

# The Silver Lining

"... thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption."  
Psalms 16:10

A LIGHT FOR BELIEVERS

He is not here, but is risen: remember how he spake unto you..."  
Luke 24:6

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## What Does the Empty Tomb Have to Do With Us?

**Resurrection** is no longer an option for any man.

*"... all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, and shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation."*

John 5:28, 29

It offers us the assurance of **justification**.

*"Who was delivered for our offenses, and was raised again for our justification."*

Romans 4:25

It gives us the hope of **glorification!**

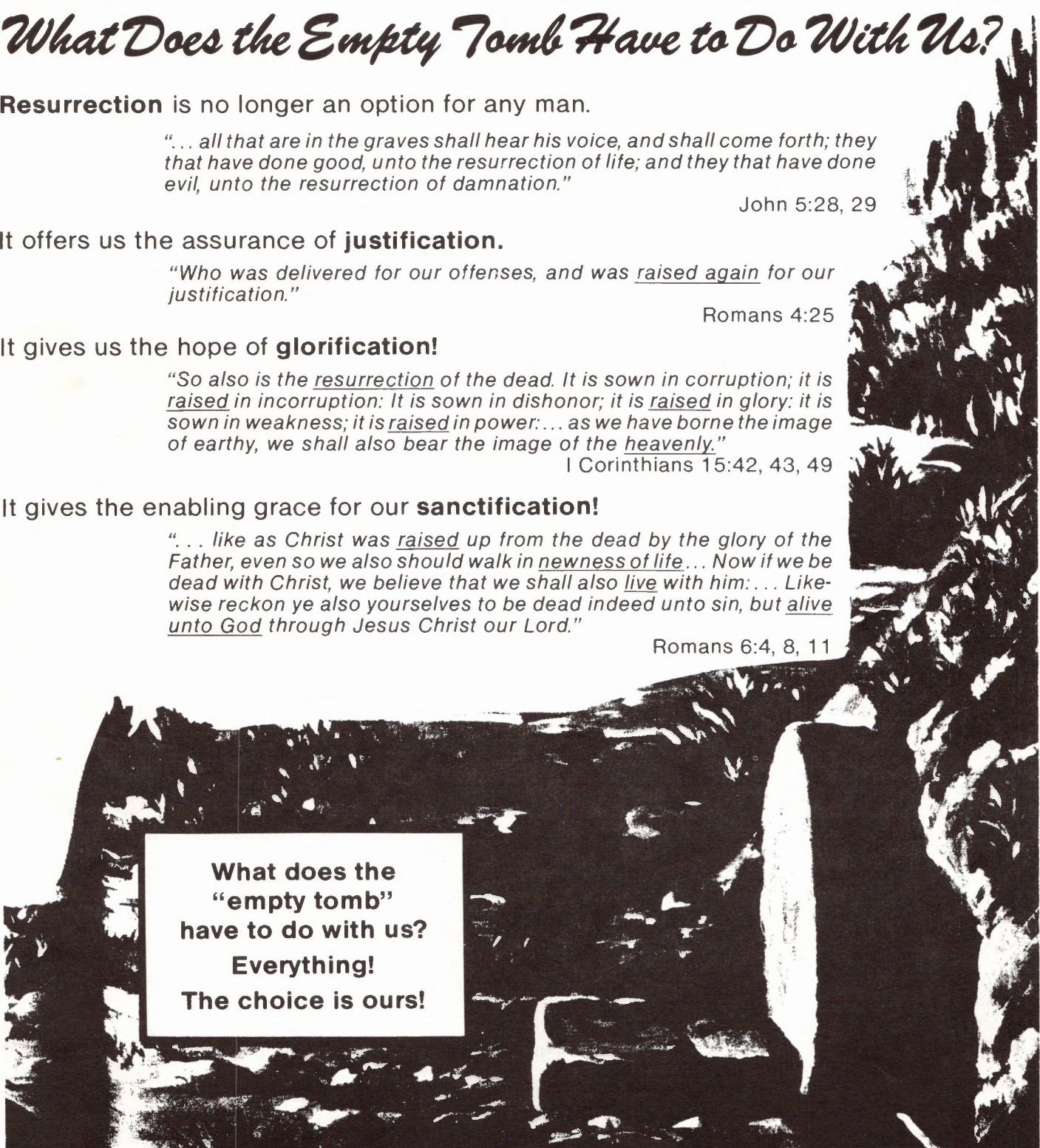
*"So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption; It is sown in dishonor; it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness; it is raised in power: ... as we have borne the image of earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly."*

I Corinthians 15:42, 43, 49

It gives the enabling grace for our **sanctification!**

*"... like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life... Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him: ... Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord."*

Romans 6:4, 8, 11



**What does the  
"empty tomb"  
have to do with us?  
Everything!  
The choice is ours!**

## THE RESURRECTION

Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle  
Shioda, Japan

Easter is in commemoration of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ. It is unusual for anyone to arise from the dead. What do you think of the resurrection? What can we do or say to convince others that it is true?

While on the cross, the Spirit of the Son of God left His physical body. He died for us. There was an air of finality about this so far as the disciples were concerned. It was all over. Their hopes for the future with Christ as their king appeared to be gone forever. Yet in that very condition of hopelessness lay the seed for a bright future. Before Christ could arise from the grave it was necessary that He die.

Three days after dying on the cross, Christ arose. Had there been no resurrection, there would be no church today. Our hope and assurance of salvation pivots on the resurrection. Because of that momentous event, the disciples decided they knew something worth telling others. By these events, God had made an atonement for our sins through the Lord Jesus Christ, His Son.

We also are instructed to die to self and to sin. On the surface, this death of self would appear to be the final blow

to the hope of success in life. However, just the opposite is true. This kind of death opens the door for the resurrection to a new life based on the teachings of the Bible rather than selfish desires. The end result is the best, most fulfilling life obtainable.

Now, to the questions at the beginning of this article. It is good to think about the resurrection. The resurrection is the pivot point upon which our hope and our assurance of salvation rests. It inspires us to live the new and resurrected life which emphasizes the Spirit. Through the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ we anticipate the resurrection of our bodies which are sown a mortal body and are to be raised a spiritual body.

As to what we can do to convince others of the truth of the resurrection of Jesus Christ, I Corinthians 15:6 tells us He was seen of above five hundred brethren at once. If the person does not believe the Bible, we can only point out, it is a historical claim and a matter of faith. The resurrection of God's Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, is the basis for our joy, hope and assurance of salvation. "Rejoice, and again I say rejoice."

## AN UPDATE ON THE ROMANIAN FOOD PARCEL PROGRAM

Bro. Andy Hunyady

Last month we reported that Romania's president, Nicolae Ceausescu, ordered rather unexpectedly, that all food shipments into his country be barred as of January 1, 1988. This created a very serious situation as thousands of parcels were in various stages of transit. These shipments are now being redirected to Holland for redistribution into other needy areas.

David Troyer, director of Christian Aid for Romania, which serves as handling and shipping agent for our Bluffton Distribution Center, made two trips to Romania in an effort to work out a solution with the Romanian Comturist, State Agency, that handles all foreign commerce matters. An agreement was reached, whereby Comturist will sell us food or clothing produced or manufactured in Romania for export. They will

assemble the food parcels which will be available for pick up by our recipients in one of the 30 state-owned special stores.

Parcels will be available in two sizes: 1) a 60-pound parcel for \$59.00 to be picked up by the recipient. This will contain cooking oil in glass containers, 2) a 20-pound parcel delivered to the nearest post office of the recipient. This parcel will not contain cooking oil because the post will not handle anything shipped in glass containers. The cost of this parcel is approximately \$34.50.

Because many of the recipients are ill, elderly or handicapped, the Comturist agreed to honor a notarized document authorizing another person to pick up the parcel for them.

The recipients will be notified by

letter from the United States with instructions and information about the new system. Cards will be included, which need to be filled out, certifying that they have received the parcel with all the items ordered, dated and signed. These cards are to be returned to us for verification. The first order, a 60# parcel will be ready for pick up March 26 through April 25. Overall, this system may work out better for us, as we save on duty and transportation costs. Coffee and cocoa will be included in the parcels, but are being imported by Romania.

The Comforter Program, as proposed recently by the World Relief, is also affected, as no comforter or related items will be permitted into the country.

At the last minute we received a report from the State Department to alert us of the serious tension that exists between Romania and the United States. Romania informed the State Department that it is relinquishing the "most favored nation" status, because  
(Continued on Page 4)

### THE SILVER LINING

Grabill, Indiana 46741  
USPS 496780

#### EDITORIAL STAFF:

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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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David Bertsch, Phillip Stettner

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IN MEMORY — EDITORS:  
HENRY SOUDER  
EDWARD SOUDER



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).*

When Nicodemus came enquiring of Jesus he acknowledged that Jesus was a great teacher. He was drawn to Him and wanted to learn more about becoming His follower. A disciple is one who learns and follows the teachings of his master. The word disciple is closely related to the word discipline, which involves structured training and correction. Jesus had an inner circle of twelve disciples who were also called apostles. They forsook their old lives and followed Him wherever He went, learning from Him and assisting Him in His earthly ministry. "And he said to them all, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me" (Luke 9:23). The disciples' willingness to forsake all illustrates the diligent nature of life's most noble calling—that of following the Son of God. Put into action it means self-surrender and the offering of one's life into the service of Christ.

The initial requirement for becoming a true disciple of Christ is genuine, saving faith in His sacrificial death on Calvary's Cross. Such faith embodies humility and obedience which compel a person to repent for his sins, make restitution and depart from iniquity. Baptism and laying on of hands complete these principles of the doctrine of Christ (Heb. 6:1-2).

A true disciple imitates his master's example and adheres to his teachings. For the believer there must be wholehearted submission to God's Word, viewing it as absolute, inerrant truth. Any inclination to elevate personal reasoning above biblical truth must be avoided. Instead there should be a deep hunger for instruction from the Word so that one's life may become more pleasing and fruitful. "That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God" (Col. 1:10).

True discipleship requires nurturing through God's Word. "But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed" (James 1:25).

### A TRUE DISCIPLE OF CHRIST

God revealed through Isaiah of old what kind of person He would look favorably upon, "... to this man will I look, even to him that is poor and of a contrite spirit, and trembleth at my word" (Is. 66:2). Jesus said, "If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed" (John 8:31). "Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life" (Prov. 4:23). Prayer, reading the Word, meditation, and fellowship with the brethren are necessary for nurturing the inner man.

Inherent in discipleship is a very close relationship with fellow believers in the body of Christ. It is very important that each newly converted person becomes fully integrated into the church. This occurs smoothly and brings joy to all when there is a definite effort to achieve likemindedness. The Apostle Paul wrote, "Fulfill ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind" (Phil. 2:2). This relationship includes friendliness and tenderheartedness as well as great care to avoid offending or discouraging other brethren by one's behavior. Sometimes inadequate effort is made to help individuals feel a full part of the fellowship. It is easy to drift into the habit of concentrating on those with whom one is well acquainted or those who are especially likable or of common background. Each member has a responsibility to help others draw close to the body and thus to the Lord, in the common bond of discipleship.

A true disciple of Christ does not have "fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness" (Eph. 5:11), but rather he reproves them. In a culture indulging in pleasure, ease, and materialism, he sees himself as serving a higher and more soul-satisfying purpose in life. He thus focuses on "redeeming the time, because the days are evil" (Eph. 5:16). He seeks to "keep himself unspotted from the world" (James 1:27) so that his heart may be an honorable dwelling place for the Holy Spirit. He is keenly aware of the importance of portraying a consistent example, for the disciple's life reflects upon his master. A true disciple is willing to bear the cross of Christ, whatever the

cost may be.

A humble, obedient lifestyle will often draw questions from others about one's faith. Discipleship includes a willingness to give expression of this faith when interest is aroused. "But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear" (1 Pet. 3:15). The most effective response will be gracious and sincere, rather than overbearing or highminded. "Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man" (Col. 4:6).

True discipleship requires faithfulness. Being an overcomer is universally acclaimed in the messages to the seven churches (Rev. 2 and 3). The road to Zion is an uphill struggle, fraught with many dangers and temptations, "but he giveth more grace" (James 4:6). The diligent, well disciplined follower of Christ strives to make his "calling and election sure" (2 Pet. 1:10). He works out his own salvation with "fear and trembling" (Phil. 2:12). He recognizes that those who endure temptation will receive the crown of life (James 1:12). "For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise" (Heb. 10:36).

Christ-like love is a cardinal feature of discipleship. "Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children; and walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us..." (Eph. 5:1-2). In fact, the most convincing aspect of the validity of a group of believers is their sacrificial love for one another. Jesus gave this characteristic profound significance when He said, "By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another" (John 13:35).

Therefore, ye Christ's disciples,  
all together,  
O, consecrate yourself to Him  
anew  
United stand; and let love's flame  
forever  
Inflame your hearts with  
passions, strong and true.  
*Zion's Harp #191*

of too much "meddling in the internal affairs of Romania." This was brought about by frequent violations of human rights. It is our hope that the well being of our brethren and relatives living in Romania will not be affected. Let us pray for peace and safety for all in that country.

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**NEWS FROM  
 EASTERN EUROPE**  
**Bro. Andy Hunyady**

We are happy and thankful to God whenever a little bit of good reaches us from the Communist countries. The latest news is that Czechoslovakia, Poland and Russia had given official permission to have the printed Bibles, God's Holy Word, imported into their countries.

Thousands of Bibles are being distributed to the Russian people to commemorate the 1,000th Anniversary of Christianity in Russia. In addition, another 2,000 Ukrainian Bibles are being imported from West Germany. With the Zion's Harp hymnal now in the process of being printed, soon our Ukrainian brethren will be able to enjoy the benefits of having both the hymnal and the Holy Bible in their own language for the first time.

There is growing interest and an awakening in the Ukraine as more and more young people are searching for spiritual truths. As one Ukrainian Elder Bro. Peter K. reported while visiting in Hungary recently, over 20 young people were baptized in 1987. Others

are seeking also and attend worship services. Czechoslovakia and Poland, in addition to importing Bibles from West Germany and England, gave permission for printing portions of the revised versions of the New Testament within their own countries in limited numbers.

In the early seventies, the Hungarian state radio network broadcast regularly scheduled, open discussions of topics of "historical nature" from the Old Testament. In the fall of 1987, a series of one-hour programs were devoted to Bible reading from the Gospels, the Book of Acts, especially the Epistles of Paul, the Apostle. Readings were from the traditional, Karoli, version, which was first printed and published in 1590 in Hungary.

"For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater: so shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it."

Isaiah 55:10-11

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**APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN  
 CHILDREN'S HOME**

**Tim Sauder**

We had a fire drill recently at the Children's Home, as we are required

by law to have periodically. The time was arranged, and the two houseparent fathers each pulled the alarms in their houses at exactly the same moment.

Though it came as a surprise to each child, after a few seconds of confusion, all recognized the sound of the bell. No matter what it was, whether they were preparing supper, doing homework, talking on the phone, or playing in the bedroom, everyone stopped what they were doing because this event took precedence. It was a matter of life or death. Due to prior instructions and previous drills, they all responded correctly to its signal. In this atmosphere of excitement and anticipation, along with a tinge of fear that maybe there was a real fire, everyone hurried from the houses amidst the firm orders from the house fathers and the frantic barking of Maynard, the dog, to assemble safely in the designated spot in the yard.

In the dimness of the yard light, a head count was taken. "Is everyone here? All the kids? All the houseparent staff? Did anyone not make it?" Yes, everyone was there and accounted for. And all of this happened so quickly — in less than a minute of time.

All of this moved me to ask, "What about the 'Big Fire Drill in the Future' — the Rapture — the coming of the Lord? Will all of our children make it? Will all of yours be there?"

These are sobering questions that provide a challenge to us all — each parent, each Sunday school teacher and each brother or sister who comes in contact with young people. Have we explained that the end could come at any moment, "in the twinkling of an eye"? Have we demonstrated in our lives and explained with our mouth that the daily activities and work of this world will immediately pale to the significance of His coming and the eternal destinations of man? Have we warned of the blazing fire and torment of hell and that there is a "fire escape" that is provided by the blood of Jesus Christ?

Recent staff training activities included a Time Management workshop, the beginning of a ten-week course called STEP (Systematic Training for Effective Parenting of Teens), and a staff retreat at Pokagon State Park. The retreat included presentations by Bro. Lynn Stieglitz, Bro. Doug and Sis. Sue Kellenberger, former housepar-

**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  
 Fourth Year — August 1986 thru July 1987 — 23,048

Bibles Distributed — Fifth Year

	MONTH	TO DATE
August 1987 —	2358	2358
September 1987 —	1023	3561
October 1987 —	1605	5166
November 1987 —	2264	7430
December 1987 —	1029	8459
January 1988 —	6611	15070
February 1988 —	1864	16934

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.

ents, and a session on building self-respect in young people by a counselor of a nearby children's home. The entire retreat challenged us and unified us as brothers and sisters and as teammates.

Recent snow days have provided unexpected opportunities for kids to earn money scooping snow and to have some winter fun sledding and skiing. John W. and Kara H. recently participated in a school vocal contest, with Kara receiving the only "first" as a solo in the entire school — congratulations! John E. and Jon B. continue as members of the junior high wrestling team. Keep up the good work and the grades. Kids and staff are busily preparing food, skits and songs for our Annual Church Appreciation Night to be held soon.

Progress on the new house has been exciting. Crews from Fairbury, Gridley, Princeville, IL, Francesville, Milford, Bluffton, IN, Latty and Rittman, OH, helped to get the building closed in, finish the interior framing, put on the roof, and do the wiring. Skilled volunteers continue to be needed. Call your local church representative or the Home. Also, building progress has sparked increased contributions over the past few months. Thanks to all for their caring and sharing.

We continue to have positions open for an Alternate Houseparent couple and as the spring progresses for an Educational Coordinator. These are

necessary positions in order to give our kids the help and care they need. (See notices in this month's issue.)

### APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

"Our love shall not diminish, nor fade nor wax away;" Easy to sing, but how do we stand when we really meditate on this. Yes, I believe each of us still has a deep love for the One who sacrificed all for us. We love what He does for us . . . what He did for us . . . and His promises that He will continue to be with us and provide us with His grace to live for Him. Do you find that even with this love for our Saviour, we often fail to show our love? So many matters are pressing in this busy world. How often do we fail to "put first things first?" Yes, we read the Word . . . but do we meditate on the Word? Do we listen for that still small voice? Then, if one were to judge, has our love diminished? Have more pressing matters crowded out our devotion times? February is the "love" month, with many giving greetings to loved ones on Valentine's Day. Let's give our best greetings of love to the One "that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think . . ." Ephesians 3:20. Spending quality time with Him would be a good way to prove this love.

Those who will perhaps be moving to our 15-bed Oakwood Estate home are

busy learning many skills they will have to perform on their own. Laundry, shopping, cooking, . . . all these skills are being learned. This is an exciting time for those who are capable of accomplishing these feats on their own. Quite a bit of the wallpaper is up and some of the flooring down. The home is really looking nice. I think we are all excited about this important step into independence for them. Each will have their own bedroom with a built-in sink. This will allow a greater chance for privacy — something we all cherish. Yes, we are grateful to the Lord and to you for all your loving gifts to this Home.

We are trying to put birthdays in the Silver Lining in advance so that you may send a card should you wish. Birthdays for April are: Jane Kohler (1); Velma Hoffman (4); Jason Gingrich (7); Sonja Metzger (14); Mark Gundy (17); Jaleen Mogler (18); Kennan Knapp (19); Miriam Schulz (24); Steve Steffen (26); and Nancy Jones (27).

Activities that have been enjoyed are several overnights to a local motel — Jumers. There is much excitement before and after one of these trips. Travelogues, a Globetrotter game, and the Ice Capades are also being anticipated. Yes, we keep busy!

We're getting ready for spring. How about you?

## ARE YOU INTERESTED IN:

- Serving the Lord and needy children on a full-time basis?
- Learning more about yourself and your spouse?
- Learning about God's daily provision of grace and strength?
- Learning a Biblical definition of success?

If your heart responded "yes" to the above questions, you may be someone God wants to use, to help meet our need. Please prayerfully consider this opportunity. We presently have an opening for a married couple to serve as our Alternate Houseparents. This is a challenging and rewarding opportunity for a mature and committed couple to work as a team with a dedicated and unified staff of brothers and sisters as they strive to meet the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of troubled children.

Compensation includes a cash salary and living expenses, plus fringe benefits. For more information, please contact either of the brothers listed below.

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

Bro. Tim Sauder  
P. O. Box 151  
219/627-2159, office  
219/627-2606, home

Elder Bro. David Bertsch  
11502 Souder Road  
219/627-2923

### ONLY A ROBIN

The storm rages on with merciless force.  
The sky is leaden gray.  
The earth is clothed in a blanket of white.  
The snow has been falling all day.  
It is cold, bitter cold. No life is a stir.  
All things have sought shelter, I know,  
But a little brown bird that huddles alone,  
I can see through the flurry of snow  
With wind whistling through the branches around,  
I think that he sat there all night.  
Just like the last leaf that is left on the tree —  
No others to share in his plight.  
Oh what will become of the little brown bird?  
Exiled and alone. But it's true  
That the Master who marks the sparrow's fall  
Will care for the robin, too.

Eunice Elmore Heizer

We are serving a great God, aren't we?

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**APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN  
 PRESCHOOL OF ATHENS, AL**  
**Marilyn Walder**

We started a new year with eight to ten inches of snow. School was closed for two days because the children could not get here. The weather has been warmer now and the snow is almost gone. The children enjoyed the snow and had fun playing in it.

Our themes for January are Colors and Shapes. The children have been learning nine colors and nine shapes by doing many fun activities.

We have been learning about the life of Christ and the miracles Jesus performed while He was here on earth. The children enjoy learning about Jesus and the power He had through God. When you think about all Christ did, it is truly amazing, but we know that ". . . with God all things are possible." Matthew 19:26.

We are learning about Health, Safety and the Care of Our Bodies in February. It is amazing how intricate our bodies are and how each organ does its job and it all works together. The children are curious and want to know why and how everything works. They are realizing a little more how wonderfully we are created and how powerful and wise God is.

We are selling donuts as a benefit for the School. We took the children on a field trip to see how they make donuts. They enjoyed watching the process and also sampling the finished product.

Summer might seem a long way off, but it will be here before we know it. Once again we will need volunteers to help here at our Preschool when our teachers take vacations. Please give it prayerful consideration. Any brother, sister or friend is welcome. Please contact Sis. Marilyn Walder at 205-233-0591 or Route 11, Box 333, Athens, AL 35611, if you have any questions. We appreciate your prayerful support and your willingness to let God use you here.

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**ALABAMA, ATHENS**  
**Marilyn Walder**

Visitors this month were from Forrest, Princeville, Gridley, Cissna Park, Roanoke, IL, and Alto, MI. We enjoyed the messages brought to us by Bro. Tom Schrenk (Alto, MI) who was here with his wife, Sis. Joan, and Bro. Bruce Lemman (Roanoke, IL) who also brought his wife, Sis. Marg.

We have been studying in Revelation during adult Sunday school. We are filling out study sheets entitled, "A Pattern of Things to Come." It is good and important to know what is prophesied to happen in the last times. It is comforting to know that "God shall

wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away." Revelation 21:4. It was pointed out that in the last chapter of the Bible, Revelation 22, it says three times, "behold, I come quickly." Let's not be weary but we should realize that the troubles and trials in this life will be over quickly and are really nothing compared to eternity in heaven. So let's keep on keepin' on and not be weary or discouraged. Someday Satan will be "cast into the lake of fire and brimstone . . . and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever." Revelation 20:10. And we shall be forever with the Lord!

John Moore (Bro. Lavoyd and Sis. Doris) recently broke his jaw. He was in the hospital for a few days and now has his mouth wired shut for four to six weeks. We pray that his jaw will heal quickly.

We were sorry to hear of the death of Bro. John Wagler (Roanoke, IL). He and his wife, Sis. Ann, spent many years in Alabama and we appreciate all they did while they were here. We have many fond memories of Bro. John and want to extend our sympathy to his family.

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**WORKS PROJECTS  
 NEEDS FOR HAITI**

If you have wheelchairs, crutches, canes or walkers, the hospitals in Haiti would appreciate them.

Please take to Material Aid Center at Wing, Bluffton Distribution Center or Leo Distribution Center.

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**ELGIN COOKBOOK  
 "FAVORITE FIXINS"**

Once again, the Elgin congregation has republished our cookbook, "Favorite Fixins". The proceeds from the sale of these cookbooks are benefitting our Apostolic Christian Resthaven nursing home in Elgin. If you would like to purchase one of these cookbooks, please contact Apostolic Christian Resthaven at 2750 W. Highland Avenue, Elgin, IL 60123 or you may call 312-741-4543. The price of our cookbook is \$14.00 plus \$2.00 for postage and handling. If you have a multiple order, please contact Resthaven prior to ordering.

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**EDUCATIONAL COORDINATOR**

**AT THE CHILDREN'S HOME**

There is an opening at the Apostolic Christian Children's Home for a brother or sister with a degree in education or a related field to serve full-time as the coordinator of the Home's educational and vocational programs.

Responsibilities include individual tutoring, liason work with the public schools and development of summer educational and work programs. This is an exciting and challenging opportunity for a teacher to work with teenagers and Christian staff members. In the future, we can see this position expanding as we focus on vocational programs for our teens and as we increase our total capacity by 50% when our new house is completed.

If you have the educational qualifications, please pray about applying for this position.

Compensation includes salary and living expenses, plus fringe benefits. For more information, call or write one of the brothers listed below.

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

Bro. Tim Sauder  
 P. O. Box 151  
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 219/627-2606, home

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 11502 Souder Road  
 Grabill, IN 46741  
 219/627-2923

**ARIZONA, PHOENIX****Ron and Ev Hoerr**

"It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God." Mark 10:25. Once again we heard at the testimony service of Bob and Betty Lemons, the joy and peace one enjoys when one gives all their burdens to the Lord Jesus and follows Him.

And then, December 20 was a delightful day of Christian fellowship. Bro. Noah Herman (Tucson) had the morning service and assisted Elder Bro. Richard Schubach with Bob and Betty Lemons' baptisms. Later, there was a potluck supper before the Sunday school Christmas program. As usual, the Sunday school program is such a joyful time. The ninety smiling faces made us aware of how important it is to preserve our church's principle beliefs that were handed down from past generations, lest we become just a social gathering.

A buffet table of goodies was enjoyed after the program.

Christmas caroling brought joy to many shut-ins and those "not feeling up to par."

Little Alyse Karen Freed was born December 7 to Bro. Steve and Sis. Kelly Freed. Her grandparents are Richard and Sis. Dorothy Kraft and Bro. Alan and Sis. Edith Freed.

Bro. Chris Huber (Francesville, IN) was our other visiting minister. We give thanks to him and Bro. Noah.

We always enjoy our winter families and visitors. This year we are blest with one of those becoming permanent. Sis. Jan Elsasser is living at 8330 N. 19th Ave. #1120, Phoenix, AZ 85021.

Sympathy is extended to Sis. Irene and Bro. Paul Emch on the accidental death of her sister and brother-in-law, Bro. Alvin and Sis. Estella Winkler. The family flew to Ohio for services.

Also, sympathy is given to Sis. Linda and Bro. Clarence Yackley and Bro. Kenny and Sis. Mary Jo Schmidgall and family as their mother and grandmother, Sis. Lizzie Schmidgall, went to her heavenly home quite suddenly in Hancock, MN, January 4. Sis. Linda flew to Morris, MN, for her mother's funeral.

On January 10, Roy Fankenhauser died while staying at Sun City West. He is from Garden City, KS. Our sympathy is extended to Bro. Clarence and Sis. Geraldine Beyer on her brother's death.

A Note of Thanks: We have no words that can express the love and kindness we felt from you dear ones, when the Lord so suddenly called our dear husband, father and grandfather to his reward. We wish to thank you all for prayers, cards, phone calls, food, flowers and memorial gifts. May the Lord bless each of you.

Sis. Ora Schrenk & family

New Year's Day weekend found Bros. Ed Frautschi, John Kaufman, Adrian Kellenberger, Chris Frautschi and Dean Kuehn in Juarez, Mexico, helping in numerous duties.

We are thankful our elders were able to meet for the mid-winter conference in February to seek God's direction in shepherding the churches across the land.

We wish to thank our visiting ministers, Bros. Carl Wyss (Washington, IL), Wes Knapp (Goodfield, IL), Vernon Leman (Eureka, IL), James Leman (Roanoke, IL) and Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle (Japan).

The junior and senior high Sunday school classes went to Tucson for a long weekend of Christian fellowship.

Our first potluck supper and monthly singing was a most enjoyable event the last Sunday in January.

Bro. Earl and Sis. Emma Sanders are still not able to worship with us, but we rejoice that Bro. Dan Kokanovich is among us again.

Our cup of joy is full, seeing and greeting so many visitors. We are so happy you have come to the "Valley of the Sun" and God caused the sun to shine upon you.

One bright Sunday afternoon, we had just returned home from church when one of the most beautiful visitors flew close by and perched on a branch of the Arizona Ash. This tiny cinnamon "Rufus Hummingbird" delighted us several minutes before dipping its bill into flowers of a hummer bush and flying away. Two more visits during the week were just as exciting and we also have our share of "Anna's Hummers." A "Gila Woodpecker" (a flat spot of red on its head), a "Red-bellied woodpecker" (redhead and back of neck), one large beauty with a large black upside-down V-shape on white at the neck and breast, red finches, sparrows, doves, mockingbirds and grackles bring enjoyment close to home. We give thanks daily for His goodness. What proof that our Saviour provides for His people!

**ARIZONA, PRESCOTT****Harvey Smith**

We thank Bros. Bill Dotterer and Todd Feller for ministering to the Prescott assembly. We always look forward to the spiritual food and fellowship.

Here, in Arizona, the word altitude is a very important topic. The snow level is always given down to a certain elevation when a storm front is to pass through the state. This is a real concern to the residents. If we would be more concerned with attitude, it would help us through the storms of life more graciously. Let our attitudes be in serving Him.

Services are held the first and third Sunday of the month in Prescott. Sometimes we do have a conflict in the minister's schedule which alters the routine. Contact Harvey and Ethel Smith at 602-445-2164 for information.

"Don't grumble because you don't have what you want; be thankful you don't get what you deserve."

**ARIZONA, TUCSON****Lisa Knapp**

Over the past weekend the Tucson church was privileged to host the Phoenix, San Diego and Altadena, CA, Sunday schools and young members. The Lord blessed us with beautiful sunshine for our outside activities and many precious memories to warm our hearts. We are so glad the other churches make the effort to come each year.

The Tucson Sunday school students and young members recently held a car wash to benefit the Gospel Rescue Mission Homeless Shelter. We were able to raise hundreds of dollars in five hours. We certainly felt the Lord's presence as so many from our congregation helped wash cars and others brought their vehicles and generous donations. Our thanks go to everyone who contributed. The look on the face of the Shelter director as two of our brothers drove up with a truck full of food and staples was worth any amount of effort.

Our visiting ministers this month were Bro. Carl Wyss (Washington, IL), Bro. Vernon Leman (Eureka, IL) and Bro. Wes Knapp (Goodfield, IL). May the Lord richly bless each one.

Elder Bro. Richard Schubach recently visited us and read the memorandum conclusions to us assisted by

our deacon, Bro. Noah Herman. Once again, we appreciate Bro. Richard's efforts towards us. May God richly bless him.

### CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA

**Elaine Graf**

Our Elder Bro. John Klotzle is back in the United States after a five-and-a-half week absence, during which he spent time in Japan and with the Rural Gospel and Medical Mission in India. It was nice to have him back in church. His wife, Sis. Lois, also spent time in India and Japan and remains in Japan for a time with their son-in-law and daughter, Bro. Frank and Sis. Kathy Sauder, and their new baby son, Jonathan Frank.

Bro. Steve and Sis. Kelly Freed have a new baby daughter. Alyse Karen was born December 14. Alyse's grandparents are Bro. Allen and Sis. Edith Freed and Richard and Sis. Dorothy Kraft (all of Phoenix, AZ).

On January 3, the memorandum was read. Elder Bro. Richard Schupbach and his wife, Sis. Barbara, came from Arizona. We thank Bro. Richard who assisted our Elder Bro. John Klotzle in the reading. Brethren from the San Diego congregation also were present.

Ann Marie Pridemore, originally from Princeville, IL, is repenting. May God grant her much grace and strength as she seeks the way to eternal life.

Sis. Shirley Luthi (Bro. Jeff) has taken the position of Sunday school teacher of our youngest class. May the Lord guide her and all Sunday school teachers in their work.

### CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

**Nella Varga**

Certain radio/tv evangelists are headlining the news these days. Their sins are being exposed and they tearfully beg the Christian community to forgive them. They have confessed to adultery and entangling themselves with pornography. Another is alleged to have used a receiver in his ear to fool people into thinking he's a miracle worker while his spouse (hiding behind stage) reads off cards that the individuals in the audience filled out previously, stating their name, address and what they wanted him to pray for. Thus, he deceived them into thinking God revealed it to him.

Why is it that these evangelists repent only after they are found out, not confessing before hand? Should we be listening to them? Do we tune in and perhaps even support their ministry by sending them money? Brothers and sisters, we need to take a good look at what is happening in our land. Could it be that God is spring cleaning His church before His second coming?

What about our neighbor who faithfully listens to these evangelists, preaching damnation to the adulterers when they are guilty themselves? We should care about them and invite them to church, exposing them to the truth. We should also pray for the evangelists that their repentance be a true one. "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through Him might be saved. He that believeth on Him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved . . . But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God." These are Christ's words in John 3:16-21. Look up the words manifest and wrought in a dictionary to find the full meaning.

I believe that many of us at one time or another have listened to pastors other than our own. We have confidence in our ministers and elders and believe they are inspired by God. We have heard their testimony of faith and conversion.

Why then, do some of us turn to other evangelists whose foundation we do not know? Let's rather pray for our ministers and verbalize our support for them. When was the last time you approached your minister or elder and told him that you support him?

We express love and appreciation to Bro. Gregg Gramm and thank him for ministering to us recently. May God bless him as he ministers in his home congregation at Phoenix, AZ, also.

### COLORADO, DENVER

**Mike Martin — Marlene Leman**

We welcome Bro. Bill Geyer (Bro. Norm and Sis. Eleanor) to our congregation, but regret that our first meeting had to be in a hospital room. Bro. Bill was in a car accident very shortly after arriving and has spent about two and a half weeks in the hospital but is now able to be at home in his apartment at 809 South Circle Drive, Apt. 2-J, Colorado Springs, CO 80910. We pray that his recovery will be complete and not too long.

Sis. Elizabeth Jivan is now residing at the Camelia Nursing Home at 500 N. Geneva, Aurora, CO. 80010. Until now, she has been cared for at home by her daughter, Sis. Vera, who had been at her side constantly for many years. However, the time has come when Sis. Vera can no longer keep that pace. We trust God will continue to be with them and bless them.

It was nearly four months since we had visiting ministers, which is somewhat unusual for our congregation. However, that did give us a chance to hear our own ministers, whom we occasionally don't hear often in the summer. We enjoyed the visits and appreciated the ministry of Bro. Bob Pflederer (Morton, IL) and Bro. Russel Wuthrich (Pulaski, IA) recently. May God bless them!

### CONNECTICUT, ROCKVILLE

**Martha Hany**

"But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the first fruits of them that slept . . . For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive."

I Corinthians 15:20, 22

Beset with various temptations and cares of life we often become downcast, but as we approach the season of Easter, we are so uplifted and encouraged as we think of the supreme obedience and suffering which Jesus endured for us. In His agony His sweat was as drops of blood as He prayed, "O my father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt." Matthew 26:39.

On January 23, Sis. Madeline (Klotzer) Zahner quietly passed through the shadow of death into her eternal rest. Sis. Madeline was a kind and gentle woman and surely will be missed by



many. Besides her husband, Walter, she leaves a son, Bro. Dale; three brothers, Bro. Emmanuel, Bro. Wilbur and Bro. Edmund (Eureka, IL); two sisters, Sis. LaVina Kloter and Sis. Helen Heintz; and four grandchildren. Our thoughts of sympathy are with Bro. Walt and the family.

In accordance with their faith, Bro. Vern Bahler (Bro. Ken and Sis. Aline) and Sis. Jean Skipper (Bro. Joe and Sis. Alma) took their vows and became husband and wife February 7. We rejoice in their happiness and as they establish their home, may the Lord be the silent partner.

We are happy to welcome Bro. Guy and Sis. Beth (Schneider) Gottier and son, Bruce, back from Chicago, IL. Bro. Guy has completed his studies and training as a chiropractor and plans to practice in this area. Sis. Muriel (Lanz) and Bro. Emory Fellows have moved to Danville, NH, and Sis. Sandy Lanz (Bro. Ed and Sis. Marilyn) has moved to the Philadelphia area. We shall surely miss them in Rockville but wish them well in their new undertakings.

In their youth, Arlene Garrow (Bro. Bernie and Marie) and MaryAnn Schneider (Bro. Emanuel and Sis. Verona) heeded the call of the Lord and were baptized January 31. We were pleased to have Elder Bro. Bud Klopfenstein (Fort Lauderdale, FL) in our midst for this special occasion and, also, for the reading of the results of the brotherhood conference Sunday evening. We sincerely thank Bro. Bud and his wife, Sis. Billie, for their efforts to be with us.

It is so easy to take our good health so much for granted and let other earthly concerns take preeminence in our lives until unexpected sickness strikes. We think and pray for those who are presently, or have been, hospital patients. Included are Sis. Marilyn Bahler, Bro. Emanuel Gerber, Sis. Elizabeth Erismann, Bro. Gerry Ludwig and Gerald Farney. We also pray for those who are shut-in and/or in nursing homes. May they know that we remember them in our prayers and may God take care of them according to His plan.

"Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you."

Matthew 7:7

We are so encouraged to see the Word of God working in the hearts of two souls, Wayne Schneider and Bob Tracey, who have attended our services for several weeks. Wayne is the son of Walter Schneider and Minnie Wesnieski and Bob's parents are deceased. In their repentance and conversion, may they continue to ask and seek as the Lord reveals Himself through the peace that He alone can give.

On February 19, a tiny bundle of love, Martin Clarence, was born to Mike and LuAnn (Mangold) Hoffman. Big brothers, Luke, Nathan and Daniel, and sister, Erika, eagerly await his homecoming. Our best wishes go out to the happy family.

#### DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, WASHINGTON

**Catherine Klopfenstein  
Rebecca Germann**

Beginning in March, the D.C. group will be meeting the first and third Sundays of each month instead of the second and fourth as we had been.

We welcome anyone who may be in the area. Services are at the Westpark Best Western Hotel on Route 7, just west of the I-495 Beltway at the Tyson's Corner exit. Services begin at 10:30 a.m. For information, call Bro. Doug Germann, 703-481-5163 or Bro. Ralph Klopfenstein, 703-979-3476.

Bro. Paul Gasser (Akron, OH) was our minister January 24. He was accompanied by his wife, Sis. Joyce, and Bro. Bob and Sis. Inez Ramsier (Smithville, OH). Bro. Brad Geyer (Philadelphia, PA, formerly of Morton, IL) was also a visitor. The total attendance was 18 and we enjoyed a very blessed day.

February 7 was an "extra" Sunday due to the visit of ministering Bro. Al Langhofer and his wife, Sis. Judy (Wichita, KS). Vic Wullschleger and Eric Hoover (both from Kansas), but temporarily in New Jersey, were also guests. Total attendance was 15. The Klopfensteins were absent due to a business/pleasure trip to Florida, but they brought greetings back from Fort Lauderdale.

On February 7, a guest at the hotel attended the morning service and we enjoyed his company. The services are posted on the hotel bulletin board and we intend now to add, "visitors welcome," a detail that had previously been overlooked.

Bro. Ed Aeschleman was our minister February 14 and was accompanied by his wife, Sis. Nancy, and daughter, Sarah. The Sherman Lanz and Richard Hany families (Rockville, CT) were surprising, but very welcome visitors. Total attendance was 25.

#### FLORIDA, FORT LAUDERDALE Terri Huber

Again, we have wonderful news! Two souls are seeking the Lord. Richard Bounassi has made known his desire to "repent and be baptized". Richard has been attending our church for over two years since Elder Bro. Lavoyd Moore, while visiting in the area, met him in a McDonald's restaurant and invited him to come!

Seth Sauder (Bro. Roger and Sis. Judy) has also given his life to the Lord. Seth is attending college and working part time. I am sure he and Richard would appreciate your prayers as they embark on this new life.

We enjoyed the sermons of Elder Bros. Bob Grimm (Goodfield, IL) and Edwin Ringger (Gridley, IL). They were here the same Sunday that ministering Bro. Homer Reineck (Toledo, OH) worshipped with us. We would have liked to spread out our visiting ministers and hear a little more from each one! However, we were able to use the occasion as a reason to have a church supper, which was enjoyed by all.

We had another church supper at the request of Sis. Elena Zurz, who recently received her citizenship. It was an opportunity to rejoice with her and reflect on the blessing of our own status as citizens of the United States of America who have never known anything but freedom of religion and worship.

Our prayers go out for Bro. Bob and Sis. Betty Schlatter. Bro. Bob was unexpectedly hospitalized while they were on vacation here visiting their son, Steve. As of this writing, he hopes to be moved out of intensive care in the next few days.

#### FLORIDA, NORTH FORT MYERS Kay Eisenmann

Our elders are striving for unity in the fellowship. May our prayers be with them, and may we try harder to have an obedient heart to the Word of God!

If there is not peace in the household

of God, how can the world have peace? This year is an election year, and one of our ministers reminded us to pray for men in high places to be more Godly. "Prayer can change what man alone cannot." Have you ever given much thought to our country becoming communistic? We need to thank God every day for our free country.

Bro. Roland Keller had hip surgery and is doing well. We are always thankful for the blessings of restored health and traveling mercies. Sometime we take this for granted, but we should be thankful. Our church has been blessed with many traveling brethren and friends. We pray for families to move to our area so our church can grow, but know it is all in God's time.

Our welcome visiting ministers this past month have been: Elder Bro. Bob Grimm (Goodfield, IL), Bro. Homer Reineck (Toledo, OH), Bro. Nathan Stoller (Bradford, IL), Elder Bro. Sam Anliker (Lamont, KS), Elder Bro. Ed Ringger (Gridley, IL) Bro. Carroll Gerber (Bluffton North, IN), Bro. Ken Hoerr (Peoria, IL), Elder Bro. Ben Maibach (Detroit, MI) and Bro. Ed Bahler (Remington, IN).

Dathan is still going to school half days, and will soon be twelve. We are ever thankful!

We had our annual meeting and Bro. Art Keller took Bro. Les Meister's place as trustee. Bro. Roland Keller will continue as treasurer and custodian. Kitchen help will still be Sisters Vi Keller, Edna Meister and Maxine Stoller. Our ushers are still Bros. Ben Baurer, Ralph Troxel, Mel Steffen and Les Meister.

We are always thankful for all the willing hands and hearts. That's what makes our little church so special. We all truly need each and every one.

### FLORIDA, SARASOTA Lucille Heiniger

With sad hearts we will be bidding farewell to Bro. Fred and Sis. Elizabeth Knapp who will be leaving this community next week. We wish them God's rich blessings in their undertaking as they will be making their home in Eureka, IL. Our loss will be their gain. They will be missed very much by all of us and especially those of us who had the good fortune to be their neighbors. We welcome Bro. Carroll and Sis. Louise Gerber as they purchased the Knapp home.

Krista and Kristine Price are looking forward to giving their testimonies of faith and being baptized as children of God and sisters of our dear Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Lord willing this should take place Easter Sunday as planned.

Our sincere sympathy is extended to the following loved ones here in Sarasota in the loss of loved ones: Bros. Emmanuel and Wilbur Kloter and their families in the sudden loss of a dear sister, Madeline Zahner (Rockville, CT); Betty Siladie and her family in the loss of her dear mother, Clarel Verway (Canada); Bro. Ben and Clarence Rassi in the loss of their brother, Ernest Rassi (Morton, IL); and Morris Eschleman and his family in the loss of his dear father and sister, Betty (Rensselaer, IN).

Our annual meeting was held last month with the following changes: Bro. Phil Schlatter has been elected to help in the audio room; Bro. Jeff Streitmatter II as usher for funerals, replacing Bro. Fred Knapp who is moving from here; Leo correspondent Bro. Lloyd Pfloderer, replacing Bro. Fred Knapp; Sis. Edna Roscher elected to replace Rodney Martin who is in Bloomington, IL; Bro. Bill Roscher was elected treasurer; Bro. Steve Alexander as assistant treasurer; Silver Lining correspondent, Sis. Suellen Ott; Sunday school teachers elected were Sis. Beth Roscher, Sis. Vera Martin and Bro. Mike Siladie. Substitute teachers are Bros. David Eisenmann, Jr. and Steve Alexander. Bro. Richard Martin was elected as Sunday school superintendent. Elected to the kitchen committee for special dinners were Sis. Mary Martin with Sis. Marilyn Bryant as assistant and Sis. Helen Laparo as the coffee maker. These terms of office are for one year. The new trustee is Bro. David Eisenmann, Jr. We wish to thank all those who served well and may God bless them for the time they served in their respective offices.

Those of our visiting ministers who served us so faithfully and gave of themselves so we could be fed that good and holy Word were Elder Bros. Sam Anliker (Lamont, KS), Edwin Ringger (Gridley, IL), Ben Maibach (Detroit, MI), Bros. Carroll Gerber (Bluffton North, IN), Vernon Leman (Eureka, IL), Harold Schmidgall (Gridley, IL), Nathan Stoller (Bradford, IL),

Edwin Bahler (Remington, IN) and Kevin Ryan (Rockville, CT).

With thankful hearts, we wish to thank each one for the love shown us and for all you have done for us while we were living here. May God richly bless each one of you.

Bro. Fred and Sis. Elizabeth Knapp

### ILLINOIS, BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL De Anderson — Karen Brummitt

Our semi-annual business meeting was held January 27. We elected an additional trustee. Bro. Bill Masters will fill this position. Sis. De Anderson was appointed Silver Lining correspondent, replacing Sis. Donna Hodel. We are grateful for the willingness of those who are stepping into new positions and we thank Sis. Donna for a job well done.

Elder Bro. Steve Rinkenberger (Cissna Park) presented a Bible study on "Humanism". We were also blessed with Sunday visits by Elder Bro. Joe Braker (Morton) and Elder Bro. Robert Beyer (Naumburg, NY). May God bless them for their willing service in our congregation.

We extend best wishes to two couples who have announced their engagement. Tom Vogel (Bro. Stan and Sis. Nate) and Terri Vance (Jim and Dale, Galesberg) are planning a November 26 wedding. A June 11 wedding is planned by Daren Brummitt (Dave and Sis. Karen) and Wendy Wilson (Marsha Dault and Michael Wilson, Austin, TX). May God be with them as they plan their new life together.

Two families have been blessed with the birth of new little ones. Bro. Ralph and Sis. Elsa Endress are the proud parents of Nicholas Alan, born February 13. He has a sister, Ashley, to help take care of him. Grandparents are Bro. Harold and Sis. Mary Stoller (Gridley) and Sis. Mildred Endress (Princeville). On February 12, Rebecca Ann joined the family of Bro. John and Sis. Emily Maurer. She was welcomed home by Aaron, Andrew and Rachel. Grandparents are Bro. Roy and Sis. Ann Maurer (Bloomington-Normal) and Louis and Jean Kieser (West Palm Beach, FL).

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

Give Your Address Changes  
To Your Reporter

**ILLINOIS, BRADFORD**  
**Marilyn Tanner**

**AN EASTER MESSAGE**

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

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

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

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

On February 6, we gathered together with the Princeville congregation to hear the conclusions of the brotherhood conference. How good it is to hear the teachings God has brought to us through our elder body. We are very grateful to Elder Bro. Steve Rinkenberger (Cissna Park) for assisting our Elder Bro. Joe Stoller. We appreciate their love and concern.

"Thus united, And in concord, Let us walk the path of life, Hand in hand, O may love bind us, For each other's welfare strive." (Zion's Harp #237)

On February 14 we were privileged to witness the marriage of Bro. Kurt Christ (Princeville) and Sis. Connie Rumbold. Parents are Bro. Walter and Sis. Doris Christ and Bro. Elwin and Sis. Loretta Rumbold. We will miss Sis. Connie in our congregation, but surely wish them God's richest blessings in their new life together.

Sis. Dianne Knobloch is thankful to be assembling with us again after undergoing surgery and wishes to thank each and every one for their prayers, gifts, visits and cards while in the hospital and since returning home. May God bless each one for their love.

We are thankful that God continues to provide faithful brothers to speak His Word. We appreciate Bro. Paul Eisenmann (Burlington, IA), Bro. Ron Shambach (Elgin, IL), Bro. Jim Plattner (Princeville), Bro. Chris Huber (Francesville, IN) and Bro. Wayne An-

liker (Forrest, IL) who willingly ministered God's Holy Word to us this past month.

Bradford's new reporter is Sis. Carol Kieser (Bro. David and Sis. Shirley).

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**ILLINOIS, CHAMPAIGN**  
**LaRae Dill**

We are thankful for Bro. Gary Brown (Forrest, IL) and Elder Bro. Bob Walder (Congerville, IL) who visited our congregation and ministered to us from God's Word.

Bro. Gary was inspired to read Luke 19 which contains the account of Zacchaeus. He pointed out that like Zacchaeus, each of us have an obstacle in our life that can separate us from Jesus. Zacchaeus' obstacle happened to be his short stature. God, however, provided Zacchaeus a simple solution to overcome his obstacle — a tree. By climbing a tree, Zacchaeus was able to see Jesus. Because of this effort, Jesus personally invited Zacchaeus to come down and join Him. We were encouraged to look around us for simple solutions God might provide for any obstacle in our lives which may be separating us from Christ.

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

I was doing some traveling, picking up an item, and getting some fellow travelers. The snow had fallen in the early morning hours and continued to drift and cover the needed street signs! At the first house I had reasonable landmarks but wasn't sure of the last street. Sure enough, I missed it, but coming at it from another direction, the sign was clear. Going farther north, away from home, I followed those ahead of me to one route, praying that they were doing that also. Then as I went into the city, I realized my problems were the same. Oh, no — how was I to find the street? Well, I did have extra time. Oh, I also did know I was looking for a street at 5200 W. They would be smaller indications to look for, but indeed I could find more of them: the house and store numbers. And I was guided exactly to the correct spot to turn. I thought of my (our) desire for signs and landmarks in our daily journey toward heaven. Often we expect them to be very obvious, to require no digging, no caution, no thinking on our part. Our Lord has people and landmarks and signs for us to

follow, but we must do the searching and prove every spirit.

Bro. Jim Plattner (Princeville) spent a Wednesday evening with us recently, feeding us much spiritual food through His Spirit. Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle spent Saturday evening after the mid-year conference with us and assisted our Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann in sharing the August brotherhood conference report with us. He also gave of himself joyfully and the Spirit worked mightily through him on Sunday. Let us remember how important our humility and obedience are, not only to our walk for the Lord, but also to our happiness.

Our newcomers recently are Bros. Tim Martin and Jeff Strunk (both originally from Morton). They will be living in the Des Plaines area and both have jobs in the field of accounting. We are grateful that the Lord has brought them to us and our area. We wish them His abundant life always and welcome them into our church family.

Several have undergone surgery and dealt with pain this month. Bro. Frank Fisher had surgery at Mayo's. Sis. Mary Bertschi was seriously injured in an automobile accident. Both are recovering well. We are thankful for the Lord's goodness and mercy and though we know they are in His care, we continue to pray for them.

Have you ever moved to a new place? Everything is a little different. There are new shops to find, new ways of getting places, new schools. Sometimes you long for the old, familiar, tried and true. However, there can be exciting aspects to moving. Recently I realized how much we have depended on the insights of those who have lived in the area longer. Even though we are still in the Chicago area, we have needed help in identifying shortcuts in driving, finding a new garage and choosing stores. We are so fortunate to be given so much good information. When we become converted, we have "made a move". And we are ever so grateful, year after year, for the fellowship and experiences shared by our brothers and sisters, many of whom have "lived in the area longer".

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**ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK**  
**Elaine Sauder — Mary Knapp**

Bro. John and Sis. Cyndee Anderson welcome a new little girl to their family circle. Little Whitney Renee joins Zachary, Stephany and Nathan. Grand-

parents are Sis. Mary Anderson (Cissna Park) and Bro. Richard and Sis. Marge Rocke (Eureka). What miracles are these tiny bundles.

“Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord:”

Psalms 127:3

“Tell ye your children of it, and let your children tell their children, and their children another generation.”

Joel 1:3

Mid-term brought an early graduation for Mark Kaufmann (Bro. Don and Sis. Gladys). Mark moved to Bloomington this past summer and completed his last semester of his high school education early. He lives with his sisters, Nancy and Valerie. May he be blessed as he takes his next steps in life.

Visiting ministers this past month were Bro. Walt Steffen (Milford, IN) January 31 and Bro. Frederick Knapp (Congerville) February 17. Also, Elder Bro. Leroy Huber (Eureka) presented our first topical study, “Raising and Nurturing Children” Wednesday evening, January 27. Last evening, February 17, Bro. Ed Alt spoke on the topic, “Let Your Light Shine” for our second Bible study. We always appreciate hearing the Word shared by those who come and share of themselves.

Sis. Lil Feller (Bro. Bill) and Bro. Jeff Young are both now residing at Fairview Haven in Fairbury. We will miss them but know they are welcomed to their new home and pray adjustments will be soon. There are many of our family members making Fairview their home. Sis. Julie Weerts (Bro. Ken and Sis. Myrna) has also moved to Fairbury where she is employed in the nursing field at Fairview Haven.

This past week the women gathered at the fellowship hall to again make comforters for Europe. It jolts us to think of the hardships those people live under. Even to assemble is sometimes forbidden.

Hospital patients have been Sis. Kate Walder and Bro. Charles Walder, both for tests. Sis. Myrna Weerts is again out and around since her surgery and Sis. Marie Laubscher is recuperating at home after by-pass surgery.

Our sympathy goes out to the following loved ones: Sis. Sharon Walder (Bro. Dennis) and family on the loss of her mother, Mrs. Cleo Feller; Sis.

Esther Neukomm and family on the loss of her sister, Sis. Ruth Fritz (Morton); Sis. Doris Knapp (Bro. Melvin) who lost her mother, Mrs. Nell Williams (Rankin) and Ron Merkel and family whose father, Ben Merkle, passed away at the Fairview Haven. Within hardly more than a week's time, Lawrence Kuebler lost a brother, Emil Kuebler (Cissna Park) and a sister, Sis. Helen Kuebler (Parkview Haven, Francesville, IN). There are many other relatives not mentioned to whom we extend our prayers.

As the days are once again getting longer, we know that soon many of our winter travelers will be returning home. We have missed them as well as those who for health reasons cannot assemble with us.

On February 15 Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Weerts observed their 50th wedding anniversary at the fellowship hall with an open house. They are the parents of ministering Bro. Ken Weerts.

#### ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE Sandy Knapp — Susan Zobrist

“What could be more delightful, More joy and peace create, Than when to thee, O Saviour, Our lives we consecrate? With mercy and with goodness our hearts are oft refreshed, And when we need His presence He answers our request.”

“Living In Faith”,  
Hymns of Zion

In faith, our prayers are heard, for we have been assured that our Lord answers our requests! We are so thankful for our three new converts, Jim Schrock (Bro. Steve and Sis. Gerri Schrock), Bob Hartman (Bro. Gene and Sis. Carrie Lou Hartman) and Lisa Springer Hartman. May God grant them grace to be true and faithful as they begin their new walk with Christ.

Three dear souls were hospitalized this past month. Our prayers are with Sis. Liz Zobrist, Sis. Frances Schumacher and Ida Eglin. May our Lord's healing hand be with them as they recover.

Willingly serving the Lord in our behalf were visiting ministers, Bro. Earl Ringger (Gridley, IL), Bro. Larry Wenninger (Latty, OH) and Bro. Don Wagenbach (Washington, IL). We appreciate their humble and sincere efforts.

“For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.”

Romans 8:18

#### ILLINOIS, ELGIN Elizabeth Schambach Betty Bachtold

Our annual business meeting was held February 3, at which time Bro. Bob Buckheister was chosen as our new treasurer; Bro. Gene Moser, trustee; and Bro. Jerry Cargill, board member of Apostolic Christian Rest-haven. May God bless the many deeds of love given by those who have served, and share grace to those who assume responsibilities in the functioning of our sanctuary.

Surgical patients this past month were Bros. Calvin Weiss (Sis. Dena) and Don Schambach (Sis. Leann). Ann Farney and Sis. Helen Banwart have also been hospitalized.

We sincerely thank Bro. Jim Plattner (Princeville, IL) who willingly ministered the Word of Life to us.

The family of Sis. Louise Schock wishes to express their heartfelt thanks to all for the prayers, cards, memorials and kind expressions of love and sympathy during the loss of our loved one. May the Lord richly bless you.

Sis. Barbara Schock and families

Sis. Katherine Kachelmuss would like to thank each one for the cards, gifts, love, concern and the prayers that were offered on her behalf, because of her recent illness. They were deeply appreciated.

#### ILLINOIS, EUREKA Kathy L. Rocke

We have had many loved ones in the hospital this past month. Our prayers for God's healing are extended to Bros. Ernie Fehr (Sis. Mary), Sam Leman (Sis. Aldine) and Mike Schmidgall (Sis. Kary) and Sis. Emma Rocke and Sis. Freda Knepp.

Bro. George Sauder passed away February 1. He leaves three sons, Kenneth, Wayne and Gene; one brother, Bro. Dave Sauder (Roanoke); and two sisters, Sis. Anna Bittner and Sis. Marie Aeschleman (both of Eureka). May God comfort them in their loss.

Bro. Wayne and Sis. Mary Getz welcomed their first child, Robert Wayne, February 2. Grandparents are Bro. Art and Sis. Donna Wettstein and Bro.

Allan and Sis. Nathalia Getz. May God bless this small family circle.

We rejoiced to hear the engagement announcement of Sis. Carol Anliker (Bro. Walter and Sis. Claribel) and Bro. Lloyd Wettstein (Bro. Bob and Sis. Verna) February 7. May God be with them as they plan for a life together here upon this earth.

We thank Elder Bro. Gene Marti (Lamar, MO) for being with us and assisting Elder Bro. Leroy Huber in the reading of the memorandum. The admonitions and warnings were sounded and encouragement was given to continue on in this battle of faith, for truly it will be worth it all when we see Jesus.

#### ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY

**Jean Bachtold — Crystal Fehr**

“. . . whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report . . . think on these things.”

Philippians 4:8

The Lord again has richly blessed us with His Word. We would like to thank visiting minister Bro. Earl Gerber (Forrest) for lending himself. May the Lord bless him and be his rich rewarder.

Babies are a special joy and we congratulate Bro. Quinn and Sis. Joan Zehr on the addition to their family, Reid Logan, born January 25. Brother, Blake, and grandparents, Bro. Warren and Sis. Dolores Zehr and Bro. John and Sis. Carol Waldbeser (Cissna Park) welcome him with love. May they ever feel God's love and guidance as they raise their precious ones.

Sis. Margaret Zimmerman has been hospitalized this past month. May the healing power be the will of our Father in heaven.

#### THE JOY OF UNSELFISH GIVING

Time is not measured  
by the years that you live  
But by the deeds that you do  
and the joy that you give —  
And each day as it comes  
brings a chance to each one  
To love to the fullest,  
leaving nothing undone  
That would brighten the life  
or lighten the load

Of some weary traveler  
lost on Life's Road —  
So what does it matter  
how long we may live  
If as long as we live  
we unselfishly give.

Helen Steiner Rice

#### ILLINOIS, FORREST

**Patsy Stoller — Sherri Kelson**

We want to extend our thanks to Bro. Everett Gerber (Rockville, CT) as he ministered God's Word unto us this month.

David and Sis. Lisa Doran are thankful and happy to have their first child, Seth David, born January 23 to bring sunshine into their home. Grandparents are Bro. Bill and Sis. Mary Masters (Bloomington-Normal).

Our hospital patients this month were Sis. Leona Ricketts (Bro. Meredith), Corbin Kupferschmid (Bro. Alf and Sis. Wanda) and Seth Doran (David and Sis. Lisa).

Our prayers are with the family of Sis. Bertha Maurer who lived a full life to the age of 95 and now has gone to her heavenly home. Surviving children are Esther Koehl (Fairbury), Vera Limer (Bloomington), Marvin (Gridley) and Willis.

On January 24, Sis. Perceda Honegger was sweetly called home to her heavenly rest. Loved ones left behind were Sis. Nathalia and Sis. Kathryn and Bros. Sam, Paul and Frank. We sympathize with our loved ones. May all find comfort in the words, "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble." Psalms 46:1.

We wish to thank our dear family, relatives and friends for their expressions of love and thoughtfulness through the many cards and gifts we received for our 50th anniversary. May God bless you all. Our sincere thanks.

Carl and Dorothy Bachtold

We have received so much food, caring, sharing, cards, love and prayers from our friends, neighbors and children since Louise has been ill. We want to express our thanks and may God bless you.

Emil and Louise Anliker

We would like to thank everyone for their gifts of love, thoughts and prayers during Stella's illness. All are much appreciated.

Takis, Pat, Stella and Alexander  
Paplomatas

Les and Ruth Roth

The engagement and approaching

marriage of Barbara Kupferschmid (Bro. Dean and Sis. Robin) to Donald Hall was made known recently. May God bless them as they plan and begin their future together.

#### ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD

**Trish Gerber**

Many people were enjoying a leisurely meal at an annual supper, when suddenly a young boy started choking. He couldn't breathe and in panic his mother hit him frantically on the back. Nothing happened and the little boy's face grew redder . . . his eyes begging for help. Suddenly, a man sitting close by grabbed the boy, squeezed him in a way that he had been taught, and the round cracker came unlodged from the little boy's throat. We all sat there quite shaken, but also . . . in awe. A miracle had just taken place. That man had saved the little boy's life! Did his mother thank God for placing that man there? Did it even occur to her . . . or to any of us . . . the countless miracles performed by God in our day-to-day experiences? Sometimes we just take these things for granted, and don't give God the glory — when He is the One in control.

Three privileged families were blessed with precious miracles of God this month. Bro. Jerry and Sis. Valerie Mooberry welcome Kristen Benita to their home. She was born January 23. Her proud grandparents are Herschel and Lorene Mooberry and Melvin Martin (all from Eureka).

Michael and Jenni Grimm, along with their parents, Bro. Jeff and Sis. Ruth, are thrilled with their new little brother and son, Keith Allen. Keith's birthday is January 24. Elder Bro. Bob and Sis. Elna Grimm and Bro. Willis and Sis. Betty Wiegand are the happy grandparents.

Mark and Sis. Deb Farney were doubly pleased, when Mark was released from his surgery and hospital stay in time to welcome his brand new son, Ryan Mark, to the world January 30. Ryan's big sister, Tara, is happy to have a playmate! His grandparents, Bro. Ira and Sis. Doris Farney (Roanoke, IL) and Bro. Morrie and Sis. Kathy Zimmerman are thrilled with their children's blessings.

We're all thankful for God's guidance as doctors performed surgery on Sis. Ruth Hohulin, Sis. Evelyn (Bro. "Shorty") Hoffman, Mark Farney (Sis. Deb) and Aaron Hohulin (Bro. Bruce

and Sis. Charlene). They're all back home and doing well.

Bro. Arnold Gerst and his wife visited with us this month. We thank Bro. Arnie for sharing God's Word with us.

Many thoughts and prayers have been extended on behalf of our friends, Jill Rinkenberger, Holly Hohulin and Joel Beer as we look forward to their testimonies and baptisms.

### ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY

#### Perry A. Klopffenstein

Even though we, as believers, face many challenges and trials in our pilgrim walk, we are wise to keep our focus on the virtue of love. Recently, a brother prayed in our sanctuary about the importance of love and charity and how we should not let life's distractions and cares divert our vision in attaining this "greatest" of virtues. Truly we reap what we sow, and as we demonstrate the love of Christ to others, it will come back to us many times over!

Our congregation has offered many prayers for little Jeffery Romersberger, infant son of Bro. Ron and Sis. Gail Romersberger. He has been seriously ill.

Other hospital patients this month have been Sis. Valerie Funk, Sis. (Mrs. George) Witzig, Bros. Elmer Meiss and Edward Witzig.

Bro. Stan and Sis. Coleen Ringger are the happy parents of LeaAnn Ellen, born January 29. She has a brother, Jamin, 3, and a sister, Jennifer, 2. Grandparents are Bro. Fred and Sis. Mary Ringger and Bro. Roy and Sis. Helen Hodel (all of Gridley).

### ILLINOIS, MORTON

#### Phyllis Farney — Marcia Kelley

Bro. Scott and Sis. Kay Sinn welcome Kenneth Lee into their hearts and home. He was born in Pusan, Korea, April 30, 1987, and came to them January 20, 1988. Kenneth's happy grandparents are Bro. Robert and Sis. Marvel Knobloch and Bro. Carl and Sis. Mary Ellen Sinn (Tremont, IL).

Bro. Jeff and Sis. Lucille Zimmerman recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. It was wonderful to see them gathered together with their family for this very special occasion. May each day bring them more blessings from God.

Sis. Ruth Frintz was called home and her funeral was January 25. May God comfort her family and many friends.

We shall all miss her friendly manner and loving smile.

Ernest Rassi was called into eternity after a lengthy illness. His funeral was February 3. Our love and sympathy are extended to his wife, Laurene; his daughter, Connie Baker; his sons, Steven and Gregory; his brothers, Bro. Chris, Benjamin, Alphie, Clarence and Daniel; and his many other relatives and friends.

We rejoice with the angels in Heaven to see another soul heed the Lord's loving call. We heard the testimony and witnessed the baptism of Carl Rassi February 3. We pray for God's continuous grace and guidance in Bro. Carl's new life.

Our youth group hosted a delicious pork chop dinner and singing February 6. It was a very blessed evening and we thank them for their labors of love.

Sis. Anna Hauter was called to her eternal rest and her funeral was February 20. Our hearts and prayers for comfort go out to her sister, Sis. Laverne Heiniger; her brothers, Arthur and Ben; and her many nieces and nephews. We hope they will take consolation in God's promise to comfort them in their time of sorrow.

Sis. Alice Knapp wishes to thank everyone for their prayers, visits, cards and gifts of love received while in the hospital and since returning home. May God bless all who were so thoughtful.

We sincerely thank Elder Bro. Leroy Huber and Bro. Marvin Schmidgall (Eureka, IL) and Elder Bro. Richard Schupbach (Phoenix, AZ) for lending their services to us this past month.

### ILLINOIS, PEORIA

#### Kathy Huthmann

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

Proverbs 3:5, 6

God has directed Bro. Rick Plattner and Bro. Mike Rieker to serve Him as new ministers in our congregation. May Bro. Mike, Sis. Carol, Bro. Rick, Sis. Mary Ann and their families feel our love, prayers and support as God continues to lead them in their new duties.

Our sympathy is extended to Sis. Madge O'Moran and family as her husband, Steve, has passed away.

May God be near the following who recently spent time in the hospital: Bro. Bob Miller, Sis. Pat Sauder, Sis. Bertha Eisenmann and Sis. Louise Koehl.

As we approach this Easter season, let us rejoice in knowing that our Saviour lives.

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hearts to heav'n and voices raise;  
Sing to God a hymn of gladness, Sing to God a hymn of Praise;  
He who on the cross a victim For the world's salvation bled,  
Jesus Christ the King of glory, Now is risen from the dead.

Gospel Hymns #545

### ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE

#### Marjean Lehman

On February 6, Saturday evening, we heard the memorandum of the conference expounded upon by Elder Bro. Steve Rinkenberger (Cissna Park) and Elder Bro. Joe Stoller. Bro. Steve Rinkenberger and Bro. Bill Hodel (Roanoke) spoke the Word of Life to us Sunday, February 7. After church, a carry-in meal at the fellowship hall was enjoyed by all.

On February 14, Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle (Shioda, Japan) brought forth the Word in ministering unto us.

We want to again thank these brothers for allowing themselves to be used for the furtherance of the Word for our edification. May God's blessings be upon them.

On February 14, in Bradford, Bro. Kurt Christ was united in holy matrimony to Sis. Connie Rumbold. Parents are Bro. Walt and Sis. Doris Christ (Princeville) and Bro. Elwin and Sis. Loretta Rumbold (Bradford). We wish them God's blessings in their life together and welcome Sis. Connie into our congregation here in Princeville.

On February 8, little Tristan Roger Herrmann was born to Sis. Darlene and Bro. Roger Herrmann. Grandparents are Sis. Jeanette and Bro. Dick Graham and Sis. Betty and Bro. Gene Herrmann (all of Princeville). May God truly bless their family circle.

On February 14, little Nathan Michael Braker was born to Sis. Audrey and Bro. Glen Braker. Grandparents are Sis. Edna Martin and Bro. Ben and Sis. Clara Braker (Roanoke). May God bless their family circle, also.

Two engagements were made known recently. Myron Rumbold (Bro. Ronnie

and Sis. Jackie Rumbold) is engaged to Lori Schrock (Bro. Allen and Sis. Carol Schrock, Congerville). A March 5 wedding is planned.

Also, Ross Elsasser became engaged to Natalie Wilson. Parents are Bro. Duane and Sis. Doreen Elsasser and Tom and Roberta Wilson (Sparland).

May God bless them as they plan to share their lives together.

Hospital patients have been Bro. Bob Herrmann and Herb Schick. May they trust God to heal and restore according to His will.

On January 27, Mary Koelling passed away. The funeral was held January 30 in Princeville. May her loved ones feel the comforting hand of God. Our congregation extends sincere sympathy.

### ILLINOIS, ROANOKE

#### Judy Luginbuhl — Patsy Kaeb

As the season of new life approaches, we contemplate the observance of the death and resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Surely, the angels in heaven are rejoicing, as well as our congregation, that our dear Anna Hangartner has surrendered her heart to the Lord.

We were privileged to hear the testimonies January 23 of Gene Whitton (Carol), Barbie Hodel (Bro. Bill and Sis. Betty) and Joani Schumacher (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Jane). May the Lord guide them as they continue their walk with Him.

We have received the happy news from Tokyo, Japan, that Jonathan Frank was born to Bro. Frank and Sis. Kathy Sauder January 25. The proud grandparents are Elder Bro. Don and Sis. Wilma Sauder and Elder Bro. John and Sis. Lois Klotzle (Altadena, CA).

Again we received a blessing from the teachings left us this past month by our visiting ministers, Bro. Everett Hari (Bloomington-Normal), Bro. Marvin Schmidgall (Eureka), Bro. Merle Kaisner (Fairbury), Elder Bros. Joe Stoller (Princeville), Lavoyd Moore (Athens, AL), LeRoy Huber (Eureka) and Bro. Earl Ringger (Gridley, IL) who conducted our February Bible study. We appreciate their love and willingness to serve us and pray God will bless them and their families.

Hospital patients this month were Sis. Mary Hoffman (Bro. Rudy), Sis. Margaret Hodel (Bro. Glenn) and Sam Martin (Jane). They have all returned home and we pray God's strengthening and loving hand be with them.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Sis. Ann Wagler and her family in the loss of her dear husband, Bro. John Wagler, who passed away February 3. He will certainly be missed by our entire congregation.

We extend our sympathy to Dave Sauder on the death of his brother, Bro. George Sauder (Eureka) February 1.

We also sympathize with Sis. Doris Farney in the passing of her sister, Dorothy Foster (Washington) February 10.

Jon Fehr and Jill Onnen have announced their engagement and are planning a June 18 wedding. Parents of the happy couple are Bro. Ben and Sis. Helen Fehr and Steve and Sally Onnen.

As Marge Leman has passed on her duties of writing for the Silver Lining, we wish to thank her for her time and effort over the past couple of years. May God bless her.

To all my friends and family: I wish to express my heartfelt thanks for all the prayers, cards, letters and gifts while I was in Lakeshore Hospital and since at home. It is all greatly appreciated. May God bless you all.

Sis. Margaret Hodel

I want to thank all of my family and friends for their cards, gifts, flowers, phone calls; and especially for their love and prayerful support which we felt so keenly across the many miles. What a great God we have. May He continue to bless all of you.

Sis. Mary Ann Klaus

### ILLINOIS, TREMONT

#### Dorothy Wagenbach Carolyn Bolliger

We gathered on a recent Wednesday evening to hear our elder's conference report. We wish to thank Elder Bro. Chuck Hemmer (Peoria) for assisting Bro. Dan Koch in sounding warnings as well as encouragement.

Our Bro. Reuben Schweigert has been recently hospitalized. Our thoughts and prayers go with him as we know his days are long. Joy Staker (Bro. Weldon and Sis. Doris) had surgery and we are thankful she is back at work again. We miss Sis. Lenora Kahler. She has not been feeling well and has had to spend time at home.

Even though they were injured, we thank God for sparing Glen Steiner and Sis. Joan Steiner (Bro. Joe and Sis. Marcella). Glen and Joan, along with

some of their cousins, hit an unexpected patch of ice as they were traveling. We are thankful no one was more seriously hurt.

Also involved in an accident were some of the brothers and sisters in our young group as they recently travelled home from a weekend in Kansas City. They were also spared from serious injury, although Bro. Mike Stickling was injured and needed to remain overnight in a Kansas City hospital. We are thankful they are all home again.

We are happy to report the birth of two new babies this month. Bro. Robert and Sis. Elizabeth Sauder have a new grandson, Cory Channing, born January 21 to their daughter and her husband, Shirley and Roger Watson (Atlanta, GA). Little Cory is welcomed home by big sister, Sasha.

Also, on February 12, Gregg and Cindy Sauder welcomed a new little son, Nicholas Lee. Little Nicholas has a big brother, Timothy. Grandparents are Bro. Glenn and Sis. Marilyn Dill and Bro. Earl and Sis. Glenna Sauder.

We were happy to hear the announcement of the engagement of Bro. Jeff Sinn (Dan and Donna Sinn) and Sis. Gail Glueck (Bro. Karl and Sis. Velda Glueck). We wish this young couple God's rich blessings as they plan their future together.

### ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON

#### Carol Schick

This past month we were blessed with two visiting ministers. Elder Bro. Lavoyd Moore (Athens, AL) led a Bible study January 16 and Bro. Chuck Sauder (Tremont, IL) ministered to us January 31. We want these ministers, as well as our own dear brothers, to know how very much we appreciate that they allow themselves to be used by God to help us along our earthly walk. May each one truly feel the powerful hand of Almighty God leading them each step of the way.

January 17 was a special Sunday as we had many visitors from Francesville, IN. The choir and their families spent the day in fellowship and worship, ending with a singing in the evening. We thank them for coming and hope they'll feel welcome to visit often.

Our Sunday school is beginning to prepare for our Easter program to be held March 27, Lord willing.

May each and every one of you feel Christ's love and redeeming power this

Easter. The Washington congregation wishes everyone a happy Easter.

### JESUS MY REDEEMER

I read about Jesus as a Babe.

I read of His ministry.

I read how He was put on trial

And died on a cross for me.

I was told how He came back to life.

I was told how He lives on high.

I was told if I would only obey

I'd live with Him when I die.

I heard these truths from little on up.

I thought I was doing O.K.

I had my life under control

Til dark clouds covered my way.

Jesus had promised to always be there.

Jesus I called to my aid.

Jesus said "Child you're never alone."

With Jesus I'm never afraid.

Jesus is running my life today.

Jesus my heart did incline.

Jesus said simply to live by this rule,

"Your will, Father — Not mine."

Anonymous

### INDIANA, BLUFFTON Jean Moser — Becky Isch

"The words of the Lord are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times."

Psalms 12:6

We thank ministering Bros. Ken Hoerr (Peoria, IL), Wendell Gerber (Bluffton North), Vernon Wettstein (Congerville, IL), Max Reimschisel (Wichita, KS) and Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman (Francesville) for visiting us and sharing the wonderful Word of Life with us.

January 31 was the wedding day of Bro. Tim Tonner (Bro. Bill and Sis. Diana) and Sis. Susie Kaehr (Bro. Vernon and Sis. Dorothy Gerber and the late Bro. Chad Kaehr). Bro. Marty Neihouser (Bro. Perry and Sis. Sally, Francesville) and Sis. Angie Gerber (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Ann) exchanged their wedding vows February 7. On February 14, Bro. Gary Compton (Bob and Betty Steffen and the late Bro. Harold Compton) and Sis. Jean Leman (Bro. Richard and Sis. Edna, Eureka, IL) were united in marriage at Bluffton North. With love and joy we pray a

special blessing on these couples as they begin their lives together.

Bro. Jim and Sis. Rachel Isch welcomed little Amanda Lee into their hearts and home January 23. She will be a great playmate for her sister, Vanessa. Grandparents are Bro. Ken and Sis. Carolyn Isch and Bro. Vernon and Sis. Dorothy Gerber (Bluffton North).

Joshua Lee Fiechter arrived February 10 to Bro. Tim and Sis. Vicki Fiechter. He has two sisters, Kami and Michelle, to help take care of him. His proud grandparents are Bro. John and Sis. Shirley Fiechter and Bro. Al and Sis. Carole Isch.

We extend our deepest sympathy to Randy and Pam Holocher and their boys, Mark, Jason and Shane, in the tragic death of their son and brother, Matthew. With broken hearts we pray for this dear family.

Bro. David Reimschisel, 81, passed away February 8 at Meadowvale Care Center. He had been ill for four years. We pray that God will provide comfort for his six sons, John (Ossian), Bro. Robert (Bluffton), Bros. Max and Roger (Wichita, KS), James (New Haven), Dale (Fort Wayne); his two sisters, Sis. Mary Moser and Sis. Nellie Bertsch; and his 15 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

Our health is something we so often take for granted but is certainly a blessing from above. Hospital patients this month were Don Campbell, Sis. Doris Fiechter (Bro. Dale), Bro. Ken Aschliman, Bro. Elmer Isch (Sis. Min), Bro. Homer Aschliman (Sis. Minnie), Bro. Alphonse Reinhard (Sis. Lucille), Sis. Ella Yergler (Elder Bro. John), Bro. Charles Meyer (Sis. Ida) and Mary Lou Fiechter (Lloyd and Pauline). We pray our heavenly Father will restore our loved ones to health according to His good will.

### In Loving Memory of Lloyd Gerber

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 forever a treasure

No one can ever steal,

And for all of us that remain

His death was a heartache

That no one can ever fully 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.

And our love for him will never, never die.

Sadly missed by Martha,  
children and grandchildren

### INDIANA, BLUFFTON NORTH Lois Drayer — Debbie Aeschliman

Our congregation gathered together January 23 for the reading of the conference report. Elder Bro. Orville Ringger (Bluffton), Elder Bro. Chuck Hemmer (Peoria, IL) and Bro. Ken Hoerr (Peoria, IL) were with us. The main theme of the letter was "Peace." As several of the ministers talked about peace, we heard about a dove who built her nest in a crevice in a rock for protection from storms and other elements of the world. She then has more peace with her nest in the crevice than if she built it on top of the rock or out in an open space where things could corrupt it. We, likewise, should have our faith and peace firmly grounded in a safe place. Other visiting ministers this past month were Bro. Wayne Lehman (South Bend), Bro. Earl Kilgus (Remington), Bro. Walter Steffen (Milford) and Bro. Clarence Kachelmuss (Forrest, IL). We appreciate the sermons and fellowship of all the visiting ministers and their families. We welcome them back anytime.

May blessings go with Bro. Gary Compton (Bob and Betty Steffen) and Sis. Jean Leman (Bro. Richard and Sis. Edna Leman, Eureka, IL) as they start their new life together. They were married February 14. "Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder." Matthew 19:6.

We congratulate grandparents, Bro. Vernon and Sis. Dorothy Gerber on the birth of their granddaughter, Amanda Lynn, born to Bro. Jim and Sis. Rachel Isch (Bluffton) January 24. Big brother, Alex, will enjoy helping his parents, Lewis and Joan Brown, with Graham Lewis born February 3. Grandparents are Bro. Truman and Sis. Marjorie Baumgartner.

Someday, when we get to heaven, we will have no more pain and afflictions, but here on earth our bodies can become weak. Our hospital patients have been Michael Gordon (Bro. Trent and Sis. Tammy Reimschisel), Bro. James Geisel (Sis. Dorothy), Bro. Walter Aeschliman (Sis. Imogene), Sis. Kathy Schriver (Randy) and Viola Cotton



(Lawrence). We hope they feel our prayers and the Lord's nearness.

In 1987 we had two baptisms, nine births, one death and ten weddings.

In these times, it is important that our churches stay close to the Lord. As one minister put it, it takes many logs to keep a fire glowing brightly. If one burning log would roll away from the group, the fire on the one log would go out quickly. It is important to keep strength and unity in our churches.

### INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE

**Jacki Huber**

"Fulfill ye my joy that ye be like-minded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind."

Philippians 2:2

We can testify of feeling the like-mindedness and same love from our recent visitors. We especially thank ministering Bros. Vernon Schwab and Neil Widmer (Wolcott, IN) and Ken Wuethrich (Indianapolis, IN) for sharing God's Word with us.

Many were blessed with an inspiring evening, Wednesday, February 3, as Bro. Perry Klopfenstein (Gridley, IL) related to us much about our Apostolic Christian Church history. May God bless him for sharing with us.

We extend congratulations to a recently engaged couple! Michelle Leman (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Linda) and Sidney Dobson, Jr. (Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Dobson, Rensselaer, IN) have announced their plans to be married in the future. May God be with them.

On February 7, Bro. Marty Neihouser (Bro. Perry and Sis. Sally) and Sis. Angela Gerber (Bro. Jerry L. and Sis. Ann, Bluffton, IN) were united in marriage at our Bluffton, IN, church. We warmly welcome Sis. Angela to Francesville and wish them the love of Christ throughout their married life.

Two precious bundles are adding joy to our congregation. Emily Kate, born January 23 to Bro. Steve and Sis. Linda Gutwein, has one older brother, Kevin, and three older sisters, Sara, Molly and Betsy. Emily's grandparents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Norma Pfladderer and Bro. Carl and Sis. Yvonne Gutwein. Zachary Paul, born February 7 to Bill and Cheri Delph, has one older brother, Justin, with him in his new home. Zachary's grandparents are Bro. George and Sis. Elaine Erb and Cecil and Linda Delph (Buffalo, IN).

Bro. Willis Gudeman was a hospital patient, but we're happy he's back with us again. Bro. Virgil Von Tobel, Sr. is currently a hospital patient, but we're glad to report he's recovering well after surgery.

We miss Sis. Helen Kuebler, as she had been a resident of Parkview Haven Retirement Home and passed from this life February 6. Funeral services were held in Cissna Park, IL.

We pray that God's peace and nearness will be with Bro. Morris and Sis. Helen Eshleman in the recent deaths of Bro. Morris's sister and father.

On Wednesday evening, January 27, the annual church business meeting was held and new officers were prayerfully chosen. They are: Sunday school teachers, Bros. Jeff Gutwein, Phil Gutwein, Dennis Leman and Jerry Overmyer; church trustee, Bro. Wayne Putt; ushers, Bros. Alvin Furrer and Allen Pelsy; missionary committee, Bro. Carl Gutwein; Parkview Haven board, Bro. Nate Gutwein; fellowship center trustee, Bro. Jerry Gutwein.

On New Year's Eve, a herringbone, L.L. Bean men's cap was taken and another similar, but larger one was left in its place. If you know where the first cap is, please call (219) 567-9414 or contact Sis. Minerva Wuethrich. Thanks!

### INDIANA, INDIANAPOLIS

**Gail Bradford — Kathy Freed**

We want to express our appreciation for the ministering brothers who visited us this month. They were Bros. Ray Sinn (Latty, OH), Jack Bollier (Leo, IN), Will Schieler (Milford, IN), Chris Huber (Francesville, IN) and Byron Stoller (Gridley, IL), as well as Elder Bros. Alfred Bahler (Wolcott, IN) and Steve Rinkenberger (Cissna Park, IL).

Young Clayton Steffen (Bro. Jeff and Sis. Robin Steffen) had been hospitalized but is now recovering at home. We are thankful for the Lord's tender mercies.

How fervently we pray for our children's welfare! How we yearn for them to experience the joys of a dedicated life! How we seek God's guidance in their upbringing so they will make good choices about their life's direction. They will choose a Christ-filled life, built on the Solid Rock, largely because of examples of family and friends. Are we encouraging our children to become close to Christian compan-

ions? Are we ourselves benefitting from the blessings of experiences shared with our brothers and sisters and friends of the truth? Our children carefully observe the choices we make and how we spend our time. Will we be glad when they do as we do?

The Indianapolis congregation recognizes that we live in a very large, busy city. Many of us drive 30 minutes or more to church. Although scattered throughout central Indiana, our hearts are bound together in love. We want to invite family and friends who may be living in "Indy", but about whom we are unaware, to "connect" with us!

If you, dear readers, know of anyone here in Indianapolis who might be included in our fellowship, please let our minister, Bro. Ken Wuethrich, know. Thank you!

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

Matthew 18:20

### INDIANA, LACROSSE

**Sandy Heinold**

Not now, but in the coming years,  
It may be in the better land,  
We'll read the meaning of our tears,  
And then, sometime, we'll understand.  
Gospel Hymns #533

Our hearts were saddened to learn of the unexpected and tragic death of Melvin Heinold. He will be missed by many who knew and loved him. Surviving are his wife, Carol; their five children and one grandchild; along with his father and stepmother, Bro. Aaron and Sis. Grace Heinold; three brothers, Bro. Marshall (Washington, IL), Bro. Eugene and Bro. Glen; and three sisters, Sis. Gwen Bucher (Valparaiso, IN), Sis. Eula Mogler (West Bend, IA) and Sis. Emily Schlatter (Junction, OH).

We're very thankful to be able to report that Kristi Massner (Bro. Randy and Sis. Mary Lynn) has recovered well from recent surgery on a ruptured appendix. Even though it is hard to see our precious little ones suffer, what a comfort it is to know that Jesus also loves them and keeps them in His care.

The Easter season will soon be upon us. As children of God, we have so many reasons to rejoice and thank God as we remember Christ's death and resurrection.

## IT CAME TO PASS!

On the night of August 13, 1940, in a little white house two miles south of LaCrosse, IN, twin boys were born to Aaron and Emma Heinold and they were named Marvin and Melvin Heinold.

In the spring of 1945 the family moved to a farm northeast of Kouts, IN. The boys grew up on this dairy and poultry farm. They were quick to learn and always willing to take part in the chores on this kind of farm. They learned at an early age to milk cows and gather eggs. One morning after they had gathered eggs, I went to water and feed the chickens and one wall was splattered with eggs. I never did learn who did it. Somehow it doesn't seem to matter anymore.

They learned to drive a truck at such an early age. In 1949 I went to the wheat field to combine wheat and also had the truck in the field. I made one round with the combine and had a breakdown. I went home with the tractor and combine to repair it, leaving the twins in the truck with the keys in it. Before I could get the welding done and get back to the field, the truck was coming in the yard, Marvin behind the steering wheel and Melvin shifting the gears.

They enjoyed their school days. When they were ten years old they started in 4-H, showing calves and chickens. When high school days came they joined F.F.A. where they took part in many F.F.A. activities. They also took part in baseball, basketball, track and cross country. This was so important to them, just to be a part of their school teams and to be carrying their school colors in all contests.

After graduation, Marvin attended Purdue, and after serving two years in the Army, during which time he was married, found a job with Heinold Hog Markets where he worked until he was stricken through the night on May 14, 1970, with an aneurysm. Then he passed away eleven days later on May 25, 1970. It was then we saw a living testimonial as we stood by the side of his casket and met a multitude of relatives, friends, neighbors, schoolmates and teachers who came showing their loving care and sympathy. Yes, people do care.

Melvin, after finishing high school, stayed on the farm helping his Dad until he married and started farming

for himself. He farmed in the Kouts area until 1969, when he purchased a dairy farm southeast of Pierceton, IN. He had been living there ever since.

The last six years he also had a job off the farm, first at Warsaw, then at Silver Lake and then at Milford, IN. There he also passed away in a grain bin accident Thursday, January 21, 1988. The next day we again saw a living testimonial take place when friends and neighbors started coming to the house. It seemed none came empty-handed. They all came with a dish of food of some kind. Then, again on Sunday afternoon at visitation, friends, relatives, neighbors, the children's school classmates and teachers came expressing their sympathy and love, showing to us that they care. This surely was a living testimonial of the love of all the people who at some time in his life had touched him and his dear family.

Now the end of both of their lives has "come to pass." But we do have many, many more precious memories that we will carry with us all our days.

We, their families, would like to thank all who came and gave of themselves so much love and kindness, sympathy and caring and sharing, and also those who remembered us with expressions of love and sympathy through cards in our hours of sorrow.

Yes, a lot of people do still care. We pray God will bless all of you.

Bro. Aaron and Sis. Grace Heinold  
and families

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**INDIANA, LAFAYETTE  
PURDUE UNIVERSITY**

**Gina Huber**

It was again refreshing to gather around God's Word as Bro. Vernon Schwab (Wolcott) was with us this month. We appreciate the efforts the brothers put forth to come and share with us, as it is such a blessing to take time out from our regular schedules to fellowship and listen to the Word of God.

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**INDIANA, LEO  
Thelma Schlatter**

"A distressed believer once said to a Christian counselor, 'It's hard for me to trust God when everything looks dark.' The man replied, 'Well, Brother, if you can't trust someone when he's out of your sight, you can't value him too

much. So, too, if you can't trust God in the dark, you really don't consider Him trustworthy.' Then pointing to a baby chick that had just taken refuge beneath a large hen, he added, 'See that little chick hiding under the wing of its mother? As long as it's there, it can't see anything, but it's still protected and secure.' Opening the Bible to Psalms 91, he continued, 'Notice, it doesn't say 'under His wings shalt thou see, but under His wings shalt thou trust.'"

Our Daily Bread

Plus the encouragement to faith by our home ministers, the congregation was blessed by visiting Bros. Lenard Meyer (Chicago, IL), Chris Huber (Francesville) and Elder Bro. Orville Ringger (Bluffton), the latter assisting Elder Bro. David Bertsch in explanation of the conference letter.

One of the burdens of life with which everyone seems to have to cope sooner or later is illness. It necessitated hospitalization during this month for Sis. Mildred Schlatter and for Andrew Bertsch.

Note of Thanks: We wish to thank all our dear relatives and friends for their prayers, gifts of love, cards and visits during the illness and death of our daughter, Roberta A. Klopfenstein. May God bless you all.

Bro. Robert and Sis. Dorothy Norr  
In a recent business meeting, Bros. William Klopfenstein and Jeff Fritz were elected as trustees and Bro. Lester Stoller as an usher.

Bits of This and That:

"Man's greatest power is the power of prayer.

"Nothing lies beyond the power of prayer except that which lies beyond the will of God.

"The way to be anxious about nothing is to be prayerful about everything. Give your troubles to God. If you brood over them, they will hatch despair.

"Machines can move mountains but only prayer can move heaven.

"Lean prayers and fat purses make poor Christians.

"When you pray, let your heart be without words, rather than your words without heart.

"For a smile: A grandparent is one of those things so simple that a child can operate!"

(copied)

**INDIANA, MILFORD****Marguerite Hoerr — Sue Schieler**

Elder Bro. Andy Virkler (Bay City, MI) came to help bring the deliberations of the brotherhood conference to our congregation recently. Bro. Don Gudeman (LaCrosse) also visited us that Sunday and we appreciate the efforts of these brothers who come to be with us.

The junior high Sunday school class invited South Bend and Bluffton recently. How it warms the hearts of the brethren to see the young people filing into the congregation filling up row after row of pews.

Our community was saddened by the accidental death of Melvin Heinold. Melvin worked at the grain elevator and had a special place in the hearts of many of our farming brethren who came in contact with him so very often. Our sympathy goes to his family and Bro. Aaron and Sis. Grace Heinold and family (LaCrosse, IN).

Hospitalized recently were Sis. Connie (Steve) Beer, Bro. Al Wuthrich and Edna Graff. It is our prayer that these dear ones be restored to full health again soon.

On January 28, Cris and Terry McDaniel, Jenny and Cody welcomed Zachary Darin into their family circle. Bro. Bill and Sis. Anne Troup are the happy grandparents.

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

What's wrong with the world? This question troubles young people as well as gray-headed grandparents in our combustible world community. The answer can be found in basically one book of the Bible. It's a simple answer with profound implications; easy to say but difficult to follow. Yet it is the only answer.

The answer begins with you and God, then reaches out to the world. Again and again as you read the book of Proverbs from the Bible, you will see that it is talking about you. For this book addresses all of your life, from winning friends to losing bets, from giving counsel to taking rebukes. And it promises you happiness or disaster as you follow its advice.

Solomon, the ancient king of Israel, wrote and collected most of these wise sayings. This wealthy, famous king possessed extraordinary credentials for describing the wise, successful life. Early in his career he prayed: "O Lord

... give me an understanding mind so I can govern Your people well, and know what is right and what is wrong" (I Kings 3:9). He became known as a scientist and philosopher, and wrote 3,000 proverbs and 1,000 songs. A biographer summarized his life: "His wisdom excelled that of any of the wise men of the East . . . he was famous among all the surrounding nations" (I Kings 4:30).

The Book of Proverbs offers God's wisdom as it was tested and proved in life situations. It is heavenly guidance for earthly deeds. It gives ultimate answers to immediate problems. It relates man harmoniously to his fellowman — and keeps him properly related as long as he maintains the right relationship with God.

Proverbs talks about gaining money (22:1), establishing peace (16:7), fortifying integrity (21:2), strengthening marriage (31:30), building business (24:34), acting now (29:1), spotting frauds (21:8), evading seducers (6:32), resisting bribes (15:27), overcoming strife (15:1), and countless other experiences that plague and exalt everyday life.

Wisdom comes alive in Proverbs, and it promises the reader: "For whoso findeth me findeth life, and shall obtain favour of the Lord. But he that sinneth against me wrongeth his own soul: all they that hate me love death." (Proverbs 8:35, 36).

Proverbs is the answer to: "What's wrong with this world?" The reader can then apply the answer by reading the Gospel message in the New Testament and acting upon the opportunity to apply Christ's redemptive plan to his soul for we are told in John 15:5, ". . . for without Christ, ye can do nothing." In summary, Proverbs 14:26, 27 gives us a definition of "true success." "In the fear of the Lord is strong confidence: and his children shall have a place of refuge. The fear of the Lord is a fountain of life to depart from the snares of death."

Tyndale House Publishers

Bro. Gary Brown (Forrest, IL) ministered to our congregation February 14 sharing with us wisdom from God's Word.

The Remington brethren extend their sympathy to Sis. Arleta Waibel in the passing of her father, Bro. Alpha Strahm, Sr. (Bern, KS).

We also express sympathy to Sis.

Tammy Clauss (Bro. Rex) in the passing of her father, Marvin West (Elkhart, IN).

**INDIANA, SOUTH BEND****Sue Beebe**

On January 26, we gathered together to listen to the summary of the brotherhood conference. Our Elder Bro. Jesse Beer (Milford) was with us on that evening. As was mentioned in the opening prayer, "May we each learn to love the Lord more and lean more on Him" as we strive to live according to His will.

Elder Bro. Leroy Huber (Eureka) shared the Word with us February 10. We appreciate the efforts of these brothers on our behalf.

Sis. Emma Lou Gerber was a recent hospital patient. We are thankful that she has experienced God's healing hand and is able to be home again.

"For I am the Lord that healeth thee."

Exodus 15:26

**HE DIED FOR ME**

I saw One hanging on a tree, In agony and blood;  
He fixed His languid eyes on me, As near His cross I stood.

Sure, never, till my latest breath, Can I forget that look;  
It seemed to charge me with His death, Tho' not a word He spoke.

My conscience felt and owned the guilt, And plunged me in despair;  
I saw my sins His blood had spilt, And helped to nail Him there.

Alas! I knew not what I did, — But now my tears are vain:  
Where shall my trembling soul be hid? For I the Lord have slain.

A second look He gave, which said, "I freely all forgive:  
This blood is for thy ransom paid, I die that thou may'st live.

Chorus:  
Oh, can it be, upon a tree The Savior died for me?  
My soul is thrilled, My heart is filled, To think He died for me!

Gospel Hymns #837

### INDIANA, VALPARAISO Beth Heinold — Trish Bucher

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

John 3:16

As Valentine's Day approaches, may we be reminded of Christ's love for us, the ultimate example of love in giving His life for our eternal welfare.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Bro. Elmer Bucher as he recovers from a recent hospital stay. May God bless his family and restore him to full health.

We are thankful for visiting ministers, Bro. Chris Huber (Francesville, IN), Bro. Jay Rinkenberger (Goodfield, IL) and Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL) who shared God's Word with us recently. We appreciate these brothers who are willing to give of themselves in the Lord's service.

### INDIANA, WOLCOTT

#### Lorna Knapp — Lynell Blume

Sis. Verna Lehman (Bro. Gene) was hospitalized for surgery this past month. We are thankful she is again able to assemble with us. May she continue to feel God's healing power.

We are prayerfully thinking of our elders as they will assemble this week in Oakville, IA, for the mid-winter conference. We trust the Lord will be in their midst and guide them in the spiritual matters which they must consider.

Note of thanks: "I want to thank each one who remembered me while I was in the hospital and since returning home. Your prayers, visits, calls, cards and other gifts of love are greatly appreciated. God bless each of you."

Sis. Marilyn Schieler

### IOWA, AMES/DES MOINES Rhonda Reker

The Word was shared with us this past month by Bro. Glen Funk (Garden Grove). We thank Bro. Glen for ministering to our group and hopefully will heed his message from God's Holy Word. It was brought out that the only Bible many people (whether students at the university or people in our respective work places) will read is through our actions and speech. We should be mindful of even our attitude and frame of mind wherever we trod.

Help us all through your prayers that

once we make a commitment to our Lord and Saviour we will grow in Godly wisdom.

May God's healing hand be with Joe Fehr (Bro. Bob and Sis. Barb) as he is in the hospital.

Again, a welcome goes out to anyone traveling through this area on any weekend when we will be having services. The remaining schedule for this school year is the following:

April 10, 1988 — May 1, 1988.

The meeting place is the Midland Financial Savings & Loan Building, 525 Main Street, Ames, Iowa.

### IOWA, BURLINGTON

#### Karen Schulz — Deyona Massner

We were thankful to have Bro. Jon Schmidgall (Oakville) share the Word with us this past month. We were impressed as he related to us how some Christians suffer and are tortured for their faith. We were also happy to have Bro. Wayne Banwart (Champaign, IL) minister to us a recent Sunday.

We anticipate the visit of our dear elders to this area for the mid-winter conference. Our earnest prayers are for them that God will impart wisdom, grace and courage. May they be richly blessed for their love and efforts.

### IOWA, ELGIN

#### Gloria Frieden

As we look forward to Easter, let us reflect upon the seven last comments of Jesus before His death.

- "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." Could we speak such words of love and forgiveness while our enemies were driving nails through our flesh?

- "This day shalt thou be with Me in paradise." What wondrous words of hope for the thief on the cross.

- He continues to think of others as He speaks to His mother, Mary, and His beloved disciple, John, "Woman behold thy Son" and "Behold thy mother."

- During the darkness that came over all the earth He said, "My God, My God, why hast Thou forsaken Me?" What a deep sense of loneliness not to be able to feel even the presence of God, His Father.

- And then, "I thirst" and "It is finished" followed with His last words, "Father, into Thy hands I commend My Spirit." What precious words of victory!

Since we are a small group here, the

arrival of a new baby is an exciting event for all of us. We rejoice with Bro. Lon and Sis. Sandy Butikofer as they welcome little Maria Rose into their lives. Melisa, Jerry, Aaron and Monica are happy for a new sister, too. Grandparents are Bro. Albert and Sis. Betty Banwart (West Bend) and Bro. Bert and Sis. Beulah Butikofer.

### IOWA, GARDEN GROVE

#### Glen and Sally Funk

Bro. John Steiner (Oakville) came in February, accompanied by his wife, and ministered to us. They brought another carload with them and the fellowship was truly enjoyed by all.

We have had some very cold days. After getting the January utility bills, everyone is thankful that spring is near. Isn't it wonderful in our life with the Lord, that along with the trials, we always have something wonderful to look forward to?

### IOWA, IOWA CITY

#### Bonita Frank

Bros. Myron Knobloch (Lester, IA), Ray Sinn (Latty, OH), Ron Schambach (Elgin, IL), Charles Sauder (Tremont, IL), Joe Zimmerman (Morton, IL) and Roy Ehnlé (Bradford, IL) were our visiting ministers since our last report. We appreciate these brethren, their families and everyone else who takes the time and makes an effort to assemble with us.

We are looking forward this month to two events: finishing more work on our Sunday school addition and the reading of the memorandum. We pray God blesses both efforts.

### IOWA, LESTER

#### Kathy Metzger — Mary Knobloch

On January 16, Elder Bro. Paul Butikofer (Elgin, IA) joined our Elder Bro. Leo Moser in reading the conference conclusions. We could feel the direction of our God as admonitions and encouragements were laid to our hearts. We read in I Timothy 4:16, "Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee." May God bless our elders and ministers as they strive to direct us on our paths and keep us from stumbling and falling as we travel toward heaven.

Bro. Paul then ministered to us on Sunday and we were thankful to hear God's Word preached to us the follow-

ing Sunday by Bro. Carl Wyss (Washington, IL). May God continue to direct them as they minister to our spiritual needs.

God has blessed the home of Jerry and Martha Kracht. On February 8, a daughter, Stacey Lynn, was born. Maternal grandparents are Bro. Art and Sis. Emily Leuthold. May God guide these first-time parents in raising their precious little girl.

Those submitting to surgery were Jeff Myrlie (Roger and Pat), Sis. Helen Knobloch (Bro. Wilbert) and Troy Metzger (Bro. Bill and Sis. Charlotte). Sis. Margene Peasley is a medical patient at this time. Once again we beseech God's healing powers in behalf of our loved ones who suffer physical pain.

True happiness depends on close alliance with God.

Apples of Gold

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**IOWA, OAKVILLE**  
**Debbie Wagenbach**

It is with thankful hearts and minds that we had opportunity to gather for church services Tuesday and Friday evenings during the mid-winter elder brother conference. It was most heart-warming to greet many of our shepherds and their wives during the blessed week. We pray that God will richly reward our shepherds and their families for their diligent service carried out in His name.

Three precious little baby girls are the newest additions to our Oakville congregation. Janae Elizabeth is Bro. Roger and Sis. June Schulz's third little girl. Happy siblings are Bethany, Mitchell and Betsy. Bro. Myron and Sis. Dorothy Schulz and Bro. Phil and Sis. Lydia Mogler (Lester, IA) are Janae's grandparents. Bro. Don and Sis. Carol Schmidgall are the parents of their fourth child, Stacy Lynn. Big brothers, Ben and Jeff, and sister, Marie, are glad for a new little sister. Bro. Hartzell and Sis. Marian Schmidgall and Bro. Jim and Sis. Eunice Wuthrich (Morton, IL) are Stacy's grandparents. Rachel Lynn arrived into the hearts and home of Bro. Fred and Sis. Susan Gerst. She is their first daughter and has a brother, Carl. Sis. Hilda Gerst (late Bro. Carl) and Bro. Joe and Sis. Ruby Eberhardt are Rachel's grandparents.

On February 6 and 7 the Oakville-Burlington young group hosted the

young groups from Chicago-Elgin, Forrest-Fairbury and Tremont, IL. We certainly could feel the Lord's presence throughout the blessed weekend shared together.

Bro. Arnie Gerst (Taylor, MO) has recently been a visiting minister in our congregation.

It seems that we have had such a long winter and we begin to yearn for the spring season and the new life it brings. With spring just around the corner, my thoughts are drawn to the Easter season, and the death and suffering of our precious Saviour. What a wonderful God we have, who released us from sin through the death and resurrection of His only Son. Let us prize our ransom highly and strive to be more faithful!

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**IOWA, PULASKI**

**Sarah Teubel — Mary Jane Knapp**

"What glorious state, to be a lamb of Jesus,  
 To feel the faithful Shepherd's loving grace.  
 What all the world could never give,  
 A lamb of Jesus from its Shepherd will receive."

Zion's Harp #16

We are very grateful and thankful to God for His love and mercy in calling Sis. Sue Ann Schaer (Don) into His fold. On January 23, we were privileged to hear her testimony, and then witness her baptism the following day. We welcome her as a sister-in-faith and pray that God's presence will always be felt in their home. With us that weekend were Elder Bros. Art Bahler (Fairbury, IL) and Paul Butikofer (Elgin, IA), who not only helped with this special occasion, but also assisted in sharing the deliberations from the brotherhood conference. How many times do we take for granted the many hours that our faithful elder brothers devote to God's service on our behalf? May God richly bless each one as only He can, and may each fervently pray for His guidance in their work and responsibilities.

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**IOWA, WEST BEND**

**Polly Zaugg — Phyllis Banwart**

We are thankful for each of our visiting ministers the past month. Those who shared many teachings with us were Bros. Ed Alt (Cissna Park, IL), Dean Messner (Winthrop, MN), Dale Moore (Elgin, IA), Alphai Moser (Mor-

ris, MN) and Myron Knobloch (Lester).

On January 31, Sis. Carolyn Gerber (Bro. Noah and Sis. Emma) was united in marriage to Bro. Alfred Banwart (Sis. Caroline, Lamar, MO) where they will make their home. May the Lord bless the family as they establish a Christian home.

May His grace and strength continue to help those dear ones who are recuperating from surgery or sickness. They include Sis. Lena Grimm (Eli, Sr.), Sis. Ella Banwart, Sis. Anna Schmidt, Bro. Gary Schneider (Sis. Sue), Bro. Oscar Zaugg (Sis. Frances), Mike Tapavica (Donna), Bro. Leonard Anliker (Sis. Helen) and Dick Schmidt (Sis. Christine).

**GOD PROMISED**

God did not tell me,  
 Only roses would grow.  
 That I'd find no sorrow,  
 On the path I must go.  
 But He promised to be there,  
 Each step of the way,  
 Providing a way to escape,  
 The temptations each day.  
 His grace all sufficient,  
 Daily to see me through.  
 He'd help me to conquer,  
 And be victorious too.

Dottlee Dugan Redd

May these words help express our sincere sympathy to the family of Harold Fisher, 54, who passed away January 20 of an aneurysm. He is survived by his wife, Marie; daughters, Anita and Carrie; mother, Sis. Katherine; brother, Phillip; two sisters, Mrs. Larry (Lois) Lloyd and Mrs. Olin (Eileen) Hoover.

We extend our sympathy to Bro. Art and Sis. Eula Mogler and family in the loss of her brother, Melvin Heinold.

Bro. Silas Banwart observed his 90th birthday January 16 with all of his children and many of his grandchildren and great-grandchildren present. He is thankful for the many good wishes extended to him.

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**JAPAN, SHIODA**

**Kathy Kieser**

"Ask and it shall be given you," (Matthew 7:7) for "The Lord will hear when (you) call unto Him." (Psalms 4:3). When an earnest kindergarten student kneeling next to me in our large circle during morning prayer time insistently waves his raised hand in front

of my face, so close that my vision is obstructed, because he has a special prayer request, often I quickly call his name simply for my own relief. I am reminded of the Bible story of the persistent woman whose wish was granted by the unjust judge simply because her persistence annoyed him. (Luke 18). Our heavenly Father's motives are far nobler and higher than my motives as a teacher and the judge's motives. The lesson I learn from my students is to be persistent and hopeful in prayer. Of course our heavenly Father's heart will be moved to help us, "For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities . . . Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace!" (Hebrews 4:15-16).

We welcome little Jonathan Frank with open arms. It's been a long time since we've had a baby in either the Tokyo or Shioda church. Bro. Frank and Sis. Kathy Sauder are the happy parents. Grandparents are Elder Bro. Don and Sis. Wilma Sauder (Roanoke, IL) and Elder Bro. John and Sis. Lois Klotzle (Altadena, CA). God's timing is always perfect! Bro. John and Sis. Lois Klotzle were able to see their grandson shortly after his birth as they returned to California from India via Japan. Sis. Lois spent most of the month of February in Japan. "God . . . giveth us richly all things to enjoy." (I Timothy 6:17).

Elder Bro. Willis and Sis. Lois Ehnle traveled to the States for the annual winter elder's conference in February.

We say a special thanks to the Tokyo brethren for hosting the annual church conference January 15.

#### JAPAN, TOKYO

##### Frank and Kathy Sauder

"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above . . ." James 1:17. On January 25 we were blessed with a special gift from above, our first child, Jonathan Frank Sauder. Grandparents are Elder Bro. Don and Sis. Wilma Sauder (Roanoke, IL) and Elder Bro. John and Sis. Lois Klotzle (Altadena, CA). God's perfect timing was an extra blessing, because Jonathan's grammy and grampy Klotzle were able to stop off in Japan on their way home from India to help with him right after he was born. We welcome Jonathan into our family and look forward to the day when he will become a part of a larger family, the family of God. "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when

he is old, he will not depart from it." Proverbs 22:6.

The Tokyo congregation also appreciated Bro. John Klotzle ministering to them February 7. We are thankful that God worked in the hearts of a few of the neighborhood women who attend our monthly ladies' meeting to come to church for the first time that Sunday.

#### KANSAS, BERN

##### Kathy Strahm Lori Baumgartner

While we pray, and while we plead,  
While you see your soul's deep need,  
While your Father calls you home  
Will you not my brother come? . . .

You have wandered far away;  
Do not risk another day;  
Do not turn from God your face,  
But today accept His grace.

Why not now? Why not now?  
Why not come to Jesus now?  
Why not now? Why not now?  
Why not come to Jesus now?

"Why Not Now?"  
El Nathan

Recently, as I was singing the words to this familiar hymn, my thoughts drifted to the tragic dream a little boy had one night. As he lay sleeping, "Old Father Time", knowing that the little one could hardly wait to grow up, came to the boy. He told the boy that all he must do is say the word and he would make him whatever age he wished to be. Without a moment's hesitation the child said, "Why, I want to be twenty-one." Instantly they were out in a raging battlefield. Fearfully the boy asked, "What is wrong here?" "Old Father Time" calmly replied, "Oh, this is World War III and you have been drafted into the army." "Old Father Time" asked him if he'd like to move on to another age. The boy quickly said, "Forty." Immediately he was in a funeral home and all the people there were grieving, including himself. Bewildered, he asked "Old Father Time" to explain. The explanation came — his mother had passed away for she was now an old woman. He couldn't wait to leave that scene and demanded to see the age of fifty. Here he saw a man with graying hair working long hours at his desk. "Old Father Time" explained to the boy that this man was the boy him-

self who was putting in hours upon hours of overtime to save up for his retirement. He quickly asked to leave this scene and requested the age of sixty-five for he thought it sounded fun to retire and enjoy the golden years of life. But he was quite dismayed when he saw himself lying sick in bed at the age of sixty-five. "Old Father Time" told the boy that he had a terminal illness and would not live long. A deep frown of concern crossed the boy's face, "Am I ready to die?" he asked. "No," replied "Old Father Time", "You never took time to make yourself ready for eternity. You were always too busy." The boy began to cry. He said, "Take me back. I want to be a little boy again. I want to live my life differently." "Old Father Time" sadly replied, "No, little one, I can only make time go forward, not backward." Yes, that was only a dream but so often reality is not much different. Our lives pass so quickly and it seems so risky to wait to turn our lives over to our Saviour. Why not now? Why not come to Jesus now? "Behold now is the accepted time." II Corinthians 6:2.

We recently held our annual business meeting. Bro. Joe D. Rokey was re-elected as a trustee. Bro. James Meyer was re-elected to operate the public address system. Bro. Wayne Strahm will take the place of Bro. Paul Grimm as an usher. Bro. Morris Edelman was re-elected as a trustee on the board of the Apostolic Christian Home for the Aged. Bro. Galen Rokey and Bro. Wilfred Strahm were elected to replace Bro. John Baumgartner and Bro. Dean Strahm as Sunday school teachers. Sis. Kathy Strahm and Sis. Kim Meyer were elected to replace Sis. Helen Meyer and Sis. Shirley Strahm as Sunday school teachers. The newly-elected Sunday school teachers will begin teaching in September. As a Silver Lining reporter, Sis. Kathy Strahm was elected to replace Sis. Shirley Strahm. We thank all who have given of their time and effort in their respective positions and our support is given to those who have taken on new duties.

We had one visiting minister, Bro. Roger Aberle (Sabetha, KS), this past month. We always appreciate those who bring us the inspired Word of God.

Once again God has called a soul home to its eternal rest. Bro. Alpha J. Strahm, 93, died February 5. Even though the family expressed that they

are thankful that their father could be relieved of his suffering, we know that there is always a certain amount of sorrow in parting. We express our sympathy to the family which includes Sis. Arleta Waibel (Remington, IN), Bro. Alpha Strahm, Jr. and Clayton Strahm (Bern, KS) and Waymer Strahm (Independence, MO).

We would like to make known the engagement of Holly Baumgartner (Bro. Leonard and Sis. Nancy) and Duane Meyer (Bro. Leroy and Sis. Helen). An August 6 wedding is being planned.

### KANSAS, FORT SCOTT

**Karen Sinn**

God has sent a bundle of joy to the home of Bro. Don and Sis. Aleta Banwart. Alyssa Lee was born February 4. Justin and Alesha are happy to help care for their little sister. Grandparents are Elder Bro. Raymond and Sis. Kathryn Banwart and Bro. Huber and Sis. Helen Farney (Kiowa).

Our thoughts and prayers are with our elder brothers as they meet for the mid-winter conference. May we do our part to make their burdens lighter.

### KANSAS, GRIDLEY

**Vola Young — Judy Kraft**

Love for each other and faith in God's direction has drawn Bro. Richard Kraft and Sis. Marianne Kuenzi together. May this marriage union grow in love and security, grounded on the Solid Rock, Christ Jesus. Parents are Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Nadine Kraft (Gridley) and Lee and Louise Kuenzi (Salem, OR).

Our small congregation feels the loss and will miss the family of Bro. Randy and Sis. Ruth Kellenberger. Bro. Randy has found employment in the Peoria, IL, area.

### KANSAS, KIOWA

**Darcy Kisling — Janice Bahr**

"For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office:

"So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another.

"Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us,

"Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another;

"If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men."

Romans 12:4-6, 10, 18

Our annual business meeting was held in January. We thank the Lord for the many gifts he has given to our members and for the love our members show to each other. May we always work together for the perfect will of God.

Many were gathered at the rest home this month as Elder Bro. Ronald Nelson led services. Those present sang hymns and joined in the fellowship.

Our congregation is rejoicing with Lydia Circle as she seeks the Lord in repentance. We pray for God's grace and guidance for her life.

### KANSAS, LAMONT

**Mary Isch**

"A soft answer turneth away wrath but grievous words stir up anger."

Proverbs 15:1

God left us His Word — Love thy neighbor as thyself — and He stressed it as the second greatest commandment.

We can believe that unkind hearts are troubled souls. In their disagreement, they are crying out to us not to leave them, but to draw closer to them in understanding and love. We should search for good in the hearts of all.

"Lord, make me an instrument of Thy peace;

Where there is hatred, let me sow love;

Where there is doubt, faith;

Where there is despair, hope;

Where there is darkness, light;

And where there is sadness, joy.

O divine master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled, as to console; to be understood, as to understand; to be loved, as to love; for it is in giving that we receive, it is in pardoning that we are pardoned, and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life."

(Selected)

Bro. Tom Knobloch and Bro. Max Burnham traveled to Taylor, MO, where they spent several days helping with the construction of the new church there. May God bless and reward them for their labor of love.

Justin Isch (Bro. Ron and Sis. Jane)

submitted to hernia surgery this past month and we are happy to report he is home doing fine.

Sis. Eva Emch had cataract surgery and is recovering at home. We wish her God's healing power.

### KANSAS, SABETHA

**Charleen Hartter — Nita Grimm**

As spring approaches, we feel renewed, invigorated, energetic and ready to enjoy the beautiful outdoors once again, leaving a cold winter behind! Creation, in its own marvelous splendor, brings us closer to the Creator as we view His skilled design. "All things bright and beautiful; All creatures great and small; All things wise and wonderful; The Lord God made them all!" "Creation," Hymns of Zion #207.

Several of our loved ones have experienced various afflictions of the body. Sisters Faye Percy, Eloise Bahr, Irene Aberle and Bro. Sam Huber have recently spent time in the hospital. May God be near each one and provide for every need.

Ministering Bros. Dean Messner (Winthrop, MN), Bill Emch (Lamont, KS) and John Lehman (Bern, KS) have visited us this past month sharing God's Word.

Our annual business meeting was held in late January. We appreciate so very much the willingness of every brother and sister who devotes time and effort on behalf of the church, whether they be a minister, trustee, janitor, teacher or one who is just there greeting with a joyful heart and smile.

We all need one another on this pilgrim pathway for it won't be long, and soon this life shall pass.

### KANSAS, WICHITA

**Emma Miller**

We were privileged to have a visiting minister in our congregation. Bro. Loren Strahm (Gridley, KS) was present with us one Sunday in late January.

We are thanking God for His healing powers. Both Bro. Ernest Lambert and Bro. Milton Bowers are able to come to church again. Bro. Arthur Wullschlegler is home from the hospital and his family is encouraged by his condition.

Bro. Milton and Sis. Lillian Bowers became grandparents again December 15. Jerrica Nicole was born to Lois and Charlie Hallberg.

Our congregation offers condolences to Bros. Max and Roger Reim-

schisel and their families in the death of their father.

Bro. George and Sis. Ann Greiner planned to observe their 40th wedding anniversary quietly February 22. A surprise reception was planned for them at the church dining room Sunday, February 21, to recognize their years together as a part of the Wichita congregation. Bro. George faithfully turns on the heat or air conditioning every weekend and prior to special services. He also can be counted on to admit repair people throughout the week. Sis. Ann gives generously of her time to World Relief projects. She also does volunteer tutoring at a kindergarten in her neighborhood school.

#### KENTUCKY, LEXINGTON Glenda Neukomm

Since the first of the year, we have started having a mid-week Bible study and are meeting in our homes, since our group is small. This has been a blessing and we appreciate the support that everyone has given toward it.

Our visiting minister for January was Bro. Larry Wenninger (Latty, OH). May the Lord bless him for coming with his family and ministering the Word to us.

Our visitors in January were Bro. Maurice and Sis. Alma Steidinger (Fairbury, IL), Bro. John and Sis. Katherine Fehr (Fairbury, IL), Bro. Eldon and Sis. Melba Steffen (Cissna Park, IL), Bro. Jacob Funk (Cissna Park, IL), Sis. Elizabeth Schambach (Elgin, IL), Bro. Wayne and Sis. Paullette Putt (Francesville, IN), Kevin and Della Wenninger (Latty, OH), Bro. Marvin and Sis. Nancy Dotterer and family (Forrest, IL) and Bro. Ralph and Sis. Nereva Knapp (Cissna Park, IL).

On Valentine's Day, February 14, Bro. John Reinhard (Bluffton, IN) came and ministered to us. He and his wife, Sis. Pam, brought their children, eight other couples and their families and also eight single sisters. This was a truly blessed day of fellowship for us. May the Lord bless Bro. John and Sis. Pam for getting this group together and for their coming and sharing with us.

Ken and Cathy, Ben, Adam and Faith Steffen have moved to the Lexington area from Madison, WI. We sure wish them the Lord's blessings in their new home. We have enjoyed having them fellowship with us.

As we approach Easter, we are mindful of Christ's sufferings and the debt

He paid for us. May we experience a greater love for our Lord and be willing to be more used of Him.

Dear Lord, would you make me a blessing,

A vessel just fit for Your use;  
Emptied of self and sin, Lord,  
And filled with your message of truth.  
Help me to show forth the Master  
To those whom I meet day by day,  
That reading me they may see Jesus  
In all that I do and I say.

Martha Readings

#### MICHIGAN, ALTO Juanita Gerst

As the years pass, each one seems to go faster than the previous year. Here we are in February, almost March of 1988! It just doesn't seem possible. Each day goes faster also. Each day we need to make sure we allow some time in our day for God and His Word. He is our Creator and Savior. It is so easy to get caught up in the whirlwind of the things of this world and neglect God.

Time we spend in Bible reading and prayer is not wasted time but quality time that will help us obtain our heavenly goal.

We are thankful that another couple has heeded the call to repentance. Sam and Randi Oesch have come to the Lord in repentance. We pray for them as they strive to make their past deeds right with God and man. When sinners repent, it is always a time of rejoicing and I know that their two little girls are excited, too.

Once again we held our annual business meeting. Bro. Otto Schlatter was made Sunday school superintendent and Bro. Jim Blough is a new trustee. We pray that God will direct all things that are necessary for the functioning of the church.

We want to welcome Bro. Craig and Sis. Genny Wieland to our congregation here in Alto. They have been attending some Sundays in Alto since moving to Lansing, MI. We also welcome their three girls, Amanda, Wendy and Jill, to our congregation.

Soon winter will be past and once again we will be hearing the chirping of birds in the trees. Sometimes it is hard to remember that winter is God's creation also and a season for which we should be thankful, even in the most undesirable weather.

#### MICHIGAN, BAY CITY Pam Schlatter

"For though I be absent in the flesh,  
yet am I with you in the spirit . . ."

Colossians 2:5

Several among us here have been absent from our assembly due to mishaps or illness. How we long to assemble with the saints when we are unable to do so. We trust that our sick will all be able to soon gather with us. Until then may we be with each other in spirit and prayer. Our list of sick includes Bro. Jim Ramseyer, Bro. Bob Schlatter, Sis. Carol Waibel and Al Wieland.

Sis. Naomi Thomas was able to put her armor down this past month. Sis. Naomi has been unable for some time to gather with us and we were thankful that she could finally go to her reward.

Bro. Curt and Sis. Sue Heimer, along with Seth, welcome home little Levi Blaine. We joy in that little Levi will be reared in a home where Christian principles are espoused and taught. May God grant each Christian parent the diligence to follow Deuteronomy 6:6, 7, "And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: and thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up." Grandparents of Levi are Bro. Rod and Sis. Naomi Moser (Oakville, IA) and Bro. Don and Sis. Lou Ann Wieland.

February 6 marked the wedding day of Blair Wieland and Michelle Broquard. Parents of the newlyweds are Bro. Duane and Sis. Carol Broquard and Bro. Roy and Sis. Margaret Wieland. We wish them a home in which love and friendship abide.

#### MICHIGAN, DETROIT Donna Hartzler

We wish to thank Elder Bro. Steve Rinkenberger for speaking to us Saturday evening, January 23, on "The Deception of Humanism", a philosophy which can so subtly enter our lives if we are not watchful. We appreciate Bro. Steve ministering to us on Sunday also. May God richly bless him and those who accompanied him for their efforts in making it an edifying and enjoyable weekend.

"Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted



out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord." (Acts 3:19) It was announced Sunday, February 14, that Dorine Kurkowski professes to have peace, and is looking forward to giving a testimony of her conversion and faith and being baptized.

Our new home for the aged, Apostolic Christian Woodhaven, currently has 27 residents. The Home has been filling at a rate of one per week. We are grateful to God for the tremendous support we have had, not only from the other sponsoring churches (Alto, Bay City and Toledo, OH), but also from so many other concerned brethren and friends. We are fortunate to have an average of 25 volunteers per month, many of whom devote numerous hours participating in educational and recreational activities. Volunteer service, prayers and financial support are so vital. May our loving heavenly Father reward each one, and we ask that you continue to remember the Home in your prayers.

Woodhaven's first annual benefit bazaar is scheduled for Friday and Saturday, April 15 and 16, 1988, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Home. We extend a loving and warm welcome to all to attend. If you desire any additional information or would like overnight accommodations, please call the Home at (313) 261-9000.

"O Lord my God, I cried unto thee, and thou hast healed me." After nearly five months in the hospital, Bro. Joe Szilagyi is now at home. Bro. Joe and Sis. Martha's faith and acceptance of their lot has been an inspiration to all of us. We look forward to the time when they can assemble with us again.

We have others from our congregation who have met with accident and need our prayers. Sis. Perseda Wieland fell and injured her leg and is recuperating at home. Sis. Hilda Bauer fell and broke her hip which required surgery. She is in the hospital. Bro. Louis Varga is confined to his home after surgery on his knee. Our prayer is that God will heal and bless where it is His will.

Sis. Arlene Belsley has a new granddaughter. Courtney Gudrun Krolina, the first child of Walter and Marsha Henschke, was born February 18. We extend best wishes to them all.

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Give Your New Address  
To Your Reporter

### MINNESOTA, MINNEAPOLIS Carol Strasshiem

There's never a teardrop  
that God doesn't see.  
He knows when a sparrow  
falls from a tree.  
There's never a moment  
when God doesn't care  
Never a time when He  
won't hear our prayer.

Patricia Emme

Bro. Alpha Moser (Morris) came to minister to us this month. It is always a blessing to have him here.

On January 24 we witnessed the marriage of Sis. Marcy Schmidt (Gene and Sis. Ella Mae) and Bro. Larry Schmidgall (Bro. Ray and Sis. Millie) at the church in Winthrop. They are both a part of our church as they have now become one. May God's blessings be upon their union.

Please note that due to a transition period of moving from our old church to our new one about the first part of April, you will need to contact Bro. Don Miller about our location for services. Call 612-461-3542. More details will come later.

### MINNESOTA, MORRIS

#### Ruth Nohl — Hildegard Koehl

A test of true Christian love: Do you help those who cannot help you in return? A simple question to ask ourselves about something that affords many rewarding opportunities in helping the aged and afflicted. "Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction . . ." James 1:27. Our reward will be heavenly.

Elder Bro. Ed Frank (LaCrosse, IN) was here to help Elder Bro. Art Nohl with the reading of the memorandum. We thank Bro. Ed for his assistance.

Bro. Aldean and Sis. Charlotte Luthi have been given a little son, Kent Eric. Four sisters and one brother complete the family circle. Virgil and Mildred Sauder are the grandparents.

Bro. Don Schmidgall, Bro. Gilbert Schmidgall, Sis. Madonna Moser and Minnie Schlupp have all been hospital patients. May our prayers be with them.

With the Easter season near, let's take time to remember the agony of the cross and the suffering Christ endured for our sake. "And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself,

and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross." Philippians 2:8. This death was the most painful and cruel at that time. Let's give thanks for all Christ has done for us.

Note: Please pay Silver Lining dues April 1 — Thanks!

### MINNESOTA, WINTHROP Wanda Messner Ella Mae Schmidt

#### THE CHRISTIAN HOME

There is beauty all around,  
When there's love at home;  
There is joy in every sound,  
When there's love at home.  
Peace and plenty here abide,  
Smiling sweet on every side,  
Time doth softly, sweetly glide,  
When there's love at home.

J. H. McNaughton  
Hymns of Zion #64

We wish God's love and blessings on the new home of Sis. Marcy Schmidt (Gene and Sis. Ella Mae) and Bro. Larry Schmidgall (Bro. Ray and Sis. Millie, Minneapolis). They were united in holy matrimony January 17. Visiting ministers were Elder Bro. Wayne Fehr (West Bend, IA), Bro. Floyd Schmidgall (Morris, MN) and Bro. Ken Lawson, Bro. Don Miller and Bro. Kent Mogler (Minneapolis).

Rachael Kent, wife of Darcy Kent (daughter of Bro. Dick and Sis. Mary Lou Schmidt) was announced as having peace with God and man. Since she has been obedient to the Lord's call and has sought His will for her life, may He come unto her and she unto Him to the extent that He is Lord of her life and their home. Seeking the Lord is a blessing and hope that can be seen. Obedience is a "hopeful view".

We pray for the elder brothers as they assemble together in Oakville, IA. May God's guidance and wisdom be with each of them. We thank them for lending themselves for us.

Our hospital patient was Cory Schmidt (Bro. Dick and Sis. Mary Lou). The Lord again has added His blessings of healing after some complications with his ankle.

Sis. Gerry and Elder Bro. Harold Messner wish to thank each one for their kindness and prayers during the illness and death of Sis. Gerry's mother.

Easter is a holy day commemorating the resurrection of Jesus Christ, and it

is also associated with the rebirth of nature and the renewal of life.

### MISSOURI, KANSAS CITY

#### Linda Ziegenhorn

We've had a little snow recently. It covers everything so beautifully. All the dirt and dark, broken objects are made beautiful with a white blanket of snow. And so we look, when we repent of our sins, and ask forgiveness. All the dark, soiled spots are covered, not with a blanket of snow, but with the blood of Jesus, and then we are made "white as snow".

There is a big difference, though. The snow melts and all the dark dirty spots show up again. The snow was only temporary. When God forgives our sins . . . they are gone! They are thrown into the sea of forgetfulness. Isn't it wonderful to know your sins are forgiven? Through God's grace and much prayer, let's keep ourselves spotless, just like the newly fallen snow.

We want to welcome Sis. Jill Luthi (Lamont, KS) who is spending three months in Kansas City while doing an internship in rehabilitation.

On January 23, we had a church supper. Afterwards, Elder Bros. Gene Marti and Sam Huber (Sabetha, KS) shared the memorandum with us. The next day we had our annual business meeting and Sis. Janice Leman, Sis. Jamie Marti and Bro. Dennis Miller are our new Sunday school teachers.

Bro. Joe and Sis. Wilma Farney celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. We ask God to bless their remaining years together.

Our little church is growing and we've added another Sunday school class. We invite all to visit. Services start at 11:00 a.m. on Sunday.

### MISSOURI, LAMAR

#### Carol Braker — Becky Marti

We have been blessed with many visitors this past month. How wonderful it is to meet those from a distance who share the same love and faith as we do. We were especially thankful for visiting brothers who ministered God's Holy Word to us. They included Bro. Kenneth Dietz (Bradford, IL), Bro. Mike Rinkenberger (Congerville, IL) and Bro. Tim Zimmerman (Gridley, KS).

We welcome Sis. Carolyn Banwart to our congregation. She and Bro. Alfred were married January 31 in West Bend, IA. May they feel God's direc-

tion and blessings in their new life together.

Bro. Jay and Sis. Sharon Braker have been entrusted with a son, Caleb Wilson, born February 2. Nicole and Haley welcome their little brother home. Grandparents are Sis. Cecile Braker and Robert and Leta Borghardt.

Sis. Edna Frieden is currently residing at the Lakeview Health Care Center: 206 West 1st, Lamar, MO 64759.

March is Silver Lining collection month for the Lamar congregation.

### MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS

#### Loren and Betsy Schrenk

Our visiting ministers this past month were Bros. Kent Heimer (Taylor) and Nelson Beer (Milford, IN). We thank them and the visitors who came with them to worship with us.

The last weekend of January was special for our congregation. All 20 of us went up to Taylor Saturday afternoon. We were served a delicious meal at the fellowship hall and then went to the church where Elder Bros. Roy Grimm and Wendell Gudeman read the memorandum. Arrangements for our children to be well cared for were made by various members of the congregation there. Then on Sunday we all worshipped together and were served another meal before we went our various ways.

The singing of a large group was especially precious to us who are used to our smaller gathering here in St. Louis. Those familiar Zion's Harp hymns sounded extra beautiful with so many voices blending together. What blessings we received and what precious memories we cherish. We thank the Taylor brethren.

### MISSOURI, TAYLOR

#### Loida Hodel — Lori Marquart

We welcome Dale Kaisner (Peoria, IL) and Bro. Scott Wegman (Oakville, IA) who have recently been employed in the Quincy area and are attending the services with us at the "Little White Church on the Levee".

"To be loved is to know the joy of sharing oneself — For it is through the miracle of love that we discover the fullness of life." We extend congratulations to Douglas Hoerr (Bro. Louis and Sis. Ruth) and Lori Gramke (Quincy) who have announced their engagement and plans for an April wedding and also to Kevin Hodel (Henry and Sis. Loida) and Robin Wayne (both of Blooming-

ton), whose engagement was announced January 17. May God bless these young people as their marriage plans unfold.

We enjoyed the Christian fellowship of the St. Louis congregation and together shared spiritual blessings as Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman (Francisville, IN) and our Elder Bro. Roy Grimm brought us the conclusions of the conference held at Rockville, CT, last fall. The evening was concluded by singing Zion's Harp #172, "Be True", which is the desire and goal of all of us. May God bless the elder brothers for their sincere efforts to carry out the responsibilities that are laid upon them.

Bro. Wendell was our guest minister Sunday, January 31, and we sincerely thank him and Sis. Marcella for this visit.

We welcome Bro. Jeff and Sis. Louanne (Hoerr) Gramm back to the Taylor area. We're glad they didn't stay away too long. Their address is Route 1, Palmyra, MO 63461.

We rejoice with the St. Louis congregation that Liz Schleiter has "turned her heart toward home" in repentance. May God be with her through this time of conversion. "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost." Acts 2:38.

Lisa Hoerr (Bro. Don and Sis. Elaine) was a surgical outpatient due to a fractured nose.

We've had our share of snow this winter and that has kept some of us home at times when we'd normally be out. Maybe God is reminding us to take time for what is really important: our families, reading the Word . . .

Construction on our church is progressing well. Sheetrock is being hung at this writing. We thank all the brethren and friends who have traveled to help us here at Taylor. Also, we can't forget the local people who work so faithfully each week. "For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens." II Corinthians 5:1.

Our prayers are with our Elder Bro. Roy Grimm as he joins other elders in the midyear conference in Oakville, IA. "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell in unity." Psalms 133:1.

Reminder: Did you (Taylor) take care of your subscription dues last month?

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**NEW JERSEY, UNION CITY**  
**Heidi Haerr**

Our congregation is thankful for our recent visitors. Our little group has been hit hard since the holiday season by winter flu and cold bugs causing many absences. This makes each and every visitor an extra special and welcome addition to our gathering.

We are especially grateful to the following ministers and their families who have taken the time and effort to travel and share Sunday services with us. Bro. Bill Gerst (Alto, MI), Bro. Jim Ramseyer (Bay City, MI), Bro. Hartzell Kaisner (Detroit, MI), Bro. Ben Manz (Junction, OH) and Bros. Lee Bahler, Dan Stoller, Kevin Ryan and Everett Gerber (Rockville, CT).

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**NEW YORK, CROGHAN**  
**Alice Virkler**

One of Thy children is coming home,  
 Open Thy merciful arms,  
 One of Thy children's too tired to roam,  
 Open Thy merciful arms.  
 Send out a shepherd; open the gate  
 Jesus has called and His sheep must  
 not wait.

Chorus: Oh, what a joy to be traveling  
 home;  
 Open Thy merciful arms.

Tho' we may travel the valley of death,  
 Jesus will save us from harm.  
 Tho' we be weary we soon will rest;  
 Open Thy merciful arms.  
 Do not be fearful lest ye be late;  
 Jesus has called and His sheep must  
 not wait.

Author Unknown  
 Gospel Hymns #784

The words of this beautiful hymn were sung at the funeral of Bro. Edward Virkler. We are thankful that Bro. Eddie could realize the need of a Savior, even though in the eleventh hour of his life. He was given grace to give his heart completely to God in repentance and was baptized before he was taken from this life after months of illness. Services were held by Bro. Duane Farney and Bro. Floyd Graves, Sr. Our sympathy is extended to his wife, Esther; his children, Nancy Pad-den, Larry and Richard (all of Lowville); and their families.

Our deepest sympathy is also ex-

tended to Bro. Duane and Sis. Karen Farney and their family. Duane's mother, Edna Peters, was called from this life after an illness of several weeks. Services were held by Elder Bro. Norbert Steiner and Bro. Floyd Graves, Sr. Sympathy also goes to Marion Hofer and her daughters, Margo and Dawn, and their families, as Nathan Hofer was taken from this life after many months of illness. His services were held by Bro. Norbert and Bro. Duane.

On Saturday evening, February 13, we enjoyed a covered dish dinner when we had several families from Rockville assemble with us for the weekend.

We are thankful that Bro. Floyd Graves, Jr., was not more seriously burned in an accident at work. He had skin graft on his hand. Our prayers go out to the many who are not able to assemble with us from week to week. May God ever be near unto them and grant them a special blessing whether they be in their own homes or an extended care or nursing home facility.

As the Easter season is nearing, may we all remember the importance of the death and suffering of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. He died for each of us and we have the precious privilege of accepting His sacrifice and living each day of our lives for Him.

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**NEW YORK, NAUMBURG**  
**Rachel Snyder**

We gathered at Sis. Minnie Taube's home for a birthday singing. She has not been able to get out to church since her surgery but we hope she soon can.

We also gathered at the extended care nursing home in Lowville for Sis. Iva Poling's birthday.

Sis. Corine Virkler is now able to be back in her apartment at Valley View Courts in Lowville. This past Sunday, February 14, she was able to be with us at church.

Norman Schultz (Croghan), who has a restaurant, has had back surgery and is now able to be home. The report of his recovery has been good for which we are very thankful and we ask God's blessings upon him.

Sis. Ella Einbeck has gotten home from the hospital but has not been able to come to church as yet. May God grant her strength so she can soon be out again.

Our prayers are with the gathering of our elder brethren. May God direct their hearts as they carry out the labors placed upon them.

We rejoice to know that Bro. Eddie Virkler made his peace with God and was baptized before he departed this life.

A covered dish supper was enjoyed at the Croghan church February 13 as visitors from Rockville were able to gather with us.

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**OHIO, AKRON**  
**Joyce Gasser**

Only twice in the Scripture God speaks of standing on holy ground. In Exodus 3, out of the burning bush, God told Moses he is standing on holy ground as he is to lead the people out of their afflictions in Egypt. Exodus means to pull out. God wants us to lead people out of their hurts, out of their afflictions, and that, like holy ground, is holy time. In Joshua 5, God speaks to Joshua that he is on holy ground, as he is to lead the people into the promised land and they are to claim what God has provided. The Scripture that keys in to these two ways of standing on holy ground is in Deuteronomy 28:6, stating that He blesses our going out and our coming in. God says how beautiful are the feet of those who say unto Zion thy God reigneth. So, we can stand on holy ground like Moses, if we lead people out of their afflictions; and like Joshua, lead others into the many promises God has provided.

The terms of Bro. Greg Henico and Sis. Barb Graf in Sunday school are completed and they deserve a grateful thanks for their efforts with the children. Bro. Steve Pamer and Sis. Erika Graf are the new teachers. May the Lord give them help to fill these responsibilities.

Sis. Edna VonGunten had a cataract removed and is doing well for her 89th birthday. Sis. Elizabeth Heib is home recuperating from surgery and Bro. Leo Heib is home from having infection in his foot. Andy Leidal had bypass surgery. We pray for God's help for each.

We appreciated visiting Elder Bros. Loren Stoller and Ken Sauder, and ministering Bro. Gary Maibach.

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**OHIO, COLUMBUS**  
**John Grimm**

"God is faithful, by whom ye were called unto the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord."

I Corinthians 1:9

Truly what a blessing the fellowship of likeminded brethren is when we can gather from far and near and worship the true living God. May God bless the visitors we have had in the past month.

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### OHIO, JUNCTION

#### Les Manz

Elder Bro. Aaron Steffen (Alto, MI) assisted Elder Bro. Loren Stoller (Latty) in the testimony service and baptism of Bro. Jerry and Sis. Pauline Carnahan. As we witnessed their conversion over the past few months and heard their testimonies of faith, we can take courage to see the Lord is still working in the lives of His people. As they stood in the baptismal waters ready to bury the old sinful nature, they made vows to stay true to God by His grace until they breathe their last breaths. Following baptism, the elders laid their hands on their heads as a visible sign to the church, the world and even to Satan, that they have received the Holy Spirit and are now God's children. Rejoicing with dad and mom in this newfound salvation are Jason, Nathan and Liza. Sis. Pauline's parents, Bro. Adam and Sis. Katie Manz, have both gone on to their reward, but we believe their prayers were answered in the conversion of their children.

Also visiting this month and ministering God's Holy Word was Bro. Clarence Dietrich (Silverton, OR).

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### OHIO, LATTY Rhonda Stoller Marlene Reinhard

"Take heed to the ministry which thou hast received in the Lord, that thou fulfill it."

Colossians 4:17

We thank Bro. Dan Stoller (Remington, IN) for ministering the Word unto us. May we apply it to our lives.

Hospitalized this month was Reid Stoller (Bro. Bill and Sis. Barb). We are happy he is feeling better and is enjoying the adventures of wintertime with his brothers.

As Palm Sunday is approaching, may we each one feel the need to honor our King and serve Him as the Jews did by crying, "Hosanna; Blessed is he that comes in the name of the Lord." Mark 11:9.

### IN THE GARDEN OF GETHSEMANE

Before the dawn of Easter  
There came Gethsemane . . .  
Before the Resurrection  
There were hours of agony . . .  
For there can be no crown of stars  
Without a cross to bear,  
And there is no salvation  
Without Faith and Love and Prayer,  
And when we take our needs to God  
Let us pray as did His Son  
That dark night in Gethsemane —  
"Thy Will, Not Mine, Be Done."  
Helen Steiner Rice

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### OHIO, MANSFIELD

#### Linda Morrison

Our heartfelt love and prayers go out to Sis. Sue Beer (Bro. Joel) in the death of her mother. "As for man, his days are as grass: as a flower of the field, so he flourisheth." Psalms 103:15. God's Word is full of comfort for every trial and sorrow that man will ever encounter. May we find time to seek God's wisdom daily. "Seven times a day do I praise thee because of thy righteous judgments." (Psalms 119:164).

Hospital patients have been Carl Weiss, Sis. Ruth Weiss, Sis. Caroline Sauder (Bro. Richard) and Brent Moser. "When the even was come, they brought unto him many that were possessed with devils: and he cast out the spirits with his word, and healed all that were sick: That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses." Matthew 8:16-17.

"Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it." Proverbs 22:6. Bro. Stanley and Sis. Judy Sauder have the responsibility of training up their new son, Joseph Edward, born February 18. Katie is happy to welcome home her new brother. Grandparents are Elder Bro. Charles and Sis. Marian Hemmer (Peoria, IL) and Bro. Charles and Sis. Marcella Sauder.

To work is to worship; To worship is to work. What a difference our lives could make for the Lord, if by His grace for six days we would worship at work and on Sunday we would work at worshipping. "I will call on the Lord, who is worthy to be praised . . ." II Samuel 22:4.

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### OHIO, RITTMAN

#### Stephanie Baltic — Diane Gasser

Flourishing youth,  
Thou our hope and our fond expectation,  
Hark to the voice that is calling in kind invitation!  
That hand obey,  
Which oft has pointed the way  
To the dear Saviour's salvation!  
Zion's Harp #168

We are so thankful that four dear souls have hearkened to the voice of our dear Saviour and are accepting His kind invitation. Our new converts are Rod Steiner (Bro. Ron and Sis. Ruth), Gary Schar (Bro. Rowen and Sis. Judy), Dwight Steiner (Bro. Dave and Sis. Carole) and Arlyn Zollinger (Sis. Elverna). May each one be granted much grace as they begin this new walk with the Lord. Our prayers are with them.

Elder Bros. Eugene Pamer (Akron, OH) and Kenneth Sauder (Mansfield, OH) were with us for the memorandum reading February 6. It was an uplifting and inspiring evening. May we all strive with the Lord's help to walk a closer walk with Him.

Also lending themselves in the ministry were Bros. Bill Brake and Ken Indermuhle (Sardis, OH). We are thankful to them and their families for the effort they put forth on our behalf to come and to be among us and for the words of love and counsel they minister to us.

February 14 was the day Bro. Ed Marty (Dale and Sally, Smithville, OH) and Sis. Elaine Rufener (Bro. Elton and Sis. Velma) were joined as one in the Lord. May our heavenly Father look down upon this marriage with love and grant His richest blessings to this union.

Bro. Neil and Sis. Donna Gasser were blessed with the arrival of a new little daughter, Alicia Dawn. Her big brother is Adam and her happy grandparents are Bro. Don and Sis. Martha Walder.

The engagement of Ralph Beery (Bro. Karl and Sis. Ruth) and Cheryl Labik (Mr. and Mrs. Milan Labik) has been made known. Also engaged are Kathy Stoller (Bro. Dale and Sis. Jeanette) and Dave Ault (Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Ault). May God direct these two couples as they make plans to be married.

Those who were in need of hospital-

ization this past month were Sis. Dorothy Stavenik (Bro. Ben), Sis. Mary Maletich (Bro. Dave, Sr.), Bro. Lester Riggenbach (Sis. Lorena), Sis. Jessie Winkler and Elder Bro. Joe Ramsier. We are thankful to our heavenly Father for restoring health and strength to those who once again are able to enjoy moderate health. May He grant healing as He sees best to all who are still in need. It is so encouraging to have Elder Bro. Joe Ramsier back in our midst. We pray this healing process will continue and added strength will be given to him.

I sincerely thank all brothers, sisters and friends for your prayers. I know God heard each one, and I appreciated them all. Your letters, cards and other expressions of love were so encouraging and uplifting. I did not feel worthy or deserving of them. May God Himself reward you.

Our precious hope and promise means so much when the thread of life is nearly cut. What a wonderful experience it would be to go from agony and pain to a place of peace and rest with our dear Saviour. But how terrible if we grow careless or wait too long to work out our salvation and have to face an eternity of sorrow and pain separated from our Lord throughout eternity. May we all strive a little harder and if not born again, not wait too long. Thanks again. A needy servant,

Elder Bro. Joseph Ramsier

Sis. Bertha Bauman would like to sincerely thank all who remembered her with cards, prayers and other expressions of love shown to her on her 90th birthday. It was all greatly appreciated. May God bless you all.

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**OHIO, SARDIS**  
**Linda Indermuhle**

"Serve the Lord with gladness: come before his presence with singing."

Psalms 100:2

A group of song leaders and their wives gathered with us on a Saturday evening to help us understand and appreciate being able to sing. We appreciated their willingness to share their talents with us. We give thanks to the brothers who lead us in singing.

We were blessed by the visit of Bro. Andy Stoller (Smithville, OH) who brought us God's Word. We enjoyed his family and the loved ones who traveled with them.

Sis. Paula Figel is recovering at home from surgery. Our thoughts and prayers are with her.

**EASTER**

The heart finds hope at Eastertime  
 And faith anew is born  
 As something rare and beautiful  
 On every Easter morn.

The soul looks up at Eastertime  
 While humbly, men recall  
 The glory of a victory  
 The Master won for all.

Life means more at Eastertime  
 Because on one glad day  
 A loving Saviour conquered death  
 When He had passed this way.

Virginia Katherine Oliver

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**OHIO, SMITHVILLE**

**Ann Maibach — Verla Stoller**

**EASTER**

Christ is the world's dear Paschal  
 Lamb  
 He is the great "I was, I am"  
 Through Calv'ry's pain and dismal  
 gloom,

He conquered over death and tomb.  
 He rose His own to justify,  
 And draws all men up to the sky.  
 If you have found the Christ, His way,  
 Then you can keep this Easter day.

Henry Beer

The day we commemorate Christ's suffering, death and resurrection is almost here. Where would we be today if Christ had not died for us? We cannot begin to imagine the love He had for us that made Him go to the cross bearing our sins. Have we availed ourselves of His precious blood? Are we ready to meet Him at any time? Let's review our lives in accordance with His Word so that we can all truly "keep this Easter day."

Those of our congregation who have been hospitalized this past month are Sis. Marilyn Uhler (Dale), Sis. Terri Stoller (Bro. Ron), Bro. Ben Hartzler (Sis. Clara), Alex Dotterer (Bro. Wendell and Sis. Kathy) and Rudy Maibach (Barb). We are thankful for the healing hand of the Great Physician. All have returned home again.

We are thankful to have brothers who are willing to: "Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season;

reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long-suffering and doctrine." II Timothy 4:2. May God richly bless Elder Bro. Eugene Pamer for ministering to us last month.

Our annual election was held and those brethren chosen for duties were: Bro. Art Riggenbach, trustee; Bro. Bill Hartzler, usher; Bro. Tim Maibach, fellowship hall director; Sis. Janet Indermuhle and Sis. Marilyn Uhler, kitchen help; and Bro. Dave Zollinger and Bro. Darrel Indermuhle, nursing home directors. May God bless and direct each one.

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

In the month of February and on Valentine's Day, we hear much about love. If we are sincere in our love for one another, it is good to tell them. We so often fail to do this, thinking they know our feelings, which is not always true. I have beautiful memories of loved ones who expressed their feelings to me, which I would not have known otherwise. It brings to mind an impression left with me from a remark made by one of our elder brothers. He said, "We have no time." Truly, we have no time for tomorrow. So if there is something you would like to tell someone in love, it could be a blessing or an encouragement for them to cherish.

"Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; . . ."

I John 4:7

At our annual business meeting Bro. Matthew Fetter (Bro. Richard and Sis. Betty) was elected as our new trustee and usher. We express our appreciation for the devoted service rendered to "His" church by those whose terms have ended. Bro. Matthew Fetter was also appointed to be one of our song leaders. We pray that God will bless him as he goes forth to carry out these duties.

Bro. Chris Weigele (Sis. Anna) and Sis. Lois Newman wish to thank all loved ones for their kindness in remembering them with cards and encouraging notes and prayers which were offered them during their present illness. May God's healing hand be on them as all is known by Him.

**OREGON, PORTLAND****Jane Rocke — Brenda Knobloch**

"Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God.

"Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord.

"Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ loved the church and gave Himself for it."

Ephesians 5:21, 22, 25

On January 28 we were privileged to assemble with the Silverton congregation and witness the wedding of Sis. Marianne Kuenzi and Bro. Richard Kraft. We were reminded how marriage is symbolic of the church, Christ's great love for us and our need to submit to one another. We rejoice with them in seeing how God has brought them together to be one in Him.

We miss Bro. Ray Banwart, Bro. Ray and Sis. Anna Cooper who are often unable to assemble with us because of failing health.

"If thou put the brethren in remembrance of these things, thou shalt be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished up in the words of faith and of good doctrine whereunto thou hast attained."

I Timothy 4:6

We appreciate the efforts put forth by the Silverton ministers as they often come to share the Word with us. We enjoyed having Elder Bro. Leo Moser (Lester, IA) among us recently.

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

We are pleased to welcome Bro. Kip Edelman to our congregation and community. He originally comes from Gridley, KS, where his parents, Bro. Albert and Sis. Mara Jean Edelman, live. Bro. Kip is presently working at Pratum Co-op Warehouse. We wish him God's blessings.

We extend our best wishes and ask God's richest blessings on Bro. Richard Kraft and Sis. Marianne Kuenzi who were united in holy matrimony January 31. Elder Bro. Leo Moser (Lester, IA) conducted the wedding service, which was attended by many brethren, friends and family from near and far. A wedding reception buffet was held in the afternoon at the Molalla

Senior Center. Parents of the newlyweds are ministering Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Nadine Kraft (Gridley, KS) and Lee and Louise Kuenzi (Silverton).

Visiting ministers and their wives this past month were Elder Bro. Leo and Sis. Leona Moser (Lester, IA), Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Nadine Kraft, and Bro. Tim and Sis. Barbara Zimmerman (Gridley, KS), Bro. Bill and Sis. Susan Emch (Lamont, KS), Bro. Loren and Sis. Evelyn Knapp (Tucson, AZ) and Bro. Garth and Sis. Connie Steffen (Portland, OR). Our sincere thanks are offered to the brothers for sharing the Word with us and to them all for spending time among us. The fellowship we enjoy with our brethren in Christ is truly precious. As someone wise in these matters once said, we are blest three times . . . first, there is the anticipation of joyous times, then the actual happening (which often passes so quickly) and finally, the third blessing, the memories that we cherish.

As a reminder to the Silverton area, March is Silver Lining subscription collection month. The rate for one year remains at \$7.00.

**PENNSYLVANIA,****PHILADELPHIA****Jerry Isch**

With joy we welcome Sis. Sandy Lanz (Bro. Edwin and Sis. Marilyn Lanz, Rockville, CT). At the present time she is living with her brother, Bro. John Lanz and his wife, Sis. Kay. Sandy is working for LSL Printers as a Data Entry Clerk.

We thank Bro. Dan Stoller (Rockville, CT) for serving us in the ministry while Bro. Ed served in Washington, D.C.

**Sermon . . .**

(Continued from Page 32)

we have our problems, too. I know. But we have Someone to go to, Someone we can trust, a loving Saviour! We can trust Him and talk to Him. We need not have a great vocabulary, special phrases or learn whole pages of writings.

We can say like that sinner that came to the Lord, "Be merciful to me a sinner." We also can come to look at the Lord, our dear Saviour. He came to His Father and asked His Father, "Not for my sake, but for the people here, so that they believe Me, glorify My name." How wonderful! He glorified

His name many times.

Oh, think of how fortunate those people were to have the Lord Jesus among them. They could touch Him and feel Him. One woman just touched His garment and believed in her heart that in just touching His garment, not even asking Him, she would be cured. How wonderful! (See Luke 8:43-48)

This is the faith that the Lord speaks of here. "If any man serve me, let him follow me: and where I am, there shall also my servant be: if any man serve me, him will my Father honour." John 12:26. I believe, as our dear Lord often said, that anyone who leaves father, mother or anything precious in this world to follow Him, will receive manifold more already in this world.

What did Jesus say? He offers a life more abundant and not only that, but the most precious gift of life everlasting in a wonderful home of peace and rest. Isn't it wonderful that we have a goal? We have something to look forward to!

We might have pain, suffering, trials or temptations. Well, Jesus' life wasn't any better. I don't think anyone has been called upon to suffer as our dear Lord and Saviour suffered. How grateful and thankful are we?

He said, "Come unto Me. I will guide you and I will lead you." Isn't it true that when we receive this wonderful gift of the Holy Ghost, then we have the knowledge and understanding, and the power to say "no"? I know in my case, I couldn't. There are many things that I did, that I was ashamed of. Once we receive the Holy Spirit, He will lead and guide us through Jesus Christ our Lord. Then we have the power to overcome, to stay true to Him, and to follow our Lord, our Saviour and our dear Shepherd.

Isn't it wonderful to follow our Shepherd? We can call upon Him, "Dear Lord, Thou knowest all things, Thou seest all things. This is a little too heavy so show me the way and give me strength to stay on this path of life." We read here, "If any man serve me, let him follow me; and where I am, there shall also my servant be . . ." John 12:26.

Jesus is with us, wherever we may find ourselves. It is a wonderful experience to know and understand that if any man serve Him, the Father will honour him. Think of the Almighty God, the Creator of us all, and of heaven and earth. Could we have a

more loving or wealthy Father? Just think, we can brag. We have a rich Father! Oh, we have something so valuable and so precious! Let us realize and understand that, to keep this holy faith and trust.

"Now is my soul troubled; and what shall I say? Father, save me from this hour: but for this cause came I unto this hour." John 12:27. Jesus knew what was coming. Jesus knew what was before Him. In the Garden of Gethsemane, we read that He prayed to His Father so earnestly that His perspiration was as blood.

There is no one, dear friends, that has to die for their sins. It has been paid for at the highest possible price. It is for each and every one of us. Take advantage of it.

I am sure that if someone offered you a beautiful, furnished home, you would take it. The human mind cannot even conceive this beautiful home that we are to receive if we serve the Lord.

Now if we love the Lord as we sang, "It is no chore to serve Him. We serve Him because we love Him and because He died for us. We serve Him because we want to please Him, honor Him and glorify His name." It is not out of our own strength, no matter how strong we might feel. We pray to God for that spirit of love. I know I wanted to repent on my own terms and it took me a long time. All my friends were taken into the church and here I was, stumbling along because I wanted to repent on my own terms. Then the Lord looked down upon me. He shook me up. He said, "That is no way to repent. You must give your heart and your all. I gave My all on the cross." Then, my eyes were opened and I knew I was a sinner. Then I also knew that there was only One that could save me, and that was Jesus Christ, my Lord. How wonderful He was!

We will always find our Saviour Jesus Christ close to us. We pray that we will understand the price that it cost our dear Lord and Saviour to pray for our soul. We have so much to look forward to.

We are living in troubled times. It's not that any of us are complaining because we are serving the Lord.

The Lord God in heaven has promised us that He will be with us, and He has always kept His promises. We all have more than enough from the Lord with His love, His gifts and His mercy. The peace in our hearts is the most

precious thing of all. He took the fear of death out of our hearts.

Oh, the man on the street is confused. Yes, he is confused, frightened and says, "What is coming? What is happening?" If he would only open this Book of Life! Sometimes he does, but he doesn't understand it or he is not willing enough to come and be led to this wonderful peace and joy. What happens? They go to the psychiatrist, take up drugs or plunge themselves into business matters.

Our Lord said, "If any man serve me . . ." We could not have a more wonderful, dear Lord and Saviour. We pray that many souls will understand that. We all would gladly testify that this is the truth. We have experienced it in our hearts and testify that the Word of God is Truth. We can trust every word and every syllable our dear Saviour spoke when He was here upon this earth. Many prophesies are coming true before our very eyes. There were many times the Lord said, "The time will come . . ." I think we are living in such a time. It's not that we have to know when this will be and how it will take place, but we do want to be prepared.

We want to be prepared for that time when the trials come so that we are on solid ground, as in the parable of our Lord and Saviour. We should build a house, not on sand, but on the Solid Rock. Who is that Solid Rock? Jesus Christ, our Lord. We should build our house on the foundation of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

He said the winds will come, and they do. The winds, the trials and the tests of this world and time do come. But we are on Solid Rock. But if we build on sand, what can we expect? The winds, storms and the rain will come and it will suffer. We are so grateful and thankful.

"Now is the judgment of this world: now shall the prince of this world be cast out. And I, if I be lifted up from this earth, will draw all men unto me." John 12:31, 32. Here is the opportunity for every one. There is no one exempted. Jesus died for the whole world. Therefore, let us pray for our country and for His creation that they may come into the Ark of Safety before it is forever too late.

There are many coming to the Truth and Light, and that is wonderful! We pray especially for our young people that they may know and understand

that today is the day of grace and, as we read here, that their hearts be not hardened. That is danger, too, of hearts becoming hardened. When they have a disease of any kind and take medication, it may eventually become ineffective. But the Word of God is different. Faith in this Word of God will provide the spiritual medication that they need.

Oh, that their eyes would be opened to the danger. Today is the day of grace. What tomorrow will bring, we do not know, but we do know that death can be so sudden. If we are prepared, and we should be, death isn't bad. It opens up the door to everything we ever lived for, hoped for, prayed for and had faith in. Isn't it true? That is something to look forward to.

John the Divine was given a glimpse of what the children of God have to look forward to. What he saw was wonderful. He said that there was no pain or suffering. It was new and the city was beautiful . . . That home that we are talking about, that home of peace and rest is worth working for.

In our hearts, we pray that even our worst enemy may not have to be where we were. We want to all be together in this Home, especially with our loved ones. We pray for them and ask the Lord to look down on them. He has answered so many times. As I look in this congregation, every seat and every bench is filled. God has been good. With the work of your ministers and the elders, God gave the increase. That again proves the love and truth of God.

"He that believeth on me, believeth not on me, but on him that sent me." John 12:44. He always gave the honor to His Father. When He cured someone, opened eyes, or even brought life back from the dead, many would fall down before Him and worship Him. But He always said, "Give God the glory." There is a lesson here for us, too.

In humility and in love, we walk this path of life together. Love one another. In unity, there is strength. Yes, we have an enemy of our soul. But when we are unified, it is hard for him to accomplish much.

But the Lord talked about the lost sheep. The shepherd left all the other sheep and went after one lost sheep. That is to show us the importance and value of every soul, every soul! Why? In the death of our Lord on the cross, He gave His all. That is how valuable it is.

FEB 02602 LK  
CHARLES WALDER  
EAST LYNN IL 60932

## SERMON BY BRO. JOHN DIGGLEMAN OF UNION CITY, NJ

### Wonderful Jesus John 12:23-50

The Lord Himself said, "All my instructions come from the Father. All that I do comes from the Father. I, of myself," Jesus said, "can do nothing." Think of it. The Son of God does what the Father "gives Me to do as He gives Me the strength, the courage, and the faith." (See John 12:49-50).

How much more, then, shall we pray that the Lord may let this Word of Life continue. The Lord Jesus, when He was here on this earth, preached the Word of God. Even the Father would say "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." Matthew 3:17. Again, on that mount with the three disciples, He also spoke, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him." Matthew 17:5.

When Jesus said, "Father, glorify thy name," what did He say? "Then came there a voice from heaven, saying, I have both glorified it, and will glorify it again." John 12:28. What a testimony from God to exalt His beloved Son! He came upon this earth for that very purpose to bring about the plan of salvation. He knew what was to be done and what was going to take place.

Think of it, for three years He preached the Word of God here upon this earth. No one here was for Him. Yet, He was not discouraged, even if they treated Him awfully and sought His life many times. Yet, He was kind and good to anyone who approached Him with the faith to say, "Lord." Many asked Him for light, understanding or healing from whatever disease they had. He often asked them, "Do you believe that I can do this?" They were so willing to believe, and even asked Him to give them strength to believe. They always found the love of Jesus Christ.

He was a loving Master. Did this Master disappear? Do we have Him at

all anymore? Our dear Lord Jesus looks down upon us in His mercy and love. He is still, not with one hand, but with both, holding His hands out and saying, "Come unto me, and find this wonderful love and peace."

He said, "My peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. (See John 14:27). I give you the peace that you can have and hold in your heart. It will stay there to guide you.

Oh, we would love to give it to our children. We would love to explain just what this means, but we can't. It's so wonderful and precious, it cannot be explained. It must be experienced. You must find this love and peace in your own heart. You must also find yourself lost. You must also see Jesus and say, "Here is my Saviour and my Redeemer. Turn to Him. It won't take much.

The Lord told many parables. Here the Pharisee and the publican both went to the synagogue to pray. The Pharisee prayed a long drawn out prayer as if God didn't know and see. He told God how good he was and all that he did. He even looked down at that publican, that "sinner," and thanked God that He wasn't like him.

What did the publican say? He did not even dare lift his eyes to heaven. He was sincere. He knew he was a sinner. He didn't try to be something he was not. All he said was, "God be merciful to me a sinner." Luke 18:13.

That wasn't a long prayer, was it? But it was a sincere prayer with all his heart, and he turned to the Lord. What did Jesus say? "This man went down to his house justified..." Luke 18:14. He went from this synagogue and his prayer was heard.

How do we come in this sincerity and experience the love of God? My experience is through prayer. Prayer! Prayer! Before prayer, of course, comes faith,

does it not? Faith will open up the door. If the Lord sees that we are sincere, He gives us the knowledge and understanding.

I am ashamed to say how I had come to the Lord. I had God-fearing parents and was taught in Sunday school, yet I had to go out into the world before I came to the Lord. But I thank God that He did not say, "Well, let him go. He doesn't deserve it."

We have a wonderful Jesus Christ. We have a God in heaven Who is merciful! He has proven His love for us by sending His only beloved Son here upon this earth. Jesus knew that He would have to suffer on that cross.

We read here, "The hour is come, that the Son of man should be glorified. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit." John 12:23, 24. I think most of us here understand that. A seed of corn will produce a living plant.

Our Lord and Saviour was the One Who was sacrificed. He was the One Who died for your sins and my sins. He brought us this wonderful faith and hope.

"He that loveth his life shall lose it; and he that hateth his life in this world shall keep it unto life eternal." John 12:25. Now let's not get confused about this. He that loveth his life, shall lose it. We also read, "The day is far spent, the night is coming." Therefore, we heed this precious Word of God and know that there is work to be done. We sang, "Work, for the night is coming!" and we realize the day is far spent.

Today is the day of grace. We who have become children of God, know how wonderful it is to have and to hold this as we go through this life. Oh, yes,

(Continued on Page 30)