

# *The Silver Lining*

A LIGHT FOR BELIEVERS

VOLUME 34

JUNE 1984

NUMBER 6

*A Happy and Blessed Father's Day*

— TO EACH FATHER —

*Benjamin*



For God commanded, saying; honor thy father and mother. Matthew 15:4

Children's children are the crown of old men and the glory of children are their fathers. Proverbs 17:6

Children, obey your parents in the Lord; for this is right. Ephesians 6:1

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 GREATEST OF THESE IS LOVE

By Gene I. Lehman

I Corinthians 13 is commonly known as the "love" chapter, and we all know that God is love. We know that it was His love for man that impelled Him to send His only begotten Son into the world (John 3:16). The liberals among us tend to end their description of God with the point that He is love.

However, the Scripture is full of other references which identify our Deity as one who expects and deserves something in return for His great love. The liberal school of thought often overlooks the unalterable facts that He is also holy, righteous, just, pure — too pure to even behold iniquity, much less to allow it. Just recognizing God's love alone is to ignore the testimony of the Apostle Paul that "our God is a consuming fire," and that "it is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of a living God" (Hebrews 12:29, 10:31). How can one explain away II Corinthians 5:11 which states "Therefore knowing the terror of the Lord, we persuade men." What's he talking about? Doesn't God love everybody; didn't Jesus die for all? Isn't He primarily a teacher and not a judge? What is there to be afraid of?

There are many fundamental, conservative people in the world who feel quite confident that the atoning work of Christ calls for nothing more from them than a warm, emotional response and the assurance that Jesus died for their sins, and that He rose again for their eternal life. They are not willing to accept the doctrine of cross-bearing and self-denial (crucifying the desires and passions of the flesh). No costly obedience is necessary, no striving to enter by the strait gate, and no spiritual growth or conforming their lives to Christ! None of these things are needed, just a blithe, cheery resting on the everlasting arms. Nothing more, Grace is cheap! There is no judgment, no accounting, no need for self-examination, no danger of a door being shut. How could God deny anyone who cries, "Lord, Lord, open to us"?

Now, beloved reader, whoever you are, if you feel that this type of loose "Christianity" and easy believism is true, just know this: if the testimony of the Apostles is true, if the teachings of our Lord Jesus are trustworthy, if the witness of the Church and the faith of our fathers for almost two millenia is

correct, you are in for a terrible shock. This type of faith will lead you to the place prophesied in Mark 9:44 "... their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched".

The teaching of parables, warning us of heavenly truths through earthly stories, is very common throughout the Gospels. Please note carefully the parable of the ten virgins in Matthew 25. All were once pure, all had oil, all awaited the bridegroom, and all fell asleep. They all believe He is coming, they love His appearing, they have secured their lamps. They are quite thoroughly church members, you see. Yet the Lord told five of them who were foolish to depart! Why?

The truth is that not all who think they are wise possess true wisdom. Look to the love chapter itself as support for this truth. It starts with the ministry, "though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels...". If a speaker filled God's house with people, and hundreds were moved to repentance by his preaching, if he himself did not have the true love of God in his heart, he would be lost.

Though you give all you own or possess to the poor, if you do not have the spirit of Love, you will be shut out. It will profit you nothing. How can you claim to be converted to Him who has given His all if you are not prepared to give something in response?

If just believing isn't enough, if being part of the company of the wise (a church member) isn't proof positive that you will inherit a place in Heaven, if giving to the poor, if telling others the story of Love doesn't demonstrate we belong to Christ, surely if we die for our faith we shall be eternally blessed.

But what does the Word say? "Though I give my body to be burned and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing." This is strong meat; it's obviously a facet of our Lord we do not like to face up to. But it is in the Scripture. We have to face up to it.

Does this mean no one can be saved? Indeed not! It merely tells us that we must respond on our part to the great love that God has showered down on us. He gives us His Holy Spirit to direct us. To develop the full benefit of the Spirit requires daily effort on our part. This is a very serious matter, one which means more than anything else in the

world because all material things are going to pass away. A good prayer pattern is essential.

Let us therefore, dearly beloved, arm ourselves with the Word of God and fight a daily battle against the forces of darkness which gather around us on every side. We have every right to be full of hope (our God will never leave us nor forsake us) but we must stay and stand with Him. It is always a struggle, requiring that we watch day and night. We can stand on the scriptural promise which says, "nevertheless, the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, the Lord knoweth them that are His." (II Timothy 2:19).

In conclusion, let us examine two passages that Paul wrote to a young minister years ago. I Timothy 4:11-16 says "These things command and teach. Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in work, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity. Till I come, give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine. Neglect not the gift that is in thee, which was given thee by prophecy, with the laying on of the hands of the presbytery. Meditate upon these things; give thyself wholly to them; that thy profiting may appear to all. Take heed unto thyself and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee." And in I Timothy 6:17-19, "Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not high-minded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy; That they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate; Laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life."

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**NOTE:** Our Annual Donated Children's Home Sale is coming up on August 25 — as soon as you can, we would appreciate it if you would drop us a line and tell of your welcome donations, so we can put it on the Sale Bill. We need this information so we can tell the people what we have, and create the needed interest for a big attendance.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Write to:

Apostolic Christian Children's Home  
P. O. Box 151  
Leo, IN 46765

## 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 to:

Nate 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.

Board Members  
Retirement Home

## 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 doctrine 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

## NOTICE: SUBSCRIPTIONS, CORRECTIONS AND CHANGES

The following is a list of guidelines that has been issued to all church correspondents. Several correspondents have asked that we publish the guidelines so that all subscribers can see our system and procedures. Your cooperation in all of these areas is appreciated. As you read these guidelines you can see how important your local correspondent is to the Silver Lining. Please find the time to thank them for their efforts.

Silver Lining Staff

Correspondent Guidelines For  
Computerized Mailing List and  
Subscription Collections

1. Correspondent is responsible for collecting local subscriptions and maintaining current mailing list. If for some reason you cannot

### 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

do this, please see that someone is designated to handle these responsibilities locally, and see that they get a copy of these guidelines.

2. Prior to the month your collection is due, please include a reminder in your monthly article.

3. **Please let local congregation know that all subscriptions should be paid through you rather than directly to the Silver Lining staff. This includes all subscriptions, corrections, and changes throughout the year, not only during the month of your collection.**

4. You will be sent a printout of your local subscribers prior to the month your collection is due. Also listed on this printout will be any gift subscriptions paid by someone in your local congregation.

5. Please use printout for making all necessary changes. Attempt to account for all names on the printout.

6. As you will see, on the printout there are headings for record number, church code, and month subscription is due. This same information is also at the top of each individual mailing label.

7. **The record number is a computer number assigned to each individual subscriber. PLEASE include this number when referring to any subscriber. The number is of equal importance as the name!**

8. **The two-lettered symbol for church code found on printout and on label is mainly for our information, and refers to the church where the subscription is paid. When someone pays for someone else's subscription as a gift, the recipient's label will be coded with the giver's church. When an address change involves a church change, please mention old and new churches.**

9. Please return updated printout with all corrections on it when you send in your payment.

10. **On any new subscriptions, make sure you have full address, including zip code, and church through which subscription will be paid. If it is a gift, designate which church it is paid through.**

## NEWS FROM ROMANIA

Andy Hunyady

Sadness came upon the community of our fellow believers in Romania, as

two of their beloved elders have been called home to their eternal rest and reward. Both are known to us and carried on correspondence with us. On March 15, Ilie Dumbrava, about 70, passed away and a week later, March 22, Janos Balog, 87, laid down his armor. In one of his recent letters – Silver Lining, Feb. 1984 – he wrote: "I am suffering with lung ailment, very painful, but soon I will be going home where there is no more pain, sorrow or suffering, but eternal peace and rest." Both brothers have spent two seven-year terms in prison and both were released after serving half of their third seven-year terms. Both have been arrested for holding unauthorized meetings and heavily fined. In 1969 Bro. Dumbrava and about 350 worshippers were interrupted by the security forces for holding services without a permit. The agents were directed by a local minister, whose former members were converted to our faith and were among those arrested and fined.

Our corresponding elder writes: "I cannot fully describe the grief and the great void their departure has brought upon us. Our hope is in God, that He, by His great compassion and providence will fill their places. . . . I pray for an opportunity to visit with you (in America), I hope you will see it that way and may the Lord grant it to become a reality."

The last order of food packages arrived in this area. Many of our brethren are unable to write to you and asked me to thank you and the brethren in the U.S. for their love and care for us.

## APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S HOME

Uriel Gehring — Jane Stieglitz

Spring has officially arrived and it is overwhelming to see God's creations literally bursting out all over and full of new life. How great is our God! The blossoming of the trees, the lovely green of the grass, the multi-colored flowers, red, yellow and violet go on and on and never reach the end of creation's infinite beauty. God is the Master Artist, and paints a picture no human artist shall ever duplicate. "The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof; the world and they that dwell therein." Psalms 24:1. We mortals are the "they", a part, too, of His creation. As we observe the newness of life on

earth in the spring time, and see each plant being drawn heavenward toward the sun, we should be reminded of our new birth from above, and we, too, should be drawn to the Son from whence cometh all of our spiritual growth. How spiritually invigorating to sense that we are growing in Him. The songwriter has put it so beautifully, "To God be the glory, great things He hath done; we come to the Father through Jesus the Son." "Wherefore, He is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by Him, seeing He ever liveth to make intercession for them." Hebrews 7:25. Our Heavenly Father is omnipotent, and the Apostle Paul writes to the saints at Philippi, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." Philippians 4:13. How manifold are the promises to him who is in Christ Jesus, the Son." Therefore, being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by Whom we also have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand; and rejoice in the hope of the glory of God." Romans 5:1, 2. Let us rejoice in the Lord and pray without ceasing.

We are thankful that Bro. Uriel has returned to work after a second visit to the hospital consisting of various tests. May God give him much needed strength and health.

School is almost over. The children are busy with various activities such as music concerts, field days and field trips with their class. Daleen C., Randy F. and Erik D. all participated in their school's Field Day.

Beth A., Mike J. and Daleen C. were participants in the performances at their school's spring music concert. Daleen particularly enjoyed a performance by her choir for an Old Folks' Home.

Gary H. completed his season of track at Leo High School and has already had a meeting for next year's football team. Occasionally Gary travels with Bro. Uriel and Sis. Judy to give presentations or interviews about the Home. These interviews are quite touching and informative.

Thelma, Bertha and John W., Gary H., Mike J., Jerry F. and Daleen C. are all planning to work in the Allen County Job Training Program this summer. This will take place from June 11th to August 19th.

Randy F. is excited about playing baseball this summer. His baseball hat,

with "Kay" on the front, goes everywhere with him.

A local 4-H group recently came to the Home to play some games with the children. The children and the staff appreciated the time that they spent with us.

Bros. Larry and Ken have the gardens planted and are awaiting the arrival of the fruits thereof. Now that the weather is nice, the children often use some of their free time to help mow the lawns and do other outside work. The woods is a luscious green; it is a very pleasant place to take a walk and meditate upon our great God and His creation. "All nations whom Thou hast made shall come and worship before Thee, O Lord; and shall glorify Thy Name. For Thou art great, and doest wondrous things: Thou art God alone." Psalms 86:9-10.

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### APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

Because warm spring weather has been long in coming, we appreciate the beautiful flowers and blossoming trees more than ever this year. Because there has always been a Springtime (and it is promised that it always shall be), we tend to accept it without much thought as to the miracle which it really is. Think for a moment about a full grown tree with spreading branches. The water and nourishment for the leaves must travel all the way from the roots out to the branches to where the leaves are. When you consider the force that is necessary to transport the water upward against gravity through the density of the wood into the trunk and branches, we easily come to the conclusion that an unseen and miraculous Power controls such things. Realizing this, we pause to give thanks and praise to Whom it is due.

Here at the Home, too, as we occupy ourselves with the trivial round of common tasks, we come to the realization that an Unseen Power is working among these special people. We find ourselves wondering about the "real person" within those who live here. Recently, for example, two of the adults were exchanging words in an uncomplimentary manner which resulted in each of them being sent to his room. A very few minutes later, the person in charge of the situation observed those same two adults walking down the hall to their rooms with their arms around each other! We smile - and we ponder -

and we give honor to the Creator.

Spring, Easter, Mother's Day, Father's Day, weddings - All of these activities touch the lives of our residents, and they glow when they can be included in some small way.

Again this spring, some of our residents were invited to a private country home to see the beautiful wild flowers along a creek and in the timber. This delightful outing is always climaxed by refreshments which include fresh homemade doughnuts!

For those of our readers who do not happen to be aware of it, our Home does publish a small monthly publication called the A. C. Times for \$3.00 per year. This contains the Home's activities in detail, in addition to other interesting articles.

At a recent awards dinner in Peoria, our Home was awarded a plaque which reads: "The Peoria Association for Retarded Citizens presents this Recognition Award to the Apostolic Christian Home for the Handicapped for outstanding efforts in serving the needs of persons who are mentally retarded and developmentally disabled."

All of you who have contributed to this effort in any capacity are to be commended for making this possible.

As we think of Father's Day, a tender chord is touched within our hearts. J. Kyler McManus once wrote, "A father's love gives strength to his sons, guidance to his daughters and protection to the home. He is the most important teacher, because in him, his children can see the qualities they will look for in other men."

There is not a man living, however poor he may be, but that he has in his power to leave as a heritage to those who follow him the example of CHARACTER - to be what man should be. A Christian father can be a stepping stone in learning to know our Heavenly Father. Thankfully, we remember the many things we owe to our fathers.

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### ALABAMA, ATHENS Joan Schrenk

Oh, how happy we all are here in Athens. Last Sunday, four dear souls were added to the fold. How the angels in heaven must rejoice. They were Brian and Diane Hoerr, Tammy Haggermaker and Ashford Long. What a blessed day. Elder Bro. Ed Hohulin was here to help. Along with so much joy often comes some sadness. Brian and Diane are moving to Indiana. We

pray that God will stay close by them in their new walk of life.

The school board meeting was held this month, and that brought company. Bro. Ed Hohulin and his wife, Bro. Jim Schlatter and his wife, and Bro. Ted Witzig and his wife. Bro. Ted had a lovely service. Also, our thanks go to Bro. Vernon Leman and Bro. Walter Anliker for sharing with us.

Words of wisdom for the new members, as well as for all, were, "Forget the old, look only to the new, and it will be easier to walk in God's steps."

The rainy season seems to be past and summer is here. It's in the 80's now and everything is so green and beautiful.

Bro. David Bertsch and Sis. Marie were here to share Holy Communion with us. We had two dear ones who shared their first communion and that is always a blessing. Such a blessed way to share Mother's Day. Bro. David had such a beautiful service and the Lord opened to a chapter which was perfect for Mother's Day. How He provides and takes care of His children, though distance separated many of us from our Mothers. We could feel their love and prayers for us, not only today but through the years, and we know that once again God has provided for us.

Sis. Louise Hall's father passed away this week. Our love and prayers will be for her, her family and for all who sorrow. We have a precious promise from our Father that He will not let more come upon us than we are able to bear. Oh, how He cares and provides for His own.

#### -----

### ARIZONA, PHOENIX Ron and Ev Hoerr

On the evening of Good Friday and Easter Sunday services, we heard of the marvel of the resurrection as proclaimed in John 5:28, 29.

On April 3, Bro. Henry and Sis. Ora Schrenk welcomed a new grandson, Matthew Joseph. They will have to fly to Illinois to meet him. His is the son of Bro. Loren and Sis. Betsy Schrenk (Urbana, IL).

On April 23, Amber Joy brought much happiness to Sis. Patty and Joe Greenbank and young brother, Joel. The happy grandparents are Bro. Gordon and Sis. Emily Greenbank.

Though Suzy Zollinger started repenting in the Midwest, she returned here for her proving and baptism on

April 28 and 29. Sis. Suzy is the daughter of Bro. Ed and Sis. Shirley Zollinger. May the happiness and peace of this special time be with her forever.

Repent ye, therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord. (Acts 3:19). We are happy Penny Schuster (daughter of Bro. George Schuster) has chosen to be closer to Him. Sis. Hulda Heinold (Bluffton) is Penny's grandmother.

On Mother's Day, our young members served lunch and did all necessary tasks, giving all the ladies a day off.

Sis. Marge Fehr (Bro. Gene) was a surgical patient this past week. We pray the Lord will restore her health so she may soon be up and about.

Go ye and learn (Matt. 9:13). Having done this, our high school graduates are Kelly Emch, Penny Schuster, Rick Freed and Todd Zollinger. Grade school graduates are Nancy Dotterer, Jim Zollinger and Mark Anliker. Their parents are Bro. Jerry and Sis. Kathy Emch, Bro. George Schuster, Bro. Allan and Sis. Edith Freed, Bro. Ed and Sis. Shirley Zollinger, Bro. Bill and Sis. Sharon Dotterer and Jim and Sharon Anliker. We congratulate and offer best wishes to you graduates and may you, too, feel your need for the Lord. A reception was held May 20 in their honor.

#### ARIZONA, TUCSON

Our congregation was recently privileged to partake of Holy Communion. Our Elder Bro. Richard Schupbach and his wife, Sis. Barbara, and ministering Bro. Bill Dotterer and his wife, Sis. Sharon, gathered with us to take part in this sacred event.

Bro. Richard and Sis. Barbara also traveled to Tucson this month to spend Sunday with our congregation. We certainly appreciate their efforts to worship with us and ask for the Lord's blessing upon them.

Our Sis. Martha Blessman was hospitalized recently for tests. Our prayers are with her as she is laid up.

Orville Schmidt recently underwent surgery and will be recuperating for quite some time. This will surely prove to be a trying time for Orville and his wife, Bea. We pray they will turn to the Lord for comfort and strength during this time of need. The Lord never gives us more burdens than we can bear, if we only ask Him to help us bear them.

Bro. Jim and Sis. Lou Ann Funk and Bro. Walt Feucht are the proud grandparents of Dustin James Funk, born to Bro. Tim and Sis. Debi Funk of the Peoria congregation. The birth of a baby is always a beautiful time for grandparents and we are indeed happy for all concerned.

#### CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA

##### Mary Beth Klotzle

Many people are blessed with loving parents, and Father's Day is a special time to thank our dads for their love and unselfish giving. It's so easy to take for granted what's been given from God. As we ask God to bless our fathers, let's also ask Him to bless and care for those who don't have loving fathers and that they might find comfort in knowing that God is willing to be their Father now and through eternity.

Bro. Peter and Sis. Marian Petrovic have a new baby daughter! Rachel Jessica was welcomed home by Yasmine and Philip. Bro. Victor and Sis. Anna Jevremov are her grandparents. May God's love and nearness always be felt in Rachel's family.

"Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path." Psalm 119:105. What a blessing it is to have our paths lit by the Word of God. Bro. Akito Inoue (Tokyo) ministered God's Word to us. How thankful we are for the Lord's Spirit and inspiration as brothers preach His Word. All our needs are so well taken care of by Him! We thank Bro. Akito for his visit.

Sis. Marilyn Graf (Bro. Virgil) underwent surgery and is now recuperating at home. May God continue to grant her strength and patience in time of healing.

Sis. Beckie Witzig is graduating from high school this year. We wish her God's direction in each day to come that she will continue to seek His perfect plan for her future.

#### COLORADO, DENVER

##### Marlene Leman

We were blessed with many visitors for the weekend of our dedication. God is truly mindful of His children and tenderly cares for them. May we each be truly dedicated to God's work and will.

Just a short time prior to dedication we had help from the Kiowa congregation to help with some of the finishing

touches. May each one be richly rewarded for the selfless giving of their time and talents.

We welcome Bro. Eric and Sis. Marcel Huber (Sabetha, KS) and our daughter, Sis. Carol Leman (Elgin, IL) to our congregation. May they find the same love and devotion here as they have known in their former church homes.

Bro. Tom Moser (Elgin, IL) visited us here and showed us his slides of Haiti. How interesting and humbling it is to see God's love shown and work being done in other places around the world.

Many from Denver were privileged to travel to West Bend to witness the joining of Bro. Doug Hohulin and Sis. Sharolyn Metzger in holy matrimony. May God bless their lives with just the right ingredients that they and their home can be a light and example to all who observe them.

Visiting ministers this month were: Elder Bro. Sam Anliker (Lamont, KS), Elder Bro. Nathan Steffen (Elgin, IL), Bro. Clarence Dietrich (Silverton, OR) and Bro. Ray Roth (Kiowa, KS). It is wonderful that no matter who the Word comes through, we can tell that it is God speaking. May God bless you, brothers, for being willing instruments.

#### CONNECTICUT, ROCKVILLE

##### Michelle Virkler

... Great peace have they which love thy law; and nothing shall offend them ... Psalm 119:165.

We recently were reminded that God knows what's in the heart of man. Do we really know what trials a brother or sister has endured? On the outside everything looks fine, but inside are they suffering over grief, death, trial or temptation? May we always be patient with one another and pray not to be too easily offended. For if we truly love one another, we should have patience, forbearance and forgiveness.

The writer apologizes for not having mentioned the birth of Aaron Galligan. Aaron's parents are Linda and Jim. Grandparents are Alvin and Anna Lanz and Ed and Marion Galligan.

We surely miss those dear members and friends who have relocated in other parts of the country. For those who are interested in dropping them a line or visiting when your travels take you through the area, here are new addresses:

David, Laurie (Schneider) Sweeney  
and Teddy  
RFD #1, Box 3085  
Bouchard Road  
Stowe, VT 05672

Bro. Chris and Sis. Crystal Hansen  
Chris, Robin, Tara and Karl  
57 Sweden Street  
Berlin, NH 03570

Julie Schneider, daughter of Bro. Wilbur and Sis. Marge Schneider has announced her engagement to Fred Helenski, Jr. A July wedding is planned.

Life seems to pass by so quickly. May we take the time to remember our shut-ins who need our visits and prayers. In our congregation, there are 20 at present. May we strive to keep them in our hearts.

Oft times along the pathway of life, we fail to take time also for those in high age. We can learn so much from our visits with them. We have approximately 49 from our congregation who are over 80 years of age. We trust the Lord will protect them in their tender years to come.

We just feel the blessings flow when we can witness God's work accomplished so far away off in a distant land. Our visiting minister, Elder Bro. Akito Inoue (Tokyo, Japan), spent some time recently in Rockville. One can hardly comprehend having a brother from another land walk with such strength in faith and spirit. We were reminded of so many spiritual gifts the Lord has bestowed upon us. Bro. Akito, in his sermon, made us aware of how, when cooking with coals, as the coals are close together, they generate a warmth and glow, but when separated they tend to turn cold and their flame dies out. Such is the case in our walk with Him; walking together in heart and spirit will bring strength and unity, while walking with our own ideas and thoughts, and not the Lord's, we become separated and divided. Bro. Akito mentioned until we can meet again may the Lord keep us strong in faith and joy in our spirit of love.

Bro. John and Sis. Julia Bahler wish to thank everyone for their many prayers, cards, gifts and best wishes across the many miles. May God richly bless you all. Bro. John is now able to assemble with us again.

Also, Bro. Urban and Sis. Charlotte Luginbuhl extend their heartfelt

thanks for the many prayers, cards, gifts and support of love. May God richly reward you for your kind deeds. Bro. Urban is now able to assemble with us once again.

Those having been ill and confined to the hospital during the month of May are: Elsie Lanz and John Luginbuhl. May they be restored to a measure of health soon.

Another year has passed and may we always appreciate what our mothers do for us. Let us not forget through the coming years those sacrifices and teachings on our behalf from our dear mothers.

Graduation time is approaching. Another school year has ended and our friends are free to enjoy the summer months. May they feel the love and joy we share as they assemble with the congregation. We trust the Lord can work in their hearts and they can turn to Him.

"... But without faith, it is impossible to please Him; for he that cometh to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him..." Hebrews 11:6.

NOTE: Those in our congregation who would like items placed in the Silver Lining, please see your correspondent. Thank you.

#### FLORIDA, FT. LAUDERDALE Billie Klopfenstein

##### WHAT DO YOU LOOK FOR IN PEOPLE?

"And as Jesus passed by, he saw a man which was blind from his birth." (John 9:7). No two pair of eyes ever see the same thing. The neighbors of the blind man whom Jesus healed saw only his poverty and ignoble vocation. They said, "Is not this he that sat and begged?" The disciples saw his condition as an evidence of God's displeasure. They asked, "Who did sin, this man or his parents?" What of the Master? "And as Jesus passed by, He saw a man!" Christ's eyes see beyond beggar's rags, whining solicitations and blind eyes, and are focused on the man and his needs. Do we see people as He does?

Easter Sunday morning dawned bright and sunny and our church services were well attended. In the evening our annual Sunday School picnic and egg hunt was held at a local park. As usual, we had an abundance of good food and a great time was had by all.

Bro. John Hejja (Sis. Caroline) has become a citizen of the United States of America. Congratulations! John's former home was in Hungary.

Sis. Laurie Huber (Bloomington-Normal, IL) has returned to Ft. Lauderdale to spend the summer with her parents, Bro. Bob and Sis. Doris. We are all so happy to have her in our midst, even if only for a little while.

Our local people have begun to leave and travel north for visits with families and vacations. We welcome any vacationer who is in our area to stop in and worship with us. Our services are Sunday at 10:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m. and Wednesday at 7:30.

#### FLORIDA, NORTH FORT MYERS Marie Keller — Elsie Troxel

Winter services have ended for the season at the Civic Building in Punta Gorda, FL. We are prayerfully hoping to start our new church building in North Fort Myers this summer.

Our sympathy is with Bro. Doug and Sis. Linda Sabo and the family after the recent death of Bro. Doug's father, Raymond Sabo (Mansfield, OH). Our prayers are with the family that they may trust and find comfort in the Lord always.

We are thankful the Lord is still calling souls to repentance during this day of grace as we heard the good news that Louise Moyer and Burley Zeigler have answered the Lord's call. Our prayers are with both of them as they follow the Lord's way and will. In all thy ways acknowledge Him and He shall direct thy paths. Proverbs 3:6.

June is the month we remember all the things our fathers have done for us. Let us also remember all our Heavenly Father has done for us, too.

##### WHAT MAKES A DAD

God took the strength of a mountain,  
The majesty of a tree,  
The warmth of a summer sun,  
The calm of a quiet sea,  
The generous soul of nature,  
The comforting arm of night,  
The wisdom of the ages,  
The power of the eagles flight,  
The joy of a morning in spring,  
The faith of a mustard seed,  
The patience of eternity,  
The depth of a family need,  
Then God combined these qualities,

When there was nothing more to add, He knew His masterpiece was complete,

And so, He called it . . . Dad.

Anonymous

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**FLORIDA, SARASOTA**  
**Doris and Diane Roche**

Our hearts were saddened by the passing of Raymond Sabo (Mansfield, OH), father of Bro. Doug Sabo. May the Lord encourage and comfort Bro. Doug, Sis. Linda and all his family with that wonderful promise of reuniting with their loved ones on that great day.

Sis. Elsie Lanz and Kenneth Roche underwent surgery the same day. Both are recuperating nicely. Kenneth is home while Elsie is in the Beneva nursing home. Philip Bartoni has been in the hospital again this month. We pray the Lord will look down upon all those who have suffered with bodily afflictions and give them courage for each day.

We want to thank the following brothers for bringing us God's Word again this month. Visiting us were Bro. Ronald and Sis. Kayleen Heiniger (Bloomington, IL) and Bro. Floyd and Sis. Perseda Wieland (Detroit, MI). Our Elder Bros. Ben Maibach and Sis. Lorene (Detroit, MI) and Dale Eisenmann and Sis. Judy (Chicago, IL) gave of themselves so beautifully in sharing Holy Communion on Good Friday Eve. We were warned of the necessity of peace with God and one another. May we keep our light shining at all times with spiritual electricity. This is pure love which produces power. It is valueless unless we give something else by means of it. May we always appreciate this blessing of Holy Communion.

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**ILLINOIS,**  
**BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL**  
**Shirley Denick — Jan Gudeman**

Life need not be a barren path,

Just pause each day to capture

The golden moments God has given

To add to life sweet rapture.

We were richly blessed by many golden moments this past month as we approach another season. Our Easter Sunrise Service was a joyous way to begin this special day followed by a breakfast. We thank Bros. Jim Leman (Roanoke) and Earl Kilgus (Remington) for visiting and serving us on that day.

We appreciate the visit from our Elder Bro. Dan Koch (Tremont) as he so willingly labors in our behalf.

Bro. Clarence Vogel has had surgery and I'm sure has suffered much pain of the flesh. We are happy he is home and doing much better now. God bless him and his family. We pray for his continued recovery.

We are grateful to our Savior for restoring a measure of health to Jack Lowery (son of Sis. Ruth) and pray also for his continued progress. A mother's love for her child is of unexplainable depth and we know Sis. Ruth has been suffering along with Jack.

A Mother-Daughter banquet was held at the church this spring and was enjoyed very much by all who were able to attend. A delicious dinner was served followed by blessed inspirationals and fellowship. We can never appreciate our blessed fellowship too much.

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**ILLINOIS, BRADFORD**  
**Shirley Kieser**

Blessed is the man

To whom his work is a pleasure,

By whom his friends are encouraged,

With whom all are comfortable,

In whom a clear conscience abides, and

Through whom his children see God.

William Arthur Ward

Quite an awesome group of words. They seem like a fitting tribute to a father. Do you see yourself?

The Lord's family has increased by two. Bro. Nathan and Sis. Sherrill Stoller are counted among God's children and we thank and praise Him for His fatherly love and grace to them and us all. Bro. Nate and Sis. Martha and Lloyd and Betty Stahl (Dunlap) are their parents.

We appreciated the visiting ministers on that special weekend. Included were Elder Bros. Leroy Huber (Eureka), Edwin Ringger (Gridley), Bob Walder (Congerville), Dave Kieser (Princeville) and ministering Bros. Al Aberle (Tremont), Bill Gudeman (Elgin) and Joe Stoller (Princeville). Bro. Don Manz (Junction) was with us on Easter Sunday.

We wish God's blessings upon Jim and Sally Mummert as they have a third little son, Kyle Allen, joining Christopher and Joshua. Their grandparents are Bro. Loris and Sis. Lottie Stisser and the Floyd Mummerts of Wyoming.

Sis. Emma Knobloch was hospitalized and is now home recuperating nicely. She wishes to thank everyone for their deeds of kindness, visits, prayers and love during her stay at the hospital and since her return home. May God bless each one.

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**ILLINOIS, CHICAGO**  
**Kathy Schlatter**

Christ has been portrayed in art as a carpenter. Now how did He come to be a carpenter? He followed in His father Joseph's footsteps. Not only did He follow Joseph's occupation for thirty years, but He also went about His Heavenly Father's business. Today, less than in earlier days, sons may follow in their fathers' trade. But those who have been privileged to have Christian fathers seem much more likely than others to follow their fathers' heavenly calling. We are aware, however, that the choice of earthly or heavenly calling does not rest with the fathers but with the decisions of their sons and daughters. Fathers (and mothers) of unconverted children pray for their children's souls daily, even hourly — but no one can choose heaven and Christ except for the soul himself.

The soil of our souls has been seeded and watered liberally. Bros. Harold Emch (Girard, OH) and Ken Eisenmann (Cissna Park, IL) ministered in our regular services. We were reminded of the detailed pictures that can be taken from above of fathers' ground, giving them information about nutrient levels, insect problems and water retention. The technology seems amazing. But the Lord has powers so far beyond man's imagination that He delves into each heart and has the knowledge and solutions for each problem area there. Elder Bro. Edwin Ringger spoke at a topical Bible study on "perseverance". That quality seems so much needed in a world of fast-foods, fast cars and fast living where commitments tend to be limited in scope. "Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong." I Corinthians 16:13. "For we are made partakers of Christ, if we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast unto the end . . ." Hebrews 3:14.

May the Lord give the increase to His good seed and reward His servants abundantly.

Bro. Matt Strahm has agreed to become our representative on the board of the Elgin (IL) Resthaven,



currently under construction. Sis. Sandy Neu has also accepted church responsibility, replacing Sis. Susan Steffen on the dinner committee. We want to thank Sis. Susie for all her effort and sacrifice — and encourage Bro. Matt and Sis. Sandy as they begin new positions, allowing their talents to be tapped in His work.

We have on our hearts a multitude of prayers for Bro. Frank Fisher and Sebastian Loos, both of whom are hospitalized. According to the Lord's will, we wish that both may return to their homes as soon as possible with a measure of good health.

We were reminded of another thought to convict the heart of those yet unconverted: "... ye entered not in yourselves, and them that were entering in ye hindered." Luke 11:52b. By our actions in not claiming Christ's blood and remaining in our sins, those who love us and strive to be like us (our friends, our children) may be hindered in their reach for salvation. If we don't need the church or consider Christ important, why should they? Not only will our own negligence be held to account but our hindrance of others as well. I shudder when I think of that. My first year of teaching, I was unconverted, yet with all my heart I wanted salvation for my students. I certainly was not a good example. Now my light is so weak and dim, I am afraid, but Christ has rescued me from being an unconverted stumbling block. Oh, fathers, we know you want the best for your children, but are you really doing everything you can to prepare your children for life here and hereafter?

#### ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK

**Myrna Weerts — Wilma Walder**

On April 20 we were privileged to partake of Holy Communion with Elder Bro. Jesse Beer (Milford) assisting Bro. Steve. We thank Bro. Jesse and Bro. Walt Steffen (Milford) who accompanied him, for their labors in the Lord. Other visiting ministers this month were Elder Bros. Bob and Roy Grimm. We are appreciative of those who give of themselves on our behalf in bringing the message of the gospel to us.

Announcement was made on Easter Sunday of the engagement of Bro. Eric Kaeb and Sis. Lou Ann Schneider. Parents of the happy couple are Bro. Elmer and Sis. Mary Lou Kaeb and Bro. Kenny and Sis. Loretta Schneider

(Remington). On April 29 we rejoiced with Sis. Joan Waldbeser and Bro. Quin Zehr whose engagement was made known to us. Their parents are Bro. John and Sis. Carol Waldbeser and Bro. Warren and Sis. Delores Zehr (Fairbury). May God bless both of these young couples as they make plans for their future lives together.

Hospital patients this month were Bro. Wayne Hauptli, Sis. Anna Hari and Sis. Lil Feller (surgical). Let us remember in prayer all those who are ill and unable to assemble with us.

Bro. Wayne and Sis. Gloria Laubscher welcomed Rebekah Dawn into their hearts and home on April 9. Happy to have a new sister are Rachel, Elizabeth and Sarah.

Sis. Anna Wieland has left us to make her home at Fairview Haven in Fairbury. We will miss her but know she will be welcomed into her new home.

On April 27 a large number of us gathered together in our fellowship hall to hear Bro. Perry Klopfenstein relate to us many details concerning the history of our church. It was a very interesting and uplifting evening and we thank him and his family for coming to be with us.

Our congratulations to our high school graduates, Rodney Farney (son of Bro. Gerry and Sis. Geraldine Farney), Terri Hofbauer (daughter of Jim and Betty), Sis. Darlene Kaeb (daughter of Bro. Elmer and Sis. Mary Lou), Valerie Kaufmann (daughter of Bro. Don and Sis. Gladys), Greg Steffen (son of Bro. Eldon and Sis. Melba), Bro. Jim Waldbeser (son of Bro. John and Sis. Carol), Tom Waldbeser (son of Bro. Fred and Sis. Joan), Bro. Jim Walder (son of Bro. Charles and Sis. Wilma) and Mike Walder (son of Bro. Melvin and Sis. Irma).

Our annual Sunday School meeting was held the evening of May 4. Our new superintendent is Bro. Fred Maul with Bro. Sid Kaufman as assistant superintendent. Incoming teachers are Bro. Walt Laubscher, Bro. Fred Waldbeser, Sis. Kim Walder and Sis. Lisa Kaufman. We wish them the grace and guidance of God in their new duties.

#### ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE

**Kay Roth — Tammy Knapp**

A careful man I ought to be  
A little fellow follows me —

I do not dare to go astray  
For fear he'll go the self-same way.

I cannot once escape his eyes,  
Whate're he sees me do he tries;  
Like me he says he is going to be —  
The little chap who follows me.

He thinks that I am good and fine,  
Believes in every work of mine;  
The base in me he must not see —  
That little chap who follows me.

I must remember as I go  
Through summer's sun and winter's snow

I am building for the years to be —  
That little chap who follows me.

Author Unknown

This poem is for our special fathers, but it reminds us all of the light we should be. We all have someone looking at us as an example, whether it be our child, brother, sister or friend. We have to continually strive not to lead someone else astray.

Sis. Erma Miller is our only hospital patient this month. We pray that God will comfort her and give her strength in her time of need.

We want to thank our visiting ministers this month. They were Bro. Paul Eisenmann (Burlington) and Bro. Gary Anliker (Elgin, IL). We pray that God will bless them for their service.

#### ILLINOIS, ELGIN

**Ruth Ann Getz**

Joy! The hymn writer expresses that he has joy when he comes to the garden alone and walks and talks with God. Not only does he have joy, but he describes it as a feeling that none other has ever known. The setting is serene and no doubt we feel we too could be joyful in this situation, but how do we maintain joy when the setting is not pleasant? Is it the setting that brings joy to heart, or is that somewhat incidental to the attitude that lays in our breast? (Certainly God must intend it for the believer for He speaks of it as one of the fruits of the spirit. (Galatians 5:22) Perhaps it comes with yieldedness to God and in understanding His sufficiency to keep us. Romans 8:28 says, "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose." I Thessalonians 5:18 says, "In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in

Christ Jesus concerning you." It would seem utterly impossible to exercise these scriptures (and many others that carry the same exhortation) without experiencing a measure of joy in hearts. Someone once said that to be joyless was practical atheism. And so, along with the total practice of godliness, let us remember to be joyful, counting our blessings and looking to Jesus to keep us as we press onward in our walk of faith.

We had reason to be joyful on May 6 when God brought together our Bro. Mark Wewetzer and Sis. Nancy Moser in holy matrimony. We are grateful that another Christian home can be established where God will be revered and served, and we wish this young couple God's grace to do so. Adding to the blessings of the day was the visit of Bro. Arthur Gudeman (LaCrosse) and Bro. Perry Zimmerman (Forrest) who came to share in the joy of the day and minister the Word of God to us.

Sis. Carol Leman has left the Elgin area and has moved to Colorado to be with her family, Bro. Tom and Sis. Marlene. We trust that she will know the joy of the Lord there as she seeks to serve Him. We will miss her in many ways, but rejoice that she can be reunited with her family.

It is the time of year when we again have many graduates in our community, from high school and college, and while we wish to congratulate them for these distinctions earned, we also wish to impress upon them the responsibility of using their God-given talents with an attitude of service to others in such a way that God might be glorified.

Loved ones have had need for hospitalization because of infirmities that beset the flesh. It is always good to remember them in prayer, bringing them before the Father, that body and soul may be strengthened. Sis. Mary Moser and Sis. Stephany Welzien have both been able to return home following their hospitalization, but Margaret Gould and Anna Ottinger remain hospitalized at this time.

Several other brothers have visited us from other areas and shared the Word of God with us. There is a real blessedness in our freedom to assemble with others from all across this land who wish to magnify the same God and to teach men to serve Him out of pure hearts. These ministering brothers were: Bro. Kevin Knapp (Bloomington), Bro. Earl Banwart (West Bend)

and Bro. Marvin Schmidgall (Eureka).

As a reminder to the Elgin congregation, subscription fees will be due and payable in July. The fee remains at \$6.00 per year and checks can be made out to:

Ruth Ann Getz  
Route 1, Box 219  
West Dundee, IL 60118

### ILLINOIS, EUREKA

**Kathy L. Rocke**

The Lord does deal with us so kindly, even when we have times of discouragement and lack of faith. We are so thankful that the warm weather has arrived and the beauties of God's handiwork are seen everywhere.

On April 22, we heard the engaging announcement of Sis. Lorine Schumacher (Sis. Kathryn and the late Bro. John) to Bro. George Stoller (Gridley, IL). May God bless them as they make plans for a June wedding.

On April 29 we were blessed to have Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman (Francesville, IN) come and speak the true Word to us. After services we all enjoyed a potluck supper at the Roanoke Fellowship Hall and a hymn sing in the evening. It was a blessed day!

It's graduation time! Our high school seniors will be graduating and going out into the world to further their education or find employment. We wish them the Lord's guidance and blessings. Those graduating from our Eureka congregation are: Sis. Sandy Getz, Norman Knapp, Tim Knecht, Tina Martin, Bro. Daniel Schumacher, Ruth Zimmerman and Sis. Jackie Zobrist.

A dad is a special blessing —  
so kind, so strong and wise,  
The first to give encouragement,  
the last to criticize —  
A dad's the first to lend a hand,  
the last to turn away,  
The one who always seems to know  
the perfect thing to say —  
The special things about him  
are cherished more each year —  
A dad is a special blessing,  
so wonderful and dear.

Unknown

Soon we will be commemorating Father's Day. How thankful we are for our Christian fathers. How much more is our love for our heavenly Father who made all things possible.

Hulda Koelling passed away at the "Home". Services were held for her in

Princeville.

Linda Frank is a surgical patient at Methodist Hospital in Peoria. Our prayers are with her that God's healing hand will be upon her.

The tests of life are sent to make us, not to break us.

### ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY

**Carol Bazzell — Joann Zehr**

A blessed evening was spent as Holy Communion was held the evening of April 18. Surely we felt humbled and yet renewed in our faith. May we go on our way with increased desire to walk close to our Lord. Elder Bro. Perry Zimmerman (Forrest) assisted our Elder Bros. Josh Broquard and Art Bahler.

Recently, Elder Bro. Josh announced his thought of retiring from his eldership and ministry. The evening of April 25 was Bro. Josh's last evening on the pulpit and visiting Elder Bros. Sam Anliker (Lamont), Dan Koch (Tremont), Leroy Huber (Eureka) and Perry Zimmerman (Forrest) came to share the evening services for Bro. Josh and our congregation. When we think of the 47 years of devotion and willing service Bro. Josh has given to our congregation, we also think of all the precious memories of his dear wife, Sis. Marie, whom God called Home on July 8, 1983. Sis. Marie lived a life of love, humility and patience among us and so faithfully supported Bro. Josh in his duties as he brought to us words of encouragement, warning and has many times expressed the deep love he has for all of us — his children. Our friends have heard the call to repentance and many have answered, and we believe Bro. Josh's pleading will still go on in his prayers, even though his ministry has been fulfilled from the pulpit. We wish him God's blessings in his retirement.

May we as a congregation give our full support now to Elder Bro. Art Bahler and remember it is our responsibility to do our part that the shepherd can carry out his duties.

God has heard our prayers and by His direction, Bro. John Hartman has been placed in the ministry. Our prayers are also with him, Sis. Rosemary, and their dear family.

Other ministers who have shared God's Word with us were Bros. Ed Alt (Cissna Park), Merle Bucher (LaCrosse) and Earl Banwart (West Bend).

Two couples have felt God's direction and have announced their engagement. They are Bro. Quinn Zehr (Bro. Warren and Sis. Dolores) and Sis. Joan Waldbeser (Bro. John and Sis. Carol, Cissna Park); and Bro. Ted Steidinger (Bro. Donald and Sis. Alice) and Sis. Sara Bahler (Bro. Art and Sis. Suzanne). We wish both of these couples the blessings of God as they make their future plans.

We wish God's healing power to Bro. Herb Fehr who has suffered much with an infection in his foot. He recently underwent surgery again and had to have his foot amputated.

A baby boy, Michael Kevin, was born April 23 to Kevin and Nancy Friedman. He has a sister, Janelle, and his grandparents are Keith and Nita Moser and Richard and Sandy Friedman. Great-grandparents are Bro. Walter and Sis. Perceda Moser.

Bro. Henry and Sis. Lola Steffen were also blessed with a baby boy, Troy Henry, born May 17. He has two sisters, Tami and Tricia, who are happily looking forward to taking care of their little brother. Grandparents are Bro. Alf and Fannie Steffen (Fairbury) and Clayton and Sis. Margaret Ott (Congerville).

### ILLINOIS, FORREST

#### Kathy Leman — Sharon Adams

We thank Bro. Kenneth Weertz (Cissna Park) for bringing us God's precious Word. May we ever appreciate this blessed privilege of assembling around God's Word.

Hospital patients this month were: Bro. Henry Kilgus (Sis. Lydia) who resides at Fairview Haven (Fairbury); Ben Rinkenberger (Minnie); Bro. Manny Rieger; Bro. Mel Steffen (Sis. Leona) and Tory Zimmerman (Bro. Wayne and Sis. Nancy). May we always be mindful of those who must endure bodily afflictions.

Welcoming their first child are Bro. Jim and Sis. Diane Koehl. Justin Monroe was born May 14. His grandparents are Bro. Virgil and Sis. Gladys Koehl and Bro. Jim and Sis. Juanita Walter (Fairbury).

We rejoice with Todd Kupferschmid (Bro. Dean and Sis. Robin) as he turns his back on the world and surrenders his heart to the Lord. May God grant him the grace to build on a firm foundation.

A father is neither an anchor to hold us back  
nor a sail to take us there,  
but a guiding light whose love shows us the way.

George Webster Douglas

May we always be thankful for our God-fearing fathers who have taught us the way of God.

A reminder that July is the Silver Lining collection month. Dues are \$6.00, payable to Bro. Ron and Sis. Carol Koehl.

### ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD

#### Bev Joos

Two couples in our congregation received a special blessing of not only a second child, but a second daughter. Valerie Ann arrived April 11, and blessed the lives of Chuck and Jill Knapp. She is a baby sister to Amanda. Her excited grandparents are Bro. Wes and Sis. Mildred Knapp (Goodfield) and Robert and Judy Belville (Eureka). Jessica Lee brightened the lives of Gary and Patti Musselman on April 26. She will be a playmate for Jenell Ann. Enjoying their new granddaughter are Bro. Norm and Sis. Eileen Musselman (Deer Creek) and Mrs. Barbara Graning (Bloomington).

April 21 was the date chosen by two young couples to join their two lives as one. Joining hearts and hands were Shari Knapp and Doug Eastman. Shari is the daughter of Bro. Wes and Sis. Mildred Knapp (Goodfield). Doug is the son of Mr. and Mrs. William Eastman (Eureka). Rod Debolt exchanged vows of love with Jeannie Odum. Harold and Sis. Shirley Debolt (Deer Creek) are Rod's parents.

We are so grateful to Elder Bro. Edwin Ringger (Gridley) for sharing with us the sacrament of the Lord's Supper on Good Friday, April 20. It was a truly blessed evening.

The wells of salvation were opened and we were privileged to witness the baptism of Mark and Joan Steffen on April 29. We are always uplifted and encouraged by these testimonies. Visiting ministers joining us for this occasion were Bro. Walter Anliker (Eureka), Bro. Frederick Knapp (Congerville), Bro. Kenneth Knapp (Taylor) and Bro. Vernon Leman (Eureka).

We do rejoice as three young men have found within their hearts the peace of God and are awaiting baptism. They are Matthew Kieser, son of Bro.

Alfred and Sis. Marie Kieser, and Ben and Dan Bauman, sons of Bro. Larry and Sis. Betty Bauman.

Our sympathetic prayers are offered for Sis. Cindy Hohulin whose brother, Stephen D. Grusy (Dover, DE), passed away April 19. May God comfort her with His tenderness.

Many prayers have been offered for our hospital patients this past month. Those hospitalized were Bro. Oliver Fehr, Sis. Mary Ellen Wiegand (Bro. Simon) and Harold Debolt.

Bro. Ralph Garber (Morton) and Bro. Steve Martin (Eureka) served us spiritual food this past month. We are so appreciative of their labors.

Fatherhood is honored in June. We think of a good father as a man who provides his family with protection, security, guidance, strength and abiding love. All these qualities are parallel to the attributes of God, our Heavenly Father.

The family of Joshua Nohl wishes to express their thanks and gratitude for the many kindnesses rendered during the incapacitated years and again the out-pouring of love at the passing of our loved one from time into eternity. The following poem is submitted in loving remembrance . . .

### OUR FATHER

When I behold our father, I read a message there  
Which TIME has penned upon the face  
that once was young and fair.  
Upon the furrowed brow we read the story of the years;  
Of sorrows, disappointments, — yes,  
and joys amid the tears.  
The silver threads have now appeared  
among the hair once gold  
That tells a story clear and plain:  
our father's growing old.

The once firm steps are feeble now and oft falter 'long the way,  
Yet bravely and with courage, he goes toward the sunset of life's day.  
His life has been of service and his earthly work near done;  
In service to his fellowmen — it has been as to the Son.  
The Bible yet is Father's choice — how oft to us he read,  
That we should also learn its worth as the source of Living Bread.

His toil-rough hands less active are in earth's toils and its cares;

How oft we see them folded now to  
 commune with God in prayer.  
 His life has been a lesson great as we  
 observe it day by day  
 And speaks to us of life's best choice —  
 the straight and narrow way.  
 This path leads up and onward; oft  
 thorny, rough and still —  
 His patient, submissive spirit yields to  
 Thine, Lord, and not my will.

Oh may we e'er remember the lessons  
 his life has taught,  
 And as we tread the path of life, ne'er  
 turn from it for aught.  
 May these same unspoken lessons help  
 to keep us from sin and from fall  
 That we may answer the roll up yonder,  
 summoned by the Master's call.  
 'Tis then we'll realize the worth of  
 living for our Lord  
 And be numbered with the saints  
 above and receive the Great Reward.

Sis. Clara Nohl

#### ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY Carol Klopfenstein

"Because thine heart was tender,  
 and thou hast humbled thyself before  
 the Lord, . . . and has rent thy clothes,  
 and wept before me; I also have heard  
 thee, said the Lord." II Kings 22:19

A ministering brother recently read  
 the story of young king Josiah who  
 responded to the truth of God's Word  
 with a tender heart. A tender heart is  
 often a characteristic of a young child  
 (Josiah was only eight years old), but it  
 is also necessary for all those who want  
 to please God.

A ministering brother also likened  
 the hearts of men to a field of rough  
 ground that must be plowed and made  
 smooth. John the Baptist preached  
 that the valleys need to be filled in and  
 the mountains brought low. The  
 crooked paths need to be made  
 straight. Preparing the soil for the good  
 seed requires exactly that: It needs to  
 become even and soft and tender.

The prophet Jeremiah also pro-  
 claimed, "Break up your fallow ground,  
 and sow not among thorns." Jer. 4:3.

Today while we hear His voice, our  
 chief desire is to have tender, pliable  
 hearts. May we never become hard-  
 ened by the deceitfulness of sin and the  
 enticements of the world. There is  
 nothing more beautiful than a plowed,  
 even field of rich, fertile soil producing  
 the bountiful fruits of the earth. In

contrast, few things are less attractive  
 than hard, rocky ground with thorns  
 and weeds that is unreceptive to good  
 seed.

Because their hearts were tender  
 and they humbled themselves before  
 the Lord, Bro. Brian Steffen (Bro.  
 Dave and Sis. Emmy) and Bro. Todd  
 Earney gave their testimonies of faith  
 and were baptized. They were enabled  
 by God's grace to become new crea-  
 tures in Christ Jesus. Elder Bro. Bob  
 Grimm (Goodfield) was with us to as-  
 sist our elder brother in this precious  
 work on May 6. Also we were glad to  
 have ministering Bro. Willis Weigand  
 (Goodfield) with us.

Bro. Jim Plattner (Princeville) was  
 here on Easter Sunday to speak to our  
 Bible class, Sunday School teachers  
 and young members at our annual  
 Easter breakfast. We also appreciated  
 the labors of ministering Bro. Marvin  
 Schmidgall (Eureka).

Our hospital patients were: Sis.  
 Marcella Hany, Sis. Ella Cargill, Kyle  
 and Chad Wettstein (sons of Bro. Lyle  
 and Sis. Linda), Bro. Knute Yergler  
 and John Yoder (son of Devon and Sis.  
 Lavielle).

Sis. Sophia Schilpf, 89, passed on to  
 her eternal rest on April 30. She had  
 been a resident of the Eureka Apostol-  
 ic Christian home for the past six years.

The wedding engagement of Bro.  
 George Stoller to Sis. Lorine Schu-  
 macher (Eureka) was announced.

Sis. Deanna Marti (Bro. Allen and  
 Sis. Delores) was announced to be  
 married to Bro. Richard Isaia  
 (Roanoke).

#### ILLINOIS, MORTON Phyllis Farney — JoAnn Roecker

We are rejoicing with Sis. Sue  
 Schrock (Bro. Don and Sis. Lorna) and  
 Bro. Steve Joos (Gene and Sis. Sher-  
 rill) as the Lord has drawn them to-  
 gether to become one in Christ Jesus.  
 May our Heavenly Father richly bless  
 them and be the head of their home.

Elder Bro. Joe and Sis. Shirley  
 Braker announce the engagement of  
 their daughter, Bethany, to Timothy  
 (Bro. Sam E. and Sis. Ann) Leman  
 (Roanoke, IL). We wish them God's  
 blessings as they shall walk life's path-  
 way together.

Bro. Scott, Sis. Gigi, Luke and "big"  
 brother, Caleb Schafer welcome Sa-  
 mantha Lynn into their hearts and  
 home. Samantha was born April 27.  
 Her grandparents are Joe and Linda

Powley and Bro. Maurice and Sis. Alice  
 Schafer.

We wish to extend our sincere sym-  
 pathy to Sis. Nellie Stoller upon the  
 passing of her father, Harley McCoy  
 (Hopedale, IL). May God comfort and  
 bless his family and friends.

We welcome Beth Landes, Kathy  
 Kaufman and Gene Yergler as our  
 sisters and brother-in-faith. We heard  
 their testimonies of faith and wit-  
 nessed their baptisms April 25. We  
 wish them God's blessing as they walk  
 the narrow pathway of life.

Bro. Doug and Sis. Jane Zimmer-  
 man welcome into their hearts and  
 home their first daughter, Leah Marie.  
 Leah was born May 3 and has two  
 brothers, Allen and Tim. Her grand-  
 parents are Sis. Aldeine Witzig and  
 Walt and Sis. Edith Zimmerman.

We gathered together in God's  
 house Saturday evening, May 5, to par-  
 take of Holy Communion. It was a  
 solemn occasion as we broke the bread  
 and drank from the cup in remem-  
 brance of Jesus Christ's death upon  
 the Cross of Calvary. May we each  
 remember the Lord's suffering upon  
 the cross for all mankind so man would  
 turn unto Him in true repentance. We  
 wish to thank Elder Bro. Ben Maibach  
 (Detroit, MI) for coming to help our  
 Elder Bro. Joe Braker serve Holy Com-  
 munion.

We enjoyed a church potluck Sun-  
 day, May 6, at our fellowship hall.  
 There was sweet fellowship and deli-  
 cious food. We ended a blessed Lord's  
 day by singing praises to our Heavenly  
 Father.

Bro. Jan, Sis. Glenda, Alax and Julie  
 Neukomm welcome into their hearts  
 and home, Andrea Janel. Andrea was  
 born May 5. Her grandparents are Bro.  
 Lester and Sis. Glendoris Huber (Lex-  
 ington, KY) and Bro. Al and Sis. Gerry  
 Neukomm (Morton, IL).

Eric Edward is welcomed into the  
 hearts and home of Bro. Ed, Sis. Bar-  
 bara and Holly Kaiser. Eric was born  
 May 9. His grandparents are Bro. Clar-  
 ence and Sis. Emma Herman and Bro.  
 Harry and Sis. LaVerne Kaiser.

Bro. Charles Schwenk wishes to  
 thank everyone for their prayers, visits  
 and gifts of love. May God bless all who  
 were so kind.

May we continue to lift up our loved  
 ones in prayer who are ill, in hospitals,  
 nursing homes and those who cannot  
 go in and out. May we remember them  
 in prayer, with a card or with a visit.

We wish to thank our ministering Bros. Charles Sinn (Ft. Scott, KS), Greg Rassi (Chicago, IL), Art Ringger (Indianapolis, IN) and Ron Heiniger (Bloomington-Normal, IL) for ministering God's Holy Word unto us. May our Heavenly Father richly bless them for their labors of love.

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**ILLINOIS, PEORIA**

**Margo Marx — Susi Herman**

**WHEN IS A FATHER A DAD?**

A father's a dad when he builds you a playhouse,  
 The finest that's ever been built,  
 Then stares in amazement to see you prefer  
 A tent you have made with a quilt.

A father's a dad when he pulls on your pigtail,  
 Or playfully tugs at your ears;  
 A father's a dad when he does funny things  
 To make you smile right through your tears.

A father's a dad when he says you can help him,  
 Though he'd really do better alone;  
 A father's a dad when he fixes your bike  
 Though he's weary and tired to the bone.

A father's a dad when he guides and protects you,  
 And all that he has gladly shares;  
 A father's a father because of your birth,  
 But a father's a dad 'cause he cares.  
 Glenda Inman

May God watch over all the fathers this Father's Day. May He richly bless each one.

Our annual Choir Benefit Dinner was held on May 12 at our fellowship hall. It was a spiritually uplifting evening for all who attended.

Sis. Evelyn Thomas and Bro. Bob Haefli have recently spent time in the hospital. May we continue to pray for these loved ones and all who are shut in or ill.

Bill Lubitz was recently taken from this life. We extend our sympathy to his family and friends.

We thank ministering Bro. Carl Feucht (Lester, IA), Bro. Bob Pflederer (Morton) and Bro. Gene Lehman (Wolcott, IN) for serving us this past

month. We appreciate the continual efforts of these brothers to minister the precious Word to us.

We wish to welcome Sis. Margaret Fisher (Elgin), Sis. Anna Steffen (Fairbury), Sis. Kathryn Steffen (Fairbury), Sis. Tillie Steffen (Fairbury) and Bro. Jay Bertsch (Tucson, AZ) to our congregation.

We enjoyed having the Joyful Life Singers at our May hymn sing. It was a blessed evening for all who attended to hear them praise our dear Lord in song.

Tex and Mary Streitmatter welcome into their hearts and home their second child, Holly Renee. Little brother, Seth William, also says welcome. The happy grandparents are Bro. Walter and Sis. Arlette Fehr (Roanoke) and Bro. LeRoy and Sis. Esther Streitmatter (Bradford).

Another little addition has been added to our congregation. Elizabeth Ann is the new baby girl of Bro. Tom and Sis. JoAnn Rieker. Two sisters, Kristi and Wendy, are excited about having a new little baby to watch. The grandparents are Fred and Sis. Norma Rieker, and Bro. Pete and Sis. Ella Plattner.

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**ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE**

**Arlene and Arlys Martin**

"If you think meekness is weakness, then just try being meek for a week."  
 G. King

Visiting ministers have been Bros. Rod Huber (Valparaiso, IN), Steve Martin (Eureka), Charles Sinn (Fort Scott, KS), Ben Maibach (Detroit, MI), Joe Braker (Morton) and Marvin Leman (Bradford).

On April 26, Bro. Art Baurer showed us his pictures of a recent trip to Guadeloupe where he and ten other brothers and sisters from our surrounding congregations helped put on a roof for an activity center for Project TEAM. Jerry Voss of Guadeloupe also showed us his pictures of the missionary work being done in that country.

On the evening of May 6, Bros. Ben Maibach and Joe Braker helped Bro. Dave Kieser serve us Holy Communion. Prior to communion we had a church potluck in our fellowship hall.

First-time parents are Bro. Marvin and Sis. Lavonne Herrmann. Their son, Brett William, was born on May 9. Brett's grandparents are Bro. Walt and Sis. Betty Herrmann and Bro. Vernon

and Sis. Bernice Stoller, all of our congregation.

On Mother's Day, May 13, Sis. Ollie Ricketts was 100 years old. She celebrated this event with her family at our fellowship hall on Sunday afternoon. Sis. Ollie lives at her home in Princeville with her daughter, Sis. Ruth. Sis. Ollie wrote me a note which said, "I sincerely thank all who sent the cards and gifts which I received for my birthday. God bless you."

Hulda Koelling, 66, passed away May 1 at the Eureka Apostolic Christian Home where she lived since 1967. Our sympathy is given to her three brothers, Carl (Bradford), Samuel (Davis, WI) and Daniel (Waukegan); and her four sisters, Lillian Mille (Sterling), Esther Hosan (Jacksonville, FL), Clara Reed (Chillicothe) and Frances Mlekowski (Lemont).

NOTE: Dues for the Silver Lining will be collected in July. The suggested rate is \$6.00 a subscription.

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**ILLINOIS, ROANOKE**

**Joyce Hodel — Carol Rumbold**

Two little ones have been sent from heaven to be country neighbors here on earth. Elizabeth Renae was welcomed with joy into the family of Bro. Kevin and Sis. Annette, Luke and Jacob Fischer on April 21. Elizabeth's grandparents are Wm. and Sis. Anna Marie Reutter (Cissna) and Bro. Jerry and Sis. Marge Fischer (Roanoke).

A few days later, on May 1, Bro. Brad and Sis. Patty Hodel received Dustin James (Sarah Jo's little brother) into their home. Bro. Joe and Sis. Mardell Aeschleman and Bro. Bill and Sis. Betty Hodel, the grandparents, love him, too.

We share the joy of Bro. Richard Isaia and Sis. Deanna Marti as they proceed to plan a life together in the Lord. May their union be enriching to their respective families — Dorothy Isaia (Roanoke) and Bro. Allen and Sis. Delores Marti (Gridley).

We give thanks to our Bible Class for their singing at our monthly family sing. We do so appreciate and enjoy hearing them.

Sis. Linda Pfister asks that those of you who have a tan spring coat check to be certain you have your own. Her own was taken on Sunday, April 15 and a similar one, size 11, was left in its place.

Lending themselves in the service of the Lord were Bros. Greg Rassi (Chicago) and Marvin Leman (Bradford). We

remember them in our prayers that God will bless them and their families for their service to us.

Hospitalized at this time are Bro. Bill Bucher and Josephine (Beer) Jeck. May improved health be theirs.

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**ILLINOIS, TREMONT**  
**Dorothy Wagenbach**  
**Carolyn Bolliger**

Our congregation has been especially blessed this month with visiting ministers. Bringing the Word to us were Bros. John Steiner (Oakville), Vernon Wettstein (Congerville), Bill Emch (Lamont, KS), Larry Wenninger (Latty), Bob Meyer (Bluffton North), Earl Gerber (Forrest) and Raymond Roth (Kiowa, KS). We sincerely appreciate the efforts of these dear brothers and their families.

A sweet baby daughter, Kristy Marie, was born April 23 to Bro. Ron and Sis. Kathy Pfloderer. Kristy has two big brothers, Jeff and Johnny. Grandparents are Bro. Jim and Sis. Lee Pfloderer and Ron Cooper and Norma Miller.

The family of Bro. Emanuel Sinn wishes to express their sincere thanks to all who remembered them with prayers, flowers, visits, cards and kind expressions of love and sympathy during the illness and loss of their loved one. May God bless each one.

On Saturday night, May 19, we spent a blessed evening partaking of Holy Communion. We are thankful Elder Bro. Art Bahler (Fairbury) could be with us to assist Bro. Dan Koch.

We wish to congratulate all of our graduates this year. Our high school graduates are — Sis. Heidi Aberle (Bro. Ernie and Sis. Frieda), Sharon Bolliger (Sis. Alma), Laurie Dill (Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Sandy), Karla Glueck (Bro. Karl and Sis. Velda), Timm Kaeb (Bro. Elmer and Sis. Darlene), Sis. Jennifer Lang (Bro. George and Sis. Phyllis) and Gwen Leuthold (Bro. Dean and Sis. Mary Jane).

Those graduating from eighth grade are — Colleen Beutel (Bro. Alvin and Sis. Carol), Kathy Dill (Bro. Glenn and Sis. Marilyn), Kevin Dill (Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Sandy), Cheryl Frank (Bro. Bob and Sis. Rosemary), Karol Glueck (Bro. Karl and Sis. Velda), Kerin Holmes (Marshall and Sis. Phyllis), Doug Huette (Bro. Bill and Sis. Marilyn), Nathan Koch (Sis. Nancy), Janet Schaefer (Bro. Maurice and Sis.

Marge) and Jeff Wagenbach (Simon, Jr. and Sis. LaVonne).

As Father's Day nears, it makes us especially thankful for the love and guidance of our Christian fathers, grandfathers and husbands.

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**ILLINOIS, URBANA**  
**Charlen Banwart**

"To Father, Son and Spirit praise, For help and guidance on our ways". Communion hymn (Zion's Harp #200) was sung when our Elder Bros. Ed Hohulin and Bob Grimm were here to share Holy Communion with us May 9.

Bro. Ken Schneider (Remington) ministered to us on Mother's Day. This was also graduation day for the University of Illinois. Graduates included: Bro. John Wiegand (son of Bro. David and Sis. Ethel), Sisters Carolyn Roecker and LaRae (Zehr) Dill, and Bros. Tim Pfloderer, Les Marti and Larry Stevig (M.S. degree), Ellen Blunier (daughter of Bro. Ben and Sis. Wilma) received an associate degree from Parkland College. Leigh Simpson (daughter of Bro. Bob and Sis. Wilma) graduates from Urbana High School this spring.

"My beloved is mine, and I am his." Song of Solomon 2:16. Announcement was made of the betrothal of Sis. Cheri Joos (Ben and Bernice, Minnesota) and Bro. Bill Blunier (Leo). Bill is the son of Bro. Ben and Sis. Wilma. A July 1 wedding is being planned by this happy couple.

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**ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON**  
**Lily Pfaffmann — Elaine Winkler**

"Count your many blessings, See what God hath done."

Hymns of Zion #116

We were privileged to take communion the Saturday evening after Easter. Our elder, Bro. Roy Sauder (Peoria) and his co-laborer, Bro. Chuck Hemmer, came to serve it to us. Being close to the time when we meditate more on the events of the Easter season, His love, sacrifice and suffering are just that much more real. Truly He gave His all for us and took all our sin upon Him. We should not only thank Him daily for His supreme offering, but also live each day as though we would take communion that evening.

Four dear souls were added to the fold! Our new sisters-in-faith are Grace, Faith and Melody Klaus (John

and Betty Klaus) and Ann Wagenbach (Bro. Don and Sis. Marie Wagenbach). Elder Bros. Don Sauder (Roanoke) and Dan Koch (Tremont) came to assist our own dear Elder Bro. Roy Sauder in this sacred work. We thank them for their labors of love. It is so uplifting to see souls yet turning to the Lord and surrendering their lives to Him. If only more would give up self and serve their Creator!

Other visiting ministers this month were Bros. Carl Feucht (Lester), Steve Gutwein (Francesville) and Walt Anliker (Eureka). What a blessing to have them come into our midst. May our Heavenly Father ever keep watch over His humble servants as they journey across the miles and be used of the Lord.

Doug and Sis. Elaine Winkler were so happy to add another member to their family. Little Anthony was welcomed home by his big sister, Heidi. All are doing fine.

Others that have returned home from the hospital are Sis. Debbie Wells and Heather Messner. We are glad to have Sis. Debbie on the road to recovery. Heather was able to go home for the first time and now the family circle is complete again. How wonderful for Bro. Ron and Sis. Pam to have their daughter home, and for little Danny, too. Sis. Lorene Wiegand has been down at home with back problems. We hope and pray she soon recuperates.

Our Washington congregation has two very joyous graduates from the R.N. program. Sis. Lori Wyss (Bro. Carl and Sis. Lydiann) and Sis. Kay Thames have been awarded for their many hours of study and anxiety. How we rejoice with them and pray God's blessings will be upon them as they care for the sick and afflicted.

April is election month in Washington. To those who are retiring, we want to express our appreciation for all you have given for the betterment of the church, physically and spiritually. Bro. Wayne Schellhammer is taking Bro. Henry Simon's position as Trustee. Our newly elected ushers are Bros. Bill Schick and Scott Steffen. Leaving Sunday school are Bros. Lyn Kipfer and Dennis Wells and Sisters Vicki Bucher and Millie Dreste. They are being replaced by Bros. Paul Streitmatter, Robert Pfaffmann, Keith Steffen and Doug Wagenbach and Sisters Connie Woodcock and Joan Schick. To those who have new responsibilities,

we want you to know our love and prayerful support are with you!

So often in life we don't really appreciate someone or something until we no longer have them. Let it not be so with our Dads. As Father's Day approaches, may we reflect back on all he has done for us and then look forward to showing our love and gratitude to him in the days, months and years ahead that we still have him with us on earth. "Dad" is a special person to each of us. We pray that his first concern is his own spiritual welfare, then his family's, for then the Lord will provide the rest. May God richly bless each Father with His guidance, comfort and love.

#### INDIANA, BLUFFTON

**Etta Steffen**

**Sue Neuenschwander**

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

On Easter Sunday, our precious Sunday School children inspired us with songs about Jesus and His crucifixion. Everyone surely received a blessing from this message.

We had the blessed privilege of partaking of Holy Communion on May 5. We need to look daily to the old rugged cross and remember the suffering of our precious Savior. To help conduct this Holy Sacrament were Elder Bros. Steve Rinckenberger (Cissna Park) and David Bertsch (Leo). On Sunday they proclaimed the Word in truth and sincerity.

On Mother's Day we received a blessing when Bro. Jay Rinckenberger (Goodfield) ministered with us. May God richly bless him for bringing forth the Word.

Another precious little soul has arrived. Ryan Mitchell was born April 25 to Bro. Scott and Sis. Patty Schwartz. Grandparents are Bro. Lester and Sis. Sally Schwartz and Bro. Dale and Sis. Glenda Meyer.

We have had three hospital patients this month. They are Bro. James Bertsch, Bro. Lewis Sauder and John Myers.

Our sympathy goes out to Sis. Charlotte (Bro. Ray) Kipfer in the death of her sister, Mary Dean Kipfer, who died May 7.

A dear sister-in-faith has passed from this life into eternity. Sis. Elizabeth Hirschy died suddenly on May 10.

She was 91 years old. Surviving are two sons, Edward and Dennis, and a daughter, Anna Louise. One sister, Sis. Lydia Lichty, survives.

Bro. Jay Bertsch (Tucson, AZ) has moved to the Peoria Nursing Home, 7023 Northeast, Skyline Drive, Peoria, IL 61614. Many from the Bluffton area know Bro. Jay and he would appreciate cards from his friends.

#### INDIANA, BLUFFTON NORTH

**Peg Fiechter**

**Kathy Longenberger**

Adam James Honegger was born on April 17 to Bro. Bob and Sis. Mary Honegger. He was welcomed home by brothers Rob, Joey and Justin. Paternal grandparents are Bro. Alvin and Sis. Alice Honegger.

Our visiting ministers were Bros. Ben Manz (Junction), Ken Hoerr (Peoria) and Jay Rinckenberger (Goodfield). We appreciate their taking the time to come and visit us.

"Come unto Me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." Matthew 11:28. We have two new converts at Bluffton North: Toby Steffen (son of Bro. Ken and Sis. Roberta) and Kelly Kaehr (Irene).

We want to congratulate Sis. Kim Aeschliman who is graduating from college this spring. We also want to congratulate all of the high school graduates: Sis. Joann Frauhiger, Sis. Tami Gerber, Mitchel Steffen, Greg Baumgartner, Joy Baumgartner, Ruth Baumgartner, Rodney Bucher, Rachel Gerber, Michelle Meyer and Elaine Steffen. We want to wish each the very best!

#### INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE

**Jacki Huber**

On Good Friday evening, we assembled to remember the Lord's suffering. It makes one feel so unworthy to realize how much He went through to save us.

Then Easter morning, although stormy and windy, many gathered early at our Fellowship Center to commemorate the Resurrection. Later that day, in lieu of afternoon church, the Sunday School children gave a program explaining in verse and song things they learned about Easter. It was a blessed day.

We were privileged on a recent Sunday to have Elder Bro. Akito Inoue (Tokyo, Japan), in our midst. Our thanks go to him for willingly serving us.

Joyfully we welcome Sis. Gail Gutwein back to our congregation. She has been living in the Philippines for the past few years.

It is with great joy also that we look forward to upcoming baptisms. Along with the three mentioned last month, our dear friend, Tammie Furrer (Bro. Alvin and Sis. Phyllis), claims peace with God and looks forward to sharing her testimony and becoming a sister-in-Christ.

After having peace with God, if we choose to walk hand-in-hand with someone on this earth, we're wise to seek God's guidance first. Bro. Mark Wuethrich (Bro. Dave and Sis. Barb) and Sis. Lynne Bucher (Bro. Kenny and Sis. Carol, LaCrosse) can attest to this as their engagement was recently announced. We wish God's richest blessings on this happy couple.

On May 16, the church was again filled to recognize our high school graduates. We hope every one of them seeks God's guidance for their lives so at life's end they can be at peace and not regret how earth's days were spent.

Bibles were given to the following graduates: Douglas Anliker (Bro. Earl and Sis. Liz), Connie Boehning (Glen and Sis. Eileen), Jennifer Boehning (Richard and Phyllis), Cheryl Erb (Bro. George and Sis. Elaine), Sandra Ehrlich (Richard and Judy Lowe), Sis. Tricia Gudeman (Bro. Jim and Sis. Lois Ann), Sis. Charlotte Gutwein (Edwin and Mary B.), Chad Gutwein (Erik and Sis. Donna), Fred Gutwein (Bro. Fred and Sis. Madeline), Sis. Rhonda Nuest (Bro. Larry and Sis. Jane), Douglas Pelsy (Bro. Ellsworth and Sis. Luella) and Sis. Lily Vogt (Bro. Ron and Sis. Dianne).

Tim Wuethrich (Bro. Otto and Sis. Donna) and Sis. Katie Gutwein were hospitalized this past month but are home again, for which we're thankful.

Our thoughts go to fathers this month and we want to say a special thanks to our wonderful dads and husbands who show so much wisdom and stability. God bless you now and always for the faith you so beautifully uphold.

#### INDIANA, INDIANAPOLIS

**Judy Dubach — Lynn Winslow**

God sent Moses up to a hill knowing that he couldn't hold up the rod long by himself. It was no accident that Aaron and Hur went along. They gave Moses the support he needed.

In the same way, God won't let us be totally independent of others. God has built His church on a system of interdependence, each person ministering to others through their different talents, gifts, abilities and prayers. But at the same time, everyone recognizes God as the Source of all blessings. All of us need an Aaron and a Hur, two people we can share our needs and burdens with. Christ, in the Garden of Gethsemane, revealed His burden. He, too, needed the prayer support of His friends but found them asleep. Aaron and Hur didn't serve as Moses' counselor. They didn't tell him how to hold the rod so he wouldn't get tired. They were his supporters. They really held up the rod by supporting Moses arms. All too often people will give us advice for our spiritual battles but they won't give of their time in prayer. We need less advice and more praying. For God is moved by spirit-filled praying, not by good advice. And God is the only one with power enough to win our battles for us.

What kind of people should we look for when we ask God to send us an Aaron and a Hur? First, we should look for those who are spiritually minded and actively seeking God, those who obey and trust the Lord regardless of the circumstances. Secondly, we should look for those who accept us as we are, regardless of the problems we may be facing. They must see themselves as sent to lift us up, not criticize us. They must be prayer warriors, not counselors. An Aaron and Hur must have a willingness to give of themselves and ask nothing in return like Christ's unconditional love for us. Last of all, our prayer warriors must be faithful. We don't need people who come only when it's convenient, they must be willing to come whenever they are needed. Something happens in our lives when we have an Aaron and a Hur standing by our sides, beseeching God in our behalf. There is a new freedom and confidence and also a greater spiritual fruitfulness. We must ask ourselves; am I the kind of Christian that someone wants as an Aaron or a Hur? Do I meet the qualifications? If not, why not? A three-fold cord is not easily broken, and neither is the faith of three people committed to interceding for one another in the Spirits' power.

Handle with Prayer

God again has been faithful in an-

swering our prayers. Four precious souls gave their testimonies and were baptized into the family of God. Mark and Bonnie (Wuethrich) Vollmer and John and Sandy (Kaehr) Lichtle. We especially thank their parents, Bro. Bob and Sis. Phyllis Wuethrich (Francesville) and Bro. Richard and Sis. Karen Kaehr (Bluffton) and family and friends for spending the day with us. We thank Elder Bros. Orville Ringger (Bluffton) and Andy Virkler (Bay City) for assisting our Elder Bro. Alfred Bahler (Wolcott).

On May 19 our remembrance of Christ's dying on the cross for remission of our sins was experienced through communion. We thank Elder Bros. David Bertsch (Leo) and Alfred Bahler for administering this rite. Other visiting ministers who often attend to see their children and share the Word with us were Bro. Jack Bollier (Leo) and Bro. Walt Steffen (Milford).

#### INDIANA, LACROSSE

##### Connie Knobloch — Cheryl Bucher

We want to thank our visiting ministers and their families for being with us this month. They were Bro. Marshall Heinold (Washington), Bro. Larry Wenninger (Latty), Bro. Bill Schlatter (Junction) and Bro. Hartzell Kaisner (Detroit). Elder Bro. Sam Huber (Sabetha) was here to assist Bro. Ed Frank in serving us Holy Communion. We appreciate the efforts they put forth and are grateful to Bro. Sam for bringing us God's Word.

Bro. Tim and Sis. Julie Bucher are the happy parents of Casey Brian, born April 23. Grandparents are Sis. Esther Bucher and Mr. and Mrs. Jim Jacobs (Valparaiso).

We want to sincerely congratulate and wish God's richest blessings to Sis. Lynne Bucher and Bro. Mark Wuethrich (Francesville) who recently had their engagement announced. Parents are Bro. Ken and Sis. Carol Bucher and Bro. Dave and Sis. Barb Wuethrich.

#### INDIANA, LEO

##### Thelma Schlatter

And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers . . .

Malachi 4:6

One of life's greatest blessings is having a Christian father as head of a family. "For all the understanding words you've spoken, the special pa-

tience that you've always had, the promises you've made and never broken, and for all that you have given, thank you, Dad." Happy Father's Day!

Our Father in Heaven, too, has instruction in the Word for His children. He has great patience with His children. His promises are true, unfailing, and precious. His children praise Him for the greatest of gifts, salvation in the Lord, honoring Him daily with their lives for every day is the Father's.

Visiting ministers were Bros. Marvin Schmidgall (Eureka) and Harold Schmidgall (Gridley). Thanks are expressed for their visit and ministry.

Our congratulations go to our college graduates: James Bollier from Indiana University, Sis. Bonny Klopfenstein from Ball State University, Larry Stoller and Bro. Lester Stoller from Purdue University and our high school graduates: Troy Klopfenstein, Debbie Lowry, Karen Pfister and Bro. Tim Stoller.

Many prayers ascended for Bro. Uriel Gehring who was hospitalized. He has returned to his responsibilities as administrator of the Children's Home.

The engagement of Bro. William Blunier and Sis. Cheryl Joos (Champaign-Urbana) was recently announced. May He bless their lives planned together. Parents are Ben and Berniece Joos (Minnesota) and Bro. Ben and Sis. Wilma Blunier (Urbana).

#### This and That:

"You can do anything you ought to do.

The right road always leads out at the right place.

I know there's a God. With the hand of prayer, I knocked at His door; and He opened it.

The Bible was not written to teach men science; but the Bible is scientifically correct.

A Christian does good deeds, but just doing good deeds does not make a man a Christian.

Jesus never taught men how to make a living; He taught men how to live.

Like it or not, you will have to live somewhere forever; so you had better learn how to live.

An open mind affords the opportunity of dropping a worthwhile thought into it.

You can't save anyone; but, God working through you can save.



The moment you are aware you have digressed from His will, ask His forgiveness.

Give according to your income lest God make your income according to your giving!

Have a merger with God. Give Him your life. It's a most exciting and rewarding life.

Authors of above unknown

### INDIANA, MILFORD

#### Shelby Beer — Gwen Steffen

Jesus' tender and compassionate love for us becomes more precious when a loved one is taken from our midst. The bubbly, joyful personality of Sis. Inez Brooks will be missed by those who loved her. Our love and sympathy reaches out to her husband, Bro. Theodore; daughter, Mrs. Scott (Susie) Crist (Gettysburg, OH); and sons, Ted, Robert, James and Kenneth (all of Milford). We pray the Lord will lovingly care for Bro. Theodore and family.

Hospitalized this month were Sisters Dorothy Steffen and Stacey Schieler, Bro. John Martin, Sr. and little Lindsay Kaiser (Bro. Steve and Sis. Joyce). May these loved ones feel God's strength through their own weakness.

Chosen at a recent Sunday school meeting were four new teachers. Sisters Sue Cockburn, Carol Strassheim, Carol Hurd and Marla Steffen will begin their duties in June. May their service for Jesus be blessed.

A number of our Milford brethren spent the winter months in Florida. We are thankful for their safe return and are happy to have them back home.

What a joy it is to set a special day aside for our "Dads". How thankful we are for our earthly fathers who love us and teach us of our Heavenly Father.

### THANK YOU, DAD, FOR LOVING ME

I was a child, you held me  
I fell and got hurt, you comforted me.  
I started school, you helped me  
I disobeyed, you disciplined me.  
I was happy, you laughed with me  
I caused much grief, you loved me.  
I rebelled, you had patience with me  
I asked questions, you advised me.  
I saw my need, you prayed with me  
I fell cast down, your heart wept with me.

I received God's grace, you rejoiced with me

I try and say "thanks", you smile at me.  
So I'll thank God, He'll hear me;  
And will bless you, Dad, for loving me.

Author Unknown

### INDIANA, REMINGTON

#### Beth Virkler — Annette Bahler

A costly car on a steep mountain road gets out of control and the brakes not holding, it runs backward down the slope and hangs balancing, a wreck, over the edge of the precipice. The owner is roaring his motor and the steam is hissing from the radiator, but not an inch is gained. He sends a message for help; soon a ponderous tractor arrives and its driver backs down as near as he can, but a short heavy chain is needed. Three huge links hang from the draw bar of the tractor, but more is needed. The man in the tractor tosses out a short heavy two-hook chain, and the gentleman will have to stop his sputtering motor, get out in the mud of the roadside and hook on for himself. One big hook fits over the axle; three or four big links stretch out and the other big hook just reaches nicely the third link on the tractor "Now wait," says the gentleman, "till I start my motor and I will help pull myself out." "No," says the tractor man, "hooking on with the short chain is all you can do; your motor was just burning itself up with one wheel spinning in the air. Release brakes!" Chunga, chungu, chungu, up the line they go and the machine is soon in the repair shop for overhauling.

Every soul is a costly machine wrecked on the mountain road of sin and balancing over perdition.

They who call for help will see the Gospel Tractor coming near; but a heavy chain of conditions met is necessary to reach from the road to the wreck. The sputtering motor is self-righteousness and is futile and the three great links on the tractor bar are: 1) the Love of God, 2) the Atonement of Christ, 3) the Promise of conditional grace. The short two-hook chain furnished by the rescuer means that the Lord gives us the powers of obeying the conditions. Requiring the man to attach the chain himself means that God brings the Gospel in reach of us and gives us power to meet the conditions of grace — but we must get down out of our self-righteousness into the mud of humility and hook on ourselves with

belief of the gospel joining to the link of repentance, confession and restitution, and then — clank — the hook of saving faith clasps the divine links of promise, atonement and the love of God and out we go, under the divine power, but not until we get down and do our part. You can hook up by faith, as shown, but not by faith only; if repentance, confession and restitution are left out, the chain will not connect.

G. R. Brunk

The announcement of a new birth always brings joy to our hearts as we view the innocency that is placed in a waiting mother's arms to be molded and trained to live in the Light of Jesus Christ. Bro. John and Sis. Cheryl Knoblock gladly accept this responsibility and welcome Heidi Ann into their family, along with Cherise, Shalome and Jay. Heidi's grandparents are Bro. Clarence and Sis. Emma Knobloch (Bradford, IL) and Sis. Elenore Steffen (Peoria, IL).

This time of year brings our attention to those who have completed their schooling and Sis. Kristine Bahler (Bro. Walt and Sis. Esther), Stan Schneider (Bro. Ken and Sis. Loretta) and Kevin Waibel (Bro. Gene and Sis. Diane) are graduating from high school this month.

Announcing her engagement is Sis. LouAnn Schneider (Bro. Ken and Sis. Loretta) to Bro. Eric Kaeb (Bro. Elmer and Sis. Mary Lou Kaeb, Cissna Park, IL). They will be united in a holy union on July 22, Lord willing.

Sharing the message of salvation with us was Bro. Andy Virkler (Bay City, MI).

### INDIANA, SOUTH BEND

#### Pauline Laidig

Sing unto the Lord, O ye saints of His, and give thanks at the remembrance of His holiness. Psalm 30:4

A number of our congregation accepted the invitation to attend the monthly hymn sing at Milford. It was indeed a blessed evening of singing and fellowship, for which we found reason to give thanks to God, and to the Milford brethren for their kind hospitality.

Our hearts were made glad when Elder Bro. Phil Stettner and a number of brethren and friends from Bluffton North, spent a recent Sunday with us. We have appreciated, so much, the willingness of the many ministers who

came to assist Bro. Robert Beebe while he occupied our pulpit alone, so faithfully, for four and a half years. Even though he has now been joined by Bro. Wayne Lehman, we still extend a hearty welcome to any ministering brother who would feel led to visit us.

The annual Sunday school elections were held recently. Bro. Bert Aeschliman will become the superintendent immediately since the office was vacant due to Bro. Wayne Lehman being called into the ministry. Bros. Clint Bucher and Pat Meyer, and Sisters Annie Meyer and Karen Aeschliman will assume their teaching duties in September. May God bless and inspire them as they will seek to implant the Word into the hearts and minds of our dear children. This is also our wish for those who are presently giving of their time and talents in this work, so that the children will happily sing,

"The Sunday school is our delight.  
We love it more and more;  
'Tis here we learn to do the right  
And live forevermore."

Hymns of Zion #73

### INDIANA, VALPARAISO

Jill Hitz — Patty Bucher

The 4th fruit of the spirit is long suffering. Another definition for long suffering would be patience. Patience can be defined as not being quickly or easily provoked. How many times have we prayed to God and asked for patience. It seems that this is one of the hardest fruits to accomplish. When we feel that we have been wronged or not been treated fairly it is so easy to lash out at someone. Instead, we should forgive and pray that God would grant us patience with this person.

The supreme example of patience was Christ. After the Jewish people rejected His claims, dismissed His healing ministry, spurned Him personally and set out to kill Him, He wept in longing and compassion over Jerusalem. Reflecting the same gracious patience, He went into the city and offered Himself as their Messiah.

And though the disciples frequently missed the point of His teaching, showed little faith and viewed much of what He said in light of their personal gain, Christ patiently continued with them month after month, increasing the depth of His teaching as He neared the cross. Perhaps He looked forward to the Spirit's work at Pentecost to find

encouragement that led to His patience.

Patience is fruit, the product of Christ's resurrection life implanted in us by the Spirit. It stands in total contrast to the "works of the flesh", given in the three previous verses in Galatians 5.

Why then is patience not more universally seen in Christians? Because the flesh is totally contrary to the Holy Spirit. It is impatient and selfish, and it has not been taken out of the Christian's life. (Gal. 5:17).

How do we deal then with the flesh and allow the Spirit to produce His fruit? Paul tells us in Galatians 5:24, "And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts. As Christians, we know that Christ freed us from bondage to the flesh by taking into His death on the cross the whole "old nature" we were. As Christians, we should claim that victory and walk in newness of life. Then His Spirit can freely produce His fruit of patience in us.

Moody Monthly

We were privileged to hear the testimonies and witness the baptisms of two precious sisters. Candy Huber (Bro. Rod, Sis. Mary) and Sherry Morrow told us of how Christ came into their heart and how He lives with them today.

Visiting ministers who shared in our blessed weekend were: Bro. Wendell Gudeman, Bro. Kent Heimer and Bro. Chris Huber.

God has blessed our dear friends, Jeff and Janet Miller, with a precious bundle from heaven. Tiffany Rae arrived April 26. The proud grandparents are Bro. Terry and Sis. Bev Miller, and Jim and Aggie Yergler.

### INDIANA, WEST LAFAYETTE PURDUE UNIVERSITY

Jody Getz

The spring semester has come to a close here at Purdue, and our final Purdue service of this semester was blessed with God's Word through Bro. Walt Steffen (Milford, IN). We are always thankful for our ministering brothers who come to our bi-weekly services. The Purdue group enjoyed a cookout at Happy Hollow Park. It was at this time that the new officers for the 1984-85 year were elected. They are President, Steve Hofstetter, Vice-President, Gene Huber, Secretary, Jody Getz and Treasurer, Lynne

Bucher. Our graduating seniors are Bro. Les Stoller and Bro. Bob Feller. We ask God's blessing to be upon them as they undertake their new careers. The Purdue group would like to thank everyone for supporting us throughout the past year. There will be two Purdue services during the summer. The dates are June 21 and July 19. All are welcome.

### INDIANA WOLCOTT

Lorene Furrer — Elaine Bahler

### SO LONG AS THERE ARE HOMES

So long as there are homes where fires  
burn  
And there is bread;  
So long as there are homes where  
lamps are lit  
And prayers are said;  
Although people falter through the  
dark —  
And nations grope —  
With God Himself back of these little  
homes —  
We have sure hope.

Grace Noll Crowell

How much we appreciate the fathers; head of our homes, providers of physical and spiritual food and strength for our lives. We surely do have hope with faithful fathers and mothers in our homes and churches.

Sis. Marilyn Schieler and Sis. Ada Abersoll have been in the hospital. We pray for God's healing strength and presence for them each day. Sis. Verna (Bro. Gene) Lehman was also in the hospital for a brief stay.

### IOWA, BURLINGTON

Edith Massner — Dixie Messner

We appreciated the visits of the Oakville ministers, Bros. Jon Schmidgall and John Steiner. One of the brothers read II Chron. 30:18 and 19, "But Hezekiah prayed for them saying The good Lord pardon every one that prepareth his heart to seek God . . ." The good Lord provided the fitting scriptures since we were to share communion in a few days.

Blessings again were ours when Sis. Monti Taeger (Bro. Dick and Sis. Dorothy) gave her testimony and was baptized May 5 and 6. Bro. Paul Butikofer (Elgin, IA) was here to help Bro. Ed Lanz. The elders also served us Holy Communion that evening. We are grateful for their untiring efforts, es-

pecially since Bro. Ed's wife was in the hospital at the time. Let us remember our dear elders and their families in prayer more often.

"Joy here alternates with woe". The same week we held the funeral of our Sis. Gustie Johnson. We will not soon forget her example of faith and patience during her months of illness. Even her sisters have been loving examples by caring for her until the time of her death. May God comfort and bless her brother and all of her sisters. We also pray God's blessings on Bro. Leroy Messner (Winthrop) who came to have the funeral services. Sis. Gustie had spent many years in Winthrop until she moved to Iowa.

During a recent meditation we were kindly reminded to keep our eyes focused on our eternal goal: "And could it be that we sometimes in our journey here lose sight of what we've been delivered from - the kind of bondage we were in. We tend to forget that when we entered into this covenant with God that He didn't promise us a path of roses. He's promised us something better at the end of the journey."

#### IOWA, ELGIN Gloria Frieden

On April 26, Angela and Sharla Schneider welcomed their new sister Brenda Jo into their family. These three little ladies are blessings of Bro. Charles and Sis. Sue. Grandparents are Bro. Albert and Sis. Betty Banwart (West Bend) and LaVerne and Kathryn Schneider.

Congratulations to Melanie Butikofer (Bro. Bert and Sis. Beulah) who has completed her high school education. Melanie plans to attend Waldorf College in Forrest City to take up occupational therapy.

Sis. Marie Butikofer wishes to thank all who remembered her on her 94th birthday on May 5.

The following poem was handed to me by our Elder Bro. Paul Butikofer.

#### NOT GROWING OLD

They say that I am growing old;  
I've heard them tell it times untold  
In language plain and bold.

But I'm not growing old.

This frail old shell in which I dwell,  
Is growing old, I know full well,

But I'm not the shell.

What if my hair is turning grey?

Grey hairs are honorable, they say.

What if my eyesight is growing dim?  
I still can see to follow Him,  
Who sacrificed His life for me  
Upon the cross of Calvary.

What should I care if time's old plow  
Has left its furrows on my brow?

Another house not made with hands

Awaits me in the Glory Land.

What though I falter in my walk?

What though my tongue refuse to talk?

I still can tread the narrow way;

I still can watch, and praise and pray.

My hearing may not be so keen,

As in the past it may have been,

Still I can hear my Saviour say

In whispers soft, "This is the way."

The outer man, do what I can

To lengthen out my life's short span,

Will perish and return to dust,

As everything in nature must.

The inward man, the Scriptures say,

Is growing stronger every day.

Then how can I be growing old?

When safe within my Saviour's fold

This robe of flesh, I'll drop and rise

To seize the everlasting prize.

I'll meet you on the streets of gold

And prove that I'm not growing old.

Mrs. May E. Hollingsworth

#### IOWA, IOWA CITY Connie Gerst

The last few days we have observed the busy activities of the farmers bustling to get their fields planted. Watching all the hurry and scurry, I wonder how many take time each day to pray to God that He will watch over the fields and bless us with nice weather and adequate rainfall in order to reap a plentiful harvest. Likewise, in our spiritual lives, do we take time each day to pray for unsaved souls that God may have a bountiful harvest when He gathers His loved ones home some day.

Our visiting ministers this past month have been Bros. Paul Eisenmann (Burlington), Marvin Leman (Bradford), Dale Frank and John Steiner (Oakville). We thank them for their willingness to worship with us.

#### IOWA, LESTER Alice Metzger

The Easter message was brought to us by visiting ministers, Bros. Bert Butikofer, Doug Schock and Roger Aberle. We were recipients of many blessings as they and their families assembled with us.

Father's Day is a time to reflect on the teachings we have learned from our fathers. The responsibility is heavy as

young lives are molded by the lifestyle in the home in their childhood years. We pay tribute to all fathers who are sincere in doing their best as head of the household.

We are enjoying another year of freedom as Independence Day approaches. We are thankful for the many who have given of their time and those who have given their lives that we might enjoy this freedom. Most of all, we are thankful to God for this great land of ours.

Sis. Rita Knobloch has graduated from Sioux Valley hospital as an R.N. ReJean Metzger received her degree in medical technology from SDSU. Greg Popkes is a recent graduate of NITC. Congratulations.

Stuart Leuthold, son of Bro. Alvin and Sis. Estelle, is in Rochester Mayo Clinic undergoing bone grafting in his leg at this time. Sis. Karen Knobloch was hospitalized for back problems. We pray good health may be restored to those who suffer afflictions.

#### IOWA, OAKVILLE Debbie Wagenbach

"Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for the brethren to dwell together in unity!" Psalm 133:1. We certainly felt the unity of the brotherhood as we partook of Holy Communion on April 29. Elder Bro. Leo Moser (Lester, IA) and our Elder Bro. Ed Lanz certainly took us to Calvary in the Spirit. We could almost see our dear Lord suspended upon that "Old Rugged Cross", His gentle arms outstretched and pleading for us to come and have our sins blotted out at His cost! Oh, how we should love Jesus, because out on that lonely hill at Golgotha He certainly did love us first! Bro. Gene Metzger (Lester, IA) and Bro. Russell Wuthrich (Pulaski, IA) were also with us for communion.

Sis. Augusta Johnson was called to her heavenly home May 5. Her battle of earthly afflictions is now over and she can now await entrance into the glory of her Lord. We certainly offer our sincere prayers of sympathy for her family: Sis. Liberty Gerst, Sis. Marjorie Siegle, Sis. Esther Peterson, Sis. Martha Buehler, Sis. Leola Heiniger, Sis. Betty Baker and William Frank.

We have several high school graduates at Oakville including: Bro. Jeff Wagenbach (Bro. Gerald and Sis. Bonnie), Melody Steiner (Bro. John and Sis. Carol), Mary Wagenbach (John

and Sis. Marilyn), Jill Anliker (Bro. Dan and Sis. Dolores), Lynne Massner (Bro. Eric and Sis. Norma), Cory Frank (Bro. Norm and Sis. Mary Ann), Robert Belsley (Richard and Fern), Kathy Siegle (Richard and Thelma) and Doug Gerst (Jim Gerst and Sis. Linda Gerst). We certainly wish God's blessings to our graduates as they end one phase in their life and begin another.

May 13 we were blessed to have two visiting ministers. Bro. Simon Wagenbach (Tremont, IL) and Bro. Vernon Wettstein (Congerville, IL) willingly lent themselves in the Lord's service. We would like to thank them for this.

As a Christian, we each want God's will to be done in our lives. At times it may not be to our satisfaction, but we know each and every occurrence in our lives is for a reason. I thought this poem expressed how we should feel about God's will.

#### GOD'S WILL

I know not by what methods rare,  
But this I know: God answers prayer.  
I know not if the blessing sought  
Will come in just the guise I thought.  
I leave my prayer to Him alone,  
Whose will is wiser than my own.

Eliza M. Hickok

#### IOWA, PULASKI Mary Jane Knapp DeAnn Wuthrich

With Father's Day upon us, let each of us remember our earthly fathers and how much they mean to all of us; and may we also never forget our Spiritual Father.

We'd like to especially thank Bro. Gary Anliker (Elgin, IL) and Bro. Nathan Steffen (Elgin, IL) for ministering God's word unto us within the past several months. What a blessing it is to sit under God's wonderful word, and also to fellowship with others of like mind and faith. What an encouragement and help it is to us all.

Hospitalized patients this past month have been Sis. Elizabeth Wuthrich. We are glad she is home, and hope she may feel better each and every day.

Bro. Kenny and Sis. Lora Wuthrich have been blessed with a bundle of love from heaven. Their first child, Kristin Jean, was born April 29, 1984. We wish them much joy and happiness with their new addition.

#### IOWA, WEST BEND

##### Polly Zaugg — Elma Mogler

As a brotherhood we assembled together to partake of Holy Communion on Sunday evening, April 29. Elder Bro. Lester Hartter (Bern) and our Elder Bro. Wayne Fehr reminded us of the importance of this solemn and most precious ceremony of breaking the bread and drinking the cup to remind us of the Lord's broken body and the shed blood. We can never, never, imagine the pain and agony He suffered. Bro. Sam Anliker (Lamont), Bro. Perry Zimmerman (Forrest) and Bro. Alpha Strahm (Bern) were our other welcomed visiting ministers this month. We thank them for coming and may the Lord bless them.

Mr. and Mrs. Eric Mogler are the parents of a new baby daughter, Brea Jean, born April 18. Welcoming her home was her sister, Amy, along with grandparents Bro. Nathan and Sis. Lilly Mogler and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Harmon. Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Traub are the first-time parents of their baby boy, Triston Dean, born April 26. Grandparents are the Kermit Shimons and Fred Jr. and Joann Traub. We wish them God's blessings with these precious little ones.

These few words that we found might be a source of comfort to those who have been ill and hospitalized: Elmer Anliker, Sherri Metzger (Bro. Leland and Sis. Kathy), Fred Traub Jr. and Arnold Banwart.

God sometimes lays us on our bed,  
that we may look above,  
And clearly see the sky o'erspread,  
with tokens of His love.

Unknown

This poem was printed in The Silver Lining many years ago. We appreciated it so much that we'd like it printed again. May it help the parents as well as the graduating students as they graduate and make plans to go on to schools of higher learning.

Dear Lord, I have to tell you  
All about my aching heart . . .  
For even as I talk to you  
The tear drops freely start  
We took our child to college  
We left her at the dorm . . .  
Her roommate was so very sweet,  
The day was clear and warm . . .  
But as we turned to leave her there  
The tears welled up inside

For tho she's really quite grown up . . .  
She needs a hand "to guide."  
Somehow I know the world looks big  
And some days cold and bleak . . .  
So Lord, I pray that you'll be there  
Each hour of every week.  
For she will need you by her side,  
Each step along the way,  
Oh, keep her safe from worldly harm . . .  
Sincerely Lord I pray.  
And if you see her walk amiss  
Admonish-reprimand . . .  
But never Lord, but never  
Withdraw thy guiding hand.

Unknown

Our graduates this year are: Marlene Fehr (Eldon and Verdell), Brent Bruellman (Bro. Gene and Sis. Evie), Larry Banwart (Bob and Kay), Carlene Fehr (Bro. Larry and Sis. Carole), Patty Grimm (Eli Jr. and Margaret) and Frank Schmidt, (Bro. Ivan and Sis. Evelyn).

As we think of Fathers' Day we want to share this poem with you.

#### HIS SPECIAL PLACE

Mother is all that is noble and fine,  
And all that is right and good.  
She richly deserves every sonnet that's  
sung  
To her glorious motherhood.  
And when Mother receives some fresh  
acclaim  
The whole wide world is glad  
But away down deep in every heart  
There's a place that is just for Dad.

We may not shower him with praise  
Nor mention his name in song  
And sometimes it seems that we forget  
The joy he spreads as he goes along,  
But it doesn't mean that we don't know  
The wonderful role that he has had  
And away down deep in every heart  
There's a place that is just for DAD.

Author unknown

#### JAPAN, SHIODA Mergie Heintz

Easter Day has passed, but the glorious Truth of the Resurrection remains: Christ is alive! When that wonderful Truth becomes part of us, our lives take on a completely new meaning. Christ then lives within us through the Holy Spirit, giving us immeasurable resources with which to live and work for Him, with the added hope and promise of living again with

God in Eternity. May that promise become reality for all of us.

Easter morning in Shioda began with songs of rejoicing and a short early morning service at the riverside, followed by an outdoor breakfast. Later everyone met again for regular morning services at the church.

The afternoon service was devoted to the Sunday School program. Jesus's life, death and resurrection were reviewed by the kindergarten and elementary class in simple words and songs, while the junior high class read the timeless Easter story from the Holy word. It was a beautiful uplifting day, and one in which the hearts of brothers, sisters and friends were touched by God's Spirit of love. We request your prayers that the Holy Spirit will continue to move hearts here in Japan and everywhere God's Word is being lived and preached.

Following the example of our Tokyo brothers and sisters, we are holding bi-monthly singings in our homes on Sunday afternoons. On Mother's Day a singing was held and it was truly a time of blessing. Singing praises to God seems to rekindle our love and dedication to the Lord, strengthens the bond of love between brothers and sisters, and can serve as an outreach to those who are seeking the truth. It is our prayer that these will be the continued fruits of our gatherings.

The prayers of the Shioda congregation are going out to the Lord for Bro. Saburo Utsuki (of the Tokyo congregation) as he recovers from surgery. While he is in the hospital we know that his family and the entire congregation will miss his faithful presence. We join our Tokyo brethren in prayer for his speedy recovery.

Via cassette tapes we have been blessed by the ministries of many brothers from the States. At our Saturday English services we are currently listening to the tapes from fall college weekend held at Bloomington, IL. Previously we listened to the tapes of the Brotherhood Conference held last summer in Gridley, IL. The messages which we have heard have been strengthening and inspiring. We wish to thank the ministering and elder brothers and all who worked so diligently to prepare for the events. We especially thank the Lord that His Spirit is evident and that He has blessed our congregations with many capable laborers. May these talents be

shared willingly.

"... How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things." Rom. 10:15

#### JAPAN, TOKYO

##### Marie Inoue — Yoshio Yamazaki

On Easter Sunday in the afternoon we were blessed with songs and recitations from our Sunday School children concerning the death, resurrection and second coming of our Lord and Savior. May the portions be written on their hearts that when they grow up these sayings will not depart from them. Three elementary graduates were remembered: Sachiko Urushino, Yoko Kobayashi and Kunihiro Onoda. As school life gets busy for them we pray they will remember to seek the Kingdom of God.

Our special visitors that day were Bro. Ernie and Sis. Eloise Diggelman (Goodfield) and Brack and June Huschen (Roanoke).

We appreciated Elder Bro. Willis and Sis. Lois Ehnle's visit while our Bro. Akito was in the States. Bro. Willis encouraged us to work hard in the Lord's vineyard.

Bro. Akito has since returned home safely and expresses thanks to all who provided for his needs.

A few days ago Bro. Saburo Utsuki underwent surgery in his abdominal area. His family and we were quite concerned at his age, but thankful to God he got along reasonably well and is in the recovery stage. He understands some English and we know he'd enjoy hearing from loved ones!

Mr. Saburo Utsuki  
16 - 16 - 1, Sakura, Setagaya-Ku,  
Tokyo, 156 Japan

#### KANSAS, BERN

##### Linda Esslinger

We congratulate the following high school graduates: Beth Plattner (daughter of Bro. Eldon and Sis. Waneta), Jerry Meyer (son of Bro. Leroy and Sis. Helen), Victor Menold (son of Bro. James and Sis. Louise) and Matthew Edelman (son of Bro. Fred and Sis. Joann).

We wish to thank Bros. Wayne Miller and Charles Sinn (Fort Scott, KS) for sharing God's Word with us.

Sincere sympathy is extended to Sis. Janet Meyer in the passing away of her mother.

#### THE NIGHTINGALE AND GLOWWORM

A nightingale, that all day long  
Had cheered the village with his song,  
Nor yet at eve his note suspended,  
Nor yet when eventide was ended,  
Began to feel — as well he might —  
The keen demands of appetite;  
When, looking eagerly around,  
He spied, far off, upon the ground,  
A something shining in the dark,  
And knew the glowworm by his spark;  
So, stooping down from hawthorn top,  
He thought to put him in his crop.

The worm, aware of his intent,  
Harangued him thus, quite eloquent,  
"Did you admire my lamp," quoth he,  
"As much as I your minstrelsy?  
You would abhor to do me wrong,  
As much as I to spoil your song;  
For 'twas the self-same Power divine  
Taught you to sing, and me to shine;  
That you with music, I with light,  
Might beautify and cheer the night."  
The songster heard his short oration,  
And, warbling out his approbation,  
Released him, as my story tells,  
And found a supper somewhere else.

William Cowper

NOTE: July is collection month for Silver Lining dues of \$6.00.

#### KANSAS, FORT SCOTT

##### Judy Bahr

"Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths." Proverbs 3:5, 6. God's word never fails to give instructions for any given situation. May Diana Kraft and Janette Robb trust in God to direct their paths as they graduate from high school. Diana is the daughter of Bro. Harold and Sis. Wanda Kraft and Janette is the daughter of Steve and Sis. Gayle Robb.

Chuckie Sinn, son of Bro. Charles and Sis. Karen, was a hospital patient. We hope he recovers quickly so he can finish his last school days of first grade.

The Secret Pals had their "revealing" at the home of Sis. Kathryn Banwart. A salad supper was held and new names drawn for another year.

#### KANSAS, KIOWA

Gay Lee Farney — Janice Bahr  
On Saturday, May 5, we were privi-

leged to partake of Holy Communion. It is such a beautiful and humbling time to share in communion with our brothers and sisters-in-Christ. Bro. Raymond Banwart (Ft. Scott, KS), assisted Bro. Ronald Nelson with the communion services.

It was such a joy to welcome Bro. Roy and Sis. Minnie Farney (Phoenix, AZ), and their family for a visit to Kiowa. We are thankful God permitted them once again to be with us and worship with us here at Kiowa.

Our hospital patients this month are, Bro. Raymond Roth, Pam Ott, and Bro. Jeff Frieden. Bro. Raymond and Bro. Jeff are home at this time, but Pam is still in the hospital. We pray for God's healing hand to be over them.

May 12, Mother's Day, was a special day for Brad and Brenda Shue (Harper, KS). On that day, God blessed them with their second child, Nathaneal Paul. Nathaneal is welcomed home by Jeremy, age 2. Grandparents are Dale and Sis. Marie Tucker (Kiowa) and Paul and Mary Shue, (Harper, KS).

#### KANSAS, LAMONT

Jill K. Luthi

Out onto calvary's hill, we were each taken, May 5th, and reminded ever so much of our Saviour's death and suffering. A bountiful prayer of thanksgiving goes to Elder Bro. Leroy Huber (Eureka) for being in our midst and executing the duties with our elder. We thank Bro. Leroy and Sis. Clara for being with us.

We also had quite a scare that Sunday as a dear friend and relative of our congregation, Martha Hughes, experienced a serious physical heart condition. Our prayers are that she, and many others, are experiencing a spiritual condition of the heart. What a great reminder that Death Is As A Vapour. Once called from this earth, there are two destinations — heaven or hell! Which wilt thou choose? (Martha is doing fine and is back home again. May the Lord bless her with the measure of health that is sufficient to her needs.)

Our deepest sympathy is extended to Clarence Fankhauser on the passing away of his brother, Bob, whose life was taken from a tractor accident, May 22. We wish all of the family words of comfort and the peaceful nearness of Lord.

With one day set aside in our nation, Memorial Day, we reflect upon the thousands of men who have given their

lives in the past wars and are continuing to serve our nation, a great nation of true freedom, and one nation under God. It brings many tears to know that many of them are still "Unknown", "Missing in Action" or "Prisoners of War". Imagine what it would be like to know that that "Unknown" soldier might be a neighbor, someone you knew as a dear-close friend, or one of the men you served with! Our minds cannot comprehend what it is like to return home with no welcome, and to continue to ask through all of these years if your neighbor, friend or service partner is still living, or was ever found. Let us never forget the suffering of those men who have taken their lives to serve our nation, and the family members who have gone on before us. As we approach the Independence Day holiday, we remember our forefathers in the adoption of the Declaration of Independence. "It ought to be commemorated as the day of deliverance, by solemn acts of devotion to God Almighty." (John Adams).

Memorial Day weekend was very precious moments never to forget, as over 40 young singles from Lester were guests. A big special prayer of thanksgiving from myself (and I'm sure many others) to Bro. Tom and Sis. Jeri Knobloch, who planned it all, and to the many others who helped in the events of the blessed weekend of fellowship. A roasted hog was the big treat. Our joys of meeting one another for the first or another time, were so overflowed that no mind could reveal all of the words it meant to all of us that were present. A great thanks to the many from Lester who put forth the effort to come!

To all of the fathers across America, I wish you each a special Father's Day — the one that is a holiday. Fathers (and mothers) deserve that day — every day. It was the beginning of God's creation for them both, and of course I wouldn't be able to say this if it were not so!

My apologies go to Cheri Frieden (Bro. Jeff and Sis. Debbie), as I mistakenly left out her name as a high school graduate.

#### KANSAS, SABETHA

Clara Steiner

We thank Bro. Howard Plattner (Wichita) for his visit and bringing us the Word of Life. May the Lord bless him in his labors.

Hospitalized this month were Sis.

Lena Steiner (knee surgery), Sis. Louise Meyer, Sis. Louise Stavenik, Sis. Dena Fechter, Bro. Nathan Grimm and Kevin Strahm. Erin Wysong had the misfortune of breaking her foot. She gets along nicely on crutches. May the Lord be with each one so they may fully recover.

In our recent election, Sunday school teachers selected were Bro. De Vere Meyer, Sis. Ruby Grimm and Sis. Beth Hartter. Serving as substitutes are Bro. Tim Hartter, Bro. Gordon Huber, Sis. Jana Meyer, Sis. Cheryl Metzger and Sis. Michelle Meyer. Teaching our youth is a very important part of our church service, so may they have much grace to fulfill their duties. Bro. Willard Bahr was re-elected for another two years as a trustee for the Apostolic Christian Home.

Our congratulations go to our high school graduates Christy Meyer, Jana Edelman, Sis. Lori Aberle, Lafe Bailey, Louis Hartman, Art Kellenberger and Brian Schweitzer. Also, we congratulate Bro. Kevin Kilgus as he graduates from Kansas State University.

#### KANSAS, WICHITA

Laurie Gallatin

Sis. Ruth Yackley was in the hospital for eye surgery and is now at home recuperating. I know she needs and appreciates our prayers. We hope she will be able to assemble with us again soon. Also, Bro. George Greiner was in the hospital, but is home now. May the Lord be with both of them.

Easter morning we had a sunrise breakfast together. It was a very enjoyable time in which we all shared our love and praises to Jesus for all He has done for us.

On May 6, we had our annual business meeting. Bro. Lynn Frank was re-elected to the Board. Bros. Dick Payton, Roger Reimschisel and Lynn Frank were elected as ushers. Sis. Gail Grimm was elected to serve on the kitchen committee and we have two new Sunday school teachers, Sis. Judy Reimschisel and Bro. Mike Bowers. May God bless each one as they serve in the "body" and use their gifts to God's glory.

We had a Mother-Daughter dinner on May 12. It was a special time together. Sis. Dora Young's 89th birthday was the same day. She is the oldest mother in our congregation. She attended the dinner with four of her daughters, seven of her granddaugh-

ters and eight of her great-granddaughters.

Bro. Loren Strahm (Gridley, KS) was a visiting minister on Mother's Day, and we meditated on the story of Hannah — a woman who prayed to be a mother, and God answered her prayer by giving her a son, Samuel.

We are nearing the time of graduation, which is both an ending and a new beginning. We had a reception for those graduating this year. Sheryl Carter, Sara Gallatin, Selena Holliday and Victor Wullschleger will all graduate from high school. We pray for each one of these, that they will seek the Lord and turn to Him. Sis. Sandy Reeves will graduate from Kansas State University. We pray that the Lord will continue to guide and direct her.

We seem to have had several sermons lately on our service to God and to each other in the Church. Romans 12:1 keeps popping up, "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service." It is a choice we have of whether or not to present our bodies as LIVING sacrifices to God. And it is only by God's mercy and grace that this is possible.

We offer our lives to God when we come to Him in faith for forgiveness and justification. Our sacrifice to God is to give our life to Him. But it goes on farther than that. Then we choose if our sacrifice will be a dead one or a living one. A dead sacrifice is like the ones the Israelites offered. After the ceremony was over the offering was lifeless and worth nothing. It didn't move or do anything any more, but it only lay there. Our lives can be like that, an idle one of not submitting to or seeking God's will and the things He wants us to do for Him to accomplish His purpose for our life. A lot of times we may say, Oh, I don't have time to go visit the sick, or to call someone I know really needs some encouragement, or to serve in the church and to edify the Body of Christ, or time to even spend alone with God in prayer and in the Word today. We have to be flexible to let God work, and not to be set in our ways. In presenting our bodies or wills to God as living sacrifices we ask Him to use us for His glory and to fill us with His Spirit to accomplish this.

We were challenged by one of our ministers to actually present our bodies as living sacrifices to the Lord

every morning. As we lay on our bed before arising, our bed is an altar which holds our entire being. At the beginning of each day we should offer our body which includes our actions, thoughts and attitudes, etc. to God for Him to use in whatever way He wants to. We could say, "Lord, here I am, use me today to Your glory that Your purpose for my life would be fulfilled." And then remember that Paul says this is our reasonable service to God — that means we can go on farther than this and do much more for Him through the power of His Holy Spirit.

### MICHIGAN, ALTO

Liz Blough

Faith of our fathers! living still In spite of dungeon, fire and sword, O how our hearts beat high with joy, Whene'er we hear that glorious Word! Faith of our fathers! holy faith! We will be true to thee till death!

Hymns of Zion #85

During this month we commemorate our fathers. Not only our earthly fathers, but also the forefathers of our country, thankful for all their endeavors to help keep this a free country in which to live. We also think of our Heavenly Father. In all honor and respect we praise Him most, for without our Heavenly Father all hopes of eternal life would be lost.

We congratulate our graduates this year, Jill Steffen (Bro. Carl and Sis. Myrna Steffen) and Ted Steffen (Elder Bro. Aaron and Sis. Loretta Steffen). May the pages of your life be filled with gladness and content, good luck, good opportunities and real accomplishment! God bless you Jill and Ted.

Our hospital patient this past month was Sis. Donna Oesch. We wish you God's blessings and a speedy recovery.

### MICHIGAN, BAY CITY

Linda Ramseyer

On April 29, the engagement of Bro. Jay Schlatter and Sis. Carola Fortenbacher was announced. Parents of the couple are Bro. Robert and Sis. Betty Schlatter and Bro. Walter and Sis. Margaret Fortenbacher (Kitchener, Ontario). May the Lord be with these dear ones as they plan their future together.

This past month has found many of our dear ones in the hospital. Medical patients were Bro. Erwin (Sis. Nina) Wieland, Sis. Lena Lambert, Sis. Anna Meylan and Sis. Katherine Wieland.

Also hospitalized was Bro. Merle (Sis. Elaine) Wieland for emergency surgery and Trudy (Bill) Schmidt (Detroit, MI), for an appendectomy while visiting her parents, Bro. Robert and Sis. Betty Schlatter. We are thankful these dear ones have returned home.

Our congregation appreciated the visit of Bro. Bill Gerst (Alto, MI). We are thankful that he was willing to lend himself in the ministering of God's Word.

Winsor and Sis. Loretta Mosher recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with a reception hosted by their children. They wish to thank everyone who remembered them with cards, gifts and thoughts of love.

As Father's Day approaches, the following poem goes out to honor each of our fathers.

### WHAT IS A FATHER?

A father's a friend who will stay by your side,  
A loyal companion, a teacher and guide,  
A warmhearted listener whenever you're blue  
And ever and always a guardian to you . . .  
A father can strengthen, console and inspire —  
He's someone to honor, love and admire.

Author Unknown

### MICHIGAN, DETROIT

Dawn Bahr

"Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." Matthew 6:33. Seeking God's direction in their lives, Bro. Jay Schlatter (Bay City) and Sis. Carola Fortenbacher (Kitchener, ON) have been led to a new love through Christ, and have announced their engagement. May they continue to feel God's guidance as they make preparations for a new life as "one".

God has blessed the home of Bro. Jay and Sis. Kathy Grimm with a precious little daughter, Tabytha Yvette, born April 25. In addition to her mommy and daddy, she has "big" brother, Gabriel to welcome her.

We were privileged to have visiting ministers, Bro. Akito Inoue (Tokyo, Japan) and Bro. Homer Reineck (Toledo, OH) with us during Easter weekend. It is our prayer that the fellowship

we shared was a blessing to them as it was to us.

"Serve the Lord with gladness: come before His presence with singing. Know ye that the Lord He is God: it is He that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture." Psalm 100:2-3. Our choir had the privilege to travel to Valparaiso on May 19 and 20. We wish to sincerely thank the Valparaiso congregation for the kindness and hospitality shown us. May God richly bless each of you.

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**MINNESOTA, MINNEAPOLIS**  
**Deb Tilbury**

Congratulations to Debra Schmidgall and Gary Wray, who were married April 20. Their parents are Bro. Ray and Sis. Millie Schmidgall (Burnsville) and Mr. and Mrs. Warren Wray (Minneapolis). May they look to God for guidance.

Elder Bro. Harold Messner (Winthrop) and Bro. Art Nohl (Morris) served us Holy Communion. We would like to thank them for their labors in the Lord on our behalf.

We were also thankful to have Bro. Joe Stoller here this month. May God richly bless him for bringing us the Word of Life. We held an election of officers at our annual meeting. We would like to thank the outgoing officers and Sunday school teachers for helping to make our church run smoothly. Newly elected are Sis. Ethel Bednarski (Sunday school teacher), Sis. Josie Esterling (substitute Sunday school teacher), Bro. Wes Hohulin (trustee), Bro. Kent Mogler (usher), Bro. Rob Schmidgall (substitute usher), Sis. Joyce Hohulin (Silver Lining correspondent), Bro. Jim Tilbury (Children's Home correspondent), Bro. Rob Schmidgall (assistant sec.-treas.), Sis. Viola Apperly (World Relief) and Sis. Nancy Messner (craft night).

A sincere thank you for cards sent remembering us on our 50th anniversary. We had a blessed day with our family, relatives and friends.

Bro. Noah and Sis. Laura Miller

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**MINNESOTA, MORRIS**  
**Rhonda Zeltwanger**  
**Hildegard Koehl**

On the weekend of April 14 and 15 we were able to feel the many blessings shared with us as we heard the testimonies and witnessed the baptisms of

four dear souls, Sis. Kim Feuchtenberger (Bro. Wallis and Sis. Diane), Bro. Tom and Sis. Jill Furrer (Bro. Glen and Sis. Eileen) and Bro. Rodney Schaefer (Bro. Anton and Sis. Verna). We welcome these four lambs into the flock. On Sunday evening we gathered together to partake of Holy Communion. It surely humbles us as we remember all that Christ has done for us. We certainly want to thank Elder Bro. Sam Anliker (Lamont, KS), Perry Zimmerman (Forrest, IL) and Bro. Gene Lehman (Wolcott, IN) for sharing God's Word and laboring here for us.

Our hospital patients this month have been Ruth Feuchtenberger (Bro. Gerald and Sis. Karen), Denise Nohl (Bro. Art and Sis. Sandra) and Bro. Alvin Nohl. We pray they have all felt God's nearness.

April 21 was the wedding date of Richard Gramm (Bro. Harold and Sis. Ila) and Julie Jones. May God richly bless this young couple as they have joined hand and heart to walk together in this life.

We have two engagements to announce: Cathy Kussatz (Bro. Earl and Sis. Minnie) to Tony O'Keefe, and Betty Nohl (Bro. Noah and Sis. Shirley) to Dale Noordmans. Betty and Dale have chosen July 14 for their wedding date. We wish both couples God's blessings as they plan this important step in their lives.

Fred and Debra Callom are the parents of a new little girl, Katherine Jennifer. A little sister, Amber, is there to welcome her home. Bro. Leo and Sis. Thelma Dogotch are the grandparents.

Our prayers are with our high school graduates. They are: Byron Koehl (Bro. Harvey and Sis. Wilda), John Schmidgall (Bro. Floyd and Sis. Vi), Cheryl Luthi (Sis. Della), Brian Spohr (Wilbert and Ruth), Gail Schmidgall (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Ruby), Chris Koehl (Bro. Eddie and Sis. Lois) and Ben Moser (Bro. Carl and Sis. Norene). May God direct the hearts and minds of these graduates as they make decisions concerning their future.

We thank Bro. Edwin Bahler (Remington, IN) for coming and ministering to us. We pray God will bless him as we have been blessed with God's Holy Word.

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

The cup of blessing which we bless,

is it not the communion of the body of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ? For we being many are one bread, and one body. I Cor. 10:16, 17.

Ministering Elder Bro. Art Nohl (Morris) assisted Elder Bro. Harold Messner (Winthrop) in the most precious and blessed sacrament of all, Holy Communion. Bro. Art spoke to us on the importance and blessings that come from being obedient to your elders; and also to the Word of God! Bro. Art related to us on how God gives the elders special insight to see the dangers that can befall Christians; and how careful we must be at all times! May Holy Communion always hold a special place in our hearts! Let us never forget what our precious Lord and Saviour has done for us! We thank God and our elders for their untiring efforts and labors of love, which they must give as shepherds of the flocks. Their burdens at times are overwhelming, but praise God for upholding their arms and giving them strength to carry on their duties. "As thy days, so shall thy strength be!" Deut. 33:25.

A farewell singing was held at our fellowship hall for Sis. Maxine Sauder (Hutchinson). Sis. Maxine will be leaving our congregation here at Winthrop, and moving to Leo, IN to help at the Children's Home.

Craig Dapper (Bro. Ernest and Sis. Marcelle) and Linda Porter were united in marriage on May 5. They are residing in Hutchinson. We wish them God's blessings in their lives.

Joe and Kim Messner are first-time parents of a beautiful new baby daughter, Kylee Leah. Paternal grandparents are Bro. Marlyn and Sis. Lois. Maternal grandparents are Dick and Leah Doornewerd (Lester, IA). We rejoice with all!

Karla, daughter of Bro. Jerry and Millie Messner is engaged to Dan Luhman (Hutchinson). Dan is in the Navy, and is now living in Pensacola, FL.

Bro. Darrel Schmidt was hospitalized for surgery. Sis. Carrie Messner was also hospitalized for tests. We pray God will add His wonderful healing touch to all.

Our sympathy goes out to Rick and Troy Messner (Winthrop) and also to Sis. Shelley (Merle) Knoblock (Lester, IA) and all families, in the loss of their mother, Beverly. May the Lord comfort their hearts.

Our annual Sunday school voting



was held — new teachers are Bro. Kenneth Messner and Sis. Ella Mae Schmidt. Our substitutes are Bro. Verl Schmidt and Sis. Lois Messner. Our new Silver Lining reporter is Sis. Wanda Messner.

Sis. Carrie Messner wishes to extend a thank you to all who remembered her while she was hospitalized.

### MISSOURI, LAMAR

Becky Marti — Sandra Luthi

"To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven: A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted."

Ecclesiastes 3:1, 2

In the past month we have experienced both new life and death. On April 30, Roger and Nancy Marti became parents of twin sons, Nicholas Alan and Nathan Daniel. Happy grandparents are Bro. Charles and Sis. Alice Marti and Phil and Thelma Hurst. We wish them God's guidance with their double blessing.

On May 13, Hattie Smith was called from this life. Our prayers go out to her daughter, Maxine Schlupp, who cared for her mother.

We certainly appreciated having Elder Bros. Leroy Huber and Sam Anliker with us on May 9. What a privilege it is to assemble around God's Holy Word.

NOTICE: The Soldier's Reunion will be held in Lamar, MO, August 4 and 5 for all who attended church at Lamar during service duty. If you were not invited to previous reunions, please come. Notify Sis. Marie Marti, 412 North Gulf, Lamar, MO 64759. Cards will be sent to all on our list.

Bro. Bob Frank  
Oakville, IA

### MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS

Becky Gudeman

"And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men; knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ." Col. 3:23, 24.

We sincerely appreciated having Bro. Art Ringger and his family, (Indianapolis) to share the Word with us on May 13, 1984. May God bless them for their efforts.

Services are held 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.

### MISSOURI, TAYLOR

Loida Hodel — Lori Marquart

"I woke up quite early this morning and paused before going my way. There was so much work to accomplish, I "had" to take time to pray!" "A prayerless Christian is a powerless Christian." Our Daily Bread

On April 27 a number of brothers from the Mission Committee and the World Relief Committee met at the Taylor Fellowship Center. This committee (The Lord's Work Opportunity Program for Apostolic Christians) was appointed at the Detroit Conference. Bro. Gene Marti was selected as Chairman. Those present at Taylor were: Bros. Gene Marti, Nathan Steffen, John Klotzle, Jim Hoerr, Francis Rother, Leon Graf and Roy Grimm.

On Saturday, April 28, the World Relief Committee met at the Taylor Fellowship Center all day to discuss the affairs of World Relief and to disburse the funds received since the November 25 meeting. More than 30 organizations were allocated funds, and a number of hardship cases among our brethren and friends from various congregations received financial help. Those attending were: Bros. Wendell Gudeman, Nathan Steffen, Gene Marti, Paul Butikofer, Vernon Leman, Jim Hoerr, Francis Rother, John Klotzle, Leon Graf, Art Leuthold, Sid Leman, Loren Strahm, Harry Isch and Roy Grimm. In the evening the Taylor congregation was invited to a program explaining the various projects and work of the two committees.

"God teaches us lessons in the school of suffering that we could not learn in any other classroom." O.D.B. Sis. Sally Haerr (Bro. Norman) and Buddy Plank (Barbara) were in the hospital for tests and x-rays. Sis. Jerilyn Yackley (Bro. Joe) had the misfortune to fall and receive a badly sprained ankle which has kept her confined at home. Michael Stratton (Bro. Mike and Sis. Cheryl) missed a couple of weeks of school due to a bout with "mono". All are home and on the mend.

Many gathered on a Monday evening and Tuesday to take part in the annual spring church cleaning — "Many hands make the task lighter."

### A HAPPINESS BOUQUET

The family is like a garden, with joy for all to share,  
With tender, growing blossoms that thrive on love and care,  
And when the flowers are gathered for a very special day,  
They make a bright and beautiful happiness bouquet.

Mary Alice Loberg

One of the nicest days of the year is "Mother's Day". We always love her tenderly, but on this day we try to express this love in some tangible way. And now a tribute to our Grandmothers —

She has the heart that cares so completely.  
She has the hands that do things so sweetly.  
She has the wisdom that families treasure.  
She has the smile that brings so much pleasure.  
She has the love that brings joy beyond measure.

Marjorie Frances Ames

We're glad to welcome Bro. William and Sis. Ruth Cottrell back to our area from their winter home in Florida. God has protected them in their travels and may He continue to be at their side as they establish their living quarters once again. After all, "Home is where the Heart is!"

"I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life." John 8:12.

### NEW JERSEY, UNION CITY

Ed Aeschleman

Our dear Sis. Mary Diggelman fell and broke her hip. She underwent surgery and is now convalescing in the hospital. We know that God has heard many prayers on her behalf. We trust He will ease her pain and give her full recovery. May God also comfort her husband, Bro. John, and watch over him while she is confined.

Our visiting ministers were Bro. Dan Stoller and Bro. Lee Bahler (Rockville). Their willingness to come so many miles to help Bro. John and to bring us the Holy Word is greatly appreciated. We know that God will reward them.

### NEW YORK, CROGHAN Alice Virkler

On Easter Sunday we were privileged to listen to the program of song and verse presented by our Sunday School children. It is inspiring to see the children and listen to what they have learned about the Easter season and its meaning. We hope that each of them will retain in their hearts what they are taught at this tender age and that it will go with them for the rest of their lives.

Sis. Cora Farney was called from this life suddenly on Tuesday, May 15, after a hospitalization of only two days. She assembled with us on Sunday, Mother's Day, and was stricken after returning home from dinner with her brother and his wife. Through this sudden work of the Lord, we can realize that our days in this life are numbered and that God could call each of us in such a short time — even the "twinkling of the eye." May each of us be prepared should we be called today. Our deepest sympathy is extended to her brothers, Arthur (Castorland), and Elmer (Carthage). Funeral services were held by Bro. Norbert Steiner and Bro. Floyd Graves.

As God calls loved ones from our midst, He also gives blessings by sending little ones to the earth for a season. Wayne and Rhonda Farney have welcomed their first son, James Arthur, born on the morning of Sis. Cora's funeral, May 18. May little James bring an added blessing to this new "family". He will also be loved by first time grandparents, Bro. Clifton and Sis. Bessie Farney, and Duane and Elaine Brouty, all of Castorland.

God also allows that each of us must make changes in our lives from time to time. Our congratulations and best wishes for the future go to our high school graduates this month. They are Cynthia Virkler, daughter of Nat and Sheila, and Charles Farney, son of Bro. Don and Sis. Alice.

On Saturday evening, May 19, we enjoyed a covered dish meal and evening of fellowship and song.

### NEW YORK, NAUMBURG Rachel Snyder

We gathered at the home of Sis. Pearl Colgrove to sing a few songs, remembering her on her birthday.

Bro. Bernard Virkler has had surgery and is able to be out again. Sis. Rachel Rohr had to spend a few days in the hospital.

Sis. Rosella Schulz is now in the Cross Irving Hospital, Syracuse, undergoing tests. May God be near her. We hope she will not have to be in for long.

### OHIO, AKRON Joyce Gasser

Bro. Ned Spangler, our Sunday school superintendent, arranged and supervised an early morning Easter get-together at the park for some in Sunday school. The meeting and breakfast were enjoyable.

We appreciated the efforts of the Sunday school Bible class on Mother's Day, May 13, when they served the noon lunch at church, thus relieving mothers of this duty on that day. Their efforts were enthusiastic and well coordinated, and they served us a delicious and delightful lunch.

Congratulations to our graduates: Rose Yahi graduates with a degree in marketing from Akron University. Rose has accepted a marketing position at Bee Chemical Co., Lansing, IL and she and her husband, Azam, will be moving there. Rose is the daughter of Bro. and Sis. Sandor Bako. We are sorry they will be moving away, and we wish God's blessings upon them.

Wiley Graf graduates with a masters degree in civil engineering from Akron University. Wiley is the son of Bro. and Sis. Robert Graf.

Our high school graduates are: Sis. Erica Bako (daughter of Bro. and Sis. Sandor Bako) who plans to enter nurses training at Akron City Hospital, Melinda Bako (daughter of Bro. and Sis. Zoltan Bako) who plans to go to Akron University, Joanne Graf (daughter of Bro. and Sis. Art Graf) who is employed at Copley Pharmacy.

Communion was served to us during the Easter season, and we thank Elder Bro. Joe Ramsier and Bro. Henry Dotterer for coming to assist.

### OHIO, COLUMBUS Andy Hunyady

#### Christian Examples

The New Testament mentions many names of those who are put before us as examples and whom we notice too little, excepting Peter and Paul, the well known apostles. Let us examine a few of these disciples of Christ, whose outstanding examples are worthy to be noted, followed and imitated.

Stephen: A person ruled by the fullness of the Spirit. "A man full of faith

and the Holy Spirit." "But Stephen full of grace and power wrought great wonders and signs." "And they were not able to withstand the wisdom and the spirit by which he spoke." "But he, being full of the Holy Spirit looked up steadfastly into heaven."

Faith, grace, power, wisdom, Spirit — all these in the fullness! He was the first to suffer a martyr's death after the crucifixion of Christ!

(To be continued.)

Bro. Mark Bahr (Detroit), was used by the Lord to serve us and refreshed our hearts and souls by the living word. We thank Bro. Mark and Sis. Beverly for their visit and may the blessings of our Lord be upon them. Our thanks to all our visitors for their love, encouragement and support.

With the warm and traveling season at hand, we wish to encourage and invite all those who travel in this area to stop in and visit and worship with us the second and fourth Sunday of each month. Seventh Day Adv. School, Worthington, (North Columbus) Ohio.

### OHIO, JUNCTION Les Manz

Bro. Floyd Wieland (Detroit) was in Junction this month to teach us in God's Word. Sitting with us in the pews while Bro. Floyd was bringing us the Bread of Life were Clayton Irmeger of World Team and a Haitian pastor, Odoin Bernard. World Team is an organization which our National World Relief Committee works with to help the Christian effort in Haiti. Our Bro. Russell Manz was in Haiti last winter on a World Relief sponsored project to put a roof on a school. While there he became acquainted with Odoin. Odoin, consequently while in the States, visited the churches of some of the brothers he met in Haiti, and Junction was one of them. Before church, Odoin gave a brief talk in the home of Bro. Don Manz on the country of Haiti and his Christian mission. He mentioned several times that the Haitian people are materially poor but spiritually they are rich in Christ Jesus.

Bro. Lowell and Sis. Cindy Schlatter were blessed with a new son, Eric Benjamin. As they begin the responsibilities of raising a child, no doubt, they will better understand the Father-Child relationship we have with God, for as we learn how we would like our children to be, this gives us insights of how God would like us to be. Sharing

in the joy of Eric's birth are grandparents Bro. Richard and Sis. Yolanda Jackson (Bay City) and Sis. Esther Schlatter.

Our prayers are with Sis. Madeline Manz who was hospitalized again this month. Sometimes when we have a problem which lasts over a period of time like Sis. Madeline's has, we might be tempted to think God is not blessing us as He once did. It is, however, encouraging to think of the advice Jesus gave to one who suffered this temptation many years ago. I am thinking now of John the Baptist who had the privilege of baptizing Jesus and of going before Jesus and telling the world He was coming. Yet, later in his life, John was locked up in prison and when time went long, Satan tempted him and he sent messengers to Jesus asking "Art thou he that should come or seek we for another?" (Matt. 11:5). Jesus answered then in verses 4 and 5 of the same chapter, saying basically that John should look around and observe the miracles He was performing in the lives of others (and can't we see His works in others yet today?) and then He added in the seventh verse, "And blessed is he who shall not be offended in me."

Graduates in the Junction church this year include Scott and Deb Bauer (high school) and Kevin McKay (college). Scott and Kevin are both sons-in-law of Bro. Ben and Sis. Carol Manz, and Deb is their daughter. We wish them all well in life knowing that their education can take them to new horizons in our wonderful land. Yet, it is sobering to remember that whatever our occupation, God is not a respecter of persons.

#### OHIO, LATTY

##### Laurie Stoller — Patty Riggensch

April 29 will always be a special day for Sis. Janel Price (Bob and Aldean), as it will remind her of the day in 1984 when she was baptized. We were strengthened throughout the weekend, hearing of God's promises and renewing our own commitments. How uplifting to claim God's promise in John 1:12, "But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His name."

The preceding weekend was also very special because we celebrated Easter. Many loved ones returned to Latty for Good Friday and Easter ser-

vices. We were happy to have the visitors and see many familiar faces.

Hospital patients this past month were Bro. Charles Dunham (Sis. Laura), Bro. Ken Laukhuf (Sis. Marge) and Sis. Marie Stoller. We're thankful God has begun His healing in them.

Bro. John Isch (Indianapolis) visited us on Mother's Day and reminded us of how we can show our love toward each other through praise. He also taught us how our Father wants us to praise Him through witnessing and servanthood. We appreciate the gentle manner in which the Spirit, through Bro. John, brings conviction within our hearts to improve our spiritual walk.

Omitted from the last report was the graduation of Bro. Jason Williamson (Bob and Sis. Janet) from Northwestern Business College. He received a degree in marketing. We pray for God's guidance as Bro. Jason begins his new career.

During this time that we honor our fathers, we think of the important responsibility they have in raising their children in God's love and admonition. Moses spoke to the Israelites of their duty to obey God's Word and commandments in Deut. 6:7. "And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up." May fathers everywhere have the constancy which Moses taught about.

#### OHIO, MANSFIELD

##### Lucille Groh

Fathers, provoke not your children to wrath, but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.  
Ephesians 6:4

There are little eyes upon you, and they're watching night and day;  
There are little ears that quickly take in every thing you do,  
And a little boy who's dreaming of the day he'll be like you.  
You are setting an example every day in all you do,  
For the little boy who's waiting to grow up to be like you.

Author Unknown

Many years ago, there was a little boy on a trundle bed, having just retired for the night. Before going to sleep he turned in the direction of the

large bed on which his father lay, and said, "Father, are you there?" and the answer came back, "Yes, my son." That boy turned over and went to sleep without a thought of harm. Tonight that little boy is an old man of seventy, and every night before going to sleep he looks up into the face of his Heavenly Father, and says, "Father, are you there?" and the answer comes back, "Yes, My son." And then he asks in childish faith, "Will You take care of me tonight?" and the answer comes back, clear and strong, "Yes, My son, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee." Whom need we fear, if God our Father is with us?

What a precious promise that our Heavenly Father will never leave or forsake us if we hold fast to His precious promises and Word.

Easter sunrise services were observed at the home of Bro. Wally and Sis. Helen Ramsier. Although the day was a wet one, it did not dampen the spirits of all those who attended. Our church owes a big thank you to Bro. Wally, Sis. Helen and Sis. Jolene for their love and hospitality.

Our congregation has suffered a great loss in the "going home" of Bro. Donald Cordrey on May 15. Bro. Donald was stricken with cancer and had been ill for quite some time. The last time we visited him, we spoke of the living Word and he said it is not only our hope, but our assurance. He was a Sunday school teacher for many years and he will be greatly missed in our church circle and family. He leaves to mourn two sons, A. Paul Cordrey and John Jack Cordrey; and a daughter, Enid Miller. His wife, Sis. Naomi Fuhrer Cordrey, preceded him in death in October, 1983.

Loved ones hospitalized since last month's report are Bro. Robert Beer, Bro. Gaylord Dotterer, Sis. Francelia Beer and Sis. Katie Deturk. We are very thankful to report that they have all been released and are home again. The Lord heard our prayers and we truly rejoice with these loved ones. May our heavenly Father continue to heal as He sees best.

Thy prayer is heard, O gracious Word from Heaven!

Thy burning prayer of passionate appeal;

The Father's ear has caught thine earnest pleading

The Father who can all our sorrows feel.

Thy prayer is heard, tho long thy  
heart's petition  
Has mounted to the Father's throne on  
high;  
Tho years have passed since first that  
prayer you uttered,  
E'en from the first He heard thy bitter  
cry.

Thy prayer is heard, fear not! Look up  
and praise Him,  
The God whose tender love  
remembered thee;  
Rejoice! be glad, and rest upon His  
promise,  
His Word is sure, it cannot broken be!

Thy prayer is heard, then let us all take  
courage;  
Press on and on and on, till night is  
done;  
And in the golden glow of early  
morning,  
We'll sing His praise before the glory  
throne.

Author Unknown

On Mother's Day, the Youth Group  
furnished and served the meal and  
we'd like to say a special "thank you"  
for their love.

June is collection time for Mansfield  
for the Silver Lining. Please contact  
your reporter if you wish to renew or  
discontinue your subscription.

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

Salt adds flavor to the food we eat,  
but it is used for many things other  
than for seasoning. It is used in making  
gasoline and in tanning the leather  
used in making shoes. The next time  
your shoes dry after being wet, you may  
see a white streak on the leather and  
that is the salt.

The word salary comes from salt.  
There was a time when people received  
pieces of salt instead of money as their  
wages for doing work. It was custom-  
ary to ask a man if he was worth his salt.

Jesus spoke about salt. He said,  
"You are the salt of the earth, but if the  
salt have lost its flavor, wherewith shall  
it be salted? It is thenceforth good for  
nothing but to be cast out and trodden  
under the foot of man."

The value of salt is in its flavor. A  
Christian is valuable to life in that he  
gives a flavor, or makes a difference in  
the world. Drop a little salt in the water  
and the salt will disappear, but the

water is flavored. Bring a good boy into  
a group of children who are misbehav-  
ing and he will help to make them  
better. A new teacher in a Sunday  
school was having a difficult time with  
two students who talked, poked others,  
and laughed. One of the other boys told  
the two who were disturbing the class  
that he wanted to listen and they  
should be quiet. He had a good in-  
fluence and was like the salt of the  
earth.

Jesus taught that Christians can  
make a difference wherever they are  
and should be trying at all times to  
influence people to do good. They can  
help change the world for the better if  
they are like the salt of the earth.

Ralph Conover Lankler

This is the time of year when gradua-  
tion approaches. The graduates from  
our congregation are Aaron Beery,  
Chris Gasser, Sis. Betty Hartzler,  
Diane Indermuhle, Sis. Jennifer Hartz-  
ler, Sis. Melanie Indermuhle, Linda  
Hilsheimer, Sis. Karen Maibach,  
Debbie Michalosky, Jan Miller, Jill  
Miller, Kim Miller, Karen Miracle, Lee  
Rufener, Janet Spence, Debbie Stan-  
ley, Jim Steiner, Sis. Joan Stoller, Bro.  
Jeff Trent, Sis. Laura Widmer, Anna  
Wild-Norland, Michele Winkler, Mark  
Zollinger and Tanya Zollinger.

April 23, 1984 is the birth date of  
Trisha Kay Wilging, the first child of  
Dave and Joan Wilging. Trisha's  
grandparents are Bro. Ken and Sis.  
Wilma Ramsier and Bob and Ruth  
Wilging. We wish them many blessings  
and much happiness with their little  
bundle from heaven.

We are so happy to report another  
dear soul has turned to the Lord in  
repentance. We wish Shelly Rigen-  
bach, daughter of Bro. Glen and Sis.  
Lou Rigenbach, much grace that she,  
too, may find that peace that passes  
understanding.

Those from our congregation who  
have been hospitalized are Bro.  
George Rigenbach and Sis. Clara  
Maibach. We pray that our dear ones  
may be restored to good health if it  
would be His will.

We had a very blessed weekend  
when we heard the testimonies and  
then witnessed the baptism of three  
souls. Our new brethren are Bro. Jack  
and Sis. Clara Maibach and Bro. Jim  
Gasser. May the grace of God be ever  
with them.

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

The day set aside this month, called  
Father's Day, is good, if we take a few  
moments to think what a father really  
means to us. His willingness to provide  
for his family, both bodily and spirit-  
ually, are the things that can easily be  
taken for granted. He, no doubt, feels  
this deep concern for his family even  
though he does not always make it  
known. We are reminded in Ephesians  
6:2, "Honor thy father . . .".

Congratulations to Barbara Stevens.  
Barbara, who is the daughter of Robert  
and Dorothy, is graduating from the  
Toledo Hospital School of Nursing in  
June. We wish her God's many bless-  
ings in her career.

Who is he that cares and watches  
over our life and soul's estate? Our  
Heavenly Father.

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

**LOVE**

Love is of a friendly nature,  
Does no selfish thought possess;  
Love is not a sin partaker,  
And is free from bitterness.

Love is truthful not deceitful,  
Does here every burden bear;  
And, enduring, is so fruitful,  
In all trials joy to share.

Zion's Harp # 37

On April 29, a few couples gathered  
with us from Croghan, NY. Bro. Nor-  
bert Steiner announced the engage-  
ment of Sis. Carola Fortenbacher (Bro.  
Walter and Sis. Margaret Fortenbach-  
er) to Bro. Jay Schlatter (Bro. Robert  
and Sis. Betty Schlatter, Bay City, MI).  
Tentative plans are for a November  
wedding.

We had a nice turnout from Detroit,  
MI. Bro. Mark Bahr graciously lent  
himself in serving us with God's Word.  
It sure is wonderful when we can share  
with each other our precious and cher-  
ished faith.

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

A singing-shower was held for Sis.  
Marianne Kuenzi and Bro. Phil Schlatter  
(Sis. Esther) of Sarasota, FL, at the  
home of Bro. Gus and Sis. Dorothy  
Dietrich. Many brethren and friends

gathered to sing praises to the Lord and to share of their abundant blessings to help these two dear ones establish their own home together. We hope and trust that God will shower them with blessings from His abundant supply.

As another school year has ended it is interesting to read the different graduation announcements and see what motto each class has chosen . . . some full of youthful bravery; some wistfully looking back but eager to step forward; and all with a certain expectancy of the unknown future. One that seemed to grasp a little more of the reality of each one's own responsibility said, "May our yesterdays light the way to tomorrow." Not a bad thought for anyone to consider, if we remember that it is only "today" that we can do anything about.

Silverton has three high school graduates this year. Barry Bollinger (Bro. Ben and Sis. Carolyn) graduates from McNary High School in Keizer and is undecided at this time what he will do. Allen Knecht (Bro. Ed and Sis. Judie) has graduated from Mollala Union High School and is also (like many, many seniors across the nation) undecided about his future plans. Lisa Metz (Bro. Art and Sis. Betty) graduates from Woodburn Union High School and plans to enter the nursing program at Chemeketa Community College in Salem this fall.

Receiving his Ph. D. in Micro-Biology and Oceanography from Oregon State University is Bro. Ron Jones (Sis. Liz). It is quite a year for Bro. Ron who also recently achieved the title "Daddy". Two others receiving their degrees this year are Sis. Pam Kyburz (Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Pat, Wolcott, IN) who has earned an associate of science degree in accounting and is seeking employment in that field and Jack Kuenzi (Bro. Rich and Sis. Rosa Lee) who has completed his requirements for an associate of arts degree in printing technology from Linn-Benton Community College in Albany. Jack is enjoying his work as a pressman's assistant at Your Town Press in Salem.

We have one eighth grade graduate this year: Tresa Kuenzi (Bro. Bob and Sis. Linda) from Victor Point Grade School. Tresa will be entering Silverton Union High School next fall.

A reception and singing is planned for the graduates from both the Silverton and Portland congregations at the

home of Bro. Ed and Sis. Judie Knecht Sunday afternoon, May 27. It is a pleasure to recognize the achievements of these young people.

We have enjoyed the blessed opportunity of fellowship this past month with our very welcome visitors from California, Florida, Illinois, Iowa, Michigan and Washington. Especially welcome in the Ben Bollinger home this month was their son, Ben Jr., who was home on leave from Travis Air Force Base near San Francisco, CA. Ben was able to be here for Mother's Day and the week following, which gave him time to spend with his family and friends before making the 12-hour drive return trip. We thank the Lord for His protecting hand over all our travels . . . be it thousands of miles or that quick five-mile trip to school and back.

**PENNSYLVANIA,  
PHILADELPHIA**

**Ann Gasser**

We are enjoying a lovely spring in the East as the colorful flowers and pastel trees are in full bloom. Our church, which is situated on a country hillside west of Philadelphia, is especially attractive this time of year.

Several of the young children have mentioned their excitement about summer's approaching. Phil and Paul Aeschleman (Bro. Ed and Sis. Nancy) will have breaks from college this summer. We look forward to having Phil with us for worship services, but will miss Paul as he plans to work this summer in New Hampshire.

Bill Keene sustained a hand injury and has been unable to work for three weeks. Fortunately, he is recovering and hopefully can soon resume his normal activities.

**SILVER THREADS**

**A FATHER'S PRAYER**

Dear God, my little boy of three  
Has said his nightly prayer to Thee;  
Before his eyes were closed in sleep,  
He asked that Thou his soul would  
keep,  
And I, still kneeling at his bed,  
My hand upon his tousled head,  
Do ask, with deep humility,  
That Thou, dear Lord, remember me.  
Make me kind, Lord, a worthy Dad,  
That I may lead this little lad  
In pathways ever fair and bright,

That I may keep his steps aright.  
O God, his trust must never be  
Destroyed or even marred by me.  
So, for the simple things he prayed  
With childish voice so unafraid,  
I trembling, ask the same from Thee,  
Dear Lord, kind Lord, remember me.

Author Unknown

**"HONOR THY FATHER . . ."**

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

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

**T** - o trials and tests and hardships he's  
prone. Help he seeks to endure at  
the foot of the throne; knowing God  
has all the answers; for problems,  
solution so he "asks, seeks and  
knocks" without hesitation.

**H** - is life is a "living" Book all well may  
read - as he journeys through life -  
by his words and his deeds. He's  
never too busy to advise, guide and  
share how to find God's "better  
way" - unceasing his prayers.

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

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

**S** - o "honor thy father", 'tis a com-  
mand of God; and, He, here will  
bless as life's pathway we trod. Not  
only today; remember each day  
anew - fathers are rare gift of God  
to me and to you.

Give Your Address Change  
To Your Reporter

### QUIET MEDITATIONS

As I was praying this morning, a thought came to me. I could envision my Heavenly Father sitting in the 'Great Somewhere' looking down on us. There were many strings hanging from the sky to earth, and dangling on the end of each was a brightly colored package. Each package was attached to a hook on the end of a string. The Father used His very best string called 'prayer line', and also prayer hooks.

There were labels attached to each package stating the contents and instructions for possession and use. "To obtain this free gift - grasp the prayer hook firmly and pull the package gently with faith, and the gift becomes yours. Absolutely Free: Just for the asking!"

One package, ever so much larger than the rest, was labeled: (Combination Package - 'Freedom from condemnation, Salvation thru Jesus Christ' and 'Eternal life', absolutely must be accepted as a whole, only parts of it will never do!) 'Freedom from condemnation' is not available without 'Salvation thru Jesus Christ', and 'Eternal life' is not available without 'Freedom from condemnation'.

The rest of the packages were much smaller, yet each one had a tremendous significance. These labels displayed: Joy, Love, Hope, Peace, Comfort, Strength, Friendship, Guidance, Security, Direction, Protection, Gentleness, Goodness, Perseverance, Patience, Help, Endurance, Positive Attitude, Charity and Compassion. What! a gift with no strings attached?, you say. Oh, no, there are strings attached. The gift can be obtained by using the tools of prayer and faith!

The dear Heavenly Father watches these strings very carefully. When the tension becomes slack on the strings, He immediately draws it back to Himself and supplies another package. God has an inexhaustible supply, and it is His good pleasure to give us these gifts. God encourages us to keep in close contact, that He can always anticipate our needs and have our provisions ready.

What? Did I hear someone say these gifts are intangible, invisible? I can assure the doubter that any person who carries the gift of Joy or Peace in their heart will reflect that same gift on their countenance. It is visible! The wind, in comparison, is invisible also, and yet there is not a person on earth that can deny its power.

Now this great God furnishes all these gifts, supplies, labor and a book of instructions if we should have problems. In return, all He requests of us is to share of our abundance and serve our fellow man.

What a great God we serve!

### THE POTTER'S WILL

I was but a piece of clay in the potter's hands,  
Meaningless, without form, a vessel yet to be.

Of course, I was proud, and had several demands,  
I knew just what the Potter was going to make of me.

I wanted to be a "bowl", on the table-top to set,  
The marvel of all to see when they came to dine.  
Or, maybe an "ornate cup", thinking of all the praise I'd get,  
When met by someone's lips, and filled with deep red wine.

I sure had it planned, what I was going to be,  
I struggled, - was difficult - and wouldn't let Him make,  
The useful vessel that He wanted, and knew, He'd form of me,  
But, His will is done, no matter how long it will ever take.

He shaped me, and formed me, and tried me with "fire",  
And when I was done, and - all the others were facin'  
I was a "useful vessel", but not by my desire,  
You see, - I ended up an ordinary "foot basin".

I thought I had no use, as I laid on the floor,  
The other vessels were more useful, solemnly I thought.  
Then there came a young maiden softly through the door,  
She picked me up for she had not another vessel brought.

She took me across the room and laid me by "some feet",  
She washed "them" with her tears, and dried "them" with her hair.  
I was humbled, and this "Stranger", I didn't want to meet,  
Looked down at her and me, His countenance so fair.

JESUS - so peaceful, so much love he did radiate,  
I never would have struggled or hindered His plans,  
If only I'd have known this pleasure to wash JESUS' feet,  
With less trouble the Potter could have made me with His hands.

But, the plan He has for us, we need not always know,  
Willingly we must take each step, day after day,  
The outcome of everything, He doesn't always show,  
But He never makes a wrong move as He leads us 'long the way.

Take courage, 'cause that vessel that "you" might want to be,  
Could be so very different from the Master's plans,  
Show love, be submissive, and wait patiently,  
Just let the Potter mold you, in His gentle hands.

### CHILDREN LEARN - WHAT THEY LIVE

If a child lives with criticism - they learn to condemn.  
If a child lives with hostility - they learn to fight.  
If a child lives with ridicule - they learn to be shy.  
If a child lives with shame - they learn to feel guilty.  
If a child lives with tolerance - they learn to have patience.  
If a child lives with encouragement - they learn to have confidence.  
If a child lives with praise - they learn to appreciate.  
If a child lives with security - they learn to have faith.  
If a child lives with fairness - they learn justice.  
If a child lives with approval - they learn to like themselves.  
If a child learns to live with experience - they learn to love.

### GOD BLESS FATHERS

My heart goes out to fathers, Lord. Bless them all. Bless the young new father - grinning, awed, proud and a little scared as he feels the tightly curled fingers of his first child.  
Keep him always close to that child,

Lord. As loving and tender as he is now. But strong enough to meet its ever-growing demands.

And oh, help him really to enjoy it. Laugh with it, talk with it, listen to it – be its friend as well as its dad.

Bless the dad in the middle, Lord. The man who knows that raising kids isn't just circuses and ball games, but bills and braces, discipline and dissension sometimes.

Ease his aching bones, Lord, and his often aching heart.

And oh, Lord, bless the old father, too. The one looking back. The man who is no longer the mainspring of that strange, exasperating, demanding but so important institution, a family. His views don't count any more . . . or so he thinks. He may even believe – wrongly – that he's no longer needed.

You, the Father of us all, surely know how each of these fathers feels. Comfort them, Lord. And help us, their sons and daughters, to show them that we do appreciate them. That we love them and feel very grateful that God gave us a glimpse of what He's really like – in them.

Marjorie Holmes

### Sermon . . .

(Continued from Page 32)

depend upon church order. It is a strengthening thing. We feel a wonderful security because where there is oneness and unity of heart and mind, there is strength.

Having, then, this orderliness, we find that it promotes the other thing which Paul commended them for, steadfastness of faith. What does being steadfast mean? It means being consistent, being strong, not wavering. It means being able to weather out the storms, the trials and the tribulations that come along in life.

We know that such things will happen. None of us will be spared some kind of cross to carry, and we know why it is to be that way. We know of the Saviour's teachings, of the great importance which He put upon humbleness of spirit. Surely humility and the crosses that the Lord places upon us go hand in hand, do they not? That is part of steadfastness, continuing strong and firm in our faith even though crosses are laid upon us.

Then Paul said, "As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so

walk ye in him: Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught . . ." Col. 2:6, 7.

Two elements come to mind here. One is the spiritual essence, the spiritual presence of God, that force which brought forth the miracle of conversion within our hearts, our souls and spirits. Man could not do this. It was done solely through the power of the Spirit of God.

The other element is that we could receive instruction through inspired teachings. As it says, ". . . as ye have been taught . . ." We are going to be students all of our lives. We have a great deal to learn.

How thankful we are that the apostle could point that out as well. We know that it was meant for us. He then gives us this warning, "Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ." Col. 2:8.

We know that the Saviour Himself warned His disciples against those coming after Him, even carrying His name. He told them to beware. I believe that quite likely the greatest danger that the soul of man has to fear is false doctrine and false teaching.

Jesus was so loving, so kind, and so generous to have given His blood so that our sins could be forgiven. Each one who has made that wonderful and miraculous experience knows the depth and the power of this miracle that God performs in the hearts of men.

We have also come to realize that we are subject to a variety of inputs into our lives. We are just built that way. Today with modern communications, there are many sources of this, many doctrines, many pieces of instruction. The Saviour initially, and now the Apostle Paul, warns us against being deceived.

Here in this country, we have a complex network of highly sophisticated sensing devices. It is called, "The Early Warning System". It is to protect the country, to give very early warning of dangers that would come from enemy forces. What is the reason for that? It is to give a little bit of time to come to a posture of defense, to be able to be protected, to be able to take shelter, and I believe that is the same principle that is behind these warnings for Christians. If we can sense in advance that there is danger headed in our direction, then we will have some time to prepare

our defenses and to be ready for it when the onslaught comes. We know where to go for our defenses, do we not?

In Ephesians, the Apostle Paul pointed out beautifully the armour that we have. Part of it is the reading of God's Word and the faith that we have. We have opportunity to pray to God for His help, His strength and His guidance. I believe that that is what the apostle was directing us to do in his good instructions.

Whenever we have an early warning, we should go to the Word and to God in prayer. We have also been given the blessedness of the shepherds of the flock, who have been ordained and have been given duties and responsibilities. We are all human and, myself in particularly, rather naive in so many ways and in so many things. Often, as the human mind reacts to certain situations, we formulate our own ideas and our own opinions; but we have the opportunity to come and to ask for advice and counsel, to share and to say, "I felt this way."

Ask advice from our dear brothers and sisters-in-faith, from those whom we have great respect for and especially from those who have lived long in the faith, who are the pillars of our faith, and who have weathered many storms in life. We can share with them in a quiet visit. They have had much experience and can give us good advice.

In this way we can make some preparation for danger which is perhaps headed in our direction. Then, when we hear false doctrines, this spoiling that can come through vain deceit and through philosophy, we can be ready for it. When the test comes, when we actually come face to face with it, we have the assurance of some very special help.

We remember the teaching of our Saviour who told His disciples that when brought before the magistrate, they should not think beforehand what to say, for at that time it would be given to them. Isn't that wonderful? When we are faced with such challenges which are oftentimes fearful to us, who is standing there by our side? It is our Lord and Saviour, Christ Jesus!

Do you know how He came to stand there by our side? Do you know how much He loves us? He was willing to give His life so that He could come and stand by our side and help us. Is He standing by your side?

FEB 02602 LK  
CHARLES WALDER  
EAST LYNN IL 60932

## SERMON BY BRO. JOHN KLOTZLE OF ALTADENA, CA

Text: Colossians 2:1-15

We know that the author of these words, the Apostle Paul, was given a very special mission to accomplish. He was a chosen vessel of the Lord, and he experienced what you and I can experience, a blessed awakening through the presence of the Spirit of our Saviour, Christ Jesus. We can then become converted and rejoice in wonderful bliss.

After Paul's conversion, he received further direction from the Spirit concerning his calling in life. We are the fortunate beneficiaries, we might say, of the results and the fruits of his labors. Part of this has been shared with us through today's reading in this Holy Word.

Paul was instructed by God and moved by the Spirit to teach and to establish churches. We know that he had a great love for these churches. We know that this love stemmed from the heart of our Saviour, Christ Jesus, Who is one and the same with our Heavenly Father.

Paul knew that to walk here upon the earth would be very difficult even after we have been washed clean in the shed blood of our Saviour. He knew that we would need help and assistance as we walk this pathway of life. These precious epistles that the Apostle Paul has written have given us much help. We can sense the love that Paul had for us, not only his duty to his calling, but also concern for the welfare of all souls that would follow.

Even though Paul the apostle was not a married man and had no children of his own, we can feel that he had the love of a father in his heart. He looked upon the children of God with a 'father-heart' full of care and concern like that of our Heavenly Father.

We who are earthly parents know that feeling well. We know the duties and responsibilities that fall upon us, and the great love that we have in our hearts for our children. How we hope

and wish and pray for their soul's welfare, their physical protection and their material provision. We want only good things to happen to them.

A portion of this good which we desire for them is sharing the physical blessings that the Lord has given us. But that is secondary to their spirit's welfare. Because of the love that we have in our hearts for our children, we want to share God's spiritual blessings with them.

We feel the responsibility that is given to us as parents to rear our children in the fear and nurture of God. This takes form in a variety of ways, does it not? Obviously, in our daily lives they look to us for direction. The Lord gave us loving parents, many of whom are now lying in their graves. The love that they had for us, their care and concern, was manifested in numerous ways. Some of the ways that it was given and shared with us was in their direction, in their counseling and in their advice.

As children, we sometimes had a resentful feeling about that. We felt that mom and dad were "putting their finger on us" a little bit too heavily. In our early years, those feelings lasted perhaps five or ten minutes. Then all was forgiven and forgotten, and it was wonderful to feel their love, and the sense of safety and security that we had in the home.

As we grew a little older, we found that we wanted to exercise our independence just a little bit more. Then this goodly advice, counsel and admonition became somewhat wearisome to us. The feelings in our hearts lasted a little longer than they used to. We have to confess this instinct of human nature that wanted to rise up within us.

Of course we know where those bad feelings came from. The evil one wants to have his way with us and to take control of our lives. But that did not

dishearten those who loved us, or who were concerned about us. We found (depending on our relationship) that sometimes there was not a great deal of communication. However, there was something special that perhaps it took us a while to realize. That was the prayers of our parents.

I heard something just yesterday that was so touching. As the Word was brought forth, this comment was made: If young people could see printed on the walls of their bedrooms all of the prayers of their parents, what a deeply moving and touching thing this would be!

That communication with God, that form of guidance and direction, was generated out of the love that they had for us.

The Apostle Paul had that same kind of love for the church because he was responsible for much of it in its early formative years. He gave this good counsel to us also. It is written and recorded so that we can read and be reminded.

As we recall, too, our parents' approach often came in a warning. They wanted us to be aware of harm and danger, because that was a great concern that they had.

We find the same care and concern in the Apostle Paul who warned about false teachings. He first acknowledged and encouraged through reiterating the precious blessings that had been received from God through His Son, Christ Jesus. Even though Paul was "absent in the flesh", he was with them in spirit. He rejoiced in their order, and in the steadfastness of their faith in Christ. This tells us that he had a great deal of confidence in them.

Isn't it wonderful how Paul sets this forth? He identifies the importance of order within the faith. We have learned to know, to love, to respect and to

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