tedd Knobloch (Adolph and Jean), Wyan Metzger (Bernard and Alice), Dennis Schmidt (Bro. Dwaine and Sis. Lucille), Julie Wickman (Bro. Larry and Sis. Marvella) and Jeff Zaugg (Richard and

Dorothy). May God shelter each one and may they remember the kindness and touch of love their parents have taught them. We pray that the teachings they have learned in church, Sunday School and home will go with each one.

Our best wishes go to Brad Banwart and Julie Berte, who recently were united in marriage. Parents are James and Becky Banwart and Mr. and Mrs. John Berte. Also, Shannon, son of Eldon and Verdell Fehr, and Margaret, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Keith Sadler, announce their engagement.

#### JAPAN, SHIODA

**Vicki Ramseyer**

"Except I shall see in His hands the prints of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into His side, I will not believe." (John 20:25) Many of us shake our heads and say poor Thomas, or find ourselves wondering about a "Thomas-kind-of-faith". But Easter Sunday one of our brothers used this very verse to make a point I'd never thought of before, and would like to share with you. Thomas said, "I can hardly believe that — show me!" This brother shared with us that he felt this was the first step in faith and belief, because that soul is seeking. I think he is right. If someone says to you, "show me," all you have to do is turn to God's true and living Word to show them.

Easter Sunday morning a number of us gathered at a river for a "sunrise service" to remember the resurrection of our Lord. After services we cooked our breakfast on an open fire and enjoyed eating together.

Also, Easter Sunday afternoon our Sunday School children shared the whole story of our Lord's death and resurrection. It was a real blessing to have so many of our friends fill the church to hear the story (maybe for the first time) that we are all so familiar with.

May God bless His Word.

#### JAPAN, TOKYO

**Yoshio Yamazaki — Marie Inoue**

March 30 was the school children's vacation time. Several of the children came from Shioda church and went hiking with our Tokyo church children near Odawara where our beloved Sis. Haruyo Onoda lives. We really thank God for giving us such nice fellowship with our young folks.



Spring has come and the wind now sends fresh air with a good smell toward us. We will soon have cherry blossoms here and there.

We had a real blessed Easter this past Sunday as it was very warm and fine day. Our Sunday School children's Easter program was real blessed also. The children memorized some Scriptures, some of the Easter stories, and sang the beautiful hymns. We enjoyed it very much.

Bro. Saburo Utsuki, his wife, and family wish to thank each one who remembered them at the passing of their beloved Toyomi with prayers, cards and flowers. May God bless each one richly.

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**KANSAS, BERN**  
**Linda Esslinger**

A precious little bundle from heaven came to the home of Sis. Ellen and Bro. Curtis Strahm on March 20, 1983. Emily Rose is welcomed by two brothers, Clinton and John. Grandparents are Sis. Mamie and Bro. Alpha Strahm, Jr., and Dorothy and Richard Zaugg (West Bend, IA).

We have discontinued our mid-week services and now are having singing on every other Sunday evening, alternating with Sabetha.

Bro. Sam Huber (Sabetha) assisted Bro. Lester Hartter in serving communion on April 17.

Sympathy is extended to Sis. Pearl Meyer on the passing away of her brother Alvin Streit.

We have a problem, but it is a good problem. Our Sunday School has been filled to near capacity. Plans are being made to build on in the near future.

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**KANSAS, FT. SCOTT**  
**Jamie Marti**

We welcome now the Hero,  
 Who lay in calm repose,  
 For over death He triumphed  
 And from the grave He rose.

Zion's Harp #121

"And as they were afraid and bowed down their faces to the earth, they said unto them, Why seek ye the living among the dead? He is not here, but is risen; remember how He spake unto you when He was yet in Galilee, Saying, The Son of Man must be delivered unto the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again."  
 St. Luke 24:5-7

We were reminded of Christ's suffering and death on the cross by our Sunday School children on Palm Sunday, March 27. We would also like to thank Bro. John Lehman (Bern, KS) for bringing God's Word to us on Easter Sunday.

"Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves; for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you." Hebrews 13:17  
 On April 4 we gathered together to hear the Conference letter. Many thanks go to Elder Bro. Leroy Huber (Eureka, IL) for coming to assist Bro. Raymond Banwart.

We extend our sympathy to the family of Sis. Emma Bahr.

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**KANSAS, GRIDLEY**  
**Julie Bahr — Doris Bahr**

"Lord everything I have or ever hope to be I give to you this day." We as parents, and children alike, need to convey our simplest needs to our heavenly Father and allow Him to direct our family lives. We want to especially be mindful of our Christian family lives as the special days approach that we once again recognize our dear fathers and mothers. Children with the fondest memories and deepest family ties are those who experienced a lot of family fun and togetherness, and were given some solid moral and spiritual values on which to stand. Of all the tasks God has given us to perform, none is greater than rearing a family. One of the primary reasons God has for spending time with our children is to develop a close relationship. Children tend to accept our ideas when they accept us; they tend to reject our ideas when they reject us. It's hard for children to reject the values of parents who are their closest friends. There's no place like home for building deep and lasting God-fearing relationships. Laugh together, play together, pray together, and even cry together — then grow together in the fear of our almighty God.

Our hospital patient has been our dear ministering brother Loren Strahm. He was hospitalized for surgery. May God's almighty hand restore him to good health.

A special and loving thank you to ministering brother Max Reimschisel

for his time and effort in coming to visit us to expound God's Holy Word.

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**KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**Jana Meyer**

... All things work together for good to them that love God ... Romans 8:28

Just how this statement can be true, Perhaps has often puzzled you;  
 You've wondered how that "all things" could,  
 Work out for your eternal good;  
 How trouble, sorrow and unrest,  
 Could work together for the best;  
 How this could be, you did not know;  
 And yet, you felt it must be so.

Now "all things" mean, both good and bad.

Yes, things that really make you sad;  
 It means your sickness and your health,  
 Your poverty as well as wealth;  
 Of trouble you will have your share,  
 While in this world of toil and care;  
 But rest assured you have a Friend,  
 Who knows you life from start to end.

Should God permit dark clouds some day,

To cast a gloom across your way,  
 Just take it as your Father's will;  
 You're in His care, He loves you still;  
 Be not alarmed, nor be cast down,  
 'Tis through these trials you win a crown;  
 All earthly sorrow soon shall cease,  
 While joys eternal shall increase.

There's much we do not understand,  
 But "all things" are within His hand;  
 Remember God's mysterious plan,  
 Cannot be solved by mortal man;  
 But when we reach the land of rest,  
 We then shall see that He knew best;  
 The things we had not understood,  
 We'll realize were for our good.

Throughout our daily lives we oft times encounter trials that seem to ever burden us. Turning to God's Word and singing praises unto Him helps us to overcome these trials and strengthen our faith.

During the past month brethren from Gridley, KS and Sabetha assembled with us to share God's precious Word. We thank Bros. Tim Zimmerman and Loren Strahm (Gridley) and Bro. Ben Wysong (Sabetha) for their kind deeds.



Singings have been held at the homes of our Bro. Kevin and Sis. Denise Kilgus, Bro. Edwin and Sis. Ramona Strahm, and Bro. Tim Moore, Mike Strahm and Meryl Stoller.

### KANSAS, KIOWA

Janice Bahr — Gay Farney

#### THE FIRST FACE SHE EVER SAW

And they shall see His face . . . And there shall be no night there.

Revelation 22:4, 5

The hymnwriter, Fanny Crosby, gave us more than 6,000 gospel songs. Although blinded by an illness at the age of 6 weeks, she never became bitter. One time a preacher sympathetically remarked, "I think it is a great pity that the Master did not give you sight when He showered so many other gifts upon you." She replied quickly, "Do you know that if at birth I had been able to make one petition, it would have been that I should be born blind?" "Why?" asked the surprised clergyman. "Because when I get to heaven, the first face that shall ever gladden my sight will be that of my Savior!"

One of Miss Crosby's hymns was so personal that for years she kept it to herself. Kenneth Osbeck author of several books on hymnology, says its revelation to the public came about this way: "One day at a Bible conference in Northfield, Massachusetts, Miss Crosby was asked by D. L. Moody to give a personal testimony. At first she hesitated, then quietly rose and said, 'There is one hymn I have written which has never been published. I call it my soul's poem. Sometimes when I am troubled, I repeat it to myself, for it brings comfort to my heart.' She then recited while many wept, 'Someday the silver cord will break, and I no more as now shall sing; but oh, the joy when I shall wake within the palace of the King! And I shall see Him face to face, and tell the story — saved by grace!' " At the age of 95, Fanny Crosby passed into glory and saw the face of Jesus.

That's the sure hope of every child of God!

— H.G.B.

As I read the above account of Fanny Crosby in "Our Daily Bread", I had to marvel at the fact that in her blindness, she "Saw the Way" far better than many who have eyes that see, yet are "Blind" to the simplicity of Jesus

Christ and Him Crucified, Resurrected and Interceding at the right hand of God for such unworthy ones as we. We are a truly blessed people! Let us not be too "Blind" to see; and ever give thanks for all these things.

We would like to extend our love and thanks to Elder Bro. Jess Beer (Milford, IN) for the precious works of faith he shared with us on Palm Sunday weekend when he, his dear wife, sister and brother-in-law were in our midst for the two days. On Saturday evening Elder Bro. Beer and Elder Bro. Ronald Nelson shared the Lord's Supper with us and helped us to remember the Lord's suffering on the cross for our sins. It is always such a precious and humbling evening for us, and we are so thankful for the opportunity to share in "His" supper, and partake of "His" precious body and blood which was given and shed so willingly for us.

We enjoyed a truly blessed evening of fellowship this month when Bro. Ulysses and Sis. Mildred Farney opened their home for our Bible Study and singing. It is wonderful that we are able to study God's Word, and sing praises to His holy name, in freedom, with those of like mind, whenever and wherever we please.

We would like to welcome all of our winter travelers back into our midst again. We miss everyone when they are gone from us, and we are so glad to have them home again.

### KANSAS, LAMONT

Jill Luthi

"Children, obey your parents in all things; for this is well pleasing unto the Lord." Colossians 3:20

"My son, hear the instruction of thy father, and forsake not the law of thy mother." Proverbs 1:8

Even though we should remember Mothers and Father's each day, our nation has set aside the second Sunday in May as Mother's Day and the third Sunday in June as Father's Day. May we each be thankful for what our parents have taught us.

We were spiritually fed by visiting ministers in the past weeks. With us the last Sunday in March were Bros. Ben Wyson (Sabetha) and Charles Sinn (Ft. Scott). We thank them both for being with us. Good Friday, we again were blessed when Bro. Harry

Grimm (Bern) was in our midst. We must always remember our shepherds!

Believing she has found peace with God and all man, Maria Schrader awaits for her testimony and baptism May 21 and 22. May the Lord ever abide with her.

Hospitalized during this writing was Bro. Fred Luthi with pneumonia. We are glad he was able to be released. May the Lord ever stand mightily by him to strengthen him each day, that again he may be able to assemble with us.

### KANSAS, SABETHA

Clara Steiner — Judy Hartter

Roger and Janice Young (Hiawatha) are the parents of a new daughter, Miranda Lynn, born March 25, 1983. Grandparents are Bro. Harvey and Sis. Arleta Wenger.

Our hospital patients this past month have been Sis. Fanny Bahr, Sis. Dena Fechter and Bro. Reo Strahm. We are thankful that they are all home again and doing better.

We appreciated Bro. Lenny Meyer (Chicago, IL) for sharing God's precious Word with us on Easter Sunday. Truly the Word of God was spoken in all truth and purity.

How touching it is to see that God is still calling lost souls, even in the sunset years of life. We are thankful that our new brother-in-faith, Dave Meyer, who resides at the Apostolic Christian Home, could be baptized on April 16.

"And when He had given thanks, He brake it, and said, Take eat: this is My body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of Me. After the same manner also He took the cup, when He had supped saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of Me."

I Corinthians 11:24-25

We had the blessed privilege in partaking of Holy Communion on April 15. This Holy Sacrament was conducted by our Elder Bro. Sam Huber and Bro. Lester Hartter (Bern, KS). We need to look daily to the old rugged cross and remember the suffering of our precious Savior.

We have discontinued our midweek services for the summer months and have begun song services every other Sunday evening, alternating with the Bern congregation.



A parable on motherhood by Temple Bailey.

The young mother set her foot on the path of life. "Is the way long?" she asked. And her guide said, "Yes, and the way is hard. And you will be old before you reach the end of it. But the end will be better than the beginning." But the young mother was happy and she would not believe that anything could be better than these years. So she played with her children and gathered flowers for them along the way and bathed with them in the clear streams; and the sun shone on them and life was good, and the young mother cried, "Nothing will ever be lovelier than this."

Then night came, and storm, and the path was dark and the children shook with fear and cold, and the mother drew them close and covered them with her mantle and the children said, "O mother, we are not afraid, for you are near, and no harm can come," and the mother said, "This is better than the brightness of day, for I have taught my children courage."

And the morning came, and there was a hill ahead and the children climbed and grew weary, and the mother was weary, but at all times she said to the children, "A little patience and we are there." So the children climbed and when they reached the top, they said, "We could not have done it without you, mother." And the mother, when she lay down that night, looked up at the stars and said, "This is a better day than the last, for my children have learned fortitude in the face of hardness. Yesterday I gave them courage, today I have given them strength."

And the next day came strange clouds which darkened the earth — clouds of war and hate and evil — and the children groped and stumbled and the mother said, "Look up. Lift your eyes to the light." And the children looked and saw above the clouds an Everlasting Glory, and it guided them and brought them beyond the darkness. And that night the mother said, "This is the best day of all, for I have shown my children God."

And the days went on, and the weeks and the months and the years, and the mother grew old, and she was little and bent. But her children were tall and strong and walked with courage. And when the way was rough they lifted her, for she was as light as a feather; and at

last they came to a hill, and beyond the hill they could see a shining road and golden gates flung wide.

And the mother said, "I have reached the end of my journey. And now I know that the end is better than the beginning, for my children can walk alone, and their children after them."

And the children said, "You will always walk with us, Mother, even when you have gone through the gates."

And they stood and watched her as she went on alone, and the gates closed after her. And they said, "We cannot see her, but she is with us still. A mother like ours is more than a memory. She is a Living Presence."

#### KANSAS, WICHITA Priscilla Frank

"Now the Lord had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy father's house unto a land that I will shew thee." Even as God called out Abram in Genesis 12:1; so we believe God has called Bro. Gary and Sis. Carrie Maller out of their homeland in Bluffton, IN. We rejoice that God has brought them into the Wichita congregation. We pray that even as God blessed Abram for his obedience — he will also bless you. We heartily welcome you and your three children into our midst.

The gentlemen here had the rare occasion to have a dinner "just with the men". They had a father and son dinner. The dinner and sharing hour gave those present an opportunity to pass along some of their wisdom and experiences they had shared as a father and son. There were many tender occasions shared and I think as a result everyone present was enriched. Fathers were encouraged to know that they had passed on insights for living to their sons, and sons for the opportunity to tell their fathers publicly that they did appreciate their father's love and guidance — even though many of them went through some hard times together.

The Lord blessed us with a beautiful Easter morning for our sunrise service. It enabled us as a body to express our sentiments of what Easter meant to each of us. God revealed some special truths to us through various parts of Christ's journey to the cross. There were many that were so enlightening, but one sister shared one

that really stated what Easter is to accomplish in each of our lives. She shared two verses from Psalm 65:9, 10.

"Thou visitest the earth, and waterest it: thou greatly enrichest it with the river of God which is full of water: thou preparest them corn, when thou hast so provided for it. Thou waterest the ridges thereof abundantly, thou settest the furrow thereof: thou makest it soft with showers: thou blessed the springing thereof.

She then went on to share how these scriptures really applied to our lives in the spiritual aspect. With sin in our hearts and lives, clots develop and we crush the growth that might have sprung forth. But as we repent for our sins, and let God's love and forgiveness show upon us, it breaks down the clots in our hearts, and makes the soil of our hearts soft and workable. This allows what has been planted by God's word to spring forth and grow. Then God's blessings in our lives are evident to all. May we all allow God's love to melt the clots in our hearts, that His love in our lives might be a witness to all.

#### MICHIGAN, ALTO Jane Grawburg

Tom and Michelle Oesch, son and daughter-in-law of Bro. Joe and Sis. Melva Oesch, have found peace with God and with man and are waiting for the day when they, too, may be taken into the fold. Our prayers are with both of them.

Bro. Ferdinand Grawburg, husband of Sis. Jane, has experienced eye surgery. We pray that sight has been restored to some degree in one of his eyes. What a blessing this would be when just a year ago we were told that possibly nothing more could be done! We appreciate all of your love and prayerful support.

John Grawburg, brother of Bro. Ferdinand and Sis. Jane, was involved in a very serious accident that could have taken his life. He has been hospitalized twice and will need to go back again. We pray for a special blessing here; and, given time, that all will be well.

THE SWEETEST NAME  
"Her home her kingdom, she its queen:  
Her reign was faithful, honest, clean,  
Impartial, loving, just, to each  
And everyone she sought to teach.  
Her name? Of course, there is no other



In all the world so sweet —  
Just Mother!"

May Allread Baker

Many blessings to all our mothers,  
now and always.

### MICHIGAN, BAY CITY

#### Linda Ramseyer

Bro. Jerry and Sis. Lois Wieland are rejoicing with the addition of two new grandchildren. Jered Timothy is the son of Tim and Susan Wenglikowski. His sister, Kristi Sue welcomed him home. Charles and Sharon Schwarz are the happy parents of a daughter, Kalee Marie. She also has a brother, Cullen. Our prayers are with these couples as they welcome little ones into their homes.

I would like to apologize for not reporting the birth of a son, Aaron Nicholas to Kip and Patricia Wackerle. Aaron was born prematurely on Jan. 17. We are thankful that everything has gone well for him and his parents could recently bring him home. Aaron's grandparents are Clinton and Ilean Wackerle.

Our thoughts and prayers have been with the loved ones who have been hospitalized in the past month. Bro. Frederick Ruegsegger has had surgery and we are thankful that he has been able to return home and once again assemble with us. Bro. Glenn (Sis. Margaret) Ruegsegger has been hospitalized and we pray that he might feel the healing hand of the Lord and return home soon.

We were saddened by the death of our dear Sis. Louise Lambert after a lingering illness. She is survived by three sons: Gerald Lambert of Milwaukee, WI, Darrel Lambert of Hope, MI and George Lambert of Fenton, MI; three daughters: Joyce (Jerry) Laskowski of Bay City, Shirley Lambert of Midland, MI and Judy (Raymond) Rytlewski of Baton Rouge, LA; 18 grandchildren and one great-grandchild. Our prayers are with the family in the loss of their dear mother and grandmother.

Our congregation has been privileged to have ministering brothers visit us during the past month. Bro. Don Gudeman of LaCrosse, IN was with us for Palm Sunday and we thank him for coming. Elder Bro. Nathan Steffen (Elgin, IA) and Bro. Tom Leman (Denver, CO) were with us for a week-

end and we thank them for their efforts in visiting our congregation.

We rejoiced with two souls who were able to give their testimony and be baptized. We welcome Sis. Lorraine Faustin and Bro. Lee (Bro. Glenn and Sis. Margaret) Ruegsegger into God's family. Bro. Lee is living in Denver, CO and we are thankful that he could come and share this special time with us. Our prayers are with Bro. Lee and Sis. Lorraine.

We were happy to hear of the engagement of Kenn Wackerle and Kathy Jezewski. Kenn's parents are Bro. Wallace and Sis. Alvina Wackerle. May the Lord bless this couple as they plan their life together.

As May is the month to honor our mothers, the following words express it best:

God bless mothers everywhere for  
their understanding ways,  
Bless them for their gentleness and  
their tender words of praise —  
Bless them for the love they give that's  
constant, warm and true,  
Bless them now and always in every-  
thing they do.

Amy Cassidy

### MICHIGAN, DETROIT

#### Dawn Bahr

"These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world." St. John 16:33

We rejoice that Korola Fortenbacher, daughter of Bro. Walter and Sis. Margaret Fortenbacher (Kitchen-er, Ontario) has found peace with God through repentance, and can now look forward to baptism. We are also thankful that Andrea Denes has found grace to repent. We pray that she too, can be given direction to work out her salvation. May she find the wonderful peace that only God can give. Andrea's parents are Bro. Frank and Sis. Sanche Denes.

Hospitalized this month were Bro. Frank Denes, Bro. John Orcsik and Ted Orcsik. We pray for God's healing power and strength to each one.

We want to sincerely thank Bro. Steve Gutwein (Francesville, IN) for coming to minister to us. May he and his family be richly blessed for their labors of love.

### MINNESOTA, MINNEAPOLIS

#### Deb Tilbury

The engagement of Sis. Christine Schmidgall (Bro. Ray and Sis. Millie) and Bro. Kent Leman (Bro. Roy and Sis. Wanda), Eureka was announced. They plan a July 3 wedding in Lester, IA. May they always feel the reassuring presence of the Lord as they travel life's path.

Richard Miller is now recuperating at home and we look forward to his being able to assemble with us again. We rejoice with him, for he has found peace with the Lord. We have witnessed God's healing power, and our hearts are warmed as Maxine Larson is again able to be in our midst.

### MINNESOTA, MORRIS

#### Rhonda Zeltwanger — Jan Schock

A real blessed Palm Sunday weekend added three more souls to our body of believers. Tim and Gwen Gramm (Bro. Harold, Sis. Ila and Bro. Art, Sis. Sandra Nohl) and Steve Wevley expressed their need of the Saviour. Visiting ministers were Bros. Edwin Ringger, Leo Moser, Sam Huber and Elmer Witzig. We truly thank them for their love and counsel.

There is rejoicing among the angels and our assembly as Ted and Angela Gramm (Bro. Harold, Sis. Ila) are seeking God in repentance. "But seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." (Matt. 6:33) . . . Peace and joy, grace and faith, and love to cover a multitude of sins.

There has been sorrow in the death of our dear Bro. Edward Koehl. Our sympathy goes to his wife, Sis. Lillian and to his children, Bro. Carl, Norene (Mrs. Howard Pergament), Rita (Mrs. Gary Rose) and Doris Kay (Mrs. Kenneth Agans). Also surviving is his twin brother, Edwin. We hope that God will comfort and help where man cannot.

The engagement of Keith Koehl (Bro. Ernest and Sis. Gladys) to Coleen Weiss has been announced. We extend best wishes and God's blessings to them.

Little Stephanie Gramm (Bro. Greg and Sis. Denise) was a surgery patient, and we're happy she is home and well again. Infant daughter, Susie Nohl (Bro. Dwayne and Sis. Janice) required hospital care and she is home again too. Bro. Harold Gramm underwent hip replacement, and as this is written the



surgery was successful and we pray for God's healing power on Bro. Harold.

A baby boy, Christopher Robert, was born to Bro. Tim and Sis. Jeanne (Haefli) Esterling. Zacchary and grandparents (Bro. Don, Sis. Josie and Bro. Robert, Sis. Eileen) have helped to welcome him!

As Bro. Edwin ministered and emphasized "love", this poem brings back many of his thoughts.

### "WHAT IS LOVE?"

What is love?

No words can define it,  
It's something so great  
Only God could design it . . .

Wonder of wonders,  
Beyond man's conception,  
And only in God  
Can love find true perfection,

For love means much more  
Than small words can express,  
For what man calls love  
Is so very much less

Than the beauty and depth  
And the true richness of  
God's gift to mankind —  
His compassionate love . . .

For love has become  
A word that's misused,  
Perverted, distorted  
and often abused,

To speak of "light romance"  
Or some affinity for  
A passing attraction  
That is seldom much more

Than a mere interlude  
Of inflamed fascination,  
A romantic fling  
Of no lasting duration . . .

But love is enduring  
And patient and kind,  
It judges all things  
With the heart not the mind,

And love can transform  
The most common place  
Into beauty and splendor  
And sweetness and grace . . .

For love is unselfish,  
Giving more than it takes,  
And no matter what happens  
Love never forsakes,

It's faithful and trusting  
And always believing,  
Guileless and honest  
And never deceiving . . .

Yes, love is beyond  
What man can define,  
For love is Immortal  
And God's Gift is Divine!

Helen Steiner Rice

### MINNESOTA, WINTHROP

Carol Ann Messner  
Mary Lou Schmidt

### LIFE'S ROAD

We learn many lessons as each day  
goes by —  
There are songs to sing and a few tears  
to cry.  
There are blessings to count, happy  
memories too;  
And sometimes disappointment in  
things that we do.  
There are cups that run over and years  
that are lean,  
With bright days and dark days and  
long nights between.  
But one choice we can make, as we  
carry life's load —  
If we look toward the sun, how it  
brighens the road!

Winthrop has several graduates this spring. Our college graduates were Kathy Messerli (Bro. Cornelius and Sis. Delores), and Cheryl Messner (Bro. Leroy and Sis. Joann). Our graduates from high school are Leona Schmidt (Gene and Sis. Ella Mae), Karla Messner (Bro. Gerald and Millie), Heather Redmann (Darrel and Jane), Bonnie Messner (Bro. LeRoy and Sis. Joann) and Troy Messner (Bill and Sis. Marilyn). We pray these dear young souls would not only look to the wisdom of the world, but also seek the wisdom of God in their lives! The fear of the Lord in the instruction of wisdom. Proverbs 15:33

At various times of the year we have a clothing drive and a collection of baked goods which are given to a state hospital near us. They are given many different things. They are so thankful for whatever we can give them. Do we share and give of our lives enough to others we do not know, as the Good Samaritan did?

Not in having or receiving,  
But in giving there is bliss.  
He who has no other pleasure,  
Ever may rejoice in this.

Bro. Dick Schmidt was hospitalized for surgery. "Is any among you afflicted? Let him pray . . . Is any sick among you? . . . And the prayer of faith shall save the sick . . . Pray for one another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man avail-eth much. James 5:13-16.

One of our dear converts, Carol Messner, is moving to the Peoria, IL area to be with her family. She will be greatly missed in our small congregation. We wish her God's love and blessings in her future life for the Lord.

I would like to thank all of you nice people for your cards, visits, gifts and prayers while I was in the hospital. He answered all of our prayers. God bless all of you!

Mrs. Sid (Florence) Gutknecht

### MISSOURI, LAMAR

Sandra Marti — Becky Tohulin

"The best way to stand up in this world is to kneel down before God."

How thankful we are for three dear souls that knelt before their God and Creator, and "gave up sin" to gain their eternal salvation. We heard the testimonies of Jay and Sharon Braker, and Janelle Braker, on Sat., April 9, and on Sun., April 10, we witnessed their baptism. What a privilege it was to listen to their testimonies as they expressed their willingness to take up their cross and make a stand for their Lord Jesus. It was truly an encouragement to all of us to hear them express their love for God and the brethren.

Adding to the blessedness of the weekend were our visiting elders. Elder Bro. Leroy Huber and his wife, Clara (Eureka, IL) and Elder Bro. Raymond Banwart and his wife, Katherine (Ft. Scott, KS) assembled and ministered to us on this blessed occasion. We thank them for their labor of love among us.

Sis. Anna Marti is in the hospital at this time. We hope that she will soon be able to return home. Also, our dear Sis. Rose Widmer had been in the hospital out of town, but now has returned home to stay in a local nursing home here in Lamar.

Wherever He may guide me,  
No want shall turn me back;  
My Shepherd is beside me,  
And nothing can I lack.  
His wisdom ever waketh,



His sight is never dim, —  
He knows the way He taketh, And I will  
walk with Him.

A. L. Waring

### MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS

#### Becky Gudeman

When Jesus prayed to His Father before His crucifixion, He not only prayed for Himself, but for us and our protection. In times of distress we can turn to the Scriptures for our comfort and know the Lord will protect and keep us.

"I pray not that thou shouldst take them out of the world, but that thou shouldst keep them from evil."

John 17:15

"Keep me as the apple of thy eye, hide me under the shadow of thy wings."

Psalms 17:8

"He will . . . keep him, as a shepherd doth his flock."

Jeremiah 31:10

"Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on Thee."

Isaiah 26:3

Our visiting ministers this month were Bro. Albert Aberle (Tremont, IL) and Bro. Paul Eisenmann (Burlington, IA). May God bless them for their efforts. We appreciated all those traveling with them. We feel the Lord's protection and keeping power.

Services are held at the Ben Franklin Motel, 4645 N. Lindbergh Blvd. (not the Harley Hotel as some have misunderstood), on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month. Please contact Dan and Becky Gudeman at 314-275-2227 for more information.

### MISSOURI, TAYLOR

#### Loida Hodel — Lori Marquart

"For, lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone; the flowers appear on the earth; . . ." Song of Solomon 2:12

Ralph and Sara Hoppe are the happy parents of a baby girl, Krista Anneliese, born on March 15. Krista has a brother, Andrew, and maternal grandparents are Elder Bro. Nathan and Sis. Marilyn Steffen (Elgin, IL). May God's blessings radiate within this little family and may they "Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old he will not depart from it". Proverbs 22:6

The evening of March 19 was spent listening to our Elder Bros. Roy Grimm and Wendell Gudeman (Francesville, IN) relate the conclusions of the conference held last fall. May we all try harder to support the many teachings and concerns of our "Watchmen on the Wall" and may the song we sang, "Faithful unto Death Remain" (Zion's Harp #105) become a reality for one and all.

We were joined together in the spirit of God's wonderful love on March 20 as we took part in Holy Communion and vowed to live closer to the directives of our Lord who gave His life on the cross so we can spend eternity with Him in Heaven. Our sincere appreciation to Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman who shared this whole weekend with us and assisted Bro. Roy with these duties. Also a special "thank you" to Elder Bro. Nathan Steffen (Elgin, IL); Bros. Kenny Dietz (Bradford, IL), Lenny Meyer (Chicago, IL) and Russell Wuthrich (Pulaski, IA) for their services. We appreciate each one.

Thanks to our Sunday School children and teachers alike, for presenting the beautiful story of Christ's death and resurrection. May we always appreciate this special blessing which is enjoyed by all.

"But rather seek ye the kingdom of God; and all these things shall be added unto you." St. Luke 12:31 We at the "Little White Church on the Levee" are rejoicing with the angels in Heaven over three young people who have opened their heart's door and with God's grace and help want to dedicate their lives in living for Him. David and Lori (Hoerr) Marquart and Tina Sutter (Dan) are the new converts. Yet there is room . . . and we would urge others to step in while the waters are troubled.

"Haste and seek your souls salvation;/Heed the word of God today!/Haste to flee His condemnation;/Seek the straight and narrow way./Evil are the worldly pleasures,/Leading to eternal fire;/Seek the everlasting treasure,/Ere the day of grace expire.

Zion's Harp #52

### NEW JERSEY, UNION CITY

#### Ed Aeschleman

We were blessed with two visiting ministers during the past month. Bro. Corbin Bahler was here from Rockville on March 20 and Bro. Eugene Pamer (Akron) was present with us on

April 10. We sincerely thank these brothers and others who came to worship with our small flock. The support and fellowship is a precious gift of encouragement. May God add His blessing.

### NEW YORK, CROGHAN

#### Alice Virkler

Now it is accomplished! I'm no longer mine;

Lord, I will forever and always be Thine,

For Thou hast created and purchased me too,

Baptized with Thy Spirit, Thou makest me new.

Now it is accomplished! My soul He hath healed;

A portion in heaven to me He hath sealed.

O, may He direct me through joy and through ill:

I'll never forsake Him, but follow Him still.

Zion's Harp Hymn #209

The words of this beautiful hymn were sung together on Sunday afternoon, April 10, following the baptism of our new brother and sister-in-faith, John and Esther Rauhe. These words seem to finalize the many teachings and thoughts that were brought out to us in their testimonies on Saturday evening, and in our worship services on Sunday. It brings back memories of our conversion and the promise that we made to serve our God until we are taken from this life. How thankful we are that God is still on the mercy seat and calling those from time to time from this life of darkness. We thank our Elder Bro. Andy Virkler from Bay City who so willingly served us on the weekend and brought many teachings unto us. We are happy that he could be in our assembly for this special occasion as he is a brother to Sis. Esther. We also enjoyed the fellowship of many others who traveled many miles to share the weekend with us.

Our Sunday School children presented a small program on Easter Sunday to share with us their understanding of the meaning of Easter.

The Naumburg congregation gathered with us on Wednesday evening, April 6, for a covered dish supper and song service.



We are glad to report that Sis. Lena Virkler has returned to her home and is able to fellowship with us again following her hospital stay. Also, Sis. Leona Farney has again returned to her home following hospitalization for further surgery. Dale Schamback, son of Bro. Paul and Sis. Lisa, was a surgical patient and Sis. Rita Petzoldt has been a medical patient. They have also assembled with us again.

Steven and Yvonne Virkler have welcomed their first little bundle, a son, Barry Steven, who was born April 13. He will also be loved by his grandparents, Bro. Clyde and Sis. Lois Virkler, and Arleigh and Irene Hartley (Lyons Falls), and his great-grandmother, Grace Matoon.

Linette Virkler and Joseph Bush have announced their engagement. Linette's parents are Bro. Lowell and Sis. Celia, and Joe's parents are Dick and Sandy Bush (Lowville). May they look to God for guidance as they begin their plans for their lives together.

#### NEW YORK, NAUMBURG

##### Rachel Snyder

We had a special Sunday noon hour when the children gave their Easter program, telling of our dear Lord and Savior's resurrection.

Another special Sunday we had was when we assembled with the Croghan congregation to witness the baptism of two dear souls. Bro. Andy Virkler (Bay City) was with us and gave us the message. He also gave a message in the evening at the Naumburg church.

Some of our loved ones have not been feeling well this past month. Ethel Karcher has had to spend some time in the hospital and also Sis. Maude Pelton. Sis. Gussie Einbeck had the misfortune of falling and breaking her collar bone. She is now at home. Sis. Betty Herzig is able to assemble with us again.

#### OHIO, AKRON

##### Joyce Gasser

We rejoice with Duane and Cheryl Collins who expressed their desire to seek the Lord for their personal salvation and become new creatures in Christ Jesus. God helps us that "... old things are passed away; behold all things are become new." II Cor. 5:17

A welcome goes to Sis. Alma Curry to worship with us. We hope she will

continue to assemble with us and feel at home in our congregation.

The car in which Lisa Spangler, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Ned Spangler, was riding in, hit a culvert and Lisa was hospitalized. We are thankful she is able to be back in school and the Lord is healing her.

We had two surgical patients: Andy Leidal and Sis. Bonnie Bako. We pray for the Lord to give them good health and strength again.

Bro. Fred Grawunder received notice that his sister in Germany was quite ill and flew over to see her. He has returned and is grateful for a safe trip.

Bro. James Ramseyer gave us inspiring messages as he and his family came for a weekend when a reception was held for their daughter, Sis. Debbie and Bro. Ed Graf.

Bro. Gary Maibach blessed us with a visit and inspiring sermons.

Congratulations to our graduates! Bro. Ed Graf, son of Bro. and Sis. Carl Graf, graduates from General Motors Institute with a Mechanical Engineering degree. He is employed by General Motors Foundry in Defiance, Ohio. Coleen Graf, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Robert Graf, graduates from Akron University with a BA degree in Dietetics. Sis. Esther (Bako) Zsoldos graduates as an X-ray technician, having received training at Akron City Hospital.

High School graduates are: Laura Ritzman, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Robert Ritzman, who plans to enter college to study Pharmacy; Monica Grawunder, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Fred Grawunder, plans to enroll at Akron University; Jeff Ritzman, son of Earl and Diane Ritzman, plans to go to Ohio State University.

#### OHIO, COLUMBUS

##### Andy Hunyady

"For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ... that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might by His spirit in the inner man; That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth and height; And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fullness of God." Eph. 3:14-19

In this intercessory prayer to the Father by the apostle Paul, we see the greatness of God's love revealed unto us. No one, except the saints in whose hearts Christ dwells, can comprehend these dimensions. The sinner and the unredeemed cannot perceive nor understand it, unless he repents and is converted through Jesus Christ. The heart must be cleansed first and prepared to receive Christ. He then will send the power of His Spirit to enlighten and strengthen the inner man, or else man cannot survive the flood of sin that covers the earth today.

Recent visitors came from Mansfield, Rittman, Junction, Fairborn and Sardis, Ohio. Bros. Kenneth Sauder, Larry Wenninger and Kenneth Indermuhle ministered unto us out of God's living word. May God bless you all for the love and fellowship in Christ!

#### OHIO, GIRARD

##### Karen Laparo

Our dear Sister Mini Emch was able to celebrate her 90th birthday March 25! She was hospitalized early in the month, but was home again and in excellent health and spirits for her birthday. May God continue to bless her with good health.

#### LIFE

Let me but live my life from year to year,  
With forward face and unreluctant soul;  
No hurrying to, nor turning from, the goal;  
Not mourning for the things that disappear  
In the dim past, nor holding back in fear  
From what the future veils; but with a whole  
And happy heart, that pays its toll  
To Youth and Age, and travels on with cheer.

So let the way wind up the hill or down,  
O'er rough or smooth, the journey will be joy;  
Still seeking what I sought when but a boy,  
New friendship, high adventure, and a crown,  
My heart will keep the courage of the quest,  
And hope the road's last turn will be the best.

Henry Van Dyke



We received many visitors this past month. We certainly enjoy the fellowship they bring, and thank all who came, especially Bro. Kenneth Sauder (Mansfield) who shared his exhortations with us.

"Let brotherly love continue."

Heb. 13:1

## OHIO, JUNCTION

Les Manz

At this time of the year, it is so appropriate that a day is set aside to remember our mothers and for many of us, our Christian mothers. As we stop to think about our Christian mothers, various phrases enter our minds — loving, patient, tireless, God-fearing, God-trusting, unselfish, and many more. Let's pause a moment and thank God this Mother's Day for our God-fearing mothers. And, of course, a word of encouragement should be offered to today's mothers who are struggling to see their children, young and old, through the struggles and temptations they are no doubt facing. Press on and take courage and though your helpmate may spend many long days working on perishable earthly projects, remember, the project you are working with has eternal value — the souls of your children.

Brad Gasser and Briana Manz won't be big enough to hand their mothers presents for Mother's Day this year, for they are newborns in the Junction congregation. However, they do already have little souls and no doubt their mothers are already giving of their time and their prayers on behalf of these precious little ones. Brad is the first child of Bro. Roger and Sis. Sue Gasser. Briana has a brother, Brandon to welcome her home; they are the children of John and Elaine Manz. Grandparents of these new little ones are Bro. Art Gassers' (Rittman), Mrs. June Dohoney and Bro. Eli Manz's.

The engagement promises of Sis. Sharon Schlatter (Sis. Esther) and Bro. Ben Gasser (Bro. Glenn and Sis. Elizabeth of Rittman) were made known to us this month. As they begin to plan their lives together and have hopes of establishing a Christian home, I think of the parable I once heard in a sermon where some workers were digging a foundation for a building — perhaps it too was a home. The crew boss kept encouraging the workers to dig deeper until finally they answered, "We cannot dig any deeper;

we've struck rock." "That's deep enough," the crew boss responded. "Now let's start building." So it is with our Christian homes, in a nation where there are over half as many divorces per year as weddings, if we want to build a Christian home that will last, we must dig clear down to the Rock and then start building. This Rock is Jesus.

## OHIO, LATTY

Cheryl Wenninger  
Patty Rigenbach

Another year has passed with many new mothers celebrating a day especially dedicated in their honor. We appreciate the love and servitude so willingly given by our mothers and thank God for their tender teachings.

Bro. Ben Hartzler (Rittman) visited with us recently. We appreciate his willingness to be used by God through his ministry.

We extend our sympathy to Terry and Pat Offerle in the death of Terry's father, and also to Bro. Tom and Sis. Dolores Grant in the passing of Bro. Tom's mother. May God's Spirit fill the void that is left when a parent is lost to the grave.

Several from our congregation were hospitalized or met with accident. We pray that God will watch over them as they are recuperating. Those hospitalized or injured were Sis. Catherine Klopfenstein (Bro. Raymond), Bro. Nathan Ringger (Sis. Nettie), Bro. John Stoller (Sis. Martha), Sis. Irma Stoller (Bro. Millard), Chris Stoller (Bro. Millard and Sis. Irma), Jane Sinn (Bro. Ray and Sis. Ann), Paula Collins, and Sis. Dolores Grant (Bro. Tom).

The month of May brings many graduates from high schools and colleges. We pray that God will be with each of these graduates and that they will always remember to put Jesus Christ first in their planning for the future. High school graduates are Jackie Gerber (Bro. Jack and Sis. Mary), Cindy Laukhuf (Larry and Charlotte), Rick Plummer (Bro. Rex and Sis. Ann), Brent Stoller (Bro. Willis and Sis. Ellen), Lane Stoller (Bro. Millard and Sis. Irma), Sis. Sherry Stoller (Bro. Gary and Sis. Nancy), and Dennis Wenninger (Bro. Don and Sis. Josephine). Graduating from school of higher learning are Sis. Carol Eisenmann (Bro. Bill) and Sis. Laurie Stoller (Bro. Darl and Sis. Iva) from Parkview School of Nursing, Lisa Stoller (Bro. Ralph and Sis. Ruth) from Northwest

Business College, and Sis. Jody Williamson (Bob and Sis. Janet) from Toledo University.

## You Can Unlock Your Future

You can open the door to your future. The key is to affirm the person God wants you to be. Begin to believe in yourself and your possibilities. You can either keep the door closed, by believing it is locked, or you can open the future, by affirming your potential and setting goals that will inspire you and lift your vision beyond your limitations. God made you and He believes in you. Affirm today everything He wants you to be. You can unlock your future!

Robert Schuller

Our yearly Vacation Bible School will be held June 13-17. The children are anxious to join together to learn more about their Lord.

## OHIO, MANSFIELD

Lucille Groh

My son, hear the instructions of thy father, and forsake not the law of thy mother . . . Prov. 1:8.

She always leaned to watch for us,  
Anxious if we are late  
In winter by the window  
In summer by the gate.

And though we mocked her tenderly,  
Who had such foolish care,  
The long way home would seem more  
safe  
Because she waited there.

Her thoughts were all so full of us  
She never could forget!  
And so I think that where she is  
She must be watching yet.

Waiting till we come home to her,  
Anxious if we were late,  
Watching from Heaven's window  
Leaning from Heaven's gate.

M. Widdemer

Mother's day will be a special one this year for Sis. Marilyn Beer and Bro. Rex as their son, Marvin, was announced some time ago for baptism that Sunday. What a beautiful Mother's Day gift any child can give to their mother.

Carol (Went) and William Kovach welcomed a new baby boy, Nicholas



Benjamin, into their family. His birth date, April 10, is the same as his father's, but the coincidence does not stop there. On July 12, 1978, the couple gave birth to a daughter, Jennifer Lynn, whose birth date (you guessed it) fell on the same day as her mother's. Sis. Emily and Harol Went are the happy grandparents.

Another new baby boy was born on April 16 to Lynette (Gabor) and Mark Rau, whom they named Craig Anthony. Grandparents, Bro. Dale and Sis. Donna Gabor, are also very happy to welcome little Craig into their family.

Other happy occasions this past month were the celebration of two wedding anniversaries, Henry and Sis. Martha (Sabo) Enderle were married 50 years on March 11, 1933 and Donald and Doris Pierce were married 40 years ago on March 5, 1943. Both couples had celebrations.

Just starting a new married life together are Steve Sauder and Lori Meyer, who were married March 26, 1983. Steve is the son of Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Sue Sauder.

We wish all these dear ones God's richest blessings as they walk hand in hand throughout their lives together.

April 1, Good Friday, Bro. John Steiner (Oakville) favored us with a visit and shared God's precious word. He was accompanied by his dear wife. That evening Bro. Aaron Steffen, Sis. Loretta and family (Alto) were also with us. Bro. Aaron ministered to us on Easter Sunday, again reminding us of the great love our Saviour gave to the world. We thank both brothers for their labor of love.

We have had much joy this past month, but joy alternates with sorrow. Loved ones hospitalized were Sis. Naomi (Donald) Cordrey and Hazel Beer.

We are saddened to report that on March 11, Bro. James Grivet, age 82, of Chicago, IL died at his residence and was laid to rest on March 13 here in the Lexington, Ohio cemetery. He was born Dec. 24, 1900 in southern Illinois and lived his lifetime in the Chicago area. He was a self-employed barber. He is survived by his wife, Martha Schrenk Grivet; four brothers, John, Lewis, Frank and James Grivet; and three sisters, Mrs. Lucille Polster, Miss Mary Grivet and Mrs. Anna Coyne. Bro. Wallace Ramsier had the graveside services here. We trust God

will comfort those who mourn his passing.

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

How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things . . . What a joy it is to sit in God's house, and hear the Word brought to us from different brothers called into God's service from different areas. We want to thank the following brothers for bringing us these good tidings: Bro. Fred Domka (Mansfield), Bro. Eugene Pamer (Akron), Bro. John Steiner (Oakville), Bro. Bill Schlatter (Junction) and Bros. Bill Brake and Ken Indermuhle (Sardis). May the Lord continue to bless them in this work of love.

We were privileged to be present at the baptism of our dear ones Mike and Luann Musser. We are so glad they have chosen this way, and we rejoice with others as they are now seeking this peace of God. We want to mention Anita Pope and Bev and Brian Indermuhle, as they have turned their backs on the world and sin. "Be merciful unto me, O God, be merciful unto me: for my soul trusteth in thee; yea, in the shadow of thy wings will I make my refuge." Psalms 57:1.

We are sorry to report some of our dear ones, young and old, have suffered illness and injury in the past days: Sis. Maggie Bauman has a hip fracture from a fall; little Matt Saurer, son of Bro. Roger and Sis. Sue was hospitalized due to being quite ill; Andy Woyat underwent surgery; and Sis. Wilma Ramsier, Sis. Dena Rock and Bro. Frank Nussbaum also needed hospital care. Some of these are now home, and we pray the others will be home soon. "Hear my cry, O God; attend unto my prayer. From the end of the earth will I cry unto thee, when my heart is overwhelmed; lead me to the rock that is higher than I." Psalm 61:1 & 2.

The engagement of Bro. Ben Gasser and Sis. Sharon Schlatter (Junction) was announced recently. We pray the Lord will bless them as they make their plans for the future. "Blessed be the Lord God, who only doeth wondrous things." The parents are Bro. Glenn and Sis. Liz Gasser, and Sis. Esther Schlatter.

We offer our best wishes to Frank

Hilty and Virginia Marty who were married by Bro. Joe Ramsier in Knupp church. The parents are Dale and Sally Marty and Sis. Ruth Hilty.

"Yea, the Lord shall give that which is good . . ." and in the form of something good and precious is a new baby, Shaun Edwin, born to Loren and Chris Rufener. The grandparents are Bro. Joe and Sis. Lilas Rufener and Bro. Duane and Sis. Marge Collins (Akron).

Our sincere sympathy is extended to the family of Dan Baltic, who was killed in an auto accident. Funeral services were conducted in a Kenmore funeral home by Bros. Joe Ramsier and Henry Dotterer. Dan's wife, Nancy, and daughter, Diane, are still hospitalized. They need all our prayers at this time.

Correction: The name of Bro. Norman and Sis. Audrey Beery's little girl is Kathryn Joy. Sorry for the error in the March issue.

The month of May is almost over. Have you in the Rittman area paid your Silver Lining dues? If not, you still have time to give your \$6.00 to either of your reporters.

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**OHIO, TOLEDO**  
**Mary Ann Weigle**  
**Josephine Rehklau**

Our dear sister-in-faith, Julie Grant, passed from this life on March 21. Sis. Julia was 88 years old. She leaves behind her dear family: daughters, Mrs. Emily Ross, Mrs. Genevieve Vail; sons, Bro. Thomas Jr. and Frank; and a sister, Sis. Elizabeth Honegger. We miss her friendly presence among us. This poem was in Sis. Julia's Bible and was read at her funeral.

**WHEN I MUST LEAVE YOU**

When I must leave you for a little while,  
 Please do not grieve and shed wild  
 tears  
 And hug your sorrow to you through  
 the years,  
 But start out bravely with a gallant  
 smile;  
 And for my sake and in my name  
 Live on and do all things the same,  
 Feed not your loneliness on empty  
 days,  
 But fill each waking hour in useful  
 ways,  
 Reach out your hand in comfort and in  
 cheer  
 And I in turn will comfort you and hold  
 you near;  
 And never, never be afraid to die,  
 For I am waiting for you in the sky!

Helen Steiner Rice



Sis. Lois Newman has recently undergone more surgery and is home now convalescing. We will be glad when she can assemble with us again.

A day of fellowship and work was enjoyed by many of us when we had our annual day of spring cleaning at church. It was interesting to see the church building from a slightly different perspective (cleaning normally unseen parts)!

As Mother's Day approaches, we feel deeply grateful for our mother's spiritual guidance in our lives. Mothers spend much time with young children which makes a deep impression on them.

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**OREGON, PORTLAND**  
**Barbara Moser**

Spring has arrived here in the beautiful northwest. God has truly blessed us with so many wonderful, beautiful flowers, trees, mountains and oceans. Let us always take time to thank Him for every little thing that He has created.

Our small congregation is so thankful that God has directed Sis. Linda Furrer to move into our area where she has found employment. Sis. Linda is the daughter of Bro. Glen and Sis. Ilene Furrer, Morris, MN.

On Sat. evening, April 9, some of the Portland congregation were able to assemble with the Silverton church to hear the testimony of Elizabeth Snook. (Vance). On Sun. morning, April 10, Elder Bro. Joe Ramsier (Rittman) and Elder Bro. Carl Kinsinger (Altadena) were able to assemble with us. May the Lord bless each one all the days of their lives.

We are so happy to have Bro. Paul and Sis. Ann Rumbold back with us again. They spent several months in Sun City, Arizona for the winter.

Sis. Anna Cooper (Bro. Ray) spent several days in the hospital. We are so thankful the Lord has heard and answered so many prayers for her recovery.

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**OREGON, SILVERTON**  
**Rosa Lee Kuenzi**

Our little church was filled on Palm Sunday night to watch the old and beautiful story of Easter as told by the Sunday School children and youth. All the time spent selecting the material, memorizing the pieces and practicing the songs during the weeks prior to the program were well worth the effort.

The congregation greatly appreciates the Sunday School teachers and the thirty-five students who participated in the program.

The weekend after Easter was a truly blessed one for us here in Silverton. We were able to hear the testimony and witness the baptism of a dear soul who allowed the Lord to work a miracle in her heart. We gladly welcome Sis. Elizabeth "Liz" Snook in the fold and pray for God's blessings upon her life and her family; husband, Vance; children, Jason and Amy; and parents, Lewis and Gloria Kuenzi. Our special thanks to our own Elder Bro. Carl Kinsinger, Altadena, CA; Elder Bro. Alfred Bahler, Wolcott, IN; and Elder Bro. Joe Ramsier, Rittman, OH; who each made the journey to Silverton and unflinchingly gave of themselves in our behalf. Their time in loving counsel, in prayer, in reading and meditating on the Holy Word of God, in exhortation and in fellowship is appreciated more than words can express.

Our thanks also to Bros. Robt. Miller and Garth Steffen (Portland, OR) who gave of themselves through service and prayerful support. A church supper was held in the church dining room on Sunday afternoon, with an abundance of food and loving fellowship. Our thanks to all who helped and all who came.

In addition to our visiting ministers this month, we have enjoyed visitors from Fairbury and Forrest, IL and from Morris, MN.

The women of the Silverton congregation are compiling a collection of recipes from the kitchens of the members and friends of both the Silverton and Portland churches. Work is progressing well and completion is expected in June or July. ("The Silverton Cookbook" will sell for \$5.00 apiece and Sis. Jane Metzger is handling the orders.)

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**PENNSYLVANIA,**  
**PHILADELPHIA**  
**Ed Aeschleman**

We thank Bro. Lee Bahler of Rockville who came to Philadelphia with his wife and children to proclaim the Holy Word in my absence. We are very grateful and thankful to God for the love and support shown to our small congregation by those who visit us. May God bless Bro. Lee for his service of love.

We welcome our dear friend Patrick Bennet from the Washington, IL area. Patrick is stationed in Philadelphia in the Navy and worships with us as often as he can. We are certainly pleased to include him as a part of our congregation.

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**WEST VIRGINIA,**  
**NEW MARTINSVILLE**  
**Minnie Weltz**

The annual meeting of the Apostolic Christian Church Cemetery Association of Limestone Ridge was held in the home of Minnie Weltz on April 4 with Delbert Indermuhle, Kenneth Indermuhle, William Brake, Wayne Klotzle, Mrs. Dennis Miller and Miss Joyce Indermuhle from the Sardis church attending. Several local residents were present. Many business items were brought before the group. The Sunday of June 26 was set for the All-Day meeting at the country church. The main speaker for the day will be Bro. Ben Maibach from Michigan if plans don't fail.

W. E. Riggensbach is a resident in the Old Folk Home in Walnut Creek, Ohio, and was a hospital patient for a short time.

Frank Barth is back in his home in Parkersburg after several weeks with his two daughters. He is in fairly good health and able to do the mowing of his lawn.

Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Williams have returned to their home in Akron, OH after spending the winter months in Bradenton, Florida.

Arthur Thornton, a son-in-law of the late Albert Riggensbach passed away very suddenly on March 26. He is survived by his widow, Daisy Riggensbach Thornton.

A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Larry Wade on April 5 in the local hospital. He has been named Jason Allan and is a great-grandson of Mrs. Lillie Wade. Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. James Wade of Cleveland, OH. The maternal grandparent is Lee Sang Bum of Korea.

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**Silver Threads**

**SUNSHINE AND SHOWERS**  
 There will be sunshine and showers,  
 Many times your whole life through,  
 But after the times of the showers  
 The sun will shine down on you.



When showers seem always upon you  
And life seems to treat you unfair  
Just wait patiently, try not to complain  
Trust in the power of prayer.

It's the sunshine mixed with the  
showers  
That makes you understand why  
We need to have one with the other  
As the years of life pass by.

And then when the showers are over,  
The clouds break away up above  
Then comes the sun you have longed  
for,  
Filtered with God's lasting love.

#### TO THOSE WHO BELIEVE

A blind man sat beside the road  
As Jesus passed that way.  
He loudly cried, "Have mercy, Lord,  
And give me sight, I pray."  
Then Jesus heard his cry for aid  
And honored his belief;  
This blind man came in simple faith  
And found complete relief.

So men today have sought His help  
And found Him able still  
To do things thought impossible,  
Their deepest needs fulfill.  
But now, as then, the answer comes  
To those alone who pray,  
In simple faith, believing Christ  
Will always make a way.

A father asked the Lord one day  
To heal his little lad.  
He hardly dared to ask for help  
So little faith he had.  
Then Jesus said, "If you believe,  
Then all things can be done!"  
He answered, "Lord, I do believe!"  
And Jesus healed his son.

If you, my friend, have found some  
need  
Impossible to meet;  
then come in prayer with trusting faith,  
And bow at Jesus feet.  
Whatever your request may be,  
Believe Him as you pray;  
With Him all things are possible,  
He's still the same today.

#### A MOTHER'S LOVE

A Mother's love is something that no-  
one can explain,  
It's made of deep devotion and of  
sacrifice and pain,  
It is endless and unselfish and endur-  
ing come what may  
For nothing can destroy it or take that  
love away . . .

It is patient and forgiving when all  
others are forsaking,  
And it never fails or falters even though  
the heart is breaking . . .  
It believes beyond believing when the  
world around condemns,  
And it glows with all the beauty of the  
rarest, brightest gems . . .  
It is far beyond defining, it defies all  
explanation,  
And it still remains a secret like the  
mysteries of creation . . .  
A many-splendored miracle man can-  
not understand  
And other wondrous evidence of God's  
tender, guiding hand.

Helen Steiner Rice

#### What Is A Mother's Love

It takes a Mother's LOVE to make a  
house a home,  
A place to be remembered, no matter  
where we roam. . .  
It takes a Mother's PATIENCE to  
bring a child up right,  
And her COURAGE, and her  
CHEERFULNESS, to make a dark  
day bright. . .  
It takes a Mother's THOUGHTFUL-  
NESS to mend the heart's deep  
"hurts,"  
And her SKILL and her ENDURANCE  
to mend little socks and shirts . . .  
It takes a Mother's KINDNESS to  
forgive us when we err,  
To sympathize in trouble and bow her  
head in prayer. . .  
It takes a Mother's WISDOM to recog-  
nize our needs  
And to give us reassurance by her  
loving words and deeds. . .  
It takes a Mother's ENDLESS FAITH,  
her CONFIDENCE and TRUST  
To guide us through the pitfalls of  
selfishness and lust. . .  
And that is why in all this world there  
could not be another  
Who could fulfill God's purpose as  
completely as a MOTHER!

Helen Steiner Rice

#### "A MOTHER'S PRAYER —"

—Dear Father who art in heaven  
Thou givest me a glimpse of heaven  
in those special tender moments of  
motherhood.  
—Hallowed be Thy name, Thy king-  
dom come  
Help me as I strive to create a corner  
of Thy kingdom right here with har-  
mony in our home.

—Thy will be done  
Let all I do be an inspiration for my  
children to follow Thee.  
—Give us this day our daily bread  
Keep me ever thankful for the  
warmth that makes each loaf rise and  
aware of the love that keeps warmth  
in our home.  
—And forgive us our trespasses  
Forgive me, Lord. Forgive me, chil-  
dren . . . Through all the years,  
through all the tears, I'm deeply  
sorry for the many times I may have  
hurt you . . . I did not mean to . . . I'm  
even sorrier for the many times I may  
not have let you know how much I  
love you.  
—As we forgive others  
Lifting the love displayed wordless-  
ly by an unselfish act . . . forgetting  
the trivial hurts.  
—Lead us not into temptation  
From all that awaits as we venture  
into the world beyond our fence.  
—But deliver us from evil  
Protect the children so precious  
while I await their safe return.  
—For Thine is the kingdom  
Make me worthy of it . . . a better  
mother, more loving and more  
lovable.  
—And the power and the glory  
The joy of knowing Thou lovest me, a  
mother, because I am Thy child . . . as  
I love my children because I am their  
mother.  
—Forever  
I thank Thee for the miracles that  
made me both Thy child and their  
mother.

Amen

#### JESUS I WILL NEVER LEAVE

Jesus I will never leave Who for me  
Himself has given;  
Therefore unto Him I'll cleave, nor  
from Him be ever driven;  
Life from Him doth light receive; Jesus  
I will never leave.

Jesus I will never leave; Oh, the gifts  
that He has given!  
Comfort, rest, and joy and light, all are  
sent to me from heaven  
Hope and life come from above, All  
because of Jesus' love.

I am His and He is mine, Love has  
bound us so sincerely;  
Through His wounds and blood divine  
was my ransom paid so dearly.  
On Him I will firmly build, Full of hope  
which shall not yield.



Jesus I shall never leave, to His side  
still firmly clinging.  
Christ leads all who Him receive To  
life's waters ever springing.  
Blest are they who to Him cleave Jesus  
I will never leave.

Zion's Harp #228, vs. 1, 3, 4, 6

Address Changed . . .

Give Old and New Address  
to Your Reporter.

### Sermon . . .

(Continued from Page 32)

day's reading, we can see how the Lord Jesus came upon the earth and did His work in His days here. He was brought to trial, accused and nailed upon the cross. There He gave His innocent blood for the remission of sin.

If the Lord had remained in the grave, where would your promise and mine be? Beloved, He did not stay in the grave. He arose to the power of God and He left instructions before He departed from this world.

These are the instructions that are laid to the hearts of each one of us. I believe, brothers and sisters, that we all have a duty to carry them out. He said, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." Mark 16:15. Do you think, brothers and sisters, that that means only we who are humble ministers of the Gospel? I believe that it means every brother and every sister.

Do you realize that, as you and I go forth in the world, others are observing us? May I mention just a few words of our trip in the commercial airlines? People observed my wife and two daughters. They observed to the point that when we came back on the plane a week later, they asked about our faith. I hope that wherever we go we can be a good example of our faith, that we can be a light, for isn't it a precious gift to us that we have been saved?

Let us briefly, brothers and sisters, go back to the time when some of us prayed all night that if the Lord would just let us live until morning, we would repent. I can assure you, I was one of those. I must say in all humbleness that the Lord found me on the dance floor. We had been told by our Sunday School teachers that we should not go to a place where God's angels are not present. I never forgot it. When that moment came in my life, I had to yield. I

realized that God's angels had not been present.

I believe that our Sunday School teachers have a very, very important duty within the church as they teach your children and mine, and our grandchildren, of the true faith. Not only in teaching, but by their walk of life. We should lay to the hearts of children just what Jesus expects.

You and I are to preach this Word throughout the world. It does not mean that we always have to speak openly, but let us always be an example of our faith.

Beloved, when we pray all night and can only see a little light floating in the distance beyond our reach, we can feel a little how it will be in eternity. Will some who have not repented have to travel in darkness forever? Will they see the little light gleam in the distance and never attain it? I have never forgotten that feeling. It touched me and struck my heart so deeply that I thought that if by grace I could relieve that pressure of sin through the blood of Jesus Christ and walk in the light of the Spirit, I would do my part.

It mentions so vividly here, "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; and he that believeth not shall be damned." Mark 16:16. This is only one verse in the Holy Bible. How much does it mean to your heart and mine? "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved."

The other week, a friend came in repentance and wanted to unburden her heart. She said, "I cannot go home this way. The load is too heavy." Beloved, we can hear the confession but we cannot forgive. Each one must have faith in this Lord that you and I have faith in. Upon bended knees all must plead with Him for forgiveness and pardon, and, when the Lord forgives them, He casts that sin away. It never troubles them again, and there is peace for the soul. How precious it is. It is wonderful!

To live under the torment of sin is sorrow. But just think how it would be if we had to live under it forever, and never attain the promise that we have heard this afternoon in the Word. It even mentions here, ". . . but he that believes not shall be damned." Which shall it be?

I believe that you and I can somewhat comprehend what eternity is, for we are here on earth for a time. I have been privileged to meet some folks who

were sixty, seventy or eighty years old. Beloved, that is short compared with eternity which can't be thought of in years. How comforting it is to know that, if we serve Him with all our hearts, He will provide for us through all eternity. The Lord says further, "These signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover." Mark 16:17, 18.

You and I know that in the apostles' time many of those things took place. Are we to believe that they can happen today? When I was reading this last part, "They shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover," I thought that every brother and sister has probably been by the bedside of a sick loved one. Many times the report from the doctor is almost hopeless, but through fervent prayer, through asking God that His will be done, there are times when we have been amazed at God's response in a recovery. Those of us who have regained health and had pain removed are thankful every day that we can go to and fro and enjoy the wonderful blessings of God.

"So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, He was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God." Mark 16:19. Today, beloved, He is in heaven, a place we cannot see but a place that we know is there. Even our little grandchildren know what heaven is, and they know what hell is. However, as the years go by and they grow up, some of them go on their own ways. We wonder, perhaps, if they forgot. I am sure that in every family circle there are deep concerns. We have fervent prayers. We ask God to direct and lead each soul so that many will still be redeemed by His blood before His coming.

"And they went forth, and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following." Mark 16:20.

Today, beloved, I have heard that you have a soul repenting, too. What a blessing it is to know that we are living in the day of grace, in the time when God still hears and answers prayer. We hope and we trust as the days go by that many more will take advantage of it and will be among those who meet the Lord in the air when He returns.



FEB/82 02602 LK  
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## SERMON BY BRO. NOAH GERBER OF WEST BEND, IA

Text: Mark 16

As we read the Word this afternoon, we know that we are nearing the time of year when we are reminded of the Lord's resurrection from the grave and ascension into heaven.

Beloved, we read about believing and about faith. The Word speaks to us in one passage of Scripture, "Faith is the substance of things hoped for, (it is) the evidence of things not seen." Hebrews 11:1. that is a very good definition of the faith that is so precious to our hearts.

As the brother read in the Psalms that all nations should acknowledge the Lord and His almighty power, I wondered if we fully appreciate the faith that our forefathers have kept for us. It is now our duty to keep it for the next generations.

As I look back over a period of time, I cannot help but say that I have observed changes within the church. I am not saying that it has decreased our faith, but certainly I believe that we have to be very careful.

Recently we visited with a neighbor who is of another faith. He said that he admires the way that we have time to sit down during the noon hour to visit one with another, and to discuss the things that are so important to us in our spiritual walk of life.

Perhaps, brothers and sisters, some of you are not very aware of the time when a great depression came over our land. I'm sure that we have older brothers who would be very qualified to speak of it. They had hardships, and, even though some of us were young, we knew that we had to be very careful in our spending and saving.

I have been told that it was brought up within the church at that time that they should quit serving dinner, that people didn't have enough money. But I believe the Lord always speaks, and that He inspired a brother to stand up and say, "If our faith is so weak that we

don't believe the Lord will provide us with this noon bread, our faith will fall apart."

So, brothers and sisters, it has been continued down through the years and I hope that we cherish and appreciate it. To me, it gives such a warm and welcome feeling to meet brothers and sisters in the noon hour, and to speak of heavenly things and of our crosses and experiences. We can encourage each other.

As we go a little further down the guidelines, shall we say, the sisters sit on the one side and the brothers on the other. Perhaps you and I give it little thought. But those of us who are the servants of the Lord have our duties. I remember a time when an older elder brother spoke to someone in our family circle who had repented (he had not been brought up in our faith). In the church to which he had gone, husbands and wives sat together. He wondered why we had such a different custom in our church. The elder said to him, "When we are together in God's house, in the sanctuary, we are as in heavenly places."

Now just think. Where husband and wife would sit together, what about the poor widow and the poor widower? As you have experienced in this past week, they would not be together. Would they then be equal in the house of God? It is a foretaste of those heavenly blessings.

I believe that our seating custom has its merit. It has its value. I hope that we can do our part to uphold the things that have value and merit. As we have mentioned, our faith is very, very precious to our hearts. I wonder if we really value it enough. Some of us have opportunities to travel, to visit various churches, and to meet loved ones whom we have never met before. Regardless of where we are, we can sit down and have fellowship together and

appreciate the gifts that God has given.

This chapter that we have read this afternoon takes me back to my childhood. In our community we have several different churches as you probably have also. I believe that your children today aren't any different than we were in our day. We talked over our faith with the children in our class, and they wondered about this and about that.

One young man said to me, "Noah, it seems like in your church they just choose someone to preach. They don't go to seminaries; they don't go to schools of learning." He said, "How can that be?" I little thought that someday I would preach the Holy Word. But I was moved, even as a friend, to say that we had faith in our brothers who had repented and who had experienced the love of God in their hearts. Surely they would know how to interpret the Holy Word. I believe, brothers, that we can appreciate this. It doesn't take schools of higher learning to learn from this Holy Word. The Lord was a fine example. He was humble. He was meek. He understood the Word. He laid it out so plainly that, I believe, everyone of us can understand salvation, and so we trust that down through the years this blessing can be imparted to the churches.

As we have read here, the crucifixion was past. We are all aware of what took place. There was a trial. Things that had been foretold in the Old Testament came to pass. A murderer was freed, and your Lord and mine gave His life on the old rugged cross.

I believe that we often wonder why God planned it that way, but we need not question what God has done. Time and time again in the Old Testament we can read that the blood of lambs without a blemish was shed for the forgiveness of sins. It never was a lasting peace. In the chapters preceding to-

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