



"And when they were come to a place, which is called **Calvary**, there they crucified him . . ."
Luke 23:33

"And **Jesus** cried with a loud voice, and gave up the ghost."
Mark 15:37

The Seven Words of Jesus on the Cross

- 1. Out onto Calv'ry's hill,
Where Jesus died I'll go,
To hear the words He speaks,
To see Him in His woe.*
- 2. How great the pains, O Lord,
Afflict Thee on this day;
"My God, my God," He calls,
"Forsake Me not, I pray."*
- 3. No vengeance fills His heart;
For them I hear Him plead;
"They know not what they do;
Forgive them for this deed."*
- 4. Now Mary weeps for Him;
In love He soothes her lot;
"See, mother, thine own son!"
"Thou friend, forsake her not!"*
- 5. The thief in penitence
Is pardoned ere he dies:
"Today shalt thou yet be,
With Me in Paradise."*
- 6. "I thirst," He cries in pain,
For there is no distress,
Which Christ, the Friend of Man,
Endured not at His death.*
- 7. He bows His head and cries,
"Tis finished, all is done,
O God, receive my soul."
Life's victory is won.*

Zion's Harp #89

"He is not here, but is risen."

Luke 24:6

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S HOME

Uriel Gehring

Time is, and we march on to new horizons. We establish new goals, make new friends and hold fast to the old. We are introduced to new ideas and ideologies. All of these are part of our exciting venture through life. God has so ordained, in this great land of ours, that every phase of life has its challenging and motivating opportunities. How we meet, accept and utilize these opportunities, determines our happiness in this world and in the world without end to come. Being the Creator of the mind of men, God is fully cognizant of man's need for challenge and accomplishment. He understands the need for us to be creative and productive, and He supplies us with that need — a ready heart and a willing mind to believe and to do His will. If we find grace to do this, happiness is our lot, for it is written, "Yea, happy is that people whose God is the Lord." Psalms 144:15.

At the Home we endeavor to give our children the opportunity to be creative and productive, according to their abilities. They all have assigned duties that help them establish a sense of responsibility, a feeling of accomplishment and a sense of belonging. We all need that sense of belonging. The children are encouraged to participate in 4-H projects and extra-curricular activities offered by the public schools. They help plan activities around the Home. We want them to feel they are part of our family. When they are old enough, they are gainfully employed in the community. They attend Sunday school and take part in Sunday school

activities. We feel all these participations are in preparation for the great step into the real world. We have the awesome responsibility of providing them with the proper environment and atmosphere to prepare them for adulthood. Continue to pray for us. We need your continued support.

We have a new boy in the West House, Tom D., 11, from the Fort Wayne area. He is ambitious and energetic, and we look forward to many good things happening during his stay with us. There are now eight children in the West House, representing six different home backgrounds. Kara H., Beth H. and Mike T. are taking piano lessons. It's so encouraging to hear them practicing. Sis. LeAnn Wulf, assistant houseparent at the West House, is beginning her fourth year with us. We appreciate her dedication to the children and her sweet contribution to the atmosphere of the Home. May the Almighty reward her in His own special way. We appreciate our entire staff.

We have two Shetland ponies at the Home, thanks to Bro. John Heiniger of the LaCrosse congregation. They have been frisking around the barn with Dude, our other horse. Frolicking horses are harbingers of spring. We also have four young calves, and a cow with a new baby calf to round out our present residents in the barn. The children learn much from caring for animals and watching them grow.

As the children get off the school bus and wend their way up the lane, I am always thankful for the opportunities they have had that day. In school they have the advantage of many learning experiences. They come home to some help with their homework at the class-

room from "caring" supervision and then go to their respective houses for a delicious, nutritious supper. Our children are fortunate because you, our supporters, are willing to care and share. May God bless you.

Four of our present staff members celebrated birthdays in March: Judy L. on the 14th, Cheri B. on the 20th, Tim S. on the 28th and LeAnn W. on the 29th; as well as resident Laura C. on the 28th. Happy birthday to all of you, and many happy returns.

The most recent presentation by this writer about the Home was a slide presentation at Tremont, IL, in the fellowship hall Saturday evening, March 7. Any church wanting a presentation should contact the Home. Presentations are usually given after the afternoon service in the sanctuary. A slide presentation is available for other settings.

The annual meeting of representatives will be Saturday, April 25, at 10:00 a.m. at the Home.

THE SILVER LINING

Grabill, Indiana 46741
USPS 496780

EDITORIAL STAFF:

David Bertsch
Uriel Gehring
Lynn Stieglitz

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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David Bertsch, Phillip Stettner

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IN MEMORY — EDITORS:
HENRY SOUDER
EDWARD SOUDER

ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS . . .

- Do you have experience and interest in working with children?
- Are you looking for a new challenge?
- Would you like to integrate your faith with your work?

If your degree and experience are related to work with children with learning, behavioral or emotional problems, consider the Counseling Position at the Apostolic Christian Children's Home. Degrees related to education or the social services may qualify in addition to social work, psychology or counseling degrees.

For more information on this rewarding opportunity, please contact Bro. Tim Sauder, Administrator, A.C.C.H., P. O. Box 151, Leo, IN 46765.

Your brothers in faith,
The Children's Home
Board of Directors

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

Our March activities were thoroughly enjoyed by all, and now the talk is about Easter, and coloring eggs and making Easter cards. What a blessed time it will be to celebrate the resurrection of our dear Jesus. The following poem expresses some of the happy feelings we share at this time of year:

EASTER FLOWERS

Easter, so beautiful! Glorious, skies seem forever blue,
 As all nature, revived and pulsating, bursts forth anew,
 Symbolizing, through each tiny seed rising up from the sod,
 The glorious resurrection of Christ, the Son of God.
 Eastertime means life anew, and we, just like the flowers,
 Redeemed shall rise from the dust, Eternal life is ours!

The following people will be enjoying April birthdays: Jane Kohler, 1; Velma Hoffman, 4; Jason Gingrich, 7; Sonja Metzger, 14; Mark Gundy, 17; Jaleen Mogler, 18; Kennan Knapp, 19; Miriam Schulz, 24; Steve Steffen, 26; and Nancy Jones, 27.

Those residents who can, and are registered in Tazewell County, will exercise the privilege of voting April 6.

The Parents' Meeting is scheduled for April 25. The residents usually

enjoy presenting a small program for that occasion, so we hope we'll have a good attendance.

We have two more travelogues to look forward to. The one in April will be about Israel. It will be the 28th.

We wish to say "thank you" again to all the wonderful volunteers who help make our programs and outings special, and may God bless you all.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL OF ATHENS, AL Marilyn Walder

We want to welcome Sis. Joan Meister (Peoria, IL) to our Preschool staff. She will be working part time as a teacher's aide. We appreciate her willing attitude and the love she shows the children. We pray that she will learn from the children as she works here and will be blessed through this experience. We were made aware once again of the perfectness of God's timing. Sis. Joan came at the beginning of March and Sis. Laura Haggemaker will be leaving at the end of March. Sis. Laura is a college student and plans to go to school full time so that she can complete her degree. We wish her the best and thank her for the love and enthusiasm she has displayed to the children and staff.

We had Parent/Teacher conferences during the past month. A skills checklist was completed for each child by his/her teacher and then discussed with the parents. We received many

good comments about our school and curriculum. Conferences give us an opportunity to talk individually with each parent and to get to know them better. We pray that they can see the Spirit of God within us and see that our top priority is to serve God.

The parents have worked hard selling glazed donuts for a money-making project. They sold over 650 dozen donuts for a profit of almost \$700! We have purchased a used vacuum sweeper and plan to buy a new heavy duty swing set. A yard sale is planned for March 20. We hope to make more money to use for extras during the next school year.

We still have a need for summer volunteers. Let us know of your plans as soon as possible.

ALABAMA, ATHENS Marilyn Walder

"A new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another." John 13:34-35. We can feel the love of our fellow believers as we assemble together. We have had many visitors again during the past month. Elder Bros. Robert Beyer (Naumburg, NY), Joe Stoller (Princeville, IL) and Bros. Tom Schrenk (Alto, MI), Earl Kilgus (Remington, IN), Nate Stoller (Bradford, IL) and Jack Bollier (Leo, IN) brought us the Word of God. We enjoyed their messages and the love brought to us from them and their wives. We have had other visitors from Chicago, Champaign, Eureka, Good-

TEACHER NEEDED AT ATHENS, AL PRESCHOOL

There is a need for a teacher at the Athens, AL, Preschool. Any sister interested should first discuss the need with her local church elder. The next contact would be the Athens Preschool Administration, Elder Bro. Lavoyd Moore, for further details. It is preferred that the sister be a certified teacher; however, any sister with teaching training or experience would be considered. We want to express our thanks to Sis. Evie Blunier for her labor of love in working with the preschool children of Athens for these 2½ years.

Athens Pre-School Board

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN BIBLE DISTRIBUTION

Bibles Distributed by our Churches

First Year — August 1983 thru July 1984 — 13,890
 Second Year — August 1984 thru July 1985 — 10,812
 Third Year — August 1985 thru July 1986 — 18,247

Bibles Distributed — Fourth Year

| | MONTH | TO DATE |
|------------------|-------|---------|
| August 1986 — | 1729 | 1729 |
| September 1986 — | 865 | 2594 |
| October 1986 — | 1667 | 4261 |
| November 1986 — | 1565 | 5826 |
| December 1986 — | 2651 | 8477 |
| January 1987 — | 1113 | 9590 |
| February 1987 — | 1785 | 11375 |
| March 1987 — | 3135 | 14510 |

NOTE: Sets of Braille Bibles are available to give to the blind and KJV, Old and New Testament, on cassette tapes for those who can no longer read the large print. Also, pocket testaments with Psalms and Proverbs are available.

field, Princeville, Bloomington, Cissna Park, Bradford and Tremont, IL, Atlanta, GA, Rittman, OH, Morris, MN, Pulaski, IA and Bluffton, IN. We always enjoy our visitors and the love they extend to us is deeply appreciated.

We extend a warm welcome to Sis. Joan Meister (Peoria, IL) as she has moved to be a part of our congregation. She will continue her college education at the University of Alabama in Huntsville next fall. We appreciate the love and enthusiasm she has already shown and pray that God will bless her life as she continues to seek His will.

Our sympathy is extended to Bro. Ed and Sis. Louise Haggenmaker and family at the death of Sis. Louise's mother. May God comfort them in their sorrow.

Hospital patients have been Bro. Albert Martin, Sis. Doris Moore (Bro. Lavoyd), Sis. Ora Massey and Sonya Kelley. We pray that God will give them strength and health according to His will.

May we each continue to live according to God's will and seek to know Him better each day. He has given us so much and we should be grateful and always mindful that ". . . For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required . . ." Luke 12:48.

ARIZONA, PHOENIX
Ron and Ev Hoerr

Looking for that blessed home and the glorious appearing of the great God

and our Saviour Jesus Christ (Titus 2:13). We heard sermons that fed the soul from Elder Bros. Joe Waibel (Bay City, MI), Willis Ehnlé (Shioda, Japan), Nathan Steffen (Elgin, IL) and Bros. Wayne Miller (Fort Scott, KS), Jim Leman (Roanoke, IL), Todd Feller (La-Crosse, IN) and Eugene Metzger (Lester, IA). While we are thankful to each of the above ministers and their help-mates, we extend a special thank you to Bro. Joe and Sis. Elizabeth Waibel. We are grateful these two dear souls have family connections in Phoenix (Bro. Herb and Sis. Joanne Knochel) and for making the long journey at such a tender age.

The last Sunday in February there was a large gathering at the church potluck supper which was followed by a singing.

Bros. Dick Beery and John Kauffman made world relief trips to Mexico. Four couples from Juarez, Mexico, were here for a Saturday night singing and Sunday services.

We give thanks unto the Lord for His healing and comforting hands on surgical patients, Sisters Shirley Zollinger, Laverne Roth, Dorothy Kraft and Marjorie Frautschi, the latter having had eye surgery. We always give special thanks when loved ones who have been ill are back in church, such as Sis. Lois Beres, Sis. Emma Sanders, Sis. Katherine Laukhuf, Sis. Frances Schrenk, Shayne Pulfer, Bro. Harry Roth and Bro. Alvin Laukhuf. Our prayers go

heavenward for Bro. Alex Gutwein who was injured in a skiing accident near Flagstaff and was hospitalized there the middle of March.

Bro. Harry and Rachel Roth extend their gratitude for the cards and gifts bestowed upon them for their 50th wedding anniversary.

Our congregation has been blessed with many, many visitors and we have truly enjoyed and benefited from those visits. Though our weather included wind, rain, snow and funnel clouds, we have seen many beautiful colored birds and their singing has been superb. The Lord does surely know our needs when He has the birds singing, the lizards scurrying, the trees and the flowers blooming.

We extend Mother's Day greetings to Mothers and special Aunts.

There's nothing more precious
Than a mother's sweet prayer
There's nothing more gracious
Than the love she will share.
There's nothing as strong
As the faith she declares;
And when things go wrong
We know that she cares.

C. Harrison

ARIZONA, PRESCOTT

Doug Schmidgall — Ethel Smith

We were privileged to meet together for worship Sunday, February 22. We thank Bros. Loren Knapp (Tucson) and Doug Wagenbach (San Diego, CA) for their willingness to be with us and minister God's precious Word. We appreciate all who make the effort to gather with us and hope the Lord will

ARE YOU LISTENING?

OPPORTUNITY AT THE CHILDREN'S HOME

If the Lord has continued to prick your heart with conviction each month as you read this ad, please pray about being the Alternate Houseparents at the Children's Home. There is an immediate opening for a mature and committed couple to serve in this full-time position.

This is a challenging and rewarding opportunity for a couple to work as a team with a dedicated and unified staff of fellow brothers and sisters as they strive to meet the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of abused, neglected and disturbed children. (James 1:27)

Interested couples are encouraged to write or call any of the brothers listed below for more information concerning qualifications, responsibilities, salary and benefits.

Your servants in Christ,
The Children's Home
Board of Directors

Bro. Tim Sauder
Box 151
Leo, IN 46765
219/627-2159 or
219/627-2606

Bro. Phil Gutwein
Box 55, Route 1
Medaryville, IN 47957
219/843-1761

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

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AT ATHENS, AL PRESCHOOL SUMMER PROGRAM

The Apostolic Christian Preschool needs a volunteer for the summer program for the school-age children. Some background is helpful but not required. Any sister or brother who is interested can contact Sis Evie Blunier at 204-233-0591 or Route 11, Athens, AL 35611. We also need volunteers to come for at least one or two weeks, if possible, to help with the Preschool children. Accommodations are available.

share unto them the blessings we felt in our time together.

With several family members and friends in the Prescott area, Bro. Wayne Miller (Fort Scott, KS) consented to hold a short mid-week service Thursday evening, February 26. We thank Bro. Wayne as this was our first time to gather for a mid-week service. We felt the extra blessing and strength of gathering around God's Word and singing hymns to His honor and glory.

Congratulations are expressed to

Roy Massner and Fern Carrol on their recent marriage February 15. They plan to make their home in Prescott and we wish them the Lord's blessings.

"For He saith to the snow, be thou on the earth..." Job 37:6. Silently in the night approximately 30 inches of snow fell on Prescott, making the world stand still — causing us all to pause from our daily activities. It was truly a wondrous beauty and gave one the feeling of peace and tranquility to behold the glistening wonder. Even the ugly areas of the city were made beauti-

ful when covered with a blanket of snow and so it says in Isaiah 1:18, "Though thy sins be as scarlet they will be whiter than snow." This is a wonderful promise. Snow is mentioned many places in the Bible in reference to purity and sin. A few verses from the poem, *The Snow*, written by the late Bro. Henry Beer, describe very well the snow that came and left so quickly under the warmth of the sun.

The Snow through the night had been falling;
as Morn broke anew with the light
The fields and the trees, and the hilltops
were robed in a garment of white.

The snowflakes themselves are a wonder,
Just view them with close, watchful eye.
Within them are figures fantastic,
Which come from the dark clouded sky.

The snow as it falls is quite silent,
unlike the strong dashing of rain.
The snow is piled high in its drifting,
The rain goes in floods to the main.

The color of snow is a symbol
of purity, virtue and worth,
It falls as a sweet benediction
from Heaven down on the earth...

We appreciate visitors and welcome anyone who could arrange to be in the area to fellowship and worship with us. Church services are generally scheduled the first Sunday of the month at 2063 Thumb Butte Road, Prescott. For more information and to let us know your plans, you may call Bro. Harvey and Sis. Ethel Smith (602) 778-6130 or (602) 445-2164.

ARIZONA, TUCSON

Sandy Bauer — Lisa Knapp

We were privileged to host an ACYF for California and Phoenix Sunday school students and teachers February 14 and 15. We say thanks to those who came and made the weekend a special one.

Visiting us recently was Bro Alpha Strahm, Jr. (Bern, KS). We are thankful for our many ministering brothers and the sacrifices they make. We are truly grateful to those who are willing to travel the long distance to our small congregation and bring us God's Word.

SISTER NEEDED TO TEACH IN JAPAN

Dear Brothers and Sisters-in-the-Lord,

We send you warm greetings of love in Jesus name. Our precious Word tells us, "... the prayer of a righteous man availeth much...". And we are so appreciative of the prayers many of you breathe for the brethren, friends and work here in Japan.

We write you today with a specific need we wish to share, however. As many of you know, our church operates two basic outreach programs here in Japan: an English school and a private kindergarten. And our need today has to do with finding a sister to teach in our kindergarten.

The Shioda-American kindergarten is located in the country about one and a half hours drive from the western suburbs of Tokyo. It is a 2-year comprehensive, Christian-based English kindergarten program for 32 Japanese children. This program has served area children for nearly 20 years, and our Lord who knows all and sees all has continued to provide for our needs.

Over the years our system has developed to include a classroom for 16 four-year-old entering students and a classroom for 16 five-year-old second year students. God directed, willing sisters have been offering services for these precious children on a two-year or longer rotation plan. The sisters' transportation to and from America, housing, health insurance, a monthly expense stipend (approximately \$600), a domestic travel package (approximately \$450) and an annual bonus (approximately \$600) are provided.

Sis. Sheila Moser (Lester, IA) will be completing 3 years of service in July, and is scheduled to return to the States. Therefore, we are praying for God to provide another willing sister to teach. We are searching for a sister who:

1) Is a mature Christian woman and a sister in good standing with the church.

2) Feels she is unquestionably led by the Father for humble service.

3) Holds a bachelors degree in education in the fields of either English as a second language, elementary education, special education, speech pathology, early childhood education or a related field.

4) Is an individual that is flexible, willing to begin studying/using a foreign language and is able to fully support a church which is located in a different culture and a country with less than a 1% Christian population.

We would like to leave you with several scriptural passages:

— Luke 1:37; With God all things are possible.

— Isaiah 6:8; I heard the voice of the Lord saying, whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I, send me.

— Matthew 28:18; Go ye therefore unto all nations, teaching them all things whatsoever I have commanded you, baptizing them in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost. And lo I will be with you always even unto the end of the world.

If the spirit is speaking to your heart today, we beg you to confer with your local elder, who in turn will contact our Missionary Committee representative, Elder Bro. Ben Maibach. He will then contact the team here in Japan. If you do have questions concerning your role here or any other details, feel free to contact us. If you are not eligible for this position, we humbly ask for your sincere prayers.

Your needy servants in the Lord,

Randy Mogler
Willis R. Ehnle

"And he spake this parable unto them, saying,

"What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he lose one of them, doth not leave the ninety and nine in the wilderness, and go after that which is lost, until he find it?

"And when he hath found it, he layeth it on his shoulders, rejoicing.

"And when he cometh home, he calleth together his friends and neighbors, saying unto them, Rejoice with me; for I have found my sheep which was lost.

"I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance."

St. Luke 15:3-7

We are likewise rejoicing that Angie Bauer (Bro. Don and Sis. Glo) has turned to the Lord in repentance. We wish her the guidance of the Holy Spirit in the coming months to combat the ever present wiles of Satan.

COLORADO, DENVER

Mike Martin — Marlene Lehman

We wish to congratulate Bro. Ed (Bro. Tom and Sis. Marlene) and Sis. Gail (Bro. Bob and Sis. Doris Williamson, Congerville, IL) on their being united in holy matrimony. We pray that it will give them insight into the marriage of the Lamb. "Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints. And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God." Revelation 19:7-9. They will be living in Congerville so we will miss Bro. Ed here, but trust he will continue to be a support to the Word there.

We welcome Marla Schrader from Gridley, KS. We hope she feels at home in her new home.

Often times in life unfortunate things come upon us as they did to Sis. Katherine Ries when she fell and broke her hip. We pray for a speedy recovery.

It is a blessing to have a church where people are willing to give of their time. We wish to thank Bro. Sam Huber for giving of his time and minis-

tering the Word in the absence of our ministers.

It's that time of year when flowers begin to grow, trees begin to bud and Silver Lining dues are due. We'd appreciate having received your payment by the end of May. Send it to Mike Martin, 2280 S. Oswego Way #305, Aurora, CO 80014.

CONNECTICUT, ROCKVILLE Martha Hany

"Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him and he shall direct thy paths."

Proverbs 3:5, 6

After hearing testimonies of dear souls the weekend of March 7, I believe we all felt a revival of the Spirit in empathy with the experiences related in remembrance of our own conversion. Our heartfelt thanks is expressed to Elder Bro. Joe Braker (Morton, IL) who assisted Elder Bro. Corbin Bahler in the testimony service and baptisms of Cyndi Galat (Bro. Dave and Sis. Marlene) and Glenna Reutter (Bro. Alden and Marion). As we heard, the "fork in the road" and subsequent soul-searching came to these sisters in different ways. By their individual prayers they were led by the Holy Spirit through a true and similar conversion with grace to turn away from a life of sin and all its natural tendencies to a new life in the Spirit.

Sis. Ida Gerber and Sis. Bertha Moser have been confined to their homes for a season because of poor health. May the Lord who "numbers the very hairs of our head" lead and sustain them in love as well as others who may be in distress and need.

"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

Isaiah 55:8, 9

Our hearts were shocked and saddened by the untimely death of David Lanz, 27, who was killed instantly in an automobile accident March 16, leaving a son, Matthew, and a daughter, Stacy. May the Lord comfort his parents, Bro. Ed and Sis. Marilyn Schmidgall and

remaining brothers and sisters, Michael, Bro. John (New Holland, PA) Michele Knolton, Patricia Shemerluk and Timmy, Sandy and Kim at home.

Visiting ministers for the month were Bro. Duane Farney (Croghan, NY) and Bro. Clarence Kachelmuss (Forrest, IL). It was good to have them in our midst and we thank them and their wives, Sis. Karen and Sis. Laura for remembering us.

"If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross and follow me."

Luke 9:23

We are approaching the season when we commemorate Christ's sufferings, His death, and resurrection. How thankful and joyful we are that we can all together remember this great event!

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, WASHINGTON Ed Aeschleman

We were happy to welcome ministering Bro. Ben Manz (Junction, OH) for our March services. It was a blessed day with good attendance of local brethren and friends. The Word of God was once again abundantly supplied through the inspiration of the Spirit for all who came to hear.

With spring and summer coming on, no doubt a number of our church people from other areas will be planning a vacation visit to Washington, D.C. All who are in the area on the second Sunday of the month are invited to worship with us at the Westpark Best Western Hotel just off of the I-495 Beltway at the Tyson's Corner Exit. Services begin at 10:30.

FLORIDA, FORT LAUDERDALE Terri Huber

We were privileged to have visiting ministers Bro. Floyd Schmidgall (Morris, MN) and Bro. Ken Hoerr (Peoria, IL) speak God's Word. Bro. Floyd stressed that the only way to know God is to know Jesus, our intercessor. Bro. Ken made it plain to converted and unconverted alike - we have three choices of action: blasphemy or unbelief, procrastination, or agreement and submission to Christ. His text was St. Mark 7:18-52.

Our own ministering Bro. Bud Klopfenstein has been chosen to lighten the load of Elder Bro. Joe Braker (Morton,

IL). We know it has not been easy for Bro. Joe to oversee our congregation while separated by so many miles. Bro. Bud will be ordained as the first resident elder of the Fort Lauderdale congregation Easter Sunday.

Our dear Sis. Florence Sutter was hospitalized briefly after she fell and broke her arm. She is now home convalescing.

FLORIDA, NORTH FORT MYERS Kay Eisenmann

We appreciate recent visiting ministers, Bro. Bob Meyer (Bluffton North, IN), Elder Bro. Orville Ringger (Bluffton, IN), Bro. Homer Reineck (Toledo, OH), Bro. Doug Sabo (Sarasota, FL), Bro. Earl Kilgus (Remington, IN), Elder Bro. Robert Beyer (Naumburg, NY) and Elder Bro. Ben Maibach (Detroit, MI).

At our annual meeting Bro. Ivan Stoller was selected as Sunday school assistant and trustee; Bro. Ralph Troxel and Bro. Mel Steffen are to help Bro. Lester Miester as usher during the busy season; Sis. Maxine Stoller will serve on the kitchen committee; and Bro. Art Kipfer will help with the tapes. We want to thank all who have given of themselves in the past and encourage those with new duties. May God richly bless all who so willingly help. Many friends also have been a big help and to all we give thanks!

This question was asked us this past month! When we get up in the morning, what comes first in our life? We should all be but tools in God's hands! If we start our day in God's Word, it will be a blessed day, even if it doesn't go the way we think it should. God knows what is best for us! How many of us start a trip with a half tank of gas, or less? As this life is but a trip, we must keep our lives full of God's Word, to be sure we reach our heavenly home. We all know the devil likes to tell us we can do our own thing but we must remember that he is the Father of all Liars. So, if we stay in the Word, God has promised us that not even Satan can get us, and we know God will never lead us wrong. Let's not listen to the world, for we all know what the end is thereof.

We are so thankful that Dathan is able to go to school. He still has blood work every week, so please, keep him always in your prayers. He seems to keep up his courage for which we are so thankful!

FLORIDA, SARASOTA Lucille Heiniger

As we approach the Easter season, we think of how our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ gave His life that we may attain salvation through Him. Let us all live so that when our days are ended here on this earth that the Lord may say "Enter thou into the joy of our Lord."

Bro. Carroll Gerber stated in his sermon that there are six important things to say in life, namely:

- (1) I'm sorry, I made a mistake.
(Most Important)
- (2) You did a good job.
- (3) What is your opinion?
- (4) If you please.
- (5) Thank you.
- (6) I — (I being the least important).

Bro. Orval Rocke submitted to surgery this past week. We pray for God's healing mercies for a speedy recovery.

Sis. Lydia Kuntz (Gridley, IL) is hospitalized while visiting here in Sarasota. Sis. Lydia and Bro. Raymond used to winter here for a number of years before Bro. Raymond went to meet his loving Saviour, Jesus Christ. We wish for her, too, God's healing mercies. Bro. Bob and Sis. Helen Hermann returned to their home at Morton, IL, due to the serious illness of Bro. Bob. They wish to thank each one for their deeds of kindness, gifts, cards, phone calls and especially for their prayers offered in Bro. Bob's behalf. May God bless each one.

Our visiting ministers this month who gave of themselves to proclaim the Word of God to us were Bros. Arthur Gudeman (LaCrosse, IN), Ed Alt (Cissna Park, IL), Joe Zimmerman (Morton, IL), Russell Wuthrich (Pulaski, IA), Earl Kilgus (Remington, IN), Carl Wyss (Washington, IL), Carroll Gerber (Bluffton North, IN) and Elder Bros. Robert Beyer (Naumburg, NY) and Ben Maibach (Detroit, MI).

ILLINOIS, BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL Donna Hodel — Karen Brummitt

AN EASTER MEDITATION

In the glorious Easter Story
A troubled world can find
Blessed reassurance
And enduring peace of mind.

For though we grow discouraged

In this world we're living in
There is comfort just in knowing
That God triumphed over sin.

For our Saviour's Resurrection
Was God's way of telling men
That in Christ we are eternal
And in Him we live again.

And to know life is unending
And God's love is endless, too,
Makes our daily tasks and burdens
So much easier to do.

And our earthly trials and problems
Are but guideposts on the way
To the love and life eternal
That God promised Easter Day.

Helen Steiner Rice

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him, should not perish, but have everlasting life."

John 3:16

April is Bloomington-Normal's collection month for the Silver Lining.

ILLINOIS, BRADFORD Marilyn Tanner

AN EASTER MESSAGE

The triumph of the Easter morn
Surrounds us everywhere;
The lilies lift their waxen forms
Into the springtime air.

The sting of death has disappeared
Because of One who gave
The bread of life to hungry ones . . .
A King and yet a slave.

"Because I live, ye shall live too;"
"I shall prepare a place;"
These were the words of life and hope
That all might see His face.

So He who overcame the world
Without an army's force
Remains today our Easter hope
To guide our wayward course.

We rejoice with Bro. Clarence and Sis. Emma Knobloch. On February 28 their children hosted a reception at the Peoria fellowship hall for their golden wedding anniversary. May God be with them in the future years as he has been in the past.

The engagement of Sis. Angela Knobloch (Bro. Marvin and Sis. Di-

anne) and Bro. Doug Herrmann (Bro. Walter and Sis. Betty, Princeville) was made known to our congregation. May the Spirit of God dwell richly in their lives that they might go forward serving Him together.

We appreciate all the love, kindness and memories of our 50th anniversary. May God bless you all.

Bro. Clarence and Sis. Emma Knoblock

The Lord has blessed us with many good teachings through His Word this past month. Visiting ministers were Bros. John Rowell (Burlington, IA), John Steiner (Oakville, IA), Kenneth Knapp (Taylor, MO), Don Gudeman (LaCrosse, IN), Wayne Lehman (South Bend, IN) and Elder Bro. Joe Stoller (Princeville).

ILLINOIS, CHAMPAIGN

Cheryl Mangers

We've had such a special month, enjoying the love and fellowship of many special visitors. A special word of appreciation is expressed to our visiting ministers for their services. Included are Bros. Bill Hodel (Roanoke, IL), Virgil Metzger (Chicago, IL), Burt Butikofer (Elgin, IA) and Elder Bros. Leroy Huber (Eureka, IL) and Phil Stettner (Bluffton North, IN).

We appreciated the opportunity to learn more about the Children's Home March 14 when Bro. Tim Sauder was with us for a slide presentation.

ILLINOIS, CHICAGO

Kathy Schlatter

"What manner of man is this . . .!" Matthew 8:27. Christ was known to be different because of His manner of speaking and because of His reactions. Think of how He spoke and acted throughout His life, especially in the darkest of moments at Gethsemane and beyond. How do we treat the difficulties of life? When we have unexpected surgery, lose a job or a home, when a loved one dies, expectedly or unexpectedly, when our children cause heartaches, when we are persecuted and have not done wrongly, when we are on the sidelines - physically stopped - and we want to keep moving, we often hurt and we may not want to believe it's happening to us. But let us be faithful and take courage. If we fix our lives on Christ as our example, there will be calm in the center of our

lives despite the storm around us. If we have His calm, others will see a difference in our words and actions. Thus His message can be sent, rippling out into others' lives. May we endure, remembering that He has good reasons for the crosses He allows us to bear - and abundant power to help us bear them gracefully.

Our cups were filled to overflowing again this month. We received a multitude of blessings from our dear Chicago ministering brethren and these visitors: Elder Bro. Alfred Bahler (Wolcott, IN), Bros. Jim Rinckenberger (Bluffton, IN), Lynn and Marvin Stieglitz (Leo, IN) and Leland Plattner (Zapata, TX).

Elder Bro. Alfred Bahler joined with our Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann in the reading of the conference report. It was a privilege to be able to hear it. One could imagine our Savior there, encouraging us so, exhorting us to cultivate affection for His Word, to increase the intensity of our faith and prayer, to cling more closely to Him - simply trusting.

We have enjoyed this young Christian couple among us. The Lord has richly blessed them and now they are a Christian family. Bro. Jerry and Sis. Bonnie Wagenbach are the happy parents of Kyle Scott, born March 15. Kyle's grandparents are also delighted. They are Bro. Lloyd and Myrna Moser (Fairbury, IL) and Bro. Jerry and Sis. Bonnie Wagenbach (Oakville, IA). We wish them all the Lord's guidance and blessings, they being Kyle's first teachers and models of Christ and our Father.

We want to extend to Chuck and Ella Stoller our deepest sympathy in the recent death of his father. Though we know that we all must die, never is the death of a loved one easy for us. We pray that the Lord may give His comfort to them, healing and helping them in their grief. May we reflect His love, giving them our support and listening hearts.

Two came out from the city on the el, knowing they needed to take a cab from the end of the line to our church on Wolf Road. When they told the cab driver Wolf Road for their destination, he said, "You must be going to church." Though they were amazed at his response, others had gone before and forged the link between Wolf Road and going to church. So it is in many ways for us, I believe.

Two dearly beloved sisters have recently died. To both I am very appreciative for the lives they lived, the love they shed abroad, the Christ they taught to me. Sis. Hanna Koch (Tremont) was my Sunday school teacher many years ago. Her life was an object lesson greater than any she ever taught us in Sunday school. She sent birthday cards yearly to every child she ever taught, so her influence went out beyond the small town where she always lived. Her correspondence with her brother drew him from Satan's clutches to the Savior's cross. She used much of her time to help others and she was always accepting, cheerful, humble and good. On the other hand, Sis. Clara Scharlach (Cissna Park) spent many years in an urban environment. Being a housekeeper for the wealthy in Winnetka wasn't enough to keep her busy. She volunteered hundreds of hours at Cook County Hospital, sharing her love and her skill at needlework with those who were poor and sick. She was a gardener, too. In fact, in the middle of winter, Sis. Clara had tomatoes growing. As a young wife and mother, I admired her ability to get things done and she "adopted" our daughter on Sundays until she moved back to her family in Cissna when her Chicago work was done. She was inventive and willing to try so much, and she had spunk and spirit and faith. Neither Sis. Hanna nor Sis. Clara ever married. These two dear sisters had the Lord as their husband, and they fostered many children, including me. Truly they have enriched many with their spiritual motherhood. Now they have gone before. They have forged many good connections between true happiness and contentedness and serving the Lord in simplicity of faith and love in action. I must remember what I have been taught and, Lord help me, add their lessons to my life.

ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK

Myrna Weerts - Elaine Sauder

Sis. Clara Scharlach passed away February 28 after an extended illness. We are thankful she's been relieved of her burdens and has gone to a home where there is no pain or sorrow.

Survivors include Sis. Nettie Scharlach, Sis. Cora Scharlach and Sis. Mary Anderson (all of Cissna Park), Harry Scharlach (Hoopeston), Arthur (Bluffton, IN) and Aaron (Berne, IN).

YOUR LOVED ONE LIVES IN YOUR HEART

May tender memories
Soften your grief,
May fond recollections
Bring you relief,
And may you find comfort
And peace in the thought
Of the joy that knowing
Your loved one brought —
For time and space
Can never divide
Or keep your loved one
From your side
When memory paints
In colors true
The happy hours
That belonged to you.

Helen Steiner Rice

The congregation was saddened by the passing of Sis. Nettie (Joe) Clauss. She leaves Bro. Joe and her family of three sons, Vernon, Jerry and Earl (all of Cissna Park); and six daughters, Sis. Betty Feller (Jun, Cissna Park), Lois Beer (Frank, Milford, IN), Sis. Erma Wieland (Wayne, Dunlap), Caroline Sever (Wateksa), Sis. Lorna Clauss (Champaign) and Dorothy Holmes (Don, Hoopeston); 25 grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; three sisters, Sis. Naomi Knapp and Anna Edelman (Cissna Park) and Caroline Bittner (Fairbury); and her brother, George Young, Jr. (Cissna Park).

It was a privilege to witness the testimony and baptism of Sis. Judy Walder (Bro. Charles and Sis. Wilma) March 7 and 8. We welcome this dear soul as our new sister-in-faith. Elder Bro. Bob Walder (Congerville) was here to assist with this important work. Bros. Kenneth Dietz (Bradford), Paul Eisenmann (Burlington, IA) and Joe Gerst (Iowa City, IA) were also with us for the weekend.

Other visiting ministers for the month were Bro. Gary Anliker (Elgin, IL) and Bro. Michael Thomas (Valparaiso, IN). We appreciate their coming and inspiring messages.

Hospital patients, Sis. Lillie Waldbeser, Sis. Emily Bucher and Sis. Lizzie Knapp of Fairview Haven were all medical patients. Bro. Ezra Feller, Bro. Harry Bauer and Sis. Anna Marie (Lynn) Young were surgical patients. May their prayers be heard and God's healing hand be applied.

The family of Bro. Willard Rudin wishes to express their thanks and

appreciation for the love, sympathy and deeds of kindness shown to them during the time of his illness and death. May God richly bless you all.

ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE Gail Leman — Susan Knapp

SHOW A LITTLE BIT OF LOVE AND KINDNESS

Sing a song, spread some cheer,
There are sad and lonely people every-
where.
Be a friend, show some love,
It will lift them from the dungeon of
despair.

Offer help, bring some hope,
To the fainting and discouraged along
life's road.
See a need, lend a hand,
There are many who are crushed
beneath the load.

Be a light, show the way,
Be a light within the night for those
astray.
Speak a word, loving word,
That will bring them back to walk the
narrow way.

Show a little bit of love and kindness,
Never go along with hatred's blindness,
Take a little time to reach for joy and
wear a happy face.
Sing a little bit when the days are
dreary,
Give a little help to a friend that's
weary,
That's the way to make the world a
happy place.

Spring is a special time of the year to remember God's love for us. Because God sent His Son to be sacrificed for us, we may have peace in our hearts and life everlasting. So let us rejoice that our Lord Jesus has risen by sharing with others His love and making this world a happy place.

As an anticipation of hope, spring has brought a new blessing from above to the family of Bro. Rick and Sis. Kathy Knapp. Little Karin Kathaleen has brought joy to her sisters and brothers, Darrick, Sara, Jonathan, Joshua, Mari and Heidi. The rejoicing grandparents are Bro. Frederick and Sis. Marjorie Knapp (Congerville) and Bro. Bill and Sis. Clara Kemp (Eureka).

Another joyful event blessed from above was the wedding of Sis. Gail

Williamson (Congerville) and Bro. Ed Leman (Denver, CO). Their parents, Bro. Bob and Sis. Doris Williamson (Congerville) and Bro. Tom and Sis. Marlene Leman (Denver, CO) are thankful for the Lord's loving, guiding and protecting arm that has brought them together. May God be ever near and bless them as they join hand and heart and continue on towards that heavenly goal, following in the footsteps of Jesus.

Our hearts were saddened to hear of the passing away of Carl Eglin. Our prayers are with the family during this time.

It is a precious privilege to listen to God's Word that is brought to us through His faithful servants. Bringing God's inspiring messages were Bro. Gary Brown (Forrest), Bro. Ed Knecht (Silverton, OR), Bro. Tom Leman (Denver, CO), Bro. Mike Leman (Denver, CO), Bro. Bruce Lehman (Roanoke), Bro. Ken Schneider (Remington, IN) and Bro. Gene Lehman (Wolcott, IN). May God richly bless them as they strive to do His will and encourage us onward and forward in Jesus' love toward our heavenly goal.

ILLINOIS, ELGIN Elizabeth Schambach Betty Bachtold

As a congregation, we wish the Lord's blessings upon Bro. Glen Braker and Sis. Audrey Martin as they recently were united in marriage and are now making their home in the Princeville area. We miss Bro. Glen in our fellowship and hope they will visit us often.

On March 3, our dear Sis. Ernestine Gudeman could close her eyes and enter into that heavenly rest for which she longed. "As for man, his days are as grass: as a flower of the field, so he flourisheth. For the wind passeth over it, and it is gone; and the place thereof shall know it no more." Psalm 103:15-16. We extend love and sympathy to her family, Bro. William Gudeman (Sis. Evelyn) and Sis. Dorothy Zimmerman (Elder Bro. Perry, Forrest), and her surviving sisters, Sis. Anna Schmidgall (Elgin) and Sis. Clara Sauder (Morton).

The family of the late Ernestine Gudeman wishes to thank everyone who shared in any way in their bereavement.

We share sorrow with Sis. Kay Cargill in the passing of her sister, Louise Tyler (Howell, MI) and with Sisters

Eunice Knobloch and Dena Weiss whose father, Bro. Jacob Knobloch (Lester, IA), was laid to rest. Likewise we extend sympathy to Sis. Marge Wewetzer who mourns the loss of her brother, Harry McNutt, Jr. (Denver, CO). May God comfort each heart.

"... And who then is willing to consecrate his service this day unto the Lord?" I Chronicles 29:5. This past month several of our brothers, including Elder Bro. Nathan Steffen, gave of their efforts and time to help with the Mexico City Work Project.

Sisters Esther Troike and Kathy Schifferer oversee the labors for World Relief held in the basement of Apostolic Christian Resthaven the first Tuesday of each month.

As always, we have those who have been hospitalized and are in need of prayer and God's healing. Gail Hallead has again submitted to surgery. Bro. Paul Weiss had knee surgery and little Jean Schifferer (Bro. Bill and Sis. Lana) also spent time in the hospital. Karen Anliker (Bro. Gary and Sis. Edie) was in need of more tests.

Greg and Brenda Gudeman and Lisa welcome a new baby boy, Dean Gregory, born February 27. Sharing in the joy are grandparents, Bro. Bill and Sis. Evelyn Gudeman (Elgin) and Arthur and Emma Glover (Texas). May God bless this family circle.

How thankful we are for dear brothers who are inspired of God to bring forth the truths of His Word. This past month visitors included Elder Bro. Ed Schwartz (Bluffton, IN), Bros. Hartzle Kaisner (Detroit, MI), Walter Herrmann (Princeville, IL) and Earl Banwart (West Bend, IA).

ILLINOIS, EUREKA
Kathy L. Rocke

"The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord."

Job 1:21

On March 8, Bro. Ed Grusy passed from this life with its pain and afflictions, to the long eternity. Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to his dear wife, Sis. Ada; four daughters, Sis. Geraldine Farney (Cissna Park), Sis. Merna Zimmerman (Morton), Evelyn Benedeck (Mundelein) and Edith Payne (Eureka); two stepsons, Gerald Zimmerman (Paxton) and Dean Zimmerman (Eureka). He also leaves three sisters,

Sisters Bertha Wingeier (Alto, MI), Persida Wiegand and Frieda Grusy (both of Goodfield); and one brother, Elmer (Goodfield). May God comfort these loved ones as only He can.

Our sympathy also goes to Sis. Amy Stoller in the passing of her sister, Leona Menton. "I will not leave you comfortless; I will come to you." John 14:18.

Those who have been hospitalized this past month are Bro. Elmer Ginzel and Sis. Caroline Leman (Bro. Milton). Sis. Caroline is still hospitalized as of this writing. May we remember her and her family in our prayers.

Sis. Emma Somerhalder wishes to thank everyone for their cards, prayers and deeds of kindness shown when she was hospitalized and since returning to the "Home". All is very much appreciated. May God bless you all.

"And the Lord God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him." Genesis 2:18. We shared in the joy of Sis. Linda Wiegand and Bro. Gary Folkerts (Washington) as they announced their engagement March 1. Their parents are Bro. Robert and Sis. Helen Wiegand (Eureka) and Ronald and Dorothy Folkerts (Washington).

March 7 we gathered together to hear the conclusions of the memorandum. We are thankful Elder Bro. Arthur Nohl (Morris, MN) could be with us for this special evening of love and instruction. We appreciated Bro. Arthur imparting the Word of Life to us the following Lord's Day. May God be his rich rewarder.

We gathered together March 14 to hear the testimonies of Kurt and Livy Blunier. Their parents are Elder Bro. Bob and Sis. Elna Grimm (Goodfield) and Bro. Sam and Sis. Elizabeth Blunier. We were thankful Elder Bros. Bob and Roy Grimm (Taylor, MO) were able to assist Elder Bro. Leroy in this important work. The following day we received Bro. Kurt and Sis. Livy into our fold of believers. May God grant them sufficient grace to stay true and faithful until life's end.

We were thankful for ministering brothers who were willing to come and speak God's Word unto us. May God bless Bros. Ed Knecht (Silverton, OR), Willis Wiegand and Jaye Rinckenberger (both of Goodfield).

Bro. Aaron and Sis. Caroline Moser wish to sincerely thank everyone who remembered them with cards, good

wishes and visits on their 50th wedding anniversary, February 21. May God be with each of you.

What we call life is a journey to death. What we call death is the gateway to life.

ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY
Jean Bachtold — Crystal Fehr

NAILED TO THE CROSS

There was One who was willing to die
 in my stead,
 That a soul so unworthy might live;
 And the path to the cross He was
 willing to tread,
 All the sins of my life to forgive.

He is tender and loving and patient
 with me,
 While He cleanses my heart of the
 dross;
 But "there's no condemnation" — I
 know I am free,
 For my sins are all nailed to the cross.
 Gospel Hymns #783, vs. 1, 2

Oh, how precious, that our Savior didn't stay in the grave, but He arose triumphantly. Let's appreciate His resurrection every day.

Bro. Dennis and Sis. Diane Rassi welcome a new bundle of joy, Denver Arnold. Denver was born March 3. His brothers are Daryl and Derek.

Ernest Hofmann died February 21. We extend sympathy to Bro. George and Sis. Clara Broquard.

"For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh."

Ephesians 5:31

The engagement of Bro. Keith Steidinger (Bro. Maurice and Sis. Alma) and Sis. Christine Bahler (Bro. Walter and Sis. Esther, Remington, IN) was announced. We wish them God's blessings as they plan for a June wedding.

The singles group hosted Tremont, Gridley and Peoria February 28 and March 1. We were blessed by their visit.

On March 7, the Forrest congregation gathered with us to hear the reading of the memorandum. We thank Elder Bros. Dale Eisenmann (Chicago), Don Sauder (Roanoke) and Perry Zimmerman (Forrest) for helping our Elder Bro. Art Bahler in giving us kind

instructions and encouragements.

The meaning of memorandum in the dictionary means a short written statement for further use; note to aid one's memory. Let us apply this to our daily walk of life.

We also thank Bro. Earl Banwart (West Bend, IA) for his labors of love.

In this month we had many who were hospitalized. We pray for God's healing power for each one.

ILLINOIS, FORREST

Sharon Adams — Patsy Stoller

He lives, He lives,
Christ Jesus lives today!
He walks with me and talks with me
Along life's narrow way.

He lives, He lives,
Salvation to impart!
You ask me how I know He lives:
He lives within my heart.

Melodies of Praise #86

At this time of year we are again reminded of our loving Saviour who gave His life for us on that cruel cross so many years ago. Even though that was many years ago, He still lives with us today. How thankful we are to have One so loving and caring to walk with us and talk with us each day. May He find a dwelling place within each heart not only at this time of year but every day of our lives. We are looking forward to our Easter program when our Sunday school students bring us God's message through their songs and verses Good Friday evening.

Our sincere sympathy goes to our Elder Bro. Perry and Sis. Dorothy Zimmerman in the passing away of Sis. Dorothy's mother, Sis. Ernestine Gudeman (Elgin). May God be their comfort in their time of sorrow.

We were abundantly blessed as we gathered recently with our neighboring loved ones in Fairbury to hear the exhortations of the memorandum. May God bless our dear elder brothers as they so faithfully and lovingly strive to preserve this precious faith we have.

Several have been afflicted with illness this month. Those hospitalized were Wayne Cox, Bro. Leland Kuntz, Glenn Knapp, Bro. Sam Zimmerman, Sis. Leona Wallace, Sis. Leona Ricketts and Joshua Schmidgall (Dan and Mary). May we always remember in prayer those who must bear added afflictions.

Lisa (Masters) Doran has heeded God's call and turned her back to the world in repentance. May she feel God's strength and grace as she surrenders her all to God.

Tom and Shannon Bushman have been blessed with their first child, Blake Thomas. Bro. Roger and Sis. Janet Farney are his grandparents. Bro. John and Sis. Janet Schmidgall have also been blessed with their first child, Trent Allen. Grandparents are Bro. Dave and Sis. Alma Jean Schmidgall and Bro. Glen and Sis. Kathryn Fehr (Fairbury). Sean Daniel is the new bundle of love born to Rod and Micki Zimmerman. Sean's brothers are Cory, Jeremy and Adam. Bro. Glen and Sis. Mildred Zimmerman are his grandparents.

The engagement and approaching marriage of Mary Schmidgall (Bro. Dave and Sis. Alma Jean) to John Tewell (Danica Tewell, Villa Grove) was announced. Steve Mueller (Bob and Sis. Elaine) and Tina Heavilin (Don and Katy Heavilin, Sibley) have also announced their engagement. On March 7, David Eisenmann (Bro. John and Sis. Bev) and Jackie Hoffman (Sam Hoffman, St. Augustine, FL and Mary Lynn Hoffman, Fairbury) were united in marriage. May God bless these couples as they plan and begin their future together.

ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD

Trish Gerber

He lives! He lives!
He's risen from the dead!
He lives! He lives!
He's risen as He said!
He conquered death and sin,
The grave could never win,
He lives! Rejoice . . .
The Savior lives!

Agape

What glorious and comforting words . . . to be reminded once again of the price our Lord Jesus paid for all of us. Our children will be sharing with us through word and song that wonderful story during our annual Easter program. We just cannot appreciate enough the anguish and pain our Lord endured on that "old rugged cross" as He felt the sins of the world pressing Him down. And even though we'll never be able to repay Him, at least we can show Him our thankfulness in some small way by trying to live our

lives to His glory.

We are indebted to the following ministers for sharing God's Word in love with our congregation: Bros. Earl Ringger (Gridley, IL), Ted Witzig (Morton, IL), Larry Wenninger (Latty, OH) and Steve Martin (Eureka, IL). May God richly bless them and their families for their labors.

It's good to know Sis. Arlene Hinrichsen is doing well after her brief stay in the hospital.

Our sympathy is extended to Sis. Persida Wiegand and Sis. Frieda Grusy on the passing of their dear brother, Ed Grusy. Life is so uncertain that we must live each day as if it were our last . . . for it very well may be!

The Goodfield congregation and community were saddened by the tragic death of sweet little Justin Wyss, four-year-old son of Bro. Dale and Sis. Susie. Our sympathy and prayers for God's comfort are expressed to Bro. Dale and Sis. Susie and their family. Words fail us at times like these, so we lean heavily on the Lord to comfort these dear ones and to fill the void in their lives with His love.

A Note To Dale And Susie

God looked down from heaven
And He had a plan in mind.
A loving, Christian daddy and mommy
Were what He wanted to find.

He picked you, Dale and Susie,
To fulfill His heavenly chore
And He sent a little angel
For you to love and adore.

You gave him the name of Justin
And you handled him with care.
You shared his joyous moments
And in his sadness, you were there.

He brought to you, the love of God
And those near him felt it, too.
His precious, beaming little face
Could turn the gray skies blue.

Your time with him seemed so short-lived;
He was still a babe to you!
When God wanted him back at home
His task on earth was through.

He's running through the streets of
Heaven, now
And you've been a privileged pair,
For when your earthly life is through,
You know you'll meet him there!

ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY**Carol Klopfenstein**

"And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by Him."

Colossians 3:17

Our elder brother was speaking about being thankful for the many blessings God gives us. Then he added a profound thought: When we thank God for our blessings, let us remember to ask Him, "What should I do with the blessings? How can I best use them to Thy honor and glory?" The Apostle James wrote that sometimes "ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts." (James 4:3). May we always examine our motive when we ask God for blessings and examine our attitude when we receive them. Do we want them for selfish reasons or do we want to use them for His glory? As another elder brother once said, "Either God is on the throne in our heart or 'self' is on that throne."

We appreciate our visiting ministers. Bro. Harold Gramm (Morris, MN) was with us for the blessed occasion of the baptism of his niece, Sis. Jeanne Gramm. Bro. Kevin Knapp (Bloomington) was with the Bible class students in the fellowship hall.

Sis. Lulu Schlipf, Bro. Henry Miller and Bro. Perry Klopfenstein have been hospital patients.

Bro. Alan and Sis. Margi Steffen are the happy parents of Jeremy Alan who was born February 25. He has a sister, Aimee. Jeremy's grandparents are Sis. Bernice Yergler and Bro. Dave and Sis. Emmy Steffen (all of Gridley).

Bro. Albert Grusy's family wishes to sincerely thank all their loved ones for their kind expression of sympathy shown to them — the cards, calls, food, visits and memorial contributions during the illness and passing of their dear mother, grandmother and wife, Sis. Anna Grusy.

**ILLINOIS,
 ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY
 Susan Kieser**

Spring — a time of green grass, colorful flowers, singing birds — new life. Take a minute to reflect back to the time we each began a new life in Christ. It was a time of rejoicing and making new and exciting discoveries. It was a time when we were willing to give

anything and everything to anyone just to be able to share our joy with someone else. This spring when new life is appearing all around us, let each of us strive to regain the enthusiasm of a convert so God can use us to show others that life as a Christian is exciting and rewarding.

This past month, we learned about many things we can do as Christians to grow spiritually. One of our speakers was Bro. Charles Sauder (Tremont) who talked about wholesome things we can do as an individual. We were all reminded of the many small things we can do for others which brings them much happiness. Bro. Dennis Kaufmann (Bloomington/Normal) spoke on the role of the church. We learned about how we are to be so God can use us as His servants and how the church and its doctrines and traditions can help us be what God expects of us. Finally, Bro. Carl Wyss (Washington) talked about the responsibilities of a believer. He stressed that we each must be careful in what we do so as not to cause a weaker brother or sister to fall.

As our semester is rapidly coming to a close, assignments and exams are beginning to pile up. We each request your prayerful support through this stressful and often hectic time.

Our last Bible study for the spring semester is Thursday, April 30. Everyone is invited to join us every Thursday evening at 7:30 p.m. in 244 Schroeder Hall.

ILLINOIS, MORTON

Phyllis Farney — Marcia Kelley

Bro. Robert and Sis. Jean Barth welcome little Stephanie Jean into their hearts and home. Stephanie's grandparents are Bro. Marvin and Sis. Lois Getz (Morton, IL) and Bro. Morris and Sis. Ida Mae Barth (Roanoke, IL).

We are thankful that our heavenly Father has called three more precious souls into His vineyard. They are Tami Strunk (Bro. Gene and Sis. Joyce), Ray, Jr. and Shirley Frank. We heard their testimonies of faith February 21 and witnessed their baptisms February 22. We lovingly welcome them into our precious brotherhood of faith.

Bro. Harry Wick was called Home. His funeral service was February 28. May his family and friends feel God's comforting power.

We rejoice with Carl and Emma Uhlman who recently celebrated their

60th wedding anniversary. We wish them God's blessings as they continue along life's pathway.

Sis. Anna Maurer was called Home. Her funeral service was March 11. Our love and sympathy are extended to her family and friends.

We were privileged to have Bros. Ron Heiniger and Dennis Kaufman (Bloomington-Normal, IL), Wes Knapp (Goodfield, IL), Ed Knecht (Silverton, OR) and Elder Bro. Sam Anliker (Lamont, KS) minister to us this past month. We thank them for willingly teaching us God's Word.

It was Morton's pleasure to host the World Relief Meeting March 14. It seems there are always those dear ones who are in need. Let us continue to try to help others as the Lord has provided so abundantly for us.

As we approach this joyous Easter season, let us all rejoice that He is not dead, but He lives!

THE RESURRECTION

Why come ye at break of morning,
 To the Lord's grave in such deep
 mourning;

Who'll roll the heavy stone away?

'Tis away; Oh, do not murmur!

Ye faithful ones come now, draw nearer,

The stone is gone, Oh, look therein!

See angels in the cleft!

Bring joy to you bereft, Hosanna,

hosanna,

Why seek with tears the Master here?

He is not dead, rejoice, He lives!

Hymns of Zion #45

ILLINOIS, PEORIA

Kathy Huthmann

On March 8, our congregation truly felt the presence of the Holy Spirit as we witnessed the ordination services of our new Elder, Bro. Chuck Hemmer. We want to support Elder Bro. Chuck, Sis. Marian and their family with love and prayers as they begin their new duties. We want to thank Bro. Roy and Sis. Gertrude Sauder, for allowing God to use him in our church these past 21 years as our elder. We had many visiting ministers with us that evening. Elder Bros. Don Sauder (Roanoke), Edwin Ringger (Gridley) and Bro. Dave Kieser (Princeville) all shared in the service. We would like to thank them for being with us for this special occasion.

Those who were hospitalized recently were Bros. Mike Rieker, John Hoerr,

Sis. Ella Hoerr, Sis. Louise Stickling, Sis. Ruth Hartman and Dan Meister. We pray that all will be well with them soon.

We rejoice with Sis. Kristine Bahler and Bro. Keith Steidinger (Fairbury) as they announce their engagement. Their parents are Bro. Walter and Sis. Esther Bahler (Remington) and Bro. Morris and Sis. Alma Steidinger (Fairbury). We wish them God's richest blessings as they will soon begin their lives together.

Our sympathy is extended to Sis. Erma Wieland and her family in the death of her mother, Sis. Nettie Clauss (Cissna Park).

We were fortunate to have several visiting ministers with us this past month. They were Elder Bro. Robert Beyer (Naumburg, NY), Bro. Dave Kieser (Princeville), Bro. Jim Streitmatter (Princeville) and Bro. Earl Ringger (Gridley). We wish to thank them for their willingness to serve.

On March 4, Maria Graham gave her testimony and was baptized. We are pleased to have her as our new sister-in-faith.

"I would like to sincerely thank all for the prayers, cards, gifts and kindnesses shown to me while I was in the hospital and since returning home. May God bless each one."

Sincerely,
Sis. Louise Stickling

ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE Marjean Lehman

"Word which God has spoken, Word of peaceful token,
Gospel of the Lord! Fount of benediction, comfort in affliction,
Holy Spirit's sword! Source of might, of life and light!
Joyful message of God given, sent to us from Heaven."

The Gospel Zion's Harp #97

We give thanks again to our visiting ministers, Elder Bro. Alfred Bahler (Wolcott, IN), Bro. Marvin Leman (Bradford) and Bro. Ken Weerts (Cissna Park). May God bless each one for their love.

"Blest are they who truly sorrow for the debt of sin they owe;
They shall not become discouraged,
grace and help He will bestow,
He'll efface sin's debt and grief, and

give solace and relief."

"The Sermon on the Mount",
Zion's Harp #54

Four converts are awaiting giving their testimony of faith and baptism. They are Joanna Herrmann (Bro. Howard and Sis. Mary Ann), Phil Baurer (Bro. Ed and Sis. Carol), Ronnie Streitmatter (Bro. Bill and Sis. Diane) and Tim Martin (Bro. Ray and Sis. Edna). This is planned for March 21 and 22.

On February 22, we heard the engagement announcement of Bro. Doug Herrmann and Sis. Angie Knobloch (Bradford). Parents are Bro. Walt and Sis. Betty Lou Herrmann and Bro. Marvin and Sis. Dianne Knobloch (Bradford).

"Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she reverence her husband."

Ephesians 5:33

March 1 was the wedding day of Sis. Audrey Martin (Bro. Ray and Sis. Edna) and Bro. Glen Braker (Bro. Ben and Sis. Clara, Roanoke).

On March 15, Sis. Deanne Graham and Bro. Jay Knobloch were united in marriage. Their parents are Bro. Dick and Sis. Jeanette Graham and Bro. Ed and Sis. Frances Knobloch.

On February 27, little Lisa Lynn Martin was born to Sis. Mary and Bro. Sam Martin. She was welcomed home by Luann, Andy and Benjamin. Grandparents are Sis. Louise Martin and Bro. Chris and Sis. Ann Bradle (Roanoke).

On March 6, little Tanya Leigh Wagenbach was born to Mary Beth and Curt Wagenbach. Big sister, Jill, welcomed her home. Grandparents are Bro. Lavern and Sis. Joan Bertchold and Bro. Ray and Sis. Betty Wagenbach.

Our congregation expresses sincere sympathy to Eleanor Baer in the loss of her mother, Sis. Anna Grusy.

Our congregation will miss Bro. Steve, Sis. Lois and Alyssa Leuthold. They have moved to the St. Louis area.

Those who were hospitalized this past month were Bro. George Kieser, Bro. Ray Martin, Bro. Mike Menold, Sis. Helen Schick and Sis. Alvina Streitmatter.

"Sit and pause awhile, my spirit,
This great miracle behold;
See the King of highest merit
On the cross, so bare and cold!
Out of heaven God has given
His own Son in love untold!"
"Golgotha," Zion's Harp #226

ILLINOIS, ROANOKE

Marge Leman — Judy Luginbuhl

We have enjoyed so many blessings through the ministry of our dear visiting ministers this past month. Bros. Kevin Knapp (Bloomington-Normal), Greg Rassi (Chicago) and Kent Heimer (Taylor, MO) were with us on a recent Sunday. Elder Bro. Steve Rinkenberger (Cissna Park) conducted our March Bible study. We humbly thank and sincerely appreciate these brothers' willingness to serve us.

At our February Hymn Sing, our newly formed Roanoke choir sang many beautiful hymns for us. Our song service is truly a wonderful part of our Christian heritage and an evening spent in singing is a real spiritual uplift to the believer. We thank the choir for sharing with us.

Our dear friend, Gene Whitten, is still a hospital patient since receiving a head injury last month in an automobile accident. Joe Carr (Terri Hodel Carr), Adam Hodel (Kyle and Margie Hodel), Sis. Elsie Beer and Bro. Ralph Knepp have also been recent hospital patients. We pray that all these loved ones may have a complete recovery and once again enjoy good health.

Two precious babies have been born in the last month to families in our congregation. Sis. Barb and Bro. Dave Schwind are thankful to have a new son, Jonathan Ryan, born February 22. Big brother, Andrew, and sister, Amy, are excited about having a new brother to love. Sis. Mary and Bro. Walt Schwind and Sis. Pat and Bruce Landis (Morton) are Jonathan's grandparents.

Peg and Ron Schroeder have been blessed with a new daughter, Kayla Elizabeth, born March 7. Abbey is happy to have a little sister to play with. Sis. Jean and Bro. Bob Luginbuhl and Joyce and Dan Schroeder (Washburn) are the happy grandparents.

We extend our sympathy to Bro. Clarence, Lloyd and Ray Aeschleman whose brother-in-law, Bro. Ed Grusy (Eureka) passed away.

ILLINOIS, TREMONT

**Carolyn Bolliger
Dorothy Wagenbach**

We will miss our dear Sis. Hanna Koch, who passed away March 10. Her humble Christian walk of life was an inspiration to us all.

Sis. Kathy Rocke (Bro. Nelson) again submitted to surgery and Sis. Ann Steiner (Bro. Richard) had surgery. We are glad to see both sisters back in church again.

We rejoice with Sis. Christy Koch (Elder Bro. Dan and Sis. Carol) and Bro. Nelson Musselman (Sis. Esther Musselman and the late Bro. Carl) on the announcement of their engagement. A June 7 wedding is being planned.

We wish to thank Bro. Uriel Gehring (Leo, IN) for an interesting and informative evening as he showed slides and spoke of our Children's Home. Bro. Uriel also expounded the Word to us on Sunday.

We also enjoyed the slides and comments from several of our brothers on recent trips to Haiti and Mexico City.

Our dear Mary Rowell wishes to thank everyone for remembering her with gifts and cards while recovering from her recent hospital stay.

THE GLORIOUS DAWN

Gone is the fear that has held us in
bondage
As we think of that first Easter Day,
The glorious dawn after earth's darkest
night,
And the tomb with the stone rolled
away.

Angels came down from heaven that
day
To roll the great stone from the tomb,
To tell to man that Christ lived once
again,
And to rob the grave of its fear and its
gloom.

The promise of life eternal is ours . . .
For this we rejoice on the glad Easter
Day,
For the Lord of all hath conquered the
grave
And the stone has been rolled forever
away.

Ella E. Doxsee

ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON

Vicki Bucher

We are grateful to Bro. Jim Byrd (Roanoke, IL) and Bro. Chuck Sauder

(Tremont) for sharing the Word with us.

Elder Bro. Edwin Ringger (Gridley, IL) was with us for a Bible study entitled "Spiritual Health". He provided us with a "diet" to keep our spiritual life healthy. We are thankful that he was willing to spend the evening with us.

Sis. Martha McGough has been hospitalized for a couple of weeks. We are praying for her recovery. May God be especially near to comfort and sustain her.

It was with joy that we learned of the engagement of Bro. Gary Folkerts of our congregation to Sis. Linda Wiegand (Eureka). Gary's parents are Ron and Dorothy Folkerts (Washington) and Linda's parents are Bro. Robert and Sis. Helen Wiegand (Eureka). May they seek God's guidance as they plan their marriage in the Lord.

We wish to thank Bro. Tim Sauder and his wife for the slide presentation on the Leo Children's Home. We are thankful the Lord has provided a Christian home for children who have been mistreated or forsaken in any way. May the Lord bless their efforts.

The Easter season is upon us! He is risen! May your Easter be filled with the hope and joy of His resurrection.

INDIANA, BLUFFTON

Lucille Isch — Becky Isch

Rejoice with them that do rejoice . . .
Romans 12:15

United in marriage March 15 were Bro. Bradley Gerber (Bro. Leon and Sis. Mary Kay) and Sis. Shawn Burke (Mr. and Mrs. William Burke). We pray that God will direct their lives as they walk as one in the Lord.

Bro. Perry and Sis. Becky Isch are happy to announce the engagement of their daughter, Kara, to Ben Beer (Bro. Phil and Sis. Millie Beer, Milford). We wish them God's blessings as they plan for their wedding day August 8.

Happy parents of babies born recently are Bro. Charles and Sis. Marcia Geisel who were blessed with a daughter, Danielle Leann. The baby has a sister, Christen, 5, and a brother, Brandon, 3. Grandparents are Bro. William and Sis. Mildred Neuenchwander and Bro. Harold and Sis. Ellen Geisel.

On March 12, Klint Michael was born to Bro. Greg and Sis. Joan Gerber.

Klint has a brother, Kevin, 2, two sisters, Beverly, 5, and Amy, 1, and grandparents, Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Elizabeth Schwartz and Bro. Frederick and Sis. Margaret Gerber.

"Every good gift and every perfect gift . . . cometh down from the Father."
James 1:17

A special thanks is given to Bro. Edwin Bahler (Remington) for bringing God's Word to us in a rich measure.

Loved ones who have been in the hospital are Sis. Emma Steffen, Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Justine Aschliman, Bro. Paul Baumgartner (Sis. Justine), Brent Kaehr (Bro. Lyle and Sis. Connie), Bro. Sam Kaehr and Bro. Herman Gerber.

Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.

I Corinthians 2:9

On March 2, our dear Sis. Anna Meyer, 85, finished her life here on earth and went to her eternal rest. Her loving family are sons, Bros. Robert, Dale and Harold; daughters, Maxine Wordon and Joan Beer; a brother, Orville Bucher; a sister, Sis. Louella Jacobs; 19 grandchildren and 29 great-grandchildren. "No Disappointments in Heaven" was one of the beautiful songs the choir sang at her funeral.

I'm bound for that beautiful city
My Lord has prepared for His own;
Where all the redeemed of all ages
Sing "Glory" around the white throne;
Sometimes I grow homesick for heaven,
And the glories I there shall behold:
What a joy that will be when my Saviour
I see,
In that beautiful city of gold.

Also passing through the valley of the shadow of death was Bro. Herman Gerber, 80. He is survived by one son, Larry; and three daughters, Jeri Richardson, Dorothy Gerber and Roberta Ann Eisaman; four brothers, Walter, Bro. Ralph, Arthur and Kenneth; five sisters, Sisters Viola Ringger, Naomi Ringger, Freida Steffen, Tillie Kaehr and Sylvia Frauhiger; nine grandchildren; two step-grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

On March 15, our Bro. Sam Kaehr, 91, could exchange his cross for a crown. Bro. Sam was a Sunday school

teacher in his younger years and had many friends who will miss him along with his family who are Robert, Bro. Phil, Sis. Beulah Clark, Sis. Bonnie Gerber and Anne Baumgartner; four sisters, Sis. Setta Klopfenstein, Sis. Elizabeth Kaehr, Sis. Helen Stoller and Marie Anderson; 24 grandchildren and 34 great-grandchildren.

"I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing."

INDIANA, BLUFFTON NORTH
Cindy Shorb — Sheri Leman

"Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,

"In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed."

I Corinthians 15:51, 52

We rejoice with Sis. Anna Meyer who is asleep — but not forever. However, our prayers and sympathy are with family and loved ones who have had to say goodbye to their dear mother and grandmother at her passing March 2. Surviving are three sons, Bro. Robert (Sis. Lela), Bro. Dale (Sis. Glenda, Bluffton) and Bro. Harold (Sis. Violet, Bluffton); two daughters, Maxine Worden (Truman, FL) and Joan Beer (Otto, New Paris, IN); a brother, Orville Bucher (FL); a sister, Sis. Louella Jacobs (Cissna Park, IL); and 19 grandchildren.

Our prayers and sympathy have also been with Bro. Daniel (Sis. Priscilla) Steffen in the passing of his brother-in-law, Bro. Adam Manz (Junction, OH).

"Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth."

III John 2

This is our prayer and wish for Bro. Leonard (Sis. Wava) Bertsch, Bro. Ervin (Sis. Ellen) Fiechter and Sis. Mary (Bro. John) Moser and for Daniel Shorb (Bro. Brett and Sis. Cindy) who have all spent time in the hospital this past month.

We give heartfelt thanks to ministering Bro. John Reinhard (Bluffton) for lending himself to our congregation. As always, we welcome him and Sis. Pam and their family to return any time.

"Unto Him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in His own blood,

"And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to Him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen."

Revelation 1:5, 6

INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE
Lynne Wuethrich

Many couples have experienced joy as precious children were born to them. Greg and Tina Reinhold are first-time parents of a precious son, Derek Alan, born February 27. Happy grandparents are Bro. James and Sis. Sharon Denton (Francesville) and Mr. and Mrs. Donald Reinhold (Winamac).

Bro. Roger and Sis. Janet Overmyer have been blessed with a daughter, Robin Kay. Robin was born March 3 and has three sisters, Lana, Deana and Sarah, and one brother, Jason. Grandparents are Bro. Lee and Sis. Velda Overmyer and Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Vogt (all of Francesville).

Many of our loved ones have been hospitalized this month. Our prayers have been with each of them. Bro. Alex Gutwein was seriously injured in an accident. Our Francesville congregation prays that God will heal him and be with his parents, Bro. Edison and Sis. Chrisann Gutwein and their children.

Bro. Eugene Huber (Sis. Millie) has been hospitalized along with Bro. Ben Metz (Sis. Miriam) and little Tyler Gutwein (Bro. Harvey Bob and Sis. Ellen Gutwein. Bro. Bob Wuethrich (Sis. Phyllis) was also in the hospital. Our prayer is for their complete recovery according to His will.

INDIANA, INDIANAPOLIS
Kathy Freed — Gail Bradford

Bro. Ken Wuethrich has been chosen for the ministry by the Indianapolis congregation. We are grateful that our prayers have been answered!

We pour out our love and encouragement to Bro. Ken, his dear wife, Sis. Lyn, and their children and look forward to growing together in the Word and in Christ's love.

Although we depend on our elder

brothers and ministering brothers to bring us the Word and to lead our local congregations, we, too, have a responsibility toward each other and our brethren and neighbors.

Peter exhorts us to: "Be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer.

"And above all things have fervent charity among yourselves; for charity shall cover the multitude of sins.

"Use hospitality one to another without grudging.

"As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.

"If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever."

I Peter 4:7-11

Elder Bros. Alfred Bahler (Wolcott), Phil Stettner (Bluffton North) and Wendell Gudeman (Francesville) and ministering Bros. Larry Wenninger (Latty, OH), Ron Heiniger (Bloomington-Normal, IL), Ken Eisenmann (Cissna Park, IL) and Jack Bollier (Leo) visited Indianapolis recently. We are grateful for these shepherds.

Many of us enjoyed fellowship at Bro. Chuck and Sis. Doris Neuenchwander's home recently.

We rejoice with and for Craig Schaffer (Bro. Bruce and Sis. Lauretta Schaffer) who has found peace with God at the foot of the cross. How wonderful is the gift of forgiveness and the promise of an eternal home with Him!

We are praying for young Joshua Freed and his parents, Bro. Tom and Sis. Kathy Freed and their family as Josh undergoes surgery. The Holy Spirit sustains us through many trials and will not forsake us.

A final thought as we welcome Bro. Ken Wuethrich onto the pulpit: "Yea, all of you be subject to one another, and be clothed with humility; for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble."

II Peter 5:5

INDIANA, LACROSSE
Sandy Heinold

As we often sing in a familiar hymn, God's Word is the mirror where we can see our faults and duties. We are thankful that there are yet faithful brothers

who stand and proclaim this Word. Visiting us and ministering unto us in these past few weeks were Bros. Mike Rinkenberger (Congerville, IL), Bill Schlatter (Junction, OH), Merrill Laukhuf (Latty, OH) and Marvin and Lynn Stieglitz (Leo, IN). By being obedient unto the Word which we have received, we can truly show our thankfulness.

We extend our sympathy to our dear Sisters Erma and Lorene Moser due to the unexpected death of their brother, Marvin Moser. May they find comfort in knowing that God does care and will provide for them during their time of sorrow. "He healeth the broken in heart and bindeth up their wounds." Psalms 147:3.

Hospital patients this month include Art Luthi, Bro. Enos Cadwalader, and Sis. Esther Hitz. We hope they can feel our love and prayers as well as God's nearness as they endure their afflictions.

As we rejoice during this Easter season, let's remember the price of our redemption. It cost our dear Saviour His life and may this thought inspire us to love our Lord more sincerely.

INDIANA, LAFAYETTE PURDUE UNIVERSITY

EASTER

Alleluia! Praise be to God! Christ is risen! Death is no longer the victor for Jesus is alive for evermore. Through Him death is no longer the end of the road, but the passageway to life.

In Christ we rejoice, for His victory is also our own. Not only do we have the promise of abundant life now but for eternity.

As the earth bursts forth with glory and the promise of new life touches our sight, may the joy of triumph be yours. Let us celebrate together the glorious promise of God in its fulfillment in Christ Jesus.

May His life be yours in its fullest and this Easter day bring forth a song in your heart. "Praise God from whom all blessings flow!"

Anonymous

We would like to extend our thanks to Bros. Michael Thomas (Valparaiso), Kevin Knapp (Bloomington, IL) and Marvin Stieglitz (Leo) for coming and sharing God's Word with us during our fellowship hour here at Purdue.

Bro. Neal and Sis. Kris Widmer were

blessed with a precious baby boy, Matthew Edward, February 26. "Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven." Matthew 19:14.

INDIANA, LEO Thelma Schlatter

"And with him they crucify two thieves; the one on his right hand, and the other on his left."

Mark 15:27

"And one of the malefactors which were hanged with him railed on him, saying, If thou be the Christ, save thyself and us. But the other said unto Jesus, Lord, Remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom. And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, Today shalt thou be with me in paradise."

Luke 23:39, 42, 43

The center cross was The Cross Of Redemption. This cross is the wonder of all time. What love! He died for the sins of others. He suffered the agony of the cross that His followers would be delivered from guilt and eternal punishment.

One cross was The Cross Of Rejection. The man on this cross wanted to be saved from death on the cross, but to his many sins, he added the greatest, the sin of unbelief. Of such Jesus said: If ye believe not that I am He, ye shall die in your sins. (John 8:24)

The other cross was The Cross Of Reception. This cross brought about a last minute conversion. His sins were cancelled in a moment. No time for good works or sacraments — only faith in the Christ of the center cross. What a change: morning in sin, noon in grace, night in glory, a home to be shared by all the saved.

(Taken in part from 'Silent Evangelist',
a Faith Prayer tract)

Blessed is the servant who, when his Lord comes, shall be found waiting and watching and working.

Bro. David Bertsch recently returned from a survey trip to search the needs and opportunities for service in Haiti.

Bro. Ben Manz (Junction, OH) recently ministered in Leo. Thanks are expressed to him and those who accompanied him.

Sympathy is conveyed to Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Pearl Klopfenstein in the pass-

ing of his sister, Esther (Klopfenstein) Bender.

May each reader spend time in serious meditation upon His great love and sacrifice as we near Good Friday, and then may you have a beautiful Easter Day because of His glorious resurrection with its promise.

INDIANA, MILFORD Marguerite Hoerr

Area hospitals saw several members of our congregation during the past month. Chad Beer (Bro. Lee and Sis. Sandy) received medical treatment at Wishard Hospital in Indianapolis for a rather lengthy stay. We're so thankful he's home and doing quite well.

Little Simon Beer (Bro. Steve and Sis. Connie) has had two bouts in the Goshen General Hospital. He remains there, at this time, with an unexplained high temperature. Our prayers are with him and his parents.

Bro. Bill Troup was involved in a truck accident on the job and received medical treatment in the Goshen Hospital. He's recovered and back in church.

Sis. Ginger Price had surgery on her hands and is recovering nicely.

Sis. Laura Kammerer fell in her home and spent some time in Goshen Hospital. It was good to see her back to worship with us.

Bro. Theo Beer fell and injured his shoulders and had facial cuts. It was not necessary for him to be hospitalized, and he's making satisfactory progress.

Sis. Hulda Graff suffered a stroke in her home at Lakeland Loving Care. We're happy to report that she is making progress each day.

All of these folks play such an essential part in our church, and we feel as if we've been especially blessed that recovery has been granted to most of them.

We were privileged in this past month to have Bro. Willis Ehnle and Bro. Lester Huber fill guest spots on our pulpit. May the Lord bless them for their visits to us.

Teresa Beer (Bro. Phil and Sis. Millie) was united in marriage March 14 to Doug Jones (Dr. Russell and Mary Ann Jones, West Lafayette). Teresa's grandfather, Bro. Theo Beer, conducted the marriage ceremony in our fellowship hall. They will make their home in Colorado. We wish them the Lord's blessings in their lives together.

INDIANA, REMINGTON**Beth Virkler — Susan Getz**

"Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord: and the fruit of the womb is his reward." (Psalm 127:3). First-time parents are Bob and Linda Beckley as they welcomed Jessica Lauren into their home February 25. Grandparents are Elmer and Nancy Beckley and Mr. and Mrs. Ray Correll (Oxford, IN).

Second-time parents are Randy and Sonia Pierce as big sister, Jessica, was excited when Jennifer Leslie arrived February 27. Grandparents are Bro. Harold and Sis. Arleta Waibel.

Fourth-time parents are Bro. Ed and Sis. Annette Bahler as Ashton Alyce joined their family March 10. Jenny, Clinton and Andria are her big helpers. Grandparents are Bro. Ed and Sis. Lois Bahler and Mr. and Mrs. Lenny Mathew (Wolcott, IN).

On March 8, the engagement of Sis. Kristine Bahler and Bro. Keith Steidinger was shared with us. Parents are Bro. Walt and Sis. Esther Bahler and Bro. Maurice and Sis. Alma Steidinger (Fairbury, IL). They are planning a June 28 wedding.

There is always plenty of joy to be expressed at the news of a birth or an upcoming marriage but then there comes a time for each of us to take our turn towards enduring various afflictions of our physical bodies. Bro. Odell Pitman (Sis. Marge) wants to thank everyone who has remembered him with cards, prayers and visits during his serious illness. Sis. Velma Wilson (Loren) and Hollis May (Sis. Angeline) both have spent time in the hospital this month.

The following story was written by Sis. Anna Waibel who passed away in December, 1984. She read it to several of her close friends one month before she died and we felt that it had a message to share with others.

"The story is told of an old man, who, noted for his wisdom, once said to his neighbor, 'I have had a very busy day and I am tired.' The friend inquired what the man had been doing to keep him so busy, and he replied, 'I have two eagles to tame, two hares to keep from running away, two hawks to manage, a serpent to confine, a lion to chain, and a sick man to wait upon.' The friend was surprised and said, 'I did not know that you had a menagerie to take care of. Where did you get so many creatures?' The old man smiled as he explained,

"The two eagles are my eyes. I must train them to look only at things that are good and have them watch for chances to be helpful. The two hares are my feet. I must keep them from walking in ways of wrong and selfishness. The two hawks are my hands which are so ready to take and not always so ready to share and do. The serpent is my tongue which I must keep from poisoning anyone by an untrue or unkind word. The lion is my temper which I always keep under control lest it harm someone. The sick man is my body which I must give nourishing food and exercise. With all these duties to attend to every day, it is a busy one for me."

INDIANA, SOUTH BEND
Jill Lehman — Annie Meyer**EACH SPRING,
GOD RENEWS HIS PROMISE**

Long, long ago in a land far away,
There came the dawn of the first
Easter Day,
And each year we see
That promise reborn
That God gave the world
On that first Easter Morn . . .
For in each waking flower and each
singing bird,
The Promise of Easter
is witnessed and heard,
And Spring is God's way of speaking to
men
And renewing the promise of Easter
again,
For death is a season
that man must pass through
And, just like the flowers, God wakens
him, too . . .
So why should we grieve
when our loved ones die,
For we'll meet them again
in a "cloudless sky" —
For Easter is more than a beautiful
story,
It's the promise of life and Eternal
Glory.

Helen Steiner Rice

Oh, how beautiful and wonderful to know that we have that promise of eternal life because of that first Easter Morning!

We are thankful that Bro. Dan Clauss is doing well in his therapy while at the Bremen Nursing Home after suffering a mild stroke. We pray that God will continue to heal his physical body.

We are always joyful for visitors and this past month we were blessed to have several ministers, Bro. Walt Steffen (Milford, IN), Bro. William Brake (Sardis, OH) and Bro. Jesse Beer (Milford, IN).

Reminder: April is the month for Silver Lining dues for South Bend.

INDIANA, VALPARAISO
Trish Bucher — Peg Huber

Spring . . . A New Beginning . . .
"Rejoice with them that do rejoice . . ."
Romans 12:15. Our church family is rejoicing with Bro. Garry and Sis. Lois Bucher in that their daughter, Sheryl Bucher, has begun her walk with the Lord through repentance. We wish her God's grace and blessings in her new life in Christ.

We are thankful that God's tender mercies were upon Jim Bucher and Scott Rice that their hospital stays were short and that they were able to be restored to a full measure of health.

We thank Bro. Bob Beebe (South Bend, IN) for so lovingly sharing the Word of the Lord with us recently.

"And the peace of God which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."

Philippians 4:7

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

Easter — a time of remembrance of our Lord's suffering and death and a time of rejoicing over His resurrection.

Bro. Neal and Sis. Kris Widmer are also rejoicing in the birth of their son, Matthew Edward, born February 26. Matthew's brothers are John, Bradley and Blake. Grandparents are Ed and Sis. Gladys Widmer and Bro. Sid and Sis. Fern Leman (Francesville).

Sis. Jean Ravellette has been a hospital patient. May God bless her with renewed health and strength.

IOWA, BURLINGTON
Dixie Messner — Karen Schulz

The Oakville and Burlington brethren recently gathered together to hear the conclusions of the brotherhood conference last August. Elder Bro. Dan Koch (Tremont, IL) assisted our Elder Bro. Ed Lanz to bring us timely warnings, admonitions and encouragement to grow in grace using Christ as our pattern. May we each take these

teachings to heart and apply them to our own lives.

During this season of the year, let us remember the death and suffering of our Lord and Saviour on the cross that we can have a hope of eternal life.

Sit and pause awhile, my spirit
This great miracle behold;
See the King of highest merit
On the cross so bare and cold!
Out of heaven God has given
His own Son in love untold!

Zion's Harp #226

IOWA, ELGIN
Gloria Frieden

He is not here: for he is risen.
What a glorious victory!

Our Sunday school children are busy learning songs and verses for our Easter program. It is our prayer that this will help them realize more fully God's plan of salvation and his great love for all mankind.

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

"For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved."
John 3:16, 17

Our Elder Bro. Paul Butikofer and his wife, Sis. Milly, have recently moved to a new location. Their new address is 502 Mill, Elgin, IA 52141 and their phone number is 319-426-5160.

IOWA, GARDEN GROVE
Glen and Sally Funk

Our visiting ministers since the end of January have been Bro. Jim Plattner (Princeville, IL), Bro. Alphie Strahm (Bern, KS), Bro. Noah Gerber (West Bend, IA) and Bro. Byron Stoller (Gridley, IL). Each visit is so special to us and we wish to thank them and all who came with them for their time and efforts.

The winter has been short and we have been blessed with some beautiful spring days. What a hope we have within us with the Lord. His joy always makes me think of the joy of springtime, and how refreshed we feel.

If anyone would be available to help with our vacation Bible school, please

contact Willa Clark, Route 1, Box 122, Weldon, IA.

IOWA, IOWA CITY
Bonita Frank

A visiting minister recently reminded us of God's great love and mercy. God allows us to be tempted and tried to make us truer to Him, "but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it." I Corinthians 10:13. God cares for us so tenderly and completely!

We are thankful for the visiting ministers God provided this past month. They were Bro. Don Wagenbach (Washington, IL), Bro. Elmer Witzig (Gridley, IL) and Bro. Clifford Grimm (West Bend). May God bless these brothers for coming to be with us. We certainly were richly blessed by their services.

IOWA, LESTER

Kathy Metzger — Mary Knobloch

"Thus united and in concord, let us walk the path of life . . ." Zion's Harp #237. February 22 was the day Bro. Stan Knobloch (Bro. Dale and Sis. Mary) and Sis. Dawn Meyer (Bro. Raymond and Sis. Twyla) were united in holy matrimony. May the blessings of God be upon their marriage and bond them strongly together as they walk toward Zion.

"Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. 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. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also." John 14:1-3. Bro. Jake Knobloch has laid down his armour and has gone to the reward God promised to those who serve Him and remain true until death. Mourning his passing are his children, Bro. Nathan, Bro. Arthur, Bro. Dale, Orvie, Sis. Matilda Fehr (Bro. Elmer, West Bend), Sis. Dena Weiss (Bro. Cal, Elgin, IL), Sis. Eunice (Elgin, IL), Sis. Gladys, Sis. Betty and Sis. Ella Mae Schmidt (Eugene, Gaylord, MN). May the many memories they embrace bring comfort to their hearts.

"The Lord also will be a refuge for the oppressed, a refuge in times of trouble. And they that know thy name will put their trust in thee; for thou, Lord, hast not forsaken them that seek

thee . . ." Psalm 9:9-10. Those of our congregation submitting to surgery were Bro. Alvin Leuthold, Bro. Gary Heyer, Todd Metzger (Keith), Sis. Amelia Roemen (Bro. Ed), Wade Popkes (Sis. Eleanor) and Fred Metzger. Medical patients were Lou Moser, Anna Knobloch (Otto), Bro. Wm. Nester and Bro. Earl Knobloch. May God's healing power be manifested to the ill and oppressed.

Easter is upon us and again we travel the road to Calvary's Hill. There we view the greatest Love to mankind — Jesus' death on the cross, the shedding of His blood for our sins, and His resurrection. Does your life reflect the greatest Love?

IOWA, OAKVILLE
Debbie Wagenbach

As we coast into spring, we reflect upon the Lord's blessings of the winter. Surely we are a blessed people! We have recently gathered with the Burlington brethren to listen and hearken to the kind warnings and admonitions of our elder brothers in the memorandum. Elder Bro. Dan Koch (Tremont, IL) assisted our Elder Bro. Ed Lanz in this service. Let us support the warnings we heard!

Thought: The greatest remedy for anger is delay.

Anonymous

IOWA, PULASKI

Mary Jane Knapp — Sarah Teubel

Spring is in the air. There were a few cold and cloudy days in March. It felt like spring changed its mind about coming, but as God always shows us hope, a huge flock of birds flew overhead telling us that spring will soon be here.

"To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven:"

Ecclesiastes 3:1

With the coming of spring, we also commemorate the death and dying of our blessed Saviour upon that old rugged cross at Calvary.

"Pilate saith unto them, what shall I do then with Jesus which is called Christ? They all said unto him, Let him be crucified."

Matthew 27:22

"And they crucified him, and they

parted his garments, casting lots: . . ."
Matthew 27:35

We ourselves must be careful not to let the dying of Christ for us be in vain. As Christians, we must be on guard all the time to fight off the fiery darts of Satan. Our visiting ministers this past month were Bro. Frederick Knapp (Congerville, IL) and Bro. Kenneth Knapp (Taylor, MO).

IOWA, WEST BEND

Polly Zaugg — Phyllis Banwart

How uplifting to listen to testimonies and witness baptisms of loved ones and welcome them into the fold. The weekend of February 15, Elder Bro. Gene Marti (Lamar, MO) was here to assist Elder Bro. Wayne Fehr with these special duties. We welcome Bro. Byron Fehr (Bro. Wayne and Sis. Kathy) and Bro. Bill and Sis. Mary Berg (Sis. Betty Schmidt). Bro. Bill and Sis. Mary have been assembling with the Denver, CO, congregation. Also here to share in the weekend were Bro. Tom Leman (Denver, CO) and Bro. Elmer Schmidt (Winthrop, MN).

May the Lord bless our surgical patients, Ervin Banwart (Nettie) and Reuben Anliker (Louisa) with a measure of health again.

Bro. Ken and Sis. Marlene Banwart welcomed Trent Alan into their family circle February 24. Also on hand to enjoy him are Rick, Kendra, LaRae, Twila and Wes. Trent's grandparents are Bro. Earl and Sis. Edna Banwart and Bro. Silas and Sis. Della Metzger.

We extend sincere sympathy to Sis. Katherine Fisher in the loss of her brother, Joe Zaugg. We also extend sympathy to Bro. Elmer and Sis. Matilda Fehr and family in the loss of her father, Bro. Jacob Knobloch (Lester). Funeral services were held February 25 for Sis. Lydia Reinhard, 96. Sis. Lydia resided at the care center for many years. Surviving are nieces and nephews. Sis. Emma Luthi and Sis. Ida Fehr are now residing at the West Bend Care Center.

Note: It was brought to our attention that four children were omitted in the list of survivors of Bro. Paul Banwart, Sr., in the March issue. They are Sis. Alice Metzger (Bro. Eli, Lester, IA), Sis. Estelwyn Metzger (Bro. Fred, Lester, IA), Arnold, and Lela Banwart (West Bend, IA). Arnold and Lela lived with their father and lovingly cared for him his last years and we apologize for

this oversight.

The following serves as a reminder of the Easter season that we anticipate:

The message of Easter cannot be written in the past tense. It is a message for today and the days to come. It is God's message which must re-echo through our lives.

Frank D. Getty

JAPAN, TOKYO

Yoshio Yamazaki — Marie Inoue

"For, lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone; The flowers appear on the earth; the time of the singing of birds is come, and the vines with the tender grape give a good smell."

Song of Solomon 2:11

It is so wonderful and very beautiful to touch our hearts through these Scriptures. It wakes us and encourages spiritual growth. Now, we are looking forward to Easter as our Sunday school children's Easter program is being planned. We wish for a wonderful blessed Easter in our congregations with our love and prayers.

We had Bro. Bruce Wyss (Sis. Donna) and Randy Maloney (Sis. Dawn) visiting us this past month. They are here for a ten-month training program for Mitsubishi. They live in Nagoya which is about 1½ hours away by bullet train. We enjoyed their fellowship so much.

KANSAS, BERN

Lori Baumgartner Shirley Strahm

"For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers having itching ears; and they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables."

II Timothy 4:3, 4

May we ever have a hunger and thirst for the true Word of God. Visiting ministers this past month have been Elder Bro. Lavoyd Moore (Athens, AL), Elder Bro. Andy Virkler (Bay City, MI), Bro. Al Aberle (Tremont, IL), Bro. Wayne Miller (Fort Scott, KS), Elder Bro. Ed Lanz (Oakville, IA) and Elder Bro. Sam Huber (Sabetha, KS). We enjoyed having them with us and are thankful God could use them to

bring us the true Word.

Hospital patients have been Bro. Vernon Esslinger (Sis. Lillian), surgery and Sis. Ella Hartter (Bro. Lester), surgery. We are thankful both have recovered sufficiently to be released and pray the Lord may continue to grant His healing powers.

The weekend of March 7 - 8 was a very inspiring weekend. On Saturday evening we enjoyed assembling with the Sabetha brethren to hear the conference letter read to us. Oh, if only we could remember all that was said and apply it to our daily lives. But, surely we can remember enough that we can gain spiritually, if we but take the time and make an effort to apply it in our lives.

Sunday was the ordination of Bro. John Lehman as deacon. This was a time when we felt renewed love and support for one another. May Bro. John always feel the support of the congregation and may he feel the guidance and direction of God in whatever decisions may lie before him.

"Up from the grave He arose." (Tabernacle Hymns #205). Imagine the fear and joy, the anticipation the two women felt when they went to the grave of Christ and heard the angels say, "He is not here; for He is risen, as He said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay." St. Matthew 28:6. It is with much Godly fear and joy we live our lives today. May we also have great anticipation!

Bro. Lester and Sis. Ella Hartter would like to thank each one who remembered them with cards, gifts, visits and prayers during her recent hospital stay.

KANSAS, GRIDLEY

Vola Young — Judy Kraft

Several from our church body invited company one weekend. Visiting ministers that weekend were Bro. Vernon Wettstein (Congerville, IL) and Bro. John Steiner (Oakville, IA).

Loren Strahm (Bro. Scott and Sis. Kathy) underwent tests for what was thought to be a possible serious medical problem. We thank and praise God that he is recuperating from a bacterial infection.

KANSAS, KIOWA

Janice Bahr — Darcy Kising

"And said unto him, Hearest thou what these say? And Jesus saith unto

them, Yea; have ye never read, Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings thou hast perfected praise."

St. Matthew 21:16

Recently I overheard two children talking as they played happily together, and their childlike faith brought the above Scripture to my mind. As they were playing under a lovely starlit sky, the first child asked, "Where's your Mommy?" The second child, whose mother had recently fallen sleep in the arms of her Lord, said simply, "She died!" Then, before I even had time to catch my breath at the pain the conversation might cause, the first child paused in her play, looked up to the starry sky, spread her arms upward and stated confidently, "When we all die we'll just fly up to Jesus!" As they went happily on in their play, I marveled at such childlike faith, and understood once more why Jesus wants us to come to Him as a little child.

We have been fortunate this past month to have no hospital patients to report, but we do so miss our friend Floyd Tanner and his dear wife, Verda, being in our midst. He is at home, but battles on with cancer. Our thoughts and prayers are with him continually.

Easter, for the Christian, is probably the most wonderful day of the entire year! Christmas, when we celebrate our Lord's birth, is beautiful, yes, but Easter, when we have been to Calvary to remember His suffering on that cruel cross, after the mockery and pain of an unfair trial, and the desertion of all His friends, and finally, His bloodshed and death to cover the sins of an unworthy world is so much more precious! Why? Because He arose the third day. Our Lord was Victor over death, and has paid the price for the whole world so we, too, may have the victory over death and the grave, and may eternally dwell with our Lord and God in heaven. Hallelujah, Praise the Lord! Have a beautiful and blessed Easter in the Lord Jesus!

KANSAS, LAMONT Mary Isch

"He left us the Word . . ." The most unselfish prayer of all.

"Father, the hour is come; . . .

"I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do.

"I have manifested thy name unto the men which thou gavest me out of the world: thine they were, and thou gavest them me; and they have kept thy word.

"I pray for them: I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me, for they are thine."

John 17:1, 4, 6, 9

Visiting ministers this month were Bro. Dale Wulf (Lester, IA) and Bro. Max Reinschisel (Wichita, KS).

Nathan Thomas was born March 13 to Bro. Tom and Sis. Jeri Knobloch. He has a brother, Jacob, and a sister, Ester, to welcome him home. Grandparents are Bro. Nathan and Sis. Irene Knobloch and Bro. Lloyd and Joann Luthi.

Ruth Ott has been moved to a nursing home in El Dorado. Her new address is: Knutson Manor, 1313 S. High, El Dorado, KS 67042.

KANSAS, MANHATTAN KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY Lisa Steiner — Natalie Wysong

Spring is bringing warmer weather to the campus, and with it comes a desire to neglect studies in pursuit of time spent with nature.

Visiting ministers who came during the winter months to share God's Word were Bros. Darrell Stoller (Bern), Ben Wysong (Sabetha), John Lehman (Bern), Loren Strahm (Gridley), Elder Bros. Sam Huber (Sabetha) and Ron Nelson (Kiowa). Many were accompanied by family members who helped our singings.

We're glad for everyone who finds time to share with us and we appreciate the efforts they put forth to visit us.

KANSAS, SABETHA Charleen Hartter — Nita Grimm

We mentioned in last month's article the blessing of hosting our elder brother's mid-winter conference. We thank each elder brother for coming and are grateful for the messages given to our congregation by Elder Bros. Willis Ehnle (Shioda, Japan), Joe Stoller (Princeville, IL), Aaron Steffen (Alto, MI), Norbert Steiner (Croghan, NY), John Klotzle (Altadena, CA) and Lavoyn Moore (Athens, AL).

Elder Bros. Ed Lanz (Oakville, IA) and Lester Hartter (Bern, KS) assisted our Elder Bro. Sam Huber in reading and exhorting on the memorandum letter. We are encouraged and con-

soled to be reminded of the true way to heaven as there are many counterfeit doctrines being heralded today. II Thessalonians 2 begins by telling that the day of Christ is at hand followed by verse 3 which states, 'Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition.' The chapter ends with a request of the brethren in verse 15 to stand fast, and hold the traditions which ye have been taught, whether by word, or our epistle. Certainly it is faith in Christ's shed blood that saves us, but our traditions and a humble heart before God can help keep us. May we strive to have fervent charity among ourselves.

It is with excitement and joy that we welcome two new additions. Lyle Jay was born to Bro. Rodney and Sis. Arlene Grimm by God's wisdom and love. He is now sharing the home with Wanda, Wayne, Kent, Kara, Lana and Lafe. Lyle's grandparents are Bro. Ernest and Sis. Ella Metzger (Lester, IA) and Bro. Nathan and Sis. Lois Grimm. Bro. Brad and Sis. Teresa Kellenberger, along with their children, Tiffany, Brett and Megan, have prepared a place in their hearts and home for little Kenna Ann. Bro. Virgil and Sis. Marie Hartter and Sis. Elaine Kellenberger (Lester, IA) are privileged with another grandchild.

Ministering Bros. Mark Bahr (Detroit, MI) and John Lehman (Bern, KS) worshipped with our congregation recently. We thank them for their labors.

There is no joy quite like seeing a soul seek God in repentance. We have three such souls who have openly confessed their need for Christ. Let's remember in prayer our loved ones who are seeking salvation and also those who linger outside with a longing heart. If you are desiring peace of mind and joy of heart, remember that God has sufficient grace to surmount any obstacle in your way. His yoke is easy and His burden is light.

MICHIGAN, ALTO Juanita Gerst

"Obey them that have the rule over you and submit yourselves . . ."

Hebrews 13:17

We were thankful to have Elder Bro. Bob Walder (Congerville, IL) with us to share the reading of the memorandum

and remind us of the way we should live in our precious faith.

We would also like to extend a special thank you to ministering Bro. Greg Rassi for sharing the Word of Life with Alto.

Our prayers are with Bro. Alex Gutwein and his family. Bro. Alex is hospitalized due to an accident while on vacation. His parents are Bro. Ed and Sis. Chrisanne Gutwein (Francesville, IN).

The Alto Young Group was privileged to have the Toledo, OH, Young Group here the weekend of March 7-8. It is always a blessing to be able to visit with those of like mind and faith.

A special welcome is extended to Sis. Treasure Steffen who is returning here from Arizona and Bro. Lyman and Sis. Vivian Feldman who are returning from their winter stay in Florida.

Babies are special gifts sent from God. Scott and Jackie Foster, and a big sister, Louisa, welcome little Lindsay into their home as a special addition.

MICHIGAN, BAY CITY

Pam Schlatter

Visiting our congregation this month has been ministering Bro. Floyd Wieland (Detroit). We are thankful for the Word that was shared through him and pray our ministering brethren could always depend on the Spirit for their source of inspiration.

"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new."

II Corinthians 5:17

The tomb is viewed as a place where old worthless things are placed. What is comforting to consider about the Easter story is that so overwhelming was the new, that the tomb could not contain the old that was placed in it. The old simply could not exist, so complete and perfect and all encompassing was the new. It was not a matter of the old still being contained in the tomb and the new carrying on. No, rather it was the total destruction of the old so that the new would be all there was. So it is when we become a new creature in Christ. The old is totally consumed by the new. It is not the coexisting of a dormant old and a

lively new that occurs in the conversion process. But just as the tomb was emptied when Jesus rose in newness of Spirit, so the heart must be totally emptied of the old so the new life can come forth. Let's thank the Lord for the opportunity to become new because of Easter morning.

MICHIGAN, DETROIT

Donna Hartzler

"O come, let us sing unto the Lord: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation. Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms. For the Lord is a great God and a great King above all gods." (Psalms 95:1-3). We give thanks to the Mortonaires for ministering to us the love of God in song the weekend of March 1. We also thank those who came on the bus with them and all our visitors including Bro. Bill Waibel (Bay City) for helping to make the weekend a blessed one.

The Lord blessed us with other visiting ministers during the month. Bro. Vernon Schwab ministered to us Sunday, March 8, and Bros. Merle Kaisner and Roy Ehle were our visiting ministers Sunday, March 15.

Believing it is the will of God that they marry, the engagement of Sis. Beverly Babin (Bro. Emanuel and Sis. Helen) and Bro. Glen Rufener (Rittman, OH) was announced March 1. It is our prayer God's blessings will be with them as they make plans to be united in holy matrimony.

Our sympathy is extended to the family of Louise (Polk) Tyler of Howell, MI, who passed away Saturday, February 28, and especially to her sisters, Sis. Kay Cargill (Elgin, IL) and Sis. Evelyn Wieland (Bay City).

Brandon Philip is the name chosen for the baby born to Bro. Phil and Sis. Dawn Bahr Friday, March 6, 1987. Scott and Michelle got their wish for a brother. May God's blessings be upon them all.

Our Elder Bro. Ben Maibach submitted to surgery Thursday, March 19. We trust the Great Physician will grant healing, and Bro. Ben can be returned to good health soon. "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness." (Isaiah 41:10).

MINNESOTA, MINNEAPOLIS

Barbara Olson

Easter blessings to you!

Knowing the power of the resurrected Christ in a personal way is far better than simply repeating a creed that states the fact that the Lord Jesus Christ arose. The Christian's life should give daily evidence of the reality of Christ's resurrection.

On Easter Day, let us yield ourselves anew to the indwelling Holy Spirit, and be sure that we are living in obedience to the Word of God. Unbelievers will then see that Jesus is alive and that we truly know Him.

May our new convert, Tim Lawson (Bro. Ken and Sis. Sharon), who has turned over his life and has now erected a covenant with our loving Savior, walk in the spirit of love, joy and peace. We rejoice when we can greet a new convert with a holy kiss and our hearts and minds are bound in love and unity. We heard his testimony Saturday evening, February 28, of how God performed the miracle of transformation in his heart and gave him peace. Then on Sunday, March 1, he received baptism, rising to a newness of life and experiencing the joy of our loving Savior.

Showers of blessings continued Sunday evening as we broke the bread and shared the cup of wine, rejoicing as we pledge to renew our Christian walk with God.

We were blessed to be so well served by Elder Bro. Harold Messner (Winthrop, MN) and Elder Bro. Art Nohl (Morris, MN). We thank them and their wives for serving us and we trust that the Lord will richly reward them for their kind deeds. Other much appreciated visiting ministers with us this month were Bro. Edwin Bahler (Remington, IN), Elder Bro. Wayne Fehr (West Bend, IA), Bro. Leroy Messner (Winthrop, MN) and Elder Bro. Loren Stoller (Latty, OH).

Two young lives were joined as one as Christine Tucker (Mr. and Mrs. Richard Tucker) became the wife of Samuel Moser (Bro. Bill and Sis. Joyce). We wish them God's blessing and every joy in their new life together.

Sunday, March 1, we bid farewell to Sis. Charlene Luthi as she temporarily moved back home to Morris, MN, awaiting her March 22 wedding day.

Sis. Charlene and Bro. Charles will then make their home in Oakville, IA. It is our prayer that God will bless them with a lifetime of happiness together.

Thought — The resurrection assures what Calvary secures.

MINNESOTA, MORRIS

Ruth Nohl — Hildegard Koehl

We rejoice with our convert, DeWayne Feuchtenberger (Bro. Gerald and Sis. Karen), who has turned his life over to God and professes peace with God and man. He is now looking forward to baptism and being a brother in the Lord. We are certainly happy for him and wish him God's grace.

On March 7, Sam Moser (Bro. Bill and Sis. Joyce) and Christine Tucker were joined together in marriage. We wish God's blessings on this couple as they begin their life together.

On the week end of March 14, Eric Koehl (Bro. Ken and Sis. Karen), Sally and Kenny Feuchtenberger and Guy and Lynette Koehl, told us of the need for a change in their lives. May God always grant them protection and guidance in their spiritual growth.

We were happy to have Bro. Loren Stoller (Latty, OH) and Bro. Bill Emch (Lamont, KS) with us March 14. May God bless our elders and ministers who faithfully and humbly bring us the Word of God. May the seeds that are planted bring forth good fruit.

Three homes in our congregation have been blessed with new babies. On March 12, twin girls, Rebecca and Sara, were born to Bro. Jim and Sis. Rowena Furrer. They are welcomed home by two sisters and two brothers. Grandparents are Bro. Glen and Sis. Eileen Furrer.

Stephanie Jo was born March 13 to Bro. Rodney and Sis. Denise Schaefer. Grandparents are Bro. Anton and Sis. Verna Schaefer and Bro. Dennis and Sis. Esther Warner (Lester, IA).

Kathy and Nolan Kloehn are first-time parents to Natasha Lynn who was born March 13. Bro. Gottlieb and Sis. Edith Joos are Natasha's grandparents.

Those hospitalized this month were Bro. Lawrence Nohl and Sis. Helen Schaefer (Bro. Otto). May we always remember these loved ones in our prayers as their needs are special during their illness.

Madonna Moser wishes to thank all who remembered her with cards, gifts and flowers while she was in the hospital and also since she returned home.

Your deeds of kindness will always be remembered. May God bless you all.

Our lives are in God's loving hands
in everything we do —
He is with us constantly,
He always sees us through.
And if our faith is strong enough,
We'll never walk alone,
For with His great and perfect love,
He takes care of His own —
So anytime that trials or burdens
seem to come our way,
Find strength and hope in knowing
God is with us every day.

Author Unknown

Reminder: Silver Lining dues (\$7.00) will be collected in April for our congregation.

MINNESOTA, WINTHROP

Wanda Messner Ella Mae Schmidt

A Mom always knows to brighten your day,
With things that she does in her kind,
loving way.

She knows how to see things from your point of view
And be understanding and helpful to you.

A Mom always knows how to give and to share,
To bring special joy to lighten a care.

She knows how to add so much beauty to living —
For she knows the true art of loving and giving.

Author Unknown

We sincerely thank each of our mothers for all the loving and giving they have shared with us.

We rejoice with the angels in heaven that another dear soul has turned to Him in repentance. Paulette Schmidt (Bro. Elmer and Sis. Hazel) is seeking to do His will. May the words of this song be in her heart.

So take my pledge, Oh Lord, too long
in sin I've bided;
I'd live henceforth for thee, By Thee,
my Savior, guided!
O do thou hold me fast; from sin, O
make me free,

So that henceforth my heart, Thy temple pure may be!

Zion Harp #45

Our church enjoyed a delicious spaghetti supper, prepared and served by the Bible class children. How wonderful it is to see them working together in unity. We thank each of them and their teachers for their efforts.

Sis. Celina Schmidt was in the hospital this past month. She is now home and was able to assemble with us last Sunday.

MISSOURI, LAMAR

Carol Braker — Janice Stoller

This past month we were privileged to have with us several visiting ministers. On March 7, Bro. Vernon Leman (Eureka, IL) brought us a slide presentation of some of our churches behind the Iron Curtain which he had visited. We certainly thank him for his efforts. It makes us stop and think when we compare our lifestyle of plenty to their much more humble existence. But they are concerned for us that our way of living may be endangering our faith. May we ever strive to remain on the straight and narrow way, and have compassion where we can assist the less fortunate.

Then on Sunday Bro. Vernon was joined by Bro. Everett Hari (Bloomington, IL). We certainly appreciate their willingness to be used in our behalf.

On March 15, we once again were blessed with visiting ministers, Bro. Doug Schock (Pulaski, IA) and Elder Bro. Raymond Banwart (Fort Scott, KS). May God continue to bless each of them who stand before us.

Sis. Edna Frieden has been a hospital patient this past month. May she soon be feeling better and once again be able to assemble with us. Sis. Charlotte Banwart has been unable to assemble with us. We continue to remember her in prayer, and hope she can find strength daily to bear her cross.

MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS

Loren and Betsy Schrenk

When Bro. Kenny Knapp (Taylor, MO) came to bring us the Word March 15, he commented that he had expected the group here to be very small. There were nearly 40 of us gathered together for services. We residents were pleasantly surprised by our many visitors also. We have consistently had

a large number of visitors and we appreciate each one. To hear greetings from numerous churches warms our hearts.

Bro. Mike Rinkenberger and his family and a number of others from Congerville, IL, came on March 1. We thank our ministering brothers for their willing service.

We plan to hold services only the first Sunday in April, as the third Sunday is Easter. In May we hope to assemble the first, third and fifth Sundays.

MISSOURI, TAYLOR

Loida Hodel — Lori Marquart

"For, lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone; the flowers appear on the earth; the time of the singing of birds is come, and the voice of the turtle is heard in our land."

Song of Solomon 2:11-12

Life was filled with special times
When our child was young and small
Times of love and happiness . . .
Our hearts have kept them all.
Now life is bringing back those times
In a new and lovely way
Times of love and happiness . . .
We are "Grandparents" today!

A. Cassidy

Belated congratulations are extended to Bro. Arnie and Sis. Marge Gerst on the arrival of their first grandchild, Kyle Roth, born February 12 to their son and his wife, Bro. Mark and Sis. Jahala Gerst (Goodfield, IL). Maternal grandparents are Roy and Sis. Corrinne Roth of that area.

"Compassion is the capacity to put love into action." We are thankful to have shared in showing our sympathy and compassion to those in Mexico City by providing a group of brothers and friends from Taylor to help rebuild homes for the victims of the recent earthquake. Also, words of appreciation go out to the brothers who have hauled grain to the needy in the Greenville, SC, area.

Pity says — "I sympathize." Compassion says "I sympathize, let me help you."

It was good to have Bro. Curt and Sis. Sue and young Seth Heimer with us in the afternoon of March 8. Our love, concerns and prayers continue for them during the days ahead when Bro. Curt will undergo bone marrow trans-

plant. We are ever thankful that God is in control and may we realize that it is His "permissive will" that allows things that we can't understand come to pass. May we accept them as for our well being.

Many friends and relatives gathered Saturday evening, March 7, to share in a benefit supper for Bro. Curt and Sis. Sue which was deeply and gratefully appreciated. A big "thank you" and wish for God's blessings is extended to everyone who helped make this successful from Curt, Sue and their family.

NEW YORK, CROGHAN

Alice Virkler

GOOD FRIDAY

My Savior climbed Golgotha's hill,
Bearing His heavy load.
As painfully He upward toiled
Along that uphill road,
Great drops of sweat and drops of
blood

Dripped for a cause sublime.
The cross He bore, the thorns He wore
Were His; the sins were mine!

They nailed Him to the cross of pain,
And there He died to win
The evil, stubborn hearts of men
And save them from their sin.
He laid His life, a bridge across,
Whereon we all may pass
Unto the Father's loving arms
To be redeemed at last.

M. Mae Fisher

At this season of the year, we are reminded of the great sacrifice made by our Savior for each one of us. He bore the heavy burden of the cross and suffering for our sins. May we be thankful each day for His great love for us and may we use His life as the bridge between earth and heaven. Without this bridge we cannot be assured of everlasting life.

Kathryn Virkler (Fayetteville) was called from this life after a brief illness. Our deepest sympathy is extended to her husband, Harold; her children, Bruce, Robert and Sharon (Jim) O'Brien; and her mother, Sis. Lovina (Bro. Reuben) Farney. Also surviving are a sister, Elizabeth (Richard) Babel; nine grandchildren; her aunt, Sis. Katie Farney; nieces and nephews.

Give Your Address Change
To Your Reporter

OHIO, AKRON

Joyce Gasser

Easter puts us in remembrance of the seven sprinklings of blood. "The priest . . . sprinkle of the blood seven times." Leviticus 4:6.

Jesus our Great High Priest completed this sprinkling of the blood seven times.

1. In the Garden His sweat was as it were great drops of blood.

2. In the high priest's house he was smitten with a rod upon His cheek. Micah 5:1.

3. Soldiers scourged His back with stripes. He ". . . bare our sicknesses" (Matthew 8:17), ". . . and with His stripes we are healed." (Isaiah 53:5).

4. He had hair plucked off His cheeks. (Isaiah 50:6)

5. They put a crown of thorns on His head. The biggest place we are harassed is our mind, so Jesus took our reprobate mind, and gave us His mind, with the peace that passeth understanding.

6. His hands and feet were pierced, for it is our hands and feet that may get us in trouble, He took our trespasses to set us free.

7. His side was pierced for our sins. Jesus' atonement was complete, so we are complete in Him. Colossians 2:10

Sis. Joyce Schamback does much extra work on many special world relief items and she was elected to our committee for World Relief. A thanks goes to Sis. Kathy Bako for her untiring efforts as her term has expired.

Bro. Don and Sis. Carol Gasser will celebrate a silver wedding anniversary April 7. They have five children, Tim, Stephanie, Katherine, Philip and Melanie.

Bro. Carl and Sis. Kathy Graf will be having their 30th anniversary April 20. They have five children, Ed, Gary, Tom, Sandy and Tim.

Sis. Juliet Graf is recovering from being hospitalized with pneumonia. Sis. Edna VonGunten is home with infection in her foot.

Blanche Ritzman, 86, passed away unexpectedly at her home. Her husband, Vic, preceded her in death.

Elder Bro. Norbert Steiner and Bro. Henry Dotterer blessed us with sermons recently.

OHIO, COLUMBUS

Karen Laparo

Desma Klopfenstein

Recently, a minister said, "I shudder

to think what would have become of us if Christ had not been willing to live a perfect mortal life and be the pure sacrifice for our sin."

How true. Sometimes it's easy to take the plan of salvation for granted, but if there had not been a lamb, no debt would have been paid. Christ didn't have a home here, yet He was content to wait upon His Father to provide. He never succumbed to temptation, never turned anyone away, or indulged in self pity. His was the ultimate responsibility and He did not neglect even one small part. That was the price of our redemption. His prayers on Golgotha, as the blood drops fell like tears, can only signify the earnest and righteous pleading of His anguished heart. "He gave His life" not only means His death on Calvary; it encompasses His entire existence as a mortal man. Christ paid our bill. Will we accept His gift and always be thankful for it?

This past month we enjoyed our visitors. Bro. Merrill Laukhuf (Latty) and Bro. Bill Brake (Sardis) shared God's Word with all who gathered here last month. May God bless these ministers for lending themselves to this service. We've enjoyed having some unexpected visitors from other Ohio churches, too. The tie of Christian friendship is truly a privilege we share.

OHIO, JUNCTION

Les Manz

Our thanks are extended to Bro. Loren Stoller and Bro. Larry Wenninger for visiting us and bringing us God's holy Word.

Our Bro. Adam Manz was able to witness the joy of seeing God call his son-in-law and daughter, Jerry and Pauline Carnahan, to repentance before being himself called out of this life into eternity. Without question, he spent many hours on his knees in prayer to God begging for Him to call his children into repentance. As he spent his last few days on earth fighting his last battles with Satan, how strengthening it must have been to witness such an answer to many prayers. Bro. Adam's wife, Sis. Katie (Steffen) preceded him in death. He is survived by a son, Jacob, and a daughter, Pauline Carnahan.

"I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year, 'Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown,' and he replied, 'Go out into the dark-

ness and put your hand into the hand of God. That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way.'" This quote was written by M. Louise Haskins and spoken by King George VI of England according to a recent "Reader's Digest" article. Jerry and Pauline can appreciate the wisdom of this article as they, too, in looking for a light into the unknown have put their hand into the hand of God.

Little Trent Samuel Gasser is the newest addition to our church. He was born March 8 to Bro. Roger and Sis. Sue and becomes a younger brother to Brad and Greg. Grandparents are Bro. Arthur and Sis. Bertha Gasser (Rittman) and Bro. Elias and Sis. Evelyn Manz. As Bro. Adam realized the answer to his prayers in behalf of his children, we are sure that Bro. Roger and Sis. Sue have already entreated God in prayer that this new son may someday repent and become one of His children.

OHIO, LATTY

Marlene Reinhard — Patty Gerber

"To God be the glory, great things He has done . . ."

Our congregation is again experiencing the joy of seeing more souls turning to the Lord in repentance. Amy Stoller (Bro. Millard and Sis. Irma) and Kathy Sinn (Bro. Walt and Sis. Renee) have turned their backs to the world and have begun their walk with the Lord. We are also happy that our convert, Carma Stoller (Bro. Gale and Sis. Janet) has found peace with God and man and is awaiting baptism.

Two precious little boys were born within a couple of days to two of our couples. Bro. Kirk and Sis. Eileen Stoller are first-time parents to Morgan Westley and Philip Ray joins the household of Bro. Leon and Sis. Debbie Klopfenstein and big brother, Brett. We pray for God's guidance, patience and love to these couples as they teach their children in His ways.

As spring approaches, it brings with it the occasion of weddings. The engagement of Kevin Wenninger (Bro. Don and Sis. Josephine) to Della Schimmoller (Mr. and Mrs. Ronald) was made known. Also, Laura Keyser (Bro. George and Sis. Sharon) is planning to marry Mark Spangler (Mr. and Mrs. Roger). We ask the Lord's blessings upon these marriages.

Our congregation is saddened and sympathy and love are extended to the family of Bro. Lester Laukhuf, 64, who passed away at Parkview Memorial Hospital (Fort Wayne, IN), after a short illness. Those who mourn his passing are his loving wife, Sis. Vera; two sons, Dale (Lima) and Bro. Dwain (Latty); two daughters, Sis. LeAnn Stoller (Bro. Rod, Latty) and Sis. LaNae Rudin (Bro. Arlyn, Cissna Park, IL); his mother, Sis. Ollie; and two sisters, Sis. Mary Ellen Klopfenstein (Floren, Phoenix, AZ) and Sis. Delores Grant (Bro. Tom); and 12 grandchildren.

OHIO, RITTMAN

Diane Gasser — Judy Stoller

Hallelujah! The Lord arose.
Our ransom now is paid.
The Son is victor over death,
Who-e'er believes is saved.

Hymns of Zion #257

How thankful we should be that our Lord was victor over death and arose again. By His supreme sacrifice we, who believe, are truly converted and baptized into His death can also arise again to a new life in Him.

We are thankful that Ron Pertee believes this promise and is seeking the Lord in repentance.

May God comfort the family of Blanche Ritzman, who suddenly passed from this life into eternity. We extend our sympathy to her family and friends.

Those in need of healing this month have been Barb Acker (Boyd) and Sis. Helen Babin (Bro. Emmanuel). May God's healing touch be upon them.

Believing it is God's will for their lives, the engagement and forthcoming marriage of Bro. Glen Rufener (Sis. Myrle) and Sis. Beverly Babin (Bro. Emmanuel and Sis. Helen) has been announced. The past few years Sis. Beverly has been a part of the Detroit congregation. We are looking forward to having her back among us once again.

Renee Boltz (Bro. Bob and Sis. Marjorie) and Richard Stahl (Kenneth and Greta) have announced their engagement and plans to marry in the future. May God direct both of these couples as they make plans to begin their lives together.

OHIO, SARDIS**Alice Ramsier**

On March 14, we gathered together to partake of holy communion. Truly, we felt the presence of the Lord as we shared the bread of His body and the cup of the New Testament. We were reminded of how much God loved us in sending His Son to suffer and die so that we might have life everlasting. We thank Elder Bro. Joe Ramsier (Rittman, OH) and Elder Bro. Eugene Pamer (Akron, OH) for lending themselves to the service of the Lord for us that weekend.

Each month brings many changes in our new church building. Brethren from Toledo, Rittman and Smithville, OH, and Francesville and Leo, IN, have come to help with painting, cabinet building, and other types of finish work.

Bro. Vic Bauman (Smithville, OH) shared both his physical and spiritual talents last month. He spent a few days working, then ministered to us out of the Word. We appreciated both his efforts.

Up from the grave He arose,
With a mighty triumph o'er His foes;
He arose a Victor from the dark
domain, and
He lives forever with His saints to reign;
He arose! He arose! Hallelujah! Christ
arose!

Robert Lowry

As we ponder why we celebrate Easter, we can rejoice that Christ was a victor over sin and death. He arose and is alive today, ready to heal our hurts and give us peace if we commit our lives to Him.

OHIO, SMITHVILLE**Ann Maibach — Verla Stoller**

During this time of year we can see the trees budding, spring flowers blooming and robins building their nests. It is surely a miracle how the earth comes to life again. However, the greatest miracle was when our Lord and Savior, Jesus, arose from the dead after suffering death upon the cross bearing the sins of the whole world. We are so fortunate that He made a way possible for us to have a hope of life eternal!

We are thankful for willing brothers who stand before us and minister the Word. Our visiting minister this month was Bro. Bill Brake (Sardis). We pray

that God will bless him in his labors for the Lord.

Bro. John Dotterer (Sis. Betty) and Bro. Dean Marty (Sis. Martha Lou) were hospitalized this month, but God has given them renewed strength and they are able to assemble with us again.

Though I must endure affliction,
Yet I feel my Lord's affection;
He is here my strength in life,
And helps me in ev'ry strife.

Zion's Harp #157

Dear ones who were blessed with a new little baby boy are Bro. Wendell and Sis. Kathy Dotterer. Alex John was born March 15 and has three sisters, Lisa, Wendy and Shara, who are excited to have a new brother. Grandparents are Bro. John and Sis. Betty Dotterer and Bro. Ivan and Sis. Kathryn Steidinger (Forrest, IL).

OHIO, TOLEDO
Josephine Rehklau
Frances Laidig

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

Zion's Harp #34, vs. 1

Sunday, March 15, we heard the testimony and witnessed the baptism of Bro. Kent Rager (Bro. Walter and Sis. Sharon). This precious soul has now become a child of the King, heir of His eternal kingdom and has his name written in the "Book of Life" which is in heaven. Our Elder Bro. Ben Maibach (Detroit, MI) was with us to carry out the work of the Lord.

As Bro. Kent goes on in life, we wish him grace and blessings from the Lord to carry out whatever work He has in store for him. We are thankful for each soul who turns to the Lord. "I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth." St. Luke 15:7.

Sis. Emma Klopfenstein has been in the hospital and is now recuperating in the home of her daughter, Sis. Frances Laidig. It is a comfort to know that God is always near unto His children.

OREGON, PORTLAND**Barbara Moser**

Who hath given strength to me
By His life and victory,
Reconciled me unto God,
Comforts by His staff and rod?
Jesus Christ, exalted Lord.
Who directs me from above?
Who is object of my love?
Who rests not till perfect be
All that He hath planned for me?
Jesus Christ, the living one.
Now ye know my wisdom clear
And in whom I glory here.
I am His! Who is my own?
Who gives me of life the crown?
Jesus Christ, the Glorified!

Zion's Harp #225

Now that spring is upon us here in the Northwest, we can see God's beauty all around.

Visiting us this past month were Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle (Shioda, Japan), Bro. Duane Kilgus (Fairbury, IL), Bro. Ray Sinn (Latty, OH) and their wives. We are grateful for these brothers who come and share the true living Word with us. May God bless them for their labor of love. We hope they will come again and visit us.

We have enjoyed the Silverton brethren who came to be with us for services and potluck this past month.

We also welcome back our dear ones, Bro. Paul and Sis. Ann Rumbold, who leave us in October to spend the winter in Phoenix. We are so few here in Portland that we miss anyone who is gone for even one Sunday.

I'll stay where You've put me; I'll work,
dear Lord

Though the field be narrow and
small,

And the ground be fallow, and the
stones lie thick,

And there seems to be no life at all.
The field is Thine own, only give me the
seed,

I'll sow it with never a fear;
I'll till the dry soil while I wait for the
rain,

And rejoice when the green blades
appear;

I'll work where You've put me.

I'll stay where You've put me; I will
dear Lord;

I'll bear the days burden and heat,
Always trusting Thee fully, when even
has come

I'll lay heavy sheaves at Thy feet.
And then, when my earth work is ended
and done,

In the light of eternity's glow,
Life's record all closed, I surely shall
find

It was better to stay than to go;
I'll stay where You've put me.

Mrs. C. Cowman

OREGON, SILVERTON
Rosa Lee Kuenzi

We, in Oregon, feel we were especially blessed this past month with the opportunity to hear God's Word read and meditated on by several of His servants from far and near. Early in the month we joined the Portland congregation for a blessed day of fellowship and inspirational and informative messages from Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle (Shioda, Japan). He and his dear wife, Sis. Lois, were in Oregon for the weekend on their way back to their home in Japan. We enjoyed getting acquainted with them and hearing how they came to serve the Lord in Japan. Two weeks later, also at Portland, we were reminded of God's precious promise that "He will never leave us or forsake us." What a comfort that is to us, whether we be aged, in the stressful years of raising our families, young and single or whatever our station in life. This hopeful reminder was brought out by ministering Bro. Ray Sinn (Latty, OH), who with his wife, Sis. Ann, returned to Oregon for the first time since his military service days here in the Northwest. Other visiting ministers to the Silverton area, in the order of their visits were Bros. Duane Kilgus (Fairbury, IL), Robert Miller and Garth Steffen (Portland, OR) and Elder Bro. Wayne Fehr (West Bend, IA). We thank the Lord that there still are watchful shepherds and stalwart servants willing to stand before the people and speak the truth.

We wish God's blessing on the new home of Bro. Lewis and Sis. Gloria Kuenzi, who recently moved to town. No doubt many can relate to the chore of moving from a home, occupied for nearly forty years raising a family, and condensing ones belongings to fit the storage space in a double-wide mobile home. We trust the benefit of easy access and easier upkeep will offset the struggles of sorting, packing and moving. We share Sis. Gloria's pleasure of having her steel halo vest removed last week. She now wears a much more

comfortable support brace while her neck regains its strength. May God continue to give her the patience she has shown so well during the past nine months of her affliction.

And Jesus said: "... Rejoice with me; for I have found my sheep which was lost. I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, ..." Luke 15:6-7. We certainly share that joy as Richelle Kuenzi (Bro. Rich and Sis. Rosa Lee) has turned her heart to the Lord and seeks His peace in repentance. We pray that God will grant her much grace in this most important endeavor.

Melissa Fehr (Elder Bro. Wayne and Sis. Kathy, West Bend, IA) has recently completed her studies in landscaping design at AVTI in Minneapolis, MN. She has accepted employment at Evans Farms, a large nursery near Oregon City, OR. In conjunction with her various classes, Melissa entered and won the first place trophy in a national P.A.S. Floriculture Employment-Interview competition held in Spokane, WA. We heartily welcome Melissa to our community and wish her success and God's blessings in this new venture and time in her life.

PENNSYLVANIA,
PHILADELPHIA
Ed Aeschleman

We are once again beginning to see the miracle of God's hand in the signs of rebirth of life on the earth as the spring season approaches. In just a few more weeks the east will be flooded with the beautiful colors of flowering trees and bushes.

We offer our sincere sympathy to Bro. John Lanz and his family in the loss of his brother in Rockville as a result of an accident.

We invite our dear brethren and friends who may be planning a vacation in the east this spring or summer to worship with us in Philadelphia. Services are held every Sunday and on the second and fourth Wednesday nights each month.

TEXAS, DALLAS/FORT WORTH
Sandy Schmidt

Our month has brought us much to be thankful for.

Visiting ministers include Bro. Elmer Schmidt (Winthrop, MN) and Bro. Earl Gerber (Forrest, IL).

We also would like to announce a baby girl born to Jeff and Sue Nei-

house (Caldwell, TX). Kendra Elise Neihouser, born February 26, is their first child. Grandparents are Bro. Bill and Sis. Betty Zeltwanger (Giddings, TX) and Bro. Andre and Sis. Lois Neihouser (Francesville, IN).

We have had a number of visitors and would like to thank them for their efforts. All travelers wishing to contact someone in our area may contact me at 214-594-1344. I would be happy to help you in any way needed.

I would like to close with this thought from Zion's Harp #114, vs. 8:

So fare ye well! Our hands are joined
in parting.
This may our final farewell greeting be.
O, let us look unto our Lord and
Saviour,
Who'll lead us into all eternity!
O, may God's grace, our bond of love
completing,
Protect us all; this is our farewell
greeting!

TEXAS, ZAPATA
Mary Plattner

Again another winter season is over and our congregation is considerably smaller. We certainly welcome any visitors coming to South Texas to assemble with us. The families that are permanent residents will be taking their summer vacations and traveling north to be with their families.

Ministers this past month included Elder Bro. Corbin Bahler who was here to serve communion. Others were Elder Bro. Lester Hartter (Bern, KS) and Bros. Jim Hoerr (Peoria, IL), Roy Ehnle (Bradford, IL), Noah Gerber (West Bend, IA), Earl Banwart (West Bend, IA), Dean Messner (Winthrop, MN), Simon Wagenbach (Tremont, IL), Ron Pallito (Akron, OH), Marvin Schmidgall (Eureka, IL), Elmer Schmidt (Winthrop, MN), Carroll Gerber (Bluffton North, IN) and Merle Kaisner (Fairbury, IL).

*"But now is Christ risen from the dead,
and become the first fruits of them that slept.*

*"For since by man came death, by man
came also the resurrection of the dead.*

*"For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ
shall all be made alive."*

I Corinthians 15:20-22

Sermon . . .

(Continued from Page 28)

eous person as somebody that is up on a plane, way up here, and we are way

down here. We think of someone who is perfect or far better than anybody else.

Righteousness means to be right with God, and it is not out of the reach of any person.

We read that through conversion and being born-again by the Spirit of God, we will have that imputed righteousness of Jesus Christ. It is not our own self-righteousness. It is not the things that we have done. It is the righteousness that Jesus Christ imputes (or we would say, gives) to man when we are converted and born-again.

"Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy." Matthew 5:7. Mercy. There is not one of us here today who would have a hope of eternal life if it were not for the mercy of God.

Mercy simply means to be forgiven. If we would get what we really deserve according to this Word, we would all be cast into hell. The Word says, "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God." Romans 3:23. But because of the mercy of God and His love extended to mankind, we can have the hope of eternal life. We call upon the mercy of God daily because, as we go through this life, we fail and we fall short. We look to the Lord and beg Him to forgive us. How many times at the end of the day do we plead to God to forgive us for something foolish we have said, done or thought?

We depend upon the mercy of God. Then, dare we not be merciful to one another? God has been so compassionate and forgiving to us, dare we be harsh in judging one another?

The Word teaches us that what we mete to others, so shall it be meted out to us again. If we are harsh and unmerciful to one another, can we expect to receive the mercy of God? I don't think so. The Word demands that we be merciful.

"Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God." Matthew 5:8. Here, dear ones, is the key to Spiritual life . . . the pure in heart.

If there is sin in our life, if we are yet walking in sin, our hearts cannot be pure. Perhaps there are some here today in that state who need that cleansing and purifying of their heart. Look unto God. Jesus is calling today for men and women to come unto Him. He will cleanse our hearts through His shed blood.

The Bible teaches that all men have been sinners. Every person in this room is or has been a sinner. We are in

one of two categories. We are either sinners or we are saved by grace.

If we are a sinner and have refused the love of God, refused to come unto Him to be converted and have our hearts cleansed and purified through the washing of the Word, then we are condemned.

When the opportunity is there, the gift is there. The offer is just come and be saved. Come, repent and be converted. If we spurn that opportunity, that offering, we shall not be blessed.

"Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God." Matthew 5:9. The peacemakers. How can we be a peacemaker? In a lot of situations in life, we can promote peace or we can cause heartache.

The Word says, "Where no wood is, there the fire goeth out: so where there is no talebearer, the strife ceaseth." Proverbs 26:20. That describes a wonderful area to be a peacemaker.

We should exercise the saying, "If you can't say anything good about somebody, don't say anything at all." I'll confess that I have failed in that area. I haven't been able to live up to that standard. But, beloved ones, it is well worth striving for.

If somebody comes to us and has a complaint or a criticism about someone else, how do we react? Do we say, "Yes, I agree with you. I know what you are talking about. That is just the way he or she is?" That encourages them. Or, do we say, "Oh, now just wait a minute. If you knew the path they have walked, or if you've walked in their shoes, maybe you would react the same way?"

There are simple little ways to be peacemakers among our neighbors, our family, our brothers and sisters and our friends. Do we encourage and promote peace?

Sometimes we wonder how we can spread the gospel? How can we influence the lives of others to come to church, repent and be converted? The Word says in James, "The fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace." James 3:18.

The fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace. So it is the peacemaker who spreads the gospel of the love of God. It is the peacemaker who is influential and instrumental in the hands of God for teaching and promoting the way of salvation.

The Word says, "For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and

every evil work." James 3:16. Blessed are the peacemakers.

"Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake." Matthew 5:10, 11.

Have you ever had that experience? We don't live in a land (and we can thank God for it) where we are persecuted by governments and where we are forbidden to assemble and worship God.

Persecution may come in more subtle ways than that. It might be the rejection of a friend, snickering behind our backs or feeling left out of a conversation because we are a child of God and our thoughts don't entertain the things that someone else is talking about at that moment.

Persecution comes in subtle little ways. But it may be just as effective, if not more so. Do we rejoice?

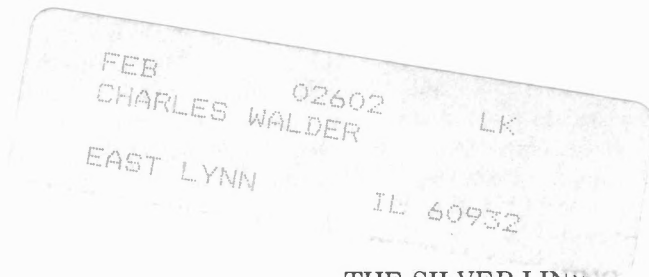
"Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake." Matthew 5:11. It is not saying here that we should rejoice when we are persecuted for our own mistakes. Persecution for Christ's sake is the only type deserving a blessing.

"Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you." Matthew 5:12. We look back into the Old Testament and we see where every faithful man of God at some point or another in his life was persecuted.

Think of Moses, Elijah, Elisha, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Daniel, all the prophets and the men of old. Think of Jesus Christ . . . the greatest Man that ever lived, and what they did with Him. We can read in Timothy, "All that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution." II Timothy 3:12.

There are many blessings, beloved ones, for a child of God. We have read them here. Let's keep our faith strong. Sometimes in life, we get weary and tired. We get tired of the battle, the strife and of fighting the devil. Sometimes we would just like to lay it all down and give up.

We read in Galatians, "Let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not." Galatians 6:9.



SERMON BY BRO. WAYNE LAUBSCHER OF CISSNA PARK, IL

Text: Matthew 5:1-12 . . . Sermon on the Mount

“A CALL TO ACTION”

“And seeing the multitudes, he went up into a mountain: and when he was set, his disciples came unto him.” Matthew 5:1. Right there, we see that they put forth the effort. We have to put forth an effort in life to follow the Lord and become His children.

If we think we can come to church when we want to, read the Bible whenever it is convenient, pray only when we have a need and forget about God at other times, we are going to experience loss.

His disciples came unto Him. The effort was made to come to Jesus and only by coming unto Him could they receive the blessing that He was about to give them.

“And he opened his mouth, and taught them, saying, Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.” Matthew 5:2, 3. Blessed are the poor in Spirit. The Pharisees had a problem when they didn’t think they had a need.

We can turn back to Revelation where Jesus told John to write unto the church of Laodiceans, “So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth. Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing . . .” Revelation 3:16, 17. Doesn’t that sound like society today? “I am rich! I am increased with goods. I’ve got a house and I’ve got money in the bank. I’ve got a farm. I’ve got a job. I’ve got all these things. Do we really need God?”

Dear ones, we cannot come to the Lord until we recognize that we are poor in the Spirit. The Laodiceans said, “I am rich. We are rich and increased with goods.” Yet, Jesus said, “. . . and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor,

and blind, and naked . . . I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eye-salve, that thou mayest see.” Revelation 3:17, 18.

What is that gold? It is the Word that we read right here. What is the white raiment? It is the righteousness, the imputed righteousness of Jesus Christ. What is the eye-salve? It is the Spirit that opens our eyes unto the knowledge of God.

Are we poor in the Spirit this morning? Did we come this morning dependent upon God’s Spirit? Did we plead to God to feed us today? Or, did we just come and think, “Well, today is Sunday . . . the day to go to church. I’ll get out of it what I can. I hope the preacher is interesting and keeps me awake.”

Did we plead to God on our knees this morning that He would stir our hearts and feed us? Did we prepare our heart? Were we hungry for the Word?

“Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.” Matthew 5:4. Have we come to the point in our life when we have mourned for the life of sin that we have lived? Have we been born-again? Have we wept at the foot of the cross and acknowledged that we were sinners without hope? Or, have we not yet acknowledged that to God and man?

The Lord lifts us up when we are down, have mourned and acknowledged that we are nothing of ourselves. God can make something out of us. We all have talents, abilities for use in the vineyard of the Lord, but do we acknowledge that it is all of God and not of ourselves?

Do we acknowledge that God is all, and we are nothing? If we can accomplish anything for the Lord, it is only

through His work. It is only through His power and His Spirit.

“Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.” Matthew 5:5. Today we live in a society where we are told to go out and get everything that you can in life. Fight for it. Be competitive. Get ahead. Outdo the next person.

Yet, Jesus said, “Blessed are the meek . . .” Matthew 5:5. The meek individual suffers patiently, lives a simple life, and endures the trials and temptations of life, not for vain glory or honor of men, but because it is the will of God.

Do you know one of the meekest of all men? According to the Word, it was Moses in the wilderness. Remember how he was criticized and ridiculed. They complained that everything he did was wrong. But he endured, and through all the complaining, murmuring and criticism, he still loved his people. God Almighty was so angry, that He told Moses, “I’ll make out of you a mighty nation; I’ll destroy everyone else.” (See Exodus 32:10). Moses begged God not to do it. He said, “Blot my name out of the Book of Life.” (See Exodus 32:32). Can you imagine that? Moses wasn’t at fault! The people were at fault, and yet he offered that God would blot his name out of the Book of Life. He would have sacrificed himself for the people that he loved so dearly. That was true meekness.

The sacrificial life of the love that goes beyond the call of duty . . . that is meekness.

“Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.” Matthew 5:6. Did we hunger and thirst this morning for the righteousness of God?

What is righteousness? Does it mean to be better than someone else? Sometimes we have a stereotype of a right-

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