

The Silver Lining

A LIGHT FOR BELIEVERS

VOLUME 34

JULY 1984

NUMBER 7

"... Let Freedom Ring!"

Our fathers' God, to Thee, Author of liberty, to Thee we sing;
Long may our land be bright, with freedom's holy light,
Protect us by Thy might, Great God our King!
My Country 'tis of Thee, vs. 4

Recently our land of freedom, the U.S.A., celebrated Independence Day. We praise God for our land, our liberties and all the many blessings of a life of freedom. There was another birthday commemorated this year on July 4. The Statue of Liberty celebrated her 100th birthday. When we think of the Statue and the liberty that she represents, we also are reminded of an even greater symbol of liberty established almost 2,000 years ago, the old rugged cross.

"Statue of Liberty"

In New York harbor stands a lady,
With a torch raised to the sky;
And all who see her know she stands for
Liberty for you and me.

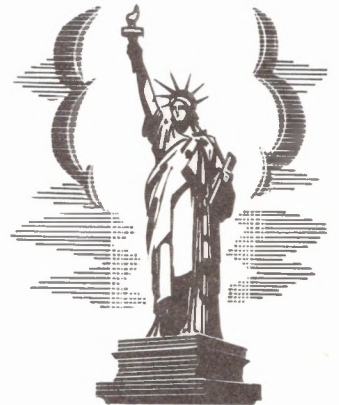
I'm so proud to be called an American,
To be named with the brave and the free;
I will honor our flag and our trust in God,
And the Statue of Liberty.

On lonely Golgotha stood a cross,
With my Lord raised to the sky;
And all who kneel there live forever
As all the saved can testify.

I'm so glad to be called a Christian,
To be named with the ransomed and whole;
As the statue liberates the citizen,
So the cross liberates the soul.

O the cross is my statue of liberty,
It was there that my soul was set free;
Unashamed I'll proclaim that a rugged cross
Is my statue of liberty.

Neil Enloe



Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed... for he that is dead is freed from sin. Romans 6:6, 7. Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. Romans 8:21. If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed. John 8:36.

In viewing the world around us, let us as Christians recognize that there is no better time, no better place and no more qualified individuals than ourselves to, truly, "let freedom ring!". May we fully realize the freedom that Christ offers, and when our Saviour returns may He find us, "standing fast in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, not intangled in any yoke of bondage!" Galatians 5:1.

WORLD RELIEF COMMITTEE REPORT EASTERN EUROPE FOOD PACKAGES FOR ROMANIA

During late 1983, a letter was sent to the Treasurer Representatives of our churches encouraging them to advise their home churches to send aid for Romania through established World Relief Committee channels. Also, a series of articles in the Silver Lining were written by Bro. Andy Hunyady of our Columbus church telling of responses from those receiving food packages in Romania, since he has been handling food package orders and related correspondence in this matter. As a result of these efforts, many of our brethren have been moved by the Lord to contribute money for special church collections or send individual aid for food packages. These special donations have been used to send over 800 food packages since the beginning of 1984 at an average cost of about \$50.00 each. The Committee was overwhelmed by the response of the brethren. This was discussed at our April 28 meeting and we felt the need to inform the many who gave special help, by writing about it in the Silver Lining. We know that God's special blessing will rest upon all who gave something extra for this urgent need.

Suggestions For Those Who Write To Believers In Eastern Europe

The believers in Eastern Europe deeply appreciate our prayers, aid and encouragement by mail. Recently we were cautioned to be careful what we write to them, since such correspondence is subject to review by those in authority. This applies to all countries there, even though some may seem to be more liberal than others. Some suggestions are as follows:

1. Write of our spiritual hopes and

faith to encourage them, as it helps them to know that we care and pray for them. Pray for God's guidance before beginning your letter.

2. Write about our families and church in a positive way, not making them feel that we are boasting, but thankful. Many of the believers there are very concerned for us and pray for our spiritual welfare, because they know that we have more material comforts and therefore we may be tempted to seek a broader spiritual way.

3. Do not write negative comments about their political system — it is best not to write about politics. Do not ask about their trials.

4. Do not write questions on how to get help to the Russian believers from other countries. If such a letter is read by the authorities, it may be used against the believer receiving such a letter. This could affect their daily job or result in a loss of privileges in an adverse way. If you have some suggestions on how to help the believers there, write to Bro. Hunyady or me and it will be reviewed with the Committee and our elders for follow-up. They appreciate your prayers as much as aid, since they don't want extra material comforts which will take away depth from their spiritual lives.

We believe that much good has been derived from our contacts with the dear believers in Eastern Europe and encourage those who write to them to continue doing so, keeping in mind the suggestions listed above. May God bless each of you richly for your spiritual and financial help.

Humbly submitted on behalf of the Committee by Bro. Leon Graf.

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

SPECIAL NOTE

A change in mailing address for ALL sermon tape requests and returns should be sent to:

**Apostolic Christian Church
Recording Service
P. O. Box 990
Bluffton, IN 46714**

THE SILVER LINING

Grabill, Indiana 46741
USPS 496780

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Lynn Stieglitz
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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.

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IN MEMORY — EDITORS:
HENRY SOUDER
EDWARD SOUDER

SILVER LINING FINANCIAL REPORT

July 1, 1983 to June 30, 1984

RECEIPTS:

Dues Collection	36,784.05
Special Donations	674.54
Interest	598.92
	\$38,057.51

EXPENSES:

Printing	35,854.59
Postage	4,547.34
Supplies	872.86
Insurance	6.00
	\$41,280.79

Deficit \$3,223.28

NOTE: Change in subscription rate.

Due to running a deficit for the past year, we will need to go to a subscription rate of \$7.00 per year. Dues collection fell \$1,256.00 short and we printed 8 monthly issues of 32 pages which raised the printing costs. Special contributions are very much appreciated as these contributions help keep us continuing on. Thanking everyone for their help, the correspondents, the Silver Lining Staff and all.

David Bertsch for the
Silver Lining Staff

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S HOME

Uriel Gehring — Jane Stieglitz

Summer is here and we are being treated to a variety of weather patterns with our great God at the helm of the elements. His choosing of the weather for mother earth is simply majestic, and sometimes awesome, but always reminding us of our nothingness as compared to His greatness.

The gardens are producing fresh vegetables, the flowers are giving us a variety of color schemes, and the grass, for the most part, is a luscious green. As we view the grandeur of His artistry, we must conclude "Praise the Lord, all ye nations: Praise Him all ye people. For his merciful kindness is great toward us: and the truth of the Lord endureth forever. Praise ye the Lord." Ps. 117.

Sis. Cindy Baurer, who has given of her time and talents to the children at the Home for a year and a half, has returned to the Princeville area. Thank you, Cindy, for being a part of us, and for your contribution to the children's welfare and the heritage of the Home. May the Lord richly bless you in your future undertakings.

Sis. Maxine Sauder, who has been attending church at Winthrop, Minnesota, is taking Sis. Cindy's position as assistant houseparent in the East House. We are looking forward to many blessed hours together as we continue on in our "work of faith and labor of love." Welcome, Sis. Maxine, to our staff.

Recently, the houseparents and the children in each house went on family vacations together. The East House went to Kentucky to the Natural Bridge State Park and to Squire Boone Caverns. The West House stayed at a cabin, on Lake Pelican, in Minnesota, for one week. The children were appreciative of the opportunity to take these new adventures and enjoyed it immensely. While the staff and kids were travelling, Bro. Uriel, and his family, returned to Burlington, Iowa to recuperate from his recent health difficulties. Since his return to Leo, Bro. Uriel seems to be regaining his strength and he hopes to be back in full swing soon. We hope so too.

In Bro. Uriel's absence, Bro. Bob Cockburn has returned to carry on the administrative duties. We appreciate having a "captain of the ship". Thank you Bob for the services and encour-

agement you have rendered.

Some of the staff and children were taken on two tours recently. One was a tour of a popcorn factory and the other of a local jail. Both were very educational and enjoyed by all.

The children's jobs are going well this summer. It is a good learning experience for them. They also appreciate having the extra money.

Beth A. is in summer band presently. She states that she works hard, having to march for several hours straight. We are glad that she can have this experience. Beth plays a trumpet for Leo High School Band.

Many volunteers have come to share of their talents, already this summer. Our chicken house, which burned due to faulty wiring, was rebuilt by about ten brothers from Junction, Bluffton, and Leo. Thank you for your hard work, men! Others have lent their services in the area of maintenance, housework, transporting of children, tutoring in the summer school and houseparenting. I do not want to mention names, for fear I would forget someone. Each of you are precious to us and we appreciate the time and effort it took. Thank you!

Sis. Jackie Babin has been spending quite a bit of time with her sister, Sandy Gasper, who is hospitalized in Peoria, IL, with a rare, terminal illness. This has been a trying time for the Babins, Jackie's family, the kids and the rest of the staff. Please remember all of us in your prayers. We especially pray that God's will is done for Sandy!

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

The month of July is so full of summer. Even more than the bountiful sunshine and warm temperatures is the beautiful, natural landscape with flowers, blue skies and moonlit nights, which all point to a kind and benevolent Creator. Blending into this scene can often be seen our national flag, gently waving in the summer's breeze, serving as a reminder that in spite of all our concerns to the contrary, this is still a nation which has the inscription on its coins, "In God We Trust". Included in the pledge of allegiance to our flag are still the words, "One Nation Under God", and it is on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C. that the day begins with a prayer. Let our prayers daily be fervent that these acknowledgements of our dependency upon God become real to more and more people as time

goes on.

It was on the morning of June 14 that we bade farewell to our Dean Stoller, who has been transferred to a nursing home nearer to his family. After being here eleven years, we shall surely miss him.

Many of our residents recently spent a day at Wildlife Prairie Park, west of Peoria. It was a weary, but happy group who trudged home that evening.

Some residents are taking a bit of vacation away from the Home with family; some are spending time away at camp and some are enjoying visits from family here. That, along with vacations for staff, keep things interesting here at the Home. Visitors are welcome. If your vacation brings you to the area, please feel free to stop, for you, indeed, are a vital part of our Home.

The tale is told of a sweet, young, Christian lady, who because of multiple handicaps which made her physically unattractive, was shunned and sometimes ridiculed by society. However, because she was a follower of Christ's teachings, she accepted this humbly and patiently, always trusting God for comfort and strength. There was another lady, though, who loved, befriended, encouraged and comforted her daily. How precious was their friendship! The time came when the question was asked, "How is it that you can be so kind to that handicapped one, who seems so repulsive?" The reply came quickly. "Oh, she is not ugly at all. She is most beautiful. You see, I am blind, and I cannot see her physical appearance. I can only see the beauty of her soul."

How true it is that as we learn to know and love our residents, it is as if the mortal shell fades from our sight; and we see the genuine innocence and God-given beauty underneath.

ALABAMA, ATHENS

Joan Schrenk

Summer is here and it's hot and fairly dry here. With the extra garden and yard work time really seems to fly by. We hope we will soon have rain as it has now been 21 days without rain and the crops need moisture.

Next week we travel to Peoria for our annual visit. Every one is very excited about this. For most of the members here, this is the only time they get to visit another church. We get on the bus Friday evening about 9 o'clock, getting to Peoria about 7 a.m. We spend a

lovely weekend there, getting back to Athens about 2 a.m. Monday. It's a long, hard, but very blessed, weekend and one much needed by us all. How grateful we all are to the brethren for their love and kindness shown us. Such a light they have always been to us; only God can be their rewarder.

We had our preschool graduation. It was such a blessed evening. Oh to see and hear from those dear innocent little ones the songs and verses that they learned throughout the year. "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old he will not depart from it." Proverbs 22:6.

Last month for our Sunday School we had a ball game, weiner roast and a slide about the life of Joseph. This month we will have a picnic, to which the whole church is invited.

ARIZONA, PHOENIX

Ron and Ev Hoerr

Decoration Day weekend, our Sunday School was host to Tucson and Altadena Sunday Schools and Youth groups. The weather was very warm, so they really enjoyed the time spent in Prescott. On Sunday evening we enjoyed our monthly potluck and singing.

Bro. Loren Knapp (Tucson) was our guest minister.

On May 22 Bro. Clarence and Sis. Gerry Beyer received word of the untimely death of her brother, Robert Fankhauser. He was killed in a tractor accident.

Paul Doolittle had outpatient surgery.

ARIZONA, TUCSON

Sandy Bauer — Lisa Knapp

On May 26 our Bible Class and Sunday School teachers traveled to Phoenix for an Apostolic Christian Youth Fellowship weekend. Our thanks goes to the Phoenix church, especially the Sunday School teachers and students there, for making the weekend a blessing for all who were privileged to attend.

Our congratulations to this year's graduates! Steve Bauer and Lucy Knapp graduated from high school and Bro. Bill Woodruff graduated from the University of Arizona. Our best wishes go to these students as they plan for the future with their diplomas in hand.

With a humble heart, Orville Schmidt has begun his walk with the Lord. We are always encouraged by new converts. We are sorry, though,

that Orville is in the hospital now. May the Lord grant him patience and lead him to a speedy and permanent recovery.

As the Fourth of July again approaches, we are reminded of the freedom we enjoy here in America. So, too, we should remember what a great price Christ paid to set us free from sin.

Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free. They answered him, We be Abraham's seed, and were never in bondage to any man: how sayest thou, Ye shall be made free? Jesus answered them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin. And the servant abideth not in the house for ever: but the Son abideth ever. If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.

St. John 8:31-36

CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA

Mary Beth Klotzle

Our hearts were refreshed and our zeal was renewed as we recently partook of Holy Communion. May we each day be reminded of the suffering of Christ on the cross for our sins, and have a deep feeling of thanks to God for His richest gift . . . salvation!

What a joy to write of another soul who has sought the Lord's forgiveness through repentance. Fred Witzig (Bro. Bill and Sis. Mary) has accepted the invitation of God and has begun to walk in the steps of our Savior. "The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusted in Him, and I am helped: therefore my heart greatly rejoiceth; and with my song will I praise Him." Ps. 28:7. May Fred continue to be strengthened by the Lord, and trust with a rejoicing heart that God will always grant daily grace.

God has certainly blessed us with many opportunities to fellowship, worship and sing praises with our brothers and sisters throughout America and Japan. We thank the visiting ministers who shared His Word this past month: Bro. Jim Funk (Tucson), Bro. Ernest Graf (Akron) and Bro. Greg Rassi (Chicago). With summertime here, there are many plans being made for vacationing. May God's protecting hand go with each traveler.

Ron Locher (Bro. Leonard and Sis.

Christine) was united in marriage to Annette Kay. We wish them the Lord's blessings, love and nearness as they live their lives together.

The engagement of Bro. Jeff Luthi (Bro. Reuben and Sis. Chrystal) and Sis. Shirley Witzig (Bro. Bill and Sis. Mary) was announced. We are thankful for them and for God's provision of another couple here in our small congregation. May their plans be blessed and proceed under God's direction.

We all enjoy the freedoms with which God has blessed our country, and probably take them for granted. We ought to be more thankful for being able to worship in peace and free from fear. Our hearts go out to those believers in lands who don't have such freedom. Yet, I wonder if they don't appreciate the freedom from sin more than we do? If all the freedoms of our country were taken away, we'd still be left the freedom to believe in our hearts on the Lord Jesus Christ. May God grant us all the desire to live in freedom from sin and to remain true to Him, no matter what kind of battles, physical or spiritual, we are led through. With Him as our Father and Guide, we can be victorious and enter Heaven on the judgement day.

CALIFORNIA, MAYWOOD

Ben Ammann

On Sunday morning, June 10, we heard of the passing of Sis. Eva Fuhrer at the nursing home in Rittman, Ohio. Sis. Eva was here in Maywood many years after moving from Mansfield, OH.

Sunday, June 17, we were happy to have Bryan Dapper, his wife and son, and Paula Dapper worshipping with us on their vacation in California.

Sorry to report Bro. Ed Ruehle is still hospitalized.

COLORADO, DENVER

Marlene Leman

Lord, I love thy children dearly;
All who follow Thee sincerely,
They are precious to my heart!
Thou knowest how my heart rejoices,
Meeting those whose hearts and voices
Are with Thee in one accord!

I embrace, O Lord, Thy servants,
Joined to them in love so fervent,
Asking, Lord, that from Thy face
They receive a thousand blessings;

In Thy ways, Thy strength possessing,
Lead them in Thy light and grace.

Zion's Harp #189

Another precious soul has been added to the Fold of God. It's wonderful to greet Bro. Mike Martin and feel God's love flow from heart to heart. We pray for much grace for him that he may always follow the Lord sincerely. Our dear Elder Bro. Nathan Steffen was with us for this blessed occasion. We were also privileged to partake of Holy Communion that weekend. It is good for us to remember our Lord's death and suffering, to think of His deep love for us, and to be reminded that we should love our brothers and sisters just as much. Love is not just an emotion, it is a way of life.

Sis. Vera Jivan and her mother, Sis. Elizabeth Jivan were both hospitalized. We are happy that they have both recovered and are able to assemble with us again.

Bro. Joe Aberle (Sabetha) and Elder Bro. Lester Hartter (Bern) each spent a Sunday with us. We appreciate each brother who comes to serve us. May God bless each and every one!

Once more we welcome new residents. Rod Schmidt (Sis. Betty, West Bend) has moved to Denver from Grand Junction, CO. Sis. Mary Hein (Bro. Matt, Elgin, IL) has moved here from Peoria. We are happy to have them assembling with us and wish them many blessings in their new location.

CONNECTICUT, ROCKVILLE Michelle Virkler

"Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord." Psalm 127:3

We rejoice when another bundle has been added to our congregation. Luanne and Scott Hills are the parents of a baby boy, Aaron Thomas, born May 22. Grandparents are Bro. Robert and Sis. Pauline Luginbuhl and Joyce Milliken.

Tyler John was born May 27 to Bro. John and Sis. Kay Lanz. Grandparents are Bro. Wilbur and Sis. Marge Schneider, and Bro. Edwin and Sis. Marilyn Lanz.

"... the goodness of God leadeth to repentance." Romans 2:4. Once again the Lord has touched the heart of a dear and precious friend. Jim Galligan (Ed and Marion) has turned to his

loving Savior for love, guidance and direction.

Sis. Elsie Lanz is recuperating in Florida from her illness. We trust the Lord will grant Elsie strength to return home again. Bro. Lester Heintz was recently hospitalized and is now recovering at home. We trust he will be able to assemble with us once again. Jeremiah 30:17, "For I will restore health unto Thee, and I will heal Thee of thy wounds."

On Saturday, June 2, we witnessed the testimonies of 5 dear precious souls: Laurie and Joann Gerber (Bro. Edwin and Sis. Beverly), Jeanie Skipper (Bro. Joseph and Sis. Alma), Sandi Schneider (Bro. Emmanuel & Sis. Verona) and Kim Niemann (Clifford Niemann family). As we listened to the miracle of God once again we were rejuvenated in mind and spirit.

On Sunday, June 3, baptisms were held for the 5 new converts who have erected a covenant with their Savior. "Sealed with the Holy Spirit of Promise." Ephesians 1:13. Elder Bros. Robert Grimm (Goodfield, IL) and Orville Ringger (Bluffton, IN) assisted our Elder Bro. Corbin Bahler. Bro. Grimm and Bro. Ringger served us with so many precious teachings. Their labors have left us all with memories and the fervent desire to stay true in our daily walk with Jesus. We also heard how God has reserved a place for us in heaven if we stay true and obedient to His Word.

"Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water." Let us hold fast to the profession of our faith without waivering for he is faithful that promised. And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works." Hebrews 10:22, 23.

We heard of the "Fruit of the Spirit" - love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness and temperance. Galatians 5:22.

After such a beautiful and blessed weekend, one finds it hard to return to the workplace without having a desire to keep looking back on such a spiritually enriched weekend.

We were blessed on June 16 to have Bro. Paul Gasser (Akron, OH) visit Rockville. May God richly reward him for his labors of love.

"These things I have spoken unto you that in me ye might have peace. In

the world, ye shall have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world." St. John 16:33

FLORIDA, FT. LAUDERDALE Billie Klopfenstein

Celebrations have been held all over our great country recently to mark our Independence. Our freedoms are so precious that we should guard against taking them for granted. I just finished reading a book on Russia, and some of the things described in the book about life under communism gave me cold chills. Let's all remember our land and our leaders in prayer so that we may continue to enjoy the many things we never give a second thought to.

Ministering Bro. Harry Sutter, who has been our corresponding and lead minister for many years recently decided to turn these duties over to someone else but to remain on the pulpit and continue to preach. Bro. Harry has been in the ministry since 1960 and has guided our congregation thru construction processes on both the church proper in 1963 and our beautiful Fellowship Hall in 1980. Bro. Harry and Sis. Florence have spent much time and effort in their duties and they felt it was time for a little less responsibility. Bro. Darrell Klopfenstein was elected as lead minister.

Bro. George Bolliger had cataract surgery but is recuperating nicely.

Sis. Elena Zurz will miss her two grandchildren, Claudia and Lavinel. The children have traveled to Yugoslavia to visit relatives and plan to be away for two months.

Our annual elections were held on a recent Sunday after services. Bro. Roger Sutter and Sis. Judy Sauder were re-elected to Sunday School with Bro. Brian Webb continuing as Superintendent. Bro. Ryan Huber was elected usher to assist Bro. Noah Clauss. Sis. Joyce Troxel will head the kitchen committee for the coming year.

FLORIDA, SARASOTA Doris and Diane Rocke

Margaret (Peggy) Cambern (Jim and Joan) was united in holy matrimony to John Weinkauff (Howard and Kay, Wanatah, IN) on April 28 in the home of her grandparents, Bro. John and Lucille Heiniger. The ceremony was performed by Bro. Ben Maibach, and was followed by a buffet reception. May the Lord bless this new beginning with His love.

Bro. John Joos underwent surgery this month and is in good spirits. May God lift the hearts of all those who have been ill. Sis. Elsie Lanz is gaining strength while staying with her sister, Edna Roscher. Kenneth Rocke is still unable to go back to work, but is healing nicely.

Bro. Dan and Katherine Kurchev have moved to Akron, OH. We all enjoyed a potluck dinner on their last Sunday here. We pray they will long remember our times together and the love flowing from one to another. Sis. Ida Graff has returned to Indiana to be near her family. May she always recall her many years in Florida as a sweet uplifting memory and visit us often. Sis. Nelda Vargo was returned to her family in Detroit, MI. Newcomers to Naples, FL, and worshipping with us are Bro. Bruce and Sis. Merna Zimmerman (Morton, IL). May they feel the welcoming love with God's rich blessings.

Our saddened hearts offer a sympathetic prayer for Bro. Phil Schlatter at the passing of his dear mother. May he remember the great day promised of a reunion and take comfort through a close walk with his God.

May Sis. Sue Eisenmann and family experience the mercies of God during the time of the death of her father. What God does is done well. Our prayers are that she may feel His loving arms of comfort through these sad hours.

On June 10, Bro. Ben and Sis. Lorene Maibach (Detroit, MI) visited and blessed us with their love and kind words.

Many Sarasota folks are on vacations and we ask your prayers while we are in Maine for three months. I will resume correspondence upon my return, unless some volunteer sends special messages for the Silver Threads.

Anyone who missed paying dues this month may send them to my address as I have paid all dues for you. Thanks.

Sis. Doris Rocke, reporter

ILLINOIS,

BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL

Jan Gudeman — Shirley Denick

May our thoughts and prayers be with Bro. Randy Mogler as he journeys to Japan in July. We ask God to guide and direct him as he goes about his duties.

We extend a special thank you for

the visiting ministers that spoke to our Bible Class during Vacation Bible School. They are Bros. Edwin Ringger (Gridley), Bob Pflederer (Morton), Joe Braker (Morton) and Marshall Heinold (Washington).

Our visiting minister this month was Bro. Byron Stoller (Gridley) and his family. We thank him for bringing us God's Holy Word.

ILLINOIS, BRADFORD

Shirley Kieser

We boast of being so practical a people that we want to have a surer thing than faith. But did not Paul say that the promise was by FAITH that it might be SURE? (Romans 4:16). Faith honors God; God honors faith. Streams in the Desert.

Visiting ministers were Bros. Art Bahler and Duane Kilgus and their families from Fairbury. Our thanks for their visit and labors on our behalf.

A new playmate for Tyler and a blessing for the home of Ralph and Jenny Joos is their new son, Jeb Guthrey. Grandparents are Bro. Robert and Sis. Loraine Joos (Peoria) and the Norman Rouses (Bradford).

After being hospitalized for surgery, Sis. Emma Knobloch is home again and doing well. Our prayers are with her in making a complete recovery. Bro. Loris Kieser is hospitalized at present and hopefully his stay will be a short one.

ILLINOIS, CHICAGO

Kathy Schlatter

At a singing a blond toddler was banging his head against the wall and laughing. Why? Well, other people were laughing. Even when he realized his head hurt, he would laugh, look at the other 'kids', and then bang his head again. Similarly from pet rocks to Cabbage Patch dolls, the fads of fashion and Michael Jackson idolization to 'social' drinking, tax evasion, and drug abuse, when we watch the world and listen to their applause, we do not always know how we are affected and when we are hurt. But when we listen to the Spirit and are watchful, even painful events can bring wisdom and growth.

The support and ministry of our visitors, Bros. Carl Wyss (Washington, IL) and Mike Thomas (Valparaiso, IN) was so uplifting to our congregation and our ministering brethren. We heartily thank the Lord for them.

This year, over Memorial Day weekend, our long-anticipated bus trip was to Lamar, MO. In the guest bedroom of our hosts was the plaque, "The Will of God will not lead you where the Grace of God cannot keep you." That seems to me to represent the Lamar church so well. By the will of God, different ones have come to the area, some longer ago, some in more recent years. Though there are those with severe burdens and heavy loads, we were met with smiles and warm fellowship, delicious food and comfortable hospitality. (We had invited two nephews. One came on the bus trip and the other didn't.) In an unrehearsed stamp of approval, the seven-year-old nephew we so much enjoyed having on the trip said of his brother, "Boy, he doesn't know what he's missing." That's the way we felt, too; bountifully, blissfully, so undeservedly blessed. Truly, the Lamar, MO church (its people) are being kept by the grace of God.

Our Sunday School picnic, a feast of food, fellowship and fun, is a highlight for adults and children alike. We also like to recognize our graduates at this time. Grade school graduates are Miklos Bozzay, Jr. (Bro. Miklos and Sis. Aranka Bozzay), Luann Eisenmann (Bro. Dale and Sis. Judy Eisenmann) and Raelynn and Shannon Stahl (Bro. Norm and Sis. Gloria Stahl). Our high school graduates traditionally receive a personally imprinted chain-reference Bible from the Sunday School. Those in the class of '84 are Tibor Bozzay (Bro. Tibor and Sis. Pearl Bozzay), Greg Metzger (Bro. Boyd and Sis. Lois Metzger) and Bro. Ross Meyer (Bro. Lenard and Sis. Charlotte Meyer).

We hold out our hands and open our hearts to those who are employed in our area, joining us from other congregations: Bro. Larry and Sis. Barb Stevig, Bro. Brian Moser and Sis. Sue Cor. May we share together our love, our sorrow, our joys and our burdens. We pray that through one another, we may grow closer in the Spirit.

Losing a Christian parent puts us closer to heaven because we have a very special part of our lives already there. Her mom's triumph in death is indeed a comfort to Sis. Betty Schlatter and she has testified of the Lord's help in her loss. May we continue to pray for her for days ahead when clouds dim the horizon of hope and hurt tugs too painfully at her heart.

"The land of the free and the home

of the brave" — we sang these words at a graduation recently. 'Tis a shame that these words seem most often relegated to sporting events, which, however engrossing, do not bring to mind the heroism of the truly brave. Perhaps we have so much apparent freedom that we are enslaved by our fleshly desires and leisure time — and the brave are those in some other countries who are in mortal peril for worshipping God as they choose.

The challenges for us so often seem to be only making it financially, keeping up with the fashionable and/or educated . . . Returning from an Indiana trip, my parents and I were shocked to see fighter planes in formation low above us and zooming in for a target. (They were undoubtedly Air Reserve people on maneuvers.) But the eerie feeling reminded us of the possibility of enemy planes over our territory! America has been sheltered. Except for Pearl Harbor, we have not felt the terror and dismay of the enemy ravaging our own land. Yet, for freedom, American men and boys gave their time, their blood and even their lives. Forty years ago June 6, many brave were wounded or gave their lives for our flag to fly freely. Our God permitted these sacrifices to help us to retain that freedom. Now, however, the petty stones of American affluence and complacency are grinding down our appreciation and our willingness to strike out on the lonely road of risk, even for Christ — into complaining and apathetic ungratefulness (a tendency I find in myself first). Let us pray earnestly that as individuals in the Spirit and as a country we be chastised and return to the Way lest a worse fate come upon us. "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land." II Chronicles 7:14. "Put them in fear, O Lord: that the nations may know themselves to be but men." Psalm 9:20.

ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK
Myrna Weerts — Wilma Walder

This union of our hearts
Shall stand through grace in Jesus;
We walk the path of life,
While cheer and trust increases.
Where God in truth abides,
Where two join hand and heart,

We find a three-fold cord,
Not lightly rent apart.

Zion's Harp #79

On May 20, Bro. Doug Greiner and Sis. Jean Hunzicker were united in marriage. Parents of the couple are Bro. Howard and Sis. Vi Greiner and Bro. Albert and Sis. Virginia Hunzicker.

June 10 was the wedding day of Bro. Tom Stock and Sis. Karol Rinkenberger. Parents of the couple are Bro. Lester and Sis. Arlene Stock and Bro. Wm. and Sis. Marge Rinkenberger. May the Lord bless these new couples as they begin their married life together.

Our congregation was blessed this month with four visiting ministers; Bro. Everett Hari (Bloomington), Bro. Mike Rinkenberger (Congerville), Bro. Todd Feller (LaCrosse) and Bro. Robert Beebe (South Bend). May the Lord reward them for their labors of love to us.

Our Sunday School children enjoyed Vacation Bible School June 4 - 15. Classes for nursery through eighth grade were held each morning and four evening classes were held for our Bible Class students and young members. Ministers those evenings were Bro. Mike Rinkenberger (Congerville), Bro. Marshall Heinold (Washington), Bro. Edwin Bahler (Remington) and Bro. Ron Heiniger (Bloomington). We want to thank them for taking their time and effort to come and speak to the Bible Class and young members. On Friday evening, June 15, the children presented a program to tell us of all they learned during the two weeks of Vacation Bible School. May the Lord add his blessings to all those who helped in any way during these two weeks.

Sis. Anna Hari has left our congregation to make her home at Parkview Haven in Francesville. We will miss her and pray the Lord will continue to provide for her in her new home.

Sis. Ollie Feller and Bro. Eugene Hauptli were hospitalized this month. We think often of those who are ill and must bear the afflictions of the body. May they feel God's nearness during these trying times.

Let us remember our fathers on their special day, not only those who are living still, but the faithful fathers who have gone on before.

A dad is strength and steadiness.
Like a sturdy oak he stands, sheltering

his growing family from the storms and adverse winds of life.

Roger L. Kerr

ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE
Tammy Knapp — Kay Roth

Sis. Kim McClure (Bro. Bob and Sis. Sharon) and Bro. Randy Leman (Bro. Bruce and Sis. Marge, Roanoke) were united in holy matrimony. We will miss Sis. Kim in our congregation as they will be making Roanoke their home. We are thankful for the ministers who were with us on that day and brought us God's Holy Word. They were: Elder Bro. Don Sauder and Bros. Eugene Bertschi, Jim Leman and Bruce Leman.

Also united in marriage were Rhonda Wettstein (Bro. Vernon and Sis. Judy) and Hal Payne (Mr. and Mrs. Dick Payne, Eureka). We wish both couples God's richest blessings as they walk the path of life together.

Our high school graduates are Debbie Gudeman (Bro. Ralph and Sis. Carolyn), Sandy Knapp (Bro. Ralph and Sis. Linda), Sis. Joan Schrock (Bro. Steve and Sis. Gerri), Lori Schrock (Bro. Allen and Sis. Carol) and Richard Henry (Reginald and Edith). Sis. Susie Ott graduated from Menonite Hospital School of Nursing. May each of the graduates put their trust in God as they go forth in life and realize it is He who directs and guides each step we take if only we allow Him.

We are thankful that Sis. Erma Miller (Bro. Walt) is home from her lengthy stay at the hospital. Bro. Bill Dietrich, Sr. is presently hospitalized for hip surgery. We pray that both will feel God's healing powers as they continue to recuperate.

ILLINOIS, EUREKA
Kathy L. Locke

The Lord richly blessed the home of Bro. Keith and Sis. Dorothy Leman when Sarah Jean was born on June 8. Sarah's brother, Chad, and sister, Michelle, are eager to know her. Grandparents are Bro. Walter (and the late Sis. Mina) Anliker and Bro. Vernon and Sis. Viola Leman. May God smile down upon this family and bless them.

On June 17 we witnessed the wedding vows of Sis. Lorine Schumacher (Sis. Kathryn) and Bro. George Stoller (Gridley, IL). We wish them God's nearness as they walk this earthly path as husband and wife. Visiting ministers on this special day were Elder Bro.

Edwin Ringger and Bro. Elmer Witzig (both of Gridley, IL) and Bro. Ervin Knecht (Lamar, MO).

"Repent ye therefore, and be converted that your sins may be blotted out..." Acts 3:19. We were thankful to hear of Mike Leman's conversion on Saturday evening, June 9. The next day we welcomed him into the fold as our brother-in-faith. May God ever lead and guide His children. Mike's parents are Bro. Gerald and Sis. Velma Leman.

Bro. Earl Kilgus (Remington, IN) and Bro. Harold Schmidgall (Gridley, IL) were willing to lend themselves in speaking God's Word to us. We thank them and hope they will visit us again.

We have loved ones who have spent some time in the hospital and need your prayers. Linda Frank and Sis. Amy Stoller are still patients as of this time. Bro. Aaron Moser and Sis. Marie Klaus have been able to leave the hospital and return to their homes. "... I was strengthened as the hand of the Lord my God was upon me..." Ezra 7:28.

Our sympathy goes to Sis. Viola Leman (Bro. Vernon) in the passing of her mother, Sis. Luella Beer. Services were held in Milford, IN.

The weeks of June 4 and June 11 we held our Vacation Bible School in the evening. May the tiny seed of faith planted in the tender hearts someday bring forth pleasing fruit.

Note to Eureka: If you have moved recently or your street/route address has changed, please submit your old and your new address to your reporter.

True hope is like the sun, which, as we journey toward it, casts the shadows of our burdens behind us!

ILLINOIS, ELGIN

Ruth Ann Getz

With the month of July upon us, we think of the battle raged by our forefathers against oppressive men to gain the precious commodities of freedom, liberty and the right to live their own lives in accordance with their convictions of the Holy Scriptures.

Today we still have 'freedom' from dictatorship, especially in regard to the spiritual part of our being and 'liberty' to seek out the Biblical absolutes and use them as a pattern for our lives. How blessed if we retain such fervor and how devastating if we, because of our indifference, let them slip. For if the word spoken by the angels was stead-

fast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompense of reward; How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation...?" Hebrews 2:1, 2, 3.

We welcome Walter and Sandra Schubert and their two sons, Matthew and Michael, back to Elgin, after living for a time in Springfield, MO. While they have expressed having enjoyed Springfield, they are happy to be 'home' again.

On June 3, Bro. Keith Leman was chosen to serve as a Sunday School teacher. We trust that the Lord will stand by Keith so that the Word may be brought to the children without fear or favor and that it will reach their hearts and grow to fruition.

Margaret Gould's physical health deteriorated until she reached the point of death on June 4. Her family and the whole body of Christ was deeply grateful when Margaret was able to make an expression of faith in her final hours and was able to feel peaceful toward her God before she closed her eyes in death. What a merciful God we have! Yet how much more blessed to know this gracious God throughout life, serving Him day by day. She was born March 14, 1915 in Elgin, the daughter of Fred and Emily Greiner Schock. Our sympathy is extended to her family, especially her brothers, Bro. Richard, Bro. Frank and Henry Schock, all of Elgin.

We extend our sympathy to Sis. Anna Lohbauer in the death of her sister-in-law, Anna Ottinger. Anna was born August 31, 1904 in Elgin, the daughter of Conrad and Rose Trittenbach Lohbauer.

Sorrow has again become the portion of Roger Sauder and his family with the passing of his father, Lewis Sauder (Bluffton). Recently Roger's mother passed away and once again we extend our sympathy.

On June 5, the Sunday School children had their annual Sunday School picnic. It was good to be together with the children and to see their eagerness with the activities of the evening. Hopefully it will be times that are long remembered not only for the enjoyment of the activities, but for the warmth and love of parents and teachers.

The week of June 11 was set aside for Vacation Bible School where the children were again taught of the love of God. May these teachings stay with

the children as they mature so that some day it may bring forth perfect fruit unto salvation.

A number of brethren gathered together at the church to work together on a general housecleaning. It is a great blessing when we can labor, out of love, even in cleaning the physical house of God. May each one be blessed who so willingly gave of their time.

Tana Utt (daughter of Sis. Norma) and Tim Steen (son of John and Mary Ann) were united in marriage on June 16. We wish much happiness for them in their life together.

It seems that always there are those who require treatment because of illness. We wish to remember them always with our prayers and with loving concern, be of service where we can. Those who were in need of hospitalization were: Chad Heiniger, Stephany Schambach, Bro. Nathan Kellenberger and Sis. Sue Braun. Sis. Hilde Schumacher has suffered a fractured shoulder as a result from a fall and has been confined to her home.

We were able to enjoy the Christian fellowship of several ministering brethren this month. How good it is to welcome them into our fellowship and to feel the assurance that they are teaching the same Christ that we know. To Bro. Wayne Miller (Fort Scott), Bro. Tom Leman (Denver), Bro. Gary Maibach (Rittman) and Bro. Steve Martin we wish to extend our deepest appreciation.

ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY

Carol Bazzell — Joann Zehr

Bro. Nathan and Sis. Marsha Fehr were blessed with a baby daughter, Kyann Michelle, May 18. Grandparents are Bro. Lloyd and Myrna Moser and Bro. Wayne and Sis. Norma Fehr.

We are thankful that God has touched the heart of Crystal Broquard (Bro. Donald and Sis. Ione) and that she can seek Him in repentance.

Our high school graduates this year are Crystal Fehr (Bro. Wayne and Sis. Norma), Stephanie Schieler (Bro. Harvey and Sis. Janice), Hope Steffen (Albert and Karen), Amy Steidinger (Bro. Donald and Sis. Alice), Doug Steidinger (Bro. Maurice and Sis. Alma) and Alan Walter (Bro. Richard and Sis. Colleen). As each one of them enter into their careers or college, we sincerely wish them God's help and guidance.

United in marriage June 16 were

Todd Kilgus (Bro. Duane and Sis. Arlene) and Rita Glueck (Bro. Karl and Sis. Velda Glueck) of Tremont. May God bless their future together.

We enjoyed the visit of Bros. Vernon Wettstein and Michael Rinkenberger (Congerville) May 20 and appreciate their ministering God's Word to us.

We welcome Bro. Doug and Sis. Jean (Hunziker) Greiner. Bro. Doug will be our agriculture teacher at Fairbury-Cropsey High School this coming fall. They were just recently married and we wish them God's blessings in their new undertakings.

At this time of the year, we are especially reminded of the wonderful freedom we enjoy in America and think of the beautiful patriotic song "America, the Beautiful" (Samuel A. Ward), which states,

O beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain; For purple mountain majesties, above the fruited plain; America! America! God shed His grace on thee — And crown thy good with brotherhood, From sea to shining sea.

May we ever realize that it is only by God's grace that we can enjoy the wonderful country of America and especially our religious freedom.

Reminder: Fairbury Silver Lining collections (\$6.00) are due in August. Due to the new computerized mailing list, please pay Bro. Lloyd Zimmerman rather than sending your money directly to the Silver Lining staff. Thank you.

ILLINOIS, FORREST

Kathy Leman — Sharon Adams

Lending themselves in the ministry of God's Word were visiting brothers Glenn Dill (Tremont), Art Bahler (Fairbury), Bill Hodel (Roanoke), Sam Anliker (Lamont, KS) and Merle Kaisner (Fairbury). We thank these brothers for their labors in the Lord.

We welcome two precious souls into God's fold of believers. Jeff Zimmerman (Bro. Glen and Sis. Mildred) and Joe Koehl (Bro. Virgil and Sis. Gladys) became our brothers-in-faith after giving their testimony and being baptized the weekend of June 2 and 3. We pray that God will go with them as they journey this path of life.

Our young Bible class was privileged to host the Tremont Bible Class recently. What an opportunity it is to be able to get acquainted with other young souls of our faith.

We want to remember those that

have had illness or accident and had to spend time in the hospital: Bro. Frank Honegger, Sis. Ida Kaisner, Candy Stoller (Bro. John and Sis. Patsy), Ray Steffen (Sis. Doris) and Dan Bradley (Mary). Let us pray for these dear ones that God can provide and restore where it is His will.

Our congregation gathered together June 6 to partake of Holy Communion. Bro. Sam Anliker (Lamont, KS) and Bro. Art Bahler (Fairbury) assisted Bro. Perry in this important duty. How good it is for us to remember the suffering and agony of our Lord as He died for our sins.

Karen Jean was the name chosen for the new little bundle of Tom and Ann Schlatter. Craig and Abbey welcome her home. Bro. Dan and Sis. Josephine Schlatter are the happy grandparents.

Our young children and all enjoyed our annual Sunday School picnic. We enjoy hearing the songs of Jesus from the little ones who are so precious and pure in God's sight. We hope that this precious seed will grow in their hearts, that they will become the future church.

ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD

Pam Wiegand

We're pleased to announce the arrival of two babies, both born May 26. Rebecca Jo is the new daughter of Dale and Linda (Martin) Rhoades. She has two older brothers, Kelly and Joshua.

Bro. Rick and Sis. Sue (Roth) Wiegand had a little boy, Kent. He also has two older brothers, Curt and Brad. We extend best wishes to both families.

We've had quite a few people in the hospital. They are Sis. Ethel Finley, Sis. Shirley Debolt, little Roschelle Joos (Bro. Glenn and Sis. Bev), little Sheri Wiegand (new daughter of Mark and Sandy) and Sis. Mary Wiegand (Simon). We're glad to see them all home for now and wish them all God's blessings.

We thank Bro. Arnold Gerst and Elder Bro. Roy Grimm (both of Taylor) for their recent visits to Goodfield.

A note of thanks:

I want to take this opportunity to thank all of my brothers and sisters-in-faith, family and friends for all of the kindness shown, for prayers offered, for cards, gifts and food sent in.

A special thank you to the ministers who visited me, that gave me so much comfort in my need.

May God richly bless each and every one of you. I love you all.

A least sister-in-faith, Mary Wiegand

ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY

Carol Klopfenstein

"Sowing the Seed in the Garden of the Lord" was this year's theme for our Vacation Bible School which was held June 4 - 8. Each day the young children were reminded that the precious seed, the Word of God, was being sown. It is important that our hearts are fertile and not hard or full of thorns. Probably even the youngest child could understand that just as the birds came and ate the seed that was sown by the hard and trodden down wayside, so the devil will come and take God's truth away from us if our heart is hard and we don't let the good seed sink in and grow roots.

When we observed these precious children sing praises and recite verses in their Vacation Bible School program, we were impressed by their innocence and their child-like faith. How much we want to keep them close in the way of truth and righteousness! May we continue to do our best by His grace to bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

We appreciated the visits of ministering Bro. Don Wagenbach (Washington) and Bro. Chuck Hemmer (Peoria) who spoke to our Bible Class during Vacation Bible School. We were also blessed by the visit of ministering Bro. Harold Gramm (Morris).

June 13 was a blessed occasion when we were served Holy Communion by our beloved Shepherds in the faith, Elder Bro. Don Sauder (Roanoke) and Elder Bro. Edwin Ringger. "He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities . . . by His stripes we are healed." (Isaiah 53:5). These moving words about our suffering Savior make us feel unworthy and so grateful for the wonderful love of Christ our Lord! We are honored and privileged to be members of His body and to partake of this bread and cup.

Bro. George Stoller (Gridley) was united in holy matrimony with Sis. Lorine Schumacher (Eureka) on June 17.

Bro. Allen and Sis. Delores Marti's daughter, Tina, is engaged to be married to Don Jackson, formerly of Bay City, MI.

Neal Wettstein, son of Bro. Lyle and Sis. Linda, has been in the hospital.

Also, Bro. Ed Witzig has been a hospital patient.

ILLINOIS, MORTON

Phyllis Farney — JoAnn Roecker

Frank Milazzo was called out of this life quite suddenly. His funeral was held on May 18. May our Heavenly Father richly comfort and bless his wife, Sis. Marlene, his family and friends.

Sis. Hannah Ackerman was called Home after a lengthy illness. Her funeral was held on May 19. May our Heavenly Father comfort and bless her family and friends.

We are rejoicing with Sis. Jean (Bro. Al and Sis. Ginny) Hunziker and Bro. Doug (Bro. Howard and Sis. Vi) Greiner (Cissna Park, IL), as they became one in Christ Jesus on May 20. May the Lord richly bless and keep them and truly be the head of their home.

Bro. Noah Zobrist was called Home. His funeral was held on May 27. May our Heavenly Father comfort and bless his family and friends.

We are rejoicing with Margaret Rassi. We heard her testimony of faith and witnessed her baptism on May 30. May our Heavenly Father continue to lead, guide and direct her on the straight and narrow pathway of life.

Sis. Desma (Larry and Linda) Davis and Bro. Lee (Bro. Alvin and Sis. Ellen) Klopfenstein (Latty, OH) exchanged their wedding vows on June 3. May our Heavenly Father richly bless them and be the head of their home. We will miss Sis. Desma, as she and Bro. Lee will be worshipping with the Columbus, OH, congregation.

We wish to express our sincere sympathy to Sis. Emmadale Baer and Sam Grimm upon the passing of their sister, Sis. Pearl Rumbold (Peoria, IL). May the Lord comfort and bless her family and friends.

We are mindful of all our loved ones who have recently spent time in the hospital or who are ill or shut-in in their homes and/or nursing homes. May we continue to uphold them in prayer.

We wish to thank Bros. Lester Huber (Lexington, KY), David Wiegand (Champaign-Urbana, IL), Walter Anliker (Eureka, IL) and Glen Funk (Garden Grove, IA) for ministering God's Holy Word to us. May God richly bless them for their labors of love.

Our children and young people enjoyed Vacation Bible School from June 4 through June 8. We appreciate all

who took time to come and learn more about Jesus. May God bless all who came and especially our Sunday School teachers for preparing and teaching the nightly lessons.

As our country celebrates July 4, may we continue to be prayerful for our President and all those who are in government so that God will continue to let a measure of peace abide here on earth. May we pray for all nations and governments.

CORRECTION: The engagement of Sis. Sue Schrock (Bro. Don and Sis. Lorna) was to Bro. Steve Jones (not Joos). Bro. Steve is the son of Gene and Sis. Sherrill. We extend our apologies to all parties involved. Editor.

ILLINOIS, PEORIA

Susi Herman — Margo Marx

During the week of June 4 - 8 Vacation Bible School was held. Through the inspiration of God, the teachers were able to bring forth God's teachings and point out some important traditions for each age group. We pray that those who reached the age of accountability might have been convicted and will realize the importance of repenting. "Therefore, brethren, stand fast, and hold the traditions which ye have been taught, whether by word, or our epistle." II Thess. 2:15.

Sis. Marti Stoller (Bro. Herb and Sis. Nancy) and Bro. Brent Gutwein (Bro. Jim and Sis. Marian, Francesville, IN) exchanged their wedding vows May 27. We will miss Sis. Marti in our gathering as they will make their home in Francesville. We wish them God's richest blessings as they begin their new life together.

Our congratulations go to all our graduates from high school and college. We wish them God's blessings and guidance in all of their future plans.

Our dear Sis. Pearl Rumbold was sweetly called to her eternal home. May God comfort and bless her loved ones during this time of loss.

We thank Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman (Francesville), Bro. Earl Kilgus (Remington, IN), Bro. Greg Rassi (Chicago) and Bro. Jay Rinkenberger (Goodfield) for sharing God's precious Word with us.

Hospital patients are Sis. Emma Schumacher, Sis. Barbara Herman, Sis. Viola Triplett, Sis. Madge O'Moran, Richard Weyeneth and Phillip Sceggel (Bro. Mark and Sis. Judy).

May they feel God's presence as they struggle with adversity.

We are happy to report the birth of Dustin James to Bro. Tim and Sis. Debbie Funk. Happy grandparents are Bro. Jim and Sis. Lou Ann Funk (Tucson, AZ) and Bro. Walter Feucht (Tucson, AZ).

Also born this month was Jeffrey James to Bro. Jim and Sis. Nanette David. Happy grandparents are Wade and Marge Fehr and Nina David (Peoria). "Lo, children are a heritage of the Lord: and the fruit of the womb is his reward." Psalm 127:3.

ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE

Arlene and Arlys Martin

When the outlook is dark, try the "uplook".

Visiting ministers have been Bros. Marshall Heinold (Washington), Ronald Heiniger (Bloomington), Donald Manz (Junction, OH), Donald Sauder (Roanoke), John Lehman (Bern, KS), Joe Braker (Morton), Bob Meyer (Bluffton, IN) and Dan Koch (Tremont).

Our high school graduates and their parents were honored at a breakfast at our fellowship hall on May 27. The graduates are: Mark Feucht (Bro. Earl and Sis. Margaret), Sue Herrmann (Bro. Noah and Sis. Evalyn), Jay Knobloch (Bro. Ed and Sis. Frances), Todd Martin (Bro. Ellsworth and Sis. Donna), Sheryl Martin (Bro. Ray and Sis. Edna), Myron Rumbold (Bro. Ron and Sis. Jackie), Karen Scholl (Bro. Bob and Sis. Arlene) and Annette Streitmatter (Bro. Floran and Sis. Twylla).

On May 27 our congregation elected two Sunday School teachers. They are Bro. Erik Givens and Bro. Al Hartzler who will replace Bro. Gale Stoller and Bro. Bob Wieland.

On May 27 Bro. Dave Kieser announced the engagement of Bro. Bruce Graham to Sis. Pam Wagenbach. Parents are Bro. Dick and Sis. Jeanette Graham and Bro. Lawrence and Sis. Elaine Wagenbach, all of our congregation.

Congratulations to Chris and Marsha Stickling who were married at our fellowship hall on June 10. Their parents are Russell and Sis. Roma Rumbold (Princeville) and Ben Stickling and Sharon Stickling (Peoria).

Jayla Ann Elsasser was born May 31 to Bro. Jim and Sis. Vickie Elsasser. Shannon and Kara welcome her home. Grandparents are Bro. John and Sis.

Lil Elsasser (Princeville) and Bro. Bob and Sis. Lela Meyer (Bluffton North, IN).

We welcome Sis. Joyce Martin into our fellowship. On Sunday morning, June 17, we heard her testimony and that afternoon we witnessed her baptism. Her parents are Bro. Ellsworth and Sis. Donna Martin (Princeville).

We are pleased that Bro. William Stahl can assemble with us once again after surgery at Mayo's Clinic.

Sympathy is given to the family of Russell and Sis. Roma Rumbold. Russell's mother, Sis. Pearl Rumbold (Peoria) passed away May 31. We also give our sympathy to Sis. Pearl's sister, Sis. Alvina Streitmatter, and her stepmother, Sis. Esther Grimm (Princeville).

The family of Sis. Pearl Rumbold wishes to express their heartfelt thanks and deep appreciation to their many friends and relatives for the cards and gifts given to Sis. Pearl during her illness and for the love, kindness, prayers and memorial gifts given to them during their sorrow and loss. May God bless each one.

ILLINOIS, ROANOKE

Joyce Hodel — Carol Rumbold

We are rejoicing with our new converts, Bob and Stan Zimmerman and Susan Blunier, who have found new life in Christ Jesus. Parents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Madelyn Zimmerman and Wayne and Sis. Marge Blunier. We are ever thankful when our flock increases and grows stronger.

Marriage vows were made by Bruce Hodel and Donna Dowdy in Hayti, Missouri. Parents of the couple are Bro. Ben and Ruthanne Hodel and Don and Coreen Dowdy of Hayti. May God bless their future lives together.

We have been richly blessed with many visitors this month. Among them were Bro. Ray Roth (Kiowa), Bro. Marvin Schmidgall (Eureka), Bro. Jon Schmidgall (Oakville), Bro. Joe Braker (Morton), Bro. Edwin Ringger (Gridley), Bro. Gene Marti (LaMar) and Bro. Art Bahler (Fairbury). May they always feel God's guidance as they proclaim His Word.

Our hospital patients this month were Sis. Charlene Monk and Sis. Norlene Herbst. We are thankful that they put their trust in our loving Saviour. They are home and healing.

ILLINOIS, TREMONT

Dorothy Wagenbach Carolyn Bolliger

As we think of Independence Day, may we again appreciate our freedom. When we see how some countries are denied their freedom, especially the freedom to worship, we realize how thankful we should be.

Sis. Priscilla Schmid was hospitalized for a time but has been recuperating at home. We pray that she may soon feel better.

Bro. Curt and Sis. Kathi Rassi were blessed with another son, Nicolas Jacob, on May 24. He has brothers, John, Michael, Philip and Jason to help take care of him. Grandparents are Bro. Herb and Sis. Jane Gramm (Gridley) and Bro. Arnold and Sis. Lydia Rassi.

Also blessed with a baby boy are Bro. David and Sis. Barbara Kaeb. He was born on May 30 and was named Jeffrey David. Grandparents are Bro. Bill and Sis. Marilyn Huetter and Bro. Elmer and Sis. Darlene Kaeb.

Our only visiting minister this month was Bro. Noah Herman (Tucson). It is always a pleasure to have Bro. Noah and his wife visit us, as they formerly assembled here for a time. We thank him for his labor of love.

June 10 was the wedding day for Bro. Stan Koch and Sis. Jennifer Lang. Parents of the couple are Bro. George and Sis. Phyllis Lang and Bro. Ralph and Sis. Mathilda Koch.

Rita Glueck and Todd Kilgus were united in marriage on June 16. Their parents are Bro. Karl and Sis. Velda Glueck and Bro. Duane and Sis. Arlene Kilgus (Fairbury).

We wish both couples much happiness and also God's blessings as they begin their new walk of life together.

Bro. Ernie Schaefer wishes to thank everyone who gave gifts, cards and offered prayers while he was ill.

ILLINOIS, URBANA

Cheryl Mangers

On June 2, Kelli Boaz (Jim and Darlene (Steffen) Boaz) and Mike Morris were united in marriage in Champaign. They will be at home in Bloomington this summer before returning to their course of study at SIU and ISU this fall. We wish God's blessings on their union.

We bid farewell to Bro. Larry and Sis. Barb Stevig June 3 as they will now be making their home in Chicago. Lar-

ry, a recent U of I graduate, will begin employment at an architecture firm.

Also missing from our fellowship will be Bro. Frank Sauder as he leaves for Shioda, Japan, July 1. Bro. Frank will be teaching English through our church school. May God richly bless his commitment and willingness to lend himself completely to Him. We will deeply miss Bros. Frank and Larry and Sis. Barb. "When we asunder part, it gives us inward pain, But we shall still be joined in heart and hope to meet again."

We are thankful that Ed Scott has returned home after being hospitalized.

We are also thankful to Bro. Wayne Anliker (Forrest) for bringing us the Word June 17.

Vacation Bible School was held June 11 - 15. We thank the teachers for their patience and love. "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it." Proverbs 22:6.

ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON

Lily Pfaffmann — Elaine Winkler

"For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh." Ephesians 5:31. Bro. Lee Klopfenstein and Sis. Desma Davis were united in holy matrimony on June 3 in Morton. We pray God's blessings upon them as they journey on through life, wherever He may lead.

The Lord's servants are asked by Him to "feed my sheep". Truly we have been most richly blest this past month with visiting ministers as they imparted God's inspired Word, as we feasted upon it. They were Elder Bros. Roy Sauder (Peoria) and Joe Braker (Morton) and ministering Bros. Hartzel Kaisner (Detroit), Greg Rassi (Chicago), Ted Witzig (Morton), John Steiner (Oakville), Doug Schock (Pulaski) and Carl Feucht (Lester). We so appreciate their willingness to be empty of self and thus be used of our Heavenly Father.

We rejoiced with a dear couple as they individually shared with us what God had done for them; and then on Sunday, they were baptized, arising to a newness of life. We welcome Bro. Tom and Sis. Carol Schick to the family of God. To hear them give their testimonies really strengthened the rest of us. Their complete love for the Lord and total surrender to Him chal-

lenged us to take inventory of our lives. How close are we yet to our first Love? Who or what takes priority in our hearts, of our time? It really encouraged us to re-dedicate our lives to Him remembering that our only reason for being here upon Earth is to fulfill His purpose in our lives and to prepare ourselves for His return.

The Lord, having chosen us to be born in the United States of America, has blessed us with many creature comforts and freedoms that many people in this world do not enjoy. Does this mean we should sit back – eat, drink and be merry – and so take them for granted? Being human, we know that's the easiest thing to do – just get caught up on our own lives and overlook those in need, whether it be our neighbor or someone around the globe. There's always some way we can give when we have been blessed so abundantly, be it time, money or actual material things. If we can't physically go and help, we can always take time to pray.

As we look about us, so many people no longer value living in a free country. There is a tendency to think more and more about self and one's own rights. That's not how our America became free or has remained so. People came here to worship our God openly and according to His Word. Many have lost their lives for the cause of freedom. So let's do our part. Pray for our government, love your neighbor, and most of all, live for our Lord, so that by our light others can yet become spiritually free.

INDIANA, BLUFFTON

Etta Steffen

Sue Neuenschwander

Our children along with children from Bluffton North finished two blessed weeks of Bible School. We all enjoyed a very moving program as all 362 children sang praises to the Lord. They proved to us that they learned and worked very hard during these two weeks. A favorite and very appropriate song for us all was – "He's Still Workin' on Me". May God bless our director, Sis. Connie Cupp, her assistant, Sis. Joy Birch and our music director, Sis. Ann Gerber for a job well done. We felt God's nearness and are much richer.

Now it is accomplished
I'm no longer mine;
Lord, I will forever
And always be Thine.

For Thou hast created
And purchased me too,
Baptized with Thy Spirit,
Thou makest me new.

Zion's Harp #209

The weekend of June 17 was a blessing for all of us as we heard the testimonies and witnessed the baptisms of seven dear souls. We rejoice with Bro. Steve (Sis. Pat Kaehr) and Sis. Jan Kaehr, Bro. Mark (Bro. Phil and Sis. Gloria) and Sis. Renee Kaehr, Bro. Clark Hegerfeld (Bro. Ed and Sis. Rosemary), Bro. Courtney Pfister (Bro. Ted and Sis. Rose), Bro. Jeff Bertsch (Sis. Fran). It has been a joy to watch these dear souls grow spiritually and we pray that many more will follow in their footsteps.

We wish to thank Bro. Ben Maibach (Detroit), Bro. Phil Stettner (Bluffton North) and Bro. Bob Meyer (Bluffton North) for their services. May God bless you all for your help and inspiration.

The following loved ones have been hospitalized recently: Sis. Joyce Gehring, Sis. Esther Giesel, Sis. Mary E. Baumgartner, Sis. Emma Steffen, Sis. Hulda Steffen and Sis. Sandy Ringger. May God grant each one of these dear ones a speedy recovery.

Bro. Lewis Sauder, 78, has gone to be with the Lord and joined his beloved wife who passed away a few months ago. He will be missed by his family and all who knew him.

We are delighted to have three new babies in our congregation. Born June 12, a son, Kevin Wayne, is welcomed at home by sister, Beverly. Happy parents are Bro. Greg and Sis. Joan Gerber. Grandparents are Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Elizabeth Schwartz and Bro. Frederick and Sis. Margaret Gerber.

Born June 15, a son, Kurt Jason, is welcomed at home by big brother, Todd and sister, Rachel. Happy parents are Bro. Rick and Sis. Beth Fiechter. Grandparents are Bro. Carl and Sis. Mary Fiechter and Bro. Jesse and Sis. Shirley Beer (Milford).

A little girl, Jessica Lynn, was welcomed by three brothers and the happy parents are Bro. Doyle and Sis. Janice Reinhard. Grandparents are Bro. Melvin and Sis. Bernice Maller and Bro. Don and Sis. Sarah Reinhard.

Give Your Address Change
To Your Reporter

INDIANA, BLUFFTON NORTH Virginia Rauch — Cindy Geisel

As spring and summer have unfolded with all the beauty of the newness of revived life, so we also have had the joy of experiencing revived lives. We were grateful to have had six precious souls added to the fold on June 10. They are Bro. Lawrence and Sis. Melvena Gerber, Bro. Dick and Sis. Patti Troxel, Sis. Marci Neuenschwander (Bro. Ted and Sis. Deb) and Sis. Karen Neuenschwander (Bro. Walter and Sis. Joyce). How it thrills our hearts to see that God is still calling souls of all ages. We wish them God's blessings in their new walk of life.

"Thus United And In Concord Let Us Walk The Path Of Life". On May 26 Ron Leman (Wally and Sis. Marilyn) and Kathy Crozier were united in marriage, and on May 27, Bro. John Baumgartner (Bro. Truman and Sis. Marge) and Sis. Tammy Gerber (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Pauline) were united in holy matrimony. May the Lord be their guide as they start their new lives together as husband and wife.

The engagement of Bro. Brad Baumgartner (Bro. Galen and Sis. Joyce) and Sis. Michelle Steffen (Bro. Carl and Sis. Myrna, Alto, MI) was announced. August 11 is the date set for the happy occasion.

It was a blessing during the past month to have in our midst several visiting ministers and their wives. We appreciated the messages of Bro. Andy Virkler (Bay City, MI), Bro. Marvin Leman (Bradford, IL) and Bro. Homer Reineck (Toledo, OH).

Our beloved children participated in Bible School from May 29 to June 8. It is truly amazing how much they learn in those nine days. Hopefully, the seed is being sown in their young hearts, so that one day they will learn to know Jesus personally as their Saviour. The evening of June 8, their last day of Bible School, the children presented us with a program of verse and song, showing us the things they had learned. The theme of "God Is So Good" radiated from everyone. It was a blessed evening!

Those hospitalized within the past month were Bro. Calvin Rauch and Sis. Evelyn Meyer. We pray that God will be with them as they recover and grant them a fair amount of good health again.

Just a reminder: Due to the new address numbering system in our

county, we need to have the new addresses of the Wells Co. Rural Route residents to ensure continued delivery of the "Silver Lining". Please give the addresses to: Sis. Virginia Rauch or Sis. Cindy Geisel. Thank you for your cooperation.

INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE

Jacki Huber

As we consider our nation's freedoms, I Tim. 2:1-3 comes to mind. "I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions and giving of thanks, be made for all men; For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour." May these verses be in our hearts and minds all year.

Four precious bundles were added to our church family in May. Dean and Leona (Yaggie) Speece are parents of a little girl, Krystle Marie, born May 18. Grandparents are Bro. Irvin and Sis. Lois Yaggie and Mr. and Mrs. Phil Speece.

Bro. Rick and Sis. Judy Wuethrich gave birth to a little boy, Dustin Thomas on May 19. Three older children welcomed Dustin into their home. They are from oldest to youngest, Brandon, Chariti and Chance. Bro. Rich and Sis. Nola Wuethrich and Mr. and Mrs. Ora Hughes (Monon) are the grandparents.

Bro. Keith and Sis. Dolores Schladenhauffen are happy parents of their first child, Shantel Marie, born May 22. Shantel's grandparents are Bro. Everett and Sis. Luella Schladenhauffen (Bluffton) and Louise Topp.

Bro. Dave and Sis. Arlene Metzger gave birth to their fourth child, Mitzie Leigh on May 27. Mitzie was welcomed home by Alivia, Austin and Trenton. Mitzie's grandparents are Bro. Sid and Sis. Fern Leman and Marilyn Gutwein.

We pray God's blessings and strength to each of these families as they grow and learn more of His love.

Two couples were united in marriage this past month. On Saturday, May 26, Tina Denton (Bro. Jim and Sis. Sharon) was married to Greg Reinold (Mr. and Mrs. Don Reinold, Winamac, IN) at our Fellowship Center. They are residing in North Carolina, where Greg serves in the Marines.

We heartily welcome Sis. Marti Stoller into our congregation. Sis. Marti

was married to Bro. Brent Gutwein (Bro. Jim and Sis. Marian) on May 27 at our Peoria, IL, church, home of her parents, Bro. Herb and Sis. Nancy Stoller. We welcome the visits of Bro. Herb and Sis. Nancy.

Our prayer is for God's love and joy to bind these dear couples "Till death do us part".

On June 9 and 10, we enjoyed a blessed weekend. Four souls were taken into the fold. On Saturday evening we heard the testimonies of Gene Huber, Tammie Furrer (Bro. Alvin and Sis. Phyllis), Melissa (Missy) Huber (Bro. Gene and Sis. Barb) and Lori Erb (Bro. George and Sis. Elaine). It is such a joy to hear how God leads each soul to Him.

Elder Bros. Paul Butikofer (Elgin, IA) and Ed Frank (LaCrosse) assisted Bro. Wendell with the testimonies Saturday evening and the baptismal services on Sunday. We welcome these four dear ones as our brother and sister-in-the-Lord.

Ministering Bros. Glenn Price (Sarasota, FL) and Rod Huber (Valparaiso) also shared with us on Sunday, June 10. We thank these four brothers for letting God's spirit speak through them.

Bro. Willis Gudeman and Mitzie Metzger were our hospital patients this past month. They are both home again and we pray God's nearness and strength to them and their families.

INDIANA, INDIANAPOLIS
Lynn Winslow — Judy Dubach

How To Ascertain the Will of God
 By George Muller

1. Seek at the beginning to get your heart into such a state that it has no will of its own in regard to a given matter. Nine-tenths of the trouble with people generally is just here. Nine-tenths of the difficulties are overcome when our hearts are ready to do the Lord's will, whatever it may be. When one is truly in this state, it is usually but a little way to the knowledge of what His will is.

2. I seek the will of the Spirit of God through, or in connection with, the Word of God. The Spirit and the Word must be combined. If I look to the Spirit alone without the Word, I lay myself open to great delusions. If the Holy Ghost guides us at all, He will do it according to the Scriptures and never contrary to them.

3. Next I take into account providential circumstances. These often plainly indicate God's will in connection with His Word and Spirit.

4. I ask God in prayer to reveal His will to me aright.

5. Thus, through prayer to God, the study of the Word, and reflection, I come to a deliberate judgement according to the best of my ability and knowledge, and if my mind is thus at peace, and continues so after 2 or 3 petitions, I proceed accordingly. In trivial matters, and in transactions involving most important issues, I have found this method always effective.

We are glad Sis. Marilyn (Bro. Walt) Schieler (Remington) is now at her home after a brief hospitalization in one of our hospitals. Summer Vacation Bible School completed a week of learning and sharing more about Jesus with their friends. On June 15, they all participated in a short program followed by an ice cream social. Our Young Adult Bible Class spent a Saturday canoeing with the Campaign-Urbana Young Adult Bible Class in Indiana. The following day they all traveled to Illinois to spend Sunday together. Everyone had a wonderful time.

INDIANA, LACROSSE

Connie Knobloch — Cheryl Bucher

Our Vacation Bible School was a real blessing to all who attended. It is so heart warming to see the eagerness on the face of the little ones, each night, as they wait to see which Bible story they will read. We are thankful God has given us this opportunity to plant His seed in these young and tender hearts.

The following ministers directed their timely topics to the Bible Classes and the congregation: Bro. Glenn Dill (Tremont) "Why the Word of God Will Never Be Outdated"; Bro. James Plattner (Princeville) "Moral Trends"; Bro. Edwin Bahler (Remington) "What Is Sin?"; Bro. Kent Ringger (Bluffton) "Literature: The Bible Versus All Others"; Bro. Ed Frank (LaCrosse) "Christian Responsibilities: Men and Women".

We can hardly adequately express our gratefulness to these brothers for their efforts in preparation and willingness to help us in this important work. May God bless them and be their Rewarder. We are also thankful for the help of our substitute teachers who so willingly helped out wherever asked.

We truly appreciated the ministering of Bro. Virgil Metzger (Urbana) and Bro. Gary Anliker (Elgin, IL) on May 22. May the Lord richly bless them for coming to visit and sharing the Word of God with us.

INDIANA, LEO
Thelma Schlatter

Shortly after the little child was tucked into bed, prayers said, and good-night kisses given, there was a thud. The mother returned to find the little one on the floor. When asked what happened, the child answered, "I stay too close to where I got in!" Are Christians inclined to stay too close to where they got in? There should not be still-born Christians. As a child grows physically, so should the Christian grow spiritually in faith and in service for the Master.

One oar of faith and one oar of works are both needed for our boat to move forward on the sea of life. Vacation Bible School was a rich opportunity for further enlightenment, encouragement, admonition and challenge to good works. While teachers worked with the children, adults were taught by visiting Bros. Ed Bahler (Remington), Gene Lehman (Wolcott), Larry Wenninger (Latty), Robert Meyer (Bluffton) and Edwin Ringger (Gridley). Additional blessings came through the ministry of visiting Bros. Raymond Roth (Kiowa, KS) and Phil Stettner (Bluffton North) and our home ministers. Each one is thanked for faithfulness and willingness to serve.

Baby Benjamin David joined the family of Bro. Doug and Sis. Sue Kellenberger, Rachel, Rebecca, Jessica and Joshua. Also welcoming him are grandparents, Bro. Richard and Sis. Lyla Schock and Bro. Freeman and Sis. Lucille Kellenberger (Elgin).

Bro. William and Sis. Nancy Klopfenstein recently went to Texas to see a new granddaughter, Rachel Michelle, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Brent Klopfenstein.

We'll miss Sis. Cindy Baurer and her friendly smile as she leaves for her home in Princeville after working at the Children's Home for 1½ years. We welcome Sis. Maxine Sauder who comes from Minnesota to the Home to offer her time and talents.

Sis. Elizabeth Pulfer, 97, went to be with the Lord. Funeral services were held at the Leo Church, Monday, June

25. She was the widow of Ernest Pulfer. She is survived by two daughters and two sons, Sis. Irene Pulfer, Sis. Sarah Reinhard, Bros. Sylvan and Lester Pulfer; and her two sisters. Sis. Elizabeth was unable to attend church for several years. She was lovingly cared for in her home by her family.

Sympathy is extended to Sis. Mildred Schlatter and Sis. Helen Norr of this congregation in the death of their sister, Sis. Louise Stavenik.

Sympathy is also extended to Velma (Jim) Williams and Bro. Ernest Stoller in the passing of their mother, Sis. Leah Stoller (Latty).

Bro. Al and Sis. Marjorie Frautschi were honored with a reception hosted by their son and daughter-in-law, Bro. Edward and Sis. Connie Frautschi, and grandchildren on the occasion of their golden wedding anniversary. Their many friends offered congratulations and good wishes.

This was seen on a plaque in a home visited recently: Love is a basket with five loaves and two fishes. It's never enough until you start to give it away.

INDIANA, MILFORD

Gwen Steffen — Shelby Beer

We have just experienced such a blessed week of V.B.S. Our theme was "Signs of the Times — Past, Present and Future". We are so grateful to Bro. Chris Huber (Francesville), Bro. Merrill Laukhuf (Latty), Bro. Ed Schwartz (Bluffton) and Elder Bro. Phil Stettner (Bluffton North) for expounding upon these timely topics in the light of God's Word. Our cups were filled to overflowing. We also appreciated the visits of Bros. Ray Sinn (Latty), Ted Witzig (Morton), Uriel Gehring (Leo), Elder Bro. Leroy Huber (Eureka) and also the informative and inspiring slide presentation of the Holy Land by Bro. John Isch (Indianapolis). May God richly bless these brothers along with our home ministers for their labors of love in our behalf.

Our hearts always ache for those that must bear pain and sickness. Our Bro. Al Wuthrich had a serious accident and has had to spend time in the hospital and is now facing a lengthy recuperation at home. Bro. Fred Schori submitted to a leg amputation. He has been permitted to return home to be cared for by his sister, Sis. Marie Reuter. Bro. Gerald Martin is recuperating from eye surgery. Bro. Howard Beer spent a short time in the hospital for

tests. Our prayers are with each one.

There is much rejoicing by Wes and Sis. Ann Bell and Justin upon the arrival of their new baby boy, Tyler Wesley. Grandparents Bro. Dick and Sis. Clara Kaiser are happy too.

At Home 'tis well! There shall the pilgrim tarry, When tired and worn by sorrow, grief and strife; In heav'n when the hard race of earthly life is run, the long-borne load no more he'll carry. What a comfort to know that our beloved sister, Sis. Luella Beer could be relieved from this earth's troubles and suffering and go to a better home in heaven. Even though she will be sadly missed, her inspiration and Godly teaching will live on in all our hearts but especially in the hearts of her dear children, Sis. Viola (Vernon) Leman (Eureka), Sis. Kathryn (Harold) Emch (Girard), Sis. Eunice (Gerald) Fiechter (Bluffton) and Bros. Howard, Maurice, Carlton and our Elder Bro. Jesse.

There is beauty all around when there's love at home. Phil Beer (Bro. Phil and Sis. Millie) and Kathy Butt (Mr. and Mrs. Burton Butt) were united in holy matrimony June 2. May they let the precious truths found in God's Word be the guidelines in their marriage. They are making their home in Indianapolis.

We rejoice with Angie (Troup) Higginbotham as she has found that perfect peace and is now awaiting baptism. We wish her much grace and strength from God in her new walk of life.

Our congratulations go to Chris Wolferman (Bro. Bob and Sis. Joyce) who graduated from Tri-State University as an Engineer-Mechanical Draftsman.

Bro. John and Sis. Dorothy Martin would like to thank everyone for all the prayers, visits, cards and gifts while John was in the hospital for surgery and since he is at home. May God bless you all for your kindness.

Note: August is the month for Silver Lining collection for Milford.

INDIANA, REMINGTON

Beth Virkler — Annette Bahler

We welcomed the visiting ministers that came for Vacation Bible School: Bro. Ken Eisenmann (Cissna Park), Bro. Duane Kilgus (Fairbury) and Elder Bro. Perry Zimmerman (Forrest). We were thankful that the youth of our church could feel such special love through everyone's effort . . . "foras-

much as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord." (I Cor. 15:58).

Sis. Marie Schieler (Bro. Harold) is being hospitalized for a heart attack. Our prayers and support are with her, that the Lord protect her in body and soul.

Our sympathy is expressed to Bro. Mark and Sis. Benita Bahler in the passing of her mother, Esther Schlatter. In the many dedicated years of raising and loving her children, the fond memories and bond of mother are always close to our heart.

Our souls were so revived as we meditated on the Lord's Supper and partook of the blessing of Communion. We are thankful to Elder Bro. Jesse Beer (Milford) for sharing and ministering to us.

Certain thoughts are prayers. There are certain moments when, whatever be the attitude of the body, the soul is on its knees.

Victor Hugo

We cannot hold a torch to light another's path without brightening our own.

Ben Sweetland

INDIANA, SOUTH BEND

Pauline Laidig

And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free. John 8:32

As our country has again celebrated its freedom as a nation, we are reminded of the many sacrifices that were made that this might be. Our governing forefathers found the need to turn to God in beseeching prayer for wisdom in drawing up the constitution that this freedom might be maintained. How much we need to pray that it may be preserved. But the most priceless freedom is to be found in being a faithful follower of the Lord. Our thoughts and prayers are with those who must endure religious persecution.

We rejoice with Bro. Brad Baumgartner and Sis. Michelle Steffen (Alto) as they feel it is the Lord's will that they become lifetime companions. Their parents are Bro. Galen and Sis. Joyce Baumgartner (Bluffton North) and Bro. Carl and Sis. Myrna Steffen (Alto).

Bro. Walt Steffen responded so kindly on short notice, and assisted Bro. Wayne Lehman one Sunday recently when Bro. Robert Beebe was

unable to minister to us.

Dale Lehman (Bro. Wayne and Sis. Shirley) graduated from Ball State this spring. We are glad he found employment in our area. We wish him God's blessings in the future.

INDIANA, WOLCOTT

Elaine Bahler — Lorene Furrer

Blessed with a new son are Bro. Brian and Sis. Lorna Knapp. Trevor Ryan was born May 22 and is welcomed home by brothers, Jordan and Kyle. Grandparents are Bro. Jerry and Sis. Nancy Knapp (Taylor) and Bro. Myron and Sis. Dorothy Schulz (Oakville).

How thankful we should be for our rich heritage. We were so vividly reminded of the steadfast "faith of our fathers" at Vacation Bible School hosted by the Remington congregation.

The weekend of June 3 was a wonderful example of this preserved faith as we welcomed into our fellowship Bros. Greg Lehman (Bro. Gene and Sis. Verna), Troy Oberlander (Allen and Sis. Linda) and Mike Bahler (Bro. Lowell and Sis. Karla). Elder Bros. Dale Eisenmann (Chicago) and Wendell Gudeman (Francesville) came to assist in this important work and to share the Word with us along with Bros. Fred Knapp (Congerville) and Wayne Lehman (South Bend). May the Lord bless these brethren for their labors of love.

Hearts were uplifted and united as we shared the Lord's Supper on June 10. Bro. Ed Hohulin (Goodfield) was willing to be used in this most solemn occasion. We thank God for such faithful brethren.

INDIANA, VALPARAISO

Jill Hitz — Patty Bucher

Summertime is now here. We welcome so eagerly the warm, sunny days. We look forward to the many fruits of the seasons . . . fresh strawberries, garden vegetables and many others. But so much more than anticipating the arrival of these fruits, we should be concentrating on strengthening our own spiritual fruits. As we have been reviewing the fruit of the spirit, this month, let us turn our thoughts to kindness.

Kindness is a chief fruit of the spirit, one that marked the beginning of our Lord's earthly ministry. "Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown

mercy" (Matt. 5:7). Christ also promised, "I will tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me." (Matt. 25:40). Think of this, kindness, available to us through the ministry of our Lord Jesus Christ. Kindness and grace, kindness and salvation — kindness will remain a kingdom showpiece for eternity.

Kindness is more than a fruit of the spirit, it's a command. "Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourself with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience." (Col. 3:12).

Kindness is the unavoidable reality of a believer as he contemplates the genuine marks of a Christian life. It's a commitment to those around us, within or without the assembly, whose needs we can meet.

Kindness offers a cup of cold water in the name of Christ (Matt. 10:42). It visits widows and orphans in their distress (James 1:27). It stops to help the injured traveler on the road (Luke 10:29-37). It considers others as more important than ourselves (Phil. 2:3, 4).

We, at Valparaiso, have had a very nice weekend through ministry in song as the Detroit choir spent Saturday evening and Sunday with us. It was nice to meet old acquaintances again and also make new Christian friendships.

As many families are planning and taking vacations, let us use this time not as a vacation from our Lord, but as a time to only draw nearer and dearer to Him as we strive to be more holy. May the Lord bless each and every one and may each and every one esteem and honor Him.

IOWA, BURLINGTON

Edith Massner — Dixie Messner

We are sorry that we failed to mention Sis. Monti Taeger (Bro. Dick and Sis. Dorothy) graduated from high school. We sincerely pray that God will guide her in all of her future plans.

Sunday, June 3, was the day Sis. Bev Woodward (Bro. Marvin and Sis. Verna) and Bro. Larry Moser (Bro. Rod and Sis. Naomi, Oakville) chose for their wedding day. Bros. Kent Heimer, Uriel Gehring and Elder Bro. Ed Lanz were here to witness and minister to us concerning a truly Christian marriage. We are thankful another Christian home can be established.

Special thanks to Bro. Dale Frank

for being with us one Sunday this past month.

Our sympathy is with Bro. Blaine and Sis. Margaret Applegarth and families in the loss of Sis. Margaret's father, Emery Jones.

Carolyn Massner (Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Edith) was announced as having found peace with God and is desiring baptism. We rejoice with her and wish her the continued grace of God.

Bro. Ed and Sis. Joan Lanz and their three children intend to spend three weeks in Europe during July. We will be praying for their safety and God's nearness.

Our friend Bill Frank was acutely ill, but has now been transferred to Klein Unit. Bro. Alvin Rechkemmer, Sis. Stella Landes and Sis. Lena Wegman are also at Kleins. Let us remember them with prayers, cards and visits.

Sis. Lu Landes also spent a few days in the hospital. We trust the Lord will be near her each day. No doubt Hymns of Zion #127 will be a comfort to her: "He promised never to leave me, never to leave me alone."

Also married this month were Mike Heiniger (Bro. Harvey and Sis. Leola) and Pat Steward (Mr. and Mrs. Alexander). We hope they will always feel welcome to assemble with us.

IOWA, ELGIN Gloria Frieden

With sad hearts we bade farewell to two of our families who have felt directed to move. Bro. Tim and Sis. Kathy Butikofer with their daughters, Amy and Meg, have moved to Wolcott, IN, where their new address is: 508 West North Street, Wolcott, IN 47995. Bro. Jon and Sis. Pat Knapp and their three sons, Ryan, Brandon and Blake, have moved to Quincy, IL and will be enjoying the fellowship of the Taylor, MO, congregation. In a small church the loss is felt deeply, but we wish them God's grace, peace and much happiness in their new locations. We hope they will return often for visits.

Our thanks goes to Bro. Perry Zimmerman for his visit and sharing of the Word of God.

IOWA, IOWA CITY Connie Gerst

Patriotism: the dictionary defines patriotism as devotion to one's country, especially those with popular liberty. As we observe Independence Day on the Fourth of July, let us remember

all the wonderful blessings afforded us in this country. Of course, we all have daily struggles of one kind or another, some with health, some with monetary difficulties, etc., but people experience the same in other countries. Here in America, we have the precious freedom to worship as we desire. Let us always pray that God will look in favor on us that we can maintain this important freedom.

Once again we thank our visiting ministers for their labors of love. This past month Bros. Lenard Meyer (Chicago) and Bert Butikofer (Elgin, IA) worshipped with us here in Iowa City.

IOWA, LESTER Alice Metzger

We are thankful for our visiting minister this past month, Bro. Carl Wyss (Washington). We anticipate enjoying the fellowship of more ministers and visitors during the summer months. With prayerful hearts, we look forward to hosting the conference in August. We pray that God will be the center of all activities.

Bro. Stan Knobloch is a recent graduate of ILCC at Estherville. He had accepted employment at Everly, IA.

Three precious little girls were recently born and are welcome additions to our church family. Ted and Diane Larson became the parents of Trisha Ann May 24. She has one sister and her grandparents are Bro. Freddie and Sis. Esty Metzger and Betty Larson. On May 27, Abby Ranae was born to Bro. Mark and Sis. Audrey Metzger. She has two brothers and her grandparents are Lou and Tina Moser and Bro. Freddie and Sis. Esty Metzger. Bro. Wes and Sis. Esther Moser welcomed Jessica Ann into their family June 7. She has a brother and a sister. Her grandparents are Elder Bro. Leo and Sis. Leona Moser and Bro. August and Sis. Martha Feucht.

Casey Heyer (Bro. Gary and Sis. Jean) was hospitalized but is doing fine again.

IOWA, OAKVILLE Debbie Wagenbach

"When pure and upright hearts, by flames of love ignited, are by the bond of faith more firmly yet united . . ." (Zion's Harp #79). What a beautiful day it was on June 3 when Sis. Beverly Woodward (Bro. Marvin and Sis. Verna, Burlington, IA) became the bride of our Bro. Larry Moser (Bro. Rod and

Sis. Naomi). May God richly bless the new couple and add sunshine unto their lives as he did on their wedding day.

Memorial Day weekend our singles group traveled to Alto, MI. It certainly was a blessed weekend!

The weekend of June 9 and 10, we were privileged at Oakville to host all of the Iowa churches. We could feel God's blessings as we all sang and fellowshiped together.

"Blessed be the tie that binds, our hearts in Christian love . . ." (Hymns of Zion #156). God has abundantly blessed us here in America. We were recently privileged to have with us on a Wednesday night service two sisters from Hungary. As we visited with them, we certainly felt so blessed to live in such a land where we have religious freedom. Let us never take it for granted, but thank God for it each time we pray!

IOWA, WEST BEND Elma Mogler — Polly Zaugg

Our congregation and those who so faithfully serve us each Sunday from the pulpit want to say, "thank you" to our visiting ministers for serving us so well while visiting here. They were: Bro. Tom Leman (Denver), Bro. Art Gudeman (LaCrosse), Bro. Gene Marti (Lamar) and Bro. Dennis Warner (Lester).

Sis. Sharolyn Metzger (Bro. Arnold and Sis. Alice) and Bro. Doug Hohulin (Bro. Melvin and Sis. Shirley, Roanoke) were led by the spirit of God to be joined in holy matrimony. We were happy to witness this holy act on May 13. May the good Lord always be in their heart and home.

Our dear Bro. Philip Fisher has completed one chapter in the Book of Eternal Life. Bro. Philip was born on Jan. 17, 1905 and passed away on Sat., May 26, 1984, reaching the age of 79 years. Surviving are his wife, Sis. Katherine; two sons and two daughters, Harold (West Bend), Philip Jr. (Lone Tree), Mrs. Larry (Lois) Lloyd (Algonia) and Mrs. Olin (Eileen) Hoover (Minneapolis, MN); 5 grandchildren and one brother, Bro. Emil Fisher (Eureka, IL). He was preceded in death by one son, Robert, one infant daughter, one granddaughter, his parents and two brothers. Bro. Philip had respiratory health problems since June of 1981. In the loss of our brother-in-faith, we feel it is a chapter completed,

a page turned, a life well-lived and a rest well-earned.

Our thoughts and feelings were so fully expressed as we sang, "God's Power Revealed in the Clouds".

Come now, ye great, before Jehovah,
Bring honor to His Majesty!

His mighty voice is heard with
thunder;

Sink down into the dust and pray!
The mighty God shows forth His
power,

The thunders roll in clouds on high;
His lightning flashes on the waters,
And sudden torrents from the sky.

Zions Harp #67

Several in our area witnessed the power of Almighty God as tornadoes swept our countryside this past week.

JAPAN, SHIODA

Margie Heintz

"To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven." Eccl. 3:1.

Here in Shioda we are entering a time of change. Changes are a natural part of the ebb and flow of life, but each time they occur changes often bring pain and anxiety, tears and depression, as well as joy and excitement. In the midst of all the uncertainties, we hear these comforting words, "... I am the Lord, I change not..." (Mal. 3:6).

Presently Sis. Judy Luginbuhl is busy with preparations to return to the states, and half-way across the world, Sis. Sheila Moser is finalizing her plans to come to Japan to carry on Sis. Judy's work. At this time, also, we are anticipating the arrival of Bros. Randy Mogler and Frank Sauder. Tentative plans are being made and options regarding their stay are being prayerfully considered, trusting that the Lord will bless this new opportunity to strengthen and expand the work and fellowship here in Japan. We seek your prayers for Sisters Judy and Sheila and Bros. Randy and Frank and for all of us, as we enter new and unknown phases in our lives. May God give each one strength to face the future, trusting alone in His power. "I have set the Lord always before me: because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved. Therefore my heart is glad, and my glory rejoiceth: my flesh also shall rest in hope." (Psalm 16:8, 9).

We were blessed this past month with visitors from America, and what a special treat it was! Sis. Judy Bauer (a former kindergarten and elementary

teacher at Shioda American School) and her parents, Bro. Elmer and Sis. Elsie Bauer (Cissna Park, IL) spent approximately a week in the Tokyo area and a week in Shioda, prior to continuing on for some sightseeing in Japan. We are so thankful for the time we were able to spend together, reminiscing, sharing hopes and concerns, and strengthening each other in the spirit of love. Our thanks go to them for making the sacrifice to visit us, and to the Lord for making it possible. May God bless them richly.

JAPAN, TOKYO

Marie Inoue — Yoshio Yamazaki

The rainy season is already here in Tokyo since a few days ago. We had much humidity and will have damp weather until the first part of July. However, we are thankful to God as He really blessed and provides us always with whatever we need.

Bro. Saburo Utsuki returned home from the hospital after he had an operation. We need to pray for him. We really believe that he is really happy and give thanks to God for His blessings.

Sis. Judy Bauer (Cissna Park) who taught at our Shioda American School in the country, about 10 years ago visited us here in Tokyo with her parents, Bro. Elmer and Sis. Elsie. We had a real blessed time together. We really thank God that He led them here again to visit us and we enjoyed their blessed fellowship.

Sis. Grace Klaus, 18, a college girl, came and visited us with her younger brother, Mark, this past Sunday and joined with us for Sunday services. She was recently baptized in our Washington church and we welcome her as a dear sister-in-faith as she walks with us. Sis. Grace is visiting her parents at this time. We enjoyed her very much. We really thank them for their spiritual growth.

KANSAS, BERN

Linda Esslinger

TO ALL PARENTS

"I'll lend you for a little while
a child of mine" He said,
"For you to love the while he lives —
and mourn for when he's dead.
It may be six or seven years —
or twenty-two or three,
But, will you, till I call him back,

take care of him for me?
He'll bring his charm to gladden you,
and, should his stay be brief,
You'll have his lovely memories
as solace for your grief.

I cannot promise he will stay,
since all from life return,
But there are lessons taught down
there

I want this child to learn.
I've looked the wide world over
in my search for teachers true,
And, from the throngs that crowd life's
lanes,

I have selected you.
Now will you give him all your love,
nor think the labor vain,
Nor hate me when I come to call
to take him back again?

I fancied that I heard them say,
"Dear Lord Thy Will be done,
For all the joy the child shall bring,
the risk of grief we'll run.
We'll shelter him with tenderness,
we'll love him while we may,
And, for the happiness we've known,
forever grateful stay.
But, should the angels call him
much sooner than we've planned,
We'll brave the bitter grief that comes
and try to understand."

Edgar A. Guest

The above poem was read at the funeral of Ross Rokey, age 7½ years. Ross was suddenly taken from this life on earth June 4 in a three-wheeler motorcycle accident. He was born on November 9, 1976. We express our deepest sympathy to his parents, Bro. Allen and Sis. Glenda; three older brothers, Todd, Brian and Dwight; grandparents, Bro. Roy and Sis. Lucy Rokey, and Bro. Nathan and Sis. Lois Grimm (Sabetha).

We would like to thank everyone who remembered us with prayers, cards and other acts of kindness at the time of Ross's death. Bro. Allen and Sis. Glenda Rokey and boys, Bro. Roy and Sis. Lucy Rokey, and Sis. Maretta, Bro. Nathan and Sis. Lois Grimm.

Sis. Lydia Hanni passed away June 9 at the age of 88 years. She was born February 26, 1896. Lydia had been a member of the Bern Apostolic Christian Church since 1949. Sympathy is extended to her two surviving sisters, Sis. Emma Hanni and Sis. Mary Maurer (Sabetha).

We want to thank visiting minister, Bro. Edwin Bahler (Remington, IN) for being with us recently.

Martha Grimm and Ross Montgomery have announced their engagement. Their wedding date has been set for August 25. Martha's parents are Bro. Paul and Sis. Katie Grimm.

Janie Edelman (Bro. Fred and Sis. Joann) and Camille Strahm (Bro. Wayne and Sis. Claudia) have announced peace with God and will be added to our brotherhood soon.

Sis. Leola Lehman was hospitalized for tests.

KANSAS, FT. SCOTT
Judy Bahr

We wish to thank Bro. John Lehman (Bern, KS) for sharing God's word with us. On the same Sunday the picnic to end up the week long activities of Bible School was held at Bro. Don and Sis. Aleta Banwart's big country backyard. Children and parents had a most enjoyable evening.

Jeanette Robb (Steve and Sis. Gayla Robb) and Bob Tice were united in marriage June 2, 1984. June 30, 1984 was the wedding day of Janet Kraft (Bro. Harold and Sis. Wanda) and Tom Byler. Tom and Janet are making their home in Fort Scott. We wish both couples God's richest blessings on their marriages.

On July 4, 1884, France gave the United States the Statue of Liberty. This July 4, 1984, she celebrates her 100th birthday. A most fitting song was written by Neil Enloe entitled "Statue of Liberty."

In New York harbor stands a lady,
 With a torch raised to the sky;
 And all who see her know she stands
 for
 Liberty for you and me.

I'm so proud to be called an American,
 To be named with the brave and the
 free;
 I will honor our flag and our trust in
 God,
 And the Statue of Liberty.

On lonely Golgotha stood a cross,
 With my Lord raised to the sky;
 And all who kneel there live forever
 As all the saved can testify.

I'm so glad to be called a Christian,
 To be named with the ransomed and
 whole;
 As the statue liberates the citizen,
 So the cross liberates the soul.

O the cross is my statue of liberty,
 It was there that my soul was set free;
 Unashamed I'll proclaim that a rugged
 cross
 Is my statue of liberty.

KANSAS, GRIDLEY
Julie Bahr — Doris Bahr

We are rejoicing, as the angels in heaven, for one more little rescued lamb has been added to Jesus' flock. Kip Edelman shared with us his testimony of his new Christian life and was baptized on June 10. Bro. Kip is the 15-year-old son of Bro. Albert and Sis. Jeanie Edelman.

Our graduates this year were Shawn Metzger (Bro. Eldon and Sis. Dorene) and Dale Kraft (Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Nadine) both from senior high. Shawn plans to attend Emporia State this fall. Colin Young (Andy, Jr. and Sis. Wilma) and Sam Bahr (Bro. Rudy and Sis. Eileen) both graduated from Kansas State in Manhattan; Colin, as a veterinarian of animal medicine and Sam as a horticulturist. Dora Edelman (Bro. Albert and Sis. Jeanie) graduated from junior high.

We want to thank our visiting minister, Bro. Earl Banwart (West Bend) for sharing God's message with us.

Note: Gridley's Silver Lining subscription dues are due in August.

KANSAS, KIOWA
Janice Bahr — Gay Farney

In our area the wheat is turning for the harvest. It seems to be green for so long and then overnight it turns to gold. The wheat always reminds me of the words of Jesus in Matthew 9:37 and 38. Then saith he unto his disciples, The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few; Pray ye therefor the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth laborers into his harvest. Truly it should be our prayer that we may give our lives totally to Him that He may use us for the harvest as willing laborers, to work His work while this day of grace is still open. May we say in so doing "Not my will but Thine be done, Oh precious Lord!"

It has been a busy month for everyone, but truly blessed as well. Bible School was held the first week of June and our children are so precious to us. How wonderful if we could have their simple but fervent faith. One mother told me that her little girl was so excited about our get-togethers that she had her clothes ready to go first

thing in the morning. Can we honestly say that we look forward to the gatherings in the Lord as that little child? On the last day of Bible School we sang at the Manor and I think the children enjoyed it as much as the dear elderly they sang for.

A surprise 80th birthday gathering was held at the fellowship center for Sis. Myrtle Rathgeber this month. She was truly surprised but deeply thankful that everyone remembered her, as were Hubert and Sis. Edna Reed who celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary one day this month. It is our prayer that our precious God will grant Sis. Myrtle many more happy birthdays and Hubert and Sis. Edna many more precious years of love together.

The Sunday School went on a trip to Sabetha for a gathering of all the area churches, and had a wonderful time. We know it is a lot of work to get everything around, but we are thankful to the brethren who care enough about our youth to keep on keeping on though the world tries so hard to destroy the interest by putting every other interest imaginable in the way. The sad part is, if our parents aren't concerned as well, the world wins the battle! Be watchful parents and work with your Sunday Schools. They are only trying to teach your child about the only lasting thing in life, the Lord Jesus Christ.

We would like to extend our deepest sympathy to the family of Bob Rose, who departed this life very suddenly this month in Wichita. Bob was the son-in-law of Marvin and Tillie Diel (Burlington). May God be with them in their sorrow.

We are so thankful to report that Pam Ott is out of the Houston hospital and recuperating at her mother's home in Wichita. We all miss her so much, and hold her ever in our thoughts and prayers. Brooke Tucker (Stan and Judy Tucker) fell off a three-wheeler and broke her collar bone. Several of our loved ones have had hospital visits, but we are thankful they have not had to stay.

We were so delighted to have ministering Bro. Max Reimschisel and his family in our midst one Sunday this month. His precious Words of love were deeply appreciated by all of us. How we truly appreciate our brothers that are willing to lend themselves when they travel.

KANSAS, LAMONT

Jill K. Luthi

Here it is – harvest time! What was once a tiny kernel of grain is now a full head of grain. The golden heads of grain that wave so freely in the breeze will soon be put to the sickle; the grain separated from the tares (St. Matt. 13:30). We were (again) within just a few hundred miles of flooding areas, but God has granted us sufficient rain plus the marvelous planet of the sun. Without either one, no man, plant, nor animal would ever be able to survive.

For a flood, we can and MUST “build our house on higher ground”; thus, we will always be prepared (St. Luke 6:48). But, when it comes to drought, we know that even that which we have stored up, will soon turn to a vapour from the constant heat. And the water that we still have will “Never be enough”.

So it is, that we must always “keep our hearts in tune and our souls flooded with God’s True Words”. And take heed when any small sign of “drought” does come, for we know we are “thirsting” for His Words of comfort, cheer, love and most of all — guidance.

Does this not remind us to not murmur of our excess weather? We could be as some other countries, not receiving rain for over a year. We can be prepared for a flood, but must be very watchful for any sign of drought. “My doctrine shall drop as the rain, my speech shall distil as the dew . . .” Deut. 32:2.

We were flooded with many teachings, as Bros. Earl Banwart (West Bend) and Vernon Schwab (Wolcott) cast their showers of God’s Word upon us. Our prayers are that they (all ministers) may feel our spiritual support as they stand before us with nothing in mind, but to exhort upon God’s Word. May the Lord bless them according to their needs.

Mike Kellenberger (Bro. Randy and Sis. Ruth) had a mishap that could have been fatal. We are happy to say that he is back home and is recuperating fine. And we rejoice that the Lord did spare him in his young, tender years.

We must never forget the land of the free that we live in. Thus, it is not out of place to be reminded from one of our many beautiful patriotic songs that God shed His grace for us and gave us this land of the free. Let’s take time to

read and sing them more often.

THE STAR-SPANGLED BANNER

(vs. 4)

Oh! Thus be it ever when free man shall stand
Between their loved home and war’s desolation,
Blest with vict’ry and peace, may the Heav’n – rescued land
Praise the Pow’r that hath made and preserved us a nation.
Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just,
And this be our motto, “In God is our trust”.
And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave
O’er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

Francis Scott Key

As August is nearing, we are to keep in mind our Shepherds, as they will discuss many serious problems we are confronted with daily at the Elder’s Conference in Lester, IA.

Reminder: August is Silver Lining collection month for Lamont.

KANSAS, SABETHA

Clara Steiner

We had pleasure in hearing the testimonies and witnessing the baptisms of Erin Wyson (Bro. Ben and Sis. Janice) and James Hartter (Bro. Virgil and Sis. Marie). Bros. Roy Grimm (Taylor) and Lester Hartter (Bern) assisted Bro. Sam in carrying out this work. We welcome Sis. Erin and Bro. James into our precious fellowship.

Also visiting us this month were Bros. Lloyd Kraft (Gridley, KS), Edwin Bahler (Remington), Leo Moser (Lester), Glen Funk (Garden Grove) and Tom Leman (Denver, CO). We thank all for their visits and may the Lord bless each one in their labors for Him.

Hospitalized this month were Sis. Elsie Lambert, Sis. Lena Wenger, Sis. Lydia Kellenberger and Bro. Nathan Grimm. Kyle Beyer (Bro. Martin and Sis. Karen) has a broken arm.

Sis. Louise Stavenik has suffered a stroke and is paralyzed on her left side. May our Heavenly Father shorten her days of suffering. (Editor’s note: Sis. Louise passed away on June 20, 1984.)

KANSAS, WICHITA

Laurie Gallatin

“For this cause shall a man leave his

father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh.” Ephesians 5:31. May 27 was the wedding day for Bro. Jim Bowers and Sis. Marsha Wieland (Bay City, MI). Bro. Milton and Sis. Lillian Bowers and Bro. Merle and Sis. Elaine Wieland are the parents of this couple. May the Lord bless their lives that they may grow together in Christ. We warmly welcome Sis. Marsha into our congregation.

An earthly wedding of joining two together reminds us of the glorious wedding day when we, the Church, the Bride of Jesus Christ, will be united with Jesus to be with Him forever in the great mansions He has prepared for us. Revelation 19:7-9 is a special passage for us to look forward to:

“Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honor to Him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and His wife hath made herself ready. And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints . . . Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb.”

How precious it is for us to be the Bride of Christ — to know of His tender care and deep affection for us. We can’t really imagine what the marriage supper of the Lamb will be like, but how thankful we are that we will participate in it. I can’t wait, can you? Jesus has been sending out the invitations to come to His wedding for almost 2,000 years now. Each invitation has an R.S.V.P. You must respond to it and choose to come! How sad that more haven’t accepted the invitation to such a glorious event.

June 2 and 3 the two oldest Sunday School classes traveled to Sabetha, KS for a weekend of fun and fellowship with the other Kansas and Missouri Sunday Schools.

Vacation Bible School was held this month. The theme this year was God Bless Our Native Land. It brought to the children’s attention and made them more aware that we need to pray for our leaders and our country.

We were served communion by Elder Bros. Ron Nelson (Kiowa, KS) and Sam Anliker (Lamont, KS). It is truly a humbling and renewing time as we deeply reflect on Jesus and the costly price He paid for the salvation of our souls. The following Sunday, Bro. Joe Aberle (Sabetha, KS) was also a visit-

ing minister. We thank God for these brothers' service to our congregation.

The mother of two of our brothers, Bro. Max Reimschisel and Bro. Roger Reimschisel passed away. Sis. Marjorie Reimschisel (Bluffton, IN) was called home on June 10 to be with her Heavenly Father. May God's comfort be with the family at this time.

Reminder: Silver Lining dues (\$6.00) are due in August.

MICHIGAN, ALTO

Liz Blough

In loving memory of a very special little boy, Freddie Oesch (Bro. Fred and Sis. Donna), who left us so suddenly one year ago.

"I'll lend you for a little time a child of mine," He said.

"For you to love the while he lives and mourn for when he's dead.

It may be six or seven years, or any age he be,

But will you, till I call him back, take care of him for me?

He'll bring his charms to gladden you, and though his stay be brief,

You'll have his lovely memories as solace for your grief."

"I cannot promise he will stay since all from earth return.

But there are lessons taught down there I want this child to learn.

I've looked the wide world over in my search for teachers true,

And from the throng that crowd life's lane, I have selected you.

Now will you give him all your love, nor think the labor vain,

Nor hate Me when I come to call to take him back again?"

"I fancied that I heard him say: "Dear Lord,, Thy will be done!

For all the joy Thy child shall bring, the risk of grief we'll run.

We'll shelter him with tenderness, we'll love him while we may,

And for the happiness we've known, forever grateful stay.

But should the angels call for him much sooner than we've planned,

We'll brave the bitter grief that comes and try to understand."

This month our visiting ministers have been Bro. Tom Schrenk (Athens, AL), Elder Bros. Joe Waibel and Andy Virkler (Bay City, MI). They and Andy's family were here for the week-

end to share holy communion with us. What a joy we experience when we partake of this blessed event together.

Sis. Michelle Steffen (Bro. Carl and Sis. Myrna) and Bro. Bradley J. Baumgartner (Bro. Galen and Sis. Joyce) of Bluffton, IN are planning for the first day of their lives together as one which is set for August 5. Joy surrounds us to see their happiness as they prepare for that special day. Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh. I Cor. 6:16

MICHIGAN, BAY CITY

Linda Ramseyer

"Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh." Genesis 2:24. On May 27, Sis. Marsha Wieland and Bro. Jim Bowers were joined together as one in holy matrimony. Parents of the couple are Bro. Merle and Sis. Elaine Wieland and Bro. Milton and Sis. Lillian Bowers (Wichita, KS). Our prayers are with Bro. Jim and Sis. Marsha as they begin their life together. They will be making their home in Wichita.

We were privileged to have visiting ministers with us this past month. Elder Bro. Arthur Bahler (Fairbury, IL), Bro. Floyd Wieland and Bro. Mark Bahr (Detroit, MI) brought forth the Lord's Word to us.

Albert Wieland and Bro. Herb (Sis. Naomi) Ramseyer have been hospital patients recently. We are thankful the Lord has been with them and they have been able to return home.

MICHIGAN, DETROIT

Dawn Bahr

"Trust in the Lord with all thine heart . . . In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths." Proverbs 3:5-6.

Graduating from high school this year are Jeffrey Haines (Leland and Katie), Kenneth Kaisner (Bro. Hartzell and Sis. Mary) and Todd Moilanen (Tom and Kay). Our college graduates include Sis. Terry Martin (Bro. Kaywin and Sis. Karen), Doug Maibach (Bro. Ben and Sis. Lorene) and Doug's fiancée, Carol Basford (Mr. and Mrs. Michael). We wish all of our graduates God's richest blessings and direction as they start down a new path in their lives.

Elections were held recently to fill the offices of Sunday School teacher,

trustee and secretary. Succeeding Bro. Dan Knochel and Sis. Charlotte Barton in Sunday School are Bro. Tom Hitz and Sis. Bethany Knochel, with Bro. Dana Knochel and Sis. Beverly Babin acting as substitutes. Replacing Bro. Patrick Allen and Bro. Tom Hitz as trustees are Bro. Dana Knochel and Bro. Ernie Weigele. Sis. Martha Gleichmann will succeed Sis. Donna Hartzler as secretary. We thank our out-going brothers and sisters for their faithful time of service and wish for God's direction and blessing on those who are starting new responsibilities.

Little Joshua Schmidt (William and Trudy Schmidt) was hospitalized for surgery. We thank God that he is home and making a speedy recovery.

Bro. Dan and Sis. Ruth Knochel are the proud grandparents of a grandson, Jordan Vance, son of Kent and Debbie Obermann (Fort Collins, CO). Little Jordan is also welcomed by his sister, Meghan.

We thank Bro. Elmer Schmidt (Winthrop, MN) for visiting here and ministering to us. May he be blessed for giving of himself in service to God.

MINNESOTA, MINNEAPOLIS

Deb Tilbury

We were privileged to have two visiting ministers this past month. Bro. Ken Lawson and his family from Fort Lauderdale were here June 3. Bro. Dave Wiegand (Urbana, IL) and his family were here June 17. We thank God that he so richly provides for us.

David Miller (Don and Bernadine) graduated from high school this year. Congratulations David! May God guide you and bless you.

Bro. Kent Mogler (Minneapolis) and Sis. Mary Koehl (Morris) were married June 17 in Morris. We wish to welcome Sis. Mary to our church and hope she soon feels at home here.

MINNESOTA, MORRIS

Hildegard Koehl

Rhonda Zeltwanger

"Thou waterest the ridges thereof abundantly: thou settlest the furrows thereof: thou makest it soft with showers: thou blessest the springing thereof." (Psalm 65:10). We are experiencing these rains and everything is lush and green. We have much to be thankful for.

Elder Bros. Joe Braker (Morton, IL), Roy Grimm (Taylor, MO) and Bob Grimm (Goodfield, IL) visited and min-

istered to us this month. We were reminded that the Bible is a book of warnings and encouragement. God has given us something to guide us through this earthly life and He knew just what we would need to follow the straight and narrow path.

Bro. Neil Schmidgall was a surgical patient and Sis. Shirley Nohl (Bro. Noah) and Sis. Linda Wulf (Bro. Jerry) were also hospital patients. May God bless them as they recover.

Jayne Schmidgall (Bro. Don and Sis. Virginia) and Mike Wohlman were married on May 26. May God bless this bond of marriage.

Bro. Greg and Sis. Denise Gramm are thankful for a healthy and beautiful little daughter. She is Olivia Kay. Stephanie and Justin are the rest of this family. She is also lucky to have grandparents, Bro. Todd and Sis. Karen Feller (LaCrosse, IN) and Bro. Harold and Sis. Ila Gramm to help with her physical and spiritual upbringing. Todd Alan is the name Bro. Larry and Sis. Bonnie Nohl have chosen for their precious bundle. Jerry, Doug and Sheila are happy for a playmate. Grandparents are Sis. Madonna and the late Bro. Erwin Moser and Bro. Bud and Sis. Sophie Nohl (all of Morris).

Cathy Kussatz (Bro. Earl and Sis. Minnie) has graduated from nursing school. May God be with her as she finds a job and joins the working world.

Our sympathy and prayers have been extended to Sis. Clara Miller whose sister passed away and to Bro. Steve Backman and family whose stepfather passed away. May God be especially near and provide the grace needed at these difficult times.

Our Bible classes enjoyed a blessing at the Sunday School Fellowship weekend in Winthrop, MN. We would like to thank everyone for the time, effort and prayers that went into the planning.

Sis. Leanne Wulf has been working at the Leo Children's Home. She came home for a visit and brought the houseparents and children she works with. They enjoyed a week at the lake and several of us had the opportunity to spend time with them. We enjoyed having them and felt a blessing from the fellowship. We cannot be thankful enough for the many bonds we have the privilege of forming due to our common faith and calling.

MINNESOTA, WINTHROP

**Carol Ann Messner
Mary Lou Schmidt**

The Winthrop congregation was privileged to host the Annual Youth Fellowship gathering this month. It was truly a wonderful and blessed weekend! We want to personally thank our dear Bro. Ken Hoerr (Peoria, IL) for being our guest speaker. May God richly reward him for his words of wisdom and labors of love! We would also like to thank the students for participating, and for their cooperation. May God bless each and every one who helped to make the weekend a success!

A special thought: He who walks with God, will be out of step with the world.

Summer is usually family vacation time. All those coming to Minnesota, please remember to stop and visit us at Winthrop.

LET GO AND LET GOD!

When you're troubled and worried, and sick at heart,
And your plans are upset, and your world falls apart;
Remember God's ready and waiting to share,

The burden you find much too heavy to bear —
So with faith, Let Go And Let God lead the way,
Into a brighter and less troubled day!

Helen Steiner Rice

Bro. Walter Messner is presently hospitalized for surgery. Needful prayers are offered for Bro. Walter and his dear wife, Sis. Florence.

MISSOURI, KANSAS CITY

Janice Lehman

We welcome Sam Bahr and Meryl Stoller into our area. They are both recent graduates of Kansas State University. Graduating from high school is Lynn Braker (Don and Eileen). Lynn plans to attend Missouri University this fall. May the Lord direct each of these graduates.

Even though Ron and Sis. Diane Smith have assembled with us for some time, we are happy they have moved to Tonganoxie, KS which is closer to Kansas City than their previous location.

Martha Grimm has announced her engagement of marriage to Ross Mont-

gomery. We are sorry to see Martha leave our area as they will be living on a farm in Sabetha. Martha is the daughter of Bro. Paul and Sis. Katie of Bern.

MISSOURI, LAMAR

Sandra Luthi — Becky Marti

Especially at this time of the year, we think of the many freedoms we enjoy in this country. Among them are our freedoms to worship our Lord and God according to our convictions and to travel freely throughout the land. Recently, a busload from the Chicago congregation traveled here for a weekend. What a blessing it is to meet those from a distance and feel that same love and fellowship. We appreciated their visit.

In May we were privileged to partake of Holy Communion as we commemorated the suffering of our Lord and Savior. Elder Bro. Sam Anliker (Lamont, KS) was with us that weekend. May God bless him for ministering unto us and assisting in serving Holy Communion.

Other visiting ministers this month were Bro. Greg Rassi (Chicago, IL) and Bro. Don Miller (Minneapolis, MN). May God continue to inspire all our ministering brothers to speak His true Word according to His inspiration.

Jodi Kellenberger was our only high school graduate this year. We wish her God's guidance in the years ahead.

MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS

Becky Gudeman

"And as ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them likewise." Luke 6:31. How good it is to be reminded of the Golden Rule!

We thank Bro. Francis Rother (Morton) and Bro. Kenneth Knapp (Taylor) for being with us and bringing the Word of God. May He 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

"One dream becomes real . . . A thousand dreams become possible". Congratulations to our '84 graduates: Doug Hoerr (Bro. Louis and Sis. Ruth), Donald Bostrom (Dale and Sis. Roberta), Kim Sutter (Bro. James and Sis. Lois) and Carrie Hoerr (Bro. Ro-

bert and Sis. Emma Dee). "I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills . . . My help cometh from the Lord." Psalm 121:1, 2. With this foremost in their minds, there can be many blessings in the future, whichever way their paths lead.

We are happy to welcome two families who have been added to the Taylor congregation. Bro. Allen, Sis. Rosie (Hoerr) Massner and their children, Paige, Kip and Chad (Burlington, IA) and Bro. Jon, Sis. Pat (Wiegand) Knapp and their three boys, Ryan, B.J., and Blake who have been living in the Elgin, IA area. "The Little White Church on the Levee" isn't unfamiliar to these couples since it was Rosie's "home" and Jon and Pat lived here several years ago before being transferred elsewhere. "God's blessings will rest on those who allow Him to charter their course."

On May 21 we gathered together to hear the testimonies of Shon Haerr (Bro. Norman and Sis. Sally), Roberta Bostrom and her daughter, Lori, and on Sunday witnessed their baptism. Once again we were refreshed and encouraged to see that there are those who answered the call to "Come Follow Me". By His grace they will be a light and witness to all they come in contact with.

Glory be to God in heaven, Praise to Christ, our Saviour great!
By the power of Thy Spirit A new man Thou didst create.
Angels see in joyous rapture God's own Word in deed fulfilled,
And amid our glad embraces Is this child of God revealed.

This new being now arises, Having died with Christ before;
What in Adam's fall had perished Christ the Saviour did restore.
Dearest child, we bid thee welcome In our blessed brotherhood;
From the wild tree thou art grafted On this holy tree and root.

Zion's Harp #34

Visiting elders and ministers this month were: Elder Bros. Nathan Steffen (Elgin, IL), Paul Butikofer (Elgin, IA) and Sam Huber (Sabetha, KS) and ministering Bros. Lenny Meyer (Chicago, IL) and Ben Wysong (Sabetha, KS). May God continue to inspire these brothers to relay His messages in season and out of season. We do appreciate the fellowship with all our guests.

"When the sun is lost behind the clouds and skies above seem gray, It's wonderful to know that God is just a prayer away."

Hospital patients since our last news were Bro. William Cottrell (medical), Sis. Charlene Sutter, Julie Hoerr (Bro. Louis and Sis. Ruth) and Jamie Knapp (Bro. Mike and Luann), surgical. All are home again!

We enjoyed the annual Sunday School picnic and program June 10. Our young folks are growing up so rapidly! The little boys and girls of yesterday are young men and women today.

Congratulations to Bro. Jerry and Sis. Nancy Knapp at the arrival of a grandson, Trevor, born to their son and daughter-in-law, Bro. Brian and Sis. Lorna Knapp (Wolcott, IN).

"Whatever things ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them." Mark 11:24

NEW JERSEY, UNION CITY Ed Aeschleman

We express our thanks and appreciation to Bro. Everett Gerber and Bro. Roy Lugenbuhl (Rockville) for coming many miles to bring us the Holy Word of God. We enjoyed the visits and good fellowship as well. May God add His blessing.

Sis. Mary Diggelman was discharged from the hospital and is now convalescing at home as her fractured hip continues to heal. Both Bro. John and Sis. Mary are grateful for the large number of cards, visits, letters and phone calls from loved ones offering encouragement, good wishes and prayers. They all helped and are much appreciated. May the Lord continue to hear and answer our prayers for Sis. Mary's futher healing.

Richard Diggelman, Bro. John and Sis. Mary's son, was able to come with his wife, Helga, and son, Kevin, from Saudi Arabia where he is assigned with his company to visit his parents. He will be in the U.S. several weeks before returning to Saudi Arabia.

NEW YORK, CROGHAN Alice Virkler

O, Spirit of God's strength and might,
Create in us new life and light;
O, join us all in heart and mind,
That access to God's throne we find
Within Thy light!

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

Anew, Lord, we are bound to Thee
Through Thy blest sacrament, which we
Partook, that joined in heart and hand;
To Zion's realm and holy land
We journey on.

Zion's Harp #200

The first four verses of the beautiful "Communion Hymn" were sung together on Sunday, June 17, before we partook of Holy Communion. We gathered together with the Naumburg congregation for a day of fellowship and then were able to join together for the holy sacrament of Communion. After this most blessed feast, we joined together in singing the remaining verses of the "Communion Hymn". May we all be closer joined together in heart and mind and may this be a reuniting of each of us with our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. We want to thank our Elder Bros. Robert Beyer and Norbert Steiner for serving us, not only for this special occasion, but on every occasion throughout the year.

Sis. Irene Farney and Sis. Katie Farney have returned to their homes after being medical patients a few days. They are both unable to assemble with us on Sundays. May each of us remember them in our prayers and also the many others who cannot go in and out as we can. Sis. Alice Virkler was a hospital patient a few days for minor surgery.

Note: Dues for the Silver Lining for the Croghan congregation are due in August. They may be given to your reporter. Thank you.

NEW YORK, NAUMBURG Rachel Snyder

We're sorry to hear that Roy Sturtz had to undergo surgery. We hope he can be out and joining us again soon. He is in Lowville Hospital. Ethel Harcher had the misfortune of falling and is in Lowville Hospital also. Our thoughts and prayers are with both.

Sis. Minnie Rauke, 94, died in Greenbriar Nursing Home. She had been a resident of the home for 12 years. She is survived by two sons, Bro. John (Lowville) and Charles (Dewitt, NY) and four grandchildren. Elder

Bros. Robert Beyer and Norbert Steiner conducted the services.

A covered dish supper was enjoyed Saturday evening, June 16.

On June 17, the Croghan congregation assembled with us and in the afternoon Elder Bros. Robert Beyer and Norbert Steiner served us Holy Communion. What a blessed privilege we have to be able to partake of the symbol of the blood and body of Jesus Christ.

OHIO, AKRON

Joyce Gasser

Asa, whose name meant physician, was a good king of Judah. II Chronicles 15:17 says that the heart of Asa was perfect. That word here means 'peace', so God considered a peaceful heart to be a perfect heart. Asa, however, lost his peaceful heart, was wroth, oppressed some of the people, and his feet became diseased. If only he had kept his feet 'shod with the Gospel of peace'! In his various troubles he failed to trust the Lord. When he sought a physician, he failed to seek the Great Physician also, and consequently lost his blessings from the Lord.

Bro. Ned Spangler and his wife hosted a breakfast Sunday, May 27 for our three high school graduates and their families, along with the ministers and some guests from Forrest. Bro. Ned, who is superintendent of the Sunday School, presented each graduate with a Bible.

We appreciated a number of guests for the Memorial Day weekend from various places, including Bro. Clarence Kachelmuss and Bro. Merrill Laukhuf, whose sermons blessed us.

Mark Graf (Bro. Leon Graf) received a degree in Electronic Technology from Akron University.

We have two couples that will be observing their 30th wedding anniversaries, Bro. Eugene Pamer and his wife on August 7 and Bro. Leon Graf and his wife on August 15.

OHIO, GIRARD

Kathryn Emch

"As I write tonight, we have just celebrated Father's Day. Some of us no longer have earthly fathers, but we find that the memory of those who have gone only become dearer as the years go by. All of us can have a heavenly Father if we only claim Him as our own. He, too, grows dearer as we trust soul and body to Him. How blessed are we

who can truthfully pray, "Our Father which art in Heaven".

Our congregation had the privilege of Holy Communion served to us by our Elder Bro. Eugene Pamer who also had the services for the day. We appreciate our elders and pray a special blessing on them all.

Our thanks to those who travel to worship with us. Your assistance in singing and prayer mean much to us. We truly enjoy the fellowship with our brethren.

OHIO, JUNCTION

Les Manz

God's Word was brought to us this month by visiting ministers Bro. Don Gudeman (LaCrosse), Bro. Eugene Fetter (Toledo) and Bro. Larry Wenninger (Latty). His Word comes to us in various ways through His Spirit to fill various needs. This month, His Word has carried a tone of comfort, because we have had a great loss. Our Sis. Esther Schlatter was suddenly called into eternity. Her death will no doubt leave an empty spot in her children's lives. They are Bro. Sam, Bro. Ralph, Bro. Lowell and Carlton (all of Junction), Bro. Ray (Toledo) and Bro. Phil (Sarasota), Sis. Betty (Chicago), Sis. Lois Maibach (Rittman), Sis. Benita Bahler (Remington), Sis. Karen (Junction), Sis. Sharon Gasser (Rittman) and Chris (Junction). Her brothers and sisters are Sis. Juliet Schlatter (Junction) and Sis. Marilyn Fetter (Toledo), and Bros. John and Henry Dotterer (Rittman). Sis. Esther's husband, Bro. Ben, preceded her in death, as did one son. Many of you came to the aid of Sis. Esther's family in their time of sorrow with kind deeds, thoughts and prayers, and they want to thank each of you for your support.

OHIO, LATTY

Laurie Stoller — Patty Riggerbach

Paul exhorts the Thessalonians in I Thes. 4 to make their ambition to lead a quiet life, mind their own business, and to work with their hands so that they may win the respect of outsiders by their daily life. Starting in new occupations which have led them away from the Latty congregation are Bro. Byron Dunham (Bro. Charles and Sis. Laura) who has relocated in Texas and Bro. Scott Gerber (Roger and Sis. Eunice) who will be working in Chicago. We will miss these brothers but hope that they will be a light to the

many people they will meet in their new locations.

We expressed our sorrow in the death of Bro. Nathan Ringger (Sis. Nettie). He is survived by two sons, Lawrence and Charles; and six daughters, Louise Beatty, Betty Hofacker, Loretta Shultz, Frances Taylor, Marian Hedrick and Waneta Pinkerton.

Sympathy is also extended to Sis. Dolores Reinhard (Bro. Dan) in the loss of her father. We trust that these families have felt God's comfort, even in their sorrow.

June 3 was a special day for Bro. Lee Klopfenstein (Bro. Alvin and Sis. Ellen) and Sis. Desma Davis (Larry and Linda) as they were joined together in holy matrimony in Morton, IL. After a short stay around Latty, Lee and Desma will be moving to Columbus where Lee will continue his college studies. We enjoyed their attendance even for a short period of time.

The annual Vacation Bible School proved successful as many children and young people participated in the week-long training. They shared what they had learned during the week at a program on Friday evening. We were impressed by what all the children could learn in a short period of time and were encouraged to see their enthusiasm in learning it. Gratitude is extended to the brothers, sisters and friends who willingly gave of their time and talents during the week to further the spiritual education of our future church.

The reunion of the 1978 Apostolic Christian Church Heritage Tour was hosted in Latty this year. Many visitors worshipped and fellowshiped with us during the weekend. Among those visitors were Bro. Harold Emch (Girard) who ministered to us on Sunday. Bro. Kent Ringger (Bluffton) also shared with us recently. We thank them for their service.

Bro. Rod and Sis. LeAnn Stoller rejoice in the birth of Jeremy Lynn. He joins three brothers, Tim, Jeff and Jonathon, who are happy to have another playmate.

Several from the Latty congregation suffered accidents or hospitalization during the past month. They were: Sis. Gloria Grant (Bro. Phil), Sis. Rhonda Stoller (Bro. Justus and Sis. Ruby), Sis. Vera Laukhuf (Bro. Lester), Sis. Dolores Reinhard (Bro. Dan), Phil Sinn (Bro. Ray and Sis. Ann), Sis. Nettie Ringger, Sis. Marie Stoller,

Aaron and Angie Stoller (Bro. Jim and Sis. Tam) and Dawn Stoller (Bro. Ray and Sis. Carol). We are glad that most of these loved ones are feeling better now.

OHIO, MANSFIELD
Lucille Groh

“Truly God is good to Israel, even to such as are of a clean heart.”

Psalm 73:1

In strange places and in unexpected ways God meets His own. Many times to one in deep soul distress there is a fresh revelation of Divine presence. He brings the balm of healing to a sin sick soul and whispers sweet peace and all will be changed. Sis. Catherine and Sis. Linda Morrison were on a plane bound for Anchorage, Alaska, stopping in Chicago for a lay over. They were anxious and concerned about getting there as Catherine's daughter and Linda's sister, Nellie February, was very ill and in the hospital. As they were waiting for the plane to refuel, a man and a lady boarded the plane and the Morrises discussed and remarked the couple looked like fellow pilgrims and wondered if they were of the Apostolic Christian faith. The lady saw Linda and Catherine and must have had the same thought and they exchanged greetings and each discovered they were from our beautiful faith. The Morrises were from Mansfield, OH and Bro. Ed and Sis. Marjorie Alt were from Cissna Park, IL. By the direction of God they were to meet exactly at the same time and place. Bro. Ed and Sis. Marjorie were on their way to Anchorage to visit their son. When Bro. Ed heard of Nellie's illness, he readily offered to go and visit her in the hospital. As the events unfolded, and not to make this article too long, over a period of months and another flight later to Alaska when it was learned of Nellie's terminal illness of a brain tumor, God used Bro. Ed to help Nellie through her repentance where she could find peace with her Lord and then could gently slip from this life, safely into the arms of her Jesus, whom she so dearly loved. Nellie could find by God's grace her 'Independence Day' freed from sin and evil and can now be safe on the eternal shore.

Bro. Ed and Sis. Marjorie were here for the funeral which was held on June 8, 1984. Nellie is survived by her husband, Steve; two sons, Sidney and Steve; her dear mother, Sis. Catherine

Morrison; three sisters, Helen Matuck, who spent many weeks with Nellie in Alaska also, Sis. Linda Morrison and Laura Coleman; two brothers, Robert and Lloyd Morrison.

For me, there is a beautiful lesson in this conversion of Nellie. What IF Sis. Catherine, Sis. Linda and Sis. Marjorie would not have looked like sisters of our faith, the Lord might not have been able to use Bro. Ed as they could have easily passed each other not knowing or realizing that a soul needed to be free from sin in Alaska. Just think what would have been the end result, IF . . . they had not been walking in the light! Are we doing just that? Are we letting the Lord walk by . . . will we be accountable for a lost soul because we didn't do the Lord's commandment by walking and being a true example in a dark world? It's a sobering thought.

Twas but a little light she bore,
 While standing at the open door;
 A little light, a feeble spark,
 And yet it shone out through the dark
 With cheerful ray, and gleamed afar
 As brightly as the polar star.

A little light dispels the gloom
 That gathers in the shadowed room
 Where want and sickness find their
 prey,
 And night seems longer than the day,
 And hearts with many troubles cope
 Uncheered by one slight ray of hope.

It may be little we can do
 To help another, it is true;
 But better is a little spark
 Of kindness when the way is dark
 Than one should miss the road to
 heaven
 For lack of light we might have given.
 Author Unknown

Visiting ministers this past month were Bro. Ron Steiner (Rittman), Bro. Doug Sabo (Sarasota) and Elder Bro. Aaron Steffen (Alto). They each left us with many good teachings and thoughts. May God continue to bless their labors of love.

June 8 was a special planned evening for our graduates, Lynette Gabor Rau, Grant Gerber and Randy Sauder graduated from high school and Bro. Marvin Beer from OSU. May God direct them as they choose their professions in life.

On June 9, the Lord called Sis. Eva Erhart Fuhrer from this life to her

eternal rest. For many years she had lived in Maywood, CA and more recently in the Apostolic Christian Home in Rittman. She loved to care for the flowers at the home before her last illness and Bro. Kenneth mentioned in the service that the flowers at the home won't have quite the same meaning now. She was laid to rest with a few flowers in her hands. Surviving are two sons, Daniel and Martin Fuhrer; one daughter, Martha Martinez; three brothers, William, Fred and Joe Erhart and a sister, Sis. Julia Dapper (Eureka, IL). May God comfort each of her loved ones who mourn her passing. The funeral services were conducted by Bro. Ben Hartzler (Rittman), Bro. Kenneth Sauder and Bro. Wallace Ramsier from here.

The week of June 11 - 15 was a blessed week of Vacation Bible School each evening. The adult class had guest speakers each evening which included Bro. Jim Rinkenberger - The Holy Spirit; Bro. Loren Stoller - Depression and Stress; Bro. Jesse Beer - Exodus; Bro. Gary Maibach - Persecution; and Bro. Aaron Steffen - Instruction for Christian Living. We want to express our thanks to each brother who shared God's Word with us.

OHIO, RITTMAN
Florence Hartzler
Janette Blough

Give unto the Lord the glory due unto His name: bring an offering, and come into His courts . . . Psalm 96:8.

We came to church one Sunday morning, to find visitors, as we often do. But these visitors were servants of the Lord, and we received many blessings from the Word as we listened to Bro. Mike Rinkenberger (Congerville) and Bro. Fred Domka (Mansfield). Another Sunday, Bro. Wally Ramsier and Bro. Pete Baltic (Mansfield) were here. O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness: fear before him, all the earth. Psalm 96:9.

I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help . . . Psalm 121:1. We cannot even think what it would be like, if we did not have the Lord to cry to when we are distressed. A death in the family can make us feel distressed. We offer sincere sympathy to Sis. Lois Maibach (Bro. Bruce) and Sis. Sharon Gasser (Bro. Ben) at the passing of their mother in Junction, Sis. Esther Schlatter.

There are times in our lives when we

almost feel like Job. We have pain to bear, too, but like Job, we can keep faith in God. Those needing hospital care were Bro. Fred Stoller, Bro. John Dotterer and Joe Zollinger (2-year-old son of Bro. Gary and Sis. Terry). Also, our dear Sis. Clara Maibach is back in the hospital again. We pray the Lord will be near to all those who must suffer in this life.

We have two new babies to report: a daughter, Amy Marie, was born to Doug and Sis. Diane Raifsnider. Little Rebecca is glad for a playmate. The grandparents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Betty Steiner. A little girl, Abigail Yvonne, was born to Bro. Stan and Sis. Karen Beery. At home to welcome a sister are Tony, Rebecca, Corbin and Adrian. The grandparents are Bro. Melvin and Sis. Elizabeth Beery and Richard and Gladys Bauman.

The wedding day chosen by Bro. Tim Ramsier and Sis. Jonell Schar was June 3. Many friends and relatives gathered to rejoice with these dear ones as they are now joined as husband and wife. May they be blessed with many good things in their life together. The Lord shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in from this time forth, and even for evermore. Psalm 121:8.

The engagement of Sharon Indermuhle and Brad Oliver was announced and they plan their wedding for July 14. A little verse on their wedding invitation reads: "As a rainbow brings beauty to our lives, so our love brings the promise of joy."

Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed there-to according to thy Word. Psalm 119:9. Two of our young men have answered the call and are following the Lord. We rejoice with Aaron Beery and Lee Rufener. Their parents are Bro. Everett and Sis. Carol Beery, and Bro. Joe and Sis. Lilas Rufener.

Except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it.

Psalm 127:1

The Rittman congregation dedicated their new church building to the Lord on June 2, 1963. Since then the Lord has blessed us with growth to the extent we felt we should consider a second church.

At the Elder meeting at Princeville, 1982, the Elder body gave permission and their blessings that we could proceed.

The vote of the congregation was to

go forth, and after much prayer and searching, we purchased a lot about 3½ miles southwest of our present church, just off State Route 585 on Fulton Road West.

The plans are nearly completed and we hope to have ground-breaking service late in July.

Our present church has a seating capacity of about 1,000, plus the balcony. Plans for the second church are to seat approximately 500.

Our brethren and friends will do most of the work. We have faith that our God will give His blessings to this undertaking, hoping it can be done in true humility, to the honor of our God and the welfare of many souls, and to show lost travelers the way to the eternal city.

We will appreciate your prayers.

OHIO, TOLEDO Josephine Rehklau Frances Laidig

The 4th of July is Independence Day. We who have lived in America, always having had the freedom to worship God as we wish, probably do not realize that we are truly blessed. It is so easy to take things for granted. The Pilgrims and our forefathers knew what it was not to have these privileges and were willing to put forth every effort to get their religious freedom. They must have known it was only possible with the help of God, as their first Constitution written on the deck of the Mayflower started with the words, 'In the name of God' and was signed solemnly and mutually in the presence of God.

On our coins are the words, 'In God We Trust'.

A song of praise that comes to mind is "My Country 'Tis of Thee":

My country 'tis of thee, Sweet land of liberty, Of thee I sing; Land where my fathers died, Land of the Pilgrim's pride, From ev'ry mountain side, Let freedom ring.

Verses 1 and 4

Let us pause a moment and be thankful for each precious day of religious freedom.

Our Summer Bible School was the week of June 18. It was encouraging to see the little children come so excited and eager to learn. They love to sing the songs which they are taught and look forward to each day with a wondering mind. We are thankful to live in a country that permits us to teach our

children about God and for the loved ones who make this possible.

We were saddened by the sudden death of Sis. Esther Schlatter (Junction, OH). She was the mother of Bro. Ray Schlatter and sister of Sis. Marilyn Fetter who are members of our congregation.

Sis. Gail Bradford (Bill) was in the hospital for several days. We are thankful she is feeling better again and able to assemble with us.

Bro. Scott Gerber (Latty, OH) graduated from the University of Toledo and will be leaving us in the near future. We will miss his presence among us.

OREGON, SILVERTON Rosa Lee Kuenzi

Whether you are from a family who always flew the flag and planned special activities on the 4th of July or from one who quietly went about your business as on any other busy summer day . . . you, no doubt, know that we Americans are truly a blessed people. Our many and various freedoms set us apart from most other nations of the world. But, listen America! Heed the wisdom in these words of old: "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways: then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land." II Chronicles 7:14.

Our own dear Sis. Judie (Bro. Ed) Knecht was a recent hospital patient at Willamette Falls Hospital in Oregon City. She is home now and well on her way to recovering from major surgery. We pray for her continued healing and look forward to the time when she can again assemble with us.

"We would very much like to express our heartfelt thanks to all for the prayers, cards and gifts. The love, kindness and thoughtfulness has been overwhelming. We feel unworthy of such love. May God richly bless each one, as He alone can do."

Bro. Ed and Sis. Judie Knecht We were very pleased to have ministering Bro. Ernest Graf (Akron, OH) and Sis. Louise visit us recently. May He share abundantly in God's grace for his labors of love in our behalf. A potluck supper at the Silverton City Park was held while they were here. We all enjoyed the fellowship and summer weather together.

**PENNSYLVANIA,
PHILADELPHIA**

Ann Gasser

We have enjoyed several visitors in recent weeks, including some of our own families from the Midwest. It is strengthening to our faith when we can experience fellowship with those that share a common motivation and goal.

Bro. Ed Aeschleman's business has called him to Europe for several weeks. Our prayers and frequent thoughts are with him. During his absence, visiting ministers have been Bro. Ron Steiner (Rittman, OH) and Bro. Fred Domka (Mansfield, OH). We appreciate their generous response to our need. Our thanks is extended also to those who traveled with them.

SILVER THREADS

**GOOD MANNERS
FOR GOD'S HOUSE**

1. Always do exactly what your par-

ents and teachers tell you to do.

2. Be quiet and listen carefully to the teachers in Sunday School to learn about God's Word.

3. Talk quietly when it is your turn. Never shout, and never use bad words.

4. Raise your hand when you have something to say. Don't interrupt when somebody else is talking.

5. Sit still and keep your hands to yourself. Never kick the bench in front of you or put your feet up on the table.

6. When it is time to sing, find the right page, follow along and try to sing the best you can. Singing is a good way to praise God.

7. When it is time to pray, close your eyes, bow your head and fold your hands. Remember you are talking to God.

8. Walk — don't ever run in the church building. Show reverence for God's house.

9. Smile and be friendly. Be especially kind to older people. Be considerate

and courteous to others. Let others go first and take your turn. Never push or shove.

10. Love God with all your heart, mind, soul and strength, and show respect for Him by having good manners in His house.

"For mine house shall be called a house of prayer for all people."

Isaiah 57:1

Sermon . . .

(Continued from Page 28)

simple. But it took some time to go through the wilderness . . . it took forty years. During that time the people became discouraged and said such things as, "The Lord brought us out so He could take us into the wilderness, and He could kill us," or "Moses, you brought us out of the land of Egypt so you could be here in the wilderness, and you could rule over us and dominate us."

God Himself straightened that out. Korah had led a group in rebellion, and there was a "showdown". Sometimes we want to avoid problems, but in such a basic issue like that, it was necessary for God to discipline. Korah, Dathan and Abiram stood in front of their tents with their families. God inspired Moses to say something like this, "Everyone get away from them. If you people are right, if God is not in this, if this is just something that I am doing on my own, then you will live. But, if you are wrong, and God is leading this, none of you will be able to die a natural death."

There was probably a great multitude there, and, as they were looking, many a heart might have been pounding; breaths might have been held; maybe hands were being clenched. As the people watched, the earth opened up and those people who had rebelled went into the earth, and the earth closed up.

Dear ones, God did not bring the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt into the wilderness so that He could kill every one who was forty years old or older. He brought them out to save them. Because of their disobedience, their murmurings, and their rebelling, many of them lost their lives.

We might think today, "What should we tell our children?" We want to tell our children that God created the earth. Sin came into the earth and Satan became powerful. God was dis-

8TH ANNUAL AUCTION

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S HOME

Leo, Indiana

Saturday, August 25, 1984



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pleased, but God sent a Saviour. The Saviour came to this earth so that we have a means whereby we can someday go to heaven. He is going to help us. Let us love our God. Let us love our Saviour. Love Him. Obey Him. If we obey Him, we don't have to be afraid of Him. We want to obey Him, and then He will help us.

I thought again this morning about how the Saviour came into this world. He didn't come to condemn us. He came to give us a way of escape from the judgements that are ahead for the disobedient. I compared it with a house which is on fire. The alarm is sounded. Sirens blow and fire engines come. Lights are flashing and people wonder what is going on. The firemen come dressed for the occasion with outfits in which they can breathe and resist the heat. Some of these men will risk their lives going into a burning house.

Suppose that a fireman went into a house and said, "Folks, this place is burning up! Here, I will lead you out!" Now that fireman didn't come to destroy them. He didn't set the house on fire. He came to save them. If the people would follow him, he might be able to lead them out. But if they would say, "Oh, no, I'm not going to go with you. I'm going to sit right here in my favorite chair. I'm going to sit right where I am." If the house then burned and they perished, it wouldn't be the fireman's fault. He did his job. He came in and warned them. He was ready to take them by the hand and lead them to safety. If they refused, their deaths would be their own responsibility.

Our Saviour came into this world. It's recorded, and we know that it is true. He came to lead us to heaven. If we refuse to follow Him, it is not the Saviour's fault. It's your fault . . . it is my fault. The way of escape, the plan of salvation, is here. We need to take the time to think about it and to remember it.

So many times we hear people say that they are living their own lives; they are doing their thing; they are doing what they want. They may think or reminisce sometimes about when they were little. Maybe they went to church with mom and dad, or maybe they went to church with grandma and grandpa. But now, that's not for them.

Dear ones, it should be for each and every one of us because each and every one of us wants to be in heaven some day. It is for us to read the Bible and to

find out what Jesus has done for us. Some people say, "What about Jesus?" There are millions of people, perhaps billions, who don't know of Jesus. They have other religions, other cults or 'what have you'. Well, God has seen fit through the support of our faith that we send Bibles. Missionaries go to other lands to tell people about Jesus. We should tell the people whom we know, the people with whom we associate, about Jesus. We want to serve the Lord. We want to follow Him and we want to tell other people what the Saviour has done for us. What He has done for us, He will do for others.

Last year, the year 1983, may have brought problems and heartaches, but it was a year in which we could still worship. We still had food. We might not have made as much money as we wanted to, but we still are here today. We have the hope of life eternal. The call is still going out. Jesus is still on His mercy seat, looking down upon us and inviting souls to come to Him in repentance. Don't expect a written invitation, but expect a real tug. The thought of our heart is, "Are we really doing what the Saviour wants us to do?"

As we look into the Word, we read that Jesus said that unless we repent and are converted, unless we are baptized, we will not see the Kingdom of Heaven.

Dear ones, I am not able to rationalize around that. I believe that that is just what He meant. True, we do hope that, if somebody has neglected the Saviour in his lifetime, he may, when old or on his death bed, come to the Lord. He may realize that he has wasted his life and want to make peace with God, even though he hasn't lived a Christian life and been baptized. Jesus told the thief on the cross, "Today shalt thou be with me in paradise." Luke 23:43. There is hope. However, that is not the purpose or the plan of salvation. The plan is that in days of youth, while we have health to seek the Lord and to be forgiven, we should follow Him and live a life showing others that we are Christians who are trying to do what the Saviour has taught. Then, after we have kept the faith through heartaches and problems, the Saviour will someday come and take us home. Dear ones, that is the plan of salvation.

Jesus wants us. Really, it is almost as simple as following a fireman out of a

burning house to safety. In the case of a burning house, you might have only seconds or minutes to make a decision. Concerning salvation, we think that we might have eighty or ninety years to make a decision. We may or may not, but the decision has to be made.

Moses taught the people to remember the Lord and to follow Him. He warned them against other gods and other idols. He advised them and us to keep reminding ourselves of what the Lord has done for us, and what He will do for us in the future. Moses told them to remember how the Lord miraculously led them out of Egypt and how He miraculously fed and led them in the wilderness. Then Moses said to look forward, that they would be led into the land of Canaan where they would not be slaves. The Lord had promised to overcome their enemies.

Dear ones, we want to worship our God, and we want to look forward to tomorrow, to next year. But especially we want to look forward to eternity, to the 'Promised Land'. We want to serve the Lord today.

Jesus called His twelve disciples together. He gave them authority. They went on a journey to preach the Word. They healed the sick. They had the power given by Jesus to do His will. "And He sent them to preach the kingdom of God, and to heal the sick." Luke 9:2. It was the same with them as with the seventy who "returned again with joy, saying, Lord, even the devils are subject unto us through thy name. Luke 10:17.

Jesus had told them, "And whosoever will not receive you, when ye go out of that city, shake off the very dust from your feet for a testimony against them." Luke 9:5.

Dear ones, today the Lord comes again, and again, and again. He tells us, "Follow Me. Obey My teachings. Follow My reasonable service." But there is coming a time when the Lord is not going to be a Saviour; He will be a Righteous Judge.

Today we have the Saviour. Today we are starting a whole new year. May we look forward to it with thankfulness, and with the resolve and the desire in our hearts to love each other and to love our Saviour. A few tomorrows and 1984 for some of us will be over. A few more tomorrows, and we will all be in eternity. Through the Saviour, following in His footsteps, it will be eternity in heaven.

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SERMON BY BRO. ARTHUR BAURER OF PRINCEVILLE, IL

Text: Deuteronomy 6 & Luke 9:1-27

We read that a great multitude was around the Saviour, and the day was far spent. Perhaps some of the people were far from home. The night was drawing on. Even though they were listening to the Saviour, the people still had their fleshly bodies, and they became hungry.

There were no restaurants. There was nothing to eat and they probably said, "What shall we do?" Jesus said to feed them. "Give ye them to eat". I don't believe anybody here really feels in need of food. I believe most of us have food. We have food in our refrigerators and freezers.

But, dear ones, I believe that if we look deeper, every one of us is in need of spiritual food. We need to say, "Jesus, give us something to eat."

When feeding those five thousand people, a large multitude, Jesus first told His disciples to have the people sit down in groups of fifty. They did so; they sat down in groups of fifty. Then Jesus took the five loaves and two fishes.

A loaf, I am sure, was small. The fish were small. For five thousand people, it would not normally have sufficed. It wouldn't feed that many people. I think that our housewives or restaurants, rather than feed five thousand people with just a little dab of food, would rather not feed anybody.

But see what happened! Through the power of Jesus, the food was multiplied. The people sat down. Jesus took the loaves and the two fishes, looked up into heaven, and broke them apart. Then He distributed them to His disciples and they gave them to the people. Everybody had enough to eat; there were even twelve baskets of food left over.

We need food for our physical bodies, but we also need food for our spiritual bodies. We need to be instructed, encouraged and directed. We don't know how long we are going to

live, and there is so much that can attract our eyes or occupy our thoughts. We need to take the time to sit down in quietness, and let the Saviour talk to us and feed us. If we don't, dear ones, we are headed in the wrong direction.

I'm sure you have heard about our Saviour's birth. Babies are so helpless and precious. When a little baby is sitting in a stroller or is being carried by his mother or his father, many people will come and chuck them under the chin or smile. They just love little children.

When the Saviour came upon the earth, I don't believe it was any different. Of course Herod didn't like Him, because he thought that Jesus was going to take his position. But the people loved the Saviour. The wise men came and gave Him gifts. He was the Saviour who would become a king. That was all the more reason to love Him because the Jews were under oppression. So they loved the Saviour, and it was a time of rejoicing.

But we did not read today of the baby, but of the Man. He was feeding the people. Jesus came on this earth to do the Father's will. He ran into resistance because the people welcomed the Saviour, the Messiah, but they wanted things in this lifetime, and Jesus was looking, as He is now, far beyond that.

The people were not given high worldly positions, easy lives, wealth or immediate victory over their enemies. Rather than that, the Saviour said, so to speak, "Love one another. Don't hate your enemies. Be good to those who take advantage of you. Love each other. Get along peacefully. Don't try to amass a lot of wealth or a lot of belongings in this lifetime. Do not set your hearts on the things of this world." Jesus wanted to prepare people for heaven. I'm afraid that some of the people wanted His free food. They

wanted His help. They welcomed miracles for their physical benefit, but that wasn't why the Saviour came.

We read in the Old Testament that Moses commanded the people not to forget the Lord when they went into the Promised Land. Moses was inspired of God. He said to teach the children, and not just casually, but "teach them diligently".

Set some priority on this. Take the time to teach your children. Moses said to talk to your children when you are sitting in your house. This may be when you are sitting around the table or in the living room. Now don't get me wrong; we can't preach to our children all the time, but we can talk to them. Some of the things that we say will show that we really love them, and love our fellow man. When we are sitting in our houses, when we are walking "by the way," when we are driving in our cars, when we are lying down and when we are rising up, we are to talk to our children.

Moses wanted the people to never forget God. They didn't have printing presses at that time. They didn't have the Word contained in a book, and Moses didn't want them to forget. We each have Bibles now. There are a multitude of books, magazines, and other things that would occupy our time, but we are to teach our children diligently about the Lord.

Moses said, "Say . . . we were Pharaoh's bondmen in Egypt; and the Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand. And the Lord Shewed signs and wonders, great and sore, upon Egypt, upon Pharaoh, and upon all his household."

Moses, through the inspiration of God, told the people to tell their children that they had been slaves in Egypt, and that the Lord had brought them out and led them into the Promised Land. Now that sounds pretty

(Continued on Page 26)