



She openeth her mouth with wisdom, and her tongue is the law of kindness.

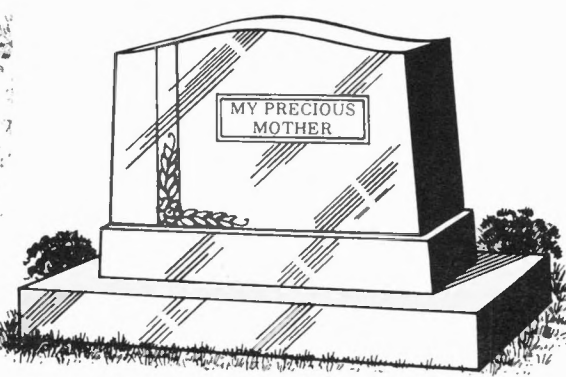
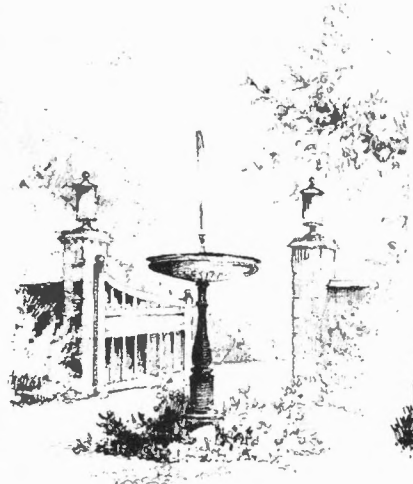
Proverbs 31:26

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

Proverbs 31:28

# MOTHER

*In Loving Memory*



## TELL MOTHER I'LL BE THERE

When I was but a little child, how well I recollect  
 How I would grieve my mother with my folly and neglect,  
 And now that she has gone to heaven, I miss her tender care,  
 O Saviour, tell my mother I'll be there.

When I became a prodigal, and left the old roof tree,  
 She almost broke her loving heart, in mourning after me,  
 And day and night she prayed to God to keep me in His care;  
 O Saviour, tell my mother I'll be there.

Though I was often wayward, she was always kind and good,  
 So patient, gentle, loving, when I acted rough and rude.  
 My childhood griefs and trials she would gladly with me share;  
 O Saviour, tell my mother I'll be there.

One day a message came to me; it bade me quickly come,  
 If I would see my mother, ere the Saviour took her home.  
 I promised her before she died, for heaven to prepare;  
 O Saviour, tell my mother I'll be there.

Chorus:  
 Tell mother I'll be there, in answer to her prayer.  
 This message, blessed Saviour, to her bear!  
 Tell mother I'll be there, heaven's joys with her to share;  
 Yes, tell my darling mother I'll be there.

## DEATH

Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle - Shioda Japan

Death is unusual in that we only experience it once in a lifetime. What do you expect death to be like and have you done everything you know to get ready for it? It can be pictured as a knowledgeable departure from this body into a new realm.

When Fidel Castro took control of Cuba via a successful revolution against a dictatorial government, he decided it was necessary to execute some of his friends who no longer supported him when they learned of his intentions to establish a Marxist-oriented government. One of his friends walked to his execution with this remark, "I've always wanted to know what's on the other side." His remark concerns death and is not easily forgotten.

We have heard and read of people who left their bodies and then returned to those bodies to continue living here on earth. They speak of watching the doctors and nurses, or family members, hover over their bodies, and of their reluctance to return to their own bodies. They seem to have freer movement outside the body. Christ returned to his body after three days at which time His body took on a new form

which is immortal. Others who have returned to their bodies have remained mortal and still must face death here on earth.

Concerning people who have left their bodies and then returned, it is reported that they were all very pleased with their experience outside the body. It should be remembered that they did not go all the way into death but were still in a state where they could return to the body. Christ taught us that for those who are not saved, there is a place "Where the worm dieth not and the fire is not quenched". Repentance, faith in Christ and prayer to God for forgiveness, are the steps to be taken to prepare for death, to avoid suffering after death.

It is our calling to be spiritually-minded while still here in the physical world, and to wait patiently, with good courage and cheer, until God calls us over, through death. Death is the falling asleep of this physical body while our spirits depart to return to God. Paul wrote in Philippians 1:23, "... Having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ, which is far better."

### APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN BIBLE DISTRIBUTION

Bibles Distributed by our Churches  
First Year - August 1983 thru July 1984 - 13,890

#### Bibles Distributed - Second Year

	MONTH	TO DATE
August 1984 -	909	909
September 1984 -	749	1658
October 1984 -	686	2344
November 1984 -	1246	3590
December 1984 -	944	4534
January 1985 -	850	5384
February 1985 -	505	5889
March 1985 -	1077	6966
April 1985 -	825	7791

NOTE: Sets of Braille Bibles are available to give to the blind.

Due to lack of space in this issue, the continuation of the article "Memories of Japan and India" by Elder Bro. David Bertsch will be continued next month.

#### NOTICE

Please keep in mind when making plans for 1985 - the 9th Annual Children's Home Sale will be held on the fourth Saturday of August. - August 24, 1985 -

Thank you very much!

## NEED FOR DIRECTOR OF NURSING

Apostolic Christian Resthaven in Elgin, IL is currently seeking a Registered Nurse for full-time employment as Director of Nursing. Resthaven is a 49-bed skilled/intermediate facility scheduled to open in the fall of 1985.

Hospital and geriatric experience is desirable, with knowledge and training in nursing service management and restorative nursing. The Director of Nursing shall oversee the nursing functions of Resthaven, while providing some direct patient care.

This position will offer an excellent salary and benefit package.

Anyone interested or needing additional information should send a resume or call: Rick Schmidgall, Apostolic Christian Resthaven, P. O. Box 1026, Elgin, IL 60121, Phone (312) 741-4543.

### THE SILVER LINING

Grabill, Indiana 46741  
USPS 496780

#### EDITORIAL STAFF:

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

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IN MEMORY - EDITORS:  
HENRY SOUDER  
EDWARD SOUDER

## OUR EASTERN EUROPE VISIT

Bro. Vernon Leman, World Relief Representative

"Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver."

II Corinthians 9:7

A suggestion was made at our World Relief committee meeting, which was held in Ft. Lauderdale in December, that we evaluate our sharing of food packages and monetary gifts which we send to our brethren in Romania. The elder brethren who are on the World Relief Committee thought this necessary and gave their consent for someone to visit that area. With the blessings of those three elders and the other committee members, plans were made for Bros. Andrew Hunyady and Vernon Leman to make this trip. It had been ten years since our dear Brethren, John Bahler, Rudy Graf and Andrew Hunyady had visited those brethren to see about their conditions. Also traveling on this recent trip were two to represent the Apostolic Christian Nazarene Church. Those two were George Hunyady and James Siladie. Both these two and Bro. Andrew had lived part of their lives in that area so could readily understand the language and interpret for others.

Our flight to Budapest, Hungary was enjoyable as the weather was conducive to ideal flying. We were greeted by a group of dear brethren at the airport and they kindly provided for us in every way by sharing their love and hospitality. Several elder brothers and one minister came from other churches to discuss the World Relief work with us.

That weekend in Hungary was a blessed one for me to again assemble in the Budapest church, as Viola and I were on the Heritage tour in 1983, and enjoyed a Sunday in their area at that time. One can soon feel their love for God's Word and their humility as we worship together.

In Hungary they are able to assemble in churches for their worship. Though a Communist country, Christians have more freedom there than in the other countries where we visited.

On Monday, March 25, we rented a Mazda car with a luggage carrier on top, to continue our journey to Romania with much concern and fervent

prayer as we knew not what we might encounter. In traveling to Romania from Hungary, we noticed the operation of State controlled farms. These are large grain farms, much as we have in the States, but controlled by the State. They raised wheat, corn, alfalfa, vegetables and vineyards all with controlled laborers, as each was ordered to do his special work. We saw many older people walking to work, carrying hoes or other garden tools. Their land is generally a very fertile soil and for the most part level. Machinery compares in part, although they seem to use it to an older age.

Upon reaching the Romanian border, we again found the large iron gates closed and the need to go through customs. The guards did a thorough check of our luggage and asked many questions. I was very thankful for the other three companions being able to interpret for me as I did not understand their language. They took my tapes and my Statements of Faith, but I was told they would return them upon our leaving the country. However, we did not leave the same port as we entered so I did not receive them. After 3½ hours of checking, waiting and exchanging money, they gave us the permission to enter. We were thankful to God and appreciated His nearness in the Communist countries.

There are many poor brethren and friends in Romania partly due to several disasters which hit that area. There was a flood in 1970, then an earthquake in 1977 which was followed by a dry season. Our Apostolic Christian churches collected \$25,000 for their relief after the flood. This gift was delivered by Bro. Andrew Hunyady to the head of State, Nicola Ceauscia. Since those events, our church has been trying to send food packages and monetary gifts to help our needy brethren. In our visits, we found the food packages getting to them in good condition. We were thankful for the blessing to be able to bring a good report to all of you that have shared so generously.

The food packages which we are sending contain the following: soup mixes, sugar, canned hams and sausage, powdered milk cocoa, margarine, coffee, grits and cooking oil. Their

winters are much more critical because of the restrictions on the use of electricity and heating fuel. One dear sister told of her condition and felt that starving was going to be her lot as she was out of food. One can believe that she prayed very earnestly as she went to bed hungry. On the next day her prayer was answered as she received a food package. Those who are receiving the food packages, want to thank each of you for sending this help to them.

They are to use only one light bulb at night, perhaps around a 50-watt bulb. Because of the fuel restrictions, many older folk have died as the weather was very cold, some 30 degrees below zero. Therefore, it is our recommendation that we continue to help, especially in the winter, as the need still exists. In the warmer weather, the need is less as they have individual gardens, fruit trees, vineyards, chickens, sheep and some will have one or two hogs for food purposes. One participant told us of the requirements to share with the government, that he has to give half of the wool from the sheep, even though he owns the sheep.

In Romania, their agriculture is similar to Hungary but probably more restricted, and more government controlled. These conditions took me back many years as we would see a team of horses and, in some cases, oxen hitched to small old wagons. They load the manure by hand, haul it to the field and unload it on a pile and others will spread it on the land by hand. They make good use of their labor.

We made stops along the way to the Capitol at Bucharest and to visit the brethren. What a rejoicing when we could share God's love with the brethren there!

In Romania the Christians worship in individual homes in small groups. The government seems to know when visitors come and know ones whereabouts at all times. At one time Bro. Andy was grilled for 1½ hours and had to give a good accounting to the police, before they would let him go.

After leaving Romania, we entered Yugoslavia to spend the next few days. Here again, we were well received by the believers. We were able to spend two days and nights with the Berta Maytas family. He is a minister of the gospel in the town of Pisca, Y. He told us of his desire to remodel the present church and another older church building into an Old People's Home. He has

asked that we consider this matter as a World Relief project.

These dear brethren were very hospitable all along the way and sacrificed to feed us very good meals. They always began with chicken noodle soup, then meat, bread, potatoes, vegetables, followed with pastries. All meals were served with wine and mineral water. This seemed to be the custom in all of the visited countries. They were disappointed if one did not partake of all they provided. Sometimes, only several hours had passed since we had partaken of such a bounteous meal.

In Arad, Yugoslavia, we visited an elder named Virtaci Alexandria and enjoyed services at their home the next day. While there, we were privileged to see the 4-wheel drive vehicle which World Relief purchased for their use. It has the capacity of carrying 8 people. We found it in good condition and very useful to transport brethren.

Czechoslovakia was our planned trip for our last day of visiting. We made two stops and visits at the homes of two elder brothers who lived there.

In all of these countries, Bro. Andrew was to share some of the World

Relief monies with the brethren. He was also to give some to the Hungarian brethren to share to those in the Soviet Union on their visits there.

The brethren, without exception, sent their love and greetings to the brethren in the States. They also want to thank each cheerful giver who so generously shares with them.

We, who were on the journey, wish to thank all who remembered us in prayers all along our way. It was truly a learning and humbling experience.

## **APOSOLIC CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S HOME NEED FOR CHILDREN'S HOME ADMINISTRATOR**

We are very sorry that the health of our administrator, Bro. Uriel Gehring, has resulted in his message to the board members, that after much prayer he is resigning. Bro. Uriel said he would like to leave the administrator responsibility by August 1. He has agreed to stay until an orderly transition can be accomplished. The board is in the process of prayerfully seeking his replacement. We want to acknowledge the very conscientious efforts and work by Bro. Uriel and Sis. Judy for the Home and the children the past two years. We entreat you to join us in prayer for their future and in the board's efforts to find a new administrator.

"And a vision appeared to Paul in the night, there stood a man of Macedonia, beseeching him and saying, 'Come over into Macedonia and help us.'" Acts 16:9.

"As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith." Galatians 6:10.

The Apostolic Christian Children's Home has been in operation some 9 years since October 1976, thanks to the support of our many brethren and friends, and to our brothers and sisters who have willingly come to fill the staffing needs of the homes. The Home has provided Christian homes, families and love for many children in the past, and is doing so now.

There is now an urgent need for a Children's Home administrator. The qualification requirements for the administrator are:

1. Must be a brother, sound in faith, upholding church order and doctrine, married to a sister of like standing.
2. Must have the support of his home church elder.
3. Must demonstrate administrative ability and understand fiscal policies.
4. Must be able to command respect of children, as well as adults.
5. Desirable age between 25 and 60 years. Consideration will be given to all applicants.
6. Must be able to meet requirements of governing authorities, which include the requirement of a Bachelors Degree in the Sciences, Business Administration, Education, Medicine, Social Work or related studies.
7. A resume is required to be sent with your request for an interview.

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

Bro. Dan Knochel  
30449 Barkely  
Livonia, MI 48154  
313-421-0711

Bro. Brace Wieland  
13034 Cherry Street  
Leo, IN 46765  
219-627-5167

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

All requests and resumes will be promptly and prayerfully answered.  
"When my father and mother for-

sake me, then the Lord will take me up." Psalms 27:10. There is an ever increasing great number of children who have been forsaken, and only a small number of Christian homes available to provide for them. The Lord needs willing workers to provide for these young souls.

Bro. David Bertsch  
for the Children's Home Board  
and the Counselling Elders

### **WORLD RELIEF REPORT Bro. Sidney Leman**

For several years, World Relief, being aware of the hungry peoples in the third world countries, has been endeavoring to send some grains to help those in poverty and hunger.

We think of "James 2" concerning being destitute of daily food and if we don't give them those things which are needful to the body, what doth it profit?

We, in the land of America, have been blessed so bountifully and, indeed, we, of the World Relief committee, are thankful for the many kind deeds of our brethren and friends and for the efforts put forth in doing this good work, feeding the hungry.

Especially M.C.C., International Aid and S.I.M. assure us that in the crisis in Africa, our grains are getting through to the needy. They have personnel in the field helping to see that it does. Other agencies are also helpful.

As a result, your committee has since late fall of 1984 sent approximately 18,500 bushels of corn and 1,840 bushels of beans. This is the largest amount in any one season. Many bushels have been sent prior to this.

We say thanks to the many cheerful givers who made many people happy by giving them something to eat.



Lord willing, and as God directs, we will keep sending what we can as in the past.

### APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S HOME

Uriel Gehring — Judy Luginbuhl

The barren earth is being turned over by the "tillers of the soil", seed beds are being prepared, and the seed is planted. We now wait for God to give the increase. "But some fell into good ground, and brought forth fruit, some an hundredfold, some sixty fold, some thirty fold." Matthew 13:8. Such is the cycle of the planting and harvesting season on this earth that has been repeated for century after century. God has manifested His infinite wisdom in so many ways, it hardly seems possible that anyone could doubt His existence as the Creator of heaven and earth and all things contained therein. The beauty of creation is awesome and inspiring. The other evening as we glanced heavenward, we observed some of the most magnificent cloud forms ever. The golden rays of the setting sun cast a rich orange cast over the velvet white, fleecy cloud pattern, and to gaze into this panorama of dazzling beauty, nearly took our breath away. Somewhere beyond this scene is our heavenly Father, beholding all His creatures and creations. "Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? and one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father. But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear ye not, therefore, ye are of more value than many sparrows." Matthew 10:29-31.

The spring break was enjoyed by all the staff and children, especially those who went to Florida, where an early taste of spring was intriguing. We thank them for letting us use the church house while we were there. It is always nice to be back home again.

We thank all the home representatives and others who attended the Annual Representatives Meeting, at the Home, Saturday, April 20. It was a beautiful spring day, and along with encouraging remarks about the home's future, we enjoyed good fellowship, always an important aspect of our getting together. We extend a "thank you" to our local sisters who served us such a delicious meal at noon.

One of our former residents, Greg Rich (Hill) was killed in an auto accident in Florida. He was 18 years old.

We extend our sympathy to his family.

We also want to extend our sympathy to Jay Ice who lost his grandmother this past week. Jay is in a foster home.

As was mentioned in our previous article, we are in the process of setting up our summer schedule. Many of our past volunteers or someone you may know may be interested in becoming more involved in some aspect of the work at our home. Please write or call Judy Luginbuhl at our home office. Thanks to those of you who have already offered yourselves for this summer. We are looking forward to your visit. Our invitation is open to all.

Again, we thank you for your prayerful support.

### APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

Our recent observance of Mother's Day still lingers in our minds; for mothers — and fathers, too — are very important to our residents. To all of you who know the many heartaches, the great responsibilities and the immeasurable joys of parenthood, we wish you happiness. To a dedicated, praying mother, life is like a beautiful rose. She gazes on its beauty and breathes its sweet fragrances, hardly noticing the thorns that pierce. The bond between our residents and their mothers is very much alive. A resident said recently that one thing he remembered vividly about his mother was her patience. Without complaint, she would care for her sizable family and an ill husband, often going without enough sleep. Another resident remembered how her mother so kindly and patiently taught her the various domestic arts and handicrafts. Still other residents' eyes lighted up at the mention of "mother"; some expressed a desire to give her gifts, knowing this to be a way of showing their love.

Hardly a day passes without the presence and help of willing volunteers at our Home. In the past we have explained the accomplishments of some of the volunteers. Continuing on, we wish to mention those who teach the residents' Sunday school classes. There are two classes; one is held here at the Home for those who cannot go to church, and the other is held at the church. Several sisters take turns, two at a time, teaching the church class; while some of the young member group rotate the responsibility here at the

facility. We are well aware of the selflessness which these volunteer teachers are offering in behalf of the residents. What a beautiful reward awaits them, as it does for all of our volunteers!

Then, too, we want to recognize the efforts of the ministers who come for the Friday evening services twice each month. Those who accompany them are most welcome as the residents do enjoy singing with a group. This is, indeed, a special time of fellowship for the residents!

Borrowing the words of Luman W. Colton, we express some of the good the presence of the volunteers accomplishes:

"Somebody's heart is happy  
Since your kind words today;  
Somebody's step is lighter  
For what he heard you say.  
So let your light be shining  
Into life's darkened rooms,  
Cheering up those repining,  
Driving away their glooms."

The return of the warm spring sunshine is most welcome, so that the residents may resume their outdoor activities. Winter is often confining, but summer is exciting and full of pleasant things to do.

A Mother's Wisdom Might Say:  
Faults are thick, where love is thin.  
There is a wrong way to do right, but  
there is no right way to do wrong.  
Don't be angry with the man who  
knows more than you do. It isn't his  
fault.  
It is not who is right, but what is right  
which is important.  
Better the feet slip than the tongue.  
Never put a question mark where God  
puts a period.  
Patience is the ability to count down  
before blasting off.  
Anyone who has the right to boast does  
not need to.  
The happiness of our lives depends  
upon the quality of our thoughts.  
Beware of what you wish for; you may  
get it.  
To be able to speak several languages  
is an asset; but to be able to hold  
your tongue in one language is  
priceless.

### ALABAMA, ATHENS Joan Schrenk

"It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord, and to sing praises unto thy

name, O most high;" Psalm 92. And so it was this past weekend, as the Peoria choir spent Saturday and Sunday with us. What a blessed weekend. I cannot describe what it felt like to see the church full and to hear the voices singing praises to God. What a wonderful way to worship the Lord.

As this is the month we commemorate Mother's Day, I'd like to share a story with you. My mother was a Christian and my father was not. My father even got upset when mother tried to teach us about the Lord. So most evenings, as soon as my father and two older brothers went to the barn, mother would gather the rest of us about and she'd play the piano and we'd sing songs to worship and learn about the Lord. I can still see my mother sitting there and hear her voice, though it's been many years. I'm so thankful to God that He provided a way, and a mother willing to teach me about the Lord. Because of those teachings, singing is a way of worship to me. Thank you, each one, from the Peoria choir, for the gifts of love you so willingly shared with us.

This past month Bro. Edwin Ringger and Bro. Elmer Schrenk were in Alabama to worship with us. We thank you for the love and time spent with us.

#### ARIZONA, PHOENIX

##### Ron and Ev Hoerr

"This do in remembrance of me." I Corinthians 24:25. It was our privilege once again to enjoy holy communion April 14. Elder Bro. Carl Kinsinger (Altadena, CA) and deacon Bro. Noah Herman were here to assist Elder Bro. Richard Schupbach.

On April 14, we heard the betrothal announcement of Bro. Randy Meyer and Sis. LaNae Knobloch. His parents are Bro. Len and Sis. Charlotte Meyer.

On February 4, Nicole Amber was the first daughter born to Terry and Zanna Fehr. She has a brother, Jordan. Grandparents Bro. Gene and Sis. Marge and Uncle Bro. Jay drove to California to be with them.

Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann brought us two inspiring messages March 25. We also enjoyed our monthly church supper and singing the same evening.

Bro. Len Meyer (Chicago, IL) delivered messages on Good Friday and Easter. Saturday night Bro. Len and son, Bro. Randy, took us on our armchair trip to Haiti, where they had volunteered their services on a work

program. Bro. Walter Rager also visited and shared a message with us one evening. We thank each of our ministers for their visit.

Summer arrived too early with temperatures 15 degrees above normal. Just before the heat began, the desert was in full blossom and beautiful. Three-year-old Travis Getz (Ron and Sis. Jean) gifted me with a colorful blossom, because "God made it and it was pretty".

We've had many surgical and medical patients, we commit to your prayer list: Sis. Ruth Baer, Bro. Dan Kokanovich, Sis. Lois Beres, Sis. Shirley Zollinger, Sis. Emma Sanders, Bro. Alvin Laukauf, Sis. Stephanie Baum, Sis. Ida Froelich and Heather Frautschi.

We extend sympathy to those who have lost a loved one in the past few months: Sis. Toni Bentley, Sis. Ruth Vaughn, Caroline Collins and Tony Ehnlé and Sis. Ethel Smith.

To all mothers and fathers, we extend a thought found in Exodus 20:12:

Our graduates who now have the "readiness of mind" to seek the will of the Lord are: (From high school) Heather Frautschi, Sis. Stephanie Baum and Stephanie Tooley; (From eighth grade) Todd Baum, Stacey Emch, Jeff Klopfenstein, Stefanie Frautschi, Debbie Yackley and Erica Reth.

#### ARIZONA, TUCSON

##### Sandra Bauer — Lisa Knapp

Our annual spring church cleaning was held last Saturday. We are grateful to all those who came and took time out of their busy schedules to help keep our church building and fellowship hall in good condition.

We are enjoying especially sunny and warm weather for springtime in Tucson; temperatures having been in the mid-80's.

#### CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA

##### Shirley Luthi

"I am He that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen;" Revelation 1:18

Easter, a time of reflecting on God's love; love so great it cost the life of the only perfect man, Jesus, God's Son. Easter, a time to devote to praising our Lord for the greatest victory ever. His victory over death was a victory He claimed for us who caused His death.

Some people call "Easter", like spring, a "season". Spring and its beauty comes and goes. The power and beauty of Christ's victory over death never changes. It is an everlasting, life-giving victory we are to joyfully, gratefully accept from Him every day.

A number of our friends and brethren gathered early Easter morning to offer songs of praise in our local mountains. It has become an annual event enjoyed by us and our visitors.

We are thankful to report that Bro. Bob Crockett is home again from the hospital after recent surgery. We pray he will continue to feel God's healing hand.

Joy and Denes Fulop are first-time parents with the arrival of their son, Robert. Ed and Peggy Schlipf are happy to announce the birth of their first child, Amy Kathryn. Amy's grandparents, Bro. Elmer and Sis. Marjorie Schlipf (Gridley, IL) enjoyed a visit to California to welcome their granddaughter. We wish God's blessings and guidance to the new parents and their babies.

#### CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

##### Marian Petrovic

We truly appreciate all who have come to San Diego to worship with us this past month. Ministering brethren were Bros. Loren Knapp (Tucson, AZ) and Jim Funk (Tucson, AZ). May God richly bless these brothers for their willing service.

Robert Mike, a precious little baby boy, was born to first-time parents, Denes and Joy Fulop, March 28. May the Lord shower His abundant blessings on this dear family.

#### PARENT'S PRAYER

O heavenly Father, make me a better parent. Teach me to understand my children, to listen patiently to what they have to say, and to answer all their questions kindly. Keep me from interrupting them or contradicting them. Make me as courteous to them as I would have them be to me. Forbid that I should ever laugh at their mistakes, or resort to shame and ridicule when they displease me. May I never punish them for my own selfish satisfaction or to show my power. Let me not tempt my child to lie or steal. And guide me hour by hour that I may demonstrate by all I say and do that honesty produces happiness. Reduce, I pray, the meanness in

me. And when I am out of sorts, help me, Lord, to hold my tongue. May I ever be mindful that my children are children and that I should not expect of them the judgment of adults. Let me not rob them of the opportunity to wait on themselves and to make decisions. Bless me with bigness to grant them all their reasonable requests and the courage to deny them privileges I know will do them harm. Make me fair and just and kind. And fit me, O Lord, to be loved and respected and imitated by my children.

Author Unknown

### COLORADO, DENVER

**Mike Martin — Marlene Leman**

We wish to extend our condolences to Bro. Eric and Sis. Marcel Huber in the death of his grandmother, Sis. Carrie Massner (Ft. Scott, KS).

Our Sunday school children told the story of Christ's death and suffering and His glorious resurrection from the grave. How encouraging to hear that young children know the blessed story of salvation.

Most of the folks attending our church live right here in the Denver area. However, some live out away from the metro area. Sis. Katherine Reis (303-633-7257) and Bro. Keith and Sis. Carol Kaufman (303-471-0013) are in Colorado Springs and Bro. Tom and Sis. Diane Ebert (303-468-2956) are in Silverthorne. We encourage anyone visiting these areas to get in touch.

During the last several weeks at our Wednesday evening Bible class, we've been talking about prayer. The Bible says much about prayer. It showed us that the condition of our hearts, attitude, motive and sincerity of our prayers do make a difference. The Bible also says that we must abide in Christ (John 15:7) and that we must believe that our prayers will be answered for them to be effective. (Matthew 21:22) We found by looking at various prayers in the Bible that when we pray for something that isn't God's will, if we keep praying and our attitude is right, He will bring us around to His will. During the time we were studying prayer the following prayer was left at church for us all to read.

Father, I must confess that I love Thee. I know also that my heart is as an open book before Thine eyes. Knowing this, the one I need to be honest with is

mySELF. For the rest of my life, please help me to be honest with SELF. For to deceive mySELF is death. SELF, are you listening? DEATH! Father, Thy love is more important than SELF. So I give mySELF to Thee, Lord. I wish to exchange it for that perfect love which casteth out all fears. (I John 4:18) I wish to follow after the things which make for peace, and the things where-with one may edify the other. MySELF cannot relate to anybody and is the opposite of love. He is proud and puffed up. But it says love does NOT behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own and is not easily provoked. (I Corinthians 13:5) Forgive me Father, Jesus so unselfishly loved me, Help me to return this love and my soul back to Thee. Blessed are they whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered. Blessed is the man to whom the Lord will not impute sin. (Romans 4:7-8)

Thanks be to God the Father for Jesus.

In Jesus Love,  
Self

### CONNECTICUT, ROCKVILLE Michelle Virkler

"To everything there is a season and a time to every purpose under heaven."  
Ecclesiastes 3:1-3

... A time to Love.

### "A MOTHER'S LOVE IS A HAVEN IN THE STORMS OF LIFE"

A mother's love is like an island  
In life's ocean vast and wide,  
A peaceful, quiet shelter  
From the restless, rising tide . . .

A mother's love is like a fortress  
And we seek protection there  
When the waves of tribulation  
Seem to drown us in despair . . .

A mother's love 's a sanctuary  
Where our souls can find sweet rest  
From the struggle and the tension  
Of life's fast and futile quest . . .

A mother's love is like a tower  
Rising far above the crowd,  
And her smile is like the sunshine  
Breaking through a threatening cloud . . .

A mother's love is like a beacon  
Burning bright with faith and prayer,

And through the changing scenes of life  
We can find a haven there . . .

For a mother's love is fashioned  
After God's enduring love,  
It is endless and unfailing  
Like the love of Him above . . .

For God knew in His great wisdom  
That He couldn't be everywhere,  
So He put His little children  
In a loving Mother's care.

We all feel blessed to have such wonderful mothers who have guided us in our every day walk of life.

... A time to break down and to build up.

Our hearts are overflowing with another precious soul turning to God. Patty (Cone) Condry, wife of Scott Condry, daughter of William Cone, Sr. and Leona Solarz, has chosen to walk with our Lord and Savior. It warms our hearts when the Lord can reach out to someone not brought up in the faith and offer the most precious gift of His love and grace.

... A time to die.

Services were held for our dear Sis. Rose Gottier, 81, who parted from this life on April 4. We must rejoice for her victory is won, and now a place has been prepared for her in the heavenly mansions above. Our love and deepest prayers are extended to all the family.

... A time to part.

To our many dear and precious friends who in a month's time will be recessing for the summer. We pray your thoughts will be for God's love and guidance, whether you are pursuing a career or going on to college. You will be leaving many cherished memories behind you, and yet, your lives are just beginning.

### FLORIDA, FT. LAUDERDALE Billie Klopfenstein

On Good Friday evening, after regular church services, we were served communion by our Elder Bro. Joe Braker. It was a beautiful and meaningful worship time.

Easter Sunday was bright and sunny and the congregation assembled was quite large. There were many visitors with us and most of them also attended



our annual Sunday school Easter picnic at a neighborhood park. It was a special day from beginning to end.

Bro. Noah Clauss had surgery but is at home and doing exceptionally well. Noah is an usher and we miss him when he is unable to attend services.

Congratulations to Bro. Bob and Sis. Doris Huber. They have a new grandson, Eric David, born to Bro. Dave and Sis. Debbie Huber (Morton, IL).

Bro. Glenn and Sis. Margaret Ruegger returned to Bay City, MI for a short time to attend the wedding of their daughter, Sis. Kathleen Miller and Bro. David Wernle (Lamont, KS).

Bible study has been resumed and a large number attended the first session. We trust it will grow in number and we will all grow spiritually from being in attendance.

While Bro. Joe Braker was here the congregation voted to have Wednesday night singings rather than services during the summer months. During vacation time and after all of our winter residents have gone north we sometimes are quite a small group. The Sunday evening singings will be discontinued until fall.

Two stirring messages were shared with us when Bro. Chris Huber and Bro. Glenn Price were in our midst. Elder Bro. Joe Braker ministered to us and also Bro. Al Schneider. Bro. Tom Schrenk was also with us. Each ministering brother is so appreciated and we do thank each one for visiting Ft. Lauderdale.

Sis. Barb and Sis. Ruth Schneider (Rockville, CT) have purchased an apartment here and we welcome them although they will, at the present time, spend only a few weeks a year with us.

Congratulations to Bro. Ed and Sis. Vi Gerber on the birth of their very first grandchild. Andrew Michael joined the family of Bro. Mike and Sis. Faye Hohulin (Champaign-Urbana, IL). Aunt Sue (Indianapolis, IN) is very happy also.

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**FLORIDA, NORTH FORT MYERS**  
**Marie Keller — Edna Meister**

"In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto a holy temple in the Lord: In whom ye also are builded together for a habitation of God through the Spirit."

Ephesians 2:21-22

These words were read from the Bible by our Elder Bro. Ben Maibach on dedication day of our new church March 31. Also present were many visiting brethren and ministers: Bro. Darrel Klopfenstein (Ft. Lauderdale, FL), Bro. Roy Luginbuhl (Ft. Lauderdale, FL), Bro. Doug Sabo (Sarasota, FL), Bro. Dale Strassheim (Milford, IN) and our faithful minister during the winter months: Bro. Art Gudeman (LaCrosse, IN) to share this beautiful day together. Bro. Roy Luginbuhl expressed his feelings and ours by saying, "This is the beginning of a beautiful journey". After the dedication dinner, we chose Bro. David Eisenmann, Sr. to help serve in the ministry of our church. Let us remember him and his wife, Sis. Kathryn, in our prayers as they lend of themselves to us in love. May they ever feel God's presence near them.

We were also blessed with many visiting ministers this past month: Bro. Charles Hemmer (Peoria, IL), Bro. Steve Gutwein (Francesville, IN), Bro. Homer Reineck (Toledo, OH), Bro. Byron Stoller (Gridley, IL), Bro. Floyd Wieland (Detroit, MI), Bro. Doug Sabo (Sarasota, FL) and our ministers, Bro. David Eisenmann, Sr. and Bro. Art Gudeman (LaCrosse, IN) shared the Book of Life with us with many wonderful teachings and exhortations on how to live a Christian life. We thank all the ministers who have come and their wives and families. We welcome them back any time. We will be having services year-round, so everyone is welcome to come to worship with us.

As we are approaching warmer days, may our thoughts turn to Mother's Day and our mothers. I would like to share this poem with you.

**"WHAT A FRIEND WE HAVE  
 IN MOTHER"**

What a friend we have in mother,  
 Who will all our secrets share.  
 We should never keep things from her,  
 Tell her all and she'll be there.  
 Oh what tender love she gives us,  
 When in sorrow and despair.  
 Tell her gentle, whisper softly,  
 She will listen, she'll be there.

When you're sick and cannot labor,  
 And there's nothing you can do,  
 Call on mother she will help you,  
 God will bless her that is true.  
 She will clean and do the dishes,

She will feed your babes with care  
 And when she finds you cold or hungry,  
 Do not worry, she'll be there.

Day by day as she grows older,  
 She's the nation's guiding star,  
 Don't forget the prayers she taught you,  
 You will need them by and by.  
 When her hair has turned to silver,  
 Send her flowers sweet and fair,  
 Drop a card or write a letter,  
 She'll be waiting, she'll be there.

When her eyes have closed in slumber,  
 Gently kiss her icy brow,  
 Hold her hands upon her bosom,  
 She will rest in heaven now.  
 When your days are dark and dreary,  
 And your cross seems hard to bear,  
 Do not let your memory fail you,  
 Think of mother and she'll be there.

Author Unknown

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**FLORIDA, SARASOTA**  
**Elaine Gudeman — Elda Martin**

**MOM**

I wonder if you realize  
 how many times  
 your faith in me  
 has made the difference  
 between giving up  
 and trying again —  
 how many times  
 Your confidence has encouraged me  
 to do my very best —  
 how many times  
 your love has helped me  
 find a strength  
 I didn't know I had —  
 I could never begin  
 to thank you enough.

Barbara Burrow

We thank all of our faithful mothers  
 for their love, support and their never-  
 ending faith in us.

Now thank we all our God  
 With heart, and hands and voices,  
 Who wondrous things has done,  
 In whom the world rejoices,  
 Who from our mother's arms  
 Has blest us on our way  
 With countless gifts of love,  
 And still is ours today.

Hymns of Zion #236

Again this month we are blessed with  
 visiting ministers to share God's Word.  
 We want to thank Bros. Marvin  
 Schmidgall (Eureka, IL), Harold



Schmidgall (Gridley, IL), Charles Hemmer (Peoria, IL), Byron Stoller (Gridley, IL), Charles Sauder (Tremont, IL), Floyd Wieland (Detroit, MI) and Andrew Virkler (Bay City, MI).

We want to especially thank Elder Bro. Andrew Virkler for assisting our own dear Elder Bro. Ben Maibach in serving and sharing the communion cup.

Jesus in the night of His betrayal,  
When His covenant He did endow,  
When His blood, in love and grace  
eternal,

For transgression and for sin did flow,  
He established for His church a token,  
That His covenant ne'er be broken,  
That His holy sacrament and feast,  
For His Own, from sin and death  
release.

Therefore, when ye to your Master's  
Glory,

Come to keep this holy feast of love,  
Ye must truly hear salvation's story,  
Joining those whose homeland is  
above

Then true love will heart to heart bind  
ever,

And no discord will this union sever;  
One in Jesus Christ they all shall be  
He the Head of His Community.

Hymns of Zion #26

We are so thankful that the Lord has blessed Bro. Rob and Sis. Debbie Little with the birth of a healthy baby girl, Renee Marie. After seven weeks of hospitalization for Debbie, Renee was born March 26. Rochelle is the proud big sister, and grandparents are George and Betty Siladie, Gale and Judith Keene and Robert Little. Sis. Debbie wishes to thank everyone for their thoughtfulness shown in cards, prayers and visits during her hospital stay.

Hospitalized this month were Bro. Michael Siladie and Sis. Louise Joos. We are thankful that both are now back home.

Phillip Bartoni (Sis. Maria Bartoni's husband) continues to be hospitalized.

Words of Thanks

My sincere thanks to the many dear ones who sent birthday cards and gifts. Also for the many deeds of love and kindness, cards, gifts, visits and especially prayers for all of us during my illness.

May God richly bless you for the same.

Humbly in His Love,  
Louise Joos

## ILLINOIS, BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL

**Jan Gudeman — Nancy Kaufmann**

Love of all gifts is the greatest . . . We are happy to announce the engagement of our Sis. Cindi Vogel (Bro. Stan and Sis. Nate) to Bro. Phil Witzig (Bro. Harold and Sis. Dorothy, Morton); and also Sis. Heather Haerr (Bro. Ray and Sis. Jeanie) to Bro. Randy Knapp (Bro. Robert and Sis. Jean, Eureka). We want to wish them all God's richest blessings as they begin planning their lives together.

Our high school graduates this year are: Jill Gudeman (J. C. and Mary Ellen Ebach), Nelson Haerr (Bro. Ray and Sis. Jeanie), Jim Hari (Bro. Everett and Sis. Bev), Chip Stoller (Bro. Ivan and Sis. Maxine), Tom Vogel (Bro. Stan and Sis. Nate) and Joe Walter (Bro. Harvey and Sis. Margaret). May God be with these young people and direct them as they begin a new phase in their lives.

Elder Bro. Robert Walder (Congerville) assisted Elder Bro. Dan Koch (Tremont) as they served us holy communion. We also were blessed at our Easter sunrise service as Bro. Earl Ringger (Gridley) gave us an inspirational message. Also visiting us this month was Bro. Clarence Kachelmuss (Forrest). We really do appreciate the efforts of these visiting ministers and their families.

## ILLINOIS, BRADFORD Marilyn Tanner

### MOTHER

My first thoughts of God  
Come to my childish mind  
Through songs you sang to me  
So long ago in time.

My first desire to meet  
My Father God above  
Was inspired by your life  
Of gladness mixed with love.  
My first attempt to trust  
My Lord and Savior, Christ,  
Was due to wells of joy  
I saw spring from your life.  
Had it not been for you,  
Mother, I often say,  
I may have missed the life  
and never found the way.

P. T.

May we all inspire and instruct our  
dear children in the ways of our Lord.  
The Easter message was portrayed

by the Sunday school classes at our Good Friday services. What a blessing to hear their young voices sing praises unto our Lord who died for all sinners. We especially thank our teachers for their work and effort.

Our sympathy is extended to Bro. Marvin Leman and Sis. Jane and their family in the loss of his dear mother, Dena Leman (Roanoke). May the Lord comfort them at this time of sorrow.

Our congregation has been privileged to have ministering brothers visit us during the past month. We thank Bro. Dale Strassheim (Milford, IN); Bro. Donald Manz (Junction, OH) and Bro. Walter Hermann (Princeville). May they and their families be richly blessed for their labors of love.

Our congratulations are extended to our graduates. Sis. Joan Leman (Bro. Marvin and Sis. Jane) will be graduating from Methodist School of Nursing. High school graduates are: Jeanne Elsasser (Bro. Duane and Sis. Doreene), Marina Elsasser (Bro. Jordan and Sis. Sharon), Stephen Hausmann (Bro. Alfred and Sis. Verla), Kurt Kieser (Bro. Verle and Sis. Lavonne), David Knepp (Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Judy), Weston Stahl (Sis. Charlotte). We pray that God will always be with each one of these graduates as they plan their future.

## ILLINOIS, CHICAGO

**Kathy Schlatter**

Many times at night a branch or bush appears to be alive for a moment. But as I was driving away from the house one morning, I thought I saw a little black dog, new to the neighborhood. I looked again and saw that the wind was merely giving a black garbage bag the active characteristics of such a dog. I was struck by a comparison between this incident and Satan's ability to make something unwholesome or sham seem for a time to be of spiritual worth. How can we tell the difference between the "dog" and the "garbage bag"? We can certainly look on awhile, watching for the fruit (the actions and effects) produced by an endeavor, a person, or an organization. In other words, we need to be cautious, whether in the dark (where we feel unable to see) or in the light (where we think we can see). Satan would have us act in haste; the Lord is patient.

We are always appreciative of our visitors. This month we have had good

counsel and exhortation from Elder Bro. Nathan Steffen (Elgin, IL), Bros. Virgil Metzger (Champaign-Urbana) and Rod Huber and Mike Thomas (Valparaiso, IN). We also listened to the song worship of the Valparaiso choir. We were blessed by their inspired singing and their loving fellowship. Our own bonds as a church were strengthened earlier that same weekend in the taking of communion, as we traveled in memory again to Gethsemane, the cross and to our own Gethsemane and present peace.

We rejoice that the Lord has led another brother and sister to find one another. Sis. LaNae Knobloch (Bro. Glen and Sis. Joyce Metzger, Lester, IA) is engaged to be married to Bro. Randy Meyer (Bro. Lenard and Sis. Charlotte Meyer, Chicago) of Phoenix, AZ. "I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom . . . , and as a bride . . ." Isaiah 61:10. We wish them much joy.

We welcome Sis. Ida Laubscher back home after a short stay in Peoria. Her loving concern is an inspiration to all of us. We're going to miss Bro. Tim Roecker, with his Biblical knowledge and thoughtfulness and his engaging grin. We know that the Denver church must have a place needing his many talents, seeing that the Lord would send him there. To both we offer our love and prayers and desire for God's choicest blessings.

Our Sis. Marge Young has had back surgery. We miss her bright smile. Though she was too often in pain, she would be cheerful. We pray that her pain will be much relieved, yet we know such recuperation takes time. May her Lord's Spirit uphold her, giving her continued strength and patience.

Katrina, our daughter, wanted to take a Kodak instant picture of the lovely table she had set for the three of us. Whatever the cause, the flash didn't flash, and the first picture developed—black and blank. But the second time the flash worked, and captured on film, as it developed, were all the bright colors, the flowers, the beauty. Truly, in our lives without the flash working, letting in and adding the Son's light as we walk within this darker world, the developing can only be dark. But with His light, there is spiritual color, beauty, glory, now and forever.

### ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK

#### Myrna Weerts — Wilma Walder

On March 17 the engagement of Sis. Darlene Kaeb and Bro. Russell Walder was announced. The parents are Bro. Elmer and Sis. Mary Lou Kaeb and Bro. Dale and Sis. Dorothy Walder. We rejoice with them and pray that God will bless their union.

We were privileged to have Elder Bro. Orville Ringger (Bluffton, IN) with us to share in reading the conference letter to us. We all have been encouraged to strive to do better as we will truly be blessed if we walk close to the Lord.

"And he took bread, and gave thanks, and brake it, and gave unto them, saying, This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me." Luke 22:19. On Good Friday, our congregation was privileged to partake in holy communion, and felt the blessing thereof.

Our Sunday school children brought us the Easter story on Palm Sunday. It brought us back to the day of our Lord's crucifixion and the great price He paid for us.

As our congregation shared in the joy and happiness of others, we also were saddened by the death of Mary Jane Mueller, 49, of Watseka, who passed away April 3 at her home following a sudden illness. She was the daughter of Bro. Paul and the late Sis. Esther Hodel. Surviving are her husband, George H. Mueller; one daughter, Cynthia Vinson (David, Riverside, CA); two sons, Bruce Mueller (Champaign) and Scott Mueller (Riverside, CA); four sisters, Carol Crist (Les, California), Sis. Lois Neihouser (Bro. Andre, Francesville, IN), Sis. Joyce Bauer (the late Bro. John, Cissna Park) and Gloria Leman (Doug, East Peoria). Funeral services were April 6 at the DeValk Funeral Home with the burial in the Oak Hill Cemetery at Watseka.

"Glory ye in his holy name: let the heart of them rejoice that seek the Lord." Psalm 105:3. April 14 was a day of rejoicing, as two souls, Bro. Leon Kaeb and Sis. Valerie Kaufmann, were baptized. Parents are Bro. Elmer and Sis. Mary Lou Kaeb and Bro. Dona and Sis. Gladys Kaufmann. Sharing the joyous occasion was ministering Bro. Walt Steffen (Milford, IN). We wish them God's blessings as they begin their pilgrim journey.

Our hospital patients this month are Sis. Priscilla Knapp (broken leg), Sis.

Ann Gudeman and Bro. Bill Beer. We pray the Lord will bless them with a quick recovery.

May 12 is the time we stop and think of our dear faithful mothers who have striven to care and provide for us and brought us up in the fear and nurture of the Lord. Words would fail us to thank them for all that they have done for us.

I wish that I could find some words,  
Some fitting verse or line,  
Or lovely song, endearing, sweet,  
A noble thought in rhyme,  
To show my love and gratitude  
Unto my Mother dear;  
A loving tribute I would bring  
To fill her heart with cheer.

Henry Beer

### ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE

#### Tammy Knapp — Joan Schrock

I watched my mother with my child at play  
And I was reminded of another day  
When she was younger; her child at her knee . . .  
And I thought of how lucky I am to be me.  
For she loved me then and all through the years  
She encouraged my dreams and lessened my fears.

Oh, life gets so busy . . . time slips away;  
And my Mom grows dearer with each passing day.  
Yes, I've told her I love her . . . the question is when —  
Today's a good day to tell her again!

Ruth Hale Woodside

We can be so thankful for our mothers knowing that this is one of God's ways of showing His abundant love for us.

We were truly humbled after hearing the testimonies of John Ott (Bro. Don and Sis. Carolyn), James Knapp (Bro. Ralph and Sis. Linda) and Anthony Blades (Everett and Alice, Assumption, IL). It made this Easter Sunday more meaningful as we saw these three brothers bury their old lives and arise anew.

We had many visiting ministers to help with this blessed weekend. They were Elder Bros. Wayne Fehr (West Bend, IA) and Bob Grimm (Goodfield) and Bros. Carl Wyss (Washington) and Roger Aberle (Sabetha, KS). We are thankful for their humble service and

pray God will bless them now and much more in all eternity.

Our hospital patients this month were Bro. Willis Knapp and Sis. Millie Schieber (Bro. Carl). They are both home and recovering. We pray God will continue to give them strength and keep His healing hand over them.

Sis. Carolyn Ott wishes to thank everyone for their cards, meals and prayers while she was in the hospital and recovering at home.

### ILLINOIS, ELGIN

#### Ruth Ann Getz

The parable of the sower and the seed (Matthew 13:3-23) was considered for our morning text this past Sunday. It seemed so appropriate for this season when all about us the soil is being tilled and the seed is being planted. Just as the multitude was able to better understand the power of Jesus' teachings, we, too, were able to have mental pictures of the wayside where the fowl devoured the wasted seed, the stony places where the seed sprung up quickly, the thorns that choked the seed and finally the good soil that brought forth fruit thirty, sixty and a hundred fold. We understand how seed needs to be planted in prepared soil, broken up and pulverized into a good seed bed, to really bear the maximum fruit; and we also know that breaking up the soil of our heart can be exceedingly painful. However, when we submit to the tilling of our Father and allow the Master Sower to plant the seed in that finely broken soil, there is great blessing, beyond the imaginations of our heart. We thank Elder Bro. Loren Stoller (Latty, OH) for enlarging our hearts toward God through these valuable teachings.

This precious seed (the Word) has taken root in the heart of Ken Kellenberger and he has come in repentance. We praise God for His goodness toward men yet in this evil day. May the Master Sower find good soil in Ken's heart and may he bear fruit a hundred fold.

We extend our sympathy to Arlene (Banwart) Dahlhauser and her family in the death of her husband, Edmund. May we reach out in compassion to this new widow and we pray that she will seek the Lord to be her strength and her very present help in her time of trouble.

Our beloved sister-in-the-Lord, Katie Kachelmuss, passed away March

25 at the age of 88. She was the daughter of the late Bro. William and Sis. Rose Stecher Wewetzer. To her only surviving sister, Esther, we especially wish to extend our sympathy and may the Lord, who is able, bring sweet comfort to her soul.

Also called to her eternal home in the heavens March 26 was our beloved Sis. Mary (Schifferer) Spohr, age 87. We know that her family, Sis. Lucille Knobloch (Steen, MN) and Leslie Spohr (Elgin), has keenly felt, the loss and so we pray for them also that they will call upon the Lord for their comfort.

The Elgin congregation for the first time hosted the Apostolic Christian Youth Fellowship (A.C.Y.F.) April 14. It was a great blessing to us to have approximately 225 Sunday school high school students from eight different Sunday schools in Illinois here as our guests and to hear them sing praises to God. We look forward to nine more Sunday schools being represented April 21. May the Lord take these efforts to magnify His name and to cause the seed to take root in the hearts of these young men and women.

April 13, Elder Bros. Loren Stoller and Nate Steffen read to us the conclusions to the Brotherhood Conference held in August of 1984. We want to lift up the arms of these God-ordained shepherds so that together we may seek to understand God's will as directed in the Holy Word and win the spiritual battle against Satan.

When those whom we love become ill and have need of medical care, we feel great compassion for them and have great desire to lift them up to the Father in heaven in prayer that He might heal them according to His will. We wish to remember Emily Hoppe, Sis. Mary Moser and Sis. Mabel Anliker who have all three been hospitalized during the past few weeks.

Bro. Carroll Gerber (Bluffton North, IN) visited us on Palm Sunday and spoke the Word to us. Over and over we enjoy the abundance of these blessings. We would almost take them for granted, but we know that it should never be such. God in His rich mercy has given us these blessings and may we never be guilty of complacency by taking God for granted. He is worthy of our praise all the day long.

A dear little child has been born to Stan and Karen Schrock. Zachary David, born April 19, is their first and

much loved child. May they be given wisdom from above to be good parents to this child entrusted to them. The grandparents are Ron and Wilma Eggebrecht (South Elgin) and Bro. Melvin and Sis. Ada Mae Schrock.

### ILLINOIS, EUREKA

#### Kathy L. Rocke

We worship Thee with tears of gladness,  
Lord Jesus Christ, for Thy great love!  
To reconcile us with the Father,  
To die, Thou camest from above.  
How great has been Thy sacrifice!  
To Thee our thanks and praise shall rise.

Zion's Harp #25

Saturday evening, March 30, we gathered together to partake of the Lord's Supper. Such a solemn and sacred feast; the Lord's presence was surely felt. We thank Elder Bro. David Bertsch (Leo, IN) for being with us and assisting Elder Bro. Leroy Huber and Bro. Walter Anliker.

Monday, March 25, was the evening set aside for our annual church house-cleaning. Fellowship and working together to clean the Lord's house is a special time.

Our hospital patients this past month were Sis. Emma Knecht (Bro. Fred), Sis. Dianne Schmidgall (Bro. Mike), Sis. Verda Blunier (Bro. Vernon) and Sis. Lynn Wiegand (Bro. Greg). May we remember those who have suffered afflictions of the body, for Satan doesn't depart when we are weak and have almost no strength of our own.

Feeling it is the work of the Lord, on April 7 we heard the engagement of Bro. Randy Knapp (Bro. Robert and Sis. Jean) and Sis. Heather Haerr (Bro. Raymond and Sis. Jeanie, Bloomington). May God be with them as they plan for their life together.

We appreciated Bro. Ed Aeschleman (Philadelphia, PA) expounding the Bread of Life on Wednesday evening, April 10. May God bless him for his labors.

Chad, Tami, Kandi and Heather Bauman welcomed their new brother, Justin Eugene, April 3. Justin's parents are Glen and Sis. Becky Bauman. Grandparents are Bro. Simon and Sis. Louise Wagenbach (Tremont) and Bro. Elmer and Sis. Mildred Bauman (Goodfield).



Bro. Steve and Sis. Lori Knapp welcomed a new son, Chance Drew, April 7. Chance has a brother, Tyler. Bro. Roy and Sis. Wanda Leman and Bro. Jerry and Sis. Nancy Knapp (Taylor, MO) are the grandparents.

Bro. Art and Sis. Carol Anliker are thankful for Timothy Jay born April 10. Aaron, Jody and Kate will be glad for a new brother. Grandparents are Bro. Walter Anliker and Bro. and Sis. Clara Kempf.

May God watch over these precious families and grant wisdom to teach the little ones the "old, old story" while they are so eager to learn.

Soon we will be commemorating Mother's Day —

When God brought forth this lovely one,  
He chose these gifts of charm and grace —  
A gentle voice, a tender touch,  
A radiant smile on an earnest face.

He filled her days with unselfed love  
That made of home a place to share;  
She kept the fires of hearth and heart,  
And spread our board with tasty fare.

As rays of light, her guiding thoughts  
Enriched our world with spiritual good,  
Imbued our lives with wisdom, love —  
A masterpiece of motherhood.

M. E. McCaul

How we appreciate our Christian mothers!  
May God bless them richly!  
Earth changes, but thy soul and God stand sure.

### ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY

#### Carol Bazzell — Joann Zehr

On Wednesday evening, March 20, the brethren of the Fairbury and Forrest congregations gathered to hear the conference memorandum. Elder Bro. Steve Rinkenberger (Cissna Park, IL), along with our Elder Bros. Arthur Bahler and Perry Zimmerman, kindly gave us words of teaching and warning. May we all strive to be obedient.

Our sympathy is extended to the families of two of our elderly residents of Fairview Haven who were called to eternity. Bro. Silas Clauss, 93, died March 23. His wife, Sis. Lena, and a son, Harlan, preceded him in death. He is survived by two sons, Perry (Seffner, FL) and Glenn (Melvin, IL); and five sisters, Lydia Kachelmuss (Elgin, IL), Margaret Backke (Chicago, IL), Caro-

line Collins (Phoenix, AZ), Nettie Wasner (Remington, IN) and Sis. Verna Stedman (Harwood Heights, IL). Bro. Clarence Kachelmuss (Forrest, IL) had the funeral services. Sis. Aline M. Troehler, 89, died April 11. She is survived by one son, Wilbur (Chicago, IL); two daughters, Velda Gittinger and Margaret Beatty (Fairbury); and one sister, Sis. Eunice Albers (Tremont, IL).

Our Sunday school students presented their annual Easter program March 31. The hymns were so touching as the children sang them.

To further remind us of Christ's suffering for each of us, we partook of holy communion on Wednesday evening, April 10. It is always so humbling to think of what Christ has done for us and how unworthy we are. Elder Bros. Edwin Ringger (Gridley, IL) and Perry Zimmerman (Forrest, IL), along with our retired Elder Bro. Josh Broquard, assisted our Elder Bro. Arthur Bahler.

We also thank Bros. Russell Wuthrich and Doug Schock (Pulaski, IA) who spent a Sunday with us and taught us from God's Word.

Lori Fehr (Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Linda) has answered God's call and we wish her God's guidance and help.

A daughter, Ashley Ann, was born March 8 to Scott and Melinda (Lorch) Hillman (Flanagan, IL). She is welcomed home by a sister, Kari Lee. Grandparents are Bro. Ben and Sis. Marguerite Lorch (Fairbury) and Glenn and Marjorie Hillman (Flanagan). Great-grandparents are Sis. Lavina Kilgus (Fairbury) and Edna Moberry (Peoria).

A daughter, Carrie Ruth, was born to Bro. Chris and Sis. Kay Steffen on Easter Sunday, April 7. She is welcomed home by Brian, Jennifer, Clinton, Jodi and Shay. Grandparents are Bro. Alf and Fannie Steffen (Fairbury) and Bro. Wayne and Sis. Eleanor Honegger (Forrest).

#### "Faith of Our Fathers"

Faith of our fathers! we will love  
Both friend and foe in all our strife!  
And preach thee, too, as love knows  
how,  
By kindly words and virtuous life:  
Faith of our fathers! holy faith!  
We will be true to thee till death!

Hymns of Zion #85, vs. 3

As the words of the above hymn so clearly bring out, what is more precious

to us than when we have or have had a loving father who walks a virtuous life and lives by his faith in the heavenly Father.

### ILLINOIS, FORREST

#### Sharon Adams — Patsy Stoller

"Word of Life, the fountain flowing, purely from the throne above, . . ." Zion's Harp #176. The true Word of Life was brought forth in abundance by our ministering brothers. Our visiting ministers this month were: Bros. Bill Hodel (Roanoke), Merle Kaisner (Fairbury), Dave Wiegand (Urbana), Doug Schock (Pulaski, IA), Gary Anliker (Elgin) and Kenneth Eisenmann (Cissna Park). May God continue to bless and strengthen them as they bring forth this precious Word.

Bro. Jeff Zimmerman (Bro. Glen and Sis. Mildred) and Sis. Stephanie Waibel (Eldon and Marge) were united in marriage March 31. We wish them God's blessings as they begin their new life together.

The engagement and approaching marriage of Dan Schmidgall (Bro. Dave and Sis. Alma Jean) to Mary Johnson (Fairbury) daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Johnson (Vill Grove) was made known.

Hospital patients this month were: Bro. Manny Rieger, Sis. Leona Ricketts (Bro. Meredith), Sis. Ida Kaisner and Amber Adams (Bro. Terry and Sis. Sharon). Sis. Ida is still in the hospital at this time. We pray she will soon be well enough to return home and soon be able to gather with us again. May God provide for each one as they endure their many bodily afflictions.

We welcome Bro. Marvin and Sis. Nancy Dotterer and their children into our congregation. They have moved to our area from the Rittman, OH area. We wish them God's blessings in their new home.

We spent a blessed evening together on Good Friday as we were reminded of Christ's suffering death and His glorious arising, which was brought to us through God's Holy Word and by our Sunday school children. Let's keep these teachings in mind each day of the year and not just at Easter.

Tell mother I'll be there  
In answer to her prayer.  
This message, blessed Saviour, to her bear!  
Tell mother I'll be there,

Heaven's joys with her to share;  
Yes, tell my darling mother I'll be there.  
Gospel Hymns #801

As Mother's Day draws near, these words are words that many a mother longs to hear. What better gift could we give our precious mothers than to give our life and our all to the Lord and Saviour.

### ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD

Bev Joos

Tis the season of the sower whether it be in an 80 acre field, a garden, a flower bed or just one flower pot. What a miracle we are permitted to witness as those tiny, dark, hard seeds burst forth as tender green sprouts and become healthy, fruitful plants. God's power is hidden in those seeds that undergo the miracle of growth. We receive the seed when we are privileged to sit in God's house and hear His pure Word expounded by servants He has designated. This seed needs a broken and fertile seed bed. This seed can now be sown into the furrow of our heart - our soul. This tiny seed will need nourishment in the forms of water and sunlight. We must shower our seed with prayer and positive, upright thoughts. Care must be taken to keep watering this tender sprout or it will wither. Since its roots lack depth, it will fail to reach the deeper moisture in the sod. Even the moisture of tears in our lives will aid in growth. We know adversity does surely bring greater growth in understanding. Sunlight for our plants is as God's Word for our lives. This true beam shines upon us and warms our soul. We need those warm rays daily for maximum growth. As our plant matures, we must keep a sharp tool handy to hack out those unwanted thorns. We are told to cultivate that which is honorable and righteous for "Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap." Galatians 6:7. Is it any wonder that the parable of the sower is taught so early to those tender little souls in our Sunday schools?

March 24 was a special day as we welcomed Bro. Bruce Hohulin into the fold of our Redeemer. We were granted the opportunity to hear of his spiritual growth and pray that God will continue to bless him and his family.

This past month we have two new arrivals to announce. On March 25, Mikel Edward blessed the home of

Bro. Mark and Sis. Joan Steffen. Mikel is a precious new brother to Jackie and Matthew. The happy grandparents are Bro. Lawrence and Sis. Laura Hohulin and Bro. Ed and Sis. Mary Steffen (Congerville). A sweet baby girl, Amanda Sue, was born April 10 to Jerry and Beth Gouge. Amanda's joyful grandparents are Dexter and Betty Gouge (Eureka) and Bro. Richard and Sis. Verna Hartter. May these tiny infants receive that which is needful for both their physical and spiritual growth.

On Easter Sunday we received an extra blessing as we listened to our Sunday school's Easter program. Over two hundred young voices proclaimed Jesus lives because "Up From the Grave He Arose, With a Mighty Triumph O'er His Foes" (Tabernacle Hymns #205). We sincerely thank all of the Sunday school teachers for the time they so willingly gave in our behalf. It is our prayer that those wonderful hymns might plant a tiny seed of desire for a lasting friendship with Jesus.

After earnestly seeking God's consent, Bro. Ted Taufer (Bro. Robert and Sis. Marie Taufer, Morton) was united in marriage to our Sis. Kendra Roth (Roy and Sis. Corrine Roth) on April 14. This couple in faith anchored their marriage on the firm foundation, immovable, pure and true. It is our prayer that this love will experience growth and depth as the years pass.

On March 31, our sympathizing tear flowed for Sis. Mary Ellen Wiegand (Bro. Steve) in the passing of her father, William Bucher (Roanoke).

We also wish to grant heartfelt sympathy to the family of Charlie "Doc" Reeser, who passed away on April 18.

This past month we were extremely fortunate to have these visiting ministers sow good seeds of faith; Bro. Walter Anliker (Eureka), Bro. Joe Stoller (Princeville), Bro. Alfred Bahler (Wolcott, IN) and Bro. Joe Braker (Morton).

Please remember that June is the collection month for the Silver Lining in Goodfield.

To our high school graduates:

### TOMORROW

A page unturned; an unlocked door;  
A dream, perhaps, we've waited for;  
An unseen land around the bend;  
A stranger who might prove a friend.

A crop to reap; a flower to pluck;  
A run of fisherman's good luck;  
A task untried; a road untrod;  
A chance to closer walk with God.  
M. Kathleen Haley

May God help guide your all important steps into the future.

### ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY

Carol Klopfenstein

"Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favour of the Lord." Proverbs 18:22. The loving companionship of a marriage union in the Lord is indeed a blessing and favour from above.

Our ministering Bro. Harold Schmidgall was announced to be married to Sis. Ethel Gerber (Rockville, CT). Also Sis. Sarah Yoder (Devon and Sis. Lavielle) was announced to be married to Bro. Kenneth Teubal (Bro. Richard and Sis. Wilma, Pulaski, IA).

Sis. Charlene Funk (Roy and Sis. Bertha) was united in marriage with Bro. David Wagenbach (John and Sis. Marilyn, Oakville, IA) March 24.

We appreciated the blessings we received by the visits of ministering Bro. William Funk (Garden Grove, IA), Bro. Jay Rinkenberger (Goodfield), Bro. Marvin Schmidgall (Eureka) and Bro. Marshall Heinold (Washington).

Our hospital patients were ministering Bro. Elmer Witzig, Bro. Henry Gramm, Si Hoffman and Katrina Stoller (Bro. Clark and Sis. Cindy).

### ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY

Audrey Martin

"I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvelous are thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well.

My substance was not hid from thee, when I was made in secret, and curiously wrought in the lowest parts of the earth.

Thine eyes did see my substance, yet being unperfect; and in thy book all my members were written, which in continuance were fashioned, when as yet there was none of them."

Psalms 139:14-16

Isn't it tremendous how God carefully formed each part of our bodies, each organ, each cell? Every part is dependant upon every other part, and each must interact with the others to

work like clockwork to make the body function. We are God's body and we, God's body of believers, are fearfully and wonderfully made. He is continually fashioning us as a church before we even know it.

There are many different types of cells in this body of believers, and yet all carry the same genetic code or set of directions. We all follow the Word of God. There must be many different types of cells to make the body function. There must be brain cells which ponder upon the Word and send messages to the other parts, such as our precious elder brethren. Blood cells are necessary for carrying the life-giving substance or encouragement through the Holy Spirit to the other cells. There are nerve cells which feel the pain so deeply and can care and truly empathize when other cells are hurting. Bone cells are always stable, supporting the faith like a pillar. Perhaps they don't scurry here and there, carrying the news of Jesus to foreign parts, but you can be sure they are always there, holding fast. Skin cells are supple enough, and yet water resistant, to hold together the body when divisions threaten.

Each cell is needful to make God's body do what it is intended to do: bring the message of Christ to the world, and be faithful until He comes again. Are you a brain cell, a blood cell, a bone cell, a skin cell or are you a cancer cell or a germ? Cancer cells get the normal genetic code mixed up and spread a foreign code all over the body. We pray that none will distort the Word of God and try to destroy the body. Germs are another thing. Cancer comes from within; germs come from without to pollute the body and make it sick.

No matter what type of cell we are, let us each try to do our part to obey the genetic code to keep our part of the body alive and healthy, so we can be ready to meet our Lord.

Another semester has come to a close for us here at ISU. We have some graduates including, Sis. Cindy Herrmann (Princeville), Sis. Kathy Kieser (Bradford), Sis. Renee Baurer (Princeville), Sis. Marcia Metz (Forrest), Bro. Andy Aberle (Tremont) and Sis. Kathy Kaufman (Cissna Park). May God bless each of them on their ways.

We are thankful for the visiting ministers we have had. Bro. Ted Witzig (Morton) spoke on Christian armour, Bro. Don Wagenbach (Washington)

gave insight into the Holy Spirit, Bro. Edwin Ringger (Gridley) came for our annual Easter program and Bro. Steve Rinckenberger told us about Humanism, a dangerous way of thinking which prevails in our society. Summer Bible study is held every other week at 7:30 p.m. Thursday evenings in Schroeder 244. We invite all to join us.

#### ILLINOIS, MORTON

##### Phyllis Farney — JoAnn Roecker

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

Jim and Sis. Kathy Ritthaler welcome into their hearts and home, Samuel James. Samuel was born on March 22. His happy grandparents are Sis. Joyce Domnick and Dale and Pat Ritthaler. His two great-grandmothers are Sis. Kathryn Grimm and Sis. Ruth Domnick.

We are thankful that our heavenly Father has called Mindy Kaiser (Bro. Harry and Sis. LaVerne) and Ron Bertschi (Sis. Pat) into His vineyard. We heard their testimonies March 23 and witnessed their baptisms March 24. May they both continue to seek His guidance and will as they walk the narrow pathway of life.

We wish God's abundant grace and blessings on Sis. Marge Ackerman, Sis. Helen Schuon and Bros. Steve Jones, Jeff Kaufman and Gary Rumbold as they will be teaching our children and young people in Sunday school. May they ever rely on His Spirit as they prepare for their lessons. Our new Sunday school superintendent is Bro. Jim Metzger and the new assistant superintendent is Bro. Ted Hirstein. May they both seek God's guidance as they lead our Sunday school. We wish to thank the faithful brothers and sisters who teach our precious children and young people. We appreciate the many hours of study and planning which must be done. May our heavenly Father richly give the increase of our future church of tomorrow, should the Lord tarry.

We are rejoicing with Bro. Phil Witzig (Bro. Harold and Sis. Dorothy) and Sis. Cindy Vogel (Bro. Stan and Sis.

Naomi, Bloomington) as the Lord has shown and directed them to walk life's pathway together. May God bless them as they shall now "become one in Christ Jesus".

Our Easter program was held on Palm Sunday, March 31. Everyone who participated and who came to listen certainly went away with many blessings from hearing the Easter story told in hymn and verse.

Sis. Katherine Rapp was quite suddenly called "home". Her funeral was April 6. May God comfort and bless her sisters, Sis. Minnie Maibach (Peoria), Sis. Nettie Birkey, Sis. Mary Grimm and Helen Heiser (all of Morton); her many nieces, nephews and friends.

We were privileged to have the Bluffton chorus with us on April 13 and 14. We enjoyed a church potluck at our fellowship hall followed by singing hymns of praise and honor to our heavenly Father. The Bluffton chorus sang special hymns for us. We appreciate the many blessings our loved ones brought us. We hope that all will remember this blessed weekend with fond Christian memories.

May we be ever mindful of those who are confined to their beds either in the hospital or at home. Sometimes we are so busy when we are up and about we forget those less fortunate. May all those confined feel the love and goodness of our Lord Jesus. While walking through a "valley" we are given the precious quiet moments to know He truly cares for us and does meet our every need.

We wish to thank Bros. John Lehman (Sabetha, KS), Greg Rassi (Chicago, IL), Bob Meyers (Bluffton North, IN) and Ed Schwartz (Bluffton, IN) for ministering God's Holy Word unto us. May our heavenly Father richly bless them for their labors of love.

#### ILLINOIS, PEORIA

##### Margo Marx — Susi Herman

Bro. Mark and Sis. Linda Criss welcome into their hearts and home their third child, Amber Joy. Melissa and Eric are happy with their new little sister. The delighted grandparents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Ilene Haefli and Jim and Cheryl Criss.

Our congratulations go to all our graduates. We wish them God's guidance in all of their future plans.

Our dear ones who have been in the hospital are: Sis. Emelia Dallinger, Anna Sutter, Bro. Chip Hemmer and



Bro. John Woerner. May we continue to pray for these loved ones and all who are shut-in or ill.

Our sympathy goes out to the family of our Bro. Adolph Gerst who has passed away.

Sis. Jill Stoller, daughter of Bro. Herb and Sis. Nancy Stoller, Sis. Pauline Whitmore and Bro. Henry Triplett have found peace with their Lord. We truly rejoice when another soul can lay aside his old sinful life and find a new and joyous walk with the Lord.

### ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE Marjean Lehman

"We Will Remember Thee"

"According to Thy gracious Word, In meek humility, This will we do, our dying Lord, We will remember Thee, Thy body broken for our sake, Our bread shall be: Thy sacramental cup we take, And thus remember Thee. Can we Gethsemane forget? Or there Thy conflict see, Thine agony and bloody sweat, And not remember Thee? When to the cross we turn our eyes, And rest on Calvary, Oh Lamb of God our sacrifice, We must remember Thee."

Hymns of Zion #301

We thank Elder Bro. Perry Zimmerman (Forrest, IL) and Elder Bro. Jesse Beer (Milford, IN) for assisting Elder Bro. Joe Stoller in serving us the Lord's Supper on April 13. It was a blessing to have these ministering brothers remain with us the following day as the Word of God was broken open before us. After services on Sunday, we enjoyed an evening meal and singing together at the fellowship hall.

On March 17 we were thankful to have visiting minister Bro. Pete Baltic (Mansfield, OH) with us. May God bless the brothers for their willingness in serving us.

"The Sweet Story of Old"

"I think when I read that sweet story of old

When Jesus was here among men,  
How He called little children as lambs  
to His fold,  
I should like to have been with them  
then."

"I wish that His hands had been placed  
on my head.  
That His arm had been thrown around  
me;

And that I might have seen His kind  
look when He said,  
'Let the little ones come unto Me'"

Hymns of Zion #160

On April 8, a sweet baby girl was born to Bro. Wayne and Sis. Brenda Herrmann. Her name is Amber Jo and she is welcomed home by Jessica and Dustin. Grandparents are: Bro. Noah and Sis. Evalyn Hermann (Princeville) and Bro. Wallace and Sis. Helen Ramsier (Mansfield, OH).

We were blessed by hearing the Sunday school students tell us of the meaning of Easter on March 31. In song, poem and scripture reading, we reflected on the path Jesus took leading up to his denial, crucifixion, death and resurrection. We were reminded how the life of Jesus can touch our lives today. His example can change us if we apply His words to our lives each day. The choice remains with each of us.

"What will you do with Jesus? Neutral you cannot be; Someday your heart will be asking, 'What will He do with me?'"

Tabernacle Hymns #6

On April 14, we heard the engagement announcement of Bro. Roger Herrmann (Bro. Eugene and Sis. Betty Herrmann, Princeville) to Sis. Darlene Graham (Bro. Richard and Sis. Jeanette Graham, Princeville). As we heard there are two times in the lives of parents when they are especially joyful. The first is when their children repent and seek the Lord. The second is when by faith they are lead to a helpmate. May they always retain the peace and love God has shown unto them as they make plans for their future together.

Bro. Ray Martin was a surgical patient and has returned home to recuperate. Other hospital patients this month were: Tracy Bauman (Bro. David and Sis. Shirley), Sis. Lucille Knobloch, Sis. Jean Leuthold, Mark Streitmatter (Bro. Don and Sis. Mary Lou). May God's healing hand be upon each one.

Often our thoughts go out to those dear ones who for many weeks or months are not able to assemble with us due to the afflictions of the flesh. May they always feel God's nearness.

ILLINOIS, ROANOKE  
Carol Rumbold — Carol Knapp  
"This do in remembrance of me."

Luke 22:19. The opportunity of remembering all Christ has done for us was ours as we shared in holy communion on Palm Sunday.

Also on Palm Sunday, Tim and Bethany Leman were baptized and welcomed into the brotherhood. Our hearts were touched as we listened to their testimonies the evening before. Their thankful parents are Bro. Sam and Sis. Ann Leman, and Elder Bro. Joe and Sis. Shirley Braker (Morton).

Visiting ministers who have served us have been Elder Bro. Joe Braker, Bros. Ted Witzig, Bob Pflederer, Ralph Garber (Morton) and Marshall Heinold (Washington). Thank you! The time and effort spent to serve, by all our ministers and their families, is greatly appreciated.

Bro. Keith and Sis. Dori Fischer and Benjy are glad to welcome little Shelli Suzanne into their home. She was born on April 4 and her grandparents are Bro. Jerry and Sis. Marge Fischer and Betty Hodel.

Abigail Jo was born April 9 to Mark and Connie Rocke. She is receiving lots of love from Jed, Luke, Adam and Kari, her big brothers and sister. Abby's grandparents are Bro. Harry and Sis. Lydia Rocke (Eureka) and Bro. Ben and Sis. Helen Fehr.

Karen Brown became the bride of Gordon Presley March 30. Their parents are Don and Helen Brown and Mr. and Mrs. Harold Presley. May their love for each other grow as they now walk life's path together!

Two of our loved ones have finished their course on this earth. Their presence will be greatly missed in our congregation. Bro. Bill Bucher passed away at the age of 88 years. Our sympathy is extended to his wife, Sis. Florence; his son, Bro. Gene Hangartner; daughters, Sis. Ida Mae Barth and Sis. Mary Ellen Wiegand (Goodfield); and a sister, Sis. Rachel Hodel (Eureka).

Also leaving this world behind, with its cares and physical afflictions was Sis. Dena Leman, age 79. May her family be comforted at this time. Her survivors include her husband, Bro. Joe D. Leman; sons, Wally (Bluffton, IN), Bro. Marvin (Bradford); daughters, Sis. Fern (Bluffton, IN) and Sis. Karen; a brother, Bro. Carl Fehr; and seven sisters, Sisters Anna Lanz, Esther Moser, Carolyn Hartman (all of Rockville, CT), Kathryn Farney (Cissna Park), Bena Hari (Eureka), Eliza-

beth Fehr (Peoria) and Margaret (Glen) Hodel.

Thoughts of love and prayers of hope are with our loved ones who are in the hospital: Bro. Andy Leman, Ruth Ann Hodel (Bro. Ben), our retired Elder Bro. Gene Bertschi, Sis. Agnes Rocke and Sis. Betty (Bro. Bill) Hodel. Our concern is great because each one of them is so dear to us, but we are thankful that we can commit them to God in prayer.

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

How blessed are we who have a mother,  
 Who cares and loves us like no other,  
 Her faith and concern are constant  
 through the years,  
 She shares our joys and even our tears.  
 In a quiet way she makes us aware  
 There is a God and He is always there.  
 Author Unknown

May we thank God for having the precious gift of a God-fearing mother.

We were blessed with the visits of several ministers. Bro. Ralph Garber (Morton, IL), Elder Bro. Perry Zimmerman (Forrest, IL), Bro. Wayne Anliker (Forrest, IL), Bro. Bob Walder (Congerville, IL) and Bro. Ted Witzig (Morton, IL) expounded the Word unto us. We sincerely thank them for their efforts and may God richly reward and bless each one.

We were privileged to have holy communion March 23. Elder Bro. Perry Zimmerman (Forrest) was here to help Bro. Dan Koch serve us the Lord's Supper. We have again been refreshed in spirit. We thank Bro. Perry for lending himself on our behalf.

Bro. Walter Aberle and Roberta Schweigert (Clifford) had surgery and have recuperated nicely. Paul Sauder (Bro. Dale and Sis. Joann) had an appendectomy and is still hospitalized at this time. We are also happy to hear that Bro. Ernie Schaefer is home again. We look forward to seeing him assemble with us again.

Todd and Stacey Prather (Larned, KS) are the parents of Matthew Austin, born March 19. Grandparents are Richard and Sue Muselman and Bro. Jerry and Sis. Carolyn Prather.

Bro. Bruce and Sis. Becky Sauder were happy to welcome Tamara Sue. She was born March 31 and has big brothers, Todd and Jeff, to help take

care of her. Grandparents are Bro. Al and Sis. Geraldine Neukomm (Morton) and Bro. Earl and Sis. Glenna Sauder.

Timothy Jay came to live with Bro. Randy and Sis. Marge Schmidgall April 4. Sisters Jolynn and Alissa are happy to have a brother to play with. Grandparents are Bro. Melvin and Sis. Marlene Kaiser and George and Grace Schmidgall.

The announcement of the engagement of Sis. Sandy Sundstrom and Bro. Don Kaiser was made known Easter Sunday. Parents of the couple are Don and Lila Dunlap and Bro. Mel and Sis. Marlene Kaiser. We wish them much happiness together.

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**ILLINOIS, URBANA**  
**Cheryl Mangers**

March 27 was a most blessed evening as Elder Bros. Bob Grimm (Goodfield, IL) and Steve Rinkenberger (Cissna Park, IL) were in our midst for the reading of the memorandum letter. The elder body's love and concern for us was so apparent. May we each heed the warnings sounded, remembering each day where our priorities and values are.

Another tradition has been started here in Urbana; Sunrise Easter morning brunch. This year we gathered early Easter morning at Jerry and Lois Vogel's house for a special time of fellowship that drew our hearts and minds to that first Easter morning.

Last year at this time, we erected a sign on our newly purchased lot in hopes that God would continue to bless our efforts being made to build a new church building. We have been richly blessed in many ways this past year. Blessings have come through the guidance and support of our Elder Bro. Bob Grimm by the generous donations of other churches, with a building committee that has unselfishly given of themselves, working together beautifully in love and patience and by a supportive and helpful congregation. The building committee has met twice this past month with the congregation in efforts to finalize the building plan.

We rejoice with Bro. Mike and Sis. Faye Hohulin in the miracle of the birth of their new baby son. Born April 16 was Andrew Michael.

Bringing us special teachings this past month were Elder Bro. Ed Hohulin (Goodfield, IL), Bro. Ken Eisenmann (Cissna Park, IL) and Bro. Ken Schneider (Remington, IN).

**ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON**  
**Ellen Cox**

"But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased."

Hebrews 13:16

Today we hear so much about communication and how important it is. All around us we can see the problems that result from a break in or lack of communication. The Apostle Paul here reminds the Hebrews not to forget this important duty. Today we live in such a fast-paced society that often we neglect to take the time to do something as simple as talk to each other. So much help and strength can come from our communicating our hopes, struggles and victories in Christ with one another. Sharing a concern with a brother or sister draws us closer, makes our burden lighter and unifies us. It can help us remember to pray for each other. This does us good. This strengthens the body of believers. This, the Apostle Paul tells us, pleases God. Let us all remember to do good and to communicate for there is so much power here!

We are grateful to Bros. Nile Bucher (Bluffton North, IN) and Roger Aberle (Sabetha, KS) for ministering to us. We also express our love and appreciation to Elder Bros. Don Sauder (Roanoke, IL) and Roy Sauder (Peoria, IL) for sharing holy communion with us. May God bless these brothers and their wives and families for sharing with us.

Bro. Robert and Sis. Lily Pfaffman welcome into their hearts and home a son, Caleb John, born March 31. Grandparents are Ernest and Sis. Ida Pfaffman and Henry and Elizabeth Schick.

As Mother's Day approaches can't we praise the Lord for Christian mothers? The unselfish love and concern they bestow on their families must surely endear them to the heart of our heavenly Father. The Washington Mother-Daughter brunch is scheduled for May 12 and we look forward to communicating our love and appreciation to our mother's at this time.

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**INDIANA, BLUFFTON**  
**Carolyn Meyer — Eunice Fiechter**

On March 30, we had the blessed privilege of sharing the Lord's Supper together. In St. John, chapter seven, Jesus said, "He that eateth my flesh

and drinketh my blood dwelleth in me, and I in him." We are thankful that Bro. Loren Stoller (Latty, OH) and Bros. Phil Stettner and Bob Meyer (Bluffton North) were willing to be with us.

John and Sis. Verona Myers welcomed a new baby boy, Adam, into their family along with their first son, Eric. Bro. Dwight and Sis. Beverly Troxel are the maternal grandparents and Larry and Darlene are the paternal grandparents.

Bro. Terry and Sis. Twila Longenberger also welcomed their first baby, a son, who they named Jonathan Lewis. Bro. Larry and Sis. Pauline Gerber are the maternal grandparents and Bro. Harry and Sis. Devona are the paternal grandparents.

Our hospital patients this month were Sis. Ida Troxel, Sis. Esther Giesel (Olen), Bro. Tobias Steffen (Hilda), Sis. Susan Gerber (Russell), Elward Hirschy, Sis. Emma Kipfer and Sis. Barbara Pfister (Tom).

We were grateful to Elder Bro. Aaron Steffen (Alto, MI) and Bro. John Steiner (Oakville, IA) for their visit and bringing us God's Word.

Our sincere sympathy is extended to the families of Sis. Mary Baumgartner. She passed away after an illness of 11 months. Surviving are a son, Bro. Tom Baumgartner (Sis. Marilyn) and a daughter, Sis. Dorothy Kipfer (Bro. Jay) and several grandchildren. Norman Steffen passed from this life April 5. Our prayers are with his wife, Rosella and her family. We also want to extend our sympathy to Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Elizabeth Schwartz in the loss of their daughter-in-law, Sandy. May God be close to each of these families in this time of great sorrow.

The combined choir from both Bluffton and Bluffton North enjoyed a blessed weekend with the Morton, IL congregation April 13 and 14. We were happy to have ministering Bros. Bob Meyer (Sis. Lela) and Ed Schwartz (Sis. Jenny) travel with us.

We will soon have twenty-one seniors from our congregation to graduate. They are Dana Baumgartner, Brian Dillman, Lisa Weil, Bro. Rick Fiechter, Chris Frauhiger, Shauna Geisel, Bro. Brad Gerber, Jami Gerber, Perry Gerber, Bro. Brent Hachenjos, Bevin Herring, Bro. Burt Isch, Sis. Gail Isch, Bro. Simeon Kipfer, Scott Longenberger, Sis. Beth Meyer, Sis. Marie Sprunger, Sis. Cammy Steffen, Sis. Jean Steffen, Kent Steffen and Brent

Tonner. We pray God will be close to each one and give them direction in the days ahead.

#### INDIANA, BLUFFTON NORTH Cindy Geisel — Virginia Rauch

It is the time of year when once again our high school seniors will soon be out of school and out on their own, having important decisions to make concerning their careers and future developments. Let us pray for them that they will seek God's guidance in all their endeavors for they are our future church and country. All of us, from high school seniors to senior citizens, are often confronted with important decisions in our every day life. How much easier it is when we put our trust in Jesus and ask His guidance, for He alone knows our future and what is best for us in the days ahead.

Three more dear souls are seeking God's guidance of their lives, in repentance. As the angels in heaven rejoice over them, so do we. They are Annette Schultz, Mary Lantz (Bro. Dan and Sis. Gladys) and Elaine Steffen (Bro. Ken and Sis. Roberta). Let us also continue to pray for them in their new walk of life.

On Palm Sunday evening we were privileged to have our Sunday school students present to us a message in song about our risen Saviour. As we were blessed with their beautiful singing, may our children also receive a blessing from the message in the songs they sing.

We are always happy to have visiting ministers with us lending of their services. Those who were with us the past month were Bro. Si Wagenbach (Tremont, IL), Bro. Ray Sinn (Latty, OH), Elder Bro. Aaron Steffen (Alto, MI), Bro. John Steiner (Oakville, IA) and Bro. Ben Manz (Junction, OH). We welcome them, their wives and their families back any time.

Those hospitalized recently were Sis. Emma Levy, Sis. Emma Gerber (wife of Bro. Elmer), Sis. Dorothy Geisel (wife of Bro. Jim) and Bro. Ted Kipfer. We wish for them good health and may they feel the presence of God ever near to them.

You will find that if you share your brother's burdens, both of you will walk a little straighter.

#### INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE Jacki Huber

When we lose loved ones here our

hearts are saddened. With our losses, as with all life's experiences, our hearts can be mellowed as God draws nearer or we can become bitter and question God's ways. May we constantly claim God's grace and strength to be child-like and possess the fruit of His Spirit, no matter what our conditions are.

We extend heartfelt sympathy to the following loved ones: Bro. Keith Getz at the death of his mother, Ethel Getz; Doug Gutwein at the death of his brother, Ron Gutwein; Bro. Jim Denton at the death of his father, Lloyd Denton; and Bro. Bob and Sis. Mildred Clauss at the sudden death of their daughter, Sandy Schwartz (Jim, Midland, MI).

When sorrow comes to so many, we feel almost overwhelmed. But we find comfort in realizing God's ways are above our finite understanding. "O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are His judgements and His ways past finding out!" Romans 11:33.

Our Sis. Emma Boehning, 86, passed away on April 6. We extend our sympathy to her nieces and nephews, especially Sis. Valera Culp (Bro. Walter), as Sis. Emma spent much time with Bro. Walter and Sis. Valera. She resided at Parkview Haven at the time of her death. As each faithful saint reaches "home", it encourages us to be true so we can meet them there someday.

We were blessed with many visitors this past month. On March 23 and 24 loved ones gathered here for a reunion after spending a blessed week together in the Holy Land in 1983. Ministering brothers in the group shared God's Word with us on Sunday. They were Bro. Al Langhofer (Wichita, KS), Elder Bro. Joe Stoller (Princeville, IL) and Bro. Carl Wyss (Washington, IL).

The following Wednesday evening Bro. Ed Bahler (Remington, IN) blessed us by ministering God's Word. Our thanks to all these brothers!

About 250 young people gathered here March 30 and 31 for college weekend. Many ministering brothers shared inspirational thoughts and messages with the group on Saturday. On Sunday, Bro. Harold Gramm (Morris, MN), Elder Bro. Bob Grimm (Goodfield, IL) and Bro. Jay Rinkenberger (Goodfield, IL) visited our congregation and blessed us with messages from God's Word. Our thanks to them!

Easter morning began bright and



early as many gathered at the fellowship center for sunrise services. As we drove to the fellowship center and watched the sun rise, it reminded us of Mary Magdalene and the other Mary going to the sepulchre "as it began to dawn". Matthew 28:1.

After noon lunch and fellowship on Easter, the Sunday school children blessed us with a program.

The National World Relief Committee for our congregations met here on the weekend of April 13 and 14. On Saturday evening brethren and friends gathered at the fellowship center. Bro. Vernon Leman (Eureka, IL) shared slides of his visit to our European brethren under communistic rule. Bro. Francis Rother (Morton, IL) showed slides of working in Honduras. We're so thankful for brothers who are willing to share their experiences with us.

Five of the brethren on the World Relief Committee stayed with our congregation and took part in ministering God's Word on Sunday. They were: Bros. John Klotzle (Altadena, CA), Loren Strahm (Gridley, KS), Elder Bro. Roy Grimm (Taylor, MO), Bros. Vernon Leman (Eureka, IL) and Jim Hoerr (Peoria, IL). Our wholehearted thanks go to them for serving us.

Larry and Carol Wuethrich are the happy parents of a little girl, Lacey Rae, born April 5. Two sisters, Lindsey and Lauren, welcomed Lacey into their home. Grandparents are Bro. Leon and Sis. Mabel Wuethrich and Anthony and Rose Pestritto (Cherry Hill, NJ).

We're happy Mary Putt (Norm) is home and recovering after having surgery.

Bro. Walter and Sis. Valera Culp wish to extend heartfelt thanks to everyone for the prayers, concern and gifts of love shown to them during and after Sis. Valera's recent surgery.

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

**WHO CAN MEASURE  
 A MOTHER'S LOVE?**

It may seem hard to get along with your mother. But it would be hard to get along without her! Mothers come in all shapes and sizes, and no two are exactly alike. But most of them are eager to love and care for their children. In fact, no one loves you the way your mother does! Suzanna Wesley had nineteen children, including John

(the famous preacher) and Charles (the famous hymn writer). To manage her large family successfully, she followed these rules:

1. Eating between meals not allowed.
2. Children are to be in bed by 8 p.m.
3. They must take medicine without complaining.
4. Subdue self-will in a child, and thus work together with God to save the child's soul.
5. Teach a child to pray as soon as he can speak.
6. Require all to be still during a family worship.
7. Give them nothing they cry for, and only that which they ask for politely.
8. To prevent lying, punish no fault which is first confessed and repented.
9. Never allow a sinful act to go unpunished.
10. Never punish a child twice for a single offense.
11. Commend and reward good behavior.
12. Any attempt to please, even if poorly performed, should be commended.
13. Preserve property rights, even in the smallest matters.
14. Strictly observe all promises.
15. Require no daughter to work before she can read well.
16. Teach children to fear the Lord.

Like all mothers, Mrs. Wesley was concerned with the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual growth of her children. Not even today's experts on child-rearing could improve very much on the rules she used nearly three hundred years ago to meet those goals! "Honor your . . . mother . . . that it may go well with you and that; you may enjoy long life on the earth." Ephesians 6:2, 3.

The absence of Mike and Anna Kray will be greatly felt by everyone. They have been a pillar for our young church, and a wonderful example of Christian love to all, especially to the children. They have relocated in Columbus, OH with their children, and will be a blessing to the community and their church. We thank God for the time He allowed them to spend with us, and pray for His continual blessings to their lives.

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**INDIANA, LACROSSE**  
**Connie Knobloch — Debbie Nuest**  
 Graduation for our graduates, Sis.

Judy Gudeman, Donalda Ailes, Elaine Nuest and Bill Feller, will soon be here. We want to wish each one many blessings in the future.

Hospital and surgery patients this month have been Sis. Carla Fritz, Enos Cadwalader, Jukka Latvala (exchange student from Finland living with Bro. Richard and Sis. Garnet Nuest), Larry Bucher and Sis. Clara Heiniger. Sis. Clara has returned to the home in Francesville, where she now resides, and enjoys hearing from her many friends. May we always remember these dear ones in our prayers, as their needs are special during their times of illness.

We want to thank our visiting minister, Bro. Ronnie Schambach (Elgin, IL) for bringing to us the true Word of God.

As Mother's Day approaches, we also want to thank our mothers for all the love they have shown us over the years. For those Mothers and Grandmothers who have gone to be with our Lord, may we do God's will and remain true and steadfast in our faith, so one day we can join them in the realms above.

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**INDIANA, LEO**  
**Thelma Schlatter**

May is such a lovely month in our temperate climate, neither too hot nor too cold, usually just right! How fitting that Mother's Day is observed in this pleasant month! A most beautiful portrait of a Christian mother is found in the Bible. Proverbs 31 portrays these qualities of the heart and mind of a true mother. If you have a mother who is like this portrait, be sure to thank her while you can. If you are a mother, ask God to help you become more like the Proverbs 31 model.

This is also graduation month for many young people. Bro. David Stieglitz is a high school graduate. Sis. Marlise Stieglitz is graduating from Ball State University with a degree in education. We wish God's continued guidance and blessing upon their lives. David and Marlise are son and daughter of Bro. Marvin and Sis. Joan.

We appreciated the ministry in word and song by Bro. Earl Ringger and the Evangel Quartette (Gridley) and Bro. Kent Ringger (Bluffton). We thank them and those who accompanied them.

Sympathy is extended to those who have recently lost loved ones. Jesse Blume, Sr. will be missed by surviving

family which includes his sister, Sis. Lillian (Bro. Levi) Pfister.

Mary Schlatter passed away on Good Friday. She is survived by her sister, Maggie Schlatter, and a brother, Bro. Philip Schlatter, also nieces and nephews who lovingly remember a dear aunt.

Sis. Anne Steiner, 95, is making satisfactory recovery from orthopedic surgery. Sis. Helen Norr and Sis. Judy Gehring have been hospital medical patients. Many prayers have been asked in their behalf for the blessing of healing. Not only in illness, but in the many other trials of life, we find that "sometimes the Lord calms the storm; sometimes He lets the storm rage and calms His child." (Apples of Gold).

#### Bits of This and That to Think About

The best things in life are three, faith, hope and charity.

A poor listener seldom hears a good sermon.

Sign on a church bulletin board: "You aren't too bad to come in, but you aren't good enough to stay out!"

Sheep get lost, not because of the thicket, but because they wander too far from the shepherd.

Be not disturbed at being misunderstood; be disturbed, rather, at not being understanding. (Chinese Proverb)

You can't build a church with stumbling blocks.

The secret of prayer is prayer in secret.

If we refuse to open our heart's door to Christ, we can't expect Christ to open His heaven's door to us.

Those of us who cannot reach the mission field on our feet can reach it on our knees.

Excerpts from  
Lights from the Chapel Windows

"The harvest is plenteous, the workmen are few.

My dear fellow saint, is it nothing to you?

Pray that God will send workmen,  
fitted and true,  
And don't be surprised if He sends  
even you."

G. W. Steidi

The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth laborers into his harvest. Matthew 9:37, 38.

### INDIANA, MILFORD

#### Joyce Kaiser — Shelby Beer

Congratulations and best wishes for God's richest blessings to our graduates. Those completing high school are: Lisa Beer (Bro. Levi and Sis. Katherine), Randy Beer (Bro. Nelson and Sis. Shelby), Lori Price (Bro. Tom and Becky), Bro. Clark Schieler (Bro. Will and Sis. Sue). Brad Beer (Bernie and Peg) and Heather Beer (Bro. Phil and Sis. Millie) have earned their college degree. As these graduates pass from one stage of experience to the next, we pray that they will lean heavily upon the Lord for His leading and guidance in their lives.

"Hand in hand, O may love bind us,  
for each other's welfare strive."

Zion's Harp #237

March 30 was the wedding day of John Kaiser (Bro. Dick and Sis. Clara) and Toni Leever. Bro. Phil and Sis. Millie Beer are rejoicing with their daughter, Janet, and Daniel Chomyn, as they were joined in holy matrimony on April 12. They will be making their home in Boulder, CO. Dan Doll (Bro. Pete and Sis. Becky) and Susan Macon will be exchanging wedding vows April 28. We ask the Lord to richly bless these unions that they may submit themselves one to another in the fear of God.

May the Lord continue to richly bless and inspire our visiting and local ministers for their untiring efforts in bringing forth the Word of God in truth and clearness, prompted by the Holy Spirit. We should all pray that God's Word would be brought to us in truth, not according to what people would want to hear, but according to the will of God. We especially want to thank Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman (Francesville) for unselfishly sharing God's love with us on a recent Wednesday evening.

### INDIANA, REMINGTON

#### Beth Virkler — Annette Bahler

And as many as receive Him, to them gave He the power to become the sons of God. John 1:12. We rejoice with Jerry Bahler (Elmer and Sis. Marilyn), he has professed Christ as his Saviour, and has begun repentance for his sins.

There is joy among the angels,  
When a sinner heeds the call;  
When he turns to Christ believing,  
and from Him is love receiving,

Grace that saves us one and all.

Gospel Hymns #171

Paul and Wilma Clauss announce the wedding of their son, John, to Jody Summers. May God bless them in marriage. John will also graduate from Purdue this spring.

Bro. Stan and Sis. Beth Virkler have received a new daughter, Rachel Marie. Her brothers are Paul, Nathan and Joel. We're thankful for a new precious life, and pray for the responsibility to raise them as God's children. Grandparents are Bro. Andy and Sis. Maxine Virkler and Bro. Ed and Sis. Lois Bahler.

We sincerely thank the brethren who shared with us as we partook of the Lord's Supper: Bro. Art Bahler (Fairbury, IL) and Elder Bro. Norbert Steiner (Croghan, NY). Bro. Art explained to us as the grains of wheat mix into bread, they must lose their identity. Only then can the uniformity of the grain rise together and be useful. So it was in communion, as we brethren blend together our faith, thankfulness and our own selves. We identify with Christ alone, and in remembrance of Him, rise to a new strength. "And blessed be His glorious name for ever: and let the whole earth be filled with His glory." Psalm 72:19.

### INDIANA, SOUTH BEND

#### Pauline Laidig

In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.

John 14:2

Recently someone was having a home built and partially furnished. Through the process, a number of disturbing incidents happened. The thought then came to mind that we will not need to be concerned about the building of our heavenly homes, as the Lord is taking care of that; and they will be more beautiful than we can imagine. What a comforting thought.

We were so blessed on Wednesday, March 27, when Elder Bros. Wendell Gudeman (Francesville) and Jesse Beer (Milford) spent the evening with us. Their willingness to so lovingly serve us is much appreciated.

On Easter Sunday, Bro. Walter Rager (Toledo, OH), along with our ministering brothers, brought us very meaningful messages, especially pertaining to our dear Lord's resurrection.



The Sunday school children's program added to the blessings of this special day.

A potluck dinner was held on Sunday, March 31, to welcome back Bro. Mark and Sis. Kristie Meyer and children into our church family; and to sadly bid farewell to Bro. Brad and Sis. Michelle Baumgartner, who have moved to Alto, MI. May the Lord bless all of them in their newly established homes.

We extend our congratulations to Sis. Annie Meyer (Bro. Pat) as she graduated from Indiana University, South Bend, on May 5. God be with you, Annie, in your future endeavors.

#### INDIANA, VALPARAISO

**Cheryl Bucher — Patty Bucher**

It's hard to believe another month has gone by. Our newly formed church choir enjoyed a trip to the Chicago congregation. We had a very blessed day. Thanks to everybody there for your hospitality.

As the construction of our new church building has begun, we thank God for this opportunity to build. May God bless all those who work on this project and those who freely volunteer their time. It is so exciting to watch the progression of our new church home.

May each of us also work in witnessing for Christ that we may receive the rewards of heaven and His kingdom.

#### INDIANA, WEST LAFAYETTE PURDUE UNIVERSITY

**Jody Getz**

This spring, April 30 and 31, Purdue hosted college weekend. Our topic was Philippians 4:8: "Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things." The weekend was truly a blessing, and the Purdue group wishes to thank all of you who took part in making the weekend go smoothly and spiritually.

Bro. Jack Bollier (Leo, IN) and Bro. Tom Spiecher (Milford, IN) were our visiting ministers this past month. The encouragement and instruction which we receive from these bi-weekly services are truly "Heaven-sent".

With May comes spring, the end of the semester, and graduation. This semester two brothers, Steve Hofstetter and Jeff Steffen, will be graduating.

We pray God's blessings and guidance will be with them as they enter the career area they have chosen. Also, we pray that not only have they learned worldly knowledge, but spiritual knowledge which they can apply in the future.

#### INDIANA, WOLCOTT

**Lorene Furrer — Elaine Bahler**

Spring — what a beautiful and fitting time to remember the glorious resurrection of our Savior, Jesus Christ. How we enjoy seeing the flowers and trees come to life once again. We enjoyed hearing our children tell us of Easter at our program, April 2. And how fitting, as newborn brothers and sisters-in-Christ, to share His sacrifice on Calvary by sharing the cup and the bread "in remembrance of Him" as we did on April 13. We thank Elder Bros. Norbert Steiner (Croghan, NY) and Art Bahler (Fairbury, IL) for their part in this.

Another birth this spring is Sheila Tianne, born to Bro. Tim and Sis. Rachel Schwab April 9. Her sisters are Teresa and Katie, and grandparents are Bro. Vernon and Sis. Arlene Schwab and Sis. Elizabeth Schambach (Elgin).

Graduating this spring from Purdue University is Bro. Steve Hofstetter (Bro. Ted and the late Sis. Lynetta). We wish God's blessings in whatever his future holds.

Bro. LeRoy Kyburz wishes to thank those who sent him cards, flowers and visited while he was in the hospital and at home, and also for the prayers in his behalf.

#### IOWA, AMES-DES MOINES

**Nancy Ann Teubel**

Many visitors shared a special spring day with us as Bro. Noah Gerber (West Bend) shared the Word of God. Thank you one and all for taking the time out of your busy schedules to be with us. May God bless you for your efforts.

With Mother's Day fast approaching, I found myself reading through many cards trying to find appropriate ones to buy. A card with the following message caught my attention: Blessed be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian Love . . . I'm so thankful for the bond of love we are able to share together in Christ. Happy Mother's Day! The message is short and simple, but it certainly comes straight from my

heart. Christ is the tie that binds us together in love. Thanks be to God who has allowed my life to be touched so deeply by many mothers who have not only given to their own children, but to others as well. I'm sure we can all recall some mother who has touched our lives in some special way. Thank you for reaching out! May God bless you for your love.

#### IOWA, BURLINGTON

**Edith Massner — Dixie Messner**

"For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come." I Corinthians 11:26. We were privileged to partake of holy communion on Good Friday evening. It truly was a time to remember Christ's suffering and death.

Bro. Uriel Gehring (Leo, IN) was with us over the Easter weekend. It was really nice to have him 'home'.

We have again added two new families to our small congregation. We want to welcome Bro. Curt, Sis. Jean and Seth Eberhardt and Bro. Fred, Sis. Kathy and Jonathan Eberhardt. These families formerly went to Oakville and we're thankful they have made the decision to join us.

Keith Massner will be graduating from high school this month. Keith is the son of Bro. Dale and Sis. Evelyn. Our prayers are with all those who are graduating and going out in the world to seek jobs or further schooling.

Bro. Ken Buehler spent a few days in the hospital; we hope he will continue to improve at home.

Jana Massner (Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Edith) was in a car accident and could have been injured much more seriously than she was — she apparently has a neck fracture. We're thankful it was no worse.

#### IOWA, ELGIN Gloria Frieden

Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! Psalms 133:1

In a mighty auditorium are four men. They really desire to come together, but neither will come to another's corner. In the center of the room is a beautiful fountain. Finally someone purposes that they all meet at the fountain. They start for the common center. They come on forty, fifty, one hundred feet. The nearer they come to the



fountain, the nearer they come to each other, each making concessions of location and space. At last they reach their destination, and clasp hands around the sparkling waters of the fountain. Jesus Christ, the great fountain of life, liberty and love, is set up in the center of the world. The nearer God's children come to Christ, the nearer they will come to each other. Let us help hasten the day when we can all clasp hands and sing, "Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love". Let the Christian world strike hands in the spirit of those of old, who said, "We are brethren".

Leaves of Gold

Our annual church cleaning was recently shared by a group of brothers and sisters. What a blessing can be felt when brethren can work together in love and unity.

### IOWA, GARDEN GROVE

**Rhonda Reker**

We can be thankful for everything our mothers have done for us.

Our Father in Heaven  
 whose love is divine,  
 Thanks for the love  
 of a Mother like mine —  
 And in Thy great mercy  
 look down from Above  
 And grant this dear Mother  
 the Gift of Your Love —  
 And all through the year,  
 whatever betide her,  
 Assure her each day  
 that you are beside her —  
 And, Father in Heaven,  
 show me the way  
 To lighten her tasks  
 and brighten her day,  
 And bless her dear heart  
 with the insight to see  
 That her love means more  
 than the world to me.

Helen Steiner Rice

We are ever so thankful for the company that comes and supports our little congregation. On Sunday, March 24 we were blest to have Bro. John Klotzle (Altadena, CA) come and minister. That evening there was a potluck and slides on his trip to India. What a blessed day it was. Summer is here and everyone will be thinking about vacations. We welcome one and all that would happen to be passing by to stop

and spend a weekend of fellowship.

Our sincere sympathy goes out to Sis. Bertha Moser on the passing of her sister-in-law, Sis. Carrie Massner (Ft. Scott, KS).

### IOWA, IOWA CITY

**Denise Duckworth**

"A young man went to an aged saint on one occasion and asked him to pray for him, saying, 'I find myself giving way to impatience continually. Will you please pray for me that I may be more patient?' The old man agreed. They knelt together and the man of God began to pray, 'Lord, send this young man tribulation in the morning, send this young man tribulation in the afternoon . . .' The young man nudged him and said, 'No, no, no, not tribulation, patience!' 'But,' said the old saint, 'it is tribulation that worketh patience! If you would know patience, you must have tribulation'. If you would know victory, you must have conflict; it is ridiculous for anybody to talk about having a victory when they have never been in a conflict. You must be prepared to enter into the arena with the Lord Jesus Christ Himself, and He will give you lessons day by day. But I warn you, you will have to be quite prepared to pay the price. No one can enjoy victory without paying a price, even in the ordinary realms of life.

"It is only a crucified person that can have fellowship with a crucified Lord. It was via Calvary that the Lord Jesus Christ came into His wonderful victory. It was only via the Cross that you and I can come into the experience of that triumph."

"If you want patience, then it is tribulation — if you want victory, it must be conflict."

W. J. Brown

Our visiting ministers during the past month were: Bros. Fred Knapp (Congerville, IL), Dale Frank and John Steiner (Oakville), Dennis Warner (Lester) and Harvey Heiniger (Burlington). May God richly bless these dear brothers for their efforts.

### IOWA, LESTER

**Alice Metzger**

We were led to the cross and partook of holy communion April 13. Serving us were Elder Bros. Paul Butikofer and Leo Moser. From the communion hymn (Zion's Harp #26), we shared these words: Jesus in the night of His

betrayal, When His covenant He did endow, When His blood, in love and grace eternal, For transgression and for sin did flow, He established for His church a token, That His covenant might ne'er be broken, This His holy sacrament and feast, For His own, from sin and death released.

Elder Bro. Art Nohl was with us the last weekend of March to share in hearing the testimony of Bonnie Knobloch (Bro. Earl and Sis. Vera). After establishing a covenant with God, she was baptized in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost. How we appreciate God's plan of salvation and pray that many more will partake of it while it is still offered with grace and love.

Sis. Mary Spohr was called to her eternal rest on March 26. Her funeral was held in Elgin, IL, but she had spent the last few months here with her daughter and family, Bro. Alfred and Sis. Lucille Knobloch. She was very dear to the church here and was lovingly cared for by her family.

On March 28, Brandon Leroy was born to Bro. Dietrich and Sis. Lexia Knobloch. He has one brother and his grandparents are Bro. Willie and Sis. Helen Knobloch and Bro. Jack and Sis. Janet Wysong.

Sis. Flora Metzger has been in the Rochester hospital for many weeks. Other hospital patients are Sis. Barbara Metzger, Bro. Earl Knobloch and Bro. Freddie Metzger. One of the greatest evidences of God's love is when He sends His children afflictions with grace to bear them.

The betrothal was announced of Sis. LaNae Knobloch and Bro. Randy Meyer (Phoenix, AZ). May God be the center of their plans in this special time in their lives.

An important step is taken by our graduates at this time of year. Our high school graduates are Joy Feucht (Bro. Alfred and Sis. Marie), Joni Gerber (Bro. Bill and Sis. Erma), Sis. Paula Kellenberger (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Shirley), Melody Knobloch (Bro. Ezra and Sis. Marie), Marilyn Knobloch (Bro. Silas and Sis. Edith), Thadd Knobloch (Bro. Roger and Sis. Janet), Harlan Knobloch (Orvie and Lauretta), Carla Knobloch (Bro. Alfred and Sis. Lucille), Dawn Meyer (Bro. Raymond and Sis. Twyla), Dawn Martin (Eddie and Judy), Sid Meyer (Bro. George and Sis. Charlyn), Joel Moser (Howard and Glenda), Brian Teubel (Bro. Dave and Sis. Pauline), Marie Nester (Bro.

Eugene and Sis. Shirley), Kurt Metzger (Bro. Dale and Sis. Chris), Jill and Jerome Metzger (Bro. Eugene and Sis. Delores), Jeff Popkes (Sis. Eleanor) and Linda Van Wyhe (Wayne and Jennie).

Receiving their degrees from South Dakota State University are Bro. Stan Warner, Bro. Leroy Wulf and Dick Metzger. We pray that all graduates will ask for Supreme guidance as they seek employment or further their education.

### IOWA, OAKVILLE

#### Debbie Wagenbach

"And the Lord God said, It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him." Genesis 2:18. Sis. Charlene Funk (Roy and Sis. Bertha) became the God-given helpmate for Bro. David Wagenbach (John and Sis. Marilyn) on March 24, in Gridley, IL. We extend a hearty welcome to Sis. Charlene as she and Bro. Dave establish their home in Oakville. We wish them God's blessings for a long and happy marriage.

We also are happy to have Bro. Henry and Sis. Barbara Beyer and their children, Gerald, John, Christina, Cheryl and Charleen assembling in our congregation. We know that they are certainly missed in Naumburg, and we hope that God will bless this step in their lives.

Bros. Ron Schambach and Gary Anliker (both of Elgin, IL) have recently lent themselves in the Lord's service in our congregation. We are thankful that they could be with us.

Natasha Dawn has come into the hearts and home of Bro. Brian and Sis. Cindy Wiegand. Natasha was born April 5, and has two sisters, Natalie and Ashley. Bro. Joe and Sis. Lois Wiegand, and Lewis and Carol Albrecht (Francesville, IN) are the happy grandparents.

A joyful weekend was spent April 13 and 14 by the Oakville and Burlington Young Group in Ames, IA. We are certainly thankful that so many visitors could join us from Minneapolis, Morris and Winthrop, MN; Elgin, Oakville, Pulaski and West Bend, IA; Fairbury, IL; and various other churches. The church was filled to overflowing. Certainly our God must have been pleased.

"Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven." Matthew 18:4. Little children are

humble and so innocent. I was recently driving to church with my eight-year-old brother. In the course of our conversation, he began asking me questions relating to our faith. I was amazed at his knowledge of the Bible and of our faith. He told me that he knows that at our church we greet with the "holy handshake" and the "holy kiss". That really made me think. Am I a good example to others, especially the little children, whose hearts are tender and young? They are so willing to follow the example displayed before them. The children are watching us. Let us strive to be the light and example we should be, for they are the church of tomorrow.

### IOWA, PULASKI

#### DeAnn Wuthrich

#### Mary Jane Knapp

We truly had a joyous and blessed weekend March 30 and 31 when we were able to hear the testimony of our dear friend Howard Musselman on Saturday evening, and witness his baptism on Sunday. It surely encourages and uplifts those of us who have made these vows before to our dear Savior. May it help us to only walk just a little bit closer to him. We were also thankful to have Elder Bro. Edward Lanz (Oakville), Bro. Harold Schmidgall (Gridley, IL) and Bro. Loren Strahm (Gridley, KS) here with us that weekend to help carry out these most important duties. May the Lord richly bless each one for their labors of love.

Another visiting minister in the past month was Bro. Bill Funk (Garden Grove). We surely want to thank him for the wonderful message he brought forth, and for all his efforts.

We surely will miss Bro. Ben and Sis. Patrice Metzger and their son, Jeffrey, who are temporarily residing in Zapata, TX throughout the summer months. May the Lord richly sustain them in their walk of life.

### IOWA, WEST BEND

#### Elma Mogler — Polly Zaugg

"And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it and gave it to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body. And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, Drink ye all of it; For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins." St. Matthew 26:26-28.

On March 17 our brotherhood partook of holy communion. Visiting min-

isters here were Elder Bro. Steve Rinkenberger (Cissna Park, IL), Elder Bro. Leo Moser (Lester) and Bro. Dale Frank (Oakville). On Saturday evening Mike Schmidt (Bro. Ivan and Sis. Evelyn) gave his testimony of faith. We welcome Bro. Mike into the fold of believers. Our thanks to the ministering brothers for spending the weekend here — we surely appreciate their time and efforts.

Three young people from our congregation have announced their engagements and approaching marriages. Our sincere congratulations go with them. They are Karen Grimm (Bro. Clifford and Sis. Rosene) to Ken Schirm (Des Moines), Beth Wagner to Keith Grimm (Bro. Clifford and Sis. Rosene) both from West Bend, and Julie Wickman (Bro. Larry and Sis. Marvella) to Todd Wallace who is in the Air Force.

Those who have been hospital patients this month are: Sis. Lena Grimm (Bro. Eli), who had eye surgery; Reuben Anliker, who had major surgery and is still confined to his home. Our prayer is that he may enjoy a complete recovery. Sara Metzger (Bro. Duane and Sis. Elizabeth) has been released from the hospital in Minneapolis after a six week stay. Sara and all of us are thankful that she has found grace to turn her back to the world and sin. Sara also is humbled by being remembered with prayers and gifts during this time. God's blessings and our prayers go out to Sis. Elizabeth (Bro. Duane) Metzger who also had serious surgery.

Brian and Melinda Traub are first-time parents. A baby girl, Amber Kay, born March 20 is welcomed home by grandparents Bob and Eunice Traub and Bro. Larry and Sis. Carole Fehr. We wish them God's blessings with their little girl.

This season of the year finds many young people graduating from high school. May they remember the many teachings they have had in their home and Sunday school as well as those they have acquired in school. Those who graduate this May from our congregation are: Susan Grimm (Arlo and Marilyn), Kelly Fehr (Bro. Larry and Sis. Carole), Wendall Schmidt (Bro. Ivan and Sis. Evelyn), Beth Metzger (Bernard and Alice), Marcia Traub (Fred, Jr. and Joan), Elizabeth Banwart (Bob and Kay), Melissa Fehr (Bro. Wayne and Sis. Kathy) and Gayle Schmidt (Bro. Duane and Sis. Lucille).



## MOTHER'S DAY POEM

Our Mother has a heart of gold  
 And other virtues yet untold:  
 A special beauty glows in her face,  
 Lines of service and love add grace.  
 'Tho she has seventy years to recall,  
 We don't think she's old at all.  
 Her charm we just cannot explain,  
 But from it inspiration gain.  
 Where does she get that heavenly glow?  
 Angels have secrets that we don't know.

Bertha Treling

## JAPAN, SHIODA

Margie Heintz — Sheila Moser

As this article is being written, spring is bursting its way across the mountain sides of central Japan. The cherry trees are beginning to drop their petals, while a soft pink haze covers the hills as thousands of peach trees come into full bloom. A breathtaking transformation has taken place and only God can be given the glory.

Easter brought with it the ever new and exciting realization that Jesus loved us (and still loves us) so much that He died for us and then rose again so that we can live forever with Him in eternity! On Easter Sunday we enjoyed an early morning breakfast, fellowship time and short Easter service at a nearby park. Later in the morning we reassembled for our morning services, followed by an afternoon devoted to an Easter program presented by the Sunday school children. Some of the kindergarten children attended, as well as the Shioda brothers and sisters, and it is our prayer that the joy of that day was imparted to those who came.

Recently, fifteen precious children graduated from SAK and have now entered the Japanese public school system. It was sad and lonely to see them go and to realize that they will no longer be hearing about Jesus' love every day. But we are thankful for those who are continuing to attend Sunday school and pray that a never-dying seed has been planted which will burst forth into bloom in the years to come.

The blessings of a Christian home and family have become so very apparent in this country, where only a tiny percentage of people are Christians. Those of us who were raised by Christian mothers and fathers should be daily thankful for that special privilege of having been taught God's love and

truth as children. And no matter where on this earth we have been directed by God, we in turn can begin to share God's love with others by modeling our lives and our homes after those eternal truths which we learned at home. What more appropriate "thank you" could we give to our earthly parents and to our heavenly Father?

Sis. Ucida remains in the hospital, suffering from the affects of a broken shoulder. Her general health has deteriorated and her family remains at her side every day. Our prayers are with her, that she can feel God's comfort and that her husband, Bro. Ucida, and their children can find strength from above.

In mid-April our dear friend Megumi Fukasawa left for America to begin a new life in Evanston, IL. She will be married there and will become Mrs. Hidenori Mukai. Her new address is: 855 Hinman St. #504, Evanston, IL 60202 (home telephone: 312-475-0424). She fellowshipped with us for many years and faithfully attended Wednesday evening services for the past year. We pray that she will continue to feel the tie of Christian friendships in America and that she will feel a continued need to learn about the living God and His truth.

One of the most special blessings of our faith is the bond of Christian friendship. When our Christian friends from home can come and meet our Christian friends here, the bond of Christian love becomes deeper. During the last two weeks of March we were blessed with visitors from the States: Sisters Kay and Sue Knobloch (Lester, IA) and Sisters Delores Gerber and Karen Metzger (West Bend, IA). We appreciate the willingness of the sisters to give of themselves and the fellowship which their visit afforded to all.

"There is mutual understanding and a sympathy so kind, in the tie of Christian friendship, as on earth we oftentimes find."

"Christian Friendship"  
 Hymns of Zion #91

## JAPAN, TOKYO

Marie Inoue — Yoshio Yamazaki

We were blessed on Easter Sunday by hearing the familiar but ever joyous ministry that Christ claimed victory over death and the grave.

In the afternoon the children presented a program reminding us that at

Christ's death, the veil in the temple was rent in two signifying that anyone can have access to God through Christ, our High Priest. Up until this time this privilege was given only to Aaron and those of the Levite line. A recitation was also given concerning the glorious resurrection of our Lord. We thank the Lord for His grace and hope these children will turn to Him when they grow up.

Our only graduate this year was Seiji Sakuta, son of Shoji and Sis. Yoshiko (Utsuki) Sakuta. He has finished junior high and now enters senior high school. We have several beginning their school days in first grade and kindergarten. We wish all of them God's protection and blessings as they experience new paths.

Bro. Saburo Utsuki celebrated his 85th birthday with a dinner enjoyed by many. We appreciate his love and support and hope he can be among us as long as God wills.

We especially enjoyed visiting sisters of Iowa recently. They were guests of Sis. Sheila Moser. Distance does not bother our Christian fellowship, and we thank God for their good examples to us.

## KANSAS, BERN

Linda Esslinger

Happy parents to a baby son, Jonathan Mason, were Bro. Gordon and Sis. Sharon Grimm. He was born on March 27 and has one older brother, Michael, and one sister, Sally. Grandparents are Bro. Harvey and Sis. Marie Grimm.

High school graduates are Sis. Heidi Baumgartner (Bro. Leonard and Sis. Nancy), Sis. Kim Meyer (Bro. Robert and Sis. Janet), Dawn Esslinger (Waymer and Pauline), Mike Rokey (Bro. Joseph, Jr. and Sis. Lila) and Dayton Menold (Bro. James and Sis. Louise). Congratulations, graduates!

## KANSAS, FORT SCOTT

Judy Bahr

Bro. John Lehman (Bern, KS) was our visiting minister over the Easter weekend. We thank him for sharing the message with us of the greatest part of God's plan for our salvation.

The engagement of Sis. Cheryl Miller to Bro. Jim Schrader (Lamont, KS) was announced on Easter Sunday. Cheryl is the daughter of Bro. Wayne and Sis. Pearl and Jim is the son of Bro. Stephen and Sis. Dorothy.

As two lives will soon be united as



one we look forward to being reunited with our dear Sis. Carrie Messner who went to sleep in Jesus April 9. We extend our sincere sympathy to her family. "I am the resurrection and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die." John 11:25, 26.

#### KANSAS, GRIDLEY

**Vola Young — Doris Bahr**

We have been blessed with a measure of rain, sunshine, warmth and coolness and now are enjoying the full beauty of spring.

Our Sunday school had a short program for the congregation Easter Sunday. It thrills our hearts to hear the story over and over of the love that Christ had for you and me. We realize that we should look to the cross and resurrection daily. There the price was paid and the gift of eternal life was given.

We thank Bro. Frederick Knapp (Congerville, IL) for speaking God's Word to us.

Sis. Hannah Grimm was hospitalized for a short while. At this time, Karen Somerhalder is a patient at Stormont Vail, Topeka.

#### KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

**Lori Aberle — Patti Knobloch**

#### ON THE WINGS OF PRAYER

On the wings of prayer  
our burdens take flight —  
Our load of cares  
become bearably light,  
And our heavy hearts  
are lifted above  
To be healed by the balm  
of God's wonderful love . . .  
He understands  
our fears and despair,  
When we take them to Him  
on the wings of prayer.

Helen Steiner Rice

Often times a Christian becomes burdened down with the day's trials and temptations. May we always remember to take each burden to the Lord in prayer.

Visiting ministers with us this month were Bro. Roy Wernli and Bro. Bill Emsch (Lamont, KS) and Bro. Al Langhofer (Wichita, KS). Singings held this month were at the apartment of Bro. Jim Schrader, Mike Strahm and

Tim Moore and also at the apartment of Sis. Lori Aberle, Sis. Patti Knobloch and Christy Meyer.

Announcement was made of the engagement of Sis. Cheryl Miller (Ft. Scott, KS) to Bro. Jim Schrader (Lamont, KS). We rejoice with this couple and pray God's blessings on their life together.

Thank you to all who provided us with Christian fellowship and worship. May God's blessings be upon you in your Christian walk of life.

#### KANSAS, KIOWA

**Janice Bahr — Gay Farney**

Mother — what a lovely name for God to give to one so precious to us. I read recently that the lady who worked to have Mother's Day recognized was never a mother herself, but cherished her own mother so much, that she thought a day should be set aside to honor all mothers. I fully agree, and truly praise the Lord for giving me the one He did, because my mother is everything the name implies and much, much more. I don't remember a time when she wasn't there when we needed her, or a time when the Lord wasn't first in her life. He was her Guide and, through her example, He is now mine. So on Mother's Day, may God bless all mothers, like mine, whose unselfish love, and faith, have made our world a happier place.

We have had a number of brothers and sisters who have been very sick this month, and they include: Bro. Sam Schupbach, who until recently, was hospitalized, but now is residing at Cedar Crest Manor to recuperate, as he is so weak. Bro. Jeff Frieden is hospitalized in Anthony, with constant family care as well as hospital care, as was Bro. Sam. Sis. Edna Reed and Sis. Bea Diel were also hospital patients, but are again able to be in our midst. Bro. George and Sis. Bea are now residing at the Home in Cherokee. Sis. Marie and Dale Tucker just recently had a grandchild, Nathaniel, son of Brenda and Brad Shue, hospitalized for spinal meningitis. For all these loved ones, we lift our hearts in prayer, that God will work His will in their suffering, and grant them peace.

We've truly been blessed this month with visiting messengers of God's Word. On Palm Sunday weekend, Elder Bro. Eugene Marti (Lamar, MO) and his dear wife, were in our midst. We shared the blessed communion

services together, and also had our hearts filled from God's storehouse. Then on the weekend of April 13 and 14 ministering Bros. Bill Hodel (Roanoke, IL) and Walter Anliker (Eureka, IL) and other traveling companions were in our midst for a Saturday night supper and singing, and a Sunday filled with precious fellowship and Godly teachings. The day was further blessed when the Sunday school rode bicycles to a picnic spot in the country and played games and had a wiener roast. The adults came later, and made the fellowship complete.

#### KANSAS, LAMONT

**Jill K. Luthi**

"And I will betroth thee unto me forever; yea, I will betroth thee unto me in righteousness, and in judgement, and in lovingkindness, and in mercies.

"I will even betroth thee unto me in faithfulness: and thou shalt know the Lord."  
Hosea 2:19 & 20

These words were made known to us Easter Sunday in the engagement of Sis. Cheryl Miller (Ft. Scott) to Bro. Jim Schrader. Parents of the couple are Bro. Wayne and Sis. Pearl Miller (Ft. Scott) and Bro. Stephan and Sis. Dorothy Schrader. We wish them God's blessings as they endeavor to serve Him as one.

In memory of all of our mothers out there, here are a few words from a poet's hand that seem to paint the picture for us:

#### "MOTHER IS A WORD CALLED LOVE"

Mother is a word called Love  
And all the world is mindful of  
The love that's given and shown to  
others  
Is different from the Love of Mothers  
For Mothers play the leading roles  
In giving births to little souls,  
For though "small souls" are heaven-  
sent  
And we realize they're only lent,  
It takes a Mother's loving hands  
And her gentle heart that understands  
To mold and shape this little life  
And shelter it through storm and  
strife . . .  
No other love than Mother Love  
Could do the things required of  
Than one to whom God gives the  
keeping

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

Helen Steiner Rice

Good Friday services were held at Gridley, April 4. As the season of planting crops – and later harvesting – is here, we have concluded mid-week services since then until next Thanksgiving. Singing on the first Sunday will now be held, alternating with Gridley. However, visits from any elder, minister or friends is by all means welcome at all times. We want to thank Bro. Fred Knapp (Congerville, IL) for giving us a visit Sunday evening, March 31. May the Lord reward him in his duty that is given to him to stand before us and proclaim God's Word.

#### KNOWLEDGE & WISDOM

Knowledge and wisdom, far from being one,  
Have ofttimes no connection.  
Knowledge dwells  
In heads replete with thoughts of other men;  
Wisdom in minds attentive to their own.  
Knowledge – a rude, unprofitable mass,  
The mere materials with which  
Wisdom builds,  
Till smoothed, and squared, and fitted to its place –  
Does but encumber whom it seems to enrich.  
Knowledge is proud that he has learned so much;  
Wisdom is HUMBLE that he knows no more.

Wm. Cowper

We welcome our new additions of Sis. Kathleen (Miller) of Bay City, MI, Sheila and Jason. Sis. Kathleen and Bro. David Wernli were granted their wish in becoming one in the Holy Trinity before a cloud of witnesses, March 31. A reception was held Sunday afternoon, April 20 at the Madison High School commons area. May God grant them His blessings according to His will.

When at last our sighs are counted  
Ev'ry barrier is surmounted,  
And the curtain rends a twain,  
Who is able then to measure,  
What of peace, and joy, and treasure,

In that kingdom we shall gain?  
Zion's Harp #245, vs. 11

Called from this world in relief of her sufferings was Sis. Emma Enz. For some time, she has been one of several that were physically absent, but well-remembered in our prayers. Survivors are four brothers, Frank Isch (Sabetha), Irwin Isch (Hartford), Elmer Isch (Morrill) and Bro. Floyd Isch (Gridley); and three sisters, Clara Weseloh (Iola), Dorothy Birk (Birmingham) and Edna Reed (Gridley). May God comfort them all in the loss of their loved one.

#### KANSAS, SABETHA

Charleen Hartter — Nita Grimm

"Favor is deceitful and beauty is vain: but a woman that feareth the Lord, she shall be praised." Proverbs 31:30. May God bless all of our dear mothers for the unending love you've given to your families and those around you.

A little son, Tyler James, was born to Bro. Gordon and Sis. Sharlyn Huber March 19. Tyler has one sister, Brooke, to welcome him home.

Elder Bro. Bob Walder (Congerville, IL) was with us on March 30 to share in holy communion. Our hearts were abundantly filled to overflowing as we partook of the spiritual bread from heaven. We also thank Bro. Lenny Meyer (Chicago, IL) and Bro. Paul Eisenmann (Burlington, IA) for sharing God's Word with us.

Korbin Beyer, son of Bro. Martin and Sis. Karen, experienced a bad accident causing him to be hospitalized for several days. Many prayers have been uttered on his behalf, and we're grateful to see the healing power of God upon him. Also, Bro. James Hartter had a surgical appendectomy and is recovering very well from it.

As graduation time rolls around once again, we want to sincerely wish high school graduates Loren Edelman, Monte Thompson and Sis. Natalie Wysong our congratulations and best wishes for a happy future.

"The Path of Life lies waiting  
With the challenge for which you've yearned

The time has come to close the books  
And apply what you have learned.  
Go forward with "Friend Confidence"  
"Experience" is round the bend,  
But never close the Book of Books

Its teaching has no end."  
Beverly De Block

#### KANSAS, WICHITA

Laurie Gallatin

Easter morning we had a sunrise breakfast together, and the Sunday school children presented an Easter program, telling the Easter story to us. It is always a blessing to hear the story of Jesus' death and resurrection so that we might have life.

Mothers' special day of recognition and appreciation was this month, and we must truly thank the Lord for all the capabilities He has given mothers.

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to His abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. I Peter 1:3-5.

What a glorious future we have in Christ! It is because of God's great and overflowing mercy that we can have hope. I like the way Peter calls it "a lively hope". That means our hope is living and active and busy – not just sitting and just existing, but being fruitful for the Lord. Peter says our inheritance is incorruptible – it can't decay or be affected by anything. Our inheritance is undefiled – in heaven we will live in perfect holiness, there will be no sin, or evil, or Satan's influence present. Can you imagine how wonderful that will be?

Our inheritance will never fade away – we will be in heaven with Jesus for all eternity. It will never end or diminish in glory. Our inheritance is reserved for us. Jesus is going to return to bring us into the inheritance He has prepared for us. What a precious glimpse of eternity God has given us through His Word.

#### KENTUCKY, LEXINGTON

Lester Huber

"Behold thy Mother" John 19:27. We are reminded of Mother's Day in this month of May. How interesting it is to note that in the depth and agony of Calvary, Jesus did not forget His mother and instructed John to care for her. From this He would remind us to not forget our mothers, another lesson from the "last words" of His ministry.

Favour is deceitful, and beauty is vain: but a woman that feareth the Lord, she shall be praised. Proverbs 31:30.

We are grateful to God and our dear brethren who have ministered God's Word to us in the past few weeks: Bros. Glenn Price, Jr. (Sarasota, FL), Everett Hari (Bloomington-Normal, IL) and Kent Ringger (Bluffton, IN). We appreciate all the visitors as well and the mutual Christian fellowship which we enjoy in the Lord. We would appreciate your prayers for those who are seeking employment here. May God manifest His will.

### MICHIGAN, ALTO

Liz Blough

Mothers . . . Aren't they one of the greatest gifts given to us from God? And, isn't May one of the nicest months to pay tribute to Mom? The beauty of spring is in its fullest bloom in Michigan. The farmers are busy readying the fields for planting and the children will soon be out of school and Mom will find a few extra shadows following her.

### HER LITTLE SHADOWS

I saw a young mother with eyes full of laughter,  
And two little shadows came following after.

Wherever she moved, they were always right there -  
Holding onto her skirts, hanging onto her chair,  
Before her, behind her - an adhesive pair.

"Don't you ever get weary as, day after day,  
Your two little tagalongs get in your way?"

She smiled as she shook her pretty young head,  
And I'll always remember the words that she said:

"It's good to have shadows that run when you run,  
That laugh when you're happy and hum when you hum -  
For you only have shadows when your life's filled with sun!"

We are thankful that Bro. Elmer and Sis. Delilah Schrenk have had a safe trip home for the summer from their winter home in Texas. It is a blessing to

have them back with us. We also welcome Bro. Brad and Sis. Michelle Baumgartner back to Alto. They have recently moved back to Michigan and will be worshipping with us.

The brothers who have willingly offered their services to us this month were Bro. Marvin Leman (Bradford, IL), Bro. Tom Schrenk (Athens, AL) and Elder Bro. Joe Waibel (Bay City, MI). We appreciate the sincere messages they deliver to us. We thank them and welcome them back at any time.

Bro. Ferd Grawberg is now at the Kent Community Hospital Complex, 750 Fuller N.E., Grand Rapids, MI 49503, for any of you who would like to send Ferd a line.

### 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 March 31, Bro. David Wernli and Sis. Kathleen Miller were joined together as one. Parents of the couple are Bro. Roy and Sis. Betty Wernli (Lamont, KS) and Bro. Glenn and Sis. Margaret Ruegsegger. May the Lord bless these dear ones as they begin their life together. They will be making their home in the Lamont, KS area.

The Lord has blessed our congregation this past month with visiting ministers. We were pleased to have Bros. Roy Wernli (Lamont, KS), Vernon Schwab (Wolcott, IN), Howard Plattner (Wichita, KS), Mark Bahr (Detroit, MI) and Don Gudeman (LaCrosse, IN) with us to minister God's Word.

Our prayers have been with those who have been hospitalized recently. May the Lord continue to be with them. Those hospitalized were Bro. Don (Sis. LouAnn) Wieland, Sis. Nina (Bro. Erwin) Wieland, Albert Wieland, Ronald (Kathryn) Wackerle, Lyle (Rosemary) Wackerle and Sis. Marian (Bro. Robert) Knochel.

May each one of us feel the following prayer in our hearts as we pay tribute to our mothers on Mother's Day.

### A MOTHER'S DAY PRAYER

"Our Father in heaven whose love is divine,  
Thanks for the love of a Mother like mine -

And in Thy great mercy look down from above  
And grant this dear Mother the gift of Your love -  
And all through the year, whatever betide her,  
Assure her each day that You are beside her -  
And, Father in heaven, show me the way  
To lighten her tasks and brighten her day,  
And bless her dear heart with the insight to see  
That her love means more than the world to me."

Helen Steiner Rice

### MICHIGAN, DETROIT

Bev Bahr

As we pause to express our love and gratitude to our fathers on Father's Day, may we ever strive to nurture the precious ties we share with our fathers and pray that God's grace and blessed nearness can always be theirs.

". . . Blessed is the man that feareth the Lord, that delighteth greatly in His commandments." Psalm 112:1.

It is always uplifting to see the work of God's grace revealed in the repentant hearts of men. We are thankful that David Fortenbacher (Bro. Walter and Sis. Margaret) has heeded the call of the Lord. We trust God's grace and guidance will continue to be with David that salvation in its fullness can be his.

We rejoice to see the continuance of God's grace as Andrea Denes (Bro. Frank and Sis. Kosana) has found peace with God and looks forward to her baptism. We trust Andrea and all our converts can feel the support, love and prayers of the brethren.

Our annual Easter program was held on Palm Sunday. It is always heartwarming to hear the story and song of that first Easter long ago. We truly appreciate all the effort and time the students, teachers and choir people put forth.

Sis. Martha Szilagyi and Sis. Jackie Barton have been our hospital patients this month. Our prayers abide with them and their families that they can feel God's strength and nearness in days ahead.

Our congratulations are extended to Lynette Wright and Greg Munsel as they announced their engagement. Lynette's parents are Sis. Shirley and Bro. Gary Wright and Greg's parents are Sis. Delores and Bro. Fred Munsel



(all from Bay City). Lynette is attending college here and we have appreciated her fellowshiping with us. May the blessings of God be with them, trusting that in His grace their love can ever grow.

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**MINNESOTA, MINNEAPOLIS**  
**Barbara Olson**

**GODLY MOTHERS**

Of all the earthly things God gives,  
 There's one above all others:  
 It is the precious, priceless gift  
 Of faithful Godly mothers.

Unknown

With grateful hearts, some of us relive fond memories of such a person. For many, she waits on the shores of glory. For others, her face still smiles in life. How could we ever forget those former years of her faithfulness to the Word and her self-forgetfulness in prayer! We rise up to "call her blessed". And through the shadows of our desperate hours, may her holy influence lead us on toward that heavenly home.

Our visiting minister during the past month was Bro. Duane Metzger (West Bend, IA). We are thankful for his visit and for serving us so well.

Golden Memories - Bro. Gus and Sis. Alma Baum were overwhelmed with the love shown to them on their golden anniversary. They sincerely wish to thank each and everyone who remembered them with cards and gifts.

Thought - No man is poor who has had a godly mother!

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

The time to prepare for a crisis is before, not after, it hits. The time to learn to swim is when the water is calm and shallow, not when the flood tides rage! When you have prepared, the unexpected storms of life can become an occasion to show where your confidence lies. The same sun that hardens the brick, melts the butter. How do we, as Christians, respond when the heat is on? Before the first crisis of your day arrives (and count on it, today will have its share), spend some preparation time with God in prayer and Bible reading. Get God's perspective on your problems. Then we can understand and believe James 1:2, "My brethren,

count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptation".

Bro. Gilbert and Sis. Barb Schmidgall had the joy of becoming grandparents when their granddaughter, Emma Rose Schmidgall, was born to their son, Steve Schmidgall, and his wife, Debbie Weisman (Golden Valley, MN). Kristin Marie is the name that Wayne and Jean Spohr chose for their first child. Her grandparents are Wilbert and Ruth Spohr.

Bro. Eph Koehl, Bro. Bud Nohl, Bro. Gilbert Schmidgall, and Sis. Ruth Koehl all had special needs this month as they were hospitalized.

Our Easter week was very special. We had Bro. Kevin Knapp (Bloomington, IL), Bro. Ken Lawson (Ft. Lauderdale, FL), Bro. Kent Mogler (Minneapolis, MN) and Bro. Noah Gerber (West Bend, IA) with us. It is so good to have our spiritual needs met by these visiting ministers. Elder Bro. Wayne Fehr (West Bend, IA) helped to serve communion April 14. We thank these ministers for their time and efforts.

Patti Schmidgall (Bro. Gene and Sis. Dorothy) is engaged to Troy Wiese. We pray that God will bless them as they make their wedding plans.

Kathy Kussatz and Tony O'Keefe were married April 6. Bro. Earl and Sis. Minnie Kussatz are Kathy's parents. May they include God in their new life together.

The family of Chuck Koehl would like to thank all for their thoughts, prayers, cards and many deeds of kindness. They mean so much and help to lift the burdens and cares of this life. God bless each one.

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**MINNESOTA, WINTHROP**  
**Wanda Messner**  
**Mary Lou Schmidt**

Dear Graduates: As you continue down life's pathway, may you take part of this special poem with you.

Only God knows all the heights, that we on earth can reach;  
 For He has given talent and ability to each.

So let your faith in Him be strong -  
 Believe in yourself too;  
 And there will be no limit to the great things you can do!

Anonymous

The Winthrop senior Bible class has four graduates this year. They are: Paulette Schmidt (Bro. Elmer and Sis.

Hazel), Doreen Schmidt (Bro. Darrel and Sis. Darlene), Mona Bruns (Marvin and Verna) and Sara Messner (Duane and Mona). We pray God will add His special blessings in their future lives!

We extend a hearty thank you to ministering Bro. Don Miller (Minneapolis) and his dear wife, who spent one Wednesday evening church service with us this month. We truly appreciate our visiting ministers, who so willingly give of themselves! We thank them one and all!

What a privileged people we are, to be able to sit in our home church and listen to all the elder brothers that spoke at the annual brotherhood conference. How thankful we should be, that modern technology enables us to hear the many teachings these brothers shared with us; so many months after the conference has passed.

It was so inspiring to see our junior and senior Bible class children working together. They put on a chili supper for the entire church. We certainly want to thank them all for their efforts!

Colleen Howk (Bro. Roy and Sis. Rosie) is engaged to Wayne Waugh (Waterville, MN). Wayne is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Glen Waugh (Waterville, MN). We rejoice with them both, and wish them God's blessings. They are planning a June 15 wedding.

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**MISSOURI, KANSAS CITY**  
**Anna Lou Mattix**

The Lord truly blessed us on March 23 when several brothers representing the Apostolic Christian Work Projects Committee met in our church. This special committee was appointed to investigate the special needs of small congregations and to make recommendations on what might be done to assist them.

Those who attended the meeting were Elder Bros. Nathan Steffen (Elgin, IL), Sam Huber (Sabetha, KS) and Gene Marti (Lamar, MO). Ministers attending were Bros. Tom Leman (Denver, CO), Ed Aeschleman (Philadelphia, PA) and John Klotzle (Altadena, CA). Bro. Allan Herman (Peoria, IL) also attended the meeting.

We very much appreciate the concern and interest of these brothers. Lovely meals were served by Sisters Paula Bahr, Barb Wernli and Carole Kellenberger. We give special thanks to our Elder Bro. Gene Marti, Bro. John Klotzle and Bro. Tom Leman who

stayed to minister to us that weekend.

Also, we wish to thank Bros. Darrel Stoller, Raymond Banwart, Sam Anliker and Kenny Knapp who ministered to us this past month.

On April 13 we gathered together for a clean-up day. We really enjoyed working together and appreciate the efforts of every participant. These clean-up days will be held on a regular basis through the spring and summer months.

Note: Silver Lining dues of \$7.00 are due in May.

### MISSOURI, LAMAR

#### Becky Marti — Janice Braker

What a beautiful time is spring! The earth is so green, tiny seeds come to life, and once again there is that hope of harvest. But even more importantly, we can hope to be a part of that spiritual harvest when Christ comes to claim His own.

We wish to express our best wishes to Bro. Kevin and Sis. Denise Kilgus, who are now assembling with the Elgin, IL brethren. We certainly enjoyed having them with us for a time and wish them God's blessings and guidance in the future.

We want to extend a warm welcome to Bro. Bob Stoller who has recently moved to our area from Eureka, IL. We also wish him God's blessings, and hope he can feel God's nearness. What a precious faith we have, that we can go many miles and still find the same love and fervent desire to serve God faithfully.

"Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old he will not depart from it." Proverbs 22:6. We were gladdened with the birth of little Douglas Paul, son of Paul and Debbie Stefan. Little Douglas has a playmate, Mark, to welcome him home. May God be a present help as they assume the responsibility of raising their family.

Our dear Bro. Dean Marti is in the hospital at this time. We do think of him in prayer and hope he can ever feel God's blessed nearness and healing touch.

We have elected Bro. Jay Braker to fill the vacancy in Sunday school left by Bro. Kevin Kilgus. We certainly pray for our Sunday school teachers called upon to instill and nourish God's precious teachings in the young and tender hearts.

### MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS

#### Becky Gudeman

"There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit."

Romans 8:1

On March 24 we were indeed blessed by the many brothers, sisters and friends who came from Valparaiso to worship with us. We thank Bro. Rod Huber (Valparaiso, IN) and Bro. Kent Heimer (Taylor, MO) for sharing the Word with us on that day.

Services are held the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month at the Ben Franklin Motel, 4645 N. Lindbergh Blvd. We welcome anyone who may be in the area to come and worship with us. Dan and Becky Gudeman (314-275-2227).

### MISSOURI, TAYLOR

#### Loida Hodel — Lori Marquart

"Worship is a necessity, not a luxury."

"Your week's not complete till you make it your goal  
To honor the Lord's day and care for your soul;  
The help that you need for the tasks that you face  
Will come as you worship and draw on God's grace."

D.J.D.

We thank Elder Bros. Nathan Steffen (Elgin, IL), Arthur Bahler (Fairbury, IL) and families who were our spiritual visitors this month. Bro. Art assisted our Elder Bro. Roy in sharing the conclusions of the recent conference held at Lester, IA.

"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, vs. 4

On Palm Sunday we were once again privileged to enjoy verses and song by our Sunday school. The complete story of the old rugged cross and the resurrection was beautifully portrayed from the pre-schoolers through the Bible class. We thank the students and teachers and may God bless them all.

A precious little girl, Heidi Marie,

was born to Bro. Rod and Sis. Barb Heimer March 23. Jesse and Jacob are the little boys in this family and grandparents are Bro. Albert and Sis. Edith Joos (Morris, MN) and Bro. Rod and Sis. Naomi Moser (Wapello, IA).

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

### A NEW DAY! A NEW LIFE!

Each day at dawning we have but to pray  
That all the mistakes that we made yesterday  
Will be blotted out and forgiven by grace,  
For God in His love will completely efface  
All that is past and He'll grant a new start  
To all who are truly repentant at heart—  
And well may man pause in awesome-like wonder  
That Our Father in heaven who dwells far asunder  
Could still remain willing to freely forgive  
The shabby, small lives we so selfishly live  
And still would be mindful of sin-ridden man  
Who constantly goes on defying God's Plan —  
But this is the gift of God's limitless love,  
A gift that we all are so unworthy of,  
But God gave it to us and all we need do  
It to ask God's forgiveness and begin life anew.

Helen Steiner Rice

May God be especially near to our new converts, Rusty and Amy Adrian, who are beginning "A new life in Him", and give them the grace and understanding needed to continue on in this most important step in their lives. Amy's parents are Bro. Robert and Sis. Emma Dee Hoerr.

Little Brian Sutter (Bro. Jim and Sis. Kris) was a hospital patient this month and Sis. Dona Grimm (Bro. Roy) has been receiving treatment for an eye problem. May full recovery be God's will.

### FAITHFUL UNTIL DEATH REMAIN!

1. Faithful until death remain!  
For the crown of life be striving.



Break through bonds of woe and  
pain,  
In His promise e'er confiding  
Which through grace is kept in store  
For thee when thy journey's o'er.

5. Thus our duty is made plain,  
Trusting and in God's abiding.  
Faithful to thy Lord remain;  
Till your eyes in light beholding,  
See prepared there for the blest  
Shining crowns of righteousness.  
Zion's Harp #105

We extend our condolences to Sisters Emma Dee (Bro. Robert) and Ruthie (Bro. Louis) Hoerr at the passing away of their mother, Sis. Carrie Massner (Ft. Scott, KS). May the love and example Sis. Carrie shared with her family and all of us who learned to know her, be a real incentive to be "true and faithful to our God" so someday there can be complete family reunions in heaven.

"Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints."

Psalm 116:15

#### NEW JERSEY, UNION CITY Ed Aeschleman

We were blessed with two visiting ministers, Bros. Kevin Ryan and Everett Gerber (both of Rockville, CT). We also enjoy the warm fellowship with their families and others who came with them. The pure Word lifts us up and gives us courage and strength for each day. God has given us so much to be thankful for.

We are grateful for the warm spring weather and the end of snow, which made it so difficult to get around in the city. The daffodils and some of the flowering bushes and trees are already in full bloom as if to shout out the glory of God.

#### NEW YORK, CROGHAN Alice Virkler

##### A MOTHER'S LOVE

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

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

Joe and Linette Bush have been given the opportunity to give of their love to little Ambrose Joseph who was born March 23. May he bring an added blessing to their family. He will also be loved by his grandparents, Bro. Lowell and Sis. Celia Virkler and Dick and Sandra Bush.

Our congratulations go to Joe Farney and Donna Bush who have announced their engagement. Their parents are Bro. Don and Sis. Alice Farney and Paul and Cindy Bush.

We enjoyed listening to what our Sunday school children have learned about the death and resurrection of our Savior when they presented a short program on Easter Sunday.

We have begun our midweek services for the summer months. They are on Wednesday evenings at 7:30 p.m. and alternate between the Croghan and Naumburg churches. We welcome visitors who might be traveling through our area.

#### NEW YORK, NAUMBURG Rachel Snyder

Sisters Rosella Schulz and Iva Poling are patients this month in the Lowville Hospital. We wish the Lord's strength upon them.

We have enjoyed a covered dish supper, fellowship and song service held in Naumburg church.

We assembled with Croghan to hear the teachings that Bro. Jim Ramsier brought us. It is always so nice when someone visits.

Sister Pearl Colgrove has now entered the extended care facility of the Carthage Area Hospital.

Our midweek services have again started.

#### OHIO, AKRON Joyce Gasser

"I say unto you, Make to yourselves friends of the mammon of unrighteousness, that when ye fail, they may receive you into everlasting habitations." Luke 16:19. If we think of how we can be received into heaven, there is one aspect. Since mammon is riches or money, if we would use it as a friend for the gospel winning the unrighteous to salvation, then they may receive us into everlasting habitations.

A grateful "thank you" is extended to Sis. Joyce Schamback for her untiring and extra efforts to create unusual interest in teaching the youngest Sunday school class. Sis. Barbara Graf has taken her place and we know the Lord is with Sis. Barb in teaching these little ones.

An early Easter morning inspiration and singing, along with a delicious outdoor hot breakfast for some Sunday school classes and their families was made possible through the efforts of Bro. and Sis. Ned Spangler. It was held on the grounds of Elmer Kaufman's cabin.

We were blessed this Easter season to have communion services with Elder Bro. Joe Ramsier and Bro. Henry Dotterer assisting Elder Bro. Eugene Pamer. Bro. Gary Maibach blessed us with a sermon Easter Sunday.

Sis. Bonnie Bako is home from having knee surgery. Mickey Walter is in the hospital. Lisa Henico broke her collar bone at school.

We have a college graduate this spring: Elder Bro. and Sis. Eugene Pamer's daughter, Carol, is graduating from Akron University with a degree in computer science.

Our high school graduates are: Bro. and Sis. Robert Ritzman's daughter, Susan (plans to go to Ohio State University taking architecture); Bro. and Sis. Donald Gasser's daughter, Stephanie (plans to go to Akron University); Bro. and Sis. John Graf's daughter, Julie (plans to go to Akron University); Bro. and Sis. Zoltan Bako's daughter, Sherri (plans to go to Akron University); Bro. and Sis. Richard Baumgartner's daughter, Cheryl (plans to go to college). Eugene and Diane Bako have two sons graduating: John (plans to take engineering at college) and Tom (took extra credits to graduate early and plans next fall to study in Hungary for a year).



## OHIO, COLUMBUS Desma Klopfenstein

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge. Proverbs 1:7

As we approach the end of May, many young students will be preparing to graduate from high schools and colleges all across the country. I'd like to share with them a set of guidelines for living that I came across while reading one day.

Dear Graduate,

Well, you've finally made it. All that hard work is paying off, and you are about to embark on your life's voyage in the working world. Here are some things I hope you'll carry with you on your trip, to make the journey a success.

1. Carry common sense – Book learning is good, but stop and think things through, too.

2. Carry respect for your fellow passengers – We aren't making the journey alone, and it is important to encourage and uplift one another.

3. Carry your load – Responsibility is crucial. It's kinda like doing your homework, so you'll be prepared when the tests come. If there's a hole in the ship and you won't dip out your share or more, someone else must work twice as hard to keep the ship afloat.

4. Carry a compass and follow your guide – How can we reach our destination without knowing the way? If we travel blindly we're bound to crash upon the rocks. So listen to those in charge and follow their instructions. As a matter of fact do it "heartily as unto the Lord", for He must be the one at the helm of our hearts, if we expect to complete a successful voyage. By humbling ourselves and giving it all to Him, we put the wheel, our will, in His capable hands. Then we can be assured of a safe shelter in times of storm, and if we leave Him in control, we are promised a final harbor in His heavenly kingdom.

We would like to thank all of our visitors for their loving fellowship with us during this past month. It was a privilege for us to welcome so many from Rittman on Palm Sunday. Bro. Gary Maibach brought us God's Word in its truth and sincerity. God bless him and his family.

On a final note, we thank the Lord for the safe return of our Bro. Andy Hunyady from his Eastern European trip.

His experiences bring to mind just how much we are blessed materially in this country. Let us continue praising God for His kindness toward us, and pray that we can always rejoice . . . in times of want as well as plenty. This is the example provided for us by many of our brethren in foreign lands.

Let us also be willing to share what we have. Since everything belongs to God, we're simply stewards of what He gives us. May we be wise stewards, sensitive to those in need.

## OHIO, GIRARD Kathryn Emch

This morning we read about the industrious ants (Proverbs 6), and how they work to provide for their colony. They have no captain or overseer, yet each one goes about her duty. There is a lesson here for all mankind.

Montgomery wrote:

Lord Christ, we humbly ask  
Of Thee the power and will,  
With fear and meekness every task  
Of duty to fulfill.

To this I say amen.

We want to express our appreciation to Bro. Paul Gasser for serving in our absence on Easter Sunday. Thanks to all who travel to worship with us.

Sis. Ella Deislinger has a broken rib. We wish her the blessing of comfort and a speedy recovery.

## OHIO, JUNCTION Les Manz

Our thanks are extended to those who visited us this month including Bro. Henry Dotterer (Rittman) and Elder Bro. Loren Stoller who brought us God's Word.

May 1985 will always be special to our high school graduates, Chris Schlatter (the late Bro. Ben and Sis. Esther) and Sis. Millie Manz (Bro. Eli and Sis. Evelyn). As I think of graduation time, I think of the advice King Solomon gave centuries ago in Ecclesiastes 12:12, 13; "And further, by these, my son, be admonished: of making many books there is no end; and much study is a weariness of the flesh. Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep His commandments: for this is the whole duty of man."

Our brethren who were hospitalized this month were Sis. Madeline Manz and Bro. Ben Manz (Sis. Carolyn).

Our sympathy was recently extended to our Sis. Betty Manz (Bro.

Alvin) and her mother, Maude. Sis. Betty's father, John Slane, went to sleep at night never to awaken again in this life. As we see how short life is and how certain death is, we examine anew our standing with God.

## OHIO, LATTY Patty Gerber — Laurie Stoller

Each time you look up in the sky  
Or watch the fluffy clouds drift by,  
Or feel the sunshine warm and bright,  
Or watch the dark night turn to light,  
Or hear a bluebird gayly sing,  
Or see the winter turn to spring,  
Or stop to pick a daffodil,  
Or gather violets on some hill . . .  
Or touch a leaf or see a tree,  
It's all God whispering "This is Me . . .  
And I am Faith and I am Light  
And in Me there shall be no night."

Helen Steiner Rice

As each day dawns, do we remember that in all things rests the loving hands of our Saviour? Even during those darker moments in our lives? Although sickness or injury may not be what we would pray for, apparently it is God's answer in our lives. May we praise the Lord in all things. Those of our congregation meeting with sickness or injury include Bro. Tim Reinhard (Bro. Dan and Sis. Delores); Kala Stoller (Bro. Ray and Sis. Carol); Harlen Riggensbach (Sis. Delores) and Bro. Jim Stoller (Sis. Tam).

Visiting us this month were Bro. Don Manz (Junction) and Bro. Dan Stoller (Remington, IN). We joyfully welcomed these ministering brothers.

Sis. Katherine Rager (Toledo) was laid to rest April 11. Survivors include Sisters Zelma and Emma (Toledo), Sis. Hulda Gerber (Eureka, IL) and a sister-in-law Helen Rager (Paulding, OH). Our prayers and sympathy are extended to these loved ones.

Bro. Dwight and Sis. Lori Stoller welcomed their fourth daughter, Allison Leigh. Carrie, Jenny and Natalie will surely be good playmates. Paternal grandparents are Bro. Wayne and Dorothy Stoller.

"And they twain shall be one flesh: so then they are no more twain, but one flesh." St. Mark 10:8. Lisa Stoller (Bro. Ralph and Sis. Ruth) and Jeff Stykemain (Tom and Judy) were joined together in marriage. May their union be as one with the Lord and we pray that He will direct their daily walk together.

With May approaching, our thoughts drift to those who will be commencing a chapter in their lives, and setting out into a new horizon. High school graduates are Carma Stoller (Bro. Gale and Sis. Janet); Amy Stoller (Bro. Millard and Sis. Erma); Dave Keysor (Bro. George and Sis. Sharon); Jerry Klopfenstein (Bro. Raymond and Sis. Catherine) and Mark Sinn (Bro. Ray and Sis. Ann). Our college graduates include Sis. Rose Mary Eisenmann (Bro. Lee and Sis. Mary); Janice Plummer (Bro. Rex and Sis. Ann) and Sis. Lanna Harmon (Bro. Doug, Toledo).

Our hearts are raised to God on high with thanksgiving for so many things in our life. In May, we give honor to our mothers. "She looketh well to the ways of her household, and eateth not the bread of idleness. Her children arise up, and call her blessed . . ." Proverbs 31:27-28.

#### OHIO, MANSFIELD

Linda Morrison

"They found spiritual joy in doing their duties because they were fulfilling God's purpose for their lives." As we honor our mothers on their special day, may they find spiritual joy in their many and endless duties.

Hospital patients this month were: Bro. Byron (Sis. Sarah) Rice, Bro. Clarence (Sis. Ruth) Pfister, Sis. Martha Mayer and Sis. Hermine Beer. May God's love and grace give them courage in their confinement.

In an engine room it is impossible to look into the great boiler and see how much water it contains. But running up beside it is a tiny glass tube which serves as a gauge. As the water stands in the little tube, so it stands in the great boiler. When the tube is half full, the boiler is half full; when the tube is empty, the boiler is empty. Do you ask: How do I know I love God? I believe I love Him, but I want to know. Look at the gauge. Your love for your brother is the measure of your love for God.

Reminder: June will be collection month for your Silver Lining subscription. Please pay your reporter.

#### OHIO, RITTMAN

Judy Stoller — Verla Stoller

Blest be the tie that binds  
Our hearts in Christian love;  
The fellowship of kindred minds  
Is like to that above.

Before our Father's throne,  
We pour our ardent prayers;  
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one,  
Our comforts and our cares.

We share our mutual woes,  
Our mutual burdens bear;  
And often for each other flows  
The sympathizing tear.

When we asunder part,  
It gives us inward pain;  
But we shall still be joined in heart,  
And hope to meet again.

Hymns of Zion #156

With sad hearts, we bid farewell to our Bro. Marvin and Sis. Nancy Dotterer and their family, as they feel God has directed them to move to another community, Forrest, IL. Many of us gathered together for a farewell potluck supper and singing March 31. We surely will miss their presence, but wish them God's richest blessings in their new home.

Also, two dear sisters have said their final farewell, and passed on from time into eternity. May the families of Sis. Pearl Marty and Sis. Nina Gasser feel the comfort and strength that comes from our heavenly Father in this time of sorrow. Surviving Sis. Pearl are her children, Richard, Dale, Harold, James and Jean Myers; and sisters, Sis. Irene Gasser, Sis. Grace Marty and Selma Henderlong. Surviving Sis. Nina are her husband, Bro. Joe; one son, Edward; one brother, Bro. Carol Ingold; and one sister, Mabel Reusser.

Our prayers are with those who have been in the hospital this past month. They are Bro. Gary Maibach (Sis. MaryAnn), Bro. Rudy Zollinger (Sis. Brenda) and Jim Winkler. We are thankful when they can assemble with us again.

Two families have received bundles from heaven this past month. Mike and Connie Balas rejoice with the birth of a son, Caleb Joseph. Zebulon and Rhea are glad for a playmate. Happy grandparents are Ted and Sis. Rhea Beery. Bro. Randy and Sis. Shirley Miller rejoice with the birth of a daughter, Ashley Joy. Brandon and Paul are glad for a little sister.

"Preach the Word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine." II Timothy 4:2. We thank Bros. Paul Gasser and Ron Palitto (Akron), Bro. Fred Domka (Mansfield), Bro.

Eugene Fetter (Toledo), Bro. Sam Schlatter (Junction) and Bro. Bill Brake (Sardis) for so faithfully bringing us the Word. May God richly bless them for their efforts and labors of love.

April 21 was the beautiful wedding day of Bro. Joe Dotterer (Bro. John and Sis. Betty) and Sis. Rose Hilty (Sis. Ruth). May God richly bless them as they begin this walk of life together.

Remember — May is the month for collection of Silver Lining dues. Please give your \$7.00 to your reporters, Sis. Judy or Sis. Verla Stoller.

#### OHIO, SARDIS

Paula Figel

We certainly gained a blessing this month as our dear friend John Riggenschach (Sis. Hazel) through a true repentance and conversion found peace with God and brought forth his testimony before the congregation. What joy and warmth in the spirit we felt when John rejoiced over what the Lord had done for him. We all felt renewed, and when he stepped out of the watery grave of baptism on Sunday as our brother-in-faith, our cup of love, peace and joy was filled to overflowing. We hope and trust that many more will find their salvation while the door of grace is still open. We want to thank Elder Bro. Joe Ramsier (Rittman, OH) and Elder Bro. Eugene Pamer (Akron, OH) for being here to carry out the necessary duties of the weekend.

I might mention that June 30 is the date set for the annual services in West Virginia. Song services start at 10:30 and afternoon services at 1:00. There will be church at 7:30 in the evening on Saturday, June 29 at Sardis. We look forward to a blessed weekend. All are welcome!

#### OHIO, TOLEDO

Frances Laidig  
Josephine Rehkla

The Lord has again called one of His own, Sis. Kathryn Rager, into eternity at the age of 90 years. Sis. Kathryn has been in our congregation for many years and was always so willing to be of service to others before her health failed. We will miss her. Surviving her are three sisters, Hulda Gerber, Emma Brand and Sally Wenke.

How nice it is to have a special day set aside for our mothers. All of us know that no one understands us better and shares her love more than our

mother. May God bless all mothers everywhere.

Sis. Lydia Meister is in the hospital. We have her in our prayers everyday and hope, if it is the will of our dear Saviour, that she can soon be in our midst again.

Graduating from high school seems like our first big step into the future. May God guide the footsteps of our graduate, Edith Fatter (Bro. Eugene and Sis. Marilyn).

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

**MY MOTHER'S PRAYER**

I never can forget the day I heard my mother kindly say, "your leaving now my tender care; Remember child, your mother's prayer." I never can forget the voice that always made my heart rejoice; Tho' I have wandered God knows where, Still I remember mother's prayer. Tho' years have gone, I can't forget Those words of joy. I hear them yet; I see her by the old arm chair, My mother, dear, in humble prayer. I never can forget the hour I felt the Saviour's cleansing power; My sin and guilt He cancelled there, 'Twas there He answered mother's prayer. Whene'er I think of her so dear, It seems her angel spirit's near; A voice come floating on the air, Reminding me of mother's prayer. Oh praise the Lord for saving grace! We'll meet up yonder, face to face, The home above together share, In answer to my mother's prayer.

Gospel Hymns #808

The weekend of March 23 and 24 we were able to assemble with our Silverton brethren as we enjoyed three visiting elders, Elder Bros. Carl Kinsinger (Altadena, CA), Joe Ramsier (Rittman, OH) and Alfred Bahler (Wolcott, IN). It was a real blessing to all. We enjoyed a potluck dinner after services. May God richly bless each of these dear brothers for the time that they took to come visit us.

On April 12 we again joined the Silverton brethren for a surprise birthday supper for Bro. Ed Knecht. The evening of singing and fellowship was enjoyed by all.

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**OREGON, SILVERTON**  
**Rose Lee Kuenzi**

We were very pleased and thankful to have three of our dear elder brethren with us here in Silverton recently. El-

der Bro. Joe Ramsier (Rittman, OH), Elder Bro. Alfred Bahler (Wolcott, IN) and our own Elder Bro. Carl Kinsinger (Altadena, CA) were with us for a weekend in the latter part of March. The Portland congregation, including ministering Bros. Robert Miller and Garth Steffen joined us for the Sunday afternoon worship service and the church supper that followed.

Bro. Jim and Sis. Joan Dietrich's little Brian was a hospital patient this past week for surgery. He is thankfully up and doing fine again already.

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to Harold Neuswanger and Dorothy Price at the passing of their dear mother, Emma M. Neuswanger April 18. We were reminded during the funeral service of her 24 years of faithful and loving care of her invalid husband . . . keeping the promise of her wedding vows "in sickness and in health" as a much needed example in these times when such vows are too often taken lightly. Emma was 90 years old and preceded in death by her husband, Pete. She also leaves four grandchildren. May they look to God, Who never faileth, for their comfort.

We also wish to extend our love and sympathy to Bro. Ben and Sis. Carolyn Bolliger and family at the recent death of Bro. Ben's brother, Roland. Roland, 56, lived most of his life in the Silverton area and died April 21 after a long illness. In addition to his wife, Mary Ann, and daughter, Brenda, he leaves brothers, Oscar, John and Ben and one sister, Mary Ifft. One brother, Edwin, preceded him in death.

To be blessed with visiting ministers in an "outpost" like Oregon is truly wonderful, but to have two such occasions in less than a month is cause for special thanks. Last weekend, ministering Bro. Edwin Bahler (Remington, IN) and his dear wife, Lois, were with us for Sunday services and our hymn singing in the evening. We appreciate Bro. Edwin's willingness to share the mighty Word of God with us. We are certain that the young people enjoyed the chili supper and evening with Bro. Edwin that was planned by the Sunday school on Saturday night at the church. To use an expression heard by one of the young people themselves when they returned home that night . . . "It was neat!" We are sure Bro. Edwin would know that no irreverence was intended if we echo that statement ourselves.

**PENNSYLVANIA,**  
**PHILADELPHIA**  
**Ann Gasser**

We had a blessed Easter weekend with guests from Illinois, Ohio, Michigan and Connecticut. As always, we appreciate those who demonstrate their love for us by visiting us. Special thanks go to Bro. Dan Stoller (Rockville, CT), his wife, Sis. Diane, and daughter, Dana, with whom we enjoy fellowship.

Two families from Illinois were in the Philadelphia area interviewing for jobs in the construction business. We are pleased that Bro. Fred Hermann (Morton, IL) has accepted a position. He and his wife, Sis. Kathy, and their two children intend to move to Cherry Hill, NJ by late April. They are remembered in our prayers as is the other family, who as of this writing has not made a final decision regarding a job in this area. Our desire is that the Lord's will would be done in the lives of these families and all our loved ones, and that in His way our church in Philadelphia would continue to prosper and grow.

We have a special joy in knowing that our dear friend, Pat Banwart, in sincere repentance, is learning the Lord's will for her life, day by day, step by step.

Our friend, Bess Merz, broke her hip Good Friday while on her way to church. We were glad to hear that she is no longer suffering intense pain and is on her way to recovery.

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**TEXAS, FT. WORTH**  
**Mary Plattner**

Church services were held Easter Sunday in Fort Worth, TX at the Holiday Inn South. This was the first service held in Ft. Worth and 33 were in attendance. Bro. Edwin Hohulin (Goodfield, IL) and Bro. Leland Plattner (Zapata, TX) held the services.

The Dallas-Fort Worth area has drawn many of our friends and some brethren because of the employment opportunities. Many have been transferred to the area.

If anyone was not contacted concerning the services in that area they should write to Leland Plattner, P. O. Box 1374, Zapata, TX, or call (512) 765-5612.

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**TEXAS, ZAPATA**  
**Mary Plattner**

Bro. Ben and Sis. Dot Metzger (Pulaski, IA) are now in Zapata where he



has employment with Bro. Chuck Knobloch. We welcome them and their son, Jeff, to our congregation. Bro. Chuck's brother, Jim (Lester, IA) is also here and has turned his life over to the Lord in repentance. We are certainly glad to have him here.

Sis. Margery Koehl, after living here for six years, has moved to Morris, MN where she will now be making her home. We will certainly miss her in our congregation. Bro. Walter and Sis. Dolly Stoller also sold their household things and have moved back to Burlington, IA. The Stollers were one of the very first residents to settle in Zapata for the winter season. We will miss their smiling faces and the wonderful inspiration they have been to all of us.

Anyone coming south this summer is most welcome and encouraged to contact us in Zapata. We will be having services each Sunday.

Bro. Ernest and Sis. Tillie Kellenberger wish to thank "our dear children, relatives and friends for all the cards and gifts of love on our 60th wedding anniversary". Bro. Ernest and Sis. Tillie were in Elgin, IL where all their children gathered to help them celebrate this momentous occasion.

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**WEST VIRGINIA,  
 NEW MARTINSVILLE**  
 Minnie Weltz

The annual all-day meeting at the country church will be held Sunday, June 30 with the usual order of services. As in former years, lunch will be served at noon, a guest speaker will have a part in the service, assisted by local ministers, and a cordial welcome is extended to all.

The annual meeting of the Apostolic Christian Church Cemetery Association of Limestone Ridge was held April 1 in the home of Minnie Weltz with a goodly number of interested parties attending. Many items were discussed and plans for some improvements were made. Planning the all-day meeting of June 30 made up a large part of the program. Refreshments were served by the Witschey sisters, the Froelich sisters and Martha Potts Moser.

Margaret Witschey, Elizabeth Witschey Hawkins and Naomi Witschey Fankhouser left by plane April 10 for a two-week vacation with their brothers, Ralph and John and families in Dallas and Austin, TX.

James Wade and his wife and son,

who had lived in Cleveland, OH, the past several years, have moved back to New Martinsville, and his mother, Lillie Wade, and brother, Jerry, and family and many relatives are happy to have them back. After open heart surgery two years ago and a major operation last year, he was forced to take early retirement after more than 30 years of service with Ford Motor in Cleveland.

Frank Barth has moved back into his home in Parkersburg after spending the winter months with his children. His health is not good and he is happy to be back home.

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**SILVER THREADS**

"SOWING AND HARVEST"

"Tearful sowing brings glad harvest  
 Where our Master's will is done,  
 When for Him, the Lord of harvest,  
 Through His Spirit fruits are grown.  
 Love, humility and meekness,  
 Faith and patience, purity,  
 Righteousness, although in weakness,  
 Are here found in unity."

"Since our Lord once bore the anger,  
 When He wrought our peace with God.  
 Love is now the only purpose  
 Of the Father's chastening rod."  
 "Then, O Pilgrim, think not lightly  
 Of the Father's chastening;  
 Seek that it may bring you onward,  
 While you're heavenward hastening."

"Soon, perhaps, you too may enter  
 Where the golden harps resound;  
 Where the saints the palms are bearing  
 And the faithful ones are crowned;  
 Therefore, cling to Christ your Savior;  
 Daily wrestle, hope and fight;  
 With Him pierce through all the  
 darkness  
 Into His eternal light."

"If He all your heart is filling,  
 Is the Hope of all your dreams,  
 From your body will be welling  
 Of His grace the brightest beams.  
 All the light of morning breaking  
 Ushers in a joyous day.,  
 So your lips with fervor speaking,  
 Will declare: Christ is the way!"

Zion's Harp #36

**TO THE GRADUATE**

You're reaching the end of your final year,  
 And graduation is almost here.  
 Now a goal you are about to achieve  
 As a diploma you will receive.

What will you do, now that school is through,  
 With the life that lies ahead of you?  
 Do you plan to continue with your education  
 Or have you already chosen your vocation?

Wouldn't you like a friend by your side  
 To walk along and be your guide,  
 Who will be with you every step of the way  
 No matter what changes may come each day?

A friend who will never turn away from you  
 But will be a friend your whole life through,  
 One you can talk to for He's always there  
 And is willing to help your burdens to bear.

Then turn to Jesus. He is such a friend,  
 Who will abide with you till the end.  
 He can take the burden of guilt away  
 For the price of sin He already did pay.

He died on the cross for everyone  
 And when He arose the vict'ry was won.  
 He paid the price for you and me  
 So we have the choice to now become free.

We can go His way or shun His course,  
 But to shun it only leads to remorse.  
 To follow Him is the better way  
 And the only way to reach heaven some day.

Anonymous

**GOD'S WAYS**

I asked for grace to lift me high  
 Above the world's depressing cares;  
 God sent me sorrows - with a sigh  
 I said, "He has not heard my prayers".

I asked for light, that I might see  
 My path along life's thorny road;  
 But clouds and darkness shadowed me  
 When I expected light from God.

I asked for peace that I might rest  
To think my sacred duties o'er,  
When, lo! such horrors filled my breast  
As I had never felt before.

"And, Oh!" I cried, "can this be prayer  
Whose plaints the steadfast mountains  
move?  
Can this be Heaven's prevailing care?  
And, O my God, is this thy love?"

But soon I found that sorrow, worn  
As duty's garment, strength supplies  
And out of darkness meekly bourne  
Unto the righteous light doth rise.

And soon I found that fears which  
stirred  
My startled soul God's will to do,  
On me more lasting peace conferred  
Than in life's calm I ever knew . . .  
Author Unknown

### JUST FOR MOM

When I was a tiny tot,  
A problem, this I know.  
I brought you many headaches,  
And I caused you grief and woe.

For years you cared for me, but now  
My baby days are through —  
And turn-about's fair play, dear Mom,  
Now I'll take care of you.

It always makes me happy when  
I find some little thing  
That perhaps may make you happy —  
Make you laugh and want to sing.

But no matter what I do for you,  
I know 'twill never be  
Enough to ever pay you back  
For what you've done for me.

The years are swiftly rolling by,  
And gray is in your hair;  
Don't think that I don't know, Mom,  
That I helped to put it there.

But as long as God permits me  
To stay beneath the blue,  
I'll do my best to show you, Mom,  
How much I care for you.

### A MOTHER'S PRAYER

As I read the Bible early  
In the quiet morning hour  
Gentle whisperings greet me surely  
It's the children waking now.

Yesterday 'twas gentle cooing  
Then a cry of hunger, loud  
Today it's whispering as they waken  
Floating toward me like a cloud.

Seems so fast they've grown, Dear  
Jesus,  
Precious then and precious now,  
Guide my falt'ring hands to teach them  
All the things thou dost allow.

There are trying times in teaching  
For I'm weak as you well know  
But with grace from up above, Dear  
Lord  
I know that I can grow.

I can grow like mustard seeds do, Lord  
Tho' small and weak to start  
If You energize my spirit  
And put Love into my heart.

If I try to teach them all alone,  
Put trust in what I know,  
All my efforts will be failures  
As I walk on earth below.

So I'm looking up now, Jesus,  
As I hear them run to play  
These dear children that you've given  
Help me teach them every day.

For I love them — and I love Thee  
And I hope somehow they'll see  
That their Mother gets all strength and  
grace  
By leaning hard on Thee.

Jackie Huber

### HOME

How God must love a friendly home  
Which has a warming smile  
To welcome everyone who comes  
To bide a little while!

How God must love a happy home  
Where song and laughter show  
Hearts full of joyous certainty  
That life means ways to grow!

How God must love a loyal home  
Serenely sound and sure!  
When troubles come to those within,  
They still can feel secure.

How God must love a Christian home  
Where faith and love attest  
That every moment, every hour,  
He is the honored Guest!  
Gail Brook Burket

### TO MY GROWN-UP SON

My hands were busy through the day  
I didn't have much time to play  
The little games you asked me to  
I didn't have much time for you.

I'd wash your clothes, I'd sew and cook  
But when you'd bring your picture  
book  
And ask me please to share your fun,  
I'd say: "A little later, son."

I'd tuck you in all safe at night  
And hear your prayer, turn out the  
light,  
Then tiptoe softly to the door . . .  
I wish I'd stayed a minute more.

For life is short, the years rush past . . .  
A little boy grows up so fast.  
No longer is he at your side,  
His precious secrets to confide.

The picture books are put away,  
There are no longer games to play,  
No good-night kiss, no prayers to  
hear . . .  
That all belongs to yesteryear.

My hands, once busy, now are still.  
The days are long and hard to fill.  
I wish I could go back and do  
The little things you asked me to.  
Author Unknown

*Thanks, Mom!*



### Sermon . . .

(Continued from Page 36)

for an answer and we look for help. We pray to God, "Who art Thou, Lord?" We can feel as Saul felt and also hear, "I am Jesus whom thou persecutest." Acts 26:15.

The love, the compassion, and the mercy of God that speaks to the hearts of everyone who turns to Him, goes

beyond telling, beyond comprehension and beyond understanding, beloved ones, when we stand in the light of the Truth.

When we realize that we have been persecuting God in our unconverted life and feel burdened and condemned in the light of that guilt, the Lord comes to us which came to Saul, "But rise, and stand upon thy feet: for I have appeared unto thee for this purpose, to make thee a minister and a witness both of these things which thou hast seen, and of those things in the which I will appear unto thee." Acts 26:16.

There is no less commission given to us, beloved ones all, than was given to Saul on the way to Damascus for we are all ministers. We are all called upon to go forth and to praise God with our lives, to do His will, and to be a light and an example wherever we are, brightening that corner where we are.

We are to do the Lord's will always. Not just on Wednesday night. Not just on Sunday. Not just when we think we might meet one of our brothers or sisters, but all of the time. It isn't something that we can slip off like a jacket or coat when that day gets a little too warm, and we want to be unencumbered. Following the Lord is not an encumbrance; it is a precious and wonderful opportunity. God in His infinite love and mercy, as we stood condemned, made a wonderful revelation to us through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Paul was told to go to the Gentiles, "To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me (Jesus Christ)." Acts 26:18.

Dear ones, with my own ears I have heard individuals say, "I cannot repent; I have sinned too much. I have gone too far." What is impossible for God? What sin did He not know of and did He not send His Son to die for? Though our sins were as scarlet, though they were red like crimson, the blood of Jesus Christ in the everlasting covenant can make them white as snow.

Paul got up, blind though he was, and was led into Damascus. We know of his experience there. A man named Ananias was called upon by God to go and lay his hands upon Paul. That individual was told that he would find Saul in prayer.

That is one of the best things to do, dear friends, when you find yourself at this juncture. Wherever you may be, by the grace of God, pray. There will certainly come to you, according to the promise of this Word, a new day of light, a new day of truth, and a new day of beauty.

Beloved ones, from the time of Paul's conversion until he was martyred, it did not matter what he faced. The driving force of the good Holy Spirit was within him; he did not turn back, and he never renounced the Lord. He gladly and willingly followed Him all through his life. He said that he was continually pressing "toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." Philippians 3:14.

That's how we are to go forward, dear ones, pressing toward that mark of our high calling through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Paul had many moving experiences. He wrote of so many occurrences that we could talk about. Oh, how wonderful this chapter is that is open for us today! How wonderful that we receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among the redeemed of God.

Oh, beloved ones, he said here, "I was not disobedient unto the heavenly vision." Acts 26:19. He showed them "that they should repent and turn to God, and do works meets for repentance." Acts 26:20.

May God grant us grace to hold close to our hearts the commission that was given to Paul and to all of us. May our lives radiate what we found so wonderful, so beneficial, and so precious.

There was undoubtedly a room full of people whom Paul was addressing here - guards, courtesans and what not, but in particular, he spoke to two very, very powerful men. I believe that Festus was a great deal like Pontius Pilate when Pontius Pilate listened to Jesus. I believe that they were much more impressed with the simplicity of the testimonies that were given to them than they really wished to admit. They felt that such an admission would cause them to lose favor with their fellow Roman citizens. I feel that King Agrippa, who had been schooled in these things and therefore knew what Paul was talking about, felt very deeply moved.

Sometimes, precious friends, I like to speak to you personally. Right now, wherever you are and whoever you are in this congregation tonight, I want to

tell you that so often we would like to perhaps "shake it into you" a little how wonderful it is to serve the Lord. After all the experiences you have made in your life, after all the preaching you have heard, after all the times you have read the Word, after all the precious fellowship that you have not exactly been part of but have certainly observed, after all that has been sent your way by the blessing of God, there comes a time, dear ones, when we would just like to know: "Don't you believe?"

We know that you must believe. Paul said to Agrippa, "I know that thou believest." Acts 26:27. Beloved ones, would you say as Agrippa said, "Almost thou persuadedest me to be a Christian?" Acts 26:28.

We sing a hymn about it which always brings tears to my eyes because almost is not enough. "'Almost' cannot avail, 'Almost' is but to fail!" And the very last words of that hymn: "Sad, sad, that bitter wail, 'Almost', but lost!"

Paul said (and don't we, brothers and sisters, all say as we weep and pray for our friends), "I would to God, that not only thou, but also all that hear me this day, were both almost, and altogether such as I am, except these bonds." Acts 26:29.

In other words, we wish for them the blessing of abiding in Jesus, the blessing of sharing a hope of eternal life and the blessing of being one with Jesus as children of God, not almost, but altogether.

Beloved brothers and sisters, what's the best way for us to help that to come to pass? It is to be true, faithful, joyful and happy in the Lord in our precious faith.

The sub-heading here said, "Paul's conclusion." The conclusion is that everything that we do should point the way to the Lord. Every action, every word, every thought that we have should glorify, praise and honor our Lord Jesus.

Beloved ones, the wish that we share for all of God's creation is that they might come to the knowledge of the truth, and live. We believe that it is God's work and God's alone. It cannot be our work, but our part, our instrumentality in that great and wondrous plan of God will be more fully completed if we are wholly committed to Him.

May God grant us the grace to that end.



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## SERMON BY BRO. GARY MAIBACH OF RITTMAN, OHIO

Text: Acts 26

At the close of this chapter, we read that King Agrippa was personally inclined to free Paul, but was unable to do so because Paul had appealed to Caesar. Purely in the realm of speculation, we may wonder where he might have gone and what he might have done if he had not. But this we know, beloved ones all, Paul was a great lion of God.

Paul was a servant in the hands of God, and, wherever he might have gone, he would have done the will of God. He would have served the Lord with gladness. He would have listened to the still small voice which came to him. He would have listened and followed its prompting no matter what was against him. Until this time, beloved ones, he had certainly suffered much.

The Scripture tells us that there were very difficult times, dear ones, when Paul was very nearly dead. He was beaten or imprisoned simply because he told the truth, because he treasured that which he had received in Damascus.

As Paul began his testimony before these noble personages, he told them that according to the Jewish law he had been a perfect individual. But, beloved ones, in various epistles that he wrote, Paul said that he counted those things as dung. They were as nothing to him because they did not give any hope of eternal life. It didn't matter how perfectly he had accomplished all the things that were contained in the old law. He was zealous . . . but he was zealously wrong.

Many of us (and I include myself) came to a time when we had to admit in all humility that we were zealously wrong, and that we were zealously going the wrong way. Those things that we lent ourselves to, engaged ourselves in, and pursued with such vigor were wrong for us. We were, in fact, going

exactly opposite from the way that God wanted us to go.

Often, beloved ones, we are caught up in things that we have persuaded ourselves are right, but which are wrong. Of course, the enemy of all righteousness delights in such a state of mind, and does all that he can to prevent our coming to the knowledge of the truth that we might live.

The persecution that Paul had committed which he outlined here seems a terrible thing. But if we examine the Word of God and apply it to our hearts, don't we, each one of us, have to say that we also were or are guilty of persecution? That seems a difficult thing to come to grips with.

Here was a man who had been given great authority. By his own admission, he had caused people to blaspheme, had put them into prison, and had consented to their deaths. We know that the coats of those who stoned the first martyr, Stephen, were laid at the feet of this same Saul. He consented to that death. He admitted persecuting the church.

Then, we might ask, "How can that be my lot?" You friends, perhaps, might ask, "How can it be that I am persecuting the church or Jesus Christ the way that this man said he did?"

Beloved ones, if we had been able to look upon Jesus on the cross and had looked into His eyes, I don't believe that we could have said anything else but that, indeed, when we lived in sin and not for the Lord, our lives were anything short of persecution. For God loved us so much that when we were still in our sins, He sent His Son to die for us.

The experience that Saul made on the way to Damascus was profoundly moving, wonderful and precious. It is an experience that each one must make if we are to have in our hearts a living hope of eternal life.

Paul went to Damascus with authority to persecute the early Christians. He was going zealously according to the dictates of his own mind and his own heart. In other words, loved ones all, he was going where every sinner has always gone, the way of destruction, the way of the world, the way of self.

I had a dream once in which I was standing by my own grave, weeping and weeping and weeping, because I knew that if that was my grave, I was gone and had no hope. I awoke a troubled young man, but I couldn't turn to the Lord because I let self get in the way. I was still in high school. I had friends to consider. I had things to do and places to go. There were other times when the call came, when the pricks and the prods came. There were times when I very nearly didn't make it, but God was good to me. Every experience is different, but we have all been resisting as Paul was.

While still known as Saul, that light shone around him and the Lord asked him, "Why persecutest thou me? It is hard for thee to kick against the pricks." Acts 26:14.

Can you imagine what it was like as that light was around him, and he was blinded? I don't doubt that he was terrified because flooding over him was the realization of what he had been doing.

Beloved ones, every individual, when the full weight of the guilt of sin floods over him, must feel totally and completely lost. When we realize what we have really done with Jesus and what we have really done with our great God in heaven, we ask, "Who art Thou, Lord?"

Then we are in a condition that we can't be thankful enough for. When we feel our burden of guilt, the debt of sin, and the sentence of death which we deserve because of those sins, we look

(Continued on Page 34)