



"Choose ye this day
whom ye will serve . . . but
as for me and my house,
we will serve the Lord."
Joshua 24:15

"A wise son heareth his
father's instruction . . ."
Proverbs 13:1

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Father's Day

Hear, ye children, the instruction of a father,
and attend to know understanding.
Hear, O my son, and receive my sayings;
and the years of thy life shall be many.
My son, attend to my words, incline thine
ear unto my sayings.
Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep
them in the midst of thine heart.
Ponder the path of thy feet, and let all thy
ways be established.
Turn not to the right hand nor to the left:
remove thy foot from evil.

Verses from Proverbs 4





Writings based
on God's Word

Light From The Word

"The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple" (Ps. 119:130).

EXHORTATION

Exhortation within the brotherhood is worthy of sincere attention. The Word instructs believers to "exhort one another daily, while it is called today; lest any of you be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin" (Heb. 3:13). To exhort is to urge someone to pursue a particular course of conduct, to make improvements in his attitude and walk of life. Apparently if believers confine their learning to their own efforts and interpretations there is danger of self-deception and failure to clearly discern good from evil. A great responsibility is placed upon each member of the body of believers to take a personal, sincere interest in the spiritual maintenance and growth of his brethren. It is clearly prophesied in the Word that the need for an active and supportive relationship within Christ's body, the church, will become even more essential as the end of the age approaches. "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching" (Heb. 10:25).

The Apostle Paul gave specific instructions to Timothy and Titus as younger church leaders to exhort and correct, with authority and longsuffering (patience), in the spirit of the true doctrine (2 Tim. 4:2, Tit. 2:15). It is a basic scriptural principle that shepherds of a flock (watchmen) are called upon to be vigilant and to sound the warning regarding the specific dangers of their respective age and culture, because Satan persists in devising cunning methods for corrupting God's people (Eze. 33:7-9, 1 Pet. 5:8). God cared for His people Israel in the time of David by providing men with "understanding of the times" (1 Chron. 12:32) and He instructs spiritual teachers to "speak the truth in love" (Eph. 4:15) by the inspiration of His spirit (John 16:13).

Through the years our ministers and elders have presented the gospel message and scriptural warnings through the avenue of preaching. The Apostle Paul wrote, "it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe" (1 Cor. 2:21).

Preaching (prophesying) consists of Spirit-inspired, extemporaneous proclamation of spiritual truth from a biblical text which results in "edification, and exhortation and comfort" (1 Cor. 14:3).

Paul acknowledged that along with his duties of leadership and preaching he also was called upon to be a teacher (2 Tim. 1:11). This form of exhortation (teaching) often includes review of the scriptural passages on a particular subject prior to expounding a message directed to meet a specific need. It is another form by which the Holy Spirit provides instruction through the servants of the Lord who function as His mouthpiece. Topical Bible presentations, under the authority and direction of the church, offer helpful instruction in the application of scriptural principles to practical godly living. They also assist the believer in recognizing false doctrines and unwholesome worldly attractions.

Each year the elders gather in conference. They search the Scriptures and prayerfully seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit to determine what standards should be established, warnings sounded and exhortations articulated within the church. This is in accord with the scriptural approach begun by the apostles and elders in Jerusalem (Acts 15). Great effort is made to retain a sound scriptural basis to the deliberations and conclusions of these conferences and to share them through various avenues with the entire brotherhood. The Word indicates that the church benefits when exhortations from the leadership are inspired by the Spirit and then humbly received by the brotherhood. In Antioch, the believers "rejoiced for the consolation" provided by the letter delivered from the Jerusalem Council (Acts 15:31). The Hebrew believers were told of the great blessing they would receive if those with the rule over them could watch for their souls (exhort) with joy and not with grief (Heb. 13:17). Submission brings this joy; gainsaying brings grief (Tit. 1:9). A gainsayer is one who contradicts or rejects the authority which he is under.

Recently the elder body felt directed by the Spirit to prepare and distribute a written exhortation regarding modern movements within Christianity which have the potential of undermining the love, peace and doctrinal unity of our brotherhood. This booklet, entitled "Winds of Doctrine," has as its stated purpose "to identify and warn against beliefs and practices which are unscriptural and potentially deceptive to the true believer." It seeks to underscore the biblical basis for our doctrine and to help individual believers understand more thoroughly and defend more effectively the precious truths which have long been embraced by our forefathers. These truths constitute a priceless heritage of tried and tested spiritual wisdom.

This article also describes the consequences which usually follow when groups of believers forsake their established patterns of basic beliefs and adopt modern scholarly approaches for discerning truth. Ultimately a questioning of the inerrancy of the Bible creeps into these movements, in spite of the noble objective of making the gospel more appealing to the masses in order to draw them to Christ. Emphasis on individual liberty results in an unwillingness to submit to God-ordained church authority. Carried to the extreme, Jesus is ultimately welcome in individual lives only as a Saviour, not as Lord. Separation from the world and from false religion is diminished and eventually the church loses its visible distinction, which is essential for its effectiveness in reaching lost mankind.

If these various forms of exhortation are given sincere attention, the convictions of the brethren may become more firmly and unitedly based upon the sacred Word of God. Likewise, the enemy's efforts to bring confusion and deception will be thwarted. "As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him: rooted and built up in him, and established in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving (Col. 2:6-7).

NEWS FROM EASTERN EUROPE

Andy Hunyady

Greetings Beloved:

Easter is past but the beautiful message of the resurrection story continues to linger on to renew the faith, hope and love in the hearts of the believers. Additional good news, received from loved ones from abroad, adds more cheer and comfort to our hearts and lives. During the Easter season, we received a number of greeting cards, notes and letters from brethren and friends in Eastern Europe.

Below are a few excerpts translated from the originals — except for one letter, written in English — expressing thanks and appreciation for God's love and providence through your sacrificial giving and deeds of kindness.

"Please, permit me to express my heartfelt, sincere thanks for all the fine deeds of kindness you had done for us during the past year. May our good God bless you and restore it to you a thousandfold. The food parcels — your love gifts — brought us much joy and happiness, truly a great help to us in times of need.

"It would be a great joy to hear from you. A warm letter from you would bring cheer and spiritual blessing to us and we would value it far more than the material gifts. Again, I thank you for everything! Wishing you good health and many, many blessings. Our good God bless you and everyone for your untiring labors in providing help, which is the only joy many persons here will ever experience. With sincere appreciation and greetings of love,

L. M."

"... On this blessed Easter season we greet you with much love and wish everyone the blessings of the holiday season. The food packages are coming in good order. Our heartfelt thanks, with love, the P... family."

"With God's help I am writing to thank you for all the nice things you do to help us and our family. Now we want to thank our Lord for His goodness and support for which we feel we are so unworthy of. We thank all the dear brothers and sisters and friends for their help and support. May the grace, peace, love and the blessings of our Lord be with you all, ...

M. V."

"For the holidays we wish you much happiness, health and the very best only! We thank you for the gift parcel received in February ...

H. T."

"From the far country, where you spent your childhood years, we wish you and the beloved brethren a truly blessed holiday season, ...

L. M."

On the confirmation card one had a note scribbled: "I received your package in good order, many thanks, from my heart, ... M. G."

Just received a detailed account from the brother in Hungary who has oversight of the relief funds to aid the brethren in the U.S.S.R. Warm clothing, vitamins, medicines and other supplies are purchased in Hungary and taken across the border to the needy brethren in Russia. Travel between the two countries has improved and often in groups of 10 or more we visit and have fellowship with brethren in the U.S.S.R. Received several pictures of believers and their families. One picture shows the elderly couple, who spent many years of hard and diligent work to have the entire Zion's Harp Hymnal translated into the Ukrainian, their native language. This is truly a historical event; another step forward as God works through humble people to promote His kingdom here on earth. Preparations are being made to have the hymnals printed and published in the near future. Consider what would happen to us here in the United States if all the hymnals would be removed from the churches and homes with nothing left but a very few worn, handwritten hymnals, to accommodate several hundred people in one assembly!

Many thanks, greetings and best wishes are sent from the brethren in the U.S.S.R. to the brethren in the United States for their generous support, love and prayers.

A slow, but steady, progress is being made on plans to have the ground broken in Budapest, Hungary, for the new church, large enough to accommodate a growing assembly. Collections to support funding this great project are being carried on in our

churches throughout the United States. This is another demonstration of God's building His church for it is being done in a land where the church had suffered persecutions up until about 10 years ago and is a very significant move and a great step forward in a socialist country. Thanks and praise be unto God for His marvelous work in the hearts of men!

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S HOME

Uriel Gehring

The Lord is my light and my salvation: whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid: (Psalms 27:1). What a comforting message this is from His Word. Light, how beautiful it is! It dispels the darkness and gives us vision so we can see our way through the maze of this life. Jesus said, "I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life." (John 8:12). That is a promise from Him who cannot lie. "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a

THE SILVER LINING

Grabill, Indiana 46741
USPS 496780

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

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IN MEMORY — EDITORS:

HENRY SOUDER
EDWARD SOUDER

light unto my path." (Psalm 119:105), saith the psalmist of old. All these words from the pages of Holy Writ are brought to their grand climax in John 1:5 where it is stated, "that God is light, and in Him is no darkness at all." By Him we live, move and have our very being.

The grounds of the Home are as lovely as they have ever looked, thanks to the efforts of the staff, children, volunteers and the blessings of the "God of light." One senses a serene home atmosphere as he turns into the lane (Norr Lane) from Klopfenstein Road. A sense of the presence of the Almighty overwhelms the soul and one feels that God is smiling on the endeavor here. That is an encouraging thought, and we all need and benefit from encouragement. Our Saviour said, "My peace I leave with you . . ." (John 14:27).

Sis. LeAnn Wulf and her Cedar Creek Companions 4-H Club traveled to Adams County recently where they competed in the area "Share the Fun" contest. The meet was attended by a large number of children and staff from the Home. It was a real learning experience for the participants. Thanks, LeAnn and children, for representing us so well.

Our Annual Representatives Meeting was held Saturday, April 25, at the Home, in the West House basement. Twenty-two churches were represented and three of our counselling

elders were present, namely Bro. Dave Bertsch (Leo, IN), Bro. Orville Ringer (Bluffton, IN) and Bro. Loren Stoller (Latty, OH). After the children and staff sang a couple of songs, our administrator and a number of board members gave presentations about certain aspects of the Home and its future. The audience was given the opportunity to ask questions and present ideas. The atmosphere of the meeting was geared with enthusiasm for the Home and its objective, to help children with special needs. We say thank you to all the speakers and those in attendance. We were all encouraged to pursue with vigor our objective. A delicious noon meal was served at the Leo church for 80 - 90 people. We thank the Leo sisters.

Our new board members for five-year terms are Bros. Tom Schrenk (Alto, MI) and Bob Hohulin (Roanoke, IL). We welcome them to the challenge of our "work of faith and labor of love". Our two retiring board members are Bros. Dan Knochel (Detroit, MI) and Lynn Feller (LaCrosse, IN). We thank our brothers for their dedicated service. The officers of our present board are Bros. Phil Gutwein (Francesville, IN), president; Brace Wieland (Leo, IN), vice president; Ken Manz (Junction, OH), treasurer; and Bill Baumgartner (Bluffton, IN), secretary.

The children are eagerly anticipating summer with its many activities, including summer jobs, vacations, time

off from public school, the annual car wash and garage sale, and our annual Auction and Sale, to be held Saturday, August 15. It is so rewarding to see our children productive in home, church and community activities.

Two sixth grade children (Mike K. from the East House and Andrea H. from the West House), accompanied by their housemothers (Sis. Annie Fehr and Cheri Blunier), joined their class from Leo for a one-day trip to Chicago where they visited the Natural History Museum, the Museum of Science and Industry, and the Sears Tower. It was a full, rewarding day.

We have one high school graduate this year. Bertha Willis has resided in the East House for over eight years. Congratulations, Bertha. She plans to continue her residency in our Independent Living Program.

Sis. Sara Feuchtenberger (Morris, MN) was a volunteer at the West House and in the schoolroom recently. She especially enjoyed meeting the children and helping them with their homework. Thank you, Sara, for your interest and concern for the welfare of our children.

Bro. Gary Stoller (Latty, OH) of Stoller Hatchery, gave us 160 layers. We should be enjoying fresh eggs in a few weeks. Thank you, Bro. Gary.

The recent rains have given the garden a "good" look, and we are getting hungry for some "garden goodies".

Any church wanting a presentation about the Children's Home should contact us. Presentations can be given in the sanctuary following the afternoon service, or a slide presentation is available for other settings.

May we proceed with prayer in our work of faith and labor of love.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

The pale green of early spring has deepened into the lush green of summer in the timber surrounding the Home. In the late afternoon as I leave work, the lawn chairs are often occupied by residents who have spent the day at workshop, school or occupied with our various activities, and are now enjoying a breath of fresh air before their supper hour. Driving out the Home's lane the faithful walkers wave a pleasant "goodbye" to me.

Our calendar is filled with events to satisfy the various needs of each one here. We are anticipating a visit from a

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

Californian who will do a juggling act when he is in our area. If any of you have talents that you would be willing to share with us, please contact Lynn Yordy at the Home. Some other early summer plans are a trip to the Shrine Circus, a Memorial Day picnic, cabin

camping for a small group, our annual 4th of July picnic and a day at Six Flags.

The Forrest, IL, people have again invited a group of us to spend a Sunday with them. We know that will be a special day, as it is each year, as their

congregation graciously hosts us.

Those who celebrate their birthdays in June are Harold Miller, Aldine Winger, Doris Hutchison, Donnie Parks, Sharilyn Rowell, Janet Wilt, Lyle Steffen, Willis Belsley and Edwin Gehrig. Each resident receives a small birthday cake with a glowing candle on their day, and the residents and staff who are present at that meal sing them a hearty, "Happy Birthday To You!" There is also a monthly birthday party to celebrate all the birthdays for that particular month.

Prayerfully we look forward to celebrating our country's 211th birthday:

Our fathers' God, to Thee,
Author of Liberty, To Thee we sing:
Long may our land be bright,
With freedom's holy light,
Protect us by Thy might,
Great God, our King!

S. F. Smith

And with Father's Day approaching, we show honor and gratitude to the heads of our homes. The steadfast faith of the Dads who guide and provide for the families of our nation gives strength to our beloved land of America.

May our homes accept their duty
In the future as the past
Giving strength and inner beauty
That allows a land to last.

Margaret Rorke

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH BIBLE DISTRIBUTION MEETING

The eighteen churches in Illinois have worked together to organize a Bible Distribution Committee for the Illinois Bible distribution. A meeting was held at Fairbury, IL, April 4, 1987, with fifty-five brethren and ministers attending, all who have a deep interest and are participating in giving and sharing the Bible with those requesting a Bible. Elder Bro. Art Bahler welcomed the brethren and the meeting was opened with prayer. Elder Bro. David Bertsch shared and reviewed the Bible distribution over the past 25 - 30 years, including our contributions to the American Bible Society, Gideons and Braille organizations. Our present day efforts involve sharing the Bible through local church brethren throughout the land and overseas. From two to five representatives in each church are appointed to find and locate the need for Bibles. Contributions to the Bible Fund can be sent to Elder Bro. Ben Maibach. There is now established a central Bible Distribution Center at Leo, IN, with quantity orders being called or forwarded to Elder Bro. David Bertsch. During the past three years, the Bible distribution work has been blessed and is increasing. During the meeting, the brothers shared with one another the blessings of visiting individual homes, giving Bibles and visiting in prisons, placing Bibles in motels, hotels, rescue missions, doctors and optometrists offices, Salvation Army and supplying Bible tapes and Braille Bibles to the blind and the elderly who can no longer read. Oftentimes the personal visit to give a Bible reveals a need to feed, clothe and shelter the needy, that the World Relief Brethren can respond to. In the closing comments, Elder Bro. Perry Zimmerman gave encouragement to the brethren in continuing this good work and of the many needy nations that don't have the Bible. Then the meeting was closed with prayer, thanking Almighty God for the blessings of the day and for the opportunity of giving and sharing the Living Word of God, the Bible.

Elder Bro. David Bertsch

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 |
| April 1987 — | 2005 | 16515 |
| May 1987 — | 2023 | 18538 |

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.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL OF ATHENS, AL Marilyn Walder

As our school year draws to a close, we, as teachers, have mixed emotions. We have a sense of accomplishment as we think of all the children have learned. We also have feelings of inadequacy as we wonder if we did all we could to nurture each child. There is a prayer on our hearts that somehow through God's help a seed was planted in each small heart. We also wonder what will happen in each of the children's lives who won't be continuing at our Preschool for the summer. Hopefully, their parents are taking the responsibility of teaching them about God but, if not, has the seed been planted and will it spring forth some day? Only God knows and we pray that each child will someday be a dedicated Christian striving to do God's will. Our graduation was held May 29. We had a

program for parents and friends. The children wore caps and gowns and really enjoyed participating in the program. It was a special evening for the children, teachers and parents.

We also are saddened as we know that God is leading Sis. Evie Blunier back to Eureka, IL. I was talking to one of the little boys one day about Miss Evie leaving and he said, "But why does she have to go?" We don't always understand God's will but know we will be blessed if we follow where He leads. All the children, as well as the rest of the staff, will miss her. She has been a shining example of a dedicated, conscientious, hard-working teacher. We thank her for her willing attitude and pray that God will bless her for allowing Christ to work in and through her. Sis. Evie has done so much for our Preschool and will definitely be remembered for her caring attitude.

We still have a position open for a teacher for fall of 1987. We have 15 volunteers so far to help this summer so we can manage without a teacher until fall. We pray that someone can be open to the Spirit's leading. I know that God will provide in His time. Please pray for God's direction and contact us if you have any questions.

ALABAMA, ATHENS Marilyn Walder

Our visitors this past month were from Peoria, Gridley, Goodfield, Eureka, Princeville and Bloomington, IL, and Atlanta, GA. We enjoyed the fellowship and encouragement we felt from each one. We have had visitors every Sunday since Christmas and we're thankful for the love that each

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.

has shown to us. Praise be to God for providing Christian friends! A bus load from Peoria, IL, was with us May 2 - 3. We enjoyed a cookout and singing and making new friends. Bro. Jaye Rinckenberger (Goodfield, IL) and his family were here. Bro. Jaye brought us the Word and we thank him for allowing the Spirit to use him.

We want to express our appreciation to Sis. Evie Blunier as her time with us comes to a close. She is moving back to her home congregation in Eureka, IL. We can't thank her enough for the love, dedication and encouragement she has given. Our real thanks goes to the heavenly Father for leading Sis. Evie to Athens. Our hearts are saddened at her leaving but we know that she's following God's guidance and we shouldn't question His will. We pray that Sis. Evie can feel our love and gratitude and that she will always feel as a part of the Athens church family. Our prayers are with her. May God continue to direct her life and may she be granted strength to always be willing to give of herself as she did here.

ARIZONA, PHOENIX Ron and Ev Hoerr

Marriage is honourable in all, Hebrews 13:4. May 17 was the beautiful day that Sis. Kelly Emch and Bro. David Zeltwanger exchanged their holy vows before God and man. Elder Bro. Richard Schupbach pronounced the vows. A buffet reception was held in the congregation room following the wedding. Her parents are Bro. Jerry and Sis. Cathy Emch. His parents are Bro. Lyle and Sis. Marilyn Zeltwanger (Valparaiso, IN). May the Lord bless the happy couple, as they walk hand in hand through life. When two become one, there is twice the loving, twice the praying, twice the caring and life is worth living.

"Verily, verily, I say unto you, Ye must be born again" was never sung more beautifully and with more feeling and gusto than during our Sunday school Easter program. The entire Sunday school presented a lovely program in song. All present really enjoyed the evening and thanked each of the Sunday school teachers. Like our own ministers, the Sunday school teachers don't receive enough thanks, so may God bless them for serving Him. We do appreciate them.

Many gathered for Good Friday services.

Our magic carpet trip to Japan, India, Hong Kong and Seoul was well attended April 26, as Elder Bro. Richard Schupbach showed slides and narrated his recent trip to serve our dear Saviour. How easily we forget! When Bro. Richard made this trip formerly 2½ years ago, our water, food, clothes and daily necessities seemed luxurious. Wasting water still is a concern (you hear conserve water a lot in our desert state). Let us keep these dear souls on our daily prayer list. Certainly this is the least we can do. Progress from the previous trip was easily noticed in some areas, though the looks of those thankful children assures us that His Word and work must be proclaimed.

"Praise him for His mighty acts" and just as we read in Psalms 150:2, our Lord stilled the tornado that touched down in Casa Grande April 29. How thankful we are that Jerry, Sis. June, Stefanie, Kelli and Jessica Tooley were spared harm.

Richard and Sis. Dorothy Kraft, Bro. Steve and Sis. Kelly Freed give thanks and ask the Lord's blessings upon everyone, near and far, for every kind deed shown them during the time Sis. Karen left so quickly for her heavenly home. They desire your continued prayers. Sis. Karen enjoyed witnessing to unbelievers to her dying day. She is surely missed. May we all find comfort in Ecclesiastes 3.

Teach me, Oh Lord, give me understanding, Psalms 119:33-40. May our 1987 graduates hold these precepts ever close to their hearts as they move to the next stages of learning. High school graduates are Shannon Maurer, Stacy Baum and those graduating from

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

junior high are Willow Beres, Matt Roth and Sandy Yackley. Their parents are Bro. Howard and Sis. Eileen Maurer, Bro. Robert and Sis. Christine Baum, Bro. Jim and Sis. Lois Beres, Bro. Steve and Sis. Jill Roth and Bro. Al and Sis. Joy Yackley.

Bro. Wilbur and Sis. Sophie Huber welcome grandson, Phillip Andrew. He was born April 21 to Kirk and Lidia Huber. Mark and Rebecca are his siblings.

The Lord laid His healing hand on Bro. Harry Roth for eye surgery two different times. Bro. George Schuster and Marge Rebbec were hospitalized for studies. Bros. Dan Kokanovich, Earl Sanders and Sis. Emma Sanders are on the sick list the past few weeks. We commit them to Jesus, our Lord and Saviour who cares.

We have been enjoying many kinds of birds. For the most part, they are not colorful, but their singing is beautiful in the cool mornings. As the day heats up, the lizards are scurrying around.

May the Lord comfort you and be your steady companion. He really loves you.

INVITATION TO MINISTERS VISITING FLORIDA

Bro. Vic Beer will be visiting Japan the last two weeks of July and first two weeks in August, with Bro. David Eisenmann serving alone. Your visit and help will be appreciated.



Apostolic Christian Children's Home

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

1987

CHILDREN'S HOME AUCTION AND SALE

SATURDAY,
AUGUST 15, 1987

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN
CHILDREN'S HOME
LEO, INDIANA

ARIZONA, PRESCOTT Doug Schmidgall — Ethel Smith

GOD'S CHILDREN

Although God loves the whole wide world

And blesses every part,
I think He has a special place
For children in His heart . . .

All children in a special way
belong to God above,
And I am sure He favors them
with everlasting love.

James Metcalf

Bros. Kent Miller and Jake Hoerr were host to the 5th and 6th grade Sunday school class from Phoenix May 3 when services were again held in Prescott. It was a special time for the children to travel together to the Prescott area. Following the service, a picnic was held at Thumb Butte Park. We thank all who gathered with us for their support, especially Bro. Bill Dotterer (Phoenix) for ministering unto us.

Our Elder Bro. Richard Schupbach met with us here in Prescott May 19 and it was decided that beginning in June, services would be held in Prescott on the first and third Sunday of each month. Ministers will be provided from the Phoenix and Tucson churches on a rotational basis. We sincerely appreciate their support. For additional information, you may write to Bro. Harvey and Sis. Ethel Smith at 2063 Thumb Butte Road, Prescott, AZ 86303 or call (602) 445-4390 or (602) 445-2164.

There is a time to be born and a time to die, says Solomon, and it is the memento of a truly wise man; but there is an interval between these two times of infinite importance.

Richmond

ARIZONA, TUCSON

Lisa Knapp — Sandra Bauer

We were happy to have Bro. Vernon Schwab (Wolcott, IN) visiting here this past month. May Jesus bless each one who brings forth His Word and feeds the flock.

On Mother's Day there was a church picnic held at Ft. Lowell Park for anyone who wished to come. There was a nice turn-out and everyone who came enjoyed the beautiful day and picnic beside the lake. So often we take the

simple pleasures for granted: eating a meal together, singing together and talking with each other. Let's always try to show our love for each other more openly and really appreciate the precious times we can be together with our brothers and sisters-in-faith.

CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA Elaine Graf

On Easter morning a group gathered for a song service on a hill in the mountains above Altadena. This is an Altadena Easter tradition, held before the regular morning church service. On this occasion we were blessed with visitors from Rockville, CT, Akron, OH, Leo, IN, and the Netherlands. On April 26 we were privileged to partake of holy communion. Elder Bro. Richard Schupbach (Phoenix, AZ) came to assist our Elder Bro. John Klotzle with the service.

Jack Bahler (son of the late Bro. Simon and Sis. Clare) and his wife, Charlene, were killed in a tragic automobile accident in April. May the Lord comfort his sister, Eleanor Garrett.

Sis. Nancy Martin (Bro. Elmer and Sis. Janet, Princeville, IL) graduated from college. She plans to complete her education with an internship in occupational therapy.

CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO Scott and Anna Hoerr

Communion was held here in San Diego for the first time. What a blessing it was to partake in the blood and body of Christ our Lord.

As a day has been set aside for fathers, truly we can be thankful for those dads who brought us up in the way of the Lord. Most of all, may we be thankful for our heavenly Father who has provided the way unto salvation.

Our visiting minister this month was Elder Bro. John Klotzle (Altadena, CA). Services continue to be held at the Meadowbrook Middle School. Please call Bro. Peter Petrovic at (619) 789-1504 or Bro. Doug Wagenbach at (619) 679-8353.

COLORADO, DENVER

Mike Martin — Marlene Leman

Terri and Craig Fair have been blessed with a new little daughter. She was born April 27 and has been named Brianna. Grandparents are Suzie Fair (Denver) and Bro. Eldon and Sis. Melba Steffen (Cissna Park, IL). May God

help them as they guide this precious little one in this life.

"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." Hebrews 11:1. In our life we have many hopes and dreams, such as an eternal life with our Lord. The scripture also points out that faith without works is dead. One must have faith to produce Godly works. Acting upon his faith, Bro. Joe Hohulin (Bro. Mel and Sis. Shirley, Roanoke, IL) asked for the hand of Sis. Lorene Faustin (Bay City, MI) in marriage. She in faith, returned with a "yes". The marriage is set for August 2. Likewise, through much prayer and faith, Sis. Kristin Leman (Bro. Tom and Sis. Marlene) received a proposal from Bro. Ben Bauman (Bro. Larry and Sis. Betty, Goodfield, IL). She, too, answered with a "yes". May God bless them, keep them and teach them of love. Their wedding is planned for August 9.

The weekend of May 16 - 17 was a very inspiring and encouraging one for our little congregation. We ask God's blessings upon our Elder Bro. Nathan Steffen (Elgin, IL) and Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL) for giving of their time and talent in our behalf. Saturday evening we were exhorted to a greater faithfulness as they spoke of the various "winds of doctrine" by which we are buffeted as we walk through this life. Sunday afternoon we were privileged to partake of holy communion. It is humbling to think, really think, once again of the great love our dear Saviour had for us, to die in our stead. Then, too, we think of God's love for us, to willingly give His Son for a world of sinners. We who have sons (or daughters) of our own can more fully realize the price paid for our sins. Can we ever thank Him enough? We pray that our lives can be lived as a daily thanksgiving for this great gift.

CONNECTICUT, ROCKVILLE
Martha Hany

"O death where is thy sting? O grave where is thy victory?"

I Corinthians 15:55

We can surely apply these thoughts to our dear Sis. Ida Gerber, 81, who died May 10, attaining that victory after a long illness. She was the widow of Bro. Walter Gerber and is survived by his children, Sis. Verona Schneider and Bro. Edwin Gerber; a brother, Bro.

Frederick Zahner and several sisters in Germany.

We rejoice to hear that Mary Ann Schneider (Bro. Emanuel and Sis. Verona) and Arlene Garrow (Bro. Bernie and Sis. Marie) have sought and found the Lord in repentance. They have chosen the better part, but Satan, no doubt, has also shown them all the glories, splendors and entertainments available in the world if only they will worship him. Even Christ was tempted, but His reply was, "Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God and him only shalt thou serve." Matthew 4:10.

Bro. Harold Schmidgall was our visiting minister and we are grateful that he and Sis. Ethel made it a point to remember us in their travels.

Our hospital patients for the month were Sis. Anna Lanz (Harold), Sis. Rose Zahner and Judy Hany. We, who are well, often take good health for granted. We are reminded of our own mortality when we think of those in bodily pain and distress. Where it is His will, may the Lord restore to moderate health and comfort those who look to Him.

We had an uplifting weekend May 16 when Elder Bros. Norbert Steiner (Croghan, NY) and Robert Beyer (Naumburg, NY) were with us to assist Elder Bro. Corbin Bahler in the testimony service of Sandy Lanz (Bro. Edwin and Sis. Marilyn) Saturday evening and holy communion Sunday. Sis. Sandy is a lamb in the flock and it was impressive when she stated that her great desire was to be accepted by the church.

What a blessing it was to feel the oneness in the body of Christ as we partook of the broken bread and drank of the cup together in remembrance of His deep sufferings. Is this not a foretaste of the joy and unity we will feel as His children when He calls us individually into His unspeakable presence?

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,
WASHINGTON

Catherine Klopfenstein

We appreciated our May 10 visiting minister, Bro. Everett Gerber (Rockville, CT), his wife, Sis. Phyllis, and two sons, Bro. Jeff and Dale, and Bro. David Galat (Rockville, CT).

Sis. Lydia Meyer (Peoria, IL) was in our area for a month visiting her daughter, Henrietta, who faithfully gathers with us each Sunday that we meet.

The Dogwood and Azaleas in this area have been spectacular the last few weeks and are especially enjoyed by those of us who are newcomers to this area.

Sunday, May 3, several from our congregation travelled to Philadelphia, PA, where we enjoyed a day of fellowship and blessings with the congregation there.

We welcome anyone who is in our area on the second Sunday of each month to gather with us at the Westpark Best Western Hotel just off the I-495 Beltway at the Tyson's Corner Exit. Services begin at 10:30 a.m.

Anyone wanting information concerning the Washington, D. C. area, may call Ralph Klopfenstein, 703-979-3476 or Doug Germann, 703-893-3684.

FLORIDA, FORT LAUDERDALE
Terri Huber

Mother's Day may mean an extra hug for your Mom if she lives nearby and you are fortunate enough to see her often, or a card and telephone call across the miles. While it is generally perceived a happy time in remembrance of the woman who raised you, Mother's Day can mean fond memories for those whose moms have reached a higher calling, or even heartbreaking memories for Moms who have lost their children. Let us offer a special prayer for those families who had an empty place at the table this Mother's Day.

Ministering Bro. Vic Beer (North Fort Myers) and his wife spent a weekend with us. Many of the Fort Lauderdale folks remember when Vic and Dot lived in this area.

The weather has been just right for picnics lately. We are fortunate to be able to enjoy our gatherings at the beach, where the ocean attests to God's majesty and omnipotence in a world that seems to have forgotten its Creator.

FLORIDA, NORTH FORT MYERS
Kay Eisenmann

Maybe it is because we are a people who always want to be in full control of our lives that we find it so hard to turn it over to God! Jesus didn't want to die like He did, but because of His love for us, He gave up His own will and said, "Thy will be done!" Let us all pray for that kind of a will! Jesus should be able to recognize His own! People should be able to tell which Spirit we follow. If we have to tell them we are overcomers,

then something is wrong in our lives. May we all pray to be more Christ-like!

School will soon be out. We are praying that Dathan will build strength over the summer to enable him to go full time next fall. All is in the hands of God, our loving Father.

We are looking forward to our whole family's presence for our son, David's, testimony and baptism. This has been an answer to the prayers of many. May the door of grace remain open so many might see the beautiful life they are missing, not only here but eternally in the kingdom of heaven!

FLORIDA, SARASOTA

Lucille Heiniger

By the time you receive the Silver Lining in June, Father's Day will soon be here. We love our earthly fathers very much and have loving memories of those fathers who have gone to meet their Lord. How much more should we love our heavenly Father and live for Him each day as if it were our last day here on earth.

Sis. Marie Bartoni has returned home from Yugoslavia where she has been visiting her 90-year-old mother and family for the last several months. We welcome Sis. Marie home.

A number from here attended the ordination of Bro. Darrell Klopfenstein as elder at Fort Lauderdale church.

Bro. Glenn and Sis. Sandee Price and family will be gone for the month of August. Bro. Doug Sabo would be glad for any ministering brother to join him on any of those Sundays. They may stay rent-free in the one-bedroom church apartment at this time. Anyone interested in coming, please notify Bro. Doug, so arrangements can be made.

Our dear friend, David Eisenmann, has found peace with his God and was announced to give his testimony May 24, Lord willing. We wish for him God's grace and blessings now and in the days ahead so he can be a true child of God.

Bro. Homer and Sis. Dorothy Rein- eck and Bro. Werner and Sis. Esther Kupferschmid have returned home from an extended trip to Europe visit- ing relatives and friends in Switzerland and Germany.

Sis. Sue Ellen Ott, formerly of the Congerville, IL, congregation, has found employment in the Sarasota area. We welcome her to our congrega- tion.

We miss all the northern brethren as

they have all gone to their homes for the summer months. We look forward to their return in the fall for the winter months.

Our visiting ministers who gave of themselves to minister the Word were Elder Bro. Ben Maibach (Detroit, MI) and Bro. Homer Reineck (Toledo, OH). We are always glad for visitors.

ILLINOIS, BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL

Donna Hodel — Karen Brummitt

On April 22, we gathered together to partake of the Lord's supper. It was a very special and blessed evening for us. We wish to thank our Elder Bro. Dan Koch and Elder Bro. Leroy Huber (Eureka) for being with us.

COMMUNION HYMN

Come within, Come within,
Of thy church the Head to be!
Speak to us the peaceful message
Of Thy love, We wait for Thee,
Of our covenant the author,
Come to hold with us the feast of love,
From above, from above.

Zion's Harp #24

We extend sincere congratulations to our graduating seniors, Dennis Brummitt (Dave and Sis. Karen Brum- mitt), Jodi Grusy (Connie Grusy, Bloomington and John Grusy, Chehal- is, WA), Dwight Kieser (Bro. Charles and Sis. Marie Kieser), Leigh Ann Knobloch (Bro. Clyde and Sis. Char- lene Knobloch), Sarah Steffen (Bro. Earl and Sis. Betty Steffen) and Brian Walter (Bro. Harvey and Sis. Margaret Walter). May God richly bless them as they pursue their chosen walks of life!

As we observe Father's Day, let us thank our heavenly Father for provid- ing each of us with a special earthly father.

ILLINOIS, BRADFORD

Marilyn Tanner

Babies bring a new joy into the home when they arrive. On April 22, Bro. David and Sis. Barb Klumpp were blessed with Andrew David. He has two brothers, Bryan and Kevin, to welcome him. Grandparents are Bro. Leonard and Sis. Ann Hartter and Bro. Raymond Klumpp.

A precious baby girl, Brooke Alaina, was born to Mike and Sheila Rumbold May 5. Grandparents are Jean Hen- derson and Bro. Elwin and Sis. Loretta

Rumbold. May God shower many bles- sings on these families and their new bundles.

The engagement of Bro. Tim Kieser (Bro. Loris and Sis. Martha) and Sis. Denise Martin (Bro. Nathan and Sis. Esther, Princeville) was announced May 3. May the Lord bless this dear couple as they plan their life together.

Visiting ministers this past month were Bro. Wayne Banwart (Urbana) and Bro. LeRoy Hartman (Peoria). We thank them for the inspiring messages that were brought forth.

FATHERS

Fathers are for talking with,
for words that guide and cheer.

Fathers are for walking with,
for always being near.

Fathers are for caring,
for being strong, yet gentle.

Fathers are for sharing,
when you're feeling sentimental.

Fathers are for standing by,
through every kind of strife.

Fathers are for giving faith,
that lights your way through life.

Alice Joyce Davidson

ILLINOIS, CHAMPAIGN

Cheryl Mangers

Our annual business meeting April 23 resulted in new responsibilities for many of us. Bro. Brian Waibel, Sisters Pam Furrer and Cheryl Mangers will serve as new Sunday school teachers; Bro. Keith Hanson as trustee; Bro. Doug Hoerr as usher and Sis. Mary Greiner on the kitchen committee. May we each use the talents He has given us in service for Him.

What a privilege it was to partake of communion together as a family of believers May 6. Our love and apprecia- tion go to Elder Bros. Rich Schup- bach (Phoenix, AZ) and Bob Grimm (Goodfield, IL) for their service that evening.

We appreciated having Bro. Vernon Leman (Eureka) with us to learn more about the World Relief activities.

Our thanks, love and appreciation are given to our visiting ministers this past month: Bros. Ken Dietz (Brad- ford), Vernon Leman (Eureka) and Jaye Rinkenberger (Goodfield).

We appreciate Bro. Justin Koch

organizing a weekly lawn mowing schedule for our new church ground as we have found working together as families and groups has been very unifying. Mowing on Devonshire doesn't quite compare to what we had to mow on Mumford.

May brings graduations — 8th grade, high school and college. Graduating from St. Joseph Grade School was Doug Mangers (Dennie and Sis Cheryl) and from Urbana High School, Thane Hanson (Bro. Keith and Sis. Joan). Thane plans to enter the University of Illinois this fall.

Saying goodbye to our graduating University of Illinois seniors isn't always easy as we become quite attached to them. We wish God's richest blessings and continual guidance and direction to Sisters Susan Blunier, Joyce Martin and Wendy Zehr; to Bros. Mark Zimmerman, Scott Wegman, Steve Walder, Todd Stoller, Greg Schumacher, Ted Schock, Kurt Pflederer, Larry Gramm, Brad Eisenmann and Jerry Leuthold and to Nathan Hoerr, Heidi Hausmann, Jill Luginbuhl, Keven Scholl and Lyle Steidinger. Graduating University of Illinois graduate students included Bros. Ed Martin and John Wiegand and Sis. Cheryl Mangers. Graduating from Parkland College was Bro. Art Walder.

Three of the above graduates were married and these couples were very special to us. We bid farewell to Bro. Ted, Sis. Heidi and Naomi Schock as they head for Elgin, Bro. Brad and Sis. Cindy Eisenmann (Chicago) and Bro. Mark, Sis. Cheryl and Laurel Zimmerman who will make their new home in Eureka.

ILLINOIS, CHICAGO

Kathy Schlatter

As we think of our daughter's next years in school, we want her to be challenged. We would like for her intellect to be honed by the questions, ideas and conversation of those who are also of high intelligence. These are considerations as we look at possible schools and areas. Shouldn't we also want to be challenged to a higher plane within our church? If one were searching for a church, one could do no better here on earth than to find a church where the Word of God is preached at the inspiration of His Spirit, where the members each try to live the Word in their daily lives, especially in their submission to the Word, its ministers

and in love to each one they meet. We need to search our own hearts, to make sure that we, as members of Christ's body, are fit to be "iron sharpening iron" (paraphrasing Proverbs 27:17). Thus we are honed by the quality of our brothers and sisters and they are honed by our quality.

"If the iron be blunt, and he do not whet the edge, then must he put to more strength: but wisdom is profitable to direct." Ecclesiastes 10:10. We are so thankful for the wisdom of our visiting ministers, for they have whetted the edge of our spiritual lives: Elder Bro. Leroy Huber (Eureka), Bros. Ken Dietz (Bradford), Jim Leman (Roanoke), Jim Plattner (Princeville), Arnie Gerst (Taylor, MO), Harvey Grimm (Sabetha, KS) and Darrel Stoller (Bern, KS).

The iron of the congregation is also whetted when we are privileged to hear the clear testimonies of beloved converts who have tasted of the Lord's grace and patience as they struggled to find His way. Elder Bro. Leroy Huber and our Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann heard the testimonies and baptized Rick Meyer and Jaron Grimm the weekend of Mother's Day. They are now our new brother and sister-in-faith, having passed a most important milestone on their way to heaven. As Bro. Rick returns to school in the fall at the University of Illinois, Champaign, and Sis. Jaron continues her work, we pray for their faithful walk in the Lord. We are grateful to the Lord for them and the increased awareness we have received from Mother's Day weekend 1987.

Jerry and Debbie Grieco have a new son, Nicholas Robert, born May 3. He had an extra long stay in the hospital but is now home. We pray that he who is so loved will now also be healthy. Jerry and Jon, big brothers, are eager to help take care of their new brother. Nicholas' grandparents, Bro. Bill and Sis. Irene Romersberger (Gridley, IL) and Jerry's mother from the Chicago area, are prayerful and thankful. May we pray, too, that Nicholas will join our children and his brothers, growing up under the sound of His Word and His Truth.

We bid a fond farewell to several this month. Sis. Marie Kulyan has moved to Florida to be with her daughter, Miriam, and her family. She has been so helpful always to others, whether doing dishes in the kitchen or feeding the

"elderly" at one of her many places of volunteer work. Now that age is taking its toll on her, we pray that the Lord may continue to be with her, never leaving her alone. Bro. Keith and Sis. Tammy Hinrichsen have come to the end of their time in the Milwaukee area. We send them and their two children, Joseph and baby Kelly, downstate to Morton, IL, with our love and prayers. Bro. Keith plans to open a store there. We know the Lord will be good to them and they will be supportive members in the church.

Sis. Theresa Stammer has been hospitalized. We pray that the operation is successful and her recovery quick, Lord willing. Our love and prayers go out to her, as we wish for her the Lord's nearness and protection in this time of need.

On a recent trip, I rented a car for traveling. In the Los Angeles suburbs it worked beautifully. It ran very well on the freeways also, but the hood latch wouldn't stay locked. In fact, the wind was so much stronger on the freeway that the hood bounced (approximately five inches) and I was very concerned that the entire hood might fly up and completely obstruct my vision, causing an accident. The Lord was very good, and that did not happen. But I think there is a spiritual application. When we are involved in the normal problems of life, an area where our convictions are weaker may not seem to affect us very much. We are, after all, surrounded by our brethren and there are opportunities to stop along the way for help. However, when we are in the "fast lanes" and in the middle at that, that same area may threaten our entire spiritual existence and endanger others as well. May we look to our Father in heaven and to our earthly and spiritual fathers for mechanical assistance as we examine ourselves for areas needing spiritual "tuning-up".

ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK

Elaine Sauder — Mary Knapp

We were thankful to hear the Lord led Bro. Curt Knapp to ask for the hand of Sis. Beverly Mogler (Iowa City, IA). May these two dear souls feel blessings and guidance from above as they make preparations for a life together in the Lord. Their parents are Bro. Ervin and Sis. Elma Mogler (West Bend, IA) and Bro. Harry and Sis. Gladys Knapp from our congregation.

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to

Bro. Elmer Kaeb and his family in the sudden death of his sister, Wilma Edelman (Dan, Bern, KS). She was killed in an auto accident.

Sis. Mary Knapp (Bro. Earl) had oral surgery and is recuperating at home. We also wish to remember Sis. Mary in sympathy as she recently lost her stepmother, Rose Gholsons (Hoopeston, IL).

Sis. Margaret Kupferschmid (David) had surgery this past month. Sis. Anna Hari was hospitalized for medical reasons and has returned home again. It is comforting to know that God is always ready and willing to help us through our trials and tribulations. He's only a prayer away.

To pray —

Oh, what a glorious occupation!
What gifts derived from humble
veneration!

And unto prayer the strength from God
in heaven
To us is given.

Zion's Harp #235

"Let Your Light Shine" was the theme of our Mother-Daughter Dinner. May 7 was an enjoyable and spiritually enlightening evening for all in attendance.

We appreciated having Bro. Dennis Kaufmann (Bloomington) return to his childhood home Mother's Day and proclaim the Word to us. May he be led to return again real soon.

It is the time of year when we have the opportunity to pay tribute to our fathers. Everyone who has had a Christian father can vividly recall his daily and spiritual instructions whether read from the Bible or spoken.

"Hear, ye children, the instruction of a father, and attend to know understanding."

Proverbs 4:1

"My son, hear the instruction of thy father . . ."

Proverbs 1:8

ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE
Gail Leman — Susan Knapp

Our heavenly Father rejoices to see His precious children put their lives into His hands. Likewise, earthly fathers rejoice to see their children turn their hearts to God. Larissa Schrock (Bro. Byron and Sis. Mary), Lynnette Stahl (Bro. Ernest and Sis. Norma),

Sara Knapp (Bro. Rick and Sis. Kathy) and Denise Banwart (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Arlene) having turned their backs to sin and Satan have now found peace with their heavenly Father and man. We look forward with joyful hearts to hear their testimonies of what our Lord has done for them.

Providing helpmates for Bro. Anthony Blades and Sis. Patsy Bahler (Wolcott, IN), our Lord brought them together in holy matrimony May 17. May the Lord bless their walk together toward that heavenly goal. We pray that they will always remember the threefold cord.

God has once more brought into our midst visiting ministers who were willing to lend themselves in our behalf. We wish to thank Bro. Wes Knapp (Goodfield), Bro. Loren Knapp (Tucson, AZ) and Bro. Kenneth Knapp (Taylor, MO).

TWO PRAYERS

Last night my little boy confessed to me
Some childish wrong;
And kneeling at my knee,
He prayed with tears —
"Dear God, make me a man
Like Daddy — wise and strong;
I know you can."

Then while he slept
I knelt beside his bed,
Confessing my sins,
And prayed with low-bowed head —
"O God, make me a child
Like my child here —
Pure, guileless,
Trusting Thee with faith sincere."

Andrew Gillies

When looking at our Fathers, we see
the strength in love,
We know they are God's special
blessings sent to us from above.
They've been there through special
joys and sorrows too,
May we remember to say "I Love You!"

ILLINOIS, ELGIN
Elizabeth Schambach
Betty Bachtold

On Saturday evening, April 25, our congregation gathered with grateful hearts to hear how God tenderly called and awakened Jim and Carlene Jepson from sin to a life of faith and hope in our dear Saviour's sacrificial death and resurrection.

"Now it is accomplished! My soul He hath healed;
A portion in heaven to me He hath sealed.

O, may He direct me through joy and through ill;
I'll never forsake Him, but follow Him still."

Zion's Harp #209, vs. 5

Our new brother and sister-in-the-Lord are children of Bro. Dave and Sis. Millie Jepson and Bro. Larry and Sis. Carol Fehr (West Bend, IA). Elder Bro. Wayne Fehr (West Bend, IA) assisted Elder Bro. Nathan in this joyous occasion. We thank God for inspiring him as well as other visitors who shared the ministry of God's Word this past month. These include Bros. Dale Frank (Oakville, IA), Wayne Anliker (Forrest, IL), Lester Huber (Lexington, KY), Kevin Knapp (Bloomington, IL), Kenneth Dietz (Bradford, IL) and Virgil Metzger (Chicago, IL).

Bro. Steven Scheitlin is now living in Mongo, Africa, after studying French for eight weeks in Switzerland. His new address is:

Steven Scheitlin
Food For The Hungry
B. P. 15
Mongo, Guera
Tchad, Afrique

Bro. Stan Schambach was chosen to serve as our new Sunday school teacher. May he feel the love and inspiration from God. Bro. Melvin Schrock's term has expired and we thank him and all who labor in this responsibility.

Bro. Sam Graf underwent surgery, and after a time of convalescing, is able to assemble with us again. Bro. Frank Schock was hospitalized a few days while visiting in Iowa. We are thankful for God's restoration to many of our loved ones who have been ill.

We rejoice with Bro. Anthony Blades and Sis. Patsy Bahler as they were united in holy matrimony in Wolcott, IN, May 17. May God bless them as they walk this narrow way together.

Congratulations are extended to our high school graduates! They are Paul Haas (Edwin and Sis. Carolyn), Melissa Kellenberger (Elvis and Gail), Bro. John and Sharon Kinsinger (Bro. Bill and Sis. Sandra), Rodney Schifferer (Bro. Tom and Sis. Kathy), Rebecca Schock (Bro. Frank and Sis. Lois) and Nancy Weiss (Bro. Paul and Sis. Joyce). "In all thy ways acknowledge him, and

he shall direct thy paths." Proverbs 3:6.

May God bless our Dads on Father's Day. "A father's love is a gift which God has given."

ILLINOIS, EUREKA

Kathy L. Rocke

Every life we touch is a field;
Everything we do and all the words we
speak are seeds.

What will the harvest be?

Anonymous

Our thoughts go out to Sis. Amy Stoller, Sis. Mabel Wittmer (Bro. Carlton) and Bro. George Sauder who were hospitalized this month. May the Lord be with them and grant them reasonable health and strength according to His will.

"The Lord bless thee, and keep thee: the Lord make his face shine upon thee, And be gracious unto thee:" Numbers 6:24-25. May 3 we witnessed the wedding vows of Sis. Linda Wiegand and Bro. Gary Folkerts (Washington). We rejoice with them and their parents., Bro. Bob and Sis. Helen Wiegand and Ronald and Dorothy Folkerts. We wish Bro. Gary and Sis. Linda God's blessings as they assemble with the brethren at Washington.

We are thankful for those who have shared of themselves this past month. Visiting ministers were Elder Bro. Don Sauder (Roanoke), Elder Bro. Ed Frank (LaCrosse, IN), Bro. Harold Schmidgall (Gridley, IL), Bro. Marshall Heinold (Washington) and Bro. Mike Rinkenberger (Congerville). May God bless them for serving us through His Word.

May 11 was the birth date of Brian Jeffrey Banwart. His parents are Bro. Jeff and Sis. Lisa Banwart. Also welcoming Brian home is big brother, Douglas. Grandparents are Bro. Don and Sis. Verda Bruellman (West Bend, IA), and Bro. Joel and Sis. Sonia Banwart. We wish them God's blessings as they nurture this little soul.

"The just man walketh in his integrity: his children are blessed after him." Proverbs 20:7. We commemorate Father's Day June 21, a day set aside to remember our earthly fathers whom we love very dearly. From those still upon the earth, we can receive guidance and counsel; of those who are with the Lord, we have fond memories of their walk of life and ways of truth.

Thanks be to our heavenly Father who made a way of salvation and a hope of life eternal possible that we can always walk with God, our Father, whether in life or death.

ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY

Jean Bachtold — Crystal Fehr

A father is neither an anchor to hold us
back,

Nor a sail to take us there,

But always a guiding light whose love
shows us the way.

George Webster Douglas

As we commemorate Father's Day, our minds go back to think of what our earthly fathers have done for us. Most of all we can thank our heavenly Father for His abundant love.

Sis. Barb and Billy Mashburn rejoice with their new little son, Andrew Scott. His brothers are Nathan, Troy and Ryan. Andrew has one sister, Lindsey. Grandparents are Sam and Norma Hoffman and Ruth Mashburn (Jasper, AZ).

May 10 was a special day for Sis. Janet Steidinger and Bro. Todd Sinn (Latty, OH) as their engagement was made known. Their parents are Bro. Maurice and Sis. Alma Steidinger and Bro. Walt and Sis. Renee Sinn.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Eaton (Patterson, AR) announce the engagement of their daughter, Linda, to Alan Walter (Bro. Richard and Sis. Colleen). They are planning a July 25 wedding. May the Lord bless these two couples as they plan for their future together.

Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to the family of Bro. Amos and Sis. Ruth Meyer over the loss of their daughter, Sis. Charlotte Banwart (Lamar, MO).

We were blessed by three visiting ministers, Bros. Gary Brown (Forrest), Steve Martin (Eureka) and Mike Rinkenberger (Congerville).

We pray for God's blessings on the graduates of the senior class of 1987: Sis. Crystal Broquard, Angela Fehr, Sis. LeAnn Kaisner, Paul Kilgus, Brian Moser, Kelley Oberlander, Eric Vaughan, Brian Steidinger, Darwin Steidinger, Debbie Steidinger and Keith Schieler. Also, Sis. Wendy Zehr is graduating from the University of Illinois. We pray that the Lord will lead them to whatever their goals are.

A GRADUATION PRAYER

God grant you His grace . . .
To stand tall in the sunlight,
To reach for the dream, the star,
To see the world through eyes of
tenderness,

To love with open-heartedness,
To speak the quiet word of comfort,
To believe in the wonder of life,
The beauty of the universe and the
dignity of the human being.

Hadin Marshall

ILLINOIS, FORREST

Sharon Adams — Patsy Stoller

We were blessed with many visiting ministers this past month as many came to share in our joyous weekends of baptism and communion. Those visiting us during the month were Elder Bro. Don Sauder; Bros. Jim Byrd and Bill Hodel (Roanoke), Elder Bro. Art Bahler, Bros. John Hartman, Merle Kaisner and Duane Kilgus (Fairbury), Bro. Dave Weigand (Urbana), Elder Bro. Alfred Bahler (Wolcott, IN) and Bro. Frederick Knapp (Congerville). May God bless these dear brothers for their labors of love.

The weekend of April 26, Amy Waibel (Bro. Eldon and Sis. Marge); and Ken and Debbie Roth gave their testimonies of faith and were baptized as God's children. May they feel God's grace and strength as they walk onward to that beautiful "Haven of Rest", awaiting the true and faithful.

Hospitalized this month were Bro. Clarence Kachelmuss (Sis. Laura); Sis. Esther Gerber (Bro. Earl) and Harry Johnson (Sis. Matilda). We are thankful God has strengthened them and that Bro. Clarence and Sis. Esther have returned home and are able to assemble with us again. We are also thankful Harry will soon be able to return home.

We are reminded of that beautiful hymn, "We are going down the valley one by one . . ." (Jessie H. Brown), as our dear Sis. Berniece Kyburz has passed away. Surviving are her husband, Bro. John; daughters, Sis. Marjorie Friedman (Henry), Sis. Evelyn Knapp (Bro. Loren, Tucson, AZ) and Marilyn Scott (Chester, NJ). May God comfort them in this time of sorrow.

May 2 we spent a blessed evening together as we partook of holy communion. Let us remember the precious words we heard that evening.

Our graduates this year are Brad

Metz (Bro. Gene and Sis. Carol), Lorelei Broquard (Bro. Wayne and Sis. Roberta), Bro. Brian Ricketts (Bro. Nick and Sis. Jean) and Bro. Aaron Masters (Bro. Bill and Sis. Mary). We wish them God's blessings as they continue on in life.

A FATHER'S PRAYER

Give me the strength to show my children

The meaning of wrong from right,
To love and understand them
And lend a guiding light.

In years to come as they grow older
And go their separate way,
I only hope that what I have taught
Will be with them to stay.

Author Unknown

Precious are the many teachings of our fathers, with the most precious being those teachings of our heavenly Father taught to us by our Dads. May God bless each father as they strive to raise their children according to God's Word.

We wish to thank everyone for their prayers, kind deeds and love shown to us during the loss of our dear mother. May God bless all.

The Percida Metz family

Reminder: July is Forrest's month for the Silver Lining dues.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF KENTON SCHNEIDER

He wished no one a last farewell
Nor even said goodbye.
He was gone before we knew it
And only God knows why,
His memory is a treasure
No one can ever steal,
His death was a heartache
That no one can ever heal.
God gave us strength to face it
And courage to bear the blow,
But what it meant to love and lose him
No one will ever know.

Sadly missed by,
Duane, Janny, Kathy and
Grandma (Kathryn) Schneider

ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD Trish Gerber

TWO PRAYERS

Last night my little boy confessed to me

Some childish wrong;
And kneeling at my knee,
He prayed with tears —
"Dear God, make me a man
Like Daddy — wise and strong;
I know you can."

Then while he slept
I knelt beside his bed,
Confessed my sins,
And prayed with low-bowed head —
"O God, make me a child
Like my child here —
Pure, guileless,
Trusting Thee with faith sincere."
Gillies

As we honor our fathers, let's thank God for giving us daddys, grandpas and husbands who, like this father, look to God to guide them as they lovingly and prayerfully provide for their families.

Our congregation was overjoyed to hear the testimony and witness the baptism of our new brother-in-Christ, Floyd "Shorty" Hoffman. Shorty's wife, Sis. Evelyn, joins with all of us in thanks to God for calling one more lamb into His fold.

We thank Elder Bro. Dan Koch (Tremont) for assisting with our extra-special Wednesday evening service. Our dear Sis. Charlotte Bahler was joined in holy matrimony to Bro. John Steiner (Tremont). We wish God's richest blessings as they continue their lives together.

Thanks to Bro. Denny Kaufman (Bloomington) for sharing a Sunday with us and ministering God's Word.

Goodfield subscribers: June is the month to pay your dues. Thank you.

ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY Carol Klopfenstein

"Except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it: except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain."
Psalms 127:1

The evening of April 29 we gathered together on the lot south of the Gridley church parking lot for ground breaking services for a "Congregate Living Facility". This will consist of ten apartments, a common dining room and a World Relief Center. Our Elder Bro. Edwin Ringger read the above verse and led us in prayer as we asked God's blessings on the upcoming building

project. The lovely sounds in the evening air of our blended voices singing "Petition for the Lord's Blessings" and "The Praise of God" were a special inspiration to us. We concluded with all the brothers who wished to do so, digging a shovelful of the ground. It was a unique and blessed occasion for young and old alike.

Our hospital patients have been Sis. Ella Kuerth, Sis. Judy Knobloch, Sis. Valerie Funk and Sis. Vyra Stoller.

We were glad for the visit of ministering Bro. Glenn Hackenjoes (Altadena, CA) and we appreciate his labor of love in our behalf.

ILLINOIS, ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY Susan Kieser

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

Matthew 18:20

These words of Jesus are a comfort to the few of us remaining at Illinois State over the summer. Even though our numbers have decreased, Jesus is still among us helping each of us be a light for Him.

To finish up the spring semester Bible studies, Bro. Marshall Heindol (Washington) spoke on the seven feasts written about in Leviticus 23. He related the timing of the feasts to Christ's last days here on earth to reveal how perfect God's plan is. The final Bible study was on spiritual foot washing by Elder Bro. Chuck Hemmer (Peoria). One of his points was how we need to cleanse ourselves daily through prayer.

We would like to thank all our brothers-in-faith who gave of their time this past semester. May God bless each and every one of them.

ILLINOIS, MORTON Phyllis Farney — Marcia Kelley

We were thankful to again partake of the Lord's Supper May 3. We were reminded of our Saviour's suffering and death on the cross. May we ever keep this in our hearts and thank our heavenly Father daily for sending His Son, Jesus, to die in our place. We are thankful that Elder Bros. Don Sauder (Roanoke, IL) and Richard Schupbach (Phoenix, AZ) were here to help our Elder Bro. Joe Braker serve holy communion.

We are rejoicing with Bro. Gary, Sis. Debbie, Joshua, Aaron and Sarah Rassi as little Heather Lynn has now joined their family circle. Her happy grandparents are Raymond and Cleda Rinkenberger (Tremont, IL) and Bro. Elias and Sis. Pearl Rassi (Morton, IL).

Sis. Mary (Stieglitz) Roecker was called into Eternity. Her funeral was May 6. We pray that her family and friends will feel God's comforting hand.

Again that week the death angel visited our congregation and took our dear Sis. Emma Herman. Her funeral was May 9. Our prayers of sympathy are expressed to her husband, Bro. Clarence, her loving family and many friends. May they find comfort in knowing that God does care and will provide for them during their time of sorrow.

We wish to thank Elder Bro. Ben Maibach (Detroit, MI) and Bro. Greg Rassi (Chicago, IL) for ministering God's holy Word unto us. We truly appreciate their faithful service.

So many verses in the Book of Psalms tell of singing praises to our Lord. "Sing forth the honour of his name: make his praise glorious." (Psalm 66:2). "Sing unto the Lord, bless his name; shew forth his salvation from day to day." (Psalms 96:2) "O God, my heart is fixed; I will sing and give praise, even with my glory." (Psalms 108:1) We thank the Detroit, MI, choir for singing God's beautiful praises for us the weekend of May 16. It was such a blessing to visit with those of like mind and like faith and share Christian fellowship. We thank the Detroit choir and visitors for a very special weekend.

We can probably all think of a time in our lives when our father had to correct us. Looking back on that incident, we are so thankful for his love and patient understanding. As much as we respected our father and his correction, think of the eternal life our heavenly Father can give us if we are in subjection to Him. "Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live?" (Hebrews 12:9). Happy Father's Day to our loving Dads!

Address Changed . . .

Give Old and New Address
to Your Reporter

ILLINOIS, PEORIA Kathy Huthmann

NO PRAYER GOES UNHEARD

Often we pause and wonder
When we kneel down to pray —
Can God really hear
The prayers that we say . . .
But if we keep praying
And talking to Him,
He'll brighten the soul
That was clouded and dim,
And as we continue
Our burden seems lighter,
Our sorrow is softened
And our outlook is brighter —
For though we feel helpless
And alone when we start,
Our prayer is the key
That opens the heart,
And as our heart opens
The dear Lord comes in
And the prayer that we felt
We could never begin
Is so easy to say
For the Lord understands
And gives us new strength
By the touch of His hands.

Helen Steiner Rice

Graduating from high school this year are Sis. Susan Huthmann (Bro. George and Sis. Ruth), Sis. Jane Hoerr (Bro. John and Sis. Dot), Bro. Jon Ginzler (Bro. Dave and Sis. Mary), Sis. Karen Unsicker (Bro. Wayne and Sis. Lucille), Sis. Kim Schafer (Sis. Barb), Dan Meister (Bro. Paul and Sis. Rhoda), Bro. Joel Hoerr (Bro. Carl and Sis. Ev), Bro. Brad Parrish (Faye), Jeff Zehr (Bro. Roger and Becky), Debbie Herman (Bro. Allan and Sis. Lois), Tricia Eastman (Darrell and Jane), Lisa Martin (Bro. Tom and Sis. Jae), Rick Hodel (Rich and Bonnie), Joe Hermann (Bro. Rich and Marilyn) and Rene Woerner (Bro. John and Sis. Judy). Also, Sis. Shelle Massner and Sis. Brenda Huber have graduated from college. We congratulate them and pray that they will all seek God's direction at this important time in their lives.

Those who spent time in the hospital this past month were Bro. Will Perdelwitz, David Sceggel, Sis. Gloria Heiniger, Bro. Toby Schneider, Jason Kinney and Sis. Dorothy Kieser.

We were thrilled at the engagement announcement of our Bro. Don Hoerr and our Sis. Jackie Waibel. Their parents are Bro. Don and Sis. Velma

Hoerr and Bro. Bill and Sis. Joyce Waibel. We wish them God's richest blessings and pray they will keep Christ centered in their new life together.

We extend our sympathy to several families who have lost loved ones. They include Bro. Wilber Hoerr and his family as his father, Bro. John C. Hoerr, passed away April 10, Bro. Adam Marz and his family in the death of his father, Merle Marx, Sis. Gloria Hunziker and her family as her father, Bro. Otto Scherer (Roanoke) passed away, and Sis. Sharon Causey and her family as her mother, Sis. Emma Herman (Morton) passed away. May God comfort them all.

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

Bro. Toby Schneider

April 25 was the wedding day for Nancy Haefli (Bro. Bob and Sis. Ilene) and Neil Ritter. We wish Nancy and Neil God's blessings.

Many of us in our congregation visited our brethren in our Athens, AL, church. We truly enjoyed the Christian fellowship. We want to thank them for their loving hospitality and ask that they come to visit us soon.

Sis. Naomi Perrine would like to thank all her relatives and friends for their prayers, cards, visits, gifts and beautiful flowers given to her during her illness.

The best thing a father can do for his children is to teach them to walk in the footsteps of Jesus. Let's remember to give thanks for these teachings as they are truly precious. May God bless all fathers on Father's Day.

ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE Marjean Lehman

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

Communion Hymn

On April 29, Wednesday evening, communion services were held. Elder Bro. Dan Koch (Tremont) assisted Elder Bro. Joe Stoller.

On May 3, Elder Bro. Richard Schupbach (Phoenix, AZ) ministered the Word to us. On Sunday evening he

showed slides of his trip to India. Other visiting ministers recently were Bro. Jim Hoerr (Peoria) and Bro. Wally Ramsier (Mansfield, OH). May God bless all of these brethren.

"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

On April 25, we heard the engagement announcement of Sis. Doreen Graham (Bro. Dick and Sis. Jeanette Graham) and Bro. Jerry Leuthold (Bro. John and Sis. Shirley Leuthold).

On May 3, we heard of the engagement of Sis. Denise Martin (Bro. Nate and Sis. Esther) and Bro. Tim Kieser (Bro. Loris and Sis. Martha, Bradford).

Mrs. Martha (Leonard) Stahl was a hospital patient. Bro. Tim Martin was in the hospital for surgery and Virginia King suffered a broken arm.

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

Reminder: July is collection month for the Silver Lining for Princeville.

ILLINOIS, ROANOKE

Marge Leman — Judy Luginbuhl

The following poem was given to me by a dear sister in our congregation. It was written by her father who spent many years teaching Sunday school children here at Roanoke. It's a beautiful tribute to our heavenly Father and His holy Word of Life and also portrays the love and concern of our fathers here on earth for their children. We truly thank the Lord for our Christian fathers and the good examples they have been.

SUNDAY SCHOOL HYMN

God bless our Sunday school,
The place that we love,
As we gather, all together,
Let us hear words of Life from above
Which shall teach us and shall lead us
'Til the day when Thou shalt come.

God bless our Sunday school, our church and home.

Lord now dismiss us

As we depart.

With true obedience and firm allegiance

May we reverence Thy name in our heart.

Though from childhood until manhood,
Or 'til old age we must roam,
May Thy true teachings direct us home.

F. E. H.

We extend our best wishes and ask God's richest blessings to all our high school graduates. Those graduating this year are Bro. Greg Blunier (Wayne and Sis. Marge Blunier), Karel Braker (Bro. Marvin and Sis. Michaleen Braker), Nathan Hoffman (Bro. Tim and Sis. Jean Hoffman), Linda Hodel (Bro. Jim and Sis. Doris Hodel), Michelle Sauder (Les and Cyndee Sauder), Lynn Knecht (Wally and Kay Knecht), Courtney Sauder (Gary and Phyllis Sauder), Mike Pfister (Bro. Marvin and Sis. Ila Pfister), Chad Getz (Bro. Merlyn and Sis. Jan Getz), Matt Byrd (Bro. Jim and Sis. Leota Byrd) and Tracy Fehr (Bro. Rich and Sis. Madelyn Fehr).

We were so spiritually uplifted to hear the testimony of Bro. Dennis Roth (Bro. Harold and Sis. Edna) and witness his baptism May 17.

Easter Sunday was the wedding day for Bro. Jeff Schumacher (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Jane) and Sis. Tina Strahm (Bro. Loren and Sis. Listene, Gridley, KS). Their marriage ceremony was in Chicago where they are making their home. May their lives ever be filled with Christian love.

Bro. Joe Hohulin (Denver, CO) and Sis. Lorene Faustine (Bay City, MI) have announced their engagement. Bro. Joe is the son of Bro. Melvin and Sis. Shirley Hohulin of our congregation. We extend best wishes to them as they look forward to becoming one in the Lord.

Gene Whitten, who was severely injured in a car accident several months ago, has been transferred from the hospital to the Apostolic Christian Home in Eureka. We continue our prayers for this dear family who have gone through so much in the last few months.

Other hospital patients have been Sis. Anna Heiligenstein, Sis. Marian

Blunier, Don Bowald, Sis. Angela Rassi, Sis. Emma Blunier and Bro. Slim Hodel. It is our prayer God would keep all of these loved ones in His care and heal according to His will.

Sincere sympathy is extended to the family of Bro. Otto Scherer who passed from this life into eternity May 4. Surviving are his dear wife, Sis. Clara, one son, Richard; and one daughter, Sis. Gloria Hunziker (Bro. Willis, Peoria). Also surviving are three brothers, Bro. Lee (Roanoke), Jess and Paul (Peoria); one sister, Esther Clow (Denver, CO); seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Matt and Krista Fehr are first-time parents of a precious little daughter, Morgan Elizabeth, born April 12. Bro. Ben and Sis. Helen Fehr, Larry and Dixie Vogel and John and Mary Pinkham are Morgan's grandparents.

Karen and Gordon Presley are happy to have a second son, Harold Christopher, born on his father's birthday, April 27. His big brother is Gordon and his grandparents are Don and Helen Brown and Harold and Viola Presley (Metamora).

We thank Bro. Jon Schmidgall (Oakville, IA), Bro. Fred Knapp (Congerville), Bro. John Rinehard (Bluffton, IN) and Bro. Kent Heimer (Taylor, MO) for lending themselves in God's service to minister His Word to us. What precious blessings are ours when we sit under the sound of the gospel.

ILLINOIS, TREMONT

Dorothy Wagenbach

Carolyn Bolliger

As Father's Day approaches, may God bless our fathers for all the kind and loving efforts they have shown us throughout our lives.

We were thankful Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann so willingly assisted Elder Bro. Dan at the testimony service and baptism of Ann Sauder (Bro. Dale and Sis. Joann) and Susan Frank (Bro. Marvin and Sis. Miriam). We welcome these two dear sisters into the fold.

Also visiting us this month were Bro. Kenneth Dietz (Bradford), Bro. Jon Rowell (Burlington, IA) and Bro. Don Wagenbach (Washington). We are thankful for each visitor.

We are sorry some in our congregation are absent due to illness. Bro. Willis Sauder had back surgery and is recuperating at home. Madelyn Herman had eye surgery but is back assembling with us again. Sis. Wilma

Aberle (Emil) has been confined to her home with shingles. We hope good health can again be restored to all.

We would like to recognize our graduates and offer our congratulations and God's blessings. High school graduates are Glen Steiner (Bro. Joe and Sis. Marcella), Tim Kaiser (Bro. Mel and Sis. Marlene), James Holmes (Marshall and Sis. Phyllis), Joan Prather (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Carolyn), Ruth Steiner (Bro. Richard and Sis. Ann), Marlise Michel (Bro. Paul and Sis. Helen), Tricia Martin (Bro. Dean and Sis. Judy) and Antje Tonnemann (foreign exchange student living with Bro. Dale and Sis. Jane Kaufmann). Eighth grade graduates are Rebekah Meister (Bro. Mike and Sis. Dorothy), Sarah Steiner (Bro. Richard and Sis. Ann), Jonathan Wagenbach (Simon, Jr. and Sis. LaVonne), Rob Mooney (Bob and Judy), Nelson Koch (Sis. Nancy), Chris Schweigert (Bro. Roger and Sis. Becky), Stephanie Horne (Ed Horne and Dawn Walker) and Matthew Lane (Larry and Sandy).

ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON

Vicki Bucher

On April 26, Bro. Joe Herman, Jr. (Bro. Joe and Sis. Lucille) and Sis. Jackie Reimschisel (Bro. Bob and Sis. Louise, Bluffton, IN) were joined as one in the Lord. They are establishing their home here in Washington. We are so thankful God leads families to our church, as each family adds a special blessing to our fellowship.

We are thankful the following ministers were willing to share with us during the month of May: Elder Bros. Loren Stoller (Latty, OH), Don Sauder (Roanoke, IL) and Bro. Ron Heiniger (Bloomington, IL). Bro. Loren conducted a Bible study entitled, "Purpose of the Church". The messages brought to us by these brothers were encouraging and we know God will be the rich rewarder.

As the school year is drawing to a close, we would like to acknowledge our high school graduates. Sue Heinold (Bro. Marshall and Sis. Jan), Scott Schmidtgall (Bro. Bill and Carol), Mark and Keith Teubel (Bro. Ed and Sis. Louise) are all looking forward to graduation. May each one seek God's help with decisions regarding higher education and employment.

May the Lord bless those who are assuming new responsibilities in our church. Our annual election was held

and the following people will begin their positions in the fall: Sisters Carol (Stan) Schick and Karen Baker, Bros. Steve Bucher, Ed Fritz, Bill Schick and Scott Steffen are Sunday school teachers; Bro. Ed Wyss as trustee; and Bros. John Cox and Troy Koehl are ushers.

We will soon be commemorating Father's Day. As we love our fathers here on earth, how much more should we love and live for our Father in heaven, who so lovingly supplies our every need.

INDIANA, BLUFFTON

Lucille Isch — Becky Isch

On Easter Sunday, Sis. Tonia Towner (Bro. William and Sis. Diana) and Bro. Steve Price (Bro. Tom and Becky, Milford) had their engagement announced.

Engaged on May 3 were Sis. Teresa Fiechter (Bro. Gerald and Sis. Eunice) and Bro. Todd Farney. May the blessings of the Lord be with each of them as they plan for their wedding day.

Sunday, April 26, was a beautiful day for the wedding of Sis. Jackie Reimschisel (Bro. Robert and Sis. Louise) and Bro. Joe Herman (Bro. Joseph and Sis. Lucille, Washington, IL). In I John 4:7 we read "Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God." Visiting ministers here for the day were Bros. Dennis Kaufmann (Bloomington, IL), Carl Wyss (Washington, IL) and Uriel Gehring (Leo). We wish to thank all for coming and sharing with us.

First-time happy parents are Bro. Dean and Sis. Jackie Gerber. Their baby boy, Austin Luke, was born May 8. Grandparents are Bro. Dave and Sis. Maxine Ringger and Bro. Harry and Sis. Lois Gerber. Also having their first child was Bro. Kevin and Sis. Brenda Fiechter. Kyle David was born May 16. Grandparents are Bro. Ramon and Sis. Lorena Steffen and Bro. Dale and Sis. Doris Fiechter.

Our loved ones in the hospital have been Bro. Russell Moser (Sis. Dorothy), Sis. Elizabeth Bertsch, Sis. Mary Ann Fiechter, Sis. Lydia Kaehr, Bro. Alphonse Reinhard (Sis. Lucille) and Sis. Betty Longenberger (Bro. Bill).

Sis. Bertha Reinhard passed away at the age of 95. She resided at Swiss Village since August 1980. Surviving are 16 nieces and nephews.

"For me to live is Christ, and to die is gain."

Philippians 1:21

Also passing from this life was Sis. Sadie Moser, 78, who had been ill five weeks. She will be missed by her husband, Bro. Fred; daughter, Sis. Rose Marie (Bro. Tom) Frauhiger; son, Dr. Arthur; three sisters, Sis. Francis Dubach, Sis. Elizabeth (Bro. William) Pfister and Sis. Marty Moser; 11 grandchildren and many others. May the Holy Spirit comfort them.

It was a most blessed evening to hear the testimonies of Norman Gerber and Bob Herring. Both knew they would not be ready to die if they had not repented. Upon promising to remain true and faithful until death, they were then baptized on Sunday. What a miracle to see lost souls now at peace that they can spend eternity in heaven. A special thanks goes to Bro. Bob Meyer (Bluffton North) and Bro. Glenn Hackenjos (Altadena) for being with us. We were taught from Matthew 25. "And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left."

IN MEMORY OF LLOYD GERBER

Man that is born of a woman is of few days, and full of trouble. He cometh forth like a flower, and is cut down; he fleeth also, as a shadow, and continueth not. And dost thou open thine eyes upon such a one, and bringest me into judgment with thee? Who can bring a clean thing out of an unclean? Not one. Seeing his days are determined, the number of his months are with thee, thou has appointed his bounds that he cannot pass; Turn from him, that he may rest, till he shall accomplish as an hireling, his day. For there is hope of a tree, if it be cut down, that it will sprout again, and that the tender branch thereof will not cease. Though the root thereof wax old in the earth and the stock thereof die in the ground; Yet through the scent of water it will bud and bring forth boughs like a plant. But man dieth and wasteth away: Yea, man giveth up the ghost, and where is he? As the waters fail from the sea; and the flood decayeth and drieth up; So man lieth down and riseth not; till the heavens be no more they shall not awake, nor be raised out of their sleep. Oh that thou wouldst hide me in the grave, that thou wouldst keep me secret until thy wrath be past that

thou wouldst appoint me a set time, and remember me. If a man die, shall he live again? All the days of my appointed time will I wait, till my change come. Thou shalt call, and I will answer thee: thou wilt have a desire to the work of thine hands.

Job 14:1-15

Bro. Lloyd Gerber was a friend to everyone and indeed a very special friend to our potluck group. We have many fond memories we will never forget. Yes, he made mistakes like we all do. He had many days of sorrow, but he also had many days of joy. We shared our troubles and our joys together. One by one our little potluck group is "going down the valley". The first to pass away was Bro. Truman Gerber (brother of Lloyd), then Bro. Bud Kaehr and now Bro. Lloyd. He cannot come to us, but we can go to him. He is now in the arms of Jesus, looking this way and waiting for his loved ones to join him on yonder shore. We say that perhaps something good will come from it. It already has drawn us closer to God than ever before. It is a warning to all of us. God can give and God can take away, even in a twinkling of an eye. Bro. Lloyd and his wife, Sis. Martha, have brought four beautiful children into the world, and I am sure they will stay together to support their mother. Bro. Lloyd loved his grandchildren and I'm sure they loved him. May God richly bless Sis. Martha and her entire family.

Bro. Bob W. Gerber

INDIANA, BLUFFTON NORTH
Cindy Shorb — Sheri Leman

We wish God's blessings upon Bro. Ben Manz (Junction, OH) for ministering to us recently. We hope Bro. Ben, Sis. Carolyn and their family always feel welcome to join us.

Little Amber Lynn Byerly was born April 21. We share in the joy of her parents, Bro. Steve and Sis. Susan and her sisters, Tara and Gay. Happy grandparents are Bro. Ralph and Sis. Devona Gerber and Mr. and Mrs. Leon Byerly.

Our children and young adults have been busy this past month. On Palm Sunday we enjoyed hearing them sing songs of praise in remembrance of Easter. On May 2 and 3 our high school students traveled to Peoria, IL, for a weekend of fellowship. We trust they all had an enjoyable time and wish to

thank those who went along or helped in any way to make this trip possible. Giving of ourselves and our time to our youth is so important in this world in which they are growing up.

Once again we shared a reverent evening of communion in remembrance of Christ's shed blood and broken body. We were kindly reminded to remember this supreme sacrifice, not only once a year, but every day as it is the essence of our lives.

"Hear, ye children, the instruction of a father, and attend to know understanding."

Proverbs 4:1

Praise God for our fathers and father-figures who have instructed us wisely and lovingly. We give them the honor on Father's Day which they deserve all year.

INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE
Lynne Wuethrich

Easter Sunday was joyful as many attended our Sunrise Service to rejoice in our risen Lord. Our Sunday school students also shared with us their joy in a program as they told the Easter story. Sharing God's message with us that day were Bros. Neal Widmer (Wolcott, IN) and Elmer Schmidt (Winthrop, MN). We want to thank everyone for their loving efforts.

Our J.O.Y. circle hosted a brunch May 2 to honor our mothers and daughters. It was a blessing to see so many women gathered together. We especially want to thank the group of sisters who shared their talents in song.

We are so happy for Dynelle Pelsy (Bro. Leon and Sis. Mabel) and Andrew Bowyer (Mr. and Mrs. Larry Bowyer, St. Joe, IN) as they are engaged to be married. We pray that God will be with them as they share this happy time together.

Our hearts were thrilled with the news that Juanita Norman can testify of peace in her heart. We pray God will stay close by her side and bless her in His loving way.

Our hospital patients this month are Bro. Pierre Neihouser (Sis. Catherine) and Bro. Chuck Anliker (Sis. Margaret). Bro. Pierre underwent major surgery and is recovering very well. Bro. Chuck injured his hand in a farming accident. We're so glad they're recovering and that God has been by their side.

Many thanks go to our visiting ministers Bro. Rod Huber (Valparaiso) and Bro. Harold Gramm (Morris, MN). We hope they'll come visit us soon.

Our congregation is sad to see Simon and Edith Traub move to a new area. They are going to make their home in the Washington, IL, area. We wish them God's love and guidance.

Our congratulations go to the following graduates: Kurtis Anliker (Bro. Chuck and Sis. Margaret), Jessica Denton (Bro. James and Sis. Sharon), Bro. Bob Huber (Bro. Bill and Sis. Betty), Anette Loukonen (exchange student from Finland, Harvey and Marilyn Gutwein), Chris Nuest (Bro. Larry and Sis. Jane), Daniel Overmyer (Bro. Danny and Sis. Carol), Keri Ward (Bro. Dale and Sis. Anne) and Kristine Westfall (Bro. Karl and Sis. Mary).

A reminder to our congregation: Dues for the Silver Lining are due in June.

"My thanks was somehow delayed for the thoughtfulness of friends, neighbors and family during my illness and my stay in the hospital some time ago. Special thank yous go to Bro. Ed Alt and Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman for their visits and prayers, and everyone for their cards, gifts, prayers and visits. Your thoughtfulness meant more than I can express, and helped make my recent birthday a special day. May God bless richly every kind deed and thought.

Gratefully,
 Helen Kuebler

INDIANA, INDIANAPOLIS
Gail Bradford — Kathy Freed

This month we have been ministered to by Elder Bro. Loren Stoller and Bros. Ray Sinn (Latty, OH), Walter Steffen (Milford), Marvin Stieglitz and Jack Bollier (Leo), Gene Lehman (Wolcott) and Wayne Lehman (South Bend). These brothers shared the pulpit with Bro. Ken Wuethrich (Indianapolis).

We have started a Bible study on alternate Wednesday evenings on II Timothy. We hope to discover practical applications for our lives, as well as enjoy the fellowship of a shared learning experience.

Our mothers and grandmothers were honored at a breakfast Mother's Day and given carnations as a token of appreciation by the young people. It was a lovely reminder of the blessings of a Christian home.

As we go along in our daily tasks, we often forget what we heard last Sunday or Wednesday evening in church. It is difficult to be a Christian "out there" in the world. But that is where Christ calls us . . . to witness before men, and to stand fast in our love for and obedience to Him. We are not good witnesses when we are bound by worldly habits. When this happens, we might remember what Paul wrote to the Corinthians, who had some trouble themselves! "Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?" I Corinthians 3:16. When we feel that we have been singled out for a unique temptation, Paul reminds us, "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man, but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able." I Corinthians 10:13.

When we are lured by worldly "things," listen to Paul: "And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God." II Corinthians 6:16.

The indwelling Holy Spirit will guide us around the world's allurements. We belong to Christ, not the world!

Paul exhorts again, in I Corinthians 6:19: "What! Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?" Indeed, we are not our own anymore. We belong to our Lord. Let us allow His Holy Spirit to be the dynamic influence in our lives. Then, hopefully someone may inquire, "What makes you different?"

INDIANA, LACROSSE
Sandy Heinold

COMMUNION HYMN

Anew, Lord, we are bound to Thee
 Through Thy blest sacrament, which
 we

Partook, that joined in heart and hand;
 To Zion's realm and holy land
 We journey on.

Zion's Harp #200

What a blessing it was to have Elder Bro. Jesse Beer (Milford, IN) in our midst to assist our Elder Bro. Ed Frank in serving communion. We count it a privilege to have this special time of self-examination in which we can see how we are measuring up to God's Word. As we paused to remember our Lord's suffering and death, it created

in us a desire to draw a little closer to God and to our brothers and sisters-in-the-Lord.

We're thankful that Bro. Dan Stoller (Remington, IN), Bro. Larry Wenninger (Latty, OH) and Elder Bro. Jesse Beer were willing to be used as instruments in teaching us from the Word of God. We appreciate the efforts of each of our ministering brethren and their families who give of their time and talents for the benefit of others.

Two couples, Bro. Ben and Sis. Lena Hitz, and Bro. Enos and Sis. Martha Cadwalader, recently celebrated 50th wedding anniversaries. Family and friends gathered to express congratulations and wish them both God's blessings upon their lives.

Sis. Esther Hitz was hospitalized during the past month. Although she is out of the hospital now and doing better, she still needs our love, prayers and encouragement.

On May 17, Sis. Jennie Sinn passed away. We extend our sympathy to her family, who so faithfully cared for her.

Graduating from high school this year are Sis. Sandy Nuest (Bro. Elvin and Sis. Janet) and Becky Gudeman (Bro. Donald and Sis. Mary). We wish them both many blessings wherever life would lead them. A visiting minister once shared this poem which seems so appropriate for our graduates:

Your whole life lies before you
 As drifts of new fallen snow.
 Be careful how you tread it;
 For every step will show.

Author Unknown

INDIANA, LEO
Thelma Schlatter

June, the month of sunshine and roses, brings us graduations and Father's Day, and each beautiful day is a gift from Him with another opportunity to serve and praise Him.

Following are ten precepts for fathers:

"He makes himself responsible for his child's behavior.

He is never blinded by love to his child's faults — he knows he serves his child's interest best by recognizing and correcting weaknesses.

He makes his child feel secure.

He shares in his child's activities.

He has his child's complete confidence.

He always is available to help solve youthful problems.

He doesn't demand filial devotion — he wins it.

He recognizes and accepts as largely his responsibility the mental and spiritual development of his child.

He strives to be the man his child thinks he is."

(Copied)

God bless Christian fathers everywhere! Happy Father's Day!

High school graduates are Kelly Klopfenstein (the Dennis Klopfensteins) and Bertha Willis (the Chuck Fehrs). Congratulations, Kelly and Bertha! As you step into a new chapter of your life, may you always know the joy that following Jesus can bring.

Many attended our very lovely and inspirational Spring Banquet May 16.

Lowell Lantz, son of Sis. Mary Lantz, has been very ill through a lengthy hospital stay. He has appreciated visits and prayers of loved ones.

Our congregation was blessed with the ministry of Bro. John Reinhard (Bluffton). We thank him and those who accompanied him for their visit.

Bits of This and That:

Your life either sheds light or casts a shadow.

There is no right way to do the wrong thing.

It isn't enough to be busy. What are you busy about?

The man who expects to go to heaven should take the trouble to study the route that will get him there.

It is better to look ahead and prepare than to look back and regret.

Where will YOU spend eternity? It's up to you.

INDIANA, MILFORD
Marguerite Hoerr

May is a month when God's nature bursts forth and seems to make us newly aware of the beauty of His world, and the responsibility we share for good stewardship of the resources He gives us.

May also brings Mother's Day. The women of the Milford church enjoyed a beautiful, reverent evening, dedicated to our mothers, making us all aware, once again, of one of life's highest callings.

May brings graduations, too. Ben Beer and Rose Haab received their high school diplomas. Ben graduated from Wawasee High School and is the last of nine children to graduate. He's

the son of Bro. Phil and Sis. Millie. Rose is the oldest child of Bro. Don and Sis. Martha and received her diploma from Fairfield High School. Gina (Hurd) Smith graduated from Indiana University with a degree in Occupational Therapy. Her sister, Greta Hurd, received a degree in Home Economics from Goshen College. They are the daughters of Bro. John and Sis. Carol Hurd. Beverly and Barbara Wuthrich, twin daughters of Bro. Alan and Kathy, graduated from Indiana University with a business degree and from Purdue University with a management degree, respectively. Our son, Bob, will be receiving his Ph. D. in Nutritional Biochemistry from Massachusetts Institute of Technology. We hope to attend his graduation ceremony the first of June in Boston.

Little Jodi Beer, youngest daughter of Bro. Fred and Sis. Pat is hospitalized at this time, following a high temperature and dehydration. We so hope she can be released soon and return home to her five brothers and sisters who love her so dearly. Chad Beer (Bro. Lee and Sis. Sandy) has been ill with pneumonia. Chad has seen more than his share of hospitals in his young life and we're happy to report he was able to be home during this bout of illness and be attended by his favorite nurse, his mother. Cindy Price (Stan and Sis. Ginger) was hospitalized with an appendectomy.

We're looking forward to Vacation Bible School the first part of June.

INDIANA, REMINGTON Beth Virkler — Susan Getz

"Do you think it wrong for me to learn the art of self-defense?" asked a young brother to his minister.

"Certainly not," answered the minister. "I learned it in youth myself, and I have found it of great value during my life."

"Indeed, sir! Did you learn the old English system or Sullivan's system?"

"Neither. I learned Solomon's system."

"Solomon's system?"

"Yes, you will find it laid down in the first verse of the 15th chapter of Proverbs, 'A soft answer turneth away wrath.' It is the best system of self-defense of which I know."

The Sword Scrapbook

On the evening of April 25, Elder

Bro. Leo Moser's (Lester, IA) exhortation on holy communion helped prepare our hearts to partake of this sacred ordinance. On Sunday morning, Bro. Leo took the opportunity to give a timely message to the Bible Class youth whom we had as guests in our assembly. What an opportunity we all have to invest a part of our life into our youth so that they can witness Godly examples among the brotherhood as they begin to search for meaning in the crossroads of their life. Also visiting us Mother's Day was Elder Bro. Andy Virkler (Bay City, MI) and we were reminded of the urgent duty of "motherhood".

On May 17, Bro. Tim and Sis. Lynette Bahler became first-time parents of Trent Aaron. Grandparents are Bro. Elmer and Sis. Marilyn Bahler and Bro. Marshall and Sis. Jan Heinold (Washington, IL).

Spending time in the hospital this month was Bro. Ed Bahler, Jr., as he had extensive knee surgery. During this same week, his two-month-old daughter, Ashton, came down with a severe virus and was hospitalized, so his wife, Sis. Annette, wasn't able to be with him much. God's protection has been sufficient and both are recovering.

Doug Getz (Bro. Maurice and Sis. Eileen) was home for a two-week furlough from the Navy, and he is now stationed in Norfolk, VA.

INDIANA, SOUTH BEND Jill Lehman — Annie Meyer

A TRIBUTE TO FATHER

A father is a guiding light
Sent to us from above.
He listens to our sorrows
And soothes them with his love.

A father is a teacher
Whose place no one could take,
For he's the source from which
We learn to think and navigate.

A father is a gift from God
From which we learn to be
Patient, strong and loving,
Filled with integrity.

Byron P. Tousignant

What a beautiful poem and how true to life. Let us remember our fathers and be thankful for them as they are truly a gift from God.

Communion is a special time for

remembering our dear Savior's death and His resurrection and what special meaning it has for the Christian. It is also a time when we Christians need to once again make sure all is well with our soul and God. We were truly humbled as we partook of this feast recently and we wish to thank our Elder Bro. Jesse Beer for helping out with this special act of love.

We had the privilege of having many visiting ministers and we would take this opportunity to express our thankfulness to them and their families for coming and sharing God's precious Word with us. They were Elder Bros. Jesse Beer (Milford, IN) Bob Walder (Congerville, IL), Aaron Steffen (Alto, MI) and Bro. Mike Thomas (Valparaiso, IN).

Very recently we had the joy of celebrating with one of our dear older brothers-in-faith as he celebrated his 90th birthday. We pray for God's blessings upon Bro. Dan Clauss in the future years.

Our Sunday schools are a very precious part of our churches and we need to prayerfully seek for teachers. In our annual election for two new Sunday school teachers, Bro. Scott Schafer and Sis. Mim Gudeman were chosen. They will assume their duties in September. We certainly need to pray for them and many others who are called to assume such a responsibility.

INDIANA, VALPARAISO Trish Bucher — Peg Huber

"Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven."

Matthew 18:3

A precious little blue-eyed treasure, Katrina, has gently slipped into the hearts and home of Bro. Andy and Sis. Diane Moser, Brandon, Brady and Drew. It's touching to see how she trusts and adjusts to her new foster family — so agreeable and accepting to whatever circumstances life holds in store. Oh, for a childlike faith and spirit!

"Honour thy father and thy mother . . ." Exodus 20:12. Honour: to esteem . . . respect . . . reverence. How easy it is to honour a Godly parent! How hard it is to part with a Godly parent on this earth. How sobering to pick up the mantle, as Elisha did from Elijah, hold the torch high, and pass on the blessed

Christian heritage to one's own as we have received it.

Our sympathy is extended to Bro. Terry and Sis. Bev Miller and family in the loss of his father, Bro. Henry Miller (Gridley, IL). May He embrace them with arms of comfort and anticipation in seeing him again in a new body, unwracked with pain!

"The Lord knows what it takes to bring the best out of us." We thank Elder Bro. Loren Stoller (Latty, OH) for sharing this and many other thoughts with us in a recent Bible study on "Church Leadership". Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann was also with us for the evening. We are grateful to God for His provision in leadership. "Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus; . . ." Colossians 1:28.

"My presence shall go with thee . . ." Exodus 33:14. We are happy for Bro. Dave Zeltwanger (Bro. Lyle and Sis. Marilyn) that he can clasp this promise as he and his bride, Sis. Kelly Emch (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Kathy) begin their life together in Phoenix. We will miss Bro. Dave and hope he and Kelly will come "home" often.

INDIANA, WOLCOTT

Lorene Furrer — Elaine Bahler

In unity, we gathered together to partake of the Lord's Supper. How privileged we were to share in this most sacred occasion. We thank Elder Bro. Leo Moser (Lester, IA) for lending himself to assist our Elder Bro. Alfred Bahler in serving communion and for his words of encouragement.

May 17 was a day of rejoicing as Sis. Patsy Bahler and Bro. Anthony Blades (Congerville, IL) were united in holy matrimony. May the Lord who brought them together bless their married life forever with His precious gifts of joy and love. Parents are Bro. Lowell and Sis. Karla Bahler and Everett and Alice Blades (Assumption, IL). Spending the day with us were Elder Bro. Bob Walder and Bro. Mike Rinkenberger (Congerville, IL). We thank these brothers for sharing the Word with us.

IOWA, BURLINGTON

Dixie Messner — Karen Schulz

We extend our sympathy to Greg and Kathy Oberman in the death of their infant daughter, Erin Grace. Grandparents are Bro. Bill and Sis.

Rosie Oberman from our congregation. Greg and Kathy and their daughter, Maggie, now have someone waiting for them in heaven.

Our only high school graduate this year is Deyona Massner. We wish her God's blessings and guidance in whatever she may pursue.

IOWA, ELGIN Gloria Frieden

We wish to extend our best wishes to the following: Bro. Lon Butikofer (Sis. Sandy) who recently received his M.S.N. degree at the University of Dubuque, Sis. Anita Nester (Bro. Gene and Sis. Shirley, Lester) who graduated from N.I.T.I. at Calmar after completing a course in child care, and Betty Butikofer (Bro. Al and Sis. Lavern), our high school graduate. Betty plans to continue her education in the field of accounting this fall at N.I.T.I. May God bless them all in their chosen fields.

Our oldest member, Sis. Marie Butikofer, celebrated her 97th birthday May 5. Although she is unable to get around as she used to, she still enjoys reading and sewing carpet rags. Many evenings are spent listening to sermons on tapes. Sis. Marie remains in her home where she is lovingly cared for by her daughter, Elizabeth. Their home is always open to visitors and visitors seldom leave without feeling richly blessed.

How believers should relate to each other.

Romans 12:16 — Be of the same mind one toward another.

Romans 13:8 — Love one another.

Romans 14:13 — Let us not judge one another.

Romans 15:14 — Admonish one another.

I Corinthians 12:25 — Care for one another.

Galatians 5:13 — Serve one another.

Galatians 6:2 — Bear one another's burdens.

Ephesians 4:32 — Be kind one to another.

Colossians 3:9 — Lie not one to another.

Colossians 3:13 — Forgive one another.

I Thessalonians 4:18 — Comfort one another.

Hebrews 3:13 — Encourage one another.

James 4:11 — Speak not evil, one of another.

James 5:16 — Confess your faults one to another.

James 5:16 — Pray for one another.

I Peter 4:9 — Use hospitality one to another.

I Peter 5:14 — Greet one another with a kiss of charity.

IOWA, IOWA CITY Bonita Frank

We rejoice with Sis. Beverly Mogler whose betrothal to Bro. Curt Knapp (Cissna Park, IL) was announced April 26. Their parents are Bro. Ervin and Sis. Elma Mogler (West Bend, IA) and Bro. Harry and Sis. Gladys Knapp (Cissna Park, IL). We wish God's blessings on their union.

This past month, we have been reminded of much spiritually, having had the memorandum shared with us, and also having partaken of holy communion. We wish to thank Elder Bro. Leroy Huber (Eureka, IL) and our Elder Bro. Paul Butikofer (Elgin, IA) for sharing the memorandum with us April 26. We also appreciated Elder Bro. Wayne Fehr (West Bend, IA) and Elder Bro. Paul Butikofer for serving us communion May 17.

Other visiting ministers this past month were Bro. Dale Frank (Oakville, IA) and Bro. Vernon Leman (Eureka, IL). We enjoyed, too, the slides Bro. Vernon shared with us of the disaster relief in Mexico City and also the brethren in Hungary and Romania.

IOWA, LESTER

Kathy Metzger — Mary Knobloch

"To everything there is a season and a time for every purpose under heaven. A time to be born and a time to die . . ." Ecclesiastes 3:12. Kelsey Marie was born April 16 to Dennis and Diane Leuthold. Paternal grandparents are Bro. Alvin and Sis. Estelle Leuthold. May God bless this family and their new little daughter.

We were privileged to hear God's Word when Bro. Doug Grimm (Sabetha, KS) visited us April 19. May our ministers continue to be inspired by the Holy Spirit as they stand before us as empty vessels.

Bro. Ernie Metzger, Sis. Lydia Mogler (Bro. Phil), Sis. Zelma Knobloch (Bro. Mart) and Angela Knobloch (Linda) were hospitalized with medical problems while Brock Metzger (Mike and Deb), John Giesel and Linda

Knobloch submitted to surgery. Our prayers are often with our many loved ones as they encounter physical ailments.

Graduation is here once again and our best wishes along with prayers for God's blessings are extended to the high school and college graduates. High school graduates are as follows: Valerie Knobloch (Bro. Larry and Sis. Sheryl), Stephanie Metzger (Bro. Bill and Sis. Charlotte), Angela Warner (Bro. Dennis and Esther), Claudia Fernandez (exchange student of Bro. Bob and Sis. Nancy Gerber), Veli-Pekka Rantanen (exchange student of Bro. Bob and Sis. Rosella Metzger), Shon Gerber (Jim and Suzi), Cameron Knobloch (Bro. Al and Sis. Lucy), Virginia Knobloch (Gib and Sis. Vickie), Troy Knobloch (Bro. Roger and Sis. Janet), Sandi Meyer (Bro. George and Sis. Charlyn), Clint Metzger (Bro. Jim and Sis. Lois) and Nettie Roemen (Bro. Ed and Sis. Amelia).

College graduates are Dwight Mogler (Bro. Howard and Sis. Lollie), Denis Meyer (Bro. Raymond and Sis. Twyla), Kent Metzger (Bro. Gene and Sis. Dolores), Sid Meyer (Bro. George and Sis. Charlyn), Thadd Knobloch (Bro. Roger and Sis. Janet), Sis. Marie Nester (Bro. Gene and Sis. Shirley) and Sis. Anita Nester (Bro. Gene and Sis. Shirley). May each graduate beseech God's divine guidance as they further their education or seek employment.

Once again we approach Father's Day and we want to give a prayer of thanks to our fathers, and then much more to our heavenly Father who has done much more for us than mortal man ever can.

A PRAYER FOR DAD

May you be blessed with the special joy
that comes from God above,
As you have blessed your family's lives
with guidance and with love.

Note of Thanks: We wish to thank everyone for their prayers, gifts and visits during my present illness. All was very much appreciated. May God richly bless you all.

Bro. Phil and Sis. Lydia Mogler

Give Your Address Changes
To Your Reporter

IOWA, OAKVILLE Debbie Wagenbach

Celebrating 50 years of marriage this year are Bro. Ernie and Sis. Bernice Frank. We are thankful that God has blessed them with health and strength to reach this milestone in their lives.

Little Colt Joseph made his arrival into the hearts and home of Bro. Brian and Sis. Cindy Wiegand. Big sisters, Natalie, Ashley and Natasha, now have a little brother to love. Bro. Joe and Sis. Lois Wiegand and Louis and Carol Albrecht (Francesville, IN) are Colt's happy grandparents.

May 17 we held our annual Sunday school election. Bros. Chris Grimm, Ken Lanz and Bob Siegle were elected to fill the vacancies created by our retiring teachers, Bros. Bob Frank, Ron Schmidgall and Al Wiegand. Bro. Ed Stoller was elected by the Sunday school staff as the new superintendent. Sis. Jane Schmidgall was elected to replace Sisters Peggy Schulz and Susan Gerst. We are thankful for the faithfulness with which our outgoing teachers have fulfilled their duties and we prayerfully support the newly elected teachers in their new task of teaching the children.

Springtime brings new life and growth, and it also brings graduation to high school seniors. Our graduates at Oakville are Danny Eberhardt (Bro. Joe and Sis. Ruby), Danny Gerst (Bro. Conrad and Sis. Roletta), Rob Gerst (Sis. Linda), Joni Lanz (Elder Bro. Ed and Sis. Joan), Sis. Janelle Metzger (Bro. Galen and Sis. Mary Jo) and Valerie Steiner (Bro. John and Sis. Carol). May God bless each one and may they never forget to look to Him for guidance throughout their lives.

We recently gathered at our fellowship center to listen to a presentation and view slides of world relief projects in Haiti, Jamaica, Mexico City and the southern United States. We thank our brothers for this exhibit. It truly humbles us to think of the affluence we so much take for granted compared to the deep needs and poverty that exists throughout the world today. May we give God sincere thanks for our many blessings.

Bro. Ken Lawson (Minneapolis, MN) and Bro. Paul Eisenmann (Burlington, IA) recently served on our Oakville pulpit. We appreciate our visiting ministers.

IOWA, PULASKI

Mary Jane Knapp — Sara Teubel

With the month of June, we celebrate Father's Day. Being a Christian father is truly a blessing and a responsibility. If they look to the Lord with the faith that Abraham had, they will receive blessings like the stars, innumerable.

On May 2 and 3 we heard the testimony and witnessed the baptism of Sis. Angela Metzger (Bro. Roy and Sis. Evelyn). We welcome her to our congregation.

Our visiting ministers were Elder Bro. Leo Moser (Lester, IA) and Bro. Roger Aberle (Sabetha, KS).

We would like to congratulate Sis. Angela Metzger and Daryl Wiegand upon graduating. We wish them God's nearness in all that they undertake.

Bro. Paul and Sis. Charlotte Teubel welcome Ruth Ann to their family. Also welcoming her are Sara and Jonathon. Ruth Ann arrived May 18. Grandparents are Bro. Richard and Sis. Wilma Teubel and Gene and Marvel Christy (Bloomfield).

IOWA, WEST BEND

Polly Zaugg — Phyllis Banwart

What a blessed privilege when we can partake of holy communion together in remembrance of the shed blood and broken body of our dear Lord and Saviour who had such great love for us all. We appreciated having Elder Bro. Sam Huber (Sabetha, KS) here to assist our Elder Bro. Wayne Fehr with these important duties. Other visiting ministers in our midst the past month were Bro. Dean Messner (Winthrop, MN), Bro. Joe Gerst (Iowa City) and Bro. Darrel Stoller (Bern, KS). How thankful we are for those who visit and render their services.

We wish to extend our sympathy to Bro. Silas Banwart, Sis. Lena Grimm (Bro. Eli) and Louisa Anliker (Reuben) in the loss of their brother, Benjamin Banwart.

The Lord has blessed our congregation with two new babies this month. Jamie and Linda Schmidt are the parents of a new baby girl born April 16. Krisa Lee is welcomed by her sister, Brandi, along with grandparents, Bro. Jerry and Sis. Judy Schmidt. Bro. Chuck and Sis. Beth Mogler welcome their first daughter, Betsy Rose, also born April 16. Betsy has two brothers, Isaac and Joel. Grandparents are Bro.

Ervin and Sis. Elma Mogler and Bro. Robert and Sis. Donna Leman (Forrest, IL).

May God's healing power restore good health to these loved ones who have been hospitalized: Sis. Lydia Wilson, Sis. Clara Bruellman, Louisa Anliker (Reuben), Clark Bruellman (Bro. Dave and Sis. Yvonne), Judy Gates (Don) and Tammy Schmidt (Jim and Sherry).

"And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers . . ." Malachi 4:6. Soon we will observe a special day to remember our fathers. May we always be thankful for our fathers who strive to provide for our needs, including Christian teachings and a pattern for our walk of life.

GOD'S MASTERPIECE

God took the strength of a mountain . . .
 The majesty of a tree . . .
 The warmth of a summer sun . . .
 The calm of a quiet sea . . .
 The generous soul of nature . . .
 The comforting arms of night . . .
 The wisdom of the ages . . .
 The power of the eagle's flight . . .
 The joy of a morning in spring . . .
 The faith of a mustard seed . . .
 The patience of eternity . . .
 The depth of a family's need . . .
 Then God combined these qualities . . .
 And when there was nothing more to add,
 He knew His masterpiece was complete
 And so He called it — Dad.
 Herbert Farnham

JAPAN, SHIODA

Sheila Moser

One only has to look around to be reminded of the greatness of our Creator. Only our heavenly Father could have thought out and created the world in which we live. Who are we, as the created, to not put our complete and full trust in Him, the Creator.

Last month we were blessed with a visit from Sis. Marie Schaffer (Peoria, IL). We are thankful for the time she spent with us and hope she received happy memories through her travels here.

JAPAN, TOKYO

Yoshio Yamazaki — Marie Inoue

We had a real blessed Easter here in our Tokyo church and quite a few

people came from outside of the church. We had our Sunday school Easter program right after our blessed feast. We really thank God that He gave us Jesus for our Saviour.

Shoji and Sis. Yoshiko Sakuta and children recently moved to a new area. Their address is Mr. and Mrs. Shoji Sakuta, Green Co-op, Tama Plaza 6-2-207, 3 Chome, Ohkura, Miyamae-Ku, Kawasaki-Shi, Kanagawa-Ken 213; telephone 044-977-4401.

KANSAS, BERN

**Lori Baumgartner
 Shirley Strahm**

Our hearts go out to the families of Bro. Wayne and Sis. Linda Edelman and Bro. Earl and Sis. Donna Edelman since their mother, Mrs. Dan Edelman's fatal car accident. We believe she has gained her eternal victory but the loss and pain felt by those left behind cannot be described. We pray God can be their comforter and refuge in their sorrow.

Eric Rokey and Steve Stoller have been hospitalized this past month; Eric (Bro. Morris and Sis. Arlinda) for an eye infection and Steve (Bro. Arden and Sis. Darlene) for an appendectomy. We are happy they have both made a full recovery.

Recently we partook of holy communion. May we carry with us the renewed feeling of love for our Lord and for one another.

We enjoyed having Bro. Bert Butikofer (Elgin, IA) and Elder Bro. Sam Huber (Sabetha) as visiting ministers and thank them for lending themselves in delivering to us God's true and holy Word of Life.

I recently heard of a true incident where a young girl was being ridiculed by her peers. Her mother, hearing about this, tried to console her when the girl replied, "Mother, you love me and I know Jesus loves me. That's all that really matters."

Do we sometimes get our priorities in the wrong order and desire the love and respect of others more than that of our Lord and Creator?

Note: July is collection month for Silver Lining dues.

KANSAS, FORT SCOTT

Teresa Bahr

May God bless our visiting ministers and their families, Elder Bro. Gene Marti (Lamar, MO) and Bro. John Lehman (Bern).

Bro. Jeff Fischer recently presented to us his collection of slides from his two visits to Haiti. He spent rewarding time there helping to build a school.

Congratulations are extended to our high school graduates, Stacy Sinn (Leon Sinn and Carol Sinn) and Brenda Sinn (Lester and Shirley Sinn).

KANSAS, GRIDLEY

Vola Young — Judy Kraft

"Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife and they shall be one flesh."

Genesis 2:24

April 19 was the wedding day of Bro. Jeff Schumacher, Chicago, IL (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Jane, Roanoke, IL) and Sis. Tina Strahm, Chicago (Bro. Loren and Sis. Liseten, Gridley). Several from our congregation attended the wedding in Chicago.

The following Sunday a belated inspirational Easter program was presented by the Sunday school.

Congratulations are extended to senior high graduates, Sis. Wendy Metzger, Bro. Kip Edelman, and Darren Isch, eighth grade graduate. Schooling is preparing for the future. So, too, spiritual preparation must not be lacking in our lives. Each day we need to be growing spiritually, preparing to be a more fit vessel for the Master.

KANSAS, KIOWA

Janice Bahr — Darcy Kising

THE WORLD NEEDS YOU

God could have made you different
 But loves you as you are;
 It's good character that matters,
 It pleases Him by far.
 Each one has capabilities,
 Each one is quite unique,
 Each has potentialities
 That pop out if we seek.
 God gave each distinctive gifts
 And you have quite a few,
 Determine to make use of them,
 The world has need of you.

Sis. Mary Gemma Brunke

To our high school graduates: Cammi Frieden and Trina Piper; and to our junior high graduates: Brandon Farney, Jenny Schupbach and Jenny Farney, God bless you and keep you in His love.

A group of our young people traveled to Lamont this past month for a week-end of fellowship with a group of young people from other area churches. Our youth are so important to us, and though it's hard to compete with school activities, we must always strive to keep church activities a part of their lives, too. God bless you parents who back the Sunday school in their endeavors, and also to those dear ones at Lamont for all the work, patience and time they spent to make our weekend special!!

Our hospital patients this month included Sis. Dorothy Brown, Sis. Matilda Schupbach and Sis. Kathryn Miller. We are so thankful Sis. Dorothy and Sis. Matilda are home again, and hope Sis. Kathryn will heal quickly from a broken leg.

Mother and Dad, just what would we do,
If God hadn't given us the two of you.
Your patience; your love; your strong faith in God,
Have guided the pathway our footsteps have trod.
So on Mother's Day, Father's Day, first one then the other,
We give our Lord thanks for each Dad and Mother.

This poem is dedicated to all Christian parents for all they are to their children. God bless you!! You mean so much to us!

How saddened we were when our dear Sis. Esther Hodel fell asleep in the arms of her Lord this past month. We are not sad for her, for she is in a beautiful place where no pain nor strife will ever again touch her. No, we are sad for ourselves, because we will miss her kindness and love. May God be a comfort to her dear husband, Bro. Henry, and to all her family in their loss. Elder Bros. Ronald Nelson (Kiowa), Richard Schupbach (Phoenix, AZ) and ministering Bro. Ronald Allenbach (Kiowa) officiated at services held here.

As harvest draws near and the green wheat turns golden in the warm sun's rays, may we never forget our Lord's words in John 4:35, "Say not ye, there are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? Behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest." May we let our light shine that many yet may find the way and be garnered into

God's storehouse rather than be gathered with the chaff and be cast into outer darkness.

KANSAS, LAMONT

Mary Isch

Lord, lead us then by Thy strong hand
As pilgrims through this desert land,
We are pursued by many foes;
Deliver us from all our woes,
For we are thine.

On a recent Saturday evening we met together to remember our Lord's death and suffering in holy communion, served to us by Elder Bros. Ron Nelson (Kiowa) and Sam Anliker.

The Lamont congregation was happy to host the Youth Fellowship get-together May 2 and 3. There were many young people from Lamar, MO, Ft. Scott, Wichita, Bern, Sabetha and Kiowa, KS. It was a blessed weekend. Bro. Jon Schmidgall (Oakville, IA) was the visiting minister that weekend.

Ruth Ott, 78, died March 30 after a short illness.

Sis. Dena Emch had the misfortune to break her arm and is suffering severe pain. We think of the hymn, "The Best Refuge" . . . In sorrow and pain, thy trust do retain, in Jesus the Merciful Saviour.

KANSAS, SABETHA

Nita Grimm — Charleen Hartter

We are sorry we missed one of our graduates in last month's news. Darin Edelman (Clemens and Sis. Marjorie) has completed the requirements of high school. We pray that God will help our young people to make the right choices in life.

"Commit thy works unto the Lord,
and thy thoughts shall be established."
Proverbs 16:3

Upon reading this verse I thought it would be interesting to look up "commit" in the dictionary. Webster's gives the definition: to give in charge or trust; deliver for safekeeping; consign. Several different definitions given for work(s) were: purposeful activity; employment/occupation; moral acts. "Thoughts" was described as the act of thinking; the power of reasoning; the result of thinking, idea, concept, opinion. And "established" is to make stable; make firm; settle.

Do we give our purposeful activity,

our employment to the charge and safe-keeping of God? Do we seek to glorify Jesus' name in our actions and occupation?

Haven't we all experienced doubt and confusion? There are times we think, I wish the Lord were here to tell me what to do. This verse promises that our thinking, reasoning, concepts and opinions can be made stable and settled.

The Bible says, "All the ways of a man are clean in his own eyes." Proverbs 16:2. We see that in our lives and with others; but to know and be established on what truly is right in each situation is what we all desire. May we commit ourselves to God each morning and pray that He will reward us with right thoughts.

Ministering Bro. Noah Gerber (West Bend, IA) visited this month. We are thankful for the love of God we could feel from his life and words.

Bros. Carl Hartman and John Plattner (Sis. Marie) and Sis. Lydia Wenger were hospitalized recently. We trust God will continue to help and heal as they have need.

MICHIGAN, ALTO

Juanita Gerst

It is with great anticipation that our seniors look toward the future that God has planned for them. This year our seniors graduating from high school are Nathan Steffen (Elder Bro. Aaron and Sis. Loretta) and Sis. Juanita Gerst (Bro. Bill and Sis. Judy).

Our prayers were with Sis. Helen Steffen this past month as she has been hospitalized.

MICHIGAN, BAY CITY

Pam Schlatter

Those who were hospitalized this month include Sis. Maxine Virkler (Bro. Andy) and Mark Kuch. How thankful we are to have a constant refuge when trouble and sickness come our way.

"And the Lord caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof; and the rib, which the Lord God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man." Genesis 2:21, 22. Adam was given a help meet for him when he awakened from his deep sleep. We are pleased that after resting in faith, God has revealed to Bro. Joe Hohulin (Bro. Melvin and Sis. Shirley,

Denver, CO) and Sis. Lorraine Faustin (Bob and Joan of our congregation) that they should be help meet for each other. Our very best wishes go to the engaged couple and their families.

Our graduating high school seniors this year include Brian Cluff (Jon and Sis. Darleen), Nate Wieland (Bro. Roger and Sis. Sandy), Tonia Steffen (Bro. Derrell and Sis. Sue), Janel Ramseyer (Bro. Joe and Sis. Dorothy) and Deanna Pashak (Bro. Dean and Sis. Connie) along with Deanna's exchange student, Eriko, from Japan. At a time when we view education as an investment in the future, let us also remember about the spiritual investments we are encouraged to make. "But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal." Matthew 6:20. Sis. Sharon Schlatter is our college graduate this spring, having received her bachelors degree in nursing.

MICHIGAN, DETROIT

Donna Hartzler

After spending many days in the hospital, a greater part of which was in intensive care, Richard Popp (Bro. George and Sis. Helen) was able to return to his home. We see the Lord still answers prayers. May we show our appreciation and thanks by lives of obedience and willingness to faithfully serve Him.

The Detroit choir and others who accompanied them on the bus trip enjoyed a blessed weekend, May 16 and 17 in Morton, IL. Our sincere thanks is given to the Morton congregation for inviting our choir to bring praise to God in song, and for their love and hospitality. We pray God's blessings will be upon them.

"Shew me thy ways, O Lord: teach me thy paths. Lead me in thy truth, and teach me: for thou art the God of my salvation; on thee do I wait all the day." Psalms 25:4, 5. How wonderful to know we have a God to whom we can turn daily for direction in our lives, whether it be in furthering an education, in a career, in marriage or in our everyday lives.

We congratulate our two high school graduates, Sis. Andrea Denes (Bro. Frank and Sis. Sance') and Edward Orcsik (Bro. John and Sis. Esther). As they begin a new phase in their lives, we trust they will ask the Lord to direct

them in avenues that will be of praise and honor to Him.

"Anywhere with Jesus I can safely go; anywhere he leads me in this world below . . ." (Anywhere With Jesus, Jessie H. Brown). We reluctantly bid farewell to Sis. Beverly Babin who is returning to the Rittman area after living over three years in our area. Our prayer is that God will bless her as she makes plans for her upcoming marriage and her new role as Bro. Glen Rufener's wife.

MINNESOTA, MINNEAPOLIS

Barbara Olson

A FATHER SHOWS THE WAY

"Children's children are the crown of old men; and the glory of children are their fathers."

Proverbs 17:6

Christian fathers, God calls on us to show the way, and He will help us to be a pattern for our families. To do this, we must live daily in humble dependence upon Him and maintain a strong commitment to do His will.

Being a good father means showing the way.

Take stock of yourself and consider your child,
Your time and your thoughts are his due.

How would you answer your God should he ask,

What sort of father are you?

Anonymous

Our congregation was blessed again with a visiting minister. Elder Bro. Joe Stoller (Princeville, IL) lent himself in the service of the Lord. May our heavenly Father be his rich rewarder.

May 3 we conducted our annual business meeting. Replacing our outgoing Sunday school teacher is Bro. Jim Tilbury. Substitutes are Bro. Doug Messner and Sis. Barbara Olson. Bro. John Olson was re-elected secretary-treasurer. New trustees are Bros. Doug Messner and Dale Strassheim with Bro. Dale elected as new usher also. Silver Lining correspondent is Sis. Carol Strassheim. Sis. Delores Sauder will direct World Relief sewing and Sis. Marcy Schmidt will be in charge of Children's Craft night. Food serving chairpersons are Sis. Ethel Bednarski and Sis. Josie Esterling. We extend our prayerful support and encouragement

to these newly-elected positions and thank those retiring for faithfully serving their terms.

God has blessed Gary and Debra Wray with a most precious gift, a baby girl, Melissa Lynn, born April 26. Grandparents are Bro. Ray and Sis. Millie Schmidgall and Warren and Rose Wray. Her sister, Crystal, welcomes her home.

Thought — A child is more likely to see God as Father if he sees God in his own father.

MINNESOTA, MORRIS

Ruth Nohl — Hildagard Koehl

We gathered together to hear the testimonies of Paul and Beth Schmidgall (Bro. Neil and Sis. Linda) and DeWayne and Doug Feuchtenberger (Bro. Gerald and Sis. Karen). We are so thankful for each soul who answers God's call and surrenders their heart to Him. Elder Bro. Art Bahler (Fairbury, IL) was with us for this special occasion. We welcome them all into the fold.

We were thankful to have Elder Bro. Harold Messner (Winthrop) with us as we partook of holy communion. May the Lord richly bless him for assisting Bro. Art in this important sacrament.

Other visiting ministers this month were Bro. Bill Emch (Lamont, KS), Bro. Ken Lawson (Minneapolis, MN), Bro. Don Miller (Minneapolis, MN) and Bro. Kent Mogler (Minneapolis, MN). We trust that God will bless them for their labors of love.

Bro. Shane and Sis. Ruth Jones are the parents of a daughter, Bethany Ruth, born April 20. She has a sister, Amber, to welcome her home. Grandparents are Bro. Ernest and Sis. Gladys.

Hospital patients this month were Sis. Lizzy Schmidgall, Sis. Helen Joos (Bro. Carl) and little Amber Jones (Bro. Shane and Sis. Ruth). We pray for each one and commit their needs for body and soul to God who loves them.

We rejoice to have two new converts, Adam Zeltwanger (Bro. Dale and Sis. Rachel) and Kathy Feuchtenberger (Bro. Gerald and Sis. Karen). We pray God will grant them much grace in their conversions.

We heartily welcome Sis. Ruth Fehr to Morris from the West Bend, IA, congregation. We are thankful to have her assemble with us.

Once again it is time for graduation. Our high school graduates are: James

Domnick (Bro. Gary and Sis. Velma), John Goll (John and Helen), Lane Koehl (Bro. Ken and Sis. Karen), Bradley Luthi (Sis. Della), Larry Moser (Bro. Joe and Sis. Hazel), Renae Burnham (Allen and Sis. Ilene), Peggy Schmidgall (Bro. Richard and Sis. Corrine), Shannon Nohl (Alvin, Jr. and Kathy) and Barbara Kearney (John and Ruth). May the Lord bless each one in their future careers and plans.

Bro. Lawrence (Bud) Nohl wishes to thank all who remembered him in prayers, with cards, phone calls and gifts of love during his illness. May God bless you all.

Sis. Pearl Moser (Bro. Alpha) wishes to thank everyone who remembered her in prayers, cards, kind deeds and gifts of love, while she was disabled due to injury to both of her arms. May God bless each and every one.

As we commemorate Father's Day, let us give thanks, not only for our own fathers, but also for the fathers of our beautiful faith.

MINNESOTA, WINTHROP

Wanda Messner
Ella Mae Schmidt

It's not fortune or fame
or worldwide acclaim

That makes for true greatness,
you'll find —

It's the wonderful art
of teaching the heart

To always be thoughtful and kind!

Helen Steiner Rice

The Winthrop Senior Bible Class has four graduates this year. They are Jeff Miller (Tom and Maggie), Kendal Messner (Bro. Marlyn and Sis. Lois), Wes Schmidt (Gene and Sis. Ella Mae) and Rachel Schmidt (Bro. Dick and Sis. Mary Lou). With faith in God and yourself may you find happiness and fulfillment in a bright future.

A father is neither an anchor to hold us
back,

Nor a sail to take us there,

But a guiding light, whose love shows
us the way.

G. W. Douglas

With thankful hearts we remember
our fathers everyday and especially on
Father's Day.

Collen Waugh was in for surgery this
past month and is doing well. Our

prayers are with Sis. Carrie Messner
who is hospitalized at this time.

MISSOURI, KANSAS CITY

Linda Ziegenhorn

"Ye are of God, little children, and
have overcome them: because greater
is he that is in you, than he that is in the
world."

I John 4:4

We can overcome temptation and
sin, because God's Word tells us that
He is in us, and He is greater than
Satan, who is in the world. So, when
Satan tempts you, just remember that
you can turn your back on him, because
God is in you and He is greater than
Satan.

Our church grounds are looking very
nice, as we had another clean-up day
with everyone working hard.

The Sunday school enjoyed the
weekend at Lamont, KS with children
from all the other Kansas churches.

With summer and vacations coming
on, we invite everyone who is passing
through, or in the area to stop and
spend Sunday with us.

MISSOURI, LAMAR

Carol Braker — Janice Stoller

O I love to talk with Jesus,
For it smooths the rugged road;
And it seems to help me onward,
When I faint beneath my load;
When my heart is crush'd with sorrow,
And my eyes with tears are dim,
There is nought can yield me comfort
Like a little talk with Him.

Gospel Hymn #496

Author Unknown

These words were particularly mean-
ingful to our dear Sis. Charlotte Ban-
wart. Now Sis. Charlotte has been
relieved of her suffering and we believe
she is resting peacefully. May Bro.
Alfred and the family of Sis. Charlotte
now find comfort in those same words.

Several visiting ministers were in our
midst that Sunday to pay their last
respects to Sis. Charlotte. Bro. Carroll
Gerber (Bluffton North, IN) and Bro.
Merle Kaisner (Fairbury, IL) brought
us God's Word during the morning
service.

Only two days later we laid to rest
another dear sister, Fern Braker. What
a blessing that she, too, could be re-
lieved. Being unable to care for herself

because of a stroke, she was placed in a
rest home after Bro. Lester's death.
She certainly missed her beloved help-
mate. We extend our sympathy to the
family left behind.

Sis. Bonnie Braker and Bro. Noah
Schlupp are hospital patients this
month. We certainly hope they will
soon be able to gather with us.

On May 17 Elder Bro. Sam Huber
(Sabetha, KS) was here to assist Elder
Bro. Gene Marti in serving us holy
communion. May they both be blessed
for their labors.

We wish to express our deep and sin-
cere appreciation to all. Your thought-
ful acts of love were a great comfort to
us during the illness and death of our
loved one, Charlotte. May God bless
you.

Alfred, Jonathan, Ulista
and Venetta

MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS

Loren and Betsy Schrenk

Thank you to Bro. Bob Pflederer and
Elder Bro. Perry Zimmerman for min-
istering to us in St. Louis the first and
third Sundays of May. We appreciate
very much the effort put forth by our
visiting ministers and their wives.

A large group from Forrest, IL, came
on Saturday and spent some time sing-
ing at a children's home and a nursing
home. In the face of the many attrac-
tions of our city, it is good to remember
James 1:27: "Pure religion and unde-
filed before God and the Father is this,
To visit the fatherless and widows in
their affliction, and to keep himself
unspotted from the world."

Perhaps if we cannot do this person-
ally as often as we would like, a phone
call or letter to a widow or someone in a
home would be a way to practice this
teaching.

MISSOURI, TAYLOR

Loida Hodel — Lori Marquart

MOTHER

Someone who takes time to think of
other people's needs

And warms so many hearts with gentle
words and thoughtful deeds,

Someone who sincerely tries to
understand and sympathize

Adds something very special to the
world . . .

Someone who can always chase a little
cloud away

And add a bit of fun, a ray of sun to every day,
Someone who's so glad to share, so glad to help and give and care
Adds something very special to the world.

Amanda Bradley

Our Sisters Lois Sutter (Bro. James) and Ruthie Hoerr (Bro. Louis) were hospital (medical) patients this month. Jody Meyers (Danny) was a hospital (surgical) patient. May God restore reasonable health so they can enjoy the many beauties of this springtime season and fulfill their roles in their homes with their families.

Bro. William and Sis. Ruth Cottrell are back in Quincy again after their "winter stay" in Florida. We're always happy to see them, as it's like part of our church family coming home.

Little three-day-old Phillip is receiving "TLC" in the home of Bro. Kenny and Sis. Phyllis Knapp while awaiting adoption. May God bless all those whose actions prove they care.

It seems we can never find enough time to visit our aged friends in nursing homes. For those of us who try to include these trips in our busy weeks, we can relate to the following verse. May it be an encouragement to take an interest in these dear old people who may not have only lost their own memories, but have also been lost in the memories of others.

FOR FRIENDS OF THE AGED

Blessed are they who understand
My faltering step and palsied hand.
Blessed are they who know that my ears today
Must strain to hear the things they say.
Blessed are they who seem to know
That my eyes are dim and my wits are slow.
Blessed are they who looked away
When coffee was spilled on the table today.
Blessed are they who never say,
"You've told that story twice today!"
Blessed are they who know the ways
To bring back memories of yesterdays.
Blessed are they who make it known
That I'm loved, respected, and not alone.
Blessed are they who know I'm at a loss
To find the strength to carry the cross.

Blessed are they who ease the days
Of my journey home in loving ways.

NEW YORK, CROGHAN Alice Virkler

"And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body.

"And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it;

"For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins."

St. Matthew 26:26-28

On Sunday evening, May 3, we gathered together to hear God's Word expounded and to share the blessings of the Lord's Supper. May this holy occasion join us closer together in heart and mind and may we go forth each day with a greater zeal to serve our risen Lord. Let us never forget the great sacrifice that He made for each of our sins. We wish to thank Elder Bro. Harold Messner (Winthrop, MN) and his wife for being in our midst for the weekend and for his service for the Lord and for us. Bro. Harold and our Elder Bros. Robert Beyer and Norbert Steiner also read the conference memorandum to us Saturday evening when we assembled with the Naumburg congregation. May we strive to walk more closely to God each day of our lives.

Our Sunday school children reminded us of the death, resurrection and life of Jesus when they presented a short program Easter Sunday. It is our prayer that each of them will remember what they are taught in Sunday school. These precious teachings will be their guide throughout their school years and future life.

Our hospital patients this month were Bro. Clifton (Sis. Bessie) Farney for medical treatment and Donald (Sis. Rita) Petzoldt for surgery. They have both been able to return home.

NEW YORK, NAUMBURG Rachel Snyder

On the weekend of May 2 - 3, Elder Bro. Harold Messner (Winthrop, MN) came to be with us. On Saturday evening, the Croghan congregation assembled with us to hear Elder Bros. Harold Messner, Norbert Steiner and Robert Beyer read the report of the conference. On Sunday we gathered

with the Croghan congregation to hear the wonderful Word proclaimed to us and in the evening at Croghan we were able to partake of holy communion. We wish to thank Bro. Harold for all he did for us here, giving of himself for God's service. In the following days, Elder Bros. Robert and Norbert served communion to our dear ones who were not able to get to church. We thank all our brethren for all they do in the service of the Lord.

Sis. Minnie Taube has been able to return home from the hospital after having surgery. We ask God's blessings upon her.

Bro. Jess Karcher passed away at the age of 94 years. He is survived by his wife, Ethel; a son, Urban (both of Castorland); several grandchildren and also great-grandchildren. A son, Clark, preceded him in death. Services were held at Naumburg by Elder Bros. Robert Beyer and Norbert Steiner. Bro. Jess has been several years in the Lowville Extended Care Nursing Home.

On Friday, April 24, the Croghan folks gathered with us at Naumburg for the reception of Elder Bro. Robert Beyer and Sis. Lucille. We enjoyed nice fellowship and refreshments were served.

We held our Easter program Sunday, April 26. It is always so uplifting to hear the children speak and sing of the glorious rising of our dear Savior, Jesus Christ.

May 16 was the wedding day for Timothy Nortz (Jack and Barbra, Lowville) and Marion Whitney (Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Whitney, Phoenix, NY). Grandparents are Roy and Sis. Edna Sturtz.

I would like to sincerely thank everyone for their prayers, cards, visits and kindnesses shown me upon my baptism, illness and operations. May God bless each one.

Sis. Naomi Clare

OHIO, AKRON Joyce Gasser

"Can Do", is a meaning of "King"; and David, knowing what God "can do" for us, became the greatest king. He wrote Psalm 34 in Hebrew as an alphabetical psalm, and having started last month, we continue:

Vs. 7: "The angel of the Lord encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them." The Hebrew picture is a fence in the sense of a

wall of fire, which He has around us.

Vs. 8: "Taste and see that the Lord is good . . ." The picture means to roll together, depicting that God takes all our life and rolls it together to work for good.

Vs. 9: "Fear the Lord, ye his saints: for there is no want to them that fear him." The picture is a hand. A saint is in the hand of God.

Vs. 10: "The young lions do lack, and suffer hunger: but they that seek the Lord shall not want any good thing." The picture is the palm of God's hand, out of which no man can take us. A young lion is the strongest and can grab anything, but even when they suffer, we won't, because God has good things for us.

Vs. 11: "Come ye . . . I will teach you the fear of the Lord." The picture is an oxgoad, depicting God will teach you His Word.

"Vs. 12: "What man is he that desireth life, and loveth many days, that he may see good?" The Hebrew is water, symbolizing the Word, represented by a wave. If we want every day to be a good day, then fall in love with the Word, and embrace the Word.

Vs. 13: "Keep thy tongue from evil, and thy lips from speaking guile." The Hebrew is fish, meaning to spread abroad. The Greek for fish is Gospel, and the Hebrew is don't spread evil.

Vs. 14: ". . . do good; seek peace, and pursue it." It is a lift. "Do" means to produce divine good; to create something out of nothing. When we take God's Word and speak it, it lifts creative power to move in a place where there is nothing.

The remaining verses will be continued.

We were blessed to partake of communion with Bro. Joe Ramsier and Bro. Henry Dotterer assisting Bro. Gene Pamer.

We enjoyed the messages this past month from visiting ministers, Bro. James Ramseyer and Bro. Vic Bauman.

On Mother's Day our Sunday school boys and girls relieved the ladies and did the work in preparing and serving the lunch and the cleaning up. They did a splendid job, serving even special treats, and we all appreciated it.

Jean Weisman and Robert Kaufman both had surgery. Mickey Walter was taken to the hospital. We pray each will feel the Lord's presence.

OHIO, COLUMBUS

Lee and Desma Klopfenstein

We would like to thank all those who visited us this past month. Our ministering brothers were Bro. Kenneth Sauder (Mansfield) and Bro. Merle Hartzler (Rittman). We appreciated their labors of love in our behalf.

This is my last report from Columbus as Bro. Lee and I will soon be moving to Fort Wayne, IN, and although we look eagerly to the future God has planned for us, it is with great sorrow that we leave our dear Columbus church. We'd like this to be a letter of love to the congregation here. I'm making a second attempt to compose this farewell. You see, it's very difficult to express our gratitude for the love and memories we've shared these past three years. When we moved to Columbus, we found a friendly, small-town atmosphere which seemed unusual for such a large city. But our greatest joy and blessings have come from being a part of a growing family, the Columbus church.

I remember the first room in which we met when services were held every other Sunday. It was a nursery school room with little tables and chairs to use at lunchtime. There were only a handful of us then. Later we moved to our two present rooms and began to meet every Sunday. These rooms are spacious with big tables and chairs. This was such a blessing for us. Another joy was the printing of our first lunch list of five families. Our congregation just keeps doubling. There are many other small blessings like having a sink for washing dishes, buying a cabinet to hold the books, or just filling the lunch trays together by our little window in the library (our lunch room). These are not grand things, I know, but each step we've taken has bound our church closer together. We've rejoiced as each new person or family moved to the area and shed tears when some had to leave us. But the Lord lifted us up again and provided for our church's every need.

Sunday mornings were special to me. When we'd arrive, there was sometimes a little work to do and each person took part. Whether it was putting out the sign or setting tables for lunch, everyone eagerly helped. We'd stop once in a while to look out our window which faced the parking lot to watch for company. As people pulled in we'd measure more instant coffee into our two 10-cup pots. May I share too,

that sometimes our faith was weak and we'd worry if there would be enough lunch. But you dear visitors always brought food just when we needed it. You don't know how much we loved our days with you.

We also appreciated deeply the ministering brothers who came to share God's Word. We've been so fortunate to have had many of you more than once, and some we've heard on tape during our midweek services. As always, we need your continued support. Many of our visitors traveled long distances to be with us, and often stayed for fellowship and an evening meal even though the journey home was a long one. Some of you shared with us personal memories that coming to our budding flock brought back to you. Thank you for helping make a memory for Columbus to cherish.

Just as dear parents, Bro. Andy and Sis. Theresa would check to see who would be gone each weekend and always make those Saturday calls to wish the travelers the Lord's blessings for a safe journey.

We've seen a new life come into the home of another precious family and watched a dear soul come to repentance. This year we had a Christmas program. All four of our Sunday school age children participated. I think we were all touched by their sincerity. Bro. Lee and I will sorely miss our sweet little ones in Columbus. Words cannot fully describe the joys we've experienced here. Bro. Paul expressed a similar love in his letters to the early churches. We still need one another now, just as in Paul's day.

The Lord has a work in Columbus. As He directs, may the church grow and flourish. We pray that God will watch and bless all the loved ones we treasure in this congregation.

"Blest Be The Tie That Binds".

OHIO, JUNCTION

Les Manz

Those who visited us and lent themselves to bring us the Word of God included Bro. Andy Stoller (Rittman), Bro. Ray Schlatter (Toledo) and Elder Bro. Loren Stoller (Latty). The practice of lay brethren giving their talents without regular pay and taking turns bringing the Word to the congregation as the Spirit leads them is one of the precious traditions of our church. As we see what is happening around us, I believe the wisdom of our forefathers

in setting up this tradition becomes more obvious each day.

Jim Aldred who has been worshipping with us for the last few months has undergone open heart surgery. We are thankful that his surgery has been successful to date.

OHIO, LATTY

Marlene Reinhard — Patty Gerber

Call and cry, ye watchmen, boldly;
Call aloud and spare them not!
Jesus wants a faithful witness;
Teachers not confessing Jesus
Have stern judgment as their lot.

Truly stones could not help crying
If the watchmen's call would cease,
And the very rocks about us;
Ev'ry one a crying witness
Could no longer hold their peace.

Therefore rise, all ye, His servants;
For Elijah's spirit pray!
If as Lord ye would address Him,
Faithfully ye must confess Him,
And His holy will obey!

Speak the gospel of salvation
Boldly in the wilderness!
In the Savior's blood there's healing.
Grace and pardon He's revealing
To the sinner in distress.

Zion's Harp #112

Another watchman has been sent out to proclaim the gospel and be an example of Christ to believers and nonbelievers. We heard the testimony and witnessed the baptism of Carma Stoller (Bro. Gale and Sis. Janet) and listened as she was reminded to be a bold soldier for the Lord. We were reminded that we all are "watchmen" in our homes, work place, community and church. May we all be worthy of this calling.

Bro. Art Gudeman (LaCrosse, IN) was with us, along with many visitors, for Easter weekend. It is always good to see the familiar faces again.

Bro. Joe Schlatter (Sis. Elsie) and Johanna Sinn (Bro. Stan and Sis. JaNahn) met with accident and were hospitalized. We are glad to see both are recuperating well and back in church.

Kristy Keysor (Bro. George and Sis. Sharon) was recently married to Greg Greutman (Mr. and Mrs. Ken). Also wedded (we apologize for omitting from earlier issues) was Dan Sinn and

Goldie Lytle. We ask the Lord's blessings upon these couples, trusting that He is the center of their marriage.

Our thoughts are with Bro. Todd Sinn (Bro. Walt and Sis. Renee) and Sis. Janet Steidinger (Bro. Maurice and Sis. Alma, Fairbury, IL) as they are anticipating marriage in the near future. May they continue to feel the Lord's direction in their planning.

Seeking the Lord's guidance as they begin their life's work, or schooling for that occupation, are our high school graduates Mike Keysor (Bro. George and Sis. Sharon), Ross Laukhuf (Larry and Charlotte), Doug Reinhard (Bro. Dan and Sis. Deloris), Steve Sinn (Bro. Ray and Sis. Ann) and Cody Stoller (Bro. Millard and Sis. Irma). Also graduating from college are Sis. Carma Stoller (Bro. Gale and Sis. Janet) and Lynette Stoller (Bro. Loren and Sis. Esther). May they learn to use their talents and knowledge to their utmost potential.

OHIO, MANSFIELD

Linda Morrison

Greg and Elaine Yokem are first-time parents as Jordan Elaine was born April 30. Grandma Mildred Dolce will be supporting the new parents and baby alike in prayer.

Colt Weston was born May 6 to Bro. Lonnie and Sis. Carol Browne. Ty, Kerry and Kelly will be helping to shower their new brother with TLC. Bro. Wally and Sis. Helen Ramsier are the prayerful grandparents. Colt has been in the Akron Children's Hospital since birth. We trust God's wisdom and grace to provide for Colt and his family.

Hospital patients this month have been Bro. Dave Beer (accident) and Sis. Martha Cordrey (surgery). May they feel God's love and nearness as they grow stronger in body and soul as God receives our prayers on their behalf.

Bro. Gary Maibach (Smithville) was a welcomed visitor Sunday, May 10. Bro. Gary pointed out that at the time of Paul's conversion, he asked: "Who art thou, Lord?" . . . Acts 9:5. Our friends today often know who it is that convicts them, therefore they don't ask. Bro. Gary also mentioned there is a great deal of ability among the people in today's society but it is not available to the Lord. Have we made our talents available to the Lord? After we hear God speak to us through His Word, do

we willingly make our talents available for His service?

OHIO, RITTMAN

Diane Gasser — Judy Stoller

"We have heard with our ears, O God, our fathers have told us, what work that thou didst in their days, in the times of old."

Psalms 44:1

Today, as in the days of old, our heavenly Father does wondrous things for us. May we ever thank Him for His goodness bestowed on us. As Father's Day approaches, may we also be thankful to our earthly fathers for all their deeds of love. We should especially appreciate the fathers who teach their families of God and tell their children of what works God did in times of old and how He works in lives today. We trust God's blessings will rest upon each of our fathers.

The engagement of Sis. Kimberly Blough (Bro. Joe and Sis. Lucille) and Bro. Dan Stoller (Bro. Don and Sis. Luzelda, Smithville) has been announced.

Janeen Hilty (Sam and Judy) and James Berger Jr. (Mr. and Mrs. Jim Berger) are engaged to be married.

May God bless and direct these couples as they make plans to become husband and wife.

Rex Young (Carol) and Sis. Ella Miller (Glenn) had to spend time in the hospital this past month. We are always thankful when those who have suffered affliction are again healed by God's loving touch.

Bro. Tim and Sis. Joni Ramsier are now parents with the blessed arrival of their first child, Kelly Beth. Grandparents, Bro. Bob and Sis. Inez Ramsier (Smithville) and Bro. Rowen and Sis. Judy Schar also share in their joy.

Andrew Douglas is the name of Doug and Sis. Diana Raifsnider's new little son. Rebecca and Amy are his sisters. Happy grandparents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Betty Steiner and Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Raifsnider.

We extend our sympathy to the family of Ralph Miller who passed from this life into eternity. He is survived by two sons, Glenn (Sis. Ella) and Richard (Sis. Melba), and one daughter, Barbara Acker (Boyd). May God be a source of comfort to those who sorrow.

May God's blessings and guidance be with our high school graduates. We

wish the best to Lisa Acker, Sis. Stephanie Baltic, Amy Beery, Lynne Beery, Julie Indermuhle, Mike Miller, Dean Mills, Corban Riegenbach, Doug Saurer, Gary Schar, Eric Steiner, Rodney Steiner and Heidi Trent.

OHIO, SARDIS

Alice Ramsier

As work on our new church building moves to completion, we have begun to anticipate worshipping there. The combined labors of many brothers, sisters and friends have made the project a blessing. This past month brethren and friends from Rittman, Smithville and Akron, OH, gave of their time and talents. We were also blessed that Bro. Glenn Riegenbach could share with us both physically and spiritually, as he ministered to us on a Wednesday evening.

The weekend of June 27 is the annual West Virginia memorial service. Saturday evening services will be in Sardis at 7:30 p.m., and the memorial services will be at 10:30 a.m. Sunday in New Martinsville, WV. We are especially looking forward to Saturday evening as we plan to gather in our new church building.

"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

The paths of different ones here in Sardis are taking a turn, and we pray that they will trust the Lord on their new course of life. Our two graduating seniors are Dave Figel (Bro. John and Sis. Paula) and Doug Stalder (Robert and Clara Stalder). Both of these young men plan on furthering their education. Also, Raymond and Sis. Ruth Headly announced the engagement of their daughter, Linda, to Ron Kestner. They plan to be married August 1.

OHIO, SMITHVILLE

Ann Maibach — Verla Stoller

"I now have found the firm foundation, Where evermore my anchor grounds!" Zion's Harp #221. What a wonderful weekend we experienced as six precious souls gave their testimony and were baptized. Elder Bro. Gene Pamer (Akron) as well as our Elder Bro. Joe Ramsier and deacon Bro.

Henry Dotterer, lent themselves in these blessed labors. Our new brothers and sister-in-Christ are Loren and Chris Rufener, Ben Maibach, Dave Zollinger, Doug and Art Stoller. We surely wish them the Lord's blessings as they strive to do His will throughout their lives.

Our visiting ministers this month were Bro. Jim Plattner (Princeville, IL), Bro. Walt Anliker (Eureka, IL), Bro. Delbert Indermuhle (Sardis), Bro. Pete Baltic (Mansfield), Bro. Paul Gasser (Akron), Bro. Harold Emch (Girard) and Bro. Ken Indermuhle (Sardis). We thank each one and pray that God will bless them for their efforts.

Graduation time has arrived again. Our graduates this year are Mike Beery (Art and Eileen), Missy Beery (Bro. Norman and Sis. Audrey), Dan Blough (Bro. Elmer and Sis. Lorene), Scott Indermuhle (Bro. Darrel and Sis. Janet), Ted Luginbuhl (Bro. Marvin and Sis. Rose, Akron), Mark Maibach (Bro. Gary and Sis. Mary Ann) and Paul Marty (Bro. Dean and Sis. Martha Lou). May they seek the Lord's guidance in their future plans and ever trust in Him.

"Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favour of the Lord." Proverbs 18:22. The engagement of our Bro. Dan Stoller (Bro. Don and Sis. Luzelda) to Sis. Kim Blough (Bro. Joe and Sis. Lucille, Rittman) was made known. We wish them the Lord's blessings as they begin making plans for their life together.

A little bundle of joy, Fredrick Daniel, has come to the home of Bro. Tim and Sis. Mary Maibach. Rachel and Samuel are pleased to have a new brother. Grandparents are Bro. Alpha and Sis. Helen Maibach and Bro. Alvin and Sis. Eldora Steiner.

At this time of year we have a special day set aside to remember our fathers and all the help and support they have given us in our life. May we always appreciate our fathers here and especially our heavenly Father who guides us and watches over us in this life.

OHIO, TOLEDO

Frances Laidig Josephine Rehklau

We had a blessed weekend May 16 and 17. Elder Bros. Ben Maibach (Detroit, MI) and Aaron Steffen (Alto, MI) came to share with us the privilege of partaking of communion.

Our Lord Jesus instituted holy communion just prior to His crucifixion when He was with His disciples.

"As they were eating, Jesus took bread and blessed it, and brake it, . . . and said Take, eat; this is my body. And he took the cup, and gave thanks, . . . saying, Drink ye all of it; For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins."

St. Matthew 26:26-28

Partaking of this blessed sacrament binds us anew to our Lord.

This is graduation time when students have finished a milestone in life and are looking forward to do that which seems best for them in the future. We extend our congratulations to the following graduates: Sis. GERALYN BEARD (Bro. David) from Mercy Hospital School of Nursing and Amy Stoller (Bro. Millard and Sis. Irma, Latty, OH) from Owens Technical College Associate Degree in Radiology. Michele Kipfer (Sis. Janet) and Kelly Sancraints (David and Sis. Connie) are our high school graduates. We wish each one God's blessings in their future walk in life.

OREGON, SILVERTON

Rose Lee Kuenzi

A potluck supper and graduation reception, hosted by ministering Bro. Art and Sis. Betty Metz, is slated for May 31. The event, to be held at the Mollala Senior Center, recognizes the seven students from our area who have completed one segment of their education and will go on to the next, some to schools of higher learning and some to the larger "school of experience". Graduating from the eighth grade are Eldon Metz (Bro. Art and Sis. Betty) and Bruce Kuenzi (Bro. Rich and Sis. Rosa Lee). Eldon will be attending Woodburn Union High School next year while Bruce plans to go to Silverton Union High School. There are three students graduating from Salem's Chemeketa Community College: Sis. Lisa and Amy Metz (daughters of Bro. Art and Sis. Betty) and Sis. Kris Kuenzi (daughter of Bro. Rich and Sis. Rosa Lee). Sis. Lisa has completed her studies for her Certificate in Health Records/Medical Transcription while Amy has finished her one-year course as a medical secretary. Sis. Kris has completed three years of college

courses to receive her teacher's aid certificate with special training for working with the handicapped.

Melissa Fehr (Elder Bro. Wayne and Sis. Kathy, West Bend, IA) is a recent graduate of AVTI in Minneapolis, MN, as was mentioned in this column in more detail in April, and is now employed in our area in her field of horticulture/loriculture. Western Oregon State College has been the choice of Sis. Melisa Moser (Bro. Ray and Sis. Barb, Portland, OR), where she has completed their twelve-month Interpreter Training Program (sign language for the deaf and hearing impaired). Sis. Melisa plans to work as an interpreter for a year or so before taking her State Board Certification test.

Accidents seem to abound in the springtime but thankfully, in most of the recent cases, serious bodily injury was escaped. Verna Bolliger (Elmer), Becky Utter, Sis. Linda Hari (Harold), Sis. Kris and Bruce Kuenzi were each involved in automobile accidents. Except for Verna's shoulder injury (which is almost healed now) the others were only bruised and shook up. We thank the Lord that we are dealing with the complexity of auto-body shops and insurance forms rather than doctors and hospitals. Though thankful that it was not worse, Troy Kuenzi (Bro. Bob and Sis. Linda) is experiencing the slow and painful healing process of losing part of a finger in an accident at work. Troy uses his left hand almost as much as his right, so hopefully the loss of his index finger on his right hand will be more easily overcome than normally can be expected.

"It could have been worse" is often heard whenever hardships come our way and maybe at times it seems a futile comfort, but truly if we "count the positives" we will begin to feel ourselves uplifted. Certainly, looking at a thing only from its negative side will bring a self-defeating feeling of despair. God has promised us grace for our every need each day, but we must ask aright every day for our daily portion. Have you asked for the grace you need just for today? Or, are you struggling along under the weight of yesterday's disappointments and tomorrow's fears?

Give Your Address Change
To Your Reporter

PENNSYLVANIA, PHILADELPHIA

Jerry Isch

It's a joy to our congregation and especially to Bro. John and Sis. Kay Lanz to welcome into this life a new baby girl, Emily Kay.

Let's always remember the responsibility we have to our youth, to be a good example, whether they are our own children or belong to someone else.

Our visiting ministers this month were Bro. Mark Bahr (Detroit, MI) and Bro. Jim Plattner (Princeville, IL). May God bless them for their labor of love.

We congratulate Phillip Aeschleman (Bro. Ed and Sis. Nancy) who graduated from York College with a bachelors degree in business.

We say goodbye to Lori Hardin who has returned to Oakville, IA. May they seek the Lord's guidance throughout their lives.

TEXAS, DALLAS/FORT WORTH

Sandy Schmidt

Greetings from sunny Texas! We have many things to be grateful for here in our little service. We appreciate the efforts of our visitors!

Our visiting ministers this month were Bro. James Plattner (Princeville, IL) and Bro. Leland Plattner (Zapata, TX).

"No man hath seen God at any time. If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us."

I John 4:12

What a good light we can be by showing our love for each other. Praise be to God.

Sermon . . .

(Continued from Page 32)

about that. I don't know if anyone here in the audience has only one eye, but that is not what it means. We don't have single eyes. We have a pair. God wisely created this body so that we have spare parts. You know how valuable spare parts are when you have a car that is not working. If your car is old, you may have trouble getting a spare part. God provided us with a body that is built in with a dual system. It is like a dual distributor or carbure-

tor on a car. If one fails, the other one can kick in. Airplanes, I understand, are built often with double of everything so that if one fails (you can't just pull aside when you are flying), the other one can immediately kick in.

God has provided us with two eyes. One of the reasons that we are provided with two eyes is because two eyes provide us with depth perception. Try closing one eye sometime and deciding how far away some object is. Then do it with two eyes. You'll find out that our eyes, set apart as they are, give us perception of how far away or how deep something really is.

But the Bible tells us, "The light of the body is the eye: if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light." Matthew 6:22. Remember that we have already said that light comes into the body through the eye. It has literally no affect on any other part of the body.

What does single mean? We can understand it when we read a phrase in the Bible where it says, "singleness of heart". Singleness of heart. As far as I know, most people only have one heart. God didn't provide two hearts, unless it is an extremely rare abnormality.

The light doesn't affect the heart, but the Bible says that we should in singleness of heart serve God. (See Colossians 3:22). What does that mean?

Have you ever had divided attention? For some it is probably happening right now. Sometimes you appear to be listening to the teacher, but in reality you are thinking about something that happened yesterday, or what you are going to do tomorrow. Singleness of heart applies to focusing our activity or our attention on something. I know what that is like.

I have a cassette tape player in my car, as perhaps many of you do. Sometime ago I invested in a set of tapes of the New Testament. I carry that with me because when I spend time in the car, I like to put one in and listen. It is strange how that sometimes you are "glued" to the voice that is reading on that cassette tape. Then, the next minute you realize that time has gone by and you haven't understood or acknowledged anything that he said. God made our minds to do many different things. It takes effort to focus our minds and our attention on something. So, singleness of heart is a heart that is not divided in its purpose of serving God.

When we realize that, then we realize that when He is talking about a single eye, He wants us to keep our eyes upon that which is right, good and true, which is the Word of God.

We can't serve two masters. We either serve one or the other, depending on who we yield ourselves in obedience to serve. When we serve with singleness of heart, then our eye is single, because our eyes are upon the Source that gives all blessings, which is Christ.

The words of a hymn come to me:
Turn your eyes upon Jesus,
Look full in His wonderful face;
And the things of earth will grow
strangely dim
In the light of His glory and grace.

That is the source of light. God has given us light so that we can see Christ.

There is darkness in the world. There is spiritual darkness because Satan is in control of much of the world. His tactic is to keep everybody in darkness. God's light of His Word and salvation through Christ is that we can become new creatures, come out from darkness, come into the light and become saved. Satan doesn't want that. He wants to keep souls in darkness so we don't know the Truth. Light can get through, if we let it.

My job is to work with a computer. It is a fascinating job. I don't know everything about a computer, but in using it, it is extremely fascinating to watch how fast that machine can do its job. It can do the job of many people working many hours in a few minutes.

I have a tremendous admiration for those people who were capable of designing a machine like that. I can't fathom how someone could design a machine like we use.

One of the pieces of equipment of this computer is a machine that we call a "card reader". It reads cards. It doesn't read like you and I read words, but it reads holes punched in a card.

There is a place on this card for written letters to appear. We call that "human readable". That is what you and I read. There is another place on the bottom part of the card that has holes punched in it and we call that the "machine readable portion". Now how does the machine read the holes? There is only one way that it can. That is by a very bright, intense light source coming down onto the card path. The cards pass beneath that very bright intense light and then there are recep-

tors underneath that. The light shines down on the card and the places where there are holes allow the light to pass through. The light is interpreted on the underside as letters: A, B, C, numbers, etc. The part that does not have any holes punched does not let the light through.

A couple of years ago we were getting strange things in the system. We were taking a set of computer cards, running them through our card reader and when we looked at what it was supposed to be printing, it wasn't printing anything near right. It was interpreting it as garbage. We have a phrase in the computer field called, "garbage in" and "garbage out". If that is what you put into the system, it is not going to tell you any different. If you tell it that AJXTYZW is a word, it will say, "Fine. It's a nice word."

When we realized what we were getting, we called the manufacturer of the computer and said, "We need help." They sent out a technician to work on it. He looked at it and asked, "What is the problem?" So we described the problem and without too much doing, he said, "I think I know what your problem is."

He opened up the card reader and said, "There is a layer of dust all over the light." No wonder it couldn't get the information right. The light wasn't getting through. He cleaned the layer of dust off the light, put it back together and it worked fine.

Now God's light is exactly like that. When the clouds come, you still know that the sun is up there. God made the sun and made the earth to revolve around the sun and it has never failed to do that. Yet, when the clouds come, we have to have faith that the sun is still up there. When the clouds eventually pass away, we'll see the sunlight.

The same is true with the Word of God. God's Word is here and it is powerful. The blood of Christ was shed two thousand years ago, but it is still powerful. Yet, there is kind of a veil across the heart so that the sun (the light of God), God's Son and what He did (His plan of salvation through His shed blood) can't get through. If we clean the light, then God's light will not have any obstruction in reaching us.

Then we will really realize what it was that Paul was telling them. He told them this is tremendously valuable . . . this is real gold.

So we have this tremendous mes-

sage to give out yet today. There is grace, mercy and pardon for anyone who has sinned. I know you are ashamed of that sin. I know because I was. In my sins, I told God that the church of my parents would have to change drastically before they would ever count me in their number. But, the time came when I had to say, "Thanks be to God that He changed me and not the church."

If we have sinned and come short of the glory of God and acknowledge and confess it, God's promise from His Word is that He will change your life so much that it will be as if you had never sinned. You cannot go back and deny those wrongs. If you have stolen, you may be able to repay, but you cannot erase the fact that you stole.

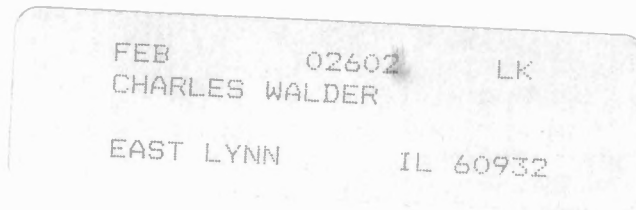
I went to visit a prisoner one time, spending part of a day talking with him. I went into the prison. It is an uncomfortable feeling, but I went into that prison and I talked with him in a place where inmates and visitors can visit together.

I said, "What do you think about your past life? How do you view your past life? He said, "I was convicted of a serious crime. I am sorry for it. I pray to God often and I believe He has forgiven me, but I am still in this prison because society says, 'Up to this point, up to this many years, you will be here before you are granted probation.'" He said, "I feel God has forgiven me." But then he said, "One thing I will never be able to go back and undo and that is the crime." That was on his mind, even though God had forgiven him.

So we say to you that God does not permit us to go back in time and undo our wrongs. But, we can say that God will allow you, through repentance and conversion, to be as though you had never sinned when you stand before Him on Judgment Day. The Lord will give days, time and grace, but someday He is going to call a halt and all flesh and blood shall stand before Him. Then God, Who is willing to save you today by His grace and by His Son, will then be your Judge. What are you going to say?

We're not going to say anything. We are only going to have the books opened and find out whether we had the faith to believe the Word of God, and said, "Yes, that is real gold. That will make me a valuable person, a child of God and an heir of that which is to come."

May God richly bless you.



SERMON BY BRO. RONALD HEINIGER OF BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL, IL

The Gold Is Truly Pure

Acts 26

There are several interesting themes that occur here as Paul was giving his testimony before high nobles, kings and others at that time. Paul was permitted by the mercy of God to give his testimony and witness of those things which God had worked in his life.

If we are called to be a testimony and a witness of the glories of Christ, all we really need to do is find words to explain what Christ has done for us. We can tell of our conversion, rebirth and the mercy and grace that God gave us. We weren't worthy of anything that God gave us, especially His Son. We weren't worthy of Christ taking that cross, giving His life's blood and dying for us. Yet, God has made us worthy in His Son. We need to appreciate that blessing.

One of the themes here is light. Another theme that we might consider is something of value that is not considered to be so. Have you ever had something of value that you showed to someone and they didn't believe it was worth anything?

For example, take a nugget of gold that somehow came into your possession. It wasn't refined, like we would think of a gold coin or a gold chain; it was just a nugget of gold. But, whoever gave it to you had evidence that it was real gold. So, you showed it to someone, and they said, "That's just fool's gold. That's not worth anything." Then maybe you'd say, "No, really, it's gold." But no matter what you told them, they would not believe that it was worth anything. What would you do?

Gold is much more valuable than iron pyrites, or some false imitation. Maybe the person that gave you the gold said, "Oh, I'm sure that it is real gold. You can take my word for it."

So you go back to this person that was skeptical and say, "I know it's gold because this person told me it was and

I believe he is truthful." The other person has two choices: they can believe it, or not. If they believe the credibility of the person that gave it to you they will say, "Okay. I believe that is real gold." Or, maybe they'll say, "No matter what you tell me, I'll never believe that is anything other than just fool's gold." Then you have a dilemma on your hands.

I believe this is what Paul was doing. He had something of tremendous value and he was trying to explain to those who were skeptical just how valuable it really is.

That is our dilemma. We can tell our young people, youth and everyone here who has not been converted that based on the authority of the Word of God, God has brought salvation to all mankind through His Son Jesus Christ.

Christ Himself said, "Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish." Luke 13:3. Those words came from Christ. So we can tell you that this is of tremendous value. There is nothing more valuable than to have our name in the Book of Life through a complete repentance and conversion, wherein we are forgiven of everything in our past that we've ever done and been guilty of.

Sin stains our history and our record. You may think that no one knows. We only have to go to the Word of God and find out that God is aware of everything that we have ever done. God is going to be the One that looks at the works and the history of our life at the end time.

So, we have evidence that what we have is of such a value that there is nothing that can ever come close to the value of having been redeemed by the blood of Jesus Christ. But yet, our dilemma is simple. How do we explain that to those who have not made that experience? We can only say that it is a wonderful, wonderful feeling to have

our sins forgiven.

Paul then builds upon the theme of light. We take light for granted. If you have ever gone to a historical village which was built to look like a hundred years ago, you'll realize that people had to get by without electricity. We take that for granted. But can you imagine how our lives would change if all of a sudden electricity were removed? It would be tremendously different! We can't hardly imagine it because we have grown up with electricity and know its benefits.

Consider for a moment how we rely upon God's light, the sunshine. When darkness comes, we rely upon the secondary light made to rule the darkness of the night, which is the moon and the stars. They don't give much light.

Light comes into the body through the eye. Did you ever think about that? How much of your body is affected by light? We are not talking about heat as it affects the skin, but we are talking about some of the parts of sunlight. Ultraviolet rays, perhaps, can cause a suntan or a sunburn.

But, just regarding light, if you close your eyes, you can't see the light. Without your vision, you couldn't tell whether the light is on or not. If you walk into a room with your eyes tightly closed, the rest of your body wouldn't be able to tell whether the light was on.

So, light comes into our bodies by our eyes.

Now, what does the Bible say about the eyes? It says one tremendously important thing. "The light of the body is the eye: therefore when thine eye is single, thy whole body also is full of light..." Luke 11:34. Remember that. If you forget everything else that I've said this morning, remember that one thing.

If your eye is single... I want to talk
(Continued on Page 30)