

# The Silver Lining

"Father forgive them, for they know not what they do."  
Luke 23:34

## A LIGHT FOR BELIEVERS

"Father, into Thy hands I commend My spirit."  
Luke 23:46

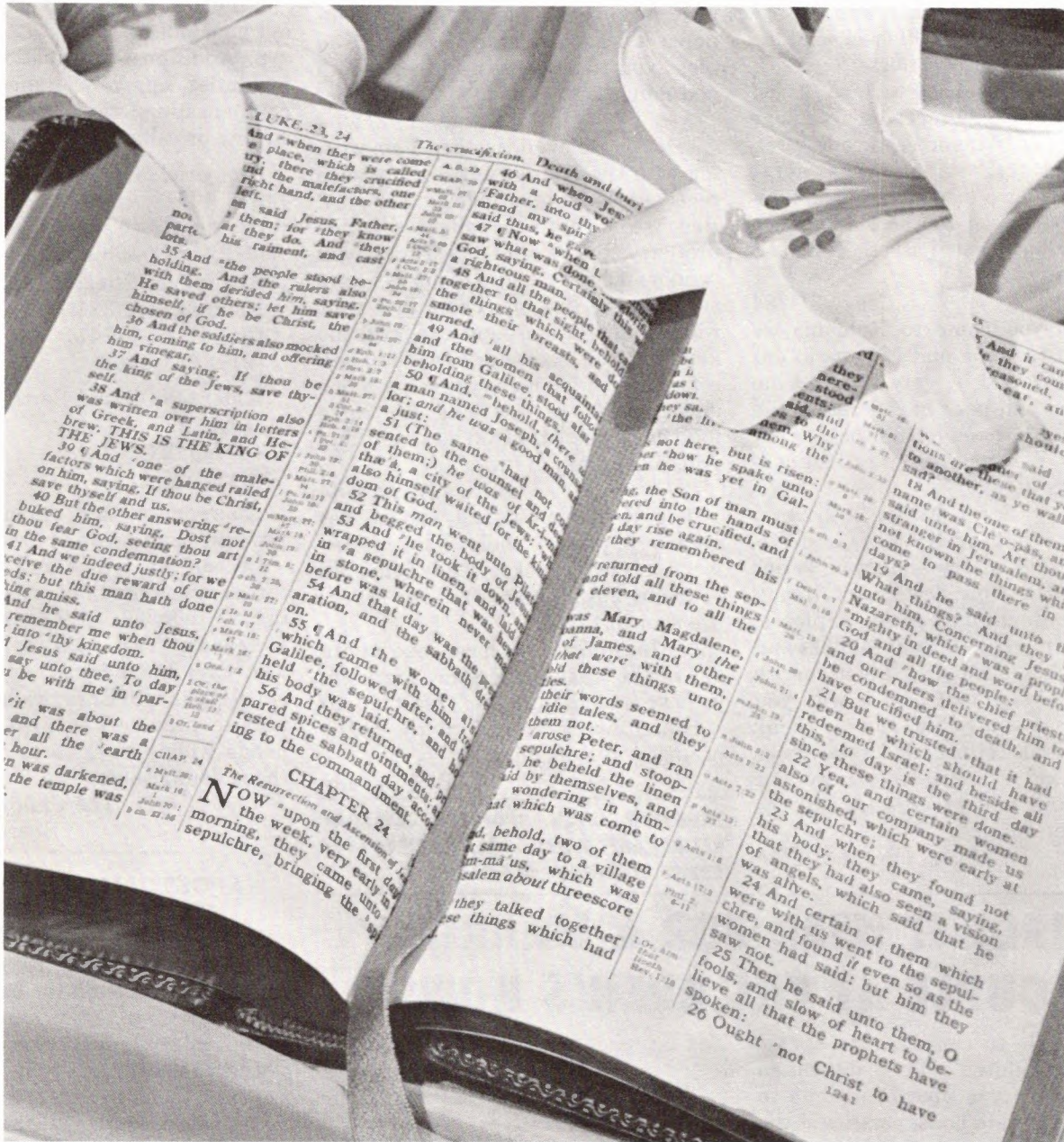
VOLUME 34

APRIL 1984

NUMBER 4

### "He is not here, but is Risen!"

LUKE 24:6



LUKE 23, 24

**CHAPTER 23**

And when they were come to the place, which is called Golgotha, there they crucified him, and the malefactors, one on the right hand, and the other on the left.

35 And Jesus said unto them, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do. And he said unto them, And thy kingdom come. And he said unto them, Amen, and cast his raiment, and cast the lots.

36 And the people stood beholding. And the rulers also derided him, saying, He saved others; let him save himself, if he be Christ, the chosen of God.

37 And the soldiers also mocked him, coming to him, and offering him vinegar.

38 And saying, If thou be the king of the Jews, save thyself.

39 And a superscription also was written over him in letters of Greek, and Latin, and Hebrew, THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS.

40 And one of the malefactors which were hanged railed on him, saying, If thou be Christ, save thyself and us.

41 But the other answering rebuked him, saying, Dost thou not fear God, seeing thou art in the same condemnation?

42 And he indeed justly; for we receive the due reward of our works: but this man hath done nothing amiss.

43 And he said unto Jesus, remember me when thou shalt come into thy kingdom.

44 And Jesus said unto him, I say unto thee, To day thou shalt be with me in paradise.

45 And it was about the sixth hour, and there was an earthquake: and the temple was shaken, and the earth was darkened.

46 And when the sun was come to the west, and the shadow of the ninth hour was begun upon the mountains, then was Jesus crying with a loud voice, Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit: and having said these things, he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost.

**CHAPTER 24**

**THE RESURRECTION AND ASCENSION OF JESUS CHRIST**

1 Now upon the first day of the week, very early in the morning, they came unto the sepulchre, bringing the spices, as they were wont to do: and they found the stone rolled away from the door of the sepulchre.

2 And they went in, but saw no body there.

3 And it came to pass, as they were much perplexed thereunto, behold, two of them stood by them in white robes: and they talked together of these things which had happened.

4 And they said, Ye fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken: Ought not Christ to have died, and to have been buried, and to have risen again, and to have sat on the right hand of the Father?

5 And why said ye among yourselves, that he should have risen? wherefore saw ye not his body?

6 And he said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken: Ought not Christ to have died, and to have been buried, and to have risen again, and to have sat on the right hand of the Father?

7 And why said ye among yourselves, that he should have risen? wherefore saw ye not his body?

8 And he said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken: Ought not Christ to have died, and to have been buried, and to have risen again, and to have sat on the right hand of the Father?

9 And why said ye among yourselves, that he should have risen? wherefore saw ye not his body?

10 And he said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken: Ought not Christ to have died, and to have been buried, and to have risen again, and to have sat on the right hand of the Father?

11 And why said ye among yourselves, that he should have risen? wherefore saw ye not his body?

12 And he said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken: Ought not Christ to have died, and to have been buried, and to have risen again, and to have sat on the right hand of the Father?

13 And why said ye among yourselves, that he should have risen? wherefore saw ye not his body?

14 And he said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken: Ought not Christ to have died, and to have been buried, and to have risen again, and to have sat on the right hand of the Father?

15 And why said ye among yourselves, that he should have risen? wherefore saw ye not his body?

16 And he said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken: Ought not Christ to have died, and to have been buried, and to have risen again, and to have sat on the right hand of the Father?

17 And why said ye among yourselves, that he should have risen? wherefore saw ye not his body?

18 And he said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken: Ought not Christ to have died, and to have been buried, and to have risen again, and to have sat on the right hand of the Father?

19 And why said ye among yourselves, that he should have risen? wherefore saw ye not his body?

20 And he said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken: Ought not Christ to have died, and to have been buried, and to have risen again, and to have sat on the right hand of the Father?

21 And why said ye among yourselves, that he should have risen? wherefore saw ye not his body?

22 And he said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken: Ought not Christ to have died, and to have been buried, and to have risen again, and to have sat on the right hand of the Father?

23 And why said ye among yourselves, that he should have risen? wherefore saw ye not his body?

24 And he said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken: Ought not Christ to have died, and to have been buried, and to have risen again, and to have sat on the right hand of the Father?

25 And why said ye among yourselves, that he should have risen? wherefore saw ye not his body?

26 Ought not Christ to have died, and to have been buried, and to have risen again, and to have sat on the right hand of the Father?

## NEWS FROM ROMANIA

"For I was an hungered, and ye gave me meat: . . ." Matt. 25:35

Excerpts from letters received lately:

"Beloved Congregations of Believers! Let you know, that the package addressed to Maria Tolna has arrived in good condition, as did all previous ones, however she was not here to enjoy it. She was called to her rest by the will of God and in the hope of Jesus Christ. She was my mother's sister and we cared for her to the end. She lived a very beautiful long life and always happy in the Lord. Please send no more packages in her name."

Erzsebet Bondar 2/27/84

"Four days ago I received a package and as I opened it and read your letter, it brought tears in my eyes, never expected such a nice gift from so faraway place! I wish you all God's grace and blessings, and I thank Him and you for it."

K. Nagy 3/1/84

"When you come to Romania we want you to come and visit us in our home, we would be very happy. I am Romanian and poor in the Hungarian language. We thank you for the nice gift packages. We greet you and all the congregations in love."

Micka B. 2/23/84

"Dearly Beloved Brothers and Sisters: May the mercy and grace of our God and His Holy Spirit be with you and lead you unto all good . . . please, write about yourself, your families and our churches in America. I believe with my whole heart that God is with you and blesses you richly, and we thank Him and praise Him daily for the things you do for us! Please convey our thanks, love and greetings to all the beloved brethren."

Zsuzsanna R. 3/2/84

"Beloved Brother in the Lord, With great love I am writing to you in the name of our Lord, and please, accept it in His name. Your gifts of love comes nicely packed and we can hardly see to open it from our tears of joy. We can never fully thank God for the mercy and compassion shown to us by your acts of kindness."

Vilma B. 2/28/84

"Dearly Beloved Brethren: . . . it brought us great joy. We thank you for it . . . for closing may I ask that in your next package include some black pepper as it is not available here. May God bless you richly with health, strength and much joy."

Rozalia P. 3/1/84

"Dearly Beloved Brother: I am writing with the help of our Lord. I have received several packages in the past. Because recently I inherited some property, that I sold, I ask that you send no more packages to me as I have sufficient to live on. There is a poor widow, who is sick and can work no longer and also has a sick daughter and retarded son. I am enclosing her name and address, please send her some food packages. May God bless you, and greetings to all, in love."

Aurica B. 2/21/84

The Romanian postal service has greatly improved their delivery services recently. Packages are delivered in about 20-25 days after our orders are sent in.

"... Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me." Matt. 25:40

Gratefully, in behalf of the many brethren in Romania,

Andy Hunyady

**PARKVIEW HAVEN, APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN RETIREMENT HOME, INC. - NEED FOR ADMINISTRATOR - SEE PAGE 26.**

trine and order.

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

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

4. Applicants should be 21 years or older. 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." (Psalm 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

### APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S HOME

Uriel Gehring — Jane Stieglitz

We are beginning to sense that spring is just around the corner — we have had some warm days, and the snow is all gone. Winter has shown her strength mightily this past season, and we are thankful that our Heavenly Father is in control of the elements, and is the creator of heaven and earth and all things contained therein. "Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised in the city of our God, in the mountain of his holiness." Ps. 48:1. "The earth is

## URGENT NEED FOR A MARRIED COUPLE AT CHILDREN'S HOME

To be able to continue the operation of the Children's Home, there is an urgent need for a married couple to serve as alternate houseparents at the Children's Home at Leo, Indiana.

This is an exciting and challenging opportunity for our brothers and sisters to put to use their God-given talents in working with young people

and bringing out the best in them.

"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 and/or sister sound in faith, upholding church doc-

the Lord's, and the fulness thereof, the world, and they that dwell therein. For He hath founded it upon the seas, and established it upon the floods." Ps. 24:1-2. "Lift up your heads, O ye gates; even lift them up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in. Who is this King of glory? The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory." Ps. 24:9-10. What an overwhelming thought! If we open the gates and doors of our heart, the King of glory shall enter and dwell therein. This is our hope in this world, Christ dwelling in us! We have the hope for the world to come, a residency in the "holy city", wherein dwelleth righteousness.

We have a new resident in the West House, Robin F., who is 14 years old. (8-28-69) We are looking forward to pleasant times with her.

Jay Ice is back from the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago, and is living in a foster home in DeKalb County, just north of here. We will furnish the Silver Lining with his address as soon as we feel it would be good for him to have visitors. He visited the West House and told us of his stay in Chicago.

All of the children are looking forward to Spring Break, an opportunity for them to have some time off from school and also a chance to stay in the homes of friends or relatives.

Gary did well on his term paper, but he as well as many of the other teenagers here, are anxious for summer to come and the work program to start.

If you see a girl, in a purple striped dress, beaming as she approaches you, that's probably Thelma. She finished her dress, and she has reason to be pleased with the results.

Both Thelma and Bertha are polishing their cooking skills as they help with supper and fix breakfast daily.

Debbie L. has been at a foster home since the first of this year. She asked that we publish her present address in the Silver Lining so that she can remain in contact with you. Her address is:

Debra Lowry  
c/o S. L. Rorick  
6607 Bandon Dr.  
Ft. Wayne, IN 46815

#### **APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED**

The days grow quietly longer, and the winds grow boisterously stronger, while winter and spring play tug-of-war for supremacy. At this time when all of

us are longing for warm sunshine and balmy breezes, winter is still bringing us snow, wind and cold temperatures. However, the spring season is promised to us, and with it will come the meaningful season of Easter.

"Up from the grave He arose  
With a mighty triumph o'er His foes.  
He arose a victor from the dark domain,  
And He lives forever with His saints to reign.  
He arose! He arose! Hallelujah! Christ arose!"

Gospel Hymns #323

Singing this truth never ceases to thrill our souls, for in it is contained the solution to earth's travail. Even the earth and all of nature rejoice at this time of year. Though winter's cold can be very harmful to man and animal, yet those things of nature bound by earth itself emerge beautiful and unharmed in springtime. The miracle never ceases to be amazing. We wonder and yet we need not question, for as Edna Hines wrote: "The why, why not, whither, how and when should no more tear the soul of questing men. Enough to know He rules; enough to trust, for He our Lord will lead . . ."

It was written of David, "And David, after he had served his generation by the will of God, fell on sleep. . ." (Acts 13:36). Hardly a finer tribute could be given than this brief, simple utterance of praise, for God asks no greater service than to help raise the standard of man's earthly days, especially those special people who call this their earthly home.

Getting to know the Home better includes providing information about services rendered to the residents. Those beyond providing food, shelter and medical care include that which is provided by the Interdisciplinary Team. Made up of key representatives from the various departments, they meet regularly to discuss and provide solutions for the abstract needs of the residents' whole personalities, the goal being to train each one to live to his fullest potential. Developing residents' talents and personality assets not only gives them a feeling of selfworth but helps to bring about their happiness. Though it is not really possible to make people good, we can try to make them happy; and in so doing, we often help them to be good.

A comparatively new activity for res-

idents is to take a number of them shopping once a month. An appropriate number of staff members takes them to a nearby mall where they may do some browsing or make some actual purchases.

The annual, supervised, overnight mini-vacation at a lovely inn in Peoria has also taken place recently. This event is eagerly anticipated and enjoyed.

All of us extend a warm welcome to our new resident, Aldine Winger, formerly from Miami, FL. Her deceased parents were Andrew and Clara Stoller Winger. Her brother's name is Donald Winger and her sister's name is Jeanette Johnson. There are two nephews and one niece to complete the family circle. Her favorite food is ice cream, and she enjoys TV and radio. Birthday time is June 15 and her birthplace was Wolcott, IN. Aldine has already made friends here, and we look forward to many happy times.

Doing the best for our residents is often accomplished by imagining ourselves in their circumstances. As

### **THE SILVER LINING**

Grabill, Indiana 46741  
USPS 496780

#### **EDITORIAL STAFF:**

Lynn Stieglitz  
Albert Frautschi  
David Bertsch

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

Published Monthly By the Apostolic  
Christian Church of America.

Counselors: Theo Beer, Loren Stoller,  
David Bertsch.

#### **SEND CORRESPONDENCE TO:**

The Silver Lining  
c/o David Bertsch  
Route 2, Box 157A  
Grabill, IN 46741

Second class postage paid at Grabill, IN 46741. The subscription rate is \$6.00 per year. Send zip no. with address. Remember to send changes of address. Send both old and new addresses (with both zips).

IN MEMORY — EDITORS:  
HENRY SOUDER  
EDWARD SOUDER

George McDonald once wrote, "If instead of a gem or even a flower, we could cast the gift of a lovely thought into the heart of a friend, that would be giving as the angels give."

### ARIZONA, PHOENIX

#### Ron & Ev Hoerr

Jeremiah 31:35 "Thus saith the Lord, which giveth the sun for a light by day, and the ordinances of the moon and of the stars for a light by night." Though we have had no rain for 68 days, there has been an abundance of bright sunny days since the start of '84. Our visitors have enjoyed spring-like weather as much as we who live here. We are most grateful for the weather we are enjoying while the rest of the nation has endured such a long, hard winter.

On February 25 Bro. Wilbur and Sis. Sophie Huber and Bro. Meredith and Sis. Leona Ricketts hosted a pre-nuptial supper at the church. There was a singing later in the evening.

February 26 was a beautiful wedding day for Sis. Cheryl Huber and Bro. Jon Ricketts. We wish them God's blessings as they make their home in Washington, IL.

We enjoyed sermons from visiting ministers, Bro. Loren Strahm, Bro. Al Langhofer, Bro. Pete Baltic, Bro. Marvin Schmidgall and Elder Bro. Robert Grimm.

We are looking forward to seeing Bro. Harry Roth and Bro. Dave Klopfenstein with us again after a short stay in the hospital.

Your Silver Lining is due now. This year please send your \$6 check made out to Silver Lining to your reporter at 1220 E. Echo Lane, Phoenix, AZ, 85020, and we will forward it.

"Grace be with you, mercy, and peace, from God the Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ." II John 3.

### ARIZONA, TUCSON

#### Lisa Knapp — Sandy Bauer

Elder Bro. Bob Grimm (Goodfield) and his family visited us recently. We certainly appreciate their efforts to be with us and ask the Lord's blessing on Bro. Bob for bringing the Word to us.

Our Sis. Tillie Aldrich wishes to thank everyone who remembered her with cards and gifts of love during her recent hospitalization and illness. She is most grateful for everything done on her behalf.

We were recently privileged to host

the Bible and Jr. High classes from Phoenix and California for a weekend of activities. We enjoyed the blessed fellowship and are thankful the Lord granted them a safe return to their respective homes.

### CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA

#### Mary Beth Klotzle

Easter is a time of many different feelings. We are reminded of Christ's triumphant entry into Jerusalem when He was hailed as King, only to be mocked and spit upon a few days later after being betrayed by one of His followers. We sorrow to think of the pain He suffered on the cross; yet He accepted it as the Lord's will, just because He loves us. Jesus didn't try to back out of what God had planned for Him, and because of His obedience, we can be thankful He opened the way to salvation through God's grace and faith. Then came the glorious day when He arose from the grave. What joy fills our hearts to think that death was overcome that day! The very least we can do is live our lives for God. The road may be narrow at times, but how often it's filled with sunshine, joy and song! There are trials and tests, but the blessings and peace of mind and heart are only made more precious because of them.

"... He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life." Jn. 5:24. If only all of mankind would hear and believe on Him that sent Jesus. Then the miracle of the day we call Easter would become their hope and joy also. Not only is life here on Earth better, but there is an eternity of joy and rest in Heaven for those who believe, accept, and then daily walk in His will.

On Mar. 18, Sis. Maria Jevremov (Bro. Victor and Sis. Anna) and Bro. John Wernli (Bro. Roy and Sis. Betty) of Lamont were joined as one in the Lord. We will miss Sis. Maria here as she and Bro. John plan to make their home in Kansas. May God go with you.

"As they go forth upon life's way,  
Sustain them by Thy grace;  
May they Thy holy laws obey  
And live in joy and peace.  
May they with holy lives adorn  
Thy doctrines, Lord, and be  
Amid life's sunshine and its storm  
True witnesses for Thee."

Hymns of Zion #286

We appreciate and thank our visiting ministers, Bro. Noah Gerber (West Bend), Bro. Marvin Schmidgall (Eureka), Bro. Carl Wyss (Washington) and Bro. Roy Wernli (Lamont) for sharing with us words of life.

Bro. Jim Hoerr (Peoria) and Bro. John Klotzle were the last of the group of travellers to India to arrive home. It was a full six weeks, and they felt the prayers of many, as much was accomplished. May the Lord's blessing continue to be on the work being done in His name.

### COLORADO, DENVER

#### Marlene Leman

We have set April 29 as the date for the dedication of our church building. The dictionary says dedication is "the setting apart for sacred use." Whenever we have a new church building we have a dedication service. How useless a dedication service for a building would be if the lives of we, the people who attend and call it "our church", are not fully dedicated.

We welcome Bro. Keith Kaufman (Phoenix) to our congregation. We pray that as he has found employment to provide for the physical that he may also find spiritual sustenance as he joins our fellowship.

"And the Lord God said, It is not good that man should be alone." Gen. 2:18. Believing this scripture and following the direction of God, Bro. Douglas Hohulin (Bro. Mel and Sis. Shirley, Roanoke) and Sis. Sharolyn Metzger (Bro. Arnold and Sis. Alice, West Bend) have announced their engagement. Their wedding is planned for May 13. We wish them God's richest blessings.

May is the month for the Denver Silver Lining collection of \$6.00 per subscription. Please send dues to Marlene Leman, 16836 E. Harvard Pl. Aurora, CO 80013.

### CONNECTICUT, ROCKVILLE

#### Michelle Virkler

"The Seven Words of Jesus on the Cross" is such a beautiful and fitting hymn for Easter time about Jesus' suffering on Calvary where he died for you and me so that we might live! To think that someone died for us; I wonder if we truly appreciate his suffering.

"... How great the pains, O Lord,  
Afflict Thee on this day

My God, My God, He calls  
Forsake me not I pray . . ."

Zion's Harp #89

The blanket of white snow of this past week reminded us again of those who seek refuge in warmer climates. Some of our dear brothers and sisters are residing in their winter homes at various places. We miss them and pray God will watch over them and keep them in his care and love until we can assemble together again.

". . . Give me Lord, for this Life's Journey only,  
Truth to guide me through this world so lonely."

Zion's Harp #90

Bro. Bill and Sis. Gail Mayo have moved to Connecticut from Altadena, CA. Bro. Bill works for Caterpillar (home office - Peoria). They have four lovely children: Erin, Macy, Michael and Bobby. Gail's parents are Bro. Robert and Sis. Marie Taufer (Morton) and Bill's mother, Lavern, resides in Peoria. We trust they will feel the love and joy we share as they assemble with us.

"Be strong and of good courage,  
Do not fear or be in dread of them:  
for it is the Lord your God who goes with you; he will not fail you or forsake you."

Deuteronomy 31:6

We find just how weak we really are when our health fails us, but we can find refuge with our Lord in his mercy and compassion. Those who have been hospitalized or in sickness include John Luginbuhl, Bonnie Reutter, Frieda Zutter, Jason Reutter, Mary Kloter, and John Bahler (who had double bypass surgery performed in San Antonio, TX).

There is such joy when we have another little bundle added to our congregation. Bro. Barry and Karen Lanz are the parents of Jayme Lynn. Grandparents are Bro. Richard and Sis. Frieda Lanz and Billy and Betty Drake.

Recently we were reminded to prepare our hearts and souls for our "Feast with the Lord." Some exhortations for Communion are contained in I Cor. 11:24-34.

"But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup. For he that eateth and drink-

eth unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's Body."

James 1:12 "Blessed is the man who endures trial, for when he has stood the test, he will receive the crown of life which God has promised to those who love him."

#### FLORIDA, FT. LAUDERDALE

##### Billie Klopfenstein

"I will both lay me down in peace, and sleep: for thou, Lord, only makest me dwell in safety." Psalm 4:8 When we are in God's hand we are truly safe. That does not mean that we will be kept from all harm or tragedy. It means that God will give us the strength we need in that hour. It means that with the Spirit's help we struggle day by day to find God's will for us and to do it. It means learning to love those we have previously called our enemies, loving those whom we dislike. It is not easy, but it is not impossible.

We want to welcome Bro. Ryan Huber into our congregation. Bro. Ryan has found employment in Miami after graduating from school in Oklahoma.

Elder Bro. Paul Butikofer from Elgin, IA, along with several brothers spent a weekend in Ft. Lauderdale as they traveled home from Haiti. Bro. Art Gudeman also spent a few days in our area. We appreciate these ministering brothers so much.

Sis. Doris Huber underwent surgery but is now at home and feeling better each day.

We want to extend our sympathy to Bro. Walter Anliker. He and his wife had spent a Wednesday evening in Ft. Lauderdale just prior to returning to their northern home. We had all enjoyed meeting and greeting both of them.

#### FLORIDA, NORTH FORT MYERS

##### Marie Keller — Elsie Troxel

Groundbreaking ceremony was held for a new church in North Fort Myers, FL on Feb. 26, 1984.

Ministers present for the groundbreaking were our beloved elder Bro. Ben Maibach, Bro. Doug Sabo (Sarasota), Bro. Glen Price (Sarasota), Bro. Art Gudeman and their wives and families. Also present were members from the North Fort Myers and Sarasota churches.

Elder Bro. Ben Maibach gave the opening prayer. In his prayer he said: "This is a precious opportunity to

witness the turning of the soil for a new edifice. We thank thee for the faith of our forefathers." Psalm 84 was read by Bro. Ben Maibach and the song "Approach to the Throne of God" (Zion's Harp #132) was sung.

Bro. Art Gudeman gave the closing prayer saying: "To Thy work Lord, add Thy Blessing." The ceremony was closed with the singing of "Blest Be The Tie That Binds". Hymns of Zion #156.

Visiting ministers this past month were Bro. Walt Anliker (Eureka, IL), Bro. Joe Schrock (Sarasota), Bro. Bob Meyers (Bluffton North, IN), Bro. Doug Sabo (Sarasota), Bro. Glen Price (Sarasota), Elder Bro. Roy Sauder (Peoria, IL), Elder Bro. Ben Maibach (Detroit, MI) and their families. We were richly blessed with the Word from all our beloved ministers.

Louise Moser (Roy Moser) had to return again to the hospital for X-rays and tests. Our prayers are with her that she can return back home again soon.

We wish to extend our Easter greetings to everyone in this upcoming Easter season. Let us all remember it is a season of joy and redemption in which Jesus Christ, our Lord, gave us new life in Him.

#### FLORIDA, SARASOTA

##### Doris and Diane Rocke

And he instructed that others should continue the work. We thank Bros. Ed Aeschleman, Nathan Stoller (Bradford), Francis Rother (Morton), Dan Koch (Tremont), Ben Maibach and Mark Bahr (Detroit), Charles Hemmer (Peoria) and Harold Schmidgall (Gridley) for sharing His precious Word with us. What precious promises the believers have because of our Saviour's victory over death and the grave. Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection and the life. He that believeth in me though He were dead, yet shall he live. Jn. 11:25. It should behoove us all to present our bodies as a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is our reasonable service. Rom. 12:1.

Our hearts are saddened in the passing of Sis. Wilhelmina Anliker. May it be a comfort to Bro. Walt and family that we all here look forward to that great resurrection.

Sis. Bonnie and James McWhorter were proud parents on Feb. 22 when baby Tracy arrived as a playmate for five year old Erin. Joining in this blessing are grandparents James Sr. and

Ann McWhorter (Miami) and Louis and Peggy Alzel (Coral Springs, FL).

Hospitalized this month were Bro. Frank Krspogacin, Sis. Helen Kloter and Marilyn Bryant. Our prayers and the Almighty's love and tender care will ever be near you.

A reception and singing was held for Bro. Werner and Sis. Esther Kupferschmid by eighty-five guests. May God add His blessing to this union of hearts.

Bro. Richard Laukhuf and Sis. Geraldine Plattner have chosen to join in holy matrimony. Their joy was shared with a singing in their honor.

Bro. Phil Schlatter has made known his engagement to Sis. Marianne Kuenzi, daughter of Lee and Louise Kuenzi (Silverton, OR). We hope she will feel the love for her here in Sarasota. May God bless this new beginning of a Christian home and find His part in it.

Dedication services are to be held here Sun., Mar. 25. We are enjoying our visitors this winter after our busy summer. It was a blessing to be present at the N. Fort Meyers groundbreaking service, Feb. 26. We give them our prayerful support in their project. May the warmth of our love and the light of His wisdom help see them through a very successful year.

I wish to thank all of you for prayers, visits, gifts and cards. It is greatly appreciated.

Bro. Frank Krspogacin

### GEORGIA, ATLANTA

Charmin Sellers — Nancy Foltz

O Lord, how manifold are thy works! in wisdom hast thou made them all: the earth is full of thy riches.

Psalm 104:24

In this beautiful season we only have to look around us to know that the Lord has truly blessed us with his riches, among them the beautiful flowers and greenery we all appreciate so much.

Our appreciation goes to our visiting ministers who were Bro. Carroll Gerber (Bluffton North) on Feb. 26, and Bro. Dan Stoller (Remington) on Mar. 11. May God bless them.

Sandy and Darrell Kloter will be leaving our group and moving to Mobile, AL. We will miss them, and wish Darrell, Sandy and little Shaun much success and happiness in their new endeavors.

Anyone traveling through the Atlan-

ta area is invited to stop and worship with us each 2nd and 4th Sunday at the Ramada Inn, I-75, Marietta, GA. For information contact Don Sellers at 404-923-0721 or Nancy Foltz at 404-451-9191.

### ILLINOIS

#### BLOOMINGTON — NORMAL Shirley Denick — Jan Gudeman

As the memorandum was read again this year we were all reminded of our special faith and devotion to God. We appreciate the words of wisdom and kind exhortation we received. We thank Bro. Bob Grimm (Goodfield) and our Elder Bro. Dan Koch for serving us in this way.

Our brother and sister-in-faith, Eric and Cindy Langhofer, and their three children have left our midst now and are busy settling in the Phoenix area, their new home. We enjoyed a potluck dinner, blessed singing and fellowship at the church to express our love and best wishes to them.

"For without faith it is impossible to please Him." We were reminded recently to put our faith in God, to polish and burnish our spiritual armor, for it is ever tempting to falsely trust in things we may have that seem valuable.

### ILLINOIS, BRADFORD

#### Shirley Kieser

He lives! He lives! You ask me how I know He lives — He lives within my heart. I serve a risen Saviour, He is in the world today; I know that He is living, whatever men may say; I see His hand of mercy, I hear His voice of cheer, And just the time I need Him, He's always near.

Alfred Ackley

Visiting ministers and their families were Bros. Simon Wagenbach (Tremont), John Steiner (Oakville), Larry Wenninger (Latty), and Bill Hodel (Roanoke). We appreciate their efforts very much.

Bro. Greg and Sis. Jill Stoller and family will be missed here in our Bradford congregation as they have moved to Forrest. We pray for God's blessings and contentment in their move.

Sympathy is extended to Cliff and Marjie Rumbold Sturm in the death of his dad, Marvin Sturm of Wyoming. We also extend sympathy to Bro. Robert and Sis. Becky Joos in the passing of her mother Mary Jean Roger of Chillicothe.

A precious bundle from heaven has blessed the hearts and home of Donn and Tracy Ehnle. Little Daniel Ryan is welcomed by his parents and grandparents, Bro. Roy and Sis. Donna Ehnle and Larry and Jean Duckworth.

### ILLINOIS, CHICAGO

#### Kathy Schlatter

The Lord appreciates a joyful noise. At a singing last Sunday evening the adults were singing their hearts out and the children, who outnumbered the adults, sang along or played quietly (or noisily) all around. The scene suggested an analogy to our daily lives as parents, as Christians. Certainly as a child of God, each one of us needs to "override" the commotion of the world, welcoming interested parties to the Lord's presence, ignoring the play and chatter that is not worshipful around us. Yet we hope that those involved in the noise of the world will "grow into" an appreciation of the holiness and love of the Lord, will be drawn by the warmth and joy, and will at some time seek Him for their own.

When we gather around the Word in the right Spirit, we are each one as a field, ready to be planted. For the Lord's bountiful blessings we thank Him, our faithful ministers at home, and the brethren who made the extended effort to visit and lend themselves: Bro. Merle Bucher (LaCrosse, IN), Bro. LeRoy Hartman (Peoria, IL), and Bro. Jim Plattner (Princeville, IL). May we by grace bring forth thirty, sixty and one hundredfold.

We pray for two dear sisters especially. Sis. Marie Kulyan has had surgery. As her spirit is unconquered, we pray that the Lord may aid in the healing of her physical body, that we may again enjoy her presence. We miss her when she is gone. Sis. Margaret Fisher has moved from Elgin, IL, to the Apostolic Christian Nursing Home in Peoria, IL. The decision was not an easy one but a necessary one. We trust that visits from many in her "old stomping grounds," the Peoria area, and from Elgin brethren and Chicagoans who will always love, respect, and miss her will ease her adjustment. Dear loved ones, we commend you to His care, His patience, and His love in our prayers.

At Easter, a time of humbling re-examination and awe, may we re-experience our own repentance and conversion as we travel to Gethsem-

ane, to Calvary and to the empty tomb. Surely we become more tenderhearted. As we were taught, experiencing the scent of a rose is as different from explaining it to another as is the difference between experiencing salvation and explaining its peace to someone else. But keeping ourselves closer to the memory ensures that the Spirit, the true soul-drawing power, will be in our account, spoken or unspoken.

#### ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK

**Wilma Walder — Joan Waldbeser**

Feb. 26 was the wedding day of Bro. Les Marti and Sis. Patti Walder. Parents of the couple are Bro. Allen and Sis. Delores Marti (Gridley) and Bro. Les and Sis. Dorothy Walder. Visiting ministers serving us that day were Elder Bro. Edwin Ringger (Gridle, IL) and Bro. Arthur Baurer (Princeville).

We also wish to thank Bro. Bob Beebe (South Bend), Bro. Charles Sauder (Tremont), Bro. Merle Kaisner (Fairbury) and Bro. Everett Hari (Bloomington) for their labors in the Lord on our behalf. May God bless all who so willingly serve in bringing the message of the gospel to us.

Sis. Mattie Bauer had cataract surgery and is doing well. Phil Bauer also had surgery in Texas where he resides during the winter months.

We are thankful the Lord has taken our dear Sis. Eleanor Maul to her eternal rest and spared her from much pain and suffering. Sis. Eleanor, age 66, passed away Mar. 15, leaving her family of two sisters, Mrs. Earl (Lula) Young (Edinburgh, IN) and Mrs. Alfred (Gertrude) Pate (Wellington) and three brothers, Norman (Cissna Park), Bro. Clarence (East Lynn) and George (Hoopeston).

#### IT MUST BE SPRING

There is a mildness in the air . . .  
A softness in the soil . . .  
And there is less of weariness . . .  
In struggle and in toil . . .  
The sun is somewhat warmer now . . .  
The sky a brighter blue . . .  
And something seems to tell the heart . . .  
That life is fresh and new . . .  
It must be time for spring again . . .  
And time to look around . . .  
For greener grass and flowers fair . . .  
To decorate the ground . . .  
The snow and ice have disappeared . . .  
Where now the rivers flow . . .

And fertile fields are stirring in . . .  
Their eagerness to grow . . .  
The soul is filled with faith and hope . . .  
And joy in everything . . .  
It must be time to live again . . .  
It must be really spring.

James J. Metcalfe

After a long hard winter, we rejoice that spring is near. It's the time of renewal beginning again, a change in the landscape wherever you look, budding and blooming and an awakening of all around us. Our loving Father in heaven gives us blessings manifold — health, healing, contentment, peace and joys untold.

#### ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE Tammy Knapp — Kay Roth

#### I AM THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

Oh Father up in heaven,  
We have wandered far away  
From Jesus Christ, Our Saviour,  
Who arose on Easter Day . . .  
And the promise of salvation  
That God gave us when Christ died  
We have often vaguely questioned,  
Even doubted and denied . . .  
We've forgotten why You sent us  
Jesus Christ, Your only Son,  
And in arrogance and ignorance —  
It's Our Will, not Thine, be Done . . .  
Oh, shed Thy light upon us,  
As Easter dawns this year,  
And may we feel the presence  
Of the risen Saviour near . . .  
And, God in Thy great wisdom,  
Lead us in the way that's right,  
And may the darkness of this world  
Be conquered by "Thy Light."  
Helen Steiner Rice

We are thankful to be able to hear God's Word preached to us through His faithful servants. This month Elder Bro. Nathan Steffen (Elgin, IL) was with us. May God richly bless him for bringing us the Word of Life.

The engagement of Sis. Alma Schieber to Bro. Frank Wackerle of the Bay City, MI congregation has been announced. We wish them God's guidance and blessings in their lives together.

Our prayers were with those who were hospitalized this month. Bro. Harvey Schieber, Elmer Miller and Lanae Schrock (Bro. Byron and Sis. Mary). May the healing hand of God be with them.

Several families in our congregation have lost loved ones in the recent past. We extend our sympathy to the following: Bro. Jake and Sis. Marion Miller in the loss of her father, Bro. Jonathan Steffen; the family of Bro. Merion and Sis. Esther Miller in the loss of a son and brother-in-law, Maynard Myer; Bro. John and Sis. Alice Schieber in the loss of her mother, Mrs. Ruth Ruff; and to Bro. Keith and Sis. Pauline Roth in the loss of his mother, Mrs. Nettie Roth. We feel the vacancies in our lives as our family circles here on earth are broken. May we strive to be true and faithful that the circle will not be broken in the better home awaiting in the sky.

#### ILLINOIS, ELGIN Ruth Ann Getz

Easter again draws our hearts to the time of the crucifixion of our Saviour. For the believer, it is a time of inner rejoicing for our Saviour's supreme sacrifice on the cross to redeem our immortal souls. By him are we illumined (for we have no light of ourselves) as we look to his wonderful light. There is a chorus that says:

"Turn your eyes upon Jesus,  
Look full in His wonderful face;  
And the things of earth will grow  
strangely dim  
In the light of His glory and grace."  
Tabernacle #7

Warmth and love and direction are found there that cannot be compared with that which even the very dearest of friends on this earth can afford. It is most assuredly true that the things of earth grow strangely dim in the light of his glory and grace! May we observe the easter season with reverence for the Light of our souls.

Several of the brethren have suffered illness and have found themselves in need of hospitalization. We know that when the body is weakened Satan often takes special opportunity to attack the believer, and so we pray for both body and soul of these loved ones; that the Lord would keep them under his wing. Sis. Katie Kachelmuss was hospitalized and has since been moved to the Americana Nursing Home where her sister, Sis. Esther Wewetzer is also residing. Sis. Ida Moser has been able to return to Mary Margaret Manor after another hospital stay. Sis. Emily Preiss, Bro. Joe Lauber and Bro. Sam

Graf have all returned to their homes following their illnesses, and Sis. Ernestine Gudeman remains hospitalized at this time. Sis. Margaret Fisher was again hospitalized and has since been transferred to the Apostolic Christian Home at 7023 N.E. Skyline Drive, Peoria, IL 61614.

Don and Debbie Weiss have welcomed Andrew Alan, born Jan. 21, into their home. Jacob is his older brother and undoubtedly will be a good playmate in future days. Bill and Betty Reed and Bro. Paul and Sis. Joyce Weiss are the grandparents. May Don and Debbie find much pleasure in rearing their children.

Bro. Larry and Sis. Sue Steffen are first-time parents of a son, Britt Alan, born Mar. 7. May the Lord grant them the grace to nurture this new little life in the ways of the Lord so that when he is old he will not depart from that which he was taught. Grandparents are Bro. Jack and Sis. Millie Prather (Eureka) and Bro. Earl and Sis. Kathryn Steffen.

A number of brethren gathered again this year on Mar. 17 to bag corn to be sent to Africa to alleviate the hunger there. May each one who participated in this work be blessed for their concern for others who are less fortunate than we.

Bro. Tom Moser will be spending a week in Haiti along with several brethren from various other church communities. They will be working on a school roof project. May all their efforts redound to the glory of God.

### ILLINOIS, EUREKA

**Kathy L. Roche**

"Now wash me and I shall be whiter than snow." Tabernacle Hymns #168. This was the desire of Dale Schumacher and Kurt Eastman as we heard their testimonies on Saturday evening, Feb. 25. The following day they were welcomed into the fold as our brothers in the Lord. Their parents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Charlene Schumacher and Bro. Dick and Sis. Nelma Eastman. We wish them the Lord's grace and blessings throughout life. We thank Elder Bro. Dave Kieser (Princeville) and Bro. Willis Wiegand (Goodfield) for being with us and ministering the Word to us.

On Mar. 4, Bro. Scott Leman and Sis. Phyllis Wiegand exchanged wedding vows at Goodfield. Bro. Roy and Sis. Wanda Leman and Bro. Willis and Sis. Betty Wiegand are their parents. May God bless them as they walk this

earthly pathway together. We welcome Sis. Phyllis to our congregation.

Sis. Brenda Zimmerman and Bro. Fred Leman (Forrest) exchanged their wedding vows on Mar. 18. Their parents are Bro. Leland and Sis. Lorene Zimmerman and Bro. Bob and Sis. Donna Leman. We thank Elder Bro. Perry Zimmerman (Forrest), Bros. Ron Schambach (Elgin, IL) and Clarence Kachelmuss (Forrest) for being with us on this special occasion. We will miss Sis. Brenda in our congregation, but know she will be welcomed in Forrest. May God bless them.

Those who have spent some time in the hospital or met with accident are Sis. Marie Klaus, Sis. Mary Mangold (Bro. Charles) and Maurice Crawford. We pray our Lord will bless them with good health once again.

I come to the garden alone  
While the dew is still on the roses,  
And the voice I hear,  
Falling on my ear,  
The son of God discloses.

He speaks, and the sound of His voice  
Is so sweet the birds hush their singing,  
And the melody That he gave to me,  
Within my heart is ringing.

I'd stay in the garden with Him  
Tho' the night around me be falling,  
But He bids me go' Thro' the voice of  
woe  
His voice to me is calling.

Tabernacle Hymns #130

We were deeply saddened when Sis. Mina Anliker passed away Mar. 3. Our hearts and prayers go out to her dear husband, Bro. Walter, and their children, Bro. Art, Sis. Carol Anliker, Sis. Dorothy Leman, Sis. Jane Stoller (all Eureka) and Sis. Mary Kay Rumbold (Morton). Also surviving are five sisters: Sis. Marie Klaus, Sis. Emma Somerhalder, Kathryn Weyeneth, Lillian Frerichs (Eureka) and Sis. Elizabeth Herbst (Washington); and three brothers: Bro. Joseph Klaus (Morton), Henry Klaus (Peoria) and Benjamin Klaus (Eureka). Sis. Mina will certainly be missed in our congregation. We pray that God will send His Comforter to those who are bereft of their loved one.

We would like to thank the brethren in all our churches across the land who have remembered us with prayers and cards. If we have missed anyone in our

Eureka church with a "Thank You" we do so very much appreciate the numerous kindnesses shown to us by all of you at the time of the great loss of our wife and mother. Continue to pray for us. May God bless you all.

The Walt Anliker Family

### ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY

**Carol Bazzell — Joann Zehr**

The engagement of Bro. Jeff Thames and Sis. Brenda Kiefer (Oakville, IA) has been announced. May God bless their betrothal and continue to guide them upon life's pathway. Jeff's parents are Phil and Sis. Kay Thames (Washington) and Brenda's are the Robert Kiefer's of Oakville.

Don and Phyllis Welborn have a new little son, Jason Scott, born Feb. 21. He is welcomed home by a sister and two brothers. Grandparents are Bro. Maurice and Sis. Alma Steidinger. A little boy, Dallas Keith was born Mar. 5 to Bro. Randy and Sis. Dawn Steidinger. His twin brothers Karl and Kyle are happy to have a new brother. Grandparents are Bro. Bill and Sis. Jean Aberle (Forrest) and Bro. Maurice and Sis. Alma Steidinger. First time parents are Chris and Sis. Bethany Leake. They have a daughter, Erin Marie, born Mar. 17. Grandparents are Bro. Ralph and Sis. Jeanette Bahler and Carl and Helen Leake (Lexington).

We have enjoyed visiting ministers, Bros. Bruce Leman (Roanoke), Frederick Knapp (Congerville), Earl Gerber and Wayne Anliker (Forrest).

As we look forward to spring and the rebirth of nature, we are so reminded of the death of Christ and His resurrection. May this Easter season become more meaningful as we realize more the love that God has for us.

Since Jesus rose, there's strength and life

To help me through this earthly strife.  
O Saviour, grant that I may be,  
Thy faithful servant, pure and free!

Zion's Harp #123

### ILLINOIS, FORREST

**Kathy Leman — Sharon Adams**

We thank Bro. Hartzell Kaisner (Detroit, MI) for his visit and for bringing us the precious Word of Life. May we never forget our duties as we walk this pathway of life.

Little Shawna Adams (Bro. Terry and Sis. Sharon) had to undergo a



second surgery recently, but is now home and doing fine.

Bro. Jerry and Sis. Kathy Leman are happy parents of Kelli Sue born Mar. 7. Erik, Arlen and Chad are happy for a little sister. Grandparents are Bro. Earl and Sis. Esther Gerber and Bro. Sidney and Sis. Helen Leman.

Mar. 18 was the wedding day for Bro. Fred Leman (Bro. Robert and Sis. Donna) and Sis. Brenda Zimmerman (Bro. Leland and Sis. Lorene) of Eureka. We wish them God's blessings as they walk this new way together in the Lord.

### HE LIVES

I serve a risen Savior, He's in the world today;  
I know that He is living, whatever men may say;  
I see His hand of mercy, I hear His voice of cheer,  
And just the time I need Him, He's always near.

In all the world around me I see His loving care,  
And tho' my heart grows weary I never will despair;  
I know that He is leading, thro' all the stormy blast,  
The day of His appearing will come at last.

Rejoice, rejoice, O Christian, lift up your voice and sing  
Eternal hallelujahs to Jesus Christ the King!  
The Hope of all who seek Him, the Help of all who find,  
None other is so loving, so good and kind.

He lives, He lives, Christ Jesus lives today!  
He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way.  
He lives, He lives, salvation to impart!  
You ask me how I know He lives? He lives within my heart.

Melodies of Praise #86

Let us draw our hearts and thoughts to Christ at Calvary as we approach this Easter season.

### ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD Bev Joos

Promises! Promises! Those little words of pledge one speaks with the best of intent. How many promises one

fails to keep! God's acquaintance with promises is supreme. He has heard them uttered hastily and with little commitment, just as He has heard prayers of fervent and earnest promises.

A tiny crocus bud peeks timidly but persistently through barren frost-ridden ground. It is God's promise renewed to us after a bitter winter. As flowers deep in the earth do lie, God awakens them as He shall you and I.

Easter is a promise God renews to us each Spring  
A promise that we'll always have Him there,

And like the flowers that bloom so bright and birds that sweetly sing,  
We always will receive His tender care.  
Amanda Bradley

Now, in this season of miracles, is the time to recommit oneself to that which we have pledged.

On Feb. 19, the engagement of our Sis. Gerry Plattner to Bro. Richard Laukhuf (Latty, OH) was announced. We wish them special blessings as they await their wedding promises.

All the way my Saviour leads me;  
O the fulness of His love!  
Perfect rest to me is promised  
In my Father's house above.

Hymns of Zion #21

Our dear Bro. Joshua Nohl, who in just a few days would have been 101 years old, passed away Feb. 29. Though emptiness does fill our hearts, we rejoice that Bro. Josh had received the promise of the cross. He endured many trials; but steered his ship of faith on a true course, e'er heavenward. We sympathize with his sons, Cecil and Bro. Ivan (Goodfield) and with his daughters, Alice and Sis. Clara (Goodfield), Sis. Lavina Fehr (Deer Creek), Sis. Barbara Moser (Roanoke) and Frances Klopfenstein (Wolcott, IN).

We were privileged on Mar. 4 to witness the marriage vows exchanged between our dear Sis. Phyllis Wiegand (Bro. Willis and Sis. Betty Wiegand) and Bro. Scott Leman (Bro. Roy and Sis. Wanda Leman). In their ceremony, life was compared to a series of lights. As an airplane is guided safely onto the runway by a series of lights, likewise our Father lights our pathway through life. His beam shines forth revealing the true course.

We are thankful to Bro. Frederick Knapp (Congerville) for bringing us God's precious word this past month.

### ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY Carol Klopfenstein

"The word, 'pure' means an absence of self." This was the definition an elder brother mentioned to us recently. Jesus said, "Blessed are the pure in heart; for they shall see God." (Matt. 5:8). It behooves us then to strive to be more pure, i.e. less of self and more of Christ. Often we think of the word "pure" to describe a small child who is innocent and "fresh" from God. It softens our hearts and inspires feelings of gentle tenderness and love when we see them peacefully asleep or when a delightful smile breaks across their little faces. They are pure because they are so sincere and so dependent on our care. At first they have no opinions of their own. They are pliable and trusting, looking up to us. It is up to us to teach them, to influence them and to mold their precious little lives.

This is also our relationship to the heavenly Father, as we are His dear children. Jesus said, "Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven." (Matt. 18:3) We too must be pliable and trusting, surrendered to His care and willing to follow His leading.

The following poem was printed in the Silver Lining some years ago, but the profound message is a good reminder to all parents of young children.

I took a piece of plastic clay  
And idly fashioned it one day,  
And as my fingers pressed it still,  
It moved and yielded at my will.  
I came again when days were past,  
The form I gave it still it bore,  
But I could change that form no more.  
I took a piece of living clay,  
And gently formed it day by day,  
And molded with my power and art  
A young child's soft and yielding heart.  
I came again when days were gone;  
It was a man I looked upon.  
He still that early impress bore,  
And I could change it nevermore.

Bro. David and Sis. Debbie Meiss are the happy parents of their first child, Derek Lee, who was born Mar. 9. Derek's grandparents are John and Sis. Sarah Diggle (Roanoke) and Bro. Floyd and Sis. Marge Meiss (Gridley).

Bro. Arthur and Sis. Twyla Schlipf are the happy parents of a son, Jeremiah Joseph, who was born Mar. 12. Jeremiah has two sister, Janelle and Carissa. His grandparents are Lulu and Adam Schlipf (Gridley) and Bro. Herman and Sis. Oleda Menold (Morton).

On Mar. 4, Bro. Roger Stoller (Art Stoller and Ruth Wiggins) and Sis. Mary Lou Schlipf (Carl and Lola) were united in Holy Matrimony. We were glad to have Elder Bro. Jesse Beer (Milford) with us for this special occasion.

Ministering Bro. Marshall Heinold (Washington) was also with us for an evening this month.

Our hospital patients have been Sis. Nadine Ringger, Lillian Yergler, Bro. Ray Ringger, Sis. Ida Rinkenberger and Sis. Helen Schlipf.

Sis. Ida Rinkenberger wishes to express her thanks to those who remembered her with prayers, visits, cards and gifts while she was in the hospital and for her 90th birthday.

Sis. Helen Schlipf's name was mistakenly omitted when the funeral of Sis. Jean Hodel was reported in the February issue. Sis. Helen is a sister to Sis. Jean.

#### ILLINOIS, MORTON

Phyllis Farney — JoAnn Roecker

#### EASTER AND RETIREMENT THOUGHTS

God sent His Son, Jesus, down to man,  
To prepare for him a retirement plan.  
Looking up to the Cross from down  
below,  
From His wounded side the blood did  
flow.

"Tis finished!", He cried, the scroll  
unfurled,  
A Master Plan: (It is out of this world!).  
Satan conquered, from the grave  
Christ arose!  
Denouncing all souls that would Him  
oppose.

Now Heaven's doors swing open wide,  
And His free Grace He will provide.  
Oh, cleanse your heart and turn from  
sin,  
And the Holy Spirit shall dwell  
there-in.

With satan bound for Eternal Hell,  
His hosts and he shall forever dwell,

In total darkness, yet they shall see,  
What they have missed, Eternally.

#### DESTINY

Where we are destined in the  
here-after,  
Depends on what we will go after-here!  
The wise will choose to escape  
disaster,  
While the foolish say, "Let's have  
another beer!"

The wise will repent and turn about  
face,  
Vowing their decision to sin no more.  
Truly they will find the God-given  
Grace,  
Plus untold blessings He has in store.

Man must choose his destiny while  
here,  
God allows man to have his own free  
will.  
Remember, God gave you His Son so  
dear,  
To shed His Blood on Calvary's Hill.

The Blood which frees us from all sin,  
From Jesus' side did freely flow.  
A new life in Christ we can begin,  
Washed by His blood, yes, whiter than  
snow.

By Bro. Irvin Leman

We wish to thank Bro. Irvin Leman for sharing the above two poems about Easter with us. May we all have a blessed Easter season. Let each one of us go daily to the Cross and remember that Jesus shed His precious Blood for the sins of the whole world.

We wish to express our sincere sympathy to the family of Sis. Wilhelmina Anliker (Eureka, IL), mother of Sis. Mary Kay Rumbold and sister to Bro. Joe Klaus of our congregation and to Vivian Stoller upon the passing of her sister, Edna Light. May God comfort and bless both families in their sorrow.

Bro. Gary and Sis. Heidi Psinas welcome into their hearts and home, Jeremiah Dane. He was born Feb. 28. Jesse is thrilled to have a baby brother. His grandparents are Alvin and Hilda Psinas (Pekin, IL) and Bro. Robert and Sis. Dorothy Frank (Morton, IL).

Sarah Ann Kaiser is welcomed into the hearts and home of Bro. David, Sis. Beth and "big" brother, Matthew. She was born on Mar. 5. Her grandparents are Bro. Howard and Sis. Delores Rapp (Chicago, IL) and Bro. Harlan

and Sis. Jean Ann Kaiser (Morton, IL).

We heard the testimony of faith of Gilbert Strunk and witnessed his baptism on Mar. 7. We welcome Bro. Gilbert into the family of God and wish him God's blessings as he walks the narrow pathway of life.

Bro. Roger and Sis. Martha Belsley welcome into their hearts and home, Nicole Ann. She was born on Mar. 8. Her grandparents are Bro. Willard and Sis. Eloise Bahr (Sabetha, KS) and Bro. Robert and Sis. Mabel Belsley (Morton, IL).

Sis. Eliza Belsley was called Home after a lengthy illness. Her funeral was held on Mar. 9. May our Heavenly Father richly comfort and bless her family and friends.

The Lord has drawn our Sis. Desma Davis (Larry and Linda Davis) and Bro. Lee Klopfenstein (Bro. Alvin and Sis. Ellen Klopfenstein, Latty, OH) together in love. May our Heavenly Father richly bless them as they "Twain shall become one" in Christ Jesus.

Sis. Gertrude Baurer was called Home. Her funeral was held on Mar. 16. May God comfort and bless her family and friends.

#### ILLINOIS, PEORIA

Susi Herman — Margo Marx

We want to thank the choir from Goodfield who sang such beautiful hymns at our monthly hymn sing. It's a real blessing when everyone is willing to work together and give of themselves. This is true giving when our efforts praise our Lord.

Hospitalized this month were Sis. Pearl Rumbold, Sis. Evelyn Thomas, Sis. Mary Berchtold, Sis. Eva Baurer, Sis. Martha Elsasser, Bro. Ray Martin, Bro. Dave Ginzler, Bro. Adolph Gerst, Bro. Ray Wiegand and Fred Rieker. We trust that they may all feel God's healing power.

Our sympathy is extended to the families of our Bro. Walter Bittner and Lucille Binkele who have passed away recently.

Bro. Ben and Sis. Louise Stickling wish to thank everyone who sent cards for Bro. Ben's 80th birthday.

Our visiting ministers this month have been Elder Bro. Lavoyd Moore (Athens, AL), Bro. Hartzell Kaisner (Detroit, MI), Elder Bro. Dave Kieser (Princeville) and Bro. Gene Lehman (Wolcott, IN). We thank these brothers for their inspiring messages.

We are thankful for all our countless blessings and pray that love and peace can be multiplied in the coming days. May our lights be shining brightly so that we can be a guiding light. May God's love be manifested in us, and may we always strive more diligently to do His will.

### ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE

#### Arlene and Arlys Martin

God is not concerned with how many talents you have, but what you do with the ones He gave you.

Visiting ministers have been Bros. LeRoy Hartman (Peoria), LeRoy Huber (Eureka), Harvey Grimm (Bern, KS), Robert Walder (Congerville) and Paul Eisenmann (Burlington, IA).

On Feb. 26 Bro. Joe Stoller announced the engagement of Bro. Alan Martin to Sis. Janice Herrmann. Their parents are Bro. Nate and Sis. Esther Martin and Bro. Eugene and Sis. Betty Herrmann, all of our congregation.

On Mar. 11 Elder Bro. Dave Kieser announced the engagement of Sis. Nita Baer to Bro. Kevin Grimm of Sabetha, KS. Their parents are Otto and Eleanor Baer of our congregation and Bro. Nathan and Sis. Lois Grimm (Sabetha, KS).

We heard the testimonies of faith and witnessed the baptisms of Sis. Crystal and Bro. Wayne Streitmatter on Mar. 10 and 11. Their parents are Bro. Floran and Sis. Twylla Streitmatter.

Stephanie Kay Regier was born on Feb. 14 to Bro. Dana and Sis. Martha Kay Regier. Trent and Kristen welcome her to their home. Grandparents are Bro. David and Sis. Shirley Kieser (Bradford) and Richard and Helen Regier (Princeville).

Our sympathy is given to the family of John Wyss. His wife, Minnie Wyss, 80, passed away Mar. 3. Surviving besides her husband are a daughter, Mardell Martin (Bloomington); four sons, John (Wyoming), Richard (Minonk), Kenneth (Clifton) and Edward (Watseka); a brother, Alfred Spahr (Davenport, IA); four sisters, Lena Woertz (Chillicothe), Cordelia Musselman and Sis. Lucille Kieser (Wyoming) and Hilda Anderson (Watseka); 11 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Hospital patients have been Sis. Mary Menold, Sis. Mary Musselman, and Bro. Silas Leuthold.

Note: If anyone is missing a size 38,

fur-lined, almost new, men's short London Fog coat, it is at our Fellowship Hall.

### ILLINOIS, ROANOKE

#### Joyce Hodel — Carol Rumbold

It was with joy that we learned of the engagement of our Bro. Doug Hohulin and Sis. Sharolyn Metzger, both of the Denver congregation. Their parents are Bro. Mel and Sis. Shirley Hohulin (Roanoke) and Bro. Arnold and Sis. Alice Metzger (West Bend, IA). May they seek God's guidance as they plan their marriage in the Lord.

Funeral services were held for Nettie Steffen, who passed away Mar. 16. We extend our sympathy to her entire family.

Our Sisters Laura Weyeneth, Leota Byrd and Sylvia Blunier were hospitalized but are recovering in their homes. We know they are grateful to the Great Physician for the gentle touch of His healing hand.

Our lives have been enriched due to the unselfish giving of ministers who visited our congregation. May God bless the lives and families of Bros. Dale Wulf (Lester), Rod Huber (Valparaiso) and Uriel Gehring (Leo). We also thank Bro. Steve Rinkenberger (Cissna) for his special effort in teaching us at our Bible Study how to recognize humanism, so that we can have no part in it.

### ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY

#### Marcia Metz

Faith is . . .

Confidence in God's  
faithfulness to me,  
in an uncertain world,  
on an uncharted course,  
through an unknown future.

Pamela Reeve

We are thankful that we are yet permitted to gather freely on Thursday evenings and we appreciate the ministering brothers who have come to share God's Word with us. Bro. Bob Grimm (Goodfield) spoke on the importance of the Church; Bro. Leroy Hartman (Peoria) spoke about our Church History and Bro. Marshall Heinold (Washington) exhorted us to do more Christian sharing. May God richly bless each one.

The Easter program will be held on April 19 at 7:30 p.m. Bible study is held every Thursday at 7:30 in Schroeder 244. Everyone is welcome.

### ILLINOIS, TREMONT

#### Dorothy Wagenbach

#### Carolyn Bolliger

This past month our Tremont church was privileged to host the Apostolic Christian Youth Fellowship groups of our Central Illinois area. It is a real inspiration to sit and listen to the beautiful hymns sung by our young people.

We rejoice with Bro. Stan Koch and Sis. Jennifer Lang on the recent announcement of their engagement. Bro. Stan is the son of Bro. Ralph and Sis. Matilda Koch and Sis. Jennifer is the daughter of Bro. George and Sis. Phyllis Lang. A June 10 wedding is being planned.

We are thankful Sis. Marcia Kaiser (Bro. Jerry) is back in church after having spent some time in the hospital.

We are sorry to report Bro. Emanuel Sinn is again in the hospital. We trust the dear Lord will encourage him and Sis. Elsie, hoping that he will soon be able to return home again.

It is good to see Sis. Hanna Koch worship with us again after having to spend a few weeks at home. Sis. Hanna wishes to thank all those who were thoughtful of her during this time at home, especially for the many dishes of food brought to her and Bro. Ed.

Sis. Mary Baurer is glad to be home again after submitting to recent eye surgery.

We wish to thank our visiting ministers again this month. They were: Bro. Steve Rinkenberger (Cissna Park), Bro. Clarence Kachelmuss (Forrest), Bro. Duane Metzger (West Bend), Bro. Art Baurer (Princeville) and Bro. Don Wagenbach (Washington).

### REJOICE!

Many hearts were sad that day  
When our Lord was laid away;  
Many eyes with tears were dim  
As the darkness shut Him in.

But what is this at break of day?  
Lo, the stone is rolled away!  
Cease your tears, dispel your gloom,  
Christ is risen from the tomb!

Lilies, lift your petals white  
To the golden sun so bright;  
Children raise your voices sweet  
While we worship at His feet.

Rejoice! The stone is rolled away . . .  
Rejoice! For Jesus lives today.

Let men and angels join and sing  
Glad praises to the risen King.  
Lida Shivers Leech

ILLINOIS, URBANA  
Cheryl Joos

THE GARDEN OF GETHSEMANE

My heart's in the Garden of  
Gethsemane  
Where Jesus once had trod  
Where His sacred feet once faltered  
I make my peace with God.

My soul's in the Garden of Gethsemane  
I see His tortured face  
I taste the bitter wine  
And follow in His place.

My mind's in the Garden of  
Gethsemane  
I see the hallowed sod  
I feel His pain, His anguish  
I make my peace with God.

My heart's in the heart of Jesus  
My tears fall where He had once trod  
I've crossed the raging sea  
And made my peace with God.  
Robert L. Makl

In His peace and through His love,  
we have formed a World Relief group.  
We are thankful for the sisters' partici-  
pation and also the involvement of  
their spouses and the students. Be-  
cause our church is in an urban area, we  
don't get the chance to fellowship as  
often as those in rural congregations.  
Consequently this not only provides  
time to help the poor, but also a time to  
strengthen our fellowship and unity.

We also appreciate the financial sup-  
port the World Relief Committee has  
given our church in aiding our work to  
provide food and Bibles to the needy in  
the Champaign-Urbana area. In an  
average month we have been able to  
supply six families with food for one  
week.

May God continue to bless our visit-  
ing ministers for their deeds of love.  
Bro. Don Sauder (Roanoke) and Bro.  
Clarence Kachelmuss (Forrest) gave  
support to our ministers this month.

We are so excited when God leads  
families to our area as each family adds  
a special blessing to our fellowship.  
Likewise, we are saddened when God  
says it is time to move on. Bro. Rick and  
Sis. Marla Ringger have been led by  
God's guiding hand to move to Hope-

dale, IL where Bro. Rick had the op-  
portunity to be transferred.

ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON  
Lily Pfaffmann — Elaine Winkler

As we read in the Holy Word and  
meditate on the suffering of our Lord  
and Savior, we have to marvel at His  
love. Truly only the Son of God could  
love so much as to give His all for us, to  
offer himself as the Sacrificial Lamb  
for the sins of all mankind! His trial and  
crucifixion didn't only cause physical  
pain, but emotional as well. How heav-  
ily the cross weighed upon Him before  
He hung upon it. He had to battle with  
self and realize His mission — the  
reason His Father sent Him down to  
Earth. "Now is my soul troubled; and  
what shall I say? Father, save me from  
this hour: but for this cause came I unto  
this hour." (Jn. 12:27) He prayed so  
fervently in the garden of Gethsemane,  
"his sweat as it were great drops of  
blood falling down to the ground." (Lk.  
22:44) And still He said, "nevertheless,  
not my will, but thine be done." (Lk.  
22:42) We can never fully comprehend  
nor appreciate what our Savior did for  
us.

Now we should ask ourselves, how  
do we bear our cross? Do we gladly pick  
it up, thanking Him for giving it to us,  
knowing He did so to make us more  
pure, more humble, more loving —  
more like Him? Or do we murmur and  
complain about it and every other little  
thing that doesn't seem to go our way,  
feeling pressed down, weary of our bur-  
den, and full of self-pity? All we have to  
do is reflect on our Saviour's life, our  
Supreme example. What He asks of us  
is so minimal! He said, "take up your  
cross and follow me." If we leave it lay,  
we can't follow. If we drag it along, what  
good is it? The cross won't be serving  
any purpose in our spiritual walk, and  
will probably deter others from seeking  
the Lord. After what Jesus did for us,  
let's be eternally grateful to pick up our  
cross joyfully, bear it patiently and en-  
courage others to do the same. For in  
so doing, we too will fulfill our purpose  
for being placed here on earth, and our  
reward will be to spend eternity with  
our Lord and Savior in Heaven.

We are so fortunate to have dear  
elders to support our precious church  
and encourage us on the narrow way.  
Our own Elder Bro. Roy Sauder  
(Peoria) and Elder Bro. Dale Eisen-  
mann (Chicago) read the memoran-  
dum to us one recent Saturday even-

ing. Truly we appreciate their efforts!  
Bro. Dale spent Sunday here in Wash-  
ington as well, feeding us with the  
inspired Word of God. Others who also  
came on various Sundays to lend them-  
selves in His service were: Elder Bro.  
Lavoyd Moore (Athens) and minister-  
ing Bros. Charles Hemmer (Peoria),  
Walt Steffen (Milford), Jon Schmidgall  
(Oakville), Earl Kilgus (Remington)  
and Vernon Schwab (Wolcott). May  
our Heavenly Father be their rich  
Rewarder!

"O God of wisdom, life, and love,  
Thine is the blessed plan, In holy  
bonds of love to join, The twain,  
created man." (Hymns of Zion #286)

Bro. Jon Ricketts (Washington) and  
Sis. Cheryl Huber (Phoenix) so be-  
came one in the Lord on Feb. 26 in  
Phoenix, AZ. Their parents are Bro.  
Meredith and Sis. Leona Ricketts  
(Forrest) and Bro. Wilbur and Sis.  
Sophia Huber (Phoenix). Two more  
souls led of the Lord, took their sacred  
wedding vows on Mar. 11. They were  
Bro. Scott Steffen and Sis. Marvella  
Knobloch (both of Washington). Their  
parents are Bro. Ray and Sis. Lucille  
Steffen (Remington) and Sis. Iola  
Knobloch (Lester). We are so thankful  
to have two more couples added to our  
congregation.

Having first sought the Lord's will  
in taking the second most important  
step of their lives, two couples an-  
nounced their engagements. Bro. Jeff  
Thames (Washington) and Sis. Brenda  
Keifer (Oakville), as well as Bro. Lee  
Klopfenstein (Washington) and Sis.  
Desma Davis (Morton). We wish the  
blessings of Almighty God upon them  
as they plan their lives together as one  
in Him.

INDIANA, BLUFFTON  
Etta Steffen  
Sue Neuenschwander

"Except ye be born again, ye cannot  
see the kingdom of God." St. John 3:3.  
On March 4 we witnessed the baptisms  
of ten dear souls. They are: Bro. Kent  
Frauhiger (Bro. Mel and Sis. Lucille),  
Bro. Burt Isch (Bro. Al and Sis. Carol),  
Bro. Simion Kipfer (Bro. Ned and Sis.  
Dixie), Bro. Dean Tonner (Bro. Gary  
and Sis. Dianne), Bro. Jim Isch (Bro.  
Ken and Sis. Carolyne), Bro. Mike  
Kosek, Bro. Tim (Bro. Tom and Sis.  
Barbara) and Sis. Angela Pfister and  
Bro. John and Sis. Becky (Sis. Pat  
Kaehr) Maggart.

On March 11, Bro. Randy Ringger

and Sis. Lisa Bailey were united in marriage. Their parents are Bro. Dave and Sis. Maxine Ringger and Mr. and Mrs. Paul Bailey. We wish them the blessings of the Lord.

We have one engagement to announce this month. Tami Landrum and Tracy Schwartz are planning a June 23 wedding. Parents are Sis. Colleen Landrum and Bro. Ervin and Sis. Alice Schwartz.

We have two new little bundles among us. Bro. Steve and Sis. Julie Schwartz are the parents of a son born Feb. 20. His name is Christopher Alan and grandparents are Bro. Lester and Sis. Sally and Bro. Howard and Sis. Joyce Baumgartner. Parents of Mandy Lynn are Bro. Gene and Sis. Joni Longenberger. She was born March 2. Grandparents are Bro. Bill and Sis. Betty Longenberger and Bro. Wayne and Sis. Dorothy Fiechter.

Sis. Dorothy Kaehr of our congregation is a grandmother to Amy Michelle born March 8 to Sis Shari Beer (Milford).

Along with rejoicing comes sorrow, too. We wish to extend our love and sympathy to Sis. Shari Beer (Milford) in the death of her husband, Bro. Ronn and to Sis. Rosemary Gerber (Bro. Lester) in the death of her father, Bro. John Hartzler (Rittman).

Our sincere sympathy goes to the family of Bro. Howard Habegger. We pray that they can feel the comfort of our Lord in the loss of their loved one.

Our hospital patients this month are: Sis. Marge Reimschisel (Bro. Dave), Sis. Dorothy Schladenhauffen (Bro. Harold), Sis. Luella Aeschliman (Bro. Harold), Sis. Lucinda Souder (Bro. Louis), Sis. Lydia Kaehr, Sis. Minnie Isch and Sandy Ringger (Bro. Kendall).

We thank Bro. Art Ringger (Indianapolis) for his visit and ministry.

#### INDIANA, BLUFFTON NORTH Peg Fiechter

##### Kathy Longenberger

Our Bro. Ted Kipfer was hospitalized this month. We are sure he would appreciate our prayers for recovery.

On March 25 our Sunday School children presented us with a program of song. We were inspired to see the different ages, from the very young, to the high school level sing of Christ's love. We are anticipating our first Easter program for our church, Bluffton North, on Palm Sunday. As we sing the

Easter songs, may we each meditate on the words, and dwell on their meaning.

Jesus, The Crucified: Upward soar, my soul and spirit, This great miracle behold: See the King of highest merit, on the cross so bare and cold! His compassion brought salvation, While He died in love untold: His compassion brought salvation, While He died in love untold.

Hymns of Zion #236

#### INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE Jacki Huber

We welcome a new little addition to our church family. Jason Earl was born to Bro. Roger and Sis. Janet Overmyer on March 6. Three sisters, Lana, Deana and Sarah, are happy with their new brother. Jason's grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Vogt and Bro. Lee and Sis. Velda Overmyer, all of Francesville.

Five of our loved ones recently went as a work team, along with five other brethren from nearby congregations, to Haiti. The men all returned safely and testified of feeling the prayers of others while they were gone. Those in Haiti from Francesville were Bros. Sid Leman, Phil Gutwein, Jerry Gutwein, Brian Huber and Jan Gutwein.

Sis. Nola Wuethrich and Bro. Jim Denton were both hospitalized this past month. We're glad they're both home again.

The engagement was announced of Colleen Onken, granddaughter of Rex and Sis. Louise Onken to Scott Wuethrich, son of Bro. Otto and Sis. Donna Wuethrich (Francesville). A June 20 wedding is being planned.

On Saturday, March 10, Terry Polf and Dale Pelsy, son of Bro. Ellsworth and Sis. Luella Pelsy were united in marriage. We wish this happy couple God's blessings throughout their married life.

Our dear Bro. Sam Kilgus will be missed at the Parkview Haven Retirement Home where he has rested for the past five years. Bro. Sam passed away on Feb. 24 at 89 years of age. Funeral services were held in Remington, his "home" church.

Whether we're young or old, we have no promise of tomorrow. May we all keep striving to be worthy of our eternal goal, knowing "It will be worth it all when we see Jesus".

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

##### HE KNOWS THE WAY

My Father's way may twist and turn,  
My heart may throb and ache;  
But in my soul I'm glad to know  
He maketh no mistake.

My cherished plans may go astray,  
My hopes may fade away;  
But still I trust my Lord to lead,  
For Father knows the way.

There's so much now I cannot see —  
My eye is still so dim;  
But come what may I still can trust  
And leave it all to Him.

For by-and-by the mist will lift  
And darkness turn to day;  
Then looking back we'll praise His  
name  
Who led us all the way.

Author Unknown

On January 4, Danny Neuenschwander and Tammy Adams exchanged their wedding vows, thus marking the beginning of their lives together. His parents are Bro. Chuck and Sis. Doris and her parents are Curtis and Janell Adams. We are sorry this announcement was late.

We are thankful Bro. Ed Alt (Cissna Park) shared God's Word with us. We also appreciate our many visitors this month.

#### INDIANA, LACROSSE Connie Knobloch — Cheryl Bucher

##### EASTER GLORY

There was a glorious dawn  
On that first Easter Day,  
For Jesus who arose  
From the tomb wherein He lay.  
He was glorified at last,  
And paved for us the way,  
And proved that for all trials  
God, in Heaven, will repay.

Very early on that morn,  
At the rising of the sun,  
Came three women to the tomb  
To anoint God's Holy One.  
Then, to their amazement,  
An Angel did descend  
And rolled the stone away  
To reveal He did ascend.

Jesus first appeared to Mary  
And caused her to rejoice,  
And then to His disciples

Who loved to hear His voice.  
He led them out to Bethany  
Where they were by Him blest,  
And after He instructed them,  
Went to His Heavenly Rest.

He sitteth on His Father's right  
And has a great desire  
That we with Him might also be  
And to Heaven's joy retire.  
For us He intercedeth  
And guides with watchful eye  
That we may live to meet Him  
In glory by and by.

By Henry Kipfer

Bro Curt and Sis. Lyla Frank welcome the birth of little Karla Marie, born on March 14. Grandparents are Bro. Ed and Sis. Lea Frank and Bro. Silas and Sis. Della Metzger (West Bend, IA).

We were happy to hear the engagement of Bro. Don Nuest and Sis. Deb Gudeman (Francesville). We wish them God's blessings as they plan their life together. Their parents are Bro. Gene and Sis. Norma and Bro. Willis and Sis. Margaret.

We want to thank our visiting ministers who stood before us and proclaimed God's Holy Word. Bro. Bill Schlatter (Junction), Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann (Chicago), Bro. Steve Gutwein (Francesville), Bro. Doug Schock (Pulaski) and Bro. Dan Stoller (Remington). May our heavenly Father richly bless them for their labors of love.

### INDIANA, LAFAYETTE PURDUE UNIVERSITY

Lynne Bucher

Easter is the most beautiful time of the year, for it is here where the word love is truly defined. Let's be thankful we know what Easter is all about and pray for the chance to tell someone else!

Recently Bro. Curt Lehman (Francesville) and Bro. Doug Fiechter (Bluffton) completed the Agricultural Short Course they were enrolled in here at Purdue. We want to wish them God's divine direction in their lives. We enjoyed having them here.

Ministering the Word unto us at our Purdue Services were Bro. Merle Bucher (LaCrosse), Bro. Rod Huber (Valparaiso) and Bro. Jim Rinkenberger (Bluffton). May these ministering brethren, and all those who travel the many miles to hear God's precious Word, be richly blessed for all their efforts.

### INDIANA, LEO Thelma Schlatter

"Christ hungered as a man, and fed the hungry as God. He was hungry as a man and yet He is the Bread of Life.

He was athirst as man, and yet He says, "Let him that is athirst come unto Me and drink." He was weary and yet He is our Rest. He pays tribute, and yet He is the King. He prays, and yet He hears prayer; He weeps, and dries our tears. He is sold for thirty pieces of silver and redeems the world. He is lead as a sheep to the slaughter, and is the Good Shepherd. He is mute like a sheep, and yet He is the Everlasting Word."

(The above paradoxes were written in the 4th century The Reaper)

His supreme sacrifice on the cross, His death, His resurrection, His great love were remembered in holy communion. Elder Bro. Nathan Steffen (Elgin, IL) assisted Elder Bro. David Bertsch in this sacred service.

We are a blessed people to have freedom of worship and to hear instruction in the Word each Lord's Day. From time to time, we have the added blessing of visiting ministers. They were Bros. Kevin Knapp (Bloomington-Normal), Kent Ringger (Bluffton), Byron Stoller (Gridley, IL) and Mike Thomas (Valparaiso). When God puts blessings in our hands, he often puts burdens on our backs to balance our lives.

Bro. Loren and Sis. Rita Klopfenstein were burdened with needs of the poor of Haiti and recently spent time in His service there.

Recent hospital patients were Sis. Marie Bertsch and Jacque Norr, young daughter of Bro. Ken and Sis. Jyl. Still hospitalized at this time are Dwight Souder and Art Levy. We wish each better health.

He is risen! May your Easter be filled with the hope and joy of His Resurrection.

### INDIANA, MILFORD

Shelby Beer — Gwen Steffen

God opened up His Heaven, stretched out His arms and lovingly called Bro. Ronn Beer home. Looking through human eyes, we see Ronn's death on February 25 a painful tragedy. Yet, if we can just see beyond this earth and fully lean on Jesus, we can hear Him say, "Trust me . . . just trust

me. My ways are perfect. My Father makes no mistakes. We will take care of you."

Our many prayers go out to Sis. Shari and their little Kristen. Just shortly before Ronn's "home-going", he and Shari spent many hours at the bedside of Shari's father, Bro. Chad Kaehr (Bluffton). Chad passed away February 20. We do not understand the reason for this heavy grief Ronn's loved ones have to bear, but we do have the promise that we shall meet on those Heavenly shores if we have answered His call to "Come".

Bro. Ronn is now experiencing joy unimagined by mortal minds. Not only was he able to meet his loving Master, but also a brother he had never known here on earth. (Little Dickie Beer met an accidental death in 1952).

Many words of comfort were shared by Elder Bros. Orville Ringger (Bluffton) and Jesse Beer at Bro. Ronn's service. Loving sympathy reaches out to Sis. Shari and little Kristen; Ronn's parents, Bro. Carlton and Sis. Mary Ann Beer; his three brothers, Bros. Dan, Fred and Steve (all of Milford); and one sister, Pat Mikel (Russ) of the Remington congregation.

On March 8 Amy Michelle was entrusted into Sis. Shari's care. I'm sure Bro. Ronn viewed this miracle from the windows of Heaven. Supporting grandparents are Bro. Carlton and Sis. Mary Ann and Sis. Dorothy Kaehr (Bluffton). We pray Amy will be a special blessing to Sis. Shari and Kristen and that the Lord will give Shari bountiful measures of love and wisdom in raising these little girls for Him.

On Wednesday evening, March 7, we were blessed by the visit of Bro. Harold Emch (Girard). We thank him for ministering to us.

Heidi Beer (daughter of Bro. Phil and Sis. Millie) underwent surgery for an ankle injury. We hope her progress continues.

It's difficult for us to comprehend Christ's fathomless love; to be willing to come to earth to be abused, debased, scourged and then crucified. As we approach the Easter season, we feel an even stronger faith to believe in the promise the Gaithers sing about in their song, "Because He Lives" . . .

God sent His Son, they called Him Jesus.

He came to love, heal and forgive.  
He gave His life to buy my pardon,

An empty grave is there to prove my Savior lives.

Because He lives; I can face tomorrow,  
Because He lives; all fear is gone.  
Because I know He holds the future,  
And life is worth the living, just  
because He lives.

How sweet to hold a newborn baby,  
And feel the pride and joy he gives.  
But greater still, the calm assurance,  
A child can face uncertain days  
because Christ lives.

And then one day, I'll cross death's  
river,  
I'll fight life's final war with pain.  
And then as death gives way to victory,  
I'll see the light of glory and I'll know  
He lives!

Comforting words are contained in Psalm 30:5, "... weeping may endure for a night, buy joy cometh in the morning." Joy cometh on resurrection morning. Will you be ready?

#### INDIANA, REMINGTON

**Beth Virkler — Annette Bahler**

What... is the world, and what is it to be worldly or unworldly? Worldliness is a spirit, a temper. It is not so much an act as an attitude. It is a pose, a posture. It is a certain disposition toward God. It is a certain inclination, a certain aspect of the soul. Worldliness is human activity with God left out. Worldliness is life without heavenly callings, life without Godly ideals, life without Godly heights.

J. Jowett

On February 27, many brethren came together to give their last tribute to Bro. Sam Kilgus. He went home to be with his Lord at 89 years of age. He faithfully ministered the gospel to our congregation for approximately 40 years and retired in 1972. Bro. Sam loved to sing and his enthusiasm towards praising his Savior remains as an example to us. Five daughters survive him: Sis. Emily, Sis. Alta, Sis. Mary Kilgus, Sis. Esther (Walt) Bahler and Sis. Edna (Rich) Leman, all of Remington.

Our congregation was rather small on March 11 as many traveled to Washington, IL to witness the wedding of Bro. Scott Steffen (Bro. Ray and Sis. Lucille) and Sis. Marvella Knobloch (Sis. Iola, Lester, IA). They will estab-

lish their home at 118 Bondurant Street in Washington, IL.

Also announcing engagements recently were Luann Steffen (Bro. Ray and Sis. Lucille) to Doug Pauley (Earl Pauleys). They have plans to marry on May 19 in Indianapolis, IN. Bob Beckley (Elmer and Nancy Beckley) will exchange wedding vows with Linda Correll on March 24.

Bro. Ken Schneider was suddenly taken ill and spent time in the hospital.

We want to thank Bro. Ed Frank for giving of himself in the ministry to our congregation.

#### INDIANA, SOUTH BEND

**Pauline Laidig**

It's such a joy to welcome spring after a long, cold winter; and it is so uplifting to see new life appearing all around us. This, however, cannot compare with the joy of receiving a new life in the Spirit; which has been made possible because of the supreme sacrifice our dear Lord made at Calvary. He arose from the grave and is now seated at His Father's right hand, where He is ever interceding for the believers. May we appreciate, more and more, what He has done, is doing, and will do until He comes again.

On Feb. 19, our congregation was blest by the inspiring messages of Bro. Dale Strassheim (Milford). On March 11, we were privileged to hear the Word meditated upon so clearly by Bro. Merrill Laukhuf (Latty). Elder Bros. Wendell Gudeman (Francesville) and Jesse Beer (Milford) spent a recent Wednesday evening with us. We appreciate their willingness to come, and to be used by the Lord in our behalf.

Bro. Dan Clauss recently submitted to eye surgery. We're glad to report that he was soon able to assemble with us again. Good vision is something to be very thankful for. May God grant that our spiritual vision may improve every day.

#### INDIANA, VALPARAISO

**Patty Bucher — Jill Hitz**

Last month we talked about LOVE as being the first fruit of the spirit. This month we will talk about JOY. Apostle Paul describes it as a key ingredient in a Spirit-filled believer's life, without distinguishing the good times from the bad!

If joy were tied to circumstances, you'd likely spend your life asking that

question. Certainly, joy doesn't result exclusively from what happens to us. Paul declares he had learned to remain content in any situation (Phil. 4:11), and James urges us to consider it all joy when we encounter trials (James 1:20).

Far from being a product of circumstances, joy is "spiritual fruit", caused not by any thing, but rather by a Person, God Himself. Unbelievers lack real joy because they do not have God's Spirit living in them.

For the believer, however, there is little excuse for lack of joy. Jesus desired that His joy be in us (John 15:11). To guarantee this, He promised to send His indwelling Holy Spirit. Christians, therefore, can have a joy that rises above and beyond life's circumstances.

But why have many believers apparently lost their joy? Perhaps they're failing to live Spirit-filled lives. If we deny the Holy Spirit full control, He can't produce His fruit in us. Life's circumstances then grind us into despair and defeat.

Joy, however, is not an end in itself. Galatians 5 points out the sharp contrast between fruit of the Spirit and works of the flesh.

As God produces His fruit in us, we are no longer governed by our fleshly desires. Anger, dissension and impurity fade. We begin to reach beyond ourselves, restoring others to fellowship with the Lord, bearing their burdens and doing good to all. (Gal. 6:1, 2, 10).

It's hard to be joyful when life is falling apart, especially when we let circumstances determine our level of joy. But, when His Spirit controls us, His abundant joy can carry us through tragedy or discouragement. Then we can stand with Nehemiah and confidently proclaim, "The joy of the Lord is my strength".

Jim and Jill Hitz are the parents of a fine young man, Justin James Emil Hitz. Sarah and Jonathon welcome their little brother home. Grandparents are Bro. Jack and Sis. Vera Nuest (Valparaiso) and Bro. Leonard and Sis. Audrey Hitz (Detroit).

We were privileged to hear the gospel from Bro. Hartzell Kaisner (Detroit). Bro. Hartzell will be in our area for some time, and we welcome him to our church.

Give Your Address Change  
To Your Reporter

**INDIANA, WOLCOTT****Lorene Furrer — Elaine Bahler**

It is easy to see why Jesus said we were to become as little children to inherit eternal life. As Easter is upon us, they are the ones who eagerly learn new pieces and songs to sing for the program without complaining. They are the ones who bring joy and life in the story told again and again; the most important story in our lives.

Bro. Denny Stoller spent a rewarding ten days in Haiti working with other brothers from Remington and Francesville.

Thoughts and prayers have been with Larry Farney as he has been recovering in the hospital from injuries received in a pick-up accident. Larry's parents are Leroy and Fran Farney.

**IOWA, BURLINGTON****Edith Massner — Dixie Messner**

We were a somewhat anxious congregation when we heard Bro. Harvey Heiniger was hospitalized in Atlanta, GA. However, God was good to him and us; and we are very thankful that he is well now and is able to minister to us again by the power of the Holy Spirit.

As well as the Oakville ministers (who helped minister to us in Bro. Harvey's absence), we appreciated the visits of Bro. Simon Wagenbach (Tremont) and Bro. Vernon Wettstein (Congerville). Observing the older brothers who do not change during the years seems to give our faith stability. We are thankful, too, for words Bro. Simon shared that were already bits of advice to him many years ago. He mentioned that we have two ears, and if we hear something we don't like, we can just let it go in one ear and out the other.

But by the same token, we are doubly thankful for the young, faithful and courageous ministers who plainly speak the simple truth even amid uncertainties. It gives us comfort to think that these dear brothers will perhaps be here for our children to learn from.

We were happy to see David Applegarth home for a visit. He is in the Navy and was stationed on the coast of Lebanon. We pray that the Lord will continue to protect his soul and body.

Bro. Marvin and Sis. Verna Woodward became the grandparents of twins. Their daughter and son-in-law, Bonnie and Tom Niemtschk (Lockhart, TX), are the parents of Kara and

Nicole. We hope they all continue to get along well.

Sis. Esther Peterson became the great-grandmother of twins the same week. However, we express our sympathy to the parents, Terri and Dan Ryder. Their twins have gone to be angels with Jesus. We are thankful though that Terri is doing well. Grave-side services were held March 14 by Bro. Harvey Heiniger.

**IOWA, DES MOINES****Janice Webber**

Our last several assemblies have been heart-warming indeed. In January, we enjoyed what may have been an all-time attendance record, with worship led by a former local brother, Jon Schmidgall (Oakville) and attended by many of our former friends who now returned to worship with us as brothers and sisters-in-Christ. Despite cold weather, February saw a warm fellowship led by Bro. Carl Feucht (Lester). March saw the birth of a baby to Mike and Dona Barber, who we wish all of God's richest blessings. We were also delighted to learn that Dave Funk and Ly-Lee Bushore will be married this summer. May God be with them always. Dave's father, Bro. Bill Funk (Garden Grove) led our worship in March.

Our services will be on the usual second Sunday in April, but on the first Sunday in May. All are welcome. We cherish your fellowship and covet your prayers.

We would like to correct the number for Bro. Roger Reker published earlier: it is (515) 382-6129. The number published for Roger earlier is another brother's number, however, and any of the brethren visiting in the Des Moines area would be glad to hear from visitors headed that way.

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

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

Tabernacle Hymns #304

The cross — two of Webster's definitions are "an affliction that tries ones virtue, steadfastness or patience" and "an upright post with a bar across it near the top on which the Romans fastened convicted persons to die."

Our Savior bore them both. Very few have been asked to bear the cross of crucifixion but I do believe we are all given crosses to bear of some form or other or at some time or other. It seems some are given heavier crosses than others but remember His promise "My grace is sufficient for thee."

Then bear thy woes with Jesus gladly,  
And fear the cross of life no more,  
For when thy journey here is ended  
The cross will open heaven's door!

Zion's Harp #171

Sis. Lena Schupbach wishes to thank all who remembered her on her 105th birthday, Mar. 10.

A heartfelt "thank you" for the love we have felt since our car accident. We appreciate the many prayers in our behalf, the cards, gifts, visits, and phone calls. May God bless you all.

Bro. Dale and Sis. Cheryl Moore  
and girls

**IOWA, IOWA CITY****Connie Gerst**

We here at Iowa City often comment how busy life is at times. It seems with our various activities, work, etc., the days and weeks fly by so quickly. Perhaps all of us need to be reminded of a real important part of our Christian life:

Beloved, while we do not neglect external things, which are good enough in themselves, we ought also to see to it that we enjoy living, personal fellowship with Jesus. See to it that sitting at the Saviour's feet is not neglected, even though it be under the specious pretext of doing Him service. The first thing for our soul's health, the first thing for His glory, and the first thing for our own usefulness, is to keep ourselves in perpetual communion with the Lord Jesus, and to see that the vital spirituality of our religion is maintained over and above everything else in the world.

Charles H. Spurgeon

Upon the announcement of their engagement, we wish Sis. Brenda Keifer and Bro. Jeff Thames (Fairbury) God's blessings as they look forward to marriage in the Lord. Sis. Brenda is presently a student at the university here in Iowa City.

We thank Elder Bro. Perry Zimmerman (Forrest) for sharing God's Word



with us one Sunday. We also want to thank Elder Bro. Leroy Huber (Eureka) for making the effort to try to assemble with us. It was with sadness we received his phone call to tell us he must return to Eureka because of the death of Sis. Wilhelmina Anliker (Bro. Walt). We certainly extend our prayers and sympathy to her family and the Eureka congregation.

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

The weekend of Mar. 18 was pleasant and inspiring for us and our many visitors who heard the testimonies and witnessed the baptisms of five young souls. We welcome Bro. Leroy Wulf and Sisters Beth Knobloch, Patty Knobloch, Denise Warner and Jacki Wysong into our membership as they have given their lives to Jesus and strive to walk in His footsteps. Ministers with us for the occasion were Elder Bros. Sam Anliker and Wayne Fehr as well as Bros. Ben Wysong, Tom Lehman, Jon Schmidgall and Elmer Schmidt. We received many good teachings and felt God's nearness as we were led by His Word.

The engagement of Sis. Mary Koehl (Morris) to Bro. Kent Mogler was announced. We wish them many blessings at this special time in their lives. Sis. Iola Knobloch and many others attended the marriage of her daughter, Sis. Marvella and Bro. Scott Steffen at Washington, IL. Sis. Marvella grew up here and we pray for her as she takes this step in life.

On Feb. 21 Mike and Donna Barber became the parents of Joseph Michael. His grandparents are Bro. Art and Sis. Elgeva Knobloch and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Barber. Bro. Henry and Sis. Charlene Messner became the parents of Rachel Lin Mar. 7. Her grandparents are Bro. Martin and Sis. Zelma Knobloch and Bro. Frank and Sis. Gladys Messner (Morris).

Our hospital patients were Bro. Jake Wulf, Sis. Mardi Leuthold, Bro. Dale Knobloch, Sis. Elgeva Knobloch, Bro. John Gerber, Sis. Marie Knobloch, Fred Metzger, Bro. Ernest Metzger and Sis. Violet Knobloch. Roger Myrlie underwent bypass surgery some time ago and is getting along real well. He is thankful for the many kind and thoughtful deeds done for him and his family.

We have had many snowstorms this winter and most seem to come on the

weekends. Such was the weekend of Mar. 4 when the young groups from Morris, West Bend, Elgin, IA, and Winthrop gathered here. The snow came after they arrived and we could not hold church services that day. We are thankful that all could return home safely in spite of bad roads.

Sis. Beverly Leuthold has graduated from Nettleton's and has accepted a position in a local bank.

We wish Bro. Leland and Sis. Patsy Esslinger and their family of little girls well, as they have moved to make their home near Bern, KS.

-----  
**IOWA, OAKVILLE**  
**Debbie Wagenbach**

"Blessed is everyone that feareth the Lord; that walketh in his ways. For thou shalt eat the labour of thine hands: happy shalt thou be and it shall be well with thee." Psalms 128:1, 2. Surely Bro. John and Sis. Lena Wegman can relate to these verses as they commemorated 67 years of marriage together on February 21.

As Bro. John and Sis. Lena have served each other faithfully for 67 years, we have another couple beginning to plan for their future together as man and wife in the Lord. On March 11 we heard the betrothal of our Sis. Brenda Kiefer (Bob and Delores Kiefer) to Bro. Jeff Thames (Phil and Sis. Kay Thames, Washington, IL). May God guide and direct their paths according to His good and precious will.

We would like to thank our recent company from Francesville, IN for being with us. The company included ministering brothers Steve Gutwein and Chris Huber. May God bless each of them for their part in delivering the message of the Gospel.

"LOVE, THAT IS GOD"

Hearts that open  
to the Love that is God,  
feel loved in loving  
and served in serving.

Edward A. Gloeggler

-----  
**IOWA, PULASKI**  
**DeAnn Wuthrich**  
**Mary Jane Knapp**

We would like to richly thank Bro. Roy Ehnle (Bradford, IL) for visiting our congregation this past month, and ministering God's beautiful word unto us.

Hospitalized for medical treatment

was Andy Musselman (Bro. Roger and Sis. Nancy) and Nathan Schock (Bro. Doug and Sis. Clara). We are glad they are both home and doing fine now.

At our annual business meeting, Sis. Mary Jane Knapp was elected to replace Sis. Mary Wiegand as the Silver Lining correspondent. To replace Bro. Roy Metzger, Sis. Ginny Wuthrich, and Sis. Ernestine Wuthrich as Sunday School teachers, were Bro. Roger Wuthrich, Sis. Evelyn Metzger and Sis. Nancy Rinkenberger. We sure do appreciate what our Sunday School teachers do for our children, our church of tomorrow. Bro. Ben Metzger was elected to replace Bro. Harold Knapp as usher. Also, Bro. Roger Musselman was elected to replace Bro. Harold Knapp as church trustee. We trust and pray that each one of us will do our part in prayerful support as each one takes on their new duties.

Easter is just around the corner, and let us never forget Calvary and the old rugged cross.

In the old rugged cross,  
Stained with blood so divine,  
A wondrous beauty I see;  
For 'twas on that old cross  
Jesus suffered and died  
To pardon and sanctify me.

Hymns of Zion #168

-----  
**IOWA, WEST BEND**  
**Polly Zaugg — Elma Mogler**

We are very thankful for recent visiting ministers, Bro. Joe Aberle (Sabatha), and Bro. Joe Gerst (Iowa City). Do we really appreciate our ministering brothers?

"I joy and rejoice with you." Phil. 2:17 is the scripture verse we think of as we hear of precious new babies added to our congregation. On Feb. 20, Bro. Marvin and Sis. Charlotte Fehr became the parents of a new son, Kipp Alan. Susan, Joyce, Andy, Keith and Eli are enjoying Kipp. Ervin and Nettie Banwart and Sis. Nima Fehr are the grandparents. Jerry and Joy Metzger are rejoicing over the birth of their new son, Tyler Jay, who was born Mar. 1. Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Harold Zimmerman and Bro. Si and Sis. Della Metzger. Don and Debbie Schultz welcomed into their home a new adopted son, Mar. 6. They are now first time parents. The grandparents are Jim and Sherry Schmidt and Mr. and Mrs. Schultz.

We all extend a warm welcome to John and Paula Schmidt and their

three children, Clay, Rachel and Annie as they assemble with us. They have recently moved to West Bend where John has found employment. Their former home was at Elgin, IL.

Congratulations are extended to two young couples on their recent engagements. Melanie Mogler, daughter of Bro. Nate and Sis. Lilly Mogler is engaged to Ralph Bormann, son of Mrs. Lawrence Bormann. Sis. Sharolyn Metzger, daughter of Bro. Arnold and Sis. Alice, is engaged to Bro. Doug Hohulin, son of Bro. Melvin and Sis. Shirley (Roanoke). Both Sis. Sharolyn and Bro. Doug are employed in Denver. May the Lord continue to direct and lead them.

Bernadine Jurgens is hospitalized at this time. Sis. Louise Anliker and Sis. Helen Zaugg are recovering from shoulder fractures. Miriam Frieden had the misfortune of breaking her arm. May the Lord give them courage and patience as they recover.

Let us pause and take time to remember the true meaning of Easter, especially the shed blood of our risen Lord.

#### FAITH REBORN

Faith has rebirth when one perceives  
The swelling buds and tiny leaves:  
When daffodils and tulips creep  
From beds that held them fast asleep.  
The new grass prints its first designs  
As south winds whisper in the pines.  
The woodlot holds a feathered throng  
And nature's choir bursts forth in song.

How can one doubt when he beholds  
The loveliness that spring unfolds?  
For now through Easter's open door  
Comes faith man never knew before.  
For when God makes the seasons pass  
And lifts again each blade of grass,  
We surely know that mortal clay  
Will have its Resurrection Day!

Reginald Holmes

#### JAPAN, TOKYO

**Yoshio Yamazaki — Marie Inoue**

Even though there is snow on the ground today, most of the days reveal the first signs of spring as the stems of the tulips and crocuses add height each day. The greatest of all these is the remembrance of the suffering, death and glorious resurrection of our Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ. As we prepare for Easter, may we show our appreciation with obedient hearts to

the Holy Scriptures.

Koichi Inoue, age 9, had a short stay in the hospital due to an eye injury caused by a snowballing incident at school. We are all thankful the Lord spared him from more serious injury and that his eyesight could be fully restored. He and his parents thank everyone for their kindness and love shown in many ways during his illness. May God richly bless each one to a rich and overflowing measure.

Bro. Saburo and Sis. Shizuko have not been feeling well during all our cold weather. We hope they can regain strength as the weather turns warm.

We are looking forward to our visitors this summer: former teachers, newcomers, relatives and friends. We welcome each one to gather in our assembly. We also have our annual fellowship meeting at the end of July. Should you be at the airport and need any help or information please call the following who can communicate in English.

Sis. Hiroko Utsuki — 03-425-5131

Bro. Hisato Inoue — 0424-76-0878

Bro. Akito Inoue — 0424-81-3455

#### KANSAS, BERN

**Linda Esslinger**

#### A PRAYER FOR THE BRIDE AND GROOM

As hand in hand you enter  
a life that's bright and new,  
May God look down from heaven  
and bless the two of you;  
May He give you understanding  
enough to make you kind,  
So you may judge each other  
with your heart and not your mind;  
May He teach you to be patient  
as you learn to live together,  
Forgiving little "human rifts"  
that arise in "stormy weather"  
And may your love be big enough  
to withstand the strongest sea  
So you may dwell forever  
in love's rich tranquillity.

Helen Steiner Rice

A blessed Sunday was shared with Sis. Peggy Baumgartner and Bro. Kyle Strahm as they were united in marriage on Mar. 4. Parents are Leora and Leslie Baumgartner, and Sis. Mamie and Bro. Alpha Strahm, Jr. May God bless their union with His love, care, and guidance.

We appreciate the visits of minister-

ing Bro. Terry Farney (Wichita) and Elder Bro. Gene Marti (Lamar, MO).

Hospitalized was Bro. Harvey Grimm.

May you have a blessed Easter.

#### KANSAS, FT. SCOTT

**Judy Bahr**

We wish to thank Elder Bro. Ed Lanz for helping our Elder Bro. Raymond Banwart in reading the conference letter to our congregation. We were reminded to do our Father's will in every aspect of our life.

#### KANSAS, GRIDLEY

**Julie Bahr — Doris Bahr**

I heard a little story about a man who had a fancy, shiny new car. This man was the neighborhood pastor. On one of his home visits he pulled up to a very run down neglected little home. After his visit inside the home, the pastor noticed, when returning to his car, a small boy standing beside his car slowly running his hand up and down the fender of the car. "You like it?" the pastor asked. "Oh yes!" the little boy answered. "Where'd you get it?" "I have this rich brother who lives in Texas and owns a lot of oil. He gave it to me," said the pastor. "I could never afford a car like this." The little boy was innocent and sincere as he looked up at the pastor and said "I wish I could be that kind of a brother." Instead of wishing he had a rich brother like the one in Texas, the little boy only wished he could be that kind of a brother.

Hospitalized this past month was Sis. Dorothy (Ephraim) Young. Sis. Lydia Young has been transferred from a Kansas City rest home to the Madison Manor Rest Home. Sis. Lydia has truly rejoiced to be able to assemble in her home church once again. We share her joy.

On Mar. 5, God's gracious hand entrusted little Brock Steven into the care of Bro. Brian and Sis. Julie Bahr. Little Brock has brought joy to his big sister Kayla and grandparents Bro. Loren and Sis. Liseten Strahm and Bro. Roy and Sis. Doris Bahr. We give thanks to God for the loving family ties we share.

In sweet fellowship with our Lord, bound in love and concern for each other, we rejoice when one has cause to rejoice. Richard Kraft, son of Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Nadine; and Mark Kraft son of Sam and Carol Kraft have both chosen to surrender their hearts to the Lord.

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

"... And when she had thus said, she turned herself back, and saw Jesus standing, and knew not that it was Jesus. Jesus saith unto her, Woman, why weepest thou? Whom seekest thou? She, supposing him to be the gardener, said unto him, Sir, if thou have borne him hence, tell me where thou hast laid him, and I will take him away. Jesus saith unto her, Mary. She turned herself, and saith unto him, Rabboni; which is to say, Master. Jesus saith unto her, Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father; but go to my brethren and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God, and your God. Mary Magdalene came and told the disciples that she had seen the Lord, and that he had spoken these things unto her." St. John 20:14-18

With Easter approaching, we need to think of our newness of life in Christ, and rejoice in his great kindness and unselfishness and love that he has for us. We are so thankful that he loved us enough to die the death of the cross for us. It humbles us to know that we were the ones deserving that death, but because of Christ's love for us, he died in our place for our sins.

Our hospital patient this month was Henry Hodel. He is at home now and is able to assemble with us.

Bro. Walter Herrmann (Princeville, IL) was with us on a Wednesday night. We enjoyed his company and were thankful that he lent himself in ministering God's Word.

**KANSAS, LAMONT****Jill K. Luthi**

We have been reminded of the beauty and the power in God's creation. While writing, I sit amazed at the sixty-plus degree weather we have as well as the beauty of the full moon and stars glowing in the sky. We will never know why we were granted such lovely weather when just a few hundred miles from us in any direction, there are blizzards of the glistening snow. We were also reminded that spring was not here yet as we received freezing rain and snow the last two days of winter. What a lovely sight to see the trees, grass, fences and all covered with ice, but what damage can be caused also! Both kinds of weather are examples of God's creation and His power.

"For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost and is found" St. Luke 15:24. On Mar. 10 and 11 we were each taken back to the time when we testified of our own calling, as we welcomed into our fold Bro. James Schrader (Bro. Stephen and Sis. Dorothy). Let us continue to pray for our elder in his work. "Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the Kingdom of God." St. John 3:5

We also welcome Sis. Marie (Jevremov) Wernli to our congregation. She and Bro. John Wernli were united in marriage, Mar. 18, at Altadena, CA. Parents of the couple are Bro. Victor and Sis. Anna Jevremov and Bro. Roy and Sis. Betty Wernli. We wish them God's blessings and directions in their new walk of life together as one. A reception was held for them Apr. 1 at the Madison High School Commons Area.

Thou of life the Prince and Giver,  
For Thy death I now thank Thee;  
Now my faith is fruitless never;  
And my hope in death shall be  
That in death I trust in Thee,  
I shall not forsaken be!

Zion's Harp #183, vs. 12

As we approach the day set aside to remember the crucifixion and resurrection of our Lord and Savior, let us think of ourselves as being there and denying our Saviour. Are we still with our backs turned unto Him, or have we taken up our cross to walk with Him and live with Him?

We wish safe travel and return for Bro. Roy and Sis. Betty Wernli and Bro. Floyd and Sis. Mary Isch as they travel to the Holy Land, April 2. Under God's protective wings, they will have safely returned by this time.

With joy and sorrow, a singing and "going away" shower was held Mar. 25 for Nancy Wernli (Bro. Roy and Sis. Betty), who has moved to the Morton Home for the Handicapped. We sure do miss her smiling face, her obvious joy and her (physical) presence. But deep inside, she always will be present with us. A poem written by one of her sisters tells more than tongue can tell.

**NANCY**

On the seventeenth of December in  
early morn,  
Into our family a little girl was born.

At four pounds, ten ounces, she was so  
small,  
Her chances of making it, seemed none  
at all.

The first two months she hardly gained  
weight,  
She was getting nowhere at this rate.

To K.U. Med Center she was taken for  
care,  
Maybe the doctors could find out what  
was wrong with her there.

"Allergic to milk," they said after  
running the tests.

"On Hotzel Formula she'll do the  
best!"

"Six eggs, salt, soda and glucose mix  
up,  
Add rice cereal and water at one quart  
plus ½ cup."

She started to gain and began to fill  
out,  
The formula was working — there was  
no doubt!

Her strong constitution showed  
through from the beginning.  
In her struggle for life, she was coming  
out winning.

She didn't walk 'til almost three,  
But that didn't stop her — she scooted  
you see!

She started to talk at almost four,  
Each week she learned a few words  
more.

To school she went at only four years,  
To learn and to play with her own little  
peers.

She learned to count and read and  
write,  
To watch her swim is quite a sight!

To pep assemblies on game days, she  
loved to go,  
To yell the cheers she learned to know.

But school ended at age twenty-one,  
Another phase of life was done.

At home we remember how she loves  
to swing,  
And with her stereo by the hour can  
sing!

She always loved church, and

pretended to hold  
Baptisms and provings — it never  
grew old.

To the supper table she was always  
late,  
It seemed she liked to make us wait.

We'll miss her blaring stereo,  
Our house will seem quiet — this we  
know.

We'll miss the prayers she said at each  
meal,  
And those at night — as she took time  
to kneel.

But she'll leave a lot of herself behind,  
She has a big place in our heart and  
mind.

For all she has taught us, we thank God  
in heaven,  
What a blessing we've had in child  
number seven.

-----  
**KANSAS, SABETHA**  
Clara Steiner

Our visiting ministers this month  
were Bros. Art Nohl (Morris) and Bob  
Pfleiderer (Morton). We thank them for  
their Words of Life and invite them to  
return again.

Hospitalized this month were Sis.  
Lena R. Steiner and Sis. Hulda Bieri.

The engagement was made known of  
Sis. Nita Baer (Princeville) to Bro.  
Kevin Grimm (Sabetha). Their parents  
are Otto and Eleanor Baer (Edelstein,  
IL) and Bro. Nathan and Sis. Lois  
Grimm (Sabetha).

-----  
**KANSAS, WICHITA**  
Laurie Gallatin

Easter is a very special time for  
Christians. It holds the possibility and  
meaning of a new life in Christ. What  
does Easter mean to people? As be-  
lievers, we think of Jesus and His  
resurrection after shedding His blood  
and dying on the cross. We think of the  
salvation we receive because of  
Christ's obedience. Probably a lot of  
unbelievers don't recognize Christ at  
Easter. They might think of Easter as  
the beginning of Spring and of the  
flowers and trees that are coming back  
to life after they have been dead all  
winter. This thought somewhat paral-  
lels what the Christian sees in his  
Easter. Just as the flowers, Christ died  
and lay in the ground. Then as the

flowers bloom again, Jesus arose from  
the dead. But Jesus is different from  
the flowers — He will never die again.

In another sense, Christians are  
likened unto Christ, and the unbeliever  
unto the flower. For through Christ, the  
believer dies unto sin, and arises with a  
new life. One that will never die again,  
but has the promise of eternal life with  
the Lord. "Jesus said unto her, I am the  
resurrection, and the life: he that be-  
lieveth in me, though he were dead, yet  
shall he live: And whosoever liveth and  
believeth in me shall never die." John  
11:25-26. The unbeliever is like the  
flower. He is given life, but will die —  
without Christ this death is eternal.  
Unbelievers "shall be punished with  
everlasting destruction from the pres-  
ence of the Lord, and from the glory of  
His power." II Thes. 1:9.

We can praise the Lord that Jesus is  
alive — forever!! He will never die  
again like the flower, and all who be-  
lieve on Him shall never die, but shall  
live with Him forever. Don't we have  
something exciting to look forward to?

We have experienced both the joy of  
birth and the sorrow of death in our  
congregation this past month. Life is  
the gift of God. A beautiful new baby  
boy was born into Bro. Lynn and Sis.  
Priscilla Frank's family on February  
28. Kison and Keilah welcome their  
new brother, Caleb Robert. Babies are  
sure a special miracle of God.

"As for man, his days are as grass: as  
a flower of the field, so he flourisheth.  
For the wind passeth over it, and it is  
gone; and the place thereof shall know  
it no more." Psalm 103:15, 16. Just as  
unpredictable and quick as the wind,  
so is death. Our hearts sorrow in the  
death of a friend. Devon Tucker, son of  
Bill and Nancy Epps was killed in a car  
accident. Just as the flower, Devon was  
in his flourishing youth, only 20. We  
would pray God's comfort would be  
with the family at this time of deep  
sorrow. May this be a testimony to all  
unsaved persons who knew Devon: Life  
is not a guarantee, but death is! He  
wasn't expecting to die so soon, just as  
none of us, especially young people,  
don't actually realize that our death  
could be as unexpected.

There is a song that says, "Some  
people won't find out until it's too late  
that someone has to pay the price. You  
can pay it yourself, or let someone else,  
but Who would be that nice — to pay a  
debt that isn't His? Well, I know some-  
one like that. And He is your best

friend, He really is. He really loves you.  
I hope you find out before it's too late  
that there is really nobody else. You  
know it's breaking His heart the longer  
you wait. You are going to find out that  
He is the way no matter which way you  
choose. But I pray you will find out by  
His love for you."

Just as these words say, a price must  
be paid for each person's sin. Either  
you pay it yourself in eternal death, or  
you can choose to have Jesus pay that  
costly price by His death for your sin.  
"For the wages of sin is death; but the  
gift of God is eternal life through Jesus  
Christ our Lord." Romans 6:23. God  
has made it so free for us to have  
everlasting life. How can we thank Him  
enough for salvation and the glorious  
eternity He has promised to us?

-----  
**MICHIGAN, ALTO**  
Elizabeth Blough

We were again privileged this past  
Sunday with the presence of Bro. Tom  
and Sis. Joann Schrenk (Athens, AL).  
We were reminded that we, as Chris-  
tians, should be ever careful and  
prayerful that we keep our thoughts  
wholesome. It is so easy to even get  
angry at our brothers and sisters-in-  
faith. Satan is very crafty and sneaks  
thoughts into our heads that should not  
be. We have to be on guard at all times.

Sis. Eiko Nozawa was with us this  
past weekend and shared her interest-  
ing slides from Japan. What a pleasure  
to know that God's hand is reaching out  
to others, even in far-away lands. We  
also had some visitors from Bay City  
with us this weekend. We are always  
thankful for those who come such a  
distance to share with their loved ones  
in faith.

Fred Grawburg suffered a stroke  
this past week. He is now being hospi-  
talized and hopefully will have a speedy  
recovery so he can again be back home.  
We will be praying for him.

Our apologies for the delay in this  
birth announcement of a baby girl,  
Amy Rebecca, born January 21 to  
Peny and Sis. Denise Oesch (Grassy  
Butte, ND). The grandparents are Bro.  
Joe and Sis. Melva Oesch. We will be  
looking forward to seeing the little  
bundle from heaven on their next visit  
home to Michigan. Another baby girl  
was born March 15 to Scott and Jackie  
Foster. Darlene Overholt is the proud  
grandmother and Bro. Lloyd and Sis.  
Elouise Oesch are the proud great-  
grandparents. She is answering to the

name of Louise Marie. Congratulations to you all.

### MICHIGAN, BAY CITY

**Linda Ramseyer**

The engagement of Bro. Frank Wackerle and Sis. Alma Schieber (Bloomington, IL) was announced on March 4. Our prayers are with these dear ones as they prepare to join their hearts as one.

The Lord has blessed Randy and Jane Wackerle with their first child. Molly Hope is joyfully welcomed by her parents and her grandparents, Bro. Frank Wackerle and Bro. Robert and Sis. Marian Knochel.

Our congregation has been richly blessed this past month with visiting ministers. Elder Bros. Alfred Bahler (Wolcott, IN), Ed Lanz (Oakville, IA), Dan Koch (Tremont, IL), Loren Stoller (Latty, OH), Ben Maibach (Detroit, MI), Aaron Steffen (Alto, MI) and Bro. Floyd Wieland (Detroit, MI) ministered God's Word to us. We thank them for their labors of love.

### THE GLORY OF THE EASTER STORY

In the glorious Easter Story  
A troubled world can find  
Blessed reassurance  
And enduring peace of mind . . .  
For though we grow discouraged  
In this world we're living in,  
There is comfort just in knowing  
God has triumphed over sin . . .  
For our Saviour's resurrection  
Was God's way of telling men  
That in Christ we are eternal  
And in Him we live again . . .  
And to know life is unending  
And God's love is unending, too,  
Makes our daily tasks and burdens  
So much easier to do . . .  
For the blessed Easter Story  
Of Christ the living Lord,  
Makes our earthly sorrow nothing  
When compared with this reward.

Helen Steiner Rice

### MICHIGAN, DETROIT

**Dawn Bahr**

As the Easter season approaches and the children prepare for the coming Easter program, I have noticed the impact that the story of Christ's death and resurrection has on the young preschool children. It seems that, for the first time, they are gaining an understanding of the great price that

was paid on the cross at Calvary. Our young son recently asked, "Mommy, why did Jesus fall when He carried His cross?" It was difficult for him to understand how this Jesus, who reigns with God above and watches over and protects him, could be weakened to the point that He could fall beneath the weight that He bore.

Perhaps Jesus' disciples felt much like this when they saw their Lord scourged beyond human recognition and nailed to a cross. Until that time, they had looked upon Jesus as their master and promised King. What despair they must have felt! How their faith must have been shaken as they watched as their Lord was crucified!

Praise God!! The story doesn't end on that cruel tree! Jesus arose!! We are able to tell our children that, because Jesus paid the price for our sin, the grave cannot contain us, just as it could not keep our Savior. We have a hope to arise to meet Him on that great judgment day, to reign with our Lord forever.

We were privileged to have Bro. Vernon Schwab (Wolcott, IN) visit and bring us God's Word. May he be blessed for sharing with us.

### MINNESOTA, MINNEAPOLIS

**Deb Tilbury**

Bro. Hartzell Kaisner (Detroit) and Bro. Harold Messner (Winthrop) were here on Wednesday evening. We thank them for their willingness to serve the Lord.

Recently the announcement was made of the approaching marriage of Bro. Kent Mogler and Sis. Mary Koehl (Morris). Their parents are Bro. Howard and Sis. Lollie Mogler (Lester) and Bro. Ernest and Sis. Gladys (Morris). We wish them God's richest blessing as they plan their life together.

### MINNESOTA, MORRIS

**Rhonda Zeltwanger — Jan Schock**

"He is risen." Once again Easter is approaching and as Christians this is one of the most important days to remember. Christ bore our sins and suffered greatly for us, but we also remember His glorious resurrection to be with His Father. Let us all be more appreciative as we bear the difficulties we face in this life, realizing how little we suffer in comparison to how He suffered for us.

Caleb Leo is the new little boy at Bro. Tom and Sis. Colleen Dogotch's

home. Bro. Leo and Sis. Thelma Dogotch and Bro. Jacob and Sis. Alice Wulf (Lester, IA) are the grandparents and Damen, Jacob, Aaron and Maria are his brothers and sister. Bro. Stanley and Sis. Bev Schaefer welcome their first child, Jeffrey Dean. Bro. Anton and Sis. Verna Schaefer and Virgil and Mildred Sauder are the happy grandparents. Benjamin Thomas is the first child born to our converts, Tom and Jill Furrer. Bro. Glen and Sis. Eileen Furrer are the grandparents. We wish all of these families God's blessings and guidance as they bring up their children. This is indeed a full-time job and blessing.

Bro. Don Miller (Minneapolis, MN) was our only visiting minister this month. We thank him for his efforts and for being a willing worker in the Lord's vineyard.

"And the Lord God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him". (Gen. 2:18) Believing that with God's help he has found this help, Bro. Kent Mogler (Bro. Howard and Sis. Lollie Mogler, Lester, IA) and Sis. Mary Koehl (Bro. Ernest and Sis. Gladys Koehl, Morris, MN) have made their engagement known. We pray for them and ask God to keep them and guide them through all their married days. Rick Gramm (Bro. Harold and Sis. Ila) and Julie Jones are also engaged. April 21 is the day they have chosen for their wedding. May God be near them as these couples make their plans for their lives together.

Sis. Rowena Furrer (Bro. Jim) was hospitalized with back problems, but is now home and doing well. Thank God for His healing powers.

"I would like to thank everyone who remembered me on my 88th birthday. Thank you especially to my family for the open house and supper. God bless each and everyone who helped to make the day special."

Bro. William Zeltwanger, Sr.  
Silver Lining dues are due April 1.  
Please pay your reporters. Thank you.

### MINNESOTA, WINTHROP

**Carol Ann Messner  
Mary Lou Schmidt**

### MOTHER'S DAY

Psalm 113:9 — He maketh the barren woman to keep house, and to be

a joyful mother of children. Praise ye the Lord!

God sought to give the sweetest thing  
In His Almighty Power,  
To earth; and deeply pondering  
What it should be, one hour.  
In fondest joy and love of heart,  
Outweighing every other.  
He moved the gates of Heaven apart  
And gave to earth — a Mother!

There is comfort from God as well as from our earthly mothers, as Isaiah 66:13 states; "As one whom his mother comforteth, so will I comfort you; and ye shall be comforted in Jerusalem."

The weather made it impossible to have church services one Sunday again. How long the time seems before we once again can assemble one with another. How thankful we should be that we do have beautiful places to gather without fear!

Our Sunday School children hosted a pancake supper for our Winthrop congregation and visitors from Minneapolis. We thank our youth for their labors and extra effort involved in doing for others.

Bro. Dean and Sis. Wanda Messner are the parents of a precious baby boy, Brendon Roland. His little sister Shayla is very excited about him. Grandparents are Bro. Roland and Sis. Melva Messner (Gaylord) and Bro. Arnold and Sis. Alice Metzger (West Bend).

Bro. Darrel Schmidt, Sis. Carrie Messner and Sis. Esther (George) Messner were all hospitalized for various reasons. They are all home now and doing better.

Sis. Pearl Lienemann would like to thank all those who remembered her with cards on her 70th birthday!

#### MISSOURI, LAMAR

**Becky Marti — Sandra Luthi**

How our hearts rejoice as we reflect on the love that God has for us. "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." Jn. 15:13. May we pour out our thanks each day for our dear Lord who laid down His life for us.

The freedoms we enjoy in this country are so precious. The freedom to travel from state to state is surely one of these freedoms. We're thankful that Bro. Loren Strahm (Gridley, KS) could be with us on Feb. 19, and share God's Word with us. It is our prayer that our elders and ministering brethren will

always be led by the Holy Spirit as they bring forth His Word.

Sis. Linda Banwart was hospitalized for a few days this past month. We're thankful that she is again home with her family.

#### MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS Becky Gudeman

"But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray, we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all." Is. 53:5,6

As the Easter season and spring unfolds before us, let us renew our love and commitment to the Lord, realizing his great love and compassion for us, as His children.

We truly appreciate all who have joined us in St. Louis for worship services. We thank Bro. Marshall Heinold (Washington) and Bros. Al Aberle and Glenn Dill (Tremont). May God bless their efforts.

We welcome any to be with us the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month at the Ben Franklin Motel, 4645 N. Lindbergh Blvd. For further information, call Dan and Becky Gudeman at 314-275-2227. (We will not hold services here Easter Sunday.)

#### MISSOURI, TAYLOR

**Loida Hodel — Lori Marquart**

#### CHRIST THE FOUNDATION

I now have found the firm foundation  
Where ever more my anchor grounds!  
It lay there ere the world's creation,  
Where else; but in my Saviour's  
wounds?

Foundation which unmov'd shall stay,  
When earth and Heaven pass away.

Zions Harp #221

Our "Little White Church on the Levee" was filled to overflowing the weekend of Feb. 18 and 19 when many friends and relatives gathered to witness the testimony of God's love and grace shown during their repentance, followed by the wonderful gift of peace that passeth human understanding. Baptismal services followed on Sunday and our new brother and sisters in Christ are David and Lori (Hoerr) Marquart and Tina Sutter (Dan). Elder

Bro. Wendell Gudeman (Francesville, IN) shared the happy experience with our Elder Bro. Roy and we are grateful to him and Sis. Marcella for spending the weekend with us. May these "babes in Christ" find a special place within the realms of Christian friendship. We hope and pray there will be many others to: "Come, for the feast is spread . . . the harvest is great but the laborers are few." St. Luke 10:2.

Bro. Louis and Sis. Ruthie (Massner) Hoerr celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary on Feb. 25 with a dinner and evening of fellowship arranged by their children, Shelly, Sis. Louanne and Bro. Jeff Gramm, Doug and Julie. May God continue to bless this family with many more years in His service and may He strengthen the bond of friendships that have been acquired through the years with many of us.

We have been favored with several visiting ministers this month. Our "thank yous" to Bros. Nathan Stoller (Bradford), Roy Ehle (Bradford), Wayne Miller (Ft. Scott) and their families.

God's blessings have once again been shared to ministering Bro. Kent and Sis. Jan Heimer upon the arrival of a little son, "Darin Richard", born Feb. 24. "Amber and Jackie" complete this family and happy grandparents are Bro. Ben and Sis. Ruth Ann Hodel (Roanoke) and Bro. Rod and Sis. Naomi Moser (Wapello, IA).

Ministering Bro. Gerald Sutter and Bro. Louis Hoerr were hospital patients most of a week for tests and X-rays. The concern and prayers we have for those who are experiencing reverses in health bring us closer as a body of believers. May it be God's will to totally restore reasonable health to those brothers. "Rejoice with them that do rejoice, And weep with them that weep." Rom. 12:15.

Another blessed event . . . Bro. Eric and Sis. Penny, Benjamin and Joseph Knochel welcome a new little boy, "Rick Lynn", born Mar. 14. Grandparents are Bro. James and Sis. Lois Sutter and Al and Evelyn Knochel (Lafayette, IN).

It is easier to go down a hill than up, but the view is from the top.

#### NEW JERSEY, UNION CITY Ed Aeschleman

We welcome ministering Bros. Lee Bahler and Everett Gerber along with

their wives, families and other brethren from Rockville on Mar. 11. The entire day was one of many Godly blessings.

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

I like the things of springtime:  
 The birds, the trees, the flowers.  
 I like the sparkling sunshine  
 And all the gentle showers.

I like the things of springtime,  
 Because they tell to me  
 The story of awakening,  
 New life that we shall see.

The greatest gift of springtime  
 Is Easter with its praise,  
 For Christ, our Lord, who rose again  
 On this glad day of days.  
 Lois Snelling

As the springtime of the year is at hand, we have many things of the world and life to remind us of this new season. The most important of these reminders is the celebration of the death of our Lord and Saviour, of his suffering and pain on the cross for the sins of each of us. As we are in the spring and Easter season, may each one of us truly remember this important event and take inventory of our lives. Are we living a daily life which is deserving of the love and concern of our Heavenly Father?

We are glad that Bro. Clyde Virkler has been able to assemble with us following his recent surgery. Little Daniel Virkler (Loren and Gloria) has returned home from another hospital stay.

We gathered in the Croghan church on Wednesday evening, Mar. 14, to enjoy a covered dish meal and evening of fellowship and song.

Norman and Colleen Farney have welcomed their first baby, a son, Aaron Norman, born on Mar. 3. His grandparents are Everett and Doris Lehman and the late Allan and Myrtle Farney.

Also welcoming their first son are Denise and Charles Hamilton (Lubach, TX). Brooks Streeter was born on Feb. 11. His grandparents are Duane and Aletha Streeter and great-grandparents are Bro. John and Sis. Berdena Widrick.

May these little ones bring an added blessing to their families.

**NEW YORK, NAUMBERG**  
**Rachel Snyder**

Bro. Henry and Sis. Barbara Beyer have a new little one to bless their home. A daughter was born Mar. 4. Her name is Charleen Kaye. They have two sons, Gerald and John and two other daughters, Christina and Cheryl.

There has been quite a lot of sickness this month. Billy Nortz, son of John "Jack" and Barbara hasn't been feeling well at home. Also, Bro. Arthur and Sis. Betty Herzig have both been shut-ins for a while.

Urban Karcher, Gayle Hirschev and Sis. Iva Poling have all had to spend a few days in the hospital. We are glad they are able to be out again.

Bro. Theodore Herzig is now in the hospital. We hope his stay will not be long. May God be with him.

Our thoughts and sympathy go to Sis. Iva Poling in the passing of her brother, Steven Kelly, from Herrings, NY.

All we who were able to attend services at the Croghan church, Mar. 18, surely had a very blessed day. Bros. Dan Stoller and Kevin Ryan (Rockville) spent the day with us, ministering the good Word to us. May God bless them and may He give them the opportunity to come again soon.

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

"A child shall be born into the House of David, Josiah by name." I Kings 13:2. This prophesy was uttered 322 years before Josiah was born. Josiah began to reign as king at eight years of age, being the youngest king, except for Joash who was seven. At the beginning of the account, II Kings 22 states: "He did that which was right in the sight of the Lord. . ." The Bible records a 43 fold reformation by Josiah. It credits him for 28 things he did "right" and nothing to discredit him. He had an extra long reign and at the end of his life, II Kings 23:25 states: "Like unto him was there no king before him, that turned to the Lord with all his heart, and with all his soul, and with all his might, according to all the law of Moses; neither after him arose there any like him." What a record for God to share with us about Josiah. How can we strive to put the example into our lives.

Angela Marie is the precious little baby born to Mark and Debbie Palitto.

The new baby girl is also being welcomed by her sister Carla. Grandparents are Bro. John and Sis. Martha Palitto.

Bro. Ned Baumgartner had the misfortune of falling and breaking his hip and is in the hospital.

A welcome goes to Rocio Eljaiek, the bride of Jeff Hoerr. Parents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Marguerite Hoerr (Milford) and Hilda Eljaiek of Cartegena, Columbia. The newlyweds met at Purdue University and Rocio graduated with a degree in Management. Jeff is employed at the Timken Co. as a metallurgical engineer.

-----  
**OHIO, COLUMBUS**  
**Andy Hunyady**

"He is not here but is risen." Lk. 24:6

The Lord is risen, that was the thought that broke the darkness which surrounded the disciples. Like a glorious light, it gladdened their hearts and filled them with new life and thanksgiving.

We, too, shall be deeply moved and our hearts shall be stirred to thanksgiving when we read or hear or meditate upon the message: "The Lord is risen." Our faith is not founded on a dead Saviour but was wrought and is sustained by a Saviour that liveth, who is able to keep for us that which we have committed unto Him against that day. Under great contempt and scorned by men, Christ breathed out His life. It seemed that even God had forsaken Him. Faint and pale, He was like all who die; covered with wounds, bruises and blows, He was laid into the grave. But true to His promise, He broke the night of death, and abolishing death, He brought life and immortality to light. (II Tim. 1:10)

Bro. Ray Sinn (Latty) visited us Feb. 26 and brought us the precious word of God. Visitors came from Latty, Rittman, and Junction. How precious is the fellowship in the love of Christ our Lord!

-----  
**OHIO, GIRARD**  
**Kathryn Emch**

Loving greetings to you all. I will be reporting for Girard again as Sis. Karen and Bro. Ron Laparo have moved to Yardley, PA. They will be attending the Philadelphia church. We surely miss them along with their children, Michael and Christy.

We enjoyed having Bro. Rudy and

Sis. Bethi Graf spend a Sunday with us.

We especially thank Bro. Eugene Pamer for serving our congregation in our absence. We appreciate all who travel to worship with us.

Sis. Louisa Lance and Sis. Anna Enyeart are both able to assemble with us after being ill for a season. Sis. Marian Klotzle is recovering from surgery. We pray for God's healing hand to be on each one.

If we can sing . . .  
"I know that my redeemer lives,  
What comfort this sweet message  
gives!"

. . . then we can celebrate Easter.

Remember as you travel east, our church is very close to Interstate 80. You are welcome to worship with us.

### OHIO, JUNCTION

Les Manz

We have been privileged in the past few weeks to have God's Word brought to us by Bros. Marvin Leman (Bradford), Ed Schwartz (Bluffton), Fred Domka (Mansfield) and Elder Bro. Loren Stoller (Latty). How quickly we forget His Word. We are thankful for Sundays and Thursday evenings when we can be reminded of His love for us and our duty to serve Him. Still, God understands us far better than we understand ourselves, and He saw that even after going to church twice a week we need reminders in between. Therefore He gave us His Word in our homes and we do well if we read it daily.

With spring's arrival, many will be watching for the signs of the return of various kinds of birds. When I see the birds feeding, I often think of the verse in St. Matt. 6:26 "Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they?" We occasionally hear the phrase "carefree as a lark." In so many ways, if we could just trust in God to provide for us each day instead of worrying, we would be so much better off. Our Bro. Phil Schlatter who is now living in Sarasota knows full well the meaning of God's promises that He will provide. Bro. Phil and Sis. Marianne Kuenzi (Silverton) are now making wedding plans, trusting God has provided them this blessings. We wish them His richest blessings in their lives together. Parents are Lee and Louise Kuenzi and Sis. Esther Schlatter.

### OHIO, LATTY

Laurie Stoller — Patty Riggenschach

At this joyous Easter season we are again reminded of the fulfillment of God's promise of salvation. Let's glorify Him through prayer.

### LET US PRAY AT THIS GLORIOUS EASTER SEASON

What better time or more beautiful  
season

What greater occasion or more  
wonderful reason

To kneel down to prayer and thank  
God above

For eternal life the Gift of His Love —  
For in sending His Son to be crucified  
He granted man Life because His Son  
died —

So at this glad season when there's  
joy everywhere

Let us meet Our Redeemer at the Alter  
of Prayer.

Helen Steiner Rice

God not only kept His promise of salvation but He keeps His promises in directing our daily lives. Believing that God has directed them together, several couples from Latty have announced their engagement. Bro. Richard Laukhuf will be united with Sis. Geraldine Plattner (Goodfield). Bro. David Gerber (Roger and Sis. Eunice) is planning a union with Sis. Patty Riggenschach (Harlan and Sis. Dolores). Brent Stoller (Bro. Willis and Sis. Ellen) and Jodi Eitniear (Mr. and Mrs. Bob Eitniear) are also planning a wedding. We pray that God will guide these couples in their planning and even more in the years to come.

We were happy to have visiting ministers with us this month. The brothers serving our congregation were Bro. Dan Stoller (Remington), Bro. Uriel Gehring (Leo), and Bro. Floyd Wieland (Detroit). We thank them for their ministry.

Austin Wenninger (Bro. Ed and Sis. Alice), Sis. Ruby Stoller (Bro. Justus), Sis. Sally Stoller (Bro. Ken and Sis. Esther) and Bro. Lester Laukhuf (Sis. Vera) were hospitalized this month. We are thankful they are on the road to recovery.

Many people from various congregations remembered Sis. Mary Gerber on her 90th birthday on Mar. 8. She wishes to express her gratitude to all those who were so thoughtful.

### OHIO, MANSFIELD

Lucille Groh

My life, my love, I give to thee  
Thou Lamb of God, who died for me;  
Oh, may I ever faithful be  
My Saviour and my God.

C. R. Dunbar

A few weeks ago, while in a clock maker's shop, there was a clock on the wall with a picture of a pasture field and the following words caught my attention: "IN GOD'S PASTURE WE CAN WALK FREE." I thought about those words and why we can walk free, all because of Jesus, the lamb of God, who died for the sins of the whole world.

One morning, a guest of a farmer looked out the window and saw a peculiar sight. He saw an old ewe lope across the field followed by the strangest looking lamb he had ever seen. It seemed to have six legs! The last two seemed to be torn from the body and just dangling there. The guest questioned the farmer, or shepherd about this strange sight and the shepherd caught the odd lambskin and brought it to the guest for examination. Closer inspection showed that the skin from another lamb had been stretched over its body. The shepherd explained that this little one had been orphaned and none of the ewes would adopt it. A day or two later a rattle snake killed another young lamb and its bereaved mother could not be consoled. The shepherd offered her the orphaned lamb as a substitute, whom she rejected and refused to have anything to do with. The shepherd then skinned her own dead lambkin and draped its woolly coat over the orphaned one and she immediately accepted it because it "smelled" right to her.

What about the beautiful picture of the slain lamb of God? We too were once orphans, spiritual outcasts, without a living hope of heaven. We were not acceptable to God because of our sin. But because the lovely lamb of God took the sting of the 'old serpent' and died upon the cross for a lost world and if we repent and believe on Him, we too can say, "IN GOD'S PASTURE WE CAN WALK FREE".

When our loving Saviour left this earth He promised to send a comforter, the Holy Spirit. We know that our loved ones who experienced the "Lying down in green pastures" this past



month could feel our prayers and His comforting spirit. Sis. Marcella Sauder (Bro. Charles) and Sis. Hermine Beer both had gall bladder surgery. Sis. Ruth Weiss was again admitted to the hospital.

Loving prayers have been said on behalf of Nellie Morrison February (formerly from here and now in Anchorage, AK) who recently had an operation for the removal of a malignant brain tumor. We pray she and her dear mother, Sis. Catherine, and Sis. Linda and the rest of her family can be comforted through this time of great trial.

His loving promise to comfort those who mourn can be of encouragement to Lori Sauder (Steve) in the passing of her mother, Vivian Apper. Lori lovingly cared for her mother the last remaining days and tried to make her as comfortable as possible.

We rejoice with Randy and Sandy Sauder on the arrival of their new little son, Brandon Oliver, born Feb. 25. Sis. Dora and Bro. Ora Sauder are the paternal grandparents.

Our very best wishes are extended to Karla and Douglas Stricker who were married on Feb. 18, 1984. Bro. Alvin and Sis. Janet Beer are Karla's parents.

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

"Faithful until death remain! For the crown of life be striving. Break through bonds of woe and pain. In His promise e'er confiding. Which through grace is kept in store, For thee when thy journey's o'er." Zion's Harp #105. Our Bro. John Hartzler, Sr., a pillar of our church, was laid to rest on Mar. 3. He is survived by his wife, Sis. Elda; sons, Bro. Joe and Bro. John, Jr.; daughters, Sis. Jane Klotzle, Sis. Marge Zollinger, Sis. Rose Gerber (Bluffton, IN), Sis. Verna Rufener and Elaine McCreary; sisters, Sis. Rhoda Riggensbach, Sis. Mary Stoller, and Sis. Elizabeth Ramsier, and one brother, Bro. Ernest Hartzler.

Those from our congregation needing hospitalization were Sis. Judy Schar, Sis. Neva Gasser, Sis. Terry Stoller, Frank Weber, Dennis Reusser, John Marty, Sis. Eva Van Nostran and Timothy Zollinger. We pray our Lord will grant them good health once again.

Mar. 4 was the wedding day of Bro.

Ed Stoller and Sis. Verla Blough. Bro. Ed's parents are Bro. Don and Sis. Luzelda Stoller and Sis. Verla is the daughter of Bro. Joe and Sis. Lucille Blough. We pray for our Lord's blessing and guidance in their lives.

The marriage engagement of Sis. Joni Schar and Bro. Tim Ramsier has been announced. Sis. Joni is the daughter of Bro. Rowan and Sis. Judy and Bro. Tim's parents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Inez.

We have several babies born to our loved ones. Bro. Dave and Sis. Linda Hartzler have a new little sister for Rodney named Kesia Lynn. Kesia's grandparents are Bro. Joe and Sis. Marian Hartzler and Bro. Eugene and Sis. Kathryn Bachman. Bro. Rich and Sis. Pat Steiner have a little boy named Eric Paul. Eric's brothers and sisters are Lisa, Myra, Laura and Scott. His grandparents are Bro. John and Sis. Wilma Steiner and Bro. Irv and Sis. Jane Klotzle. Jordan Andrew is the new little son of Bro. Randy and Sis. Shirley Miller. His little brothers are Brandon and Paul. Mary Grace is the name of the new little girl born to Bro. Matt and Sis. Gail Steiner. Mary has four brothers to welcome her home: Nathan, Joel, Luke, and Aaron. Her grandparents are Bro. Alvin and Sis. Eldora Steiner and Sis. Doris Gasser. Bro. Ken and Sis. Becky Zollinger are the parents of a new little son, Timothy Kenneth. His little sister is Laura and his grandparents are Bro. John and Sis. Marge Zollinger and Bro. Eli and Sis. Evelyn Manz (Junction). Correction: Fred and Karen Mathys are the parents of a little girl, Annemarie. Her grandmother is Sis. Barbara Mathys.

We are happy that Bro. Neil Gasser is able to be up and about again after injuring his back and having a stay in the hospital.

We are happy to report that Jack and Clara Maibach have turned to the Lord in repentance. May our Lord grant them grace and strength, as well as the peace of God. We rejoice with the angels in Heaven.

A reminder to the Rittman subscribers to the Silver Lining: May is the month we collect dues of \$6.00 for a Silver Lining subscription. Please give to either Sis. Florence or Sis. Janette.

-----  
**OHIO, TOLEDO**  
**Josephine Rehklau**  
**Frances Laidig**

Easter!! Spring!! What a beautiful

time of year for Christ to have risen, giving hope for a new life to all who so desire it. If we choose to travel the pathway with God, He, in His own special way grants us new understanding to help us as we journey on the road of faith. Likewise, in the spring, we look forward to new life coming forth from the flowers, trees, and fields. No other time of the year could compare as well. "Ask, and it shall be given you: seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you." St. Matt. 7:7

We were blessed, during the month of Feb. by having with us several ministers, Elder Bro. Ben Maibach (Detroit), Bros. William Brake and Kenneth Indermuhle (Sardis) and Henry Dotterer and Ronald Steiner (Rittman). We thank them for their service of love in bringing to us the gospel of salvation.

We continue to miss those of our congregation who are not able to assemble with us because of infirmities. Sis. Minnie Schick is now in the Extended Care Center of Toledo. Sis. Kathryn Rager is in the Holly Glen Care Center, 4293 Monroe St., Toledo, OH 43606. Warren Newman (Sis. Lois) is in the hospital having had major surgery. His condition is improving daily. We pray that God will help each one and meet their special needs.

-----  
**ONTARIO, KITCHENER**  
**Carola Fortenbacher**

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

There are two families that worship in our home on the Sundays we do not travel to Detroit, MI (four hours away). Since 1982, 12 churches have been designated to send a ministering brother and others who wish to come to provide services on the second Sunday of each month. They are: Junction, OH; Rittman, OH; Alto, MI; Mansfield, OH; Naumburg, NY; Leo, IN; Bay City, MI; Detroit, MI; Toledo, OH; Croghan, NY; Latty, OH; and Akron, OH.

Our families here include: Bro. Wladimir (Walter) and Sis. Margaret Fortenbacher (53 and 52 respectively); their children Aaron (23), Sis. Carola (22), Lydia (20), Wanda (19), Ingrid (18), Rosanne (16), Magdalena (15), David (14), Johanna (13), Barbara (10), Miriam (6). The other family

includes Bro. Walter and Sis. Margaret's eldest daughter Sis. Astrid Schlauch (Fortenbacher) (24), her husband Henry (29) and their two children Virginia (3) and Dennis (2).

Since the New Year, we have been blessed to have many come from the Bay City, MI congregation. We experienced much joy and love in our fellowship. It truly was a very memorable weekend. Our minister was Bro. Jim Ramsier.

February brought Bro. Eugene and Sis. Marilyn Fetter and a small group from Toledo, OH. We again felt the Spirit's presence in our home.

Bro. Kurt Bahler (Remington, IN) spent some time with us while attending a seminar at the University of Guelph. We greatly appreciate the uplifting fellowship of fellow believers. All of us here sincerely encourage those who have a desire to come see us and visit Canada. Any questions you may have or directions can be directed to the Fortenbachers, R.R. #1, Linwood, Ontario, NOB 2A0, (519) 699-4133.

#### OREGON, SILVERTON

##### Rosa Lee Kuenzi

We wish God's guidance to Sis. Marianne Kuenzi (Lee and Louise Kuenzi, Silverton) and Bro. Phil Schlatter (Sis. Esther Schlatter, Junction, OH) now of Sarasota, FL, as they plan their future marriage in the Lord. Their engagement was announced Mar. 11, and the wedding has been set for Aug. 5.

We enjoyed a singing recently at the home of Bro. Bob and Sis. Linda Kuenzi. We need no special reason to get together and sing praises to our Lord, but this time we did have a special occasion. Bro. Kyle and Sis. Peggy Strahm (Bern, KS) were in Oregon on their wedding trip. We were glad to have this opportunity of fellowship and to wish them God's blessings on their marriage.

#### PENNSYLVANIA

##### PHILADELPHIA

##### Ed Aeschleman

We heartily welcome the family of Bro. Ron and Sis. Karen Laparo and their two children (Michael, 3 and Christy, 1) to the Philadelphia congregation. Bro. Ron was transferred by his employer from Ohio (where they attended the Girard church) to the Philadelphia area. God has once again

heard our continual prayers for increase to our small church. We know, however, that this family will be as greatly missed by the Girard congregation as it will be appreciated here in Philadelphia.

#### TEXAS, DONNA-McALLEN

##### Joyce Nohl

We were richly blessed with the Word of God in the past month. The ministers were Elder Bro. Edwin Hohl (Goodfield), Bros. Leland Plattner (Zapata), Carl Hartman (Sabetha) and Elmer Schrenk (Alto). We thank them for bringing us the Words of Life.

Our dear friend Phil Bauer was hospitalized for surgery. He has returned home and is now recuperating.

Spring has again arrived and we must say farewell to all our winter visitors. We will be having our last service of the season Mar. 25.

#### TEXAS, ZAPATA

##### Mary Plattner

Bro. John Bahler has been in the hospital, first in Laredo, then in San Antonio where he underwent heart surgery. He is now at home here in Zapata and recovering nicely. His granddaughter Sharon Bahler is staying with him and Sis. Julia for a couple of weeks. We are so thankful that medical technology has advanced so much.

Because of the Fort Sam Reunion held in San Antonio on Mar. 3-4, we had many visitors coming to Zapata. Bro. Carroll Gerber (Bluffton North) assembled with us on Wednesday evening and again on the 11th.

Elder Bro. Wayne Fehr (West Bend, IA) was here during our mid-week services. We are always pleased to see Bro. Wayne and his family come. His parents spend the winter here.

Our winter family is starting to think about going back to their homes in the north again. The winter season slips by so fast and we will again anticipate their return in the fall.

Bro. Carl Hartman (Sabetha) spent some time in our area this past month. We certainly welcome anyone coming south to assemble with us in Zapata.

#### PARKVIEW HAVEN, APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN RETIREMENT HOME, INC. NEED FOR ADMINISTRATOR

We appreciate your willingness to print this information in the Silver

Lining and feel it is a privilege to let our beloved brethren throughout America know of our existing need, therefore, in behalf of the board of directors, we wish to make known that a brother is being sought out for administrator for the home. We are looking prayerfully and hopefully to the church to fill this important position. College degrees are helpful but not a must, as a license is needed, and can be obtained later, if you qualify. If any brother feels direction and interest toward this work, please call or write before April 30, 1984 to:

Nat Gutwein  
Francesville, IN 47946  
219-567-2443 — home  
219-567-9121 — work

Lynn Feller  
106 South - 190 East  
Valparaiso, In 46383  
219-462-2369 — home  
219-462-5191 — work

All inquiries or resumes will be carefully and prayerfully considered and answered. May the true spirit prevail in this matter. We trust the Lord will provide.

Retirement Home  
Board Members

#### Sermon . . .

(Continued from Page 28)

We can see, dear ones, that Satan is going to try to destroy us. He even tried to destroy the Son of God. If he had been able to destroy our Lord and Saviour, he would have won the battle, but this has not come to pass. How thankful we are today.

Reading the account of Christ's life saddens our hearts. Yet, we can rejoice because Christ was faithful and true to His God and gave us hope of eternal life. Today, loved ones, we have this living hope that God is going to accept us into the realms of glory if we are faithful and true to Him.

When the time comes, that we lay down our armour in the Lord and there is no more waiting for that great day, all the sadness and sorrow that we have endured in this life is going to vanish. The Word of God speaks just a little about what the Lord has in store for us. What will it be like?

Going back to the temptations of Christ, we read that "the devil said unto him, If thou be the Son of God . . ."

Luke 4:3. Doesn't Satan tell us that same thing many times? He often comes to us, even after we have been baptized, beloved.

When we were brought before the congregation, a crowd of witnesses, we could feel that the dear ones were satisfied with our convictions. Then the Lord allowed us to be baptized, but Satan soon came and tried to tell us, "You have not done everything right; and if you have . . ." and so on and so forth.

"And the devil said unto him, If thou be the Son of God, command this stone that it be made bread." Luke 4:3. Satan knew that the Saviour had power to do this. He knew very well that if the Saviour succumbed because of the weakness of His flesh, he would have accomplished his mission. But he did not!

The Garden of Eden was a beautiful place, everything more beautiful than we can imagine. Across our nation there are many beautiful things to see. When we see something from far off that looks especially beautiful, we go up a little closer to look. We imagine that Eve went close to that tree. Satan, there as a serpent, spoke to her in a voice she could hardly turn away from. No doubt the voice sounded beautiful with maybe even a little bit of a chuckle, so that Eve thought, "Now, that is a pretty voice." Satan can change his voice in many ways.

Just think about what happened. The devil enticed Eve and told her the opposite of what God had told her. God had told Adam and Eve that if they ate of a certain tree, they would die, but God did not tell them that there would be a length of time before this would take place. Satan came along and said, "Oh, that is not ever going to happen." But then, we know the story.

We also know the story of Jesus' death. We rejoice in that Christ, our Lord, gave His life so that we might have eternal life. He was cruelly nailed on that cross. He carried the sin of the whole world, your sin and my sin, upon His shoulders. He was nailed there with that terrible load. Think, dear ones. He was nailed; and when the soldiers lifted that cross and dropped Him into that hole so that He might hang there suspended between earth and heaven, what an agony that must have been!

For you and me, He did it! If the Saviour had not been willing to do that,

He would have told God, "No, I'm not going to do it." Instead, He prayed, "Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done." Luke 22:42

This was because of you and me. Now we can sit in heavenly places in peace with our God and with free access to the Father's heart. Within, dear ones, we know that our names are written in the Book of Life.

The Word tells us that we should not be troubled. "In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you." John 14:2. Mansions for you and for me!

There is no higher name nor higher standing upon this earth than to be a child of God. Any name that is written across the sky or across big buildings is nothing as compared with the name that you and I have as children of God.

"And Jesus answered him, saying, It is written (the devil had told Him to make bread out of stone), That man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God." Luke 4:4

Dear ones, let's think about this for a little bit. We live in this world by the things of the world. We eat, travel here and there, and do our labors. We go home, get a few hours of sleep, and then go out and work again. It really doesn't bother us too much. But here we are told that we cannot live by bread alone. We can live here upon this earth and get by. We can live by earthly bread, but is it going to be enough to die by? Will it feed us eternally?

Thankfully, dear ones, wherever we go, wherever we travel, we can feel God's love. Many times we go into a strange area, observe someone, and it comes to us, "Now, that's a child of God."

Years back when my father was still living, we visited different places. One time we came to a place where we wanted to change clothes. We were considering going to a restaurant or some other place to change. We thought that we'd drive around a little bit. We drove down the street and then we saw a lady on her lawn. It came to us: "There is a sister. There is a place where we can go in and change our clothes." We stopped and had a little conversation and were able to do so. The Spirit works in many hearts.

When we opened the doors of this church and came into the fellowship hall, we could see the smiles, smiles of

the true Spirit of God. In grasping the hands, we could feel that the Spirit and love flow together. Then, the kiss of faith, too. We pray and plead, dear ones, that we never change from this.

When I was a young man and my wife and I were first married, we rented a farm. An older lady owned it, and she came out there quite often. A short time after, we repented. She could see the difference as we talked about things. We talked about the faith, and about some of the things that we do, even traditions. We talked about the veil.

She was a very sincere person, and she was an old person. She said, "In years gone by, we did that same thing." I asked about the kiss of faith. "Yes," she said, "we did that, too. But then, as time went on, people wanted to get rid of this and get rid of that, leave this off and leave that off; and we lost something." She said that the unity was gone, the closeness was gone. A coldness came into the church.

Still, she was an older person. She believed that because the times change, the churches should change too. But, beloved, should they?

Ever since you have been brought into the faith, beloved brothers and sisters, you have read this same Word. From the content, you received the same thing as your fathers and mothers by your servants who stood in the pulpits. The worldly glory that the devil offered to Christ was rejected by our Saviour. We must also reject it.

As Christ's ministry began, He chose His disciples. He told them to also go to the Gentile people. We are of those today, dear ones, and have gained by it. Through this, we have the hope of eternal salvation, the new heaven, the new Jerusalem that shall be ours when all is finished here below.

What a wonderful promise! What a wonderful goal we have to look forward to, whether together or apart from another, meeting and greeting loved ones we have never known. It seems that we have known you for a long time because we are of like mind. We are the same type of people. We are all of flesh and blood in this world, but we have something that the world knows nothing of.

We know, dear ones, what we have. We have what is good enough to die by. May God always help us to cherish it. May we always look joyfully into the Word of God.

FEB 02602 LK  
CHARLES WALDER  
EAST LYNN IL 60932

## SERMON BY ELDER BRO. HAROLD MESSNER OF WINTHROP, MN

Text: Luke 4:1-27 and John 7:1-30

I have read thirty verses of this beautiful chapter that God has opened to us. Dear ones, there was a time when Christ Himself spoke before many people who were gathered together. Not all came to listen for the same reason or purpose.

We can read that at one time Jesus fed a multitude of people. When the people had been together for a length of time, they became weary. They became hungry. The Lord asked God for a blessing, and they were all fed.

This morning, dear ones, we have in faith asked God for a blessing. We asked Him to give us something that would help us in this life, and guide us toward eternal salvation. We asked in faith as children of God. The beloved friends have also offered prayers to God, and have looked ahead to the time when they too would have this hope of living forever with the Lord.

Wouldn't it be sad if God's Word told us that the time of grace is now ended, and that there is no more hope for those outside the fold? When we look back, beloved, to years gone by, we remember having sat under the sound of the Word of God, not rejoicing in what we heard or in what we were doing. We rejoiced instead in the fact that we would someday have what God had given to our moms and dads, and to our grandmas and grandpas. The Lord kept a living hope in store for the time of our repentance and conversion. We have that hope within our hearts, beloved, and the door of grace is still open. There are still souls seeking to do God's will.

Has that hope not been in every one of our hearts in the years gone by? We look about and see older brothers and sisters here. We should talk with them about their experiences in their younger years when they turned to the Lord. Many have lived many, many years for the Lord; it was for their

benefit, and for your benefit and mine. We see dear ones who have weathered many of life's storms. They have become older and are still hanging onto the ship of faith. This is what God wants us to do. The Lord wants us to be steadfast in His love, in our love for the beautiful church, and in our love for each other as brothers, sisters and friends.

We oftentimes wonder what it would be like if none of our friends assembled with us. We would be depressed. We would be in sorrow because we would think that Satan has full power upon earth. Yet, we know that at one time man was the prince of this world. Then Satan overcame man, and he became the prince of the world. All evil things that we have among us today are offered by Satan and by his powers. Many things which God allowed to come into the world are misused.

However, many people are striving to serve their Lord and their God. Did God drive anybody here today? Did anyone use a whip upon any of us, and tell us that we must come here? No. We got up this morning looking to the time and the moment when we could assemble in the congregation of the Lord with loved ones, and now it has come to pass. We can feel your prayers and love, the love that flows from heart to heart because we love one another and because God loves us.

"And Jesus being full of the Holy Ghost returned from Jordan, and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness." Luke 4:1.

The Son of God, the One who came from on high, the One with no sin, took upon Himself flesh and blood, came upon the earth and walked this sod as you and I walk it today; but he walked without sin of any kind. He walked here and there and saw many, many people. He knew what His great duty was going to be.

Jesus chose disciples to help Him. How thankful we are, dear ones, that as it says here, "He would not walk in Jewry," because they did not want Him. John 7:1. He had to teach in secret and not walk openly. Jewish people were trying to destroy Him. We are so thankful that our Saviour's work has never been destroyed. The Word has not been destroyed and has not been altered, though that has been attempted by man. As far as we are concerned, what we have here today and what has just been read, is God's true Word.

There are many translations, we realize that. Sometimes man tries to change the Word, adding to it and taking away, but we know that plagues will be added to such individuals.

Going back to the Word, dear ones, Christ was in the wilderness for forty days, and tempted of the devil. (We are tempted too.) There in the wilderness the Saviour was tempted day and night for the forty days. He was being tried. Through that time, He ate nothing. He must have become very weak in the body, but strong in the Spirit.

We can see a similar thing in this day, when even though a dear soul for some reason or other has a great illness and his body is decaying and growing old, he or she becomes stronger. We can see it in the person's sincerity and willingness to follow the Lord.

Satan tried our Saviour in every way, knowing that He was going to become weak in His body because of lack of food. How often have you and I seen old brothers or sisters or any aged persons, lying in the hospital, weak in the body almost to the point that they hardly know anything anymore, or even breathe. Even then Satan tries to tempt them. How often they have testified that Satan does not leave them alone.

(Continued on Page 26)