



"Seek the Lord, and his strength: seek his face evermore."

Psalms 105:4

"Be still, and know that I am God..."

Psalms 46:10

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Practicing Privacy

We often encourage one another to imitate or pattern our lives after those we respect or honor. As believers, we speak of following Christ's example, walking in His footsteps and trusting His leading. Woven throughout the gospels is the obvious secret to His strength for each day's trials, His living relationship with His Father and His unswerving commitment to His Father's will. **Jesus practiced privacy!**



"And when he had sent the multitudes away, he went up into a mountain apart to pray: and when the evening was come, he was there alone." Matthew 14:23

"And Jesus departed from thence, and came nigh unto the sea of Galilee; and went up into a mountain, and sat down there." Matthew 15:29

"And he said unto them, Come ye yourselves apart into a desert place, and rest a while: for there were many coming and going..." Mark 6:31

"... And he took them, and went aside privately into a desert place..." Luke 9:10

"And he was withdrawn from them about a stone's cast, and kneeled down, and prayed." Luke 22:41

If Christ, the Son of God, needed to practice privacy, how much more do we? There are no short-cuts to communion with the Father. It's only found by **practicing privacy!**

How Long Has It Been?

How long has it been since you talked with the Lord
And told Him your heart's hidden secrets?
How long since you prayed? how long since you
stayed
On your knees till the light shone through?
How long has it been since your mind felt at ease?
How long since your heart knew no burden?
Can you call Him your friend? How long has it been
since you knew that He cared for you?

How long has it been since you knelt by your bed
And prayed to the Lord up in heaven?
How long since you knew that He'd answer you, And
would keep you the long night through?
How long has it been since you woke with the dawn,
And felt that the day's worth the living?
Can you call Him your friend, How long has it been
since you knew that He cared for you?

Mosie Lister

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S HOME

Colleen Reardon

What a wonderful and blessed month we have had here at the Children's Home. As usual, things have been moving very fast, with Easter break just ending and our kids and staff getting back into a routine again. As we account for work that we've started, we also are accountable for our work completed. This year during the spring break our kids traveled and stayed with families from Morris, MN, Cissna Park, Morton and Peoria, IL, and Sarasota, FL. We are truly blessed to have so many families interested in our kids and willing to extend their home to our Home.

This month has brought many new faces to the Home. Our annual representatives' meeting brought brothers and sisters from the following churches: Akron, Alto, Bloomington, Bluffton, Chicago, Cissna Park, Detroit, Elgin, IL, Fairbury, Forrest, Francesville, Indianapolis, Iowa City, LaCrosse, Latty, Leo, Mansfield, Milford, Oakville, Peoria, Princeville, Remington, Sarasota, Sardis, South Bend, Valparaiso and Washington. We are thankful for the brothers who have made our representatives' meeting a fruitful and rewarding one. Our speakers at the meeting shared personal experiences and information concerning the Home,

its operations, the building project and the future.

Great progress has been made in the past month or so on the new house. Well over 100 building volunteers came from 19 different churches including Alto, Bay City, Bluffton, Bluffton North, Bradfoard, Cissna Park, Detroit, Elgin, IL, Eureka, Fairbury, Forrest, Gridley, IL, Indianapolis, LaCrosse, Latty, Leo, Roanoke, Toledo and Wolcott. We thank each one who made the effort to come help us. We really appreciate it and pray that God will abundantly bless you. We continue to be in great need of skilled volunteers. Please call your local church representative or the Children's Home if you are interested.

Also at the representatives' meeting we introduced our new Alternate Houseparents, John and Patsy Stoller (Forrest, IL). We would like to welcome them along with their three children, Candi, Sandi and Kevin, who will be moving to the Leo area in early summer. It never ceases to amaze me how the Lord uses people to answer prayers, to do His will and to serve as instruments to provide each and every one of us with new spiritual growth. He fulfills our needs and nurtures our lives to become more complete in Him.

Our administrator, Tim Sauder, recently spoke at college weekend in Champaign-Urbana, IL, about devel-

oping a service mentality and the needs of the Home. Also, we are looking forward to a visit to Latty, OH, at the end of the month when a presentation about the Home will be given Saturday evening at the fellowship hall. The entire staff and all the kids are invited for the day Sunday.

I'm very excited to see our expansion here at the Home. I am also very humbled to know that God has laid His hand out to guide us. Often we are unsure of tomorrow and what it will bring. We have been fortunate enough to watch God at work and to feel His presence around us, in our work and our home life. Maybe we should all look and see if we're doing everything we can to see God work in our lives.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

Although Easter is past, we still have signs of this joyous season around. This lovely poem certainly paints a verbal picture of the flowers we've been enjoying:

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

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THE SILVER LINING

Grabill, Indiana 46741
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The editorial staff wishes to acknowledge and thank all of the volunteers from the Leo Apostolic Christian Church who willingly give of their time to handle the many address changes, help mail the monthly issues and spend hours in editing. May God reward you.

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IN MEMORY — EDITORS:
HENRY SOUDER
EDWARD SOUDER



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).

Holy Communion is one of the most sacred and precious experiences afforded the child of God while here on this earth. It was instituted by the Lord Jesus on the night of His betrayal, while He was gathered in a large upper room with the twelve apostles. "And he took bread, and gave thanks, and brake it, and gave unto them, saying, this is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me. Likewise also the cup after supper, saying, this cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you" (Luke 22:19-20). The Lord understood human nature and saw great benefit to be derived by the church in the years to come through observance of this sacred rite.

The primary purpose of Holy Communion is to bring vivid remembrance to the sacrifice and suffering of the Savior, who paid the price for sin and brought the opportunity for salvation to lost mankind. The intense love for Christ which bursts forth in the heart of every newly converted person is referred to as his "first love." It consists of a deep appreciation for salvation, forgiveness, and peace. The Word describes a pitiful deterioration of this awareness in the hearts of the people in the church at Ephesus (Rev. 2:2-4). Although these believers were diligent in performing many good works and resisting evil, they had lost their first love. They were warned to repent and restore that love or suffer even greater loss. Communion can be very helpful in maintaining the flame of love for Christ.

The symbols which represent Christ's body and blood give added meaning to this sacred feast. The bread is made of a multitude of grains of wheat which were ground into flour. Each grain has lost its identity and has been blended imperceptibly into the loaf. The fruit of the vine is made from many grapes which were crushed to release their juice. They also have lost their identity and have become blended perfectly to form the final product. The beautiful simplicity of breaking the bread and sharing the cup allows the true meaning of these symbols to prevail in the hearts of the

Holy Communion

brethren as they take Communion. All thought of self is put aside, and a body of united believers is taken back to Calvary in the spirit, to behold in reverence and deepest gratitude the suffering, bleeding, and dying of the pure and holy lamb of God.

The Scripture teaches that each child of God is to make a thorough self-examination before partaking of Holy Communion. If no unreconciled sin is found and the individual is at peace with God and man, he is then free to partake (1 Cor. 11:27-32). The Apostle Paul wrote, "Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness; but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth" (1 Cor. 5:8).

The question is sometimes raised as to whether the church has any role in determining who might partake of Communion. Indeed certain basic standards are applied, such as not sharing Communion with children or individuals who have not been baptized. It is relevant to note that the church takes ample time and care in ascertaining who is worthy of baptism: "Lay hands suddenly on no man" (1 Tim. 5:22). Once a soul has brought an acceptable testimony of true conversion and love for Christ and has demonstrated commitment to a life of obedience to God's Word, a covenant is made and baptism is administered. Implicit in this baptism is submission to church authority and loyalty to the body of believers of which the new member has become an integral part (Phil. 1:27, 3:16; Heb. 13:17). Both the church (Christ's body) and the individual bear responsibility in keeping this feast with sincerity and truth (1 Cor. 5:8). Self-examination prior to Communion is the responsibility of the individual member, as prescribed in the Word (1 Cor. 11:28). The church's role is to open the Communion feast only to those who are in full fellowship with and thus spiritually accountable to this body of believers.

If Communion were open to any professing Christian, individuals with markedly different beliefs and

interpretations of the Word would participate. This could include professing Christians who have adopted substandard lifestyles which in many instances constitute living in sin, according to a literal interpretation of the Word. The consequences of partaking of Communion unworthily are very serious. "For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself" (1 Cor. 11:29). When wayward Christians are under the jurisdiction of a body of believers which diligently applies the Word, and judges immoral lifestyles as sin, they are disciplined (1 Cor. 5). This authority cannot be exerted over such individuals if they belong to a different church or religious group. In addition to contributing to their condemnation by allowing them to share Communion, another scriptural principle would be violated: "...neither be partaker of other men's sins: keep thyself pure" (1 Tim. 5:22). The Word further teaches, "And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them" (Eph. 5:11). There is no practical way for the church to fulfill the Scriptural ideal of a pure and holy remembrance of the Lord's suffering in the true spirit of unity, if Holy Communion is held as an open public ceremony.

The flame of love and appreciation for Christ is renewed when brethren gather in oneness of mind and with prepared hearts to observe Holy Communion. This experience strengthens the spiritual union throughout the body of believers as well as with the Head, which is Christ (1 Cor. 10:16-17). Communion means "common union." The deep, meaningful fellowship among believers in Christ who are of like mind and at peace with one another is truly a foretaste of Heaven. "And (He) hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus" (Eph. 2:6). May we truly cherish the opportunity to experience renewal of our first love by observing Holy Communion in all sincerity and humility, according to the pattern established by our Lord and Savior and His beloved disciples.

"The garden's alive with Easter.
The flowers bloom row on row:
Daffodils, hyacinths, tulips
And lilies as white as snow.

The garden's alive with Easter;
A fragrant joy it displays.
The face of each smiling flower
Reflects Resurrection Day.

The garden's alive with Easter.
O, may your heart's garden be, too,
That you life might bloom with beauty,
Revealing Christ's love in you.

Louise Pinkerton Fritz

The landscaping for Oakwood Estate has been put in, giving an altogether different look to the outward appearance of the new residence. The interior work is nearing completion. The kitchen cabinets, counters and appliances are in place. The carpet is laid and only a little wallpaper has not been hung. Most of the furniture has arrived or is ready for delivery. Some sinks still need to be installed and the final electrical and plumbing needs to be done.

The 15 people who will be living at Oakwood know who they are. Fourteen of them will be from our Home. They are each in training programs to prepare them. We have been meeting every other week to discuss progress, questions, etc. We have also been using the time to tour and to make plans about how we would like Oakwood to operate. They also had the opportunity to make choices of which room they would prefer. All are excited to hear which room they have been assigned. At our last meeting we introduced the director of Oakwood, Helen Schuon, who had just recently accepted the position. She will start work May 2. Everyone was excited to have someone they know. We are delighted to have someone with her qualifications and are pleased that God led her to accept. We do not know when we will be able to open, due to the long and complicated inspection process, but we hope to be able to open sometime in middle or late summer. Your continued prayerful support of this exciting new venture is appreciated.

The Sunshine Club enjoyed getting

out again after four months of having their gatherings in the multi-purpose room here at the Home. We always appreciate the gracious invitations to someone's home, and as the Activity Director receives the invitation, it is kept a secret from the girls where they are going. They love surprises and look eagerly forward to each month's outing. In November, December, January and February, the meetings are held here at the Home because of the cold weather and sometimes snowy or icy roads.

The June birthdays coming up are as follows: (7) Harold Miller, (15) Aldine Winger, (18) Doris Hutchison, (18) Donnie Parks, (19) Sharilyn Rowell, (21) Janet Wilt, (22) Chip Johann, (24) Lyle Steffen, (25) Willis Belsley and (29) Edwin Gehrig.

It was suggested we again mention that we do not plan to have a Benefit Day this year due to the many activities scheduled for the year. We will miss the visits of all the loved ones who come at this time, but hope they will find time to stop in, anyway, whenever they can.

COME HELP US GROW

"Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, TO VISIT THE FATHERLESS and widows IN THEIR AFFLICTION and to keep himself unspotted from the world."

James 1:27

Here, at the Apostolic Christian Children's Home, we sense a real urgency about the work that James described. Since our Home opened in 1975, the Lord has given us opportunity to provide a Christian family for nearly 70 troubled young people, temporarily or permanently "fatherless". The demand for our family-like placement alternative has increased so that we are operating at capacity AND MUST TURN AWAY MANY CHILDREN IN NEED OF HELP.

The Lord has burdened our hearts to respond to this growing need. As you may know, construction is now underway for a third family residence, similar to the present houses, with capacity for eight youths. As a result, we will soon have several new openings for staff positions:

- A married couple to serve as Houseparents
- Single people to serve as Assistants or Houseparents

These are challenging and rewarding opportunities for mature and committed couples and single people to work as a team with a dedicated and unified staff of brothers and sisters, striving to meet the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of young people.

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

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APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL OF ATHENS, AL Marilyn Walder

We would like to welcome any brother, sister or friend who is interested in volunteering time here this summer. We have started enrolling students for summer school and anticipate needing help while the staff takes their vacations. Please let us know as soon as possible what your plans are by contacting Marilyn Walder at 205-233-0591 or Route 11, Box 333, Athens, AL 35611.

We want to thank Bro. Leonard Dolce (Mansfield, OH) for volunteering one week of his time to complete many jobs at the school, church and apartment. He brought Donovan Clark with him and they both worked hard to get the jobs on our list completed. We want to thank them for their willingness.

Our theme this month is plants. We are learning about the parts of plants and how intricate God created them.

We would like to invite each of you to our annual graduation ceremony Friday, May 20, at 7:00 p.m. Our board members plan to attend and we hope to have our semi-annual board meeting Saturday, May 21.

ALABAMA, ATHENS**Marilyn Walder**

We have had visitors from fifteen churches during the past month. Visiting ministers have been Bros. Jim Rinkenberger (Bluffton, IN), Jaye Rinkenberger (Goodfield, IL), Jack Bollier (Leo, IN) and Elmer Schrenk (Alto, MI). We thank them for their messages. Other visitors have been from Princeville, Tremont, Washing-

ton, Peoria, Goodfield, Cissna Park, Gridley and Bloomington, IL, Leo and Bluffton, IN, Denver, CO, Mansfield and Latty, OH, Alto, MI, and Atlanta, GA. We have enjoyed our many visitors and are thankful for Christian fellowship.

We extend our sympathy to Bro. J.R. and Sis. Louise Hall at the passing of Bro. J.R.'s brother, Everett. Everett had been seriously ill for quite some

time. Our congregation had visited him and sang to him several times. May God be near them in their sorrow.

ARIZONA, PHOENIX**Ron & Ev Hoerr**

"For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do show the Lord's death till he come."

I Corinthians 11:26

— NOTICE —**Repair and Distribution of Worn Bibles, Bible Story Books, Hymns of Zion, Tabernacle or Gospel Hymn Books**

In 1984 we read in the Guideposts concerning the unfilled need for 10,000 Bibles. We wrote to the organization and started sending some repaired and some new Bibles. Since that time, we have sent over 500 Bibles, much Sunday school materials and song books.

During this past year, Sisters Becky Knapp (Dave) and Jane Huetter (Curtis) from Goodfield, IL, are helping in this work.

If our churches or individual members have Bibles, Bible story books, Hymns of Zion, Tabernacle or Gospel Hymn books that are worn and in need of repair, please let us know or send them to us. We tape and repair the books and obtain names and addresses of people in foreign countries who want and need them, package and mail them in large canvas mailing bags. It costs 55¢ a pound to send books or \$1.10 for printed material of less than 30 pages. On a recent shipment to Africa, the cost to send a Bible was 72¢.

If you have any questions or wish to send material for repair, please call or write:

Jerry and Arlene Banwart
Box 132
Congerville, IL 61729
Phone (309) 448-2416

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
March 1988 —	2027	18961
April 1988 —	1968	20929

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.

Once again we had the privilege of breaking bread and taking the cup. Elder Bro. Richard Schupbach and Bro. Noah Herman (Tucson) served us so lovingly and we thank them very much.

"Dost thou believe on the Son of God?" (John 9:35). Nathan Knochel's answer is a hearty "yes" as he has the wonderful peace known only by a child of God. As we rejoice with Nathan, his parents, Bro. Herb and Sis. Joanne Knochel, are giving thanks that their three children are also God's children. This is the prayer of every parent.

We are counting our blessings and we sure had many to count. On Good Friday, Palm Sunday and Easter, the Lord filled our cup with messages from Elder Bros. Bob Walder (Congerville, IL), Roy Sauder (Peoria, IL) and Bros. Tom Lemman (Denver, CO) and Doug Wagenbach (San Diego, CA), plus our Elder Bro. Richard Schupbach and Bros. Bill Dotterer, Jon Kokanovich and Gregg Gramm.

Palm Sunday was the last Sunday in March which qualified it as our church fellowship potluck supper. We all look forward to our church family suppers, as they are so reminiscent of the grandma and grandpa gatherings from the area that we all migrated from. Our Sunday school pleased us with a fine Easter program of singing.

The scriptures are too numerous to mention telling us to "Praise Him" and "Sing unto the Lord." Many of us did enjoy a Christian message in song as our Phoenix chorus praised the Lord. They also gathered at Glencroft Retirement Center (where several of our brethren live) for Easter sunrise service.

Our prayer list for the hospital and homebound sick includes Bro. Dan Kokanovich, Sis. Ora Schrenk, Frances Schrenk and Sis. Marge Frautschi (a massive stroke), Sis. Emma Sanders, Sis. Dorothy Kraft and Sis. Esther Harmon.

We give thanks unto the Lord that Bro. Earl and Sis. Emma Sanders were able to be in church for the first time in 1988 since she suffered a fall at Thanksgiving time. Sis. Esther Harmon was missing for a month.

Sis. Marjorie Frautschi (Bro. Al) passed to eternal life March 29. Besides her husband, she is survived by a son, Bro. Ed (Sis. Connie) and three grandchildren, Chris, Heather and Stephanie. Visitation and memorial services were March 30 at Messinger Memorial Chapel before the family escorted the body to Leo, IN, for funeral services and interment in the family plot there.

We extend sympathy to members of the family of Bro. John Kaufman and Mrs. Betty Kaufman on the death of her father, Bro. Gottlieb Hari (Eureka, IL).

We surely give thanks to the Lord for His protection to Bro. Keith and Sis. Carol Kaufman and small son, Philip. When returning home from Illinois and Grandpa Hari's funeral, they were involved in a car accident in New Mexico. Their car was totaled and they had to fly back to Phoenix.

Elder Bro. Richard and Sis. Barbara Schupbach welcomed another generation into the family circle when Andrea Ruth Marie was born to Sheri and Tom Brumm.

Many of our winter visitors enjoyed

**WORKS PROJECTS
NEEDS FOR HAITI**

Items For the Hospitals

If you have:

Wheelchairs, crutches, canes or walkers.

Needed are large serving spoons, blank cassette tapes, 35mm film - black & white - Plus X - Panzo - Kodacolor II - slide film, either 24 or 36 exposure.

Fans - floor or ceiling.

Gift wrap paper (birthday and Christmas), Desk Calendars 1989, Calculators, Water Filters, Incubator, Variety of Construction Tools.

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

the very early arrival of our 100° weather before April 5 and their return to blustery weather elsewhere.

Some of us have more time to behold the beauty of the Lord of which we read in Psalm 27:4. As I sit pondering over our news - notes, one of the smaller version of hummingbirds perched on a twig of our bird tree for seven minutes, making enough joy for a great day. Last week, His special to me was a road-runner. We know the Master makes our life work like we read in Romans 8:28.

**ARIZONA, PRESCOTT
Harvey and Ethel Smith**

Our ministers have been Bro. Jim Funk (Tucson) and Bro. Greg Gramm (Phoenix). May they be blessed for sharing the Word with us.

Bro. Greg related that as they were enroute to Prescott Sunday morning, they encountered fog and were unable to see. He stated that it was so scary that at times he considered stopping and waiting for the fog to lift. But they continued slowly onward. The incident reminded him of how it is in our lives. We encounter problems and times when we don't know where we are going or what we are going to do because we cannot see into the future. Here again we must go forward trusting our Lord and Saviour for guidance as He is the all-seeing gracious God to direct and even carry us when we cannot see the way.

"There's a song in the night for those who walk in the light."

We welcome vacationers to assemble with us at Prescott.

**ARIZONA, TUCSON
Lisa Knapp**

As Mother's Day approaches, we will probably be trying to think of something to do or something to buy for our mothers. Listening to the funeral service for my grandmother over a month ago, I realized the two most important verses of Proverbs 31 were the last two, verses 30 and 31. "Favor is deceitful, and beauty is vain: but a woman that feareth the Lord, she shall be praised. Give her of the fruit of her hands; and let her own works praise her in the gates." I took great comfort in believing that my grandma fulfilled those two verses but I have to wonder now if I do. So, while doing something for our mothers on Mother's Day, may we also

reevaluate how we measure up as mothers.

**CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA
Elaine Graf**

"And the Lord God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him."
Genesis 2:18

On April 10 we heard the announcement of the engagement of Sis. Beckie Witzig (Bro. Bill and Sis. Mary) to Bro. Rob Lehman (Bro. Gene and Sis. Verna, Wolcott, IN). They plan a July 17 wedding. May God bless them.

On March 27 we were blessed with partaking of holy communion. Our retired Elder Bro. Carl Kinsinger assisted Elder Bro. John Klotzle.

Visiting ministers have been Bros. Wendell Gerber (Bluffton North, IN), Victor Beer (North Fort Myers, FL) and Roy Sauder (Peoria, IL).

Becky Aberle (Bro. Richard and Sis. LaNae) recently spent a week helping at the Apostolic Christian Children's Home in Leo, IN.

Early Easter morning a number of us met at church and then drove a short distance to the foothills of the mountains behind Altadena for song worship. A short climb brought us to the top of a hill overlooking the Pasadena area. This Easter tradition is a special way to worship and praise our Lord Easter morning.

**CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO
Nella Varga**

To share communion with brothers and sisters-in-the-Lord is a tremendous blessing. I was so touched to feel the power of God's love in our presence. It overwhelmed me. Afterward, we greeted one another with the holy kiss, as God has commanded us to do.

**NOTICE OF SCHEDULE
CHANGE FOR
WEST VIRGINIA
MEMORIAL SERVICE
June 19, 1988**

Services will be held June 18, 1988, at the Sardis, OH, church at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, June 19, 1988, at the New Martinsville, WV, church at 10:30 a.m.
For more information, call Delbert Indermuhle, 614-483-1520.

Those who have never experienced this communing are missing out. The fulfillment of God's love is felt when His children partake of His body, remembering the agony He must have felt when He was crucified. Blood gushed from his body so that all may have a chance of being saved. I always wonder about the soldier who pierced our Lord. When he did that deed, could some blood have sprayed on Him? Did He just wash it off his clothes, or maybe that righteous blood touched his flesh? How would it have felt to actually have the blood of Jesus upon Him? How would you feel if that was you? Are you guilty of the blood of Jesus? No one can ever know the fullness of God's love and grace unless they at least try His ways . . . Come and See.

We are thankful to have had Elder Bro. Roy Sauder (Peoria, IL) to share the Word and communion with us. May God's grace be with him always.

Moving into our new place of worship took a great deal of effort and time on behalf of everyone. We thank God He's provided for us. He's such a wonderful God! Visitors are always welcome here in San Diego, and we're thankful for all those who have come and worshipped with us. Please come again! The new church location is: 410 West Felicita, Suite H, Escondido, CA 92025. You may contact Bro. Doug Wagenbach at (619) 679-8353 or Bro. Pete Petrovich at (619) 789-1504 for further information.

Father's Day is June 19!

To all fathers: We honour you this day because you have reflected your love to us as the heavenly Father loves His children. The special ways you show you care, the love and wisdom that you share. You have strength and patience, too. Father, greatly, we love you. God bless you, Father!

COLORADO, DENVER

Mike Martin — Marlene Leman

Spring has arrived here in the Rocky Mountain Region. Trees are budding, flowers are blooming, gardens are growing and the grass is green again. All these are signs of life being renewed just as we heard the children speak and sing about at our Easter program. How wonderful to think of that springtime in glory when we'll have a new life in all eternity.

We welcome a new family to our congregation. Bro. Don and Sis. Becky Carpenter and their daughter, Diane,

have moved here from Oklahoma City. We ask God's blessings upon them and trust they can feel His love as they assemble with us.

Just a reminder — if you haven't paid your Silver Lining dues, there are still a few days left in May to do it as that is when they are due.

CONNECTICUT, ROCKVILLE

Martha Hany

"And no man putteth new wine into old bottles; else the new wine will burst the bottles, and be spilled, and the bottles shall perish. But new wine must be put into new bottles; and both are preserved."

Luke 5:37, 38

We welcome Steve Wagenbach (Bro. Simon and Sis. Louise) from Tremont, IL. In his conversion, may the Lord grant Steve much grace and determination to put off the old man and be born again in accordance with His Word. Also, we rejoice with and pray for Linda (Conley) Luginbuhl as she is prompted by the Spirit to join her husband, Keith, in true repentance. Linda's father is deceased and her mother, Martha Conley, lives in Louisiana. With God's help and nearness, may these precious souls persevere in their new direction and goal in this temporal life. May they reach that heavenly home, forever with the Lord!

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, WASHINGTON

**Catherine Klopfenstein
Rebecca German**

Services are held the first and third Sunday of each month, starting at 10:30 a.m. at the Westpark Hotel on Route 7, about 2 miles west of I-495, in McLean, VA.

Attendance has been good, usually 20 or more each time we assemble. The tourist season is starting and will bring large numbers of visitors to D.C. during the next several months. We hope this will also bring many visitors to our church services.

Visiting ministers recently have been Bro. Ray Sinn (Latty, OH), Bro. Lee Bahler (Rockville, CT) and Bro. Ed Schwartz (Bluffton, IN). Each was accompanied by his wife and we sincerely appreciate their efforts.

Recent visitors have been from Latty, OH, Sabetha, KS, Bloomington, Eureka and Fairbury, IL, Rockville,

CT, Bluffton and Leo, IN, and Philadelphia, PA. Visitors are always welcome and appreciated.

We are so glad to have Ginny Knobloch as a new addition to our assembly. Ginny came to this area from Lester, IA, having accepted employment in McLean, VA.

Ken Belsley is preparing for hip surgery the first week in May. Our sincere prayers are with him for a successful and speedy recovery.

The dogwood trees and azaleas are spectacularly beautiful again this year. The dogwood trees grow in many unusual shapes, sprinkled through the woods, filling in any open space, just like a painting. Truly this is the creative handiwork of God.

If you have plans for, or are considering a trip to the D.C. area, you are urged to call Ralph Klopfenstein (703) 979-3476 or Doug German (703) 481-5163.

FLORIDA, FORT LAUDERDALE **Terri Huber**

What a blessed weekend it was for our small congregation when we heard the testimony and witnessed the baptism of our dear brother-in-faith, Richard Bounassi. We are thankful to Elder Bro. Lavoyd Moore (Athens, AL) who joined our own Elder Bro. Bud Klopfenstein to perform these ceremonies. A baptism refreshes us spiritually, and provides an opportunity for us to remember our covenant with God. We think back to that time when we were young in the faith and filled with a special eagerness to seek His way.

Other visiting ministers this month included Bro. Jack Bollier (Leo, IN), Bro. Ron Kipfer (Bluffton, IN), Bro. Glenn Hackenjos (Altadena, CA) and Elder Bros. Robert Beyer (Naumburg, NY) and Leroy Huber (Eureka, IL). We thank them for their support.

On Easter Sunday we were ministered to in song as the Sunday school and choir presented their program to celebrate the cross and resurrection of our loving Saviour. Afterwards, it was time for Fort Lauderdale's traditional Easter picnic in honor of the Sunday school. May we never take for granted the wonderful opportunities for fellowship which our Lord has provided for us. We pray that our children will grow up to know and appreciate the same fellowship.

It saddens me to report that Sis. Florence Sutter remains hospitalized

at this time. I am certain her family would appreciate our prayers on her behalf.

FLORIDA, NORTH FORT MYERS
Kay Eisenmann

Why does God punish the liar and the murderer alike? In our thinking, one sin is so much greater than the other. I believe no sinner will keep another's company. Each one will be alone with the devil, ever repenting for not keeping God's commandments. We only need the sin of disobedience to lose heaven as our first parents lost paradise!

God, knowing the forgetful nature of man, gave us the Bible to remind us of the way we should live. If we face decisions in life, whether choosing a helpmate, job or whatever, let's first ask ourselves, "How will this affect my eternal soul?" Jesus calls and knocks on our heart's door, but the knob is on our side. We must open our hearts. After all, He isn't asking the impossible of us. We need to keep feeding the Spirit through reading the Bible, going to church and praying. If we starve the Spirit, then self takes over. The Bible gives so much more than it takes out of our life, just as God gave the supreme gift, His Son! If we are not serving God, then we are listening to the father of all liars, Satan. May God give us all a more willing Spirit to do His will, so we will be able to pass through the valley of the shadow of death, whether in 1988, or not. If we look around, we can see how the death angel comes to the old and young alike. May we make that decision today so we are not taken unaware!

Bro. Roland Keller and Sis. Viola want to thank each and every one for their deeds of kindness, cards, prayers and love gifts they received while he was recovering from surgery. He is doing well and is back to work, caring for our little church. We appreciate them both very much.

Bro. Vic and Sis. Dottie Beer made a trip out to California to help their daughter, Sis. Brenda, and family move back to Atlanta, GA.

Elder Bros. Ben Maibach (Detroit, MI) and Bro. Robert Beyer (Naumburg, NY) served us the Lord's Supper which is always so fulfilling and gives us such a humble feeling! We also rejoiced with the Sarasota church to hear the testimonies of our two sisters-in-faith, Sis. Krista and Sis. Kristine

Price. What a blessing it is to their loving parents, Sis. Sandy and Bro. Glenn. What a joy that they are both serving the Lord. They came into this world together, but they know that just like all of us, we must all answer one by one to God! There is a bond with twins that's even different from the ties between brother and sister. May God's blessings be with their family and may they be a real blessing to the church.

Visiting ministers this month were: Bro. Ed Alt (Cissna Park, IL), Bro. Lester Huber (Lexington, KY), Elder Bro. Leroy Huber (Eureka, IL), Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman (Francesville, IN) and Bro. Bob Meyer (Bluffton North, IN).

FLORIDA, SARASOTA
Suellen Ott

- G — Go to God in prayer daily
 R — Read God's Word daily
 O — Obey God moment by moment
 W — Witness for Christ by your life and word
 T — Trust God for every detail of your life
 H — Holy Spirit; allow God to control and empower your daily life.

Our dear church family in Sarasota experienced a double blessing April 2. We heard the testimonies of Krista and Kristine Price and the following day, Easter Sunday, witnessed their baptisms. They, just as Christ arose, arose from their past life to a new life in Christ. We want to welcome them into God's family and pray they will ever hold fast to the traditions and doctrines of our precious faith and grow daily in Him.

Just as we celebrated the resurrection of two dear ones from a life of darkness, we also took part in holy communion that Easter Sunday evening. We will remember Thee. Thy body broken for our sakes, our bread shall be; Thy sacramental cup we take, And thus remember thee. (Hymns of Zion #301).

We were very blessed to have our dear Elder Bro. Ben Maibach here and, here to help with this sacred occasion, were Elder Bros. Robert Beyer (Naumburg, NY) and Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL).

We have also been blessed with other ministering brothers and their families in the past month. Included were Bro. Robert Meyer (Bluffton

North, IN), Bro. Harold Schmidgall (Gridley, IL), Bro. Ed Alt (Cissna Park, IL), Bro. Rod Huber (Valparaiso, IN), Elder Bro. Charles Hemmer (Peoria, IL) and Bro. John Bollier (Leo, IN).

As the winter season passes and we are now in the spring season, we bid farewell to many of our winter residents and pray for safe journeys for all and the Lord's protection on them until we meet again.

Our small congregation has experienced some illness and accidents in the past month. We are happy to have Bro. Doug Sabo back in church with us as he has been home with illness and Sis. Vera Martin, Sis. Kristine Price and Debbie Sauder have met with misfortunes. We pray God's healing powers to all that have been sick or hurt in any way.

But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint . . .

Isaiah 40:31

GEORGIA, ATLANTA
John Brewer

"I waited patiently for the Lord and he inclined unto me, and heard my cry . . . Blessed is that man that maketh the Lord his trust . . ." Psalms 40:1, 4. It is comforting to know that the Lord does not ignore our prayers, but instead reveals Himself in His own perfect timing. Thus, our relationship with Jesus is that much closer and more special.

Through external circumstances, services were not held during the winter months. Services were resumed March 27 when Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman (Francesville, IN) came to minister to us. Other visitors that weekend were Wendell's wife, Sis. Marcella Gudeman, Bro. Rod and Sis. Evelyn Wieland (Bay City, MI) and Bro. Curtis and Sis. Edna Sauder (Roanoke, IL). On April 10, Bro. Charles Sauder (Tremont, IL) came down to share the Word with us. Also traveling with him were Bros. Dave Koch and Cleo Koch (Tremont, IL). We appreciate the time they took to come down and visit our congregation. The blessing of fellowship is so necessary for our spiritual bodies and to strengthen each other in our daily walk of life.

The Lord has blessed us with new residents moving into the Atlanta area.

Bill and Carol Stover and their children moved down in January from Washington, D.C., to this area. Also, Bro. Linn and Sis. Brenda Stoller and family from the Altadena, CA, congregation are moving back to the Atlanta area in late May. We are thankful that both families are here and they will be a special blessing to our church.

Services are still held on the second and fourth Sunday of every month. Our meeting place is at the offices of Bro. Don Seller's business. The office is located on Buford Highway (U.S. Route 29), 2 miles north of the I-285 perimeter in Norcross, GA (northeast Atlanta). The office is called Active Pest Control and is situated in a small red brick house on the right. This location is probably temporary and subject to change by this summer. If you are in or passing through the city, please call to make sure that we are still meeting there or just call to tell us that you're in town. Call Bro. Don Sellers (404-923-0721), Sis. Nancy Foltz (404-451-9191) or myself (404-949-7734).

**ILLINOIS,
 BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL**

De Anderson — Karen Brummitt

We rejoice with Mark Kaufmann as he has turned his heart to the Lord. May God grant him grace and strength as he begins this new walk of life.

We were privileged to host the Voice of Praise March 20 as they blended their voices together in praises to the Lord.

Our Easter program was presented Palm Sunday, reminding us of our Savior's death on the cross and his triumphant victory over the grave. We want to thank all who participated.

COMMUNION SONG

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

Another special blessing this month was holy communion. We gathered together April 6 to partake of the Lord's supper and rededicate our lives to the Lord. We appreciate the work carried out by our Elder Bro. Dan Koch (Tremont) and Elder Bro. Joe Braker (Morton).

On April 13, Bro. Jaye Rinkenberger (Goodfield) presented a Bible study on "Committed Warriors for the Battle". Bro. Jim Byrd (Roanoke) and Bro. Jim Plattner (Princeville) also shared God's Word with us this month. May the Lord bless each one for coming and ministering the Word to us.

Sis. Lu Miller has returned to the hospital for more surgery. May the Lord comfort, strengthen and heal according to His will.

**ILLINOIS, BRADFORD
 Carol Kieser**

The union of two hearts March 27 brought the promise of a new Christian home. We pray for God's abundant blessings on Sis. Gladys Klumpp and Bro. Ed Martin as they start on the path of life together. Sis. Edna Martin (Princeville) and Bro. Raymond Klumpp are their parents.

RECIPE FOR A HAPPY LIFE

Here's a sure-fire recipe for making your own sunshine:

Take equal parts of kindness, unselfishness, thoughtfulness.

Mix with love and scatter with helpful words. Add a smile or two. Throw in a spice of cheerfulness.

Stir with a hearty laugh. Share with everyone.

Sunshine Magazine

How refreshing for us, as believers in the Lord Jesus Christ, to hear of the miracle of conversion in the lives of others. On April 9, Pam Fritzenmeier and Jana Kieser, daughters of Bro. David and Sis. Shirley Kieser, openly expressed how Christ has begun a new work in their hearts and lives. "Kneel at the cross, Christ will meet you there," are words we sing together, and these dear ones have found this true. May God add His blessing to their efforts as they continue in faith serving the Lord Jesus.

On such special occasions we had many visiting brethren with us sharing our joy. Our thanks go to those ministering the Word: Elder Bros. Bob Grimm (Goodfield) and Joe Stoller (Princeville), Bros. Fred Knapp (Congerville), Ken Weerts (Cissna Park), Dave Kieser, Art Baurer and Walt Herrmann (Princeville), Harold Schmidgall (Gridley) and Don Manz (Junction, OH).

Our high school graduates this year are Darwin Stahl (Sis. Charlotte),

Daryl Stisser (Randy and Linda), Troy Elsasser (Bro. Jordan and Sis. Sharon), Deonna Duckworth (Bro. Don and Sis. Delores), Lavonne Endress (Bro. Larry and Sis. Becky) and Rachel Knobloch (Bro. Jack and Sis. Nancy). "A change of settings will change only the place, not the person; and where one is, is not as important as what one is." Our prayers are with our young people as they graduate. May they seek the truth and be blessed. "Thou wilt show me the path of life; in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore." Psalms 16:11.

Wendell Stahl (Sis. Charlotte) is a University of Illinois graduate majoring in Electrical Engineering. Sis. Susan Kieser (Bro. Loris and Sis. Martha) is a college graduate from Illinois State, majoring in Computer Science. May God's divine guidance enrich each of their days as they continue forward in life.

"To accomplish great things, we must not only act but also dream, not only plan but also believe."

Anatole France

**ILLINOIS, CHAMPAIGN
 LaRae Dill**

Bro. Rod and Sis. Anne Anliker are thankful for a healthy son born March 30. Austin Quinn is welcomed by brothers, Lucas and Lane, and grandparents, Sis. Lucille Walder (Cissna Park, IL) and Bro. Wayne and Sis. Judy Anliker (Forrest, IL).

On Palm Sunday our Sunday school students presented their Easter program entitled, "A Promise, A Father, The Birth of a Son, A Required Death." A historical perspective to the traditional Easter story was given as the students showed parallels between the relationships of Abraham and Isaac, God and Jesus, and God and ourselves. It was good to be reminded that the sacrifices of Old Testament times are no longer required of us due to God's giving of the ultimate sacrifice for all sin, His Son, Jesus Christ.

"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."

"Easter"

Henry Beer

Many voices joined in singing this

hymn on Easter morning as our congregation gathered in Jerry and Lois Vogel's home for our fourth Easter breakfast. It was pleasant to fellowship on this special morning and reflect on Christ's resurrection together. We also enjoyed the ministry of Bro. Wallace Ramsier (Mansfield, OH) Easter Sunday. He and members of his family were travelling through the area and stopped to worship with us here in Champaign.

We appreciated the visit of Bro. Mike Rinkenberger (Congerville) at a Wednesday evening Bible class.

The Champaign congregation and U. of I. students were privileged to host the 1988 Spring College Weekend April 16 and 17. Nearly 200 students gathered in our church for a weekend of learning and fellowship. We ask a blessing on these ministers for their time spent in prayer and preparation for the weekend's program entitled, "Abiding In Christ": Elder Bros. Joe Stoller (Princeville), Art Bahler (Fairbury), Dale Eisenmann (Chicago), Bros. Gary Anliker (Elgin, IL), Glenn Dill (Tremont), Byron Stoller (Gridley, IL), Carroll Gerber (Bluffton North, IN), Wayne Anliker (Forrest), Marvin Leiman (Bradford), Greg Rassi (Chicago), Gene Lehman (Wolcott, IN) and our home ministers, Bros. Dave Wiegand and Wayne Banwart.

ILLINOIS, CHICAGO

Kathy Schlatter

Our car has had a problem lately. After a night's rest from use, it would get us almost a mile in our suburban Chicago traffic before it would kill when it was supposed to idle. Obviously it became very irritating. Not only that, with all the restarting, we became worried about the starter going out. Suddenly one morning, I realized there was a parallel with human beings. Many of us try (or have tried) a new diet, a new relationship, aerobics, transcendental meditation, or other activities to give us the something that's missing from our lives. For a while (the first mile or so) this new endeavor, this new change seems to go so smoothly, to be the answer for our spiritual emptiness. Then all of a sudden, when we need to slow down or even halt for just a bit in the flow of life, reality sets in, our enthusiasm drops, and we crank the starter again and again — but it never lasts. Gradually, our "starter" gets tired. The Lord

knows our frame and gives us help to idle profitably, if we will only give Him full control. "My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing." James 1:2-4.

Familiar faces are always welcome in Chicago. We were blessed to have Bro. Art Baurer (Princeville, IL) and Bro. Arnie Gerst (Taylor, MO) minister to us. We appreciate their visits as they and their wives return from time to time to be with family members in our area.

We have much exciting news. The Lord has led the hearts and minds of two couples to add love and commitment to each other to their love and commitment and walk with the Lord. Bro. John Grusy and Sis. Sue Core, both from Chicago, are engaged and planning to be married the end of June. The engagement of Bro. Paul Sauder (from our area) and Sis. Marie Nester (originally from Lester, IA, now working in the Washington, IL, area) has also been announced. They are looking towards a July 10 wedding in Lester. We rejoice with both couples and are grateful for their faithfulness to the Lord and His goodness to them. We, as a church, also are delighted as we anticipate the establishment of two more households based on the Word.

We have "newcomers" as well. Bro. Kevin and Sis. Janine Rocke have been blessed with a daughter, Erin Leigh, born April 16. Erin's loving grandparents are Harold and Loretta Wettstein and Bro. Norman and Sis. Doris Rocke (all of Eureka). Bro. John and Sis. Tammy Baumgartner have been given a son by the Lord, Chase Robert, born to them March 23. His excited grandparents are Bro. Jerry and Sis. Pauline Gerber and Bro. Truman and Sis. Marge Baumgartner (all from the Bluffton North, IN, church). We are so thankful for these healthy children born to Christian parents, yet they and their parents need our prayers as the children begin life here on earth. We also must say our farewells to the Baumgartner family as they move back to the Bluffton area to be closer to family and for Bro. John to begin in a new position. We find saying goodbye difficult. We give our thanks to the Lord and to Bro. John and Sis. Tammy for their years and talents spent among

us, especially to Bro. John in his time as a Sunday school teacher. May the Lord bless and keep these dear parents and their children safely in His arms in whatever circumstance or place He leads them.

Sis. Doris Kuerth, long a resident of Chicago's north side, died as a result of breast cancer March 28. Her funeral was March 31 in Gridley. Though she was not able to worship with us, she had a love for the church. To her family we give our deepest sympathy and prayers, knowing that for Sis. Doris all now is well. Yet we still mourn, for we are yet earth's inhabitants.

In the month of May, as Mother's Day has just passed, let us show our love and gratitude not only to our mothers, but to all those who have "mothered" us, through their support, words of encouragement, words of wisdom and their love. There are those who have passed on; there are those who still live: those who applauded when we didn't know anyone else cared or saw, who listened and made themselves available. May we clap our hands and praise the Lord for His continued goodness to us through these "balcony" people. May we follow in their footsteps. Male and female alike, may we be more nurturing to those with whom we come in contact: convicted souls, young converts, those who are hurting physically, mentally, emotionally, financially, those who are dying, those who are slipping. We each have so many missionary tasks at home. And, if your mother is living, as mine is (I am so blessed), make Mother's Day every day. If you are farther away as I am, at least in prayer, thank God daily for Mom. What a reflection of Jesus' love here on earth!

You may be thinking you will never get done with Chicago's news this time. Much has happened, but this is also two month's worth. I was no later than usual in sending my Silver Lining, but I am always later than I should be. I deserved to be "caught" and, evidently because of the mail situation this time, I was. I apologize, for it was my fault, and I ask your forbearance. I expect to be more circumspect in the future. But can we all see the lesson? If we have habits that cause us concern, shall we continue in them until we have missed blessings, put a stumbling block in others' way, or lost heaven? "For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that sow-

eth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting. And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not." Galatians 6:8, 9.

ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK
Elaine Sauder — Mary Knapp

"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet,
 and a light unto my path."

Psalms 119:105

These were scripture verses read to us by Bro. John Reinard (Bluffton, IN) recently. They were only a few words, but so full of meaning. Other visiting ministers this past month have been Bro. John Hartman (Fairbury), Bro. Gary Anliker (Elgin, IL), Bro. Ken Schneider (Remington, IN) and Bro. Kevin Knapp (Bloomington). They, along with our local ministering brothers, have given us words for guidance and enrichment.

New little bundles have arrived to brighten several homes and lives.

Bro. Anthony and Sis. Patsy Blades welcome their first child, a son, Landon Bahler. Grandparents are Everett and Alice Blades (Assumption, IL) and Bro. Lowell and Sis. Karla Bahler (Wolcott, IN).

Bro. Max and Sis. Beth Kaeb have a new son, Benjamin William, who joins Joanna and Michael at home. Sis. Grace Bauer and Bro. Elmer and Sis. Mary Lou Kaeb are little Benjamin's grandparents.

Bro. Russ and Sis. Darlene Walder also have a new son, Kyle Joseph, who has a big brother, Cameron. Bro. Dale and Sis. Dorothy Walder and Bro. Elmer and Sis. Mary Lou Kaeb are his grandparents.

We, too, recently welcomed our first granddaughter, Erin Elizabeth, born to Ron and Darleen Knapp (Freeport, IL). Her big brothers are Daniel and Tyler. I had the joy of being there to get acquainted for a few days. Holding the tiny bundle awakened me to the true miracle God had created, so whole and perfect. We hardly give a second thought that sometimes they do NOT arrive so healthy. We forget the added strength needed to care for the needs of those infants. Children are our future generation, a true challenge and responsibility for these young parents to nurture and guide.

The Easter program was presented by the Sunday school and Bible classes Palm Sunday. On the evening of March

31, these same young people, along with their adult leaders, served an Easter meal to the senior citizens of our congregation at the fellowship hall. An early breakfast was enjoyed Easter morning at the fellowship hall by the Bible class with the lesson given by Elder Bro. Steve Rinkenberger.

On Good Friday, we were served holy communion by Elder Bro. Steve Rinkenberger, assisted by Elder Bro. Don Koch (Tremont).

Many gathered at the fellowship hall April 14 to pack clothes for the annual clothing drive. We live in a land of plenty and yet many suffer for want of clothing and food. We should remember those in need and the necessity of helping our brother.

Again, death has taken loved ones from among us.

Sis. Lillian Feller passed away March 31 at Fairview Haven (Fairbury) where she had resided only a few months. She leaves her husband, Bro. Bill, along with two sons, six daughters, seven stepsons and two stepdaughters, including Sis. Isabelle (George) Bauer of here. She also leaves many grandchildren and two sisters, Sis. Lydia Moser (local) and Sis. Priscilla Knapp (Fairview Haven). We extend our love to these families.

Sis. Reka Hoerr, formerly from here, passed away April 3 at Apostolic Christian Home in Eureka where she had resided 13 years. Survivors are Sis. Edythe Stock and Ila June Hari, Sis. Dorothy Frank (Morton) and Art Hoerr (Champaign); one brother, Bro. Fred Knapp and a sister, Sis. Verna Lehmann (both of Eureka). We extend our concern to these and many other relatives in their loss.

April 16 was a happy day as Mark Sauder and Sherri Bush were married at Watseka, IL. Parents are Bro. Curt and Sis. Elaine Sauder and Ed and Michele Bush (Watsseka). We wish this young couple much happiness.

As the days have become warmer and longer and rains have been sent from above, we readily see God's handiwork coming alive in the colors of spring and new growth.

With the coming of Mother's Day, let's all take time to pay tribute to all mothers, not just our own.

A MOTHER'S PRAYER

Let me be wise enough to love my children without possessing them . . .

Let me be as understanding and patient with their mistakes as I am with my own . . .

Author Unknown

ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE
Susie Zobrist — Sandy Knapp

"I never can forget the hour
 I felt the Savior's cleansing power;
 My sin and guilt He canceled there;
 'Twas there He answered mother's
 prayer.

Oh, praise the Lord for saving grace!
 We'll meet up yonder, face to face;
 The home above together share,
 In answer to my mother's prayer."

"My Mother's Prayer"
 J. W. Van De Venter

We continue to need our mothers' prayers as we strive to hold fast to the right and keep our precious faith.

A precious bundle of joy was sent from heaven to Hal and Rhonda Payne. May the love and joy of one of God's little ones shine through Derek Lee. His grandparents are Bro. Vernon and Sis. Judy Wettstein. Through miracles such as these, we are reminded that "Every good and every perfect gift is from above." James 1:17.

"Lord, help me live by the Bible's plan
 for life,

To shun every evil pray in every strife
 And help me stand by my brethren and
 help them in their need,
 And be a true Christian indeed."

"Lord, Help Me Live"
 Sue (Stieglitz) Gasser

Our visiting ministers this month were Bros. Bruce Leman (Roanoke), Willis Wiegand (Goodfield) and Gene Lehman (Wolcott, IN). May we always stand by our brethren who preach the Word that helps us live by the Bible's plan for life.

ILLINOIS, ELGIN
Elizabeth Schambach
Betty Bachtold

On Palm Sunday, our congregation was blessed to hear the Sunday school children tell us the Easter story in verse and song. We were reminded of the great price that was paid by our Lord and Saviour, "O let us sing praises in joyful accord. Exalting the power of Jesus, the Lord!" "Awaken, For Past Is The Gloom", Hymns of Zion #275.

Sis. Jeannette Moser (Bro. Earl) mourns the loss of her mother, Anna Gerda, who passed away March 22 after an extended illness. May God comfort and bless this family for caring for their loved one.

Sis. Christine Schock required hospitalization while on vacation in Hawaii. Sis. Anna Lohbauer and Bro. Lyle Kellenberger also spent time in the hospital. Bros. Ed and Don Schambach have undergone surgery. How thankful we are when our loved ones are restored to health. May God sustain those who are confined to their homes.

Jacob and Andrew Weiss are delighted to have a new baby sister, Hollie Lynn, born April 10 to Don and Debbie Weiss. Also rejoicing in this addition are grandparents, Bro. Paul and Sis. Joyce Weiss, and Bill and Betty Reed, all of Elgin.

John and Ella Martin (Marengo, IL) are happy to welcome a new grandson, Joseph Martin, born March 17 to their daughter, Sandy, and her husband, Jerry Darlington (Waco, TX). Other happy grandparents are Jerry and Mary Darlington, also of Waco, TX.

We are thankful that Elder Bros. Ed Frank (LaCrosse, IN) and Perry Zimmerman (Forrest, IL) gave of their time and effort to assist our Elder Bro. Nathan Steffen in reading wise counsel from the memorandum. Also kindly exhorting us through Word and Spirit were Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman (Francesville, IN) and Bro. Kenneth Dietz (Bradford, IL). May the Lord bless and reward them.

With grateful hearts let each of us remember and appreciate our God-fearing mothers.

ILLINOIS, EUREKA
Kathy Leman

Dear Lord, who sought at dawn of day
In solitary woods to pray,
In quietness we come to ask
Thy presence for our daily task.

Author Unknown

We are thankful that God continues to provide faithful brothers to speak His Word. We appreciate Bros. Ed Knecht (Silverton, OR), Larry Weninger (Latty, OH), Neil Widmer (Wolcott, IN), Russell Wuthrich (Pulaski, IA), Clarence Kachelmuss (Forrest) and Gene Bertschi (Roanoke) who willingly ministered God's Word to us this

past month.

"Thus united, And in concord, Let us walk the path of life..." Zion's Harp #237. April 10 we rejoiced to witness the marriage of Sis. Carol Anliker (Bro. Walter and Sis. Claribel Anliker) and Bro. Lloyd Wettstein (Bro. Bob and Sis. Verna Wettstein). Sis. Carol and Bro. Lloyd will be making their home in Iowa and attending the Pulaski congregation. May God ever be by their side and bless them as they walk this earthly pathway together.

On April 10 we heard the engagement announcement of Sis. Kathy Sue Rocke (Bro. Eldon and Sis. Ida Mae Rocke) and Bro. Norman Knapp (Bro. Robert and Sis. Jean Knapp). May God's nearness be felt among them as they plan for their wedding and life together.

Our beloved Bro. Gottlieb Hari is "safe in the arms of Jesus" as he laid down his cross and entered into his eternal rest April 1. Our sympathy is extended to his daughters, Geraldine Hangartner (Sarasota, FL) and Betty Jane Kaufman (Phoenix, AZ).

Our sympathy is also extended to Sis. Verna Lehmann and Bro. Fred Knapp in the passing of their sister, Sis. Reka Hoerr, who resided at the Home. Services were held at Cissna Park.

Sis. Inez Mogler and Bro. Willis Stoller were hospital patients this past month. May God grant healing and renewed strength as He sees and knows best.

We gathered together Monday evening, March 21, for our annual church house cleaning. What a joy to work together cleaning the Lord's house. May we daily keep our spiritual house in order.

Holy communion services were held Saturday evening, March 26. What a precious time to commemorate our dear Lord's suffering and dying in our stead, and the price that has been paid for our redemption. We thank Elder Bro. Ben Maibach (Detroit, MI) for being with us for this solemn occasion and for lending himself in His service the following day.

Our high school graduates are Becki Martin, Gloria Zimmerman and Sis. Tami Martin. May God bless them as they find employment or go on to schools of higher education.

Give Your Address Changes
To Your Reporter

ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY

Jean Bachtold — Crystal Fehr

"Thy word, O Lord, forever is. The mirror where we see. Our faults and duties as they are, Our likeness unto Thee." Zion's Harp #142. Our cups were filled to overflowing with the heavenly manna we received through Bros. Bruce Leman (Roanoke), Kenneth Eisenmann, Wayne Laubscher (Cissna Park) and Steve Gutwein (Francesville, IN). May our heavenly Father richly bless them for their labors of love and may they always feel our prayerful support.

Believing it is the Lord's will, the engagement of Sis. Brenda Kilgus (Bro. Duane and Sis. Arlene Kilgus) and Bro. James Fehr (Bro. Glenn and Sis. Kathryn Fehr) was announced April 10. An August 14 wedding is being planned.

A dear sister, Sis. Rosa Hari, 79, was called home March 31. Our sympathy is extended to her sisters, Sis. Ida Hari (Fairbury) and Sis. Lydia Sohn (Forrest). "Casting all your care upon Him; for He careth for you." I Peter 5:7.

On April 9, Esaie Dieudonne gave an informative talk on Haiti. We indeed should be thankful for our many blessings and may we never grow weary in sharing with the less fortunate ones.

Those who have been hospitalized recently were Sis. Lydia Wiedman, Bro. Amos Meyer, Bro. John Dohman, Bro. Walter Kaupp, Sis. Lydia Nussbaum, Dana Banwart and Jordon Kelson. We certainly wish each one a complete recovery and an awareness of God's presence.

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

May we always thank God for such a precious gift, a God-fearing mother.

ILLINOIS, FORREST
Patsy Stoller — Sherri Kelson

A mother's love is something
that no one can explain;
It is made of deep devotion
and of sacrifice and pain;
It is endless and unselfish,
and enduring come what may,

For nothing can destroy it
 or take that love away . . .
 It is patient and forgiving
 when all others are forsaking,
 And it never fails or falters
 even though the heart is breaking . . .
 It believes beyond believing
 when the world around condemns,
 And it glows with all the beauty
 of the rarest, brightest gems . . .

Author Unknown

With thankful hearts, many of us cherish fond memories of such a person. For many, she waits on the shores of glory. For others of us, we treasure her presence still among us.

It is always a blessing to have visiting ministers. This past month we were happy to have Bro. Merle Kaisner (Fairbury), Bros. Bill Hodel and Jim Leman (Roanoke) and Bro. Bill Gude-man (Elgin). May God bless all for their efforts in bringing the Word of Life to us.

Hospital patients this past month were Bro. Earl Gerber (Sis. Esther), Bro. Rich Wenger (Sis. Jill) and Sis. Betty Ifft (Warren).

Three precious babies have been born this past month. Bro. John and Sis. Sally Schaffer are happy to welcome Caitlin Christine. Clint, Erik, Shanna and Craig are glad for a sister. Sara Marie is the new little daughter born to Bro. Duane and Sis. Mary Ifft. Theresa will enjoy having a little sister. Happy grandparents are Bro. Elmer and Sis. Emma Ifft, Bro. Jerry and Sis. Kathy Leman were blessed with a little son, Jonathan Dale. Erik, Arlen, Chad and Kelli are enjoying their new brother. Grandparents are Bro. Earl and Sis. Esther Gerber and Bro. Sid and Sis. Helen Leman. With the joys of raising these precious little souls comes the responsibility of teaching them about God and His plan for man. We trust God will bless the efforts of these parents in training their children.

ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD Trish Gerber

My heart was heavy as we walked
 The pathway to His tomb.
 Even in the sunshine of this morn
 I only could feel gloom.

I think my mind was still in shock,
 How could this really be?
 The Savior, who had cleansed my soul,
 They'd nailed upon a tree!

And then His broken body
 Was laid within the grave
 As tears came spilling down my cheeks
 I knew I must be brave.

But as we reached the sepluchre
 We stopped and stared in awe;
 The heavy stone was rolled away,
 And an angel is what we saw!

The angel said, "Don't be afraid."
 "The one you seek, our Lord,"
 "He is not here, for He is risen!"
 Go now and spread the word."

We turned and ran then, from the tomb,
 "He lives! He lives!" we cried.
 "Jesus conquered death and the grave."
 This could not be denied.

God's perfect plan is now complete
 Our Savior has paid the price
 All He asks is that we live for Him
 And appreciate His sacrifice.

Spring time and Easter is such a beautiful time of year! It's a time for starting fresh with the new buds and flowers and singing birds. God has blessed us so, with the changing seasons and even more importantly, with His Son's innocent blood to atone for our sinful lives. May we ever strive to live our lives completely for Him.

Our hearts were warmed as we listened to the testimonies and witnessed the baptisms of our new sisters and brother-in-faith. Welcomed into God's family were Sis. Jill Rinkenberger (Bro. Jaye and Sis. Peg), Sis. Holly Hohulin (Bro. Bruce and Sis. Charlene) and Bro. Joel Beer (Bro. Joe and Sis. Jan). We wish to thank Elder Bro. Phil Stettner (Bluffton North, IN), Bros. Jim Rinkenberger (Bluffton, IN), Earl Ringger (Gridley, IL), Dale Zeltwanger (Morris, MN), Kevin Knapp (Bloomington, IL), Ted Witzig (Morton, IL) and Vernon Leman (Eureka, IL) who shared the Word and the weekend with us.

It's good to know Sis. Hilda Leman is doing well after her stay in the hospital.

Sis. Ruth Hohulin wishes to thank all those who sent cards and flowers to her during her hospital stay.

A Note of Thanks: Thank you one and all for cards, visits, flowers and prayers. This all helped more than you will ever know. It's been a month since I had my last surgery in Peoria. I came to Eureka church home eight days ago

and now am enjoying my home.

Sincerely,
 Hilda Leman

Bruce and Cathy Hinrichsen are the proud parents of a baby boy, Mitchel Evan, born March 13. His sisters, Audrey and Shelly, and his brother, Wade, welcome him into their home. Mitchel's grandparents are Bro. Hans and Sis. Arlene Hinrichsen and Robert and Betty Kirk (Peoria, IL).

Our thanks are extended to Bro. Walt Anliker (Eureka, IL), Elder Bro. Chuck Hemmer (Peoria, IL) and Bro. Ralph Garber (Morton, IL) for ministering to us this past month.

Sincere sympathy is extended to Sis. Barb (Norm) Ricketts and Norm Wettstein on the passing of their father, Bro. John Wettstein.

ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY Perry Klopfenstein

On Sunday, March 27, our new congregate living facility, Sunrise Manor, held an open house. More than 310 persons toured the new project. Sunrise Manor consists of ten apartments, a common dining room and lounge, two World Relief rooms and an attached six-car garage. The unit is south of our church.

On March 1, the Sunrise Manor organization began a community Meals on Wheels program. This consists of serving a hot, noon meal three days per week, delivered by volunteers. By April 15, an average of eight to ten meals were being served each day with a high of fourteen.

On Wednesday evening, April 6, we were happy for the visit of Elder Bro. Paul Butikofer (Elgin, IA) who conducted worship services. He related that early in his converted life an elder told him not only to pray, but to "watch" and pray. This advice helped him, and is good advice for us today.

On Sunday, April 17, twenty students from our high school Bible classes, along with four teachers and their wives, traveled to Peoria for a youth day with Sunday school students from Peoria and Tremont, IL, and Burlington, IA.

Bro. Curtis and Sis. Norma Witzig are the parents of a girl, Marissa El, born April 17. Paternal and maternal grandparents respectively are Bro. Elmer and Sis. Marjorie Witzig, and Bro. Roy and Sis. Helen Zimmerman, all of our Gridley church. Marissa has two sisters, Erin, 5, and Bethany, 1.

Sis. Doris Kuerth, 68, of Chicago (formerly of Gridley), was laid to rest Thursday, March 31. Bro. Lenard Meyer of our Chicago congregation who often visited her during her illness, conducted the funeral services. Sis. Doris is survived by Bro. Arthur (Gridley) and Henry, Jr. (San Leandro, CA). Her sisters are Edna Hoobler (Gridley), Lois Rees (Evanston), Eunice Achen (Van Nuys, CA), Florence Kelley (Peoria), Judy Erdman (Virden), Roberta Torrey (Chattanooga, TN) and Anna Lou Kuerth (California).

Bro. Reuben Stoller was recently hospitalized, but is now back home and doing nicely.

**ILLINOIS,
 ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY
 Karen Unsicker**

I want the proved certainties
 To soothe the soul's deep cries;
 And not man's vain philosophies
 Based only on surmise.

I want a book that is inspired
 In which to posit faith;
 And not some mutilated scroll,
 Or literary wraith.

I want the calm assurance of
 A voice beyond this dust,
 A voice from out eternity
 In which to place my trust.

For when I come, at eventide,
 To Jordan's swollen stream,
 I want the tested venties,
 And not some mystic dream.

This mortal life is far too brief,
 Eternity too vast,
 To follow human sophistries
 And lose the soul at last!

Then give me back the Holy Book
 By inspiration penned;
 I'm through with fabled falsities,
 And allegoric trend.

M. D. Clayburn

The hopelessness of many of the teachings that students are inevitably exposed to can never compare to the joy and hope received by obedience to God's Word. Our heavenly Father is the only true, unwavering foundation for our lives, and we are grateful to the brothers who come and take of their time to speak to us from His Word. We give thanks to Bro. Kevin Knapp

(Bloomington), Bro. Everett Hari (Bloomington), Bro. Fredrick Knapp (Congerville), Elder Bro. Steve Rinkemberger (Cissna Park), Bro. Earl Ringger (Gridley), Elder Bro. Bob Grimm (Goodfield), Bro. John Hartman (Fairbury), Bro. Steve Martin (Eureka) and Bro. Gary Brown (Forrest). We always look forward to their words of inspiration, and once again, everyone is invited to our Thursday night Bible studies.

On the night of March 31, the I.S.U. young group sang, along with two other special groups, including the Voices of Praise. Bro. Dave Weigand then touched our hearts with a few words of inspiration. In the preparation of our hearts for the season, the whole evening helped each of us to better our recollection of Christ's death on the cross, and then His marvelous victory over Satan and death.

Spring semester is now almost over and, soon enough, each student will be packing up for home, finding summer jobs or taking summer classes. A few of our students will no longer be attending classes here at I.S.U., but will have the honor of graduating. Among our graduates are Bro. Craig Stickling, Sis. Susan Kieser, Bro. Brian Fehr, Bro. Brian Rumbold, Debbie Gudeman and Sis. Cindy Witzig. All of us who remain here at I.S.U. wish them all God's richest blessings on their lives and on their careers.

**ILLINOIS, MORTON
 Phyllis Farney — Cheryl Wuthrich**

We gathered to celebrate the Lord's Supper March 16. It was a humbling experience to remember that Jesus Christ gave His all for you and me. We can never repay what Christ did for us. May we continue to have a closer walk with Him, be sincere and humble, and strive to do His holy will in our lives. We wish to thank Elder Bros. Dan Koch (Tremont) and Edwin Ringger (Gridley, IL) for coming and helping our Elder Bro. Joe Braker and deacon Bro. Bob Pflederer serve holy communion.

Bro. Jim, Sis. Kathy and Sam Ritt-haler welcome into their hearts and home, Katie Marie. Katie was born March 22. Her grandparents are Sis. Joyce Dornick and Dale and Pat Ritt-haler. Her great-grandmother is Sis. Kathryn Grimm.

We wish to thank Bros. Greg Rassi (Chicago), Roy Wernli (Lamont, KS)

and Wes Knapp (Goodfield) for ministering God's Holy Word to us this month.

Graduation time will soon be upon us. Many students will be going on to higher schools of learning and some will start working at their vocations. May all those dear ones continue to remember to take time out to be fed from God's Word daily. We wish all our graduates God's richest blessings as they continue their walk of life.

We wish to thank Sis. Marcia Kelley for her time and talents in helping with the Morton Silver Lining news. May she be richly blessed for this work. Sis. Cheryl Wuthrich will be helping in her place.

On Mother's Day, we traditionally honor our mothers and grandmothers, and all women who have helped to lay our spiritual foundation and have guided us to the Lord. My question in this Mother's Day season is: Are we, today, as mothers and grandmothers, taking time to carry on this essential role for our children? Our children are growing up in a society where evil is not only indulged in but flaunted. Are we giving Godly influence equal time? Let us take opportunity in this season to review and recommit ourselves to our duty to our children.

The Bible has many teachings on maternal responsibility. Let us examine five of them: to teach our children, to pray for them, to set examples for them, to discipline them and to love them.

Deuteronomy 6:1-7 tells us that we must diligently teach our children God's Word. Let us literally teach them when they get up, when they go to bed, when we walk (drive) by the way and when they are around the house. How do we do this? Verses 5 and 6 say that we ourselves must first love the Lord with our whole being and His Word must first be in our own minds and hearts.

Let's apply I Thessalonians 5:17 to our children. Pray without ceasing. To be able to pray for them often throughout the day it is helpful to know their schedules and what is going on in their lives. This also helps to make our prayers more specific and meaningful. And are we praying daily for their salvation?

We also read in many places the importance of the example we set for our children. I Kings 22:52 (Ahaziah) "And he did evil in the sight of the Lord

and walked in the way of his father and in the way of his mother . . ." II Chronicles 20:32 (Jehoshaphat) "And he walked in the way of Asa his father, and departed not from it, doing that which was right in the sight of the Lord." Ezekiel 16:44 ". . . as is the mother, so is her daughter." And we mustn't forget grandmother Lois and mother Eunice's sincere faith that influenced Timothy. II Timothy 1:5. If, during the day, we would concentrate on demonstrating the fruit of the Spirit, think what a Godly example we could be for our children.

Now comes another difficult one — discipline. It takes much greater effort and love to discipline our children than to let their behavior go. But verse after verse again reminds us of our responsibility. Proverbs 13:24 "He that spareth his rod hateth his son; but he that loveth him chasteneth him betimes." Proverbs 19:18 "Chasten thy son while there is hope and let not thy soul spare for his crying." Proverbs 29:17 "Correct your son and he will give you rest, yes he will delight your heart."

We must also love our children and remember that when they act most unlovable is when they need our love the most. We have many Biblical examples of a mother's love, including Jochebed's love for Moses, Hannah's love for Samuel, the two mothers of Solomon's time, the Shunamite mother and Mary, the mother of Jesus. Finally, there is the charge in Titus 2:4, "That they (aged women) may teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands and to love their children."

In closing, I want to say that after examining myself in the light of the Word, I fall far, far short. We must daily be putting on the whole armour of God and joining in the spiritual warfare for our children. We fight not against flesh and blood but against principalities and powers. But, we can be encouraged, "because greater is He that is in you, than he that is in the world." I John 4:4.

ILLINOIS, PEORIA

Kathy Huthmann

We have two new babies in our congregation. Randy and Becky Marx are first-time parents of Katie Ann. Grandparents are Bro. Willis and Sis. Shirley Triplett. Bro. Marten and Sis. Jamie Zimmerman also welcome a new daughter into their home. Abbe

Leigh's big sisters are Erin and Shana. Grandparents are Bro. Ken and Sis. Darlene Hoerr and Bro. Bruce and Sis. Myrna Zimmerman (Morton).

Our Sunday school Easter program was held March 20. We heard about our Saviour's death and resurrection in songs and verses. We thank all the children and young people for a blessed evening.

We extend sympathy to the family of Emma Wyss as she has passed away recently. Our sympathy is also extended to Herb Perrine, Bro. Dale, Sis. Barb Hunziker, and their family as Sis. Naomi Perrine has passed away. "I will not leave you comfortless; I will come to you." John 14:18.

We are thankful for visiting ministers, Elder Bro. Edwin Ringger (Gridley), Bro. Willis Wiegand (Goodfield) and Bro. Rod Huber (Valparaiso, IN) who brought us many teachings from God's precious and holy Word. May God bless them for their labors of love.

Our hospital patients this month have been Sis. Donna Ferrero, Sis. Caroline Schmidtgal, Sis. Nettie Owens, Bro. Bud Fehr and Sis. Jane Hoerr. May we continue to keep them in our prayers as God restores health unto them according to His will.

"But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup."

I Corinthians 11:28

Communion is always a time of deep feeling and reflection upon our lives. There is something so special in gathering together and breaking bread. We were grateful that Elder Bro. Edwin Ringger could be with us Palm Sunday, March 27, to assist our Elder Bro. Chuck Hemmer. May we keep our lives in harmony with God's will every day.

Note of thanks: We want to gratefully thank everyone for the many tokens of best wishes extended to us on our 50th wedding anniversary. It was truly heartwarming to become recipients of your kindness. May our eternal God reward each of you who shared our joy and reward you for your thoughtfulness.

Roy and Gertrude Sauder
and family

ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE

Marjean Lehman

"O arouse our feeble powers; from

things earthly set them free, That our plans and all our efforts may be hallowed, Lord, to Thee! Far from fear of men and worry, far above mere reason's scope, Past all dread of scorn and suffering lift us by our blessed hope!"

The Spiritual Conflict

We give thanks to our visiting ministers, Bro. Leroy Hartman (Peoria), Elder Bro. Lavoyd Moore (Athens, AL) and Bro. Greg Rassi (Chicago). We wish them God's blessings for their services.

"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 March 27, Bro. Ed Martin and Sis. Gladys Klumpp were joined in holy matrimony in Bradford. Parents are Bro. Ray Klumpp (Bradford) and Sis. Edna Martin. May God's blessings be upon their union. We welcome Sis. Gladys into our congregation.

"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. On April 3, three converts, Julie Gehrig (Bro. Ken and Sis. Donna), Coleen Knobloch and Peggy Knobloch (daughters of Bro. Ed and Sis. Frances), were announced. They are waiting to give their testimonies of faith and be baptized April 23 and 24. We rejoice with them and wish them God's nearness.

On March 27, the Sunday school Easter program was held. May God bless each student, from the smallest child to the high school teen.

On April 8, a special Bible study was held. Elder Bro. Edwin Ringger (Gridley) spoke to us on the topic, "The Church and You". Our thanks go out to Bro. Ed for his willingness to research this topic and enlighten us. May God bless him.

Sis. Paulina Little passed away March 13. Funeral services were held here March 15. Sis. Paulina had been a resident of the Peoria Home. Our congregation expresses sincere sympathy to her sisters, Sis. Dorothea, Sis. Marie and Sis. Esther Kieser. May God comfort their hearts.

Our congregation also expresses sincere sympathy to Sis. Caroline Banwart in the death of her father, Bro. Silas Banwart (West Bend, IA). May the prayers of others help to endure the loss and may God's nearness be with all

the family.

Thank you note: We want to thank all our friends and relatives for the many cards, gifts and well wishes on our 50th wedding anniversary. We thank especially our children and grandchildren for making this such a blessed occasion.

George and Esther Keiser

We, as a congregation, do wish Bro. George and Sis. Esther God's continued blessings for their lives as they reached this special milestone. They were blessed with 50 years of marriage March 20.

"But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."

Matthew 6:34

On April 17, we heard the engagement announcement of Sis. Judy Schafer (Bro. Fred and Sis. Esther Schafer) to Bro. Bill Longcor (Colter and Katherine Longcor, Milford, IN). As they have sought first the Kingdom of God in repentance and have walked in His service, now they have sought God in this most important step of holy matrimony. May God bless them.

ILLINOIS, ROANOKE

Judy Luginbuhl — Patsy Kaeb

During this past Easter season, we were reminded once again, through song, of the death and resurrection of our Lord and Savior. Our Benefit Easter Program for our Nursing Home was held at the fellowship hall March 26. Our Sunday school children also inspired us with their songs in our Easter program March 30.

We were able to partake of the holy sacrament of communion Sunday, March 27. We were thankful to have Elder Bro. Chuck Hemmer (Peoria) with us. May God bless Bro. Chuck and Sis. Marian for their willingness to give their time for us.

We have been privileged to have Bro. Everett Hari (Bloomington-Normal with us to conduct three sessions on marriage. Even the best marriage can improve and we thank Bro. Everett and Sis. Beverly for their concern for us.

Bro. Marvin Leman (Bradford) and Bro. Earl Ringger (Gridley) also visited our congregation this month. We were thankful and pray that God will bless them and their families for lending themselves to us.

Sis. Judy Blunier (Bro. Marvin), Tyler Sauder (Bro. Ed and Sis. Bonnie), Bro. Jerry Getz and Roy Beer were in the hospital and are all recovering at home. May God's healing touch be felt by each one.

We are so thankful to have two new precious babies born this month. Bro. Joe and Sis. Sue Aeschleman were blessed with a baby boy, Trevor Blane, March 31. His big brother, Brandon, welcomed him home. Grandparents are Bro. Joe and Sis. Mardell Aeschleman, and Bro. Howard and Sis. Pat Schiffer (Elgin).

Also, Heather Dawn, was born to Bro. Dennis and Sis. Eva Rocke April 7. Brent was delighted to welcome his new sister home. Grandparents are Bro. Melvin and Sis. Mae Rocke and Henry and Elizabeth Schick (Morton).

On April 9, Heidi Steffen (Bro. Wayne and Sis. Linda) and Kevin Weber (Clyde and Lucille Weber, Trevor, WI) were united in marriage. We wish them God's blessings as they start their new life together.

The family of Scott Zimmerman would like to thank our many friends, neighbors and relatives for their prayers, cards, food, flowers, memorial gifts and acts of kindness expressed since his recent death.

Bro. Robert and Sis. Madalyn
Zimmerman & family

I want to thank all who remembered me while I was in the hospital with cards, prayers, gifts and visits. May God bless each one.

Sis. Fannie Zimmerman

ILLINOIS, TREMONT

Carolyn Bolliger — Marsha Koch

On the Saturday evening before Palm Sunday we were privileged to gather for holy communion. We thank Bro. Joe Stoller (Princeville) for assisting Bro. Dan Koch in this blessed evening.

We also wish to thank our other ministering brothers for sharing God's Word with us this month. They were Bros. Duane Kilgus (Fairbury), Ronald Schambach (Elgin, IL), Kevin Knapp (Bloomington) and Frederick Knapp (Congerville).

On the evening of Palm Sunday we gathered again to hear our Sunday school children present their annual Easter program. We appreciate the efforts of all the children and their teachers as they remind us of the suffering, death and resurrection of our

Saviour.

We offer our best wishes to Linda Dill and Kenneth Pyles who were married March 19. Linda is the daughter of Sis. Barbara Dill and Ken's parents are Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Pyles (Deer Creek).

We welcome two new baby boys this month. Born to Bro. Todd and Sis. Rita Kilgus March 29 was little Dustin Todd. He has two big sisters, Nichole and Janelle to welcome him home. Grandparents are Bro. Karl and Sis. Velda Glueck (Tremont) and Bro. Duane and Sis. Arlene Kilgus (Fairbury).

Bro. Don and Sis. Sandy Kaiser also have a little son, Derek Scott, born April 5. Big sister, Marcy, is happy to have a little brother. Grandparents are Bro. Mel and Sis. Marlene Kaiser and Don and Lila Dunlap.

We are thankful Sis. Royaldine Hodel (Bro. Bob) is able to be back in church again. Sis. Royaldine had the misfortune to slip and break her back.

Elmer Brunner recently spent some time in the hospital and we are glad he is now home recuperating. Also, Sis. Becky Schweigert (Bro. Roger) was hospitalized for surgery. We are thankful she, too, is recovering at home.

We welcome Bro. Scott Wegman whose work has brought him here from the Taylor area.

It is the time of year that we all have special thoughts of our dear mothers. Helen Steiner Rice says it so beautifully —

Mother's Day is Remembrance Day
And we pause on the Path of the Year
To pay honor and worshipful tribute
To the Mother our heart holds dear . . .
For, whether here or in heaven,
Her love is our haven and guide.
For always the memory of Mother
Is a beacon light shining inside . . .
Time cannot destroy her memory
And years can never erase
The tenderness and the beauty
Of the love in a Mother's face . . .
And, when we think of our Mother,
We draw nearer to God above,
For only God in His Greatness
Could fashion a Mother's Love.

ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON

Carol Schick

Happy Mother's Day to all mothers, young and old. Poets for centuries have tried to describe the special virtues a mother displays toward her child, but I think God's Word describes it best in

Galatians 5:22, 23. As we strive to love each other and display the fruit of the Spirit, maybe we should think of each other as little children — God's children.

Bro. Gary and Sis. Linda Folkerts will celebrate Mother's Day in a new way this year. They were blessed with their first child, Amy Louise. The grandparents are Bro. Robert and Sis. Helen Wiegand (Eureka) and Ron and Dorothy Folkerts (Washington).

Elder Bros. Don Sauder (Roanoke) and Charles Hemmer (Peoria) joined us in celebrating the Lord's Supper. We thank them for their loving assistance.

We thank Bro. Earl Ringger (Gridley) for his efforts at our monthly Bible study. "Let your moderation be known to all men," Philippians 4:5, was the topic. Bro. Earl told us that moderation means forbearance, patience. He reminded us of our duty to be patient with one another. Each of us is weak in one area and strong in another. We should have an attitude of forgiveness and esteem others better than self. He gave us much to think about when he said that the love of the brotherhood is critical to salvation, (I John 2:10) and we cannot walk away from the brotherhood unless we have stopped esteeming others better than ourselves.

It has been brought to my attention that someone left a man's all-weather beige coat (size 40) at Washington church about 4 or 5 months ago. If anyone knows who the owner might be, please contact someone from our congregation.

INDIANA, BLUFFTON

Jean Moser — Becky Isch

We greatly appreciate ministering Bro. Ben Manz (Junction, OH) who visited us March 27 and lovingly shared God's Word with us.

Grace be to you and peace from God the Father, and from our Lord Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for our sins, that He might deliver us from this present evil world. . . (Galatians 1:3, 4).

We give special thanks to our Sunday school children for the Easter program they presented to us Sunday evening, April 3. May the good seed planted in their tender hearts spring up and bring forth fruit.

When you offer congratulations to others, don't forget to offer thanks to God. Why? Because His goodness is the reason behind all true celebration.

Rather than be caught up in the joy of the moment, let each celebration tune your heart anew to thank the Giver of every good and perfect gift. The source of all joy is God Himself.

Our congregation is celebrating the birth of two new babies this month. Bradley George arrived into the hearts and home of Bro. Jeff and Sis. Valerie Leman April 10. He has two "big" brothers at home, J. D. and Shawn. Proud grandparents are Bro. George and Sis. Evie Ringger and Wally and Sis. Marilyn Leman (Bluffton North).

On April 11, Bro. Rick and Sis. Deb Fiechter welcomed their first child, Leah Nichole. Her grandparents are Bro. Tom and Sis. Marilyn Baumgartner and Bro. Melvin and Sis. Doris Fiechter.

Joining hands and exchanging wedding vows April 17 at Bluffton North were Bro. Greg Kaehr (Bro. Richard and Sis. Karen) and Sis. Amy Ringger (Bro. Al and Sis. Colleen). May God bless this dear couple as they make their home and begin their walk together.

Our loved ones who were hospitalized this month were Sis. Brenda Fiechter (Bro. Kevin), Bro. Charley Meyer (Sis. Ida), Sis. Deb Gerber (Bro. Jay), Bro. Carl Kipfer (Sis. Nova), Sis. Esther Geisel (Bro. Olen), Sis. Lu Moser (Bro. Ervin) and Bro. Eli Moser. May they all be renewed in faith, courage and physical strength according to our heavenly Father's will.

INDIANA, BLUFFTON NORTH

Lois Drayer — Debbie Aeschliman

As we gathered together Easter Sunday, the weather was sunny one minute and stormy the next. The minister wondered if that's what our Christian lives are like. In our daily walk of life, there are days when trials and temptations creep in and other days when things are smooth, sunny and bright. Let's all strive to let our lights shine, no matter if life dishes out storms or sunshine. We were also reminded of Christ's suffering and dying on the cross for us so that we might all have a chance to be saved. We were reminded again of Jesus dying on the cross in the afternoon as the children sang their Easter hymns at the program. Our hearts were touched as we watched our children sing praises to the Lord.

Our sincere appreciation is extended to Bro. Jim Rinkenberger (Bluffton) for spending time with our

Sunday school class Easter morning.

It seemed fitting, April 9, to gather together for holy communion so close to Easter. We are thankful that Elder Bros. Orville Ringger and Ed Schwartz (Bluffton) could be with us for this blessed occasion. One minister mentioned that some people wonder why we use bread to represent the body. He went on to explain that the bread is the bread of life. If you take a loaf of bread, it would be impossible to take it apart grain by grain. Thus, this represents the church as one body. If all the grains would be separated, then how could the church stay together?

Then come into our midst today;
Impart Thyself to us, we pray.
This cup and loaf are proof and sign
Of this, Thy covenant divine
In Jesus blood.

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

Zion's Harp #200

On March 20, Bro. Todd Gerber (Bro. Dale and Sis. Carol) and Sis. Michelle Zimmer (Bro. Jim and Sis. Cheryl) were united together in holy matrimony. Bro. Greg Kaehr (Bro. Richard and Sis. Karen, Bluffton) and Sis. Amy Ringger (Bro. Al and Sis. Colleen) were joined in marriage April 17. May God richly bless these two couples as they begin their lives together.

Congratulations are offered to Wallace and Sis. Marilyn Leman on the birth of their grandson, Bradley George, born April 10 to Bro. Jeff and Sis. Valerie Leman (Bluffton).

Little Graham Brown (Lewis and Joan) spent some time in the hospital. We are glad to hear that he is at home and doing much better.

God has directed Bro. Doyle Frauhiger and Bro. Steve Ringger to serve Him as new ministers in our congregation. May Bro. Doyle, Sis. Jane, Bro. Steve, Sis. Myra and their families feel our love, prayers, and support as God continues to lead them in their new duties.

"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

INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE
Lynne Wuethrich

Easter Sunday was a very special day as always. Waking up that morning and thinking upon the resurrection of Jesus Christ fills every believer's heart with happiness. The annual sunrise service was held at 6:00 Easter morning. Later that day, in place of the afternoon service, the Sunday school children gave a program explaining what they've learned about Easter.

We rejoice with Bro. Chris and Sis. Sharon Huber as their daughter, Shannon, can testify she is at peace with God and hopes to be baptized soon. We ask God's continued guidance and blessing in her life.

Our congratulations go to Daniel and Tina Overmyer as they were united in marriage March 9. Their parents are Bro. Danny and Sis. Carol Overmyer and Mr. and Mrs. Kaiser Sizemore (Francesville). May our Lord bless this couple and keep them in His loving care.

Sis. Marian Gutwein is happy to say she has another grandson, Caleb James, born March 19. Caleb's parents are Mr. and Mrs. Paul Schlegel (Indianapolis). Sis. Katie Gutwein is Caleb's great-grandmother.

Bro. Bill Feller was hospitalized this month but is back in the nursing wing at Parkview Haven recovering. Bro. Bill so appreciated the cards he received and wants to thank each one who remembered him. Bro. Keith Putt (Sis. Lorna) was also hospitalized but seems to be recovering. We ask God to be near these dear ones.

We're always so thankful for our visiting ministers and this month we were blessed with four, Elder Bro. Roy Grimm (Taylor, MO), Bro. Todd Feller (LaCrosse), Bro. Neil Widmer (Wolcott) and Bro. Nelson Beer (Milford). May God bless these dear ones for their deeds of kindness.

INDIANA, INDIANAPOLIS
Kathy Freed — Gail Bradford

Our visiting ministers this month were Bro. Nile Bucher (Bluffton North), Walter Steffen (Milford), Denny Kaufman (Bloomington-Normal, IL), Michael Thomas (Valparaiso) and Elder Bro. Loren Stoller (Latty, OH). We always appreciate the consistency in which these brothers present the Word.

Elder Bro. Alfred Bahler led a discussion on the Christian home and the responsibilities of husbands and wives as stated in the Scriptures. It was a very informative and practical session.

We happily welcome a new baby into one of our young families: Brock Andrew, born to Bro. Jason and Sis. Wendy Williamson. The joyful grandparents are Robert and Sis. Janet Williamson (Latty, OH) and Bro. Leonard and Sis. Chris Locher (Maywood, CA).

Our congregation would encourage any of our friends living in the Indianapolis area to get in touch. Please write or call our minister, Bro. Ken Wuethrich, 11313 Wolf Lane, Indianapolis 46229, telephone (317) 894-0986. Let us know you are here.

We are saddened by the death of Orville Hall, father of Steve Hall. We extend our love and sympathy to Dorothy, Steve, Donna, Brian and Eric on the loss of a beloved husband, father and grandfather.

Bro. Craig Schaefer, who graduates from Pike High School this month will be planning his freshman year at Purdue University. Craig also has earned Scouting's highest honor, the Eagle Scout Award, which will be presented to him May 18.

June is graduation month for many of our young people. Whether it be from high school, vocational school, junior college, or university they have reached a milestone and are passing into another stage of life. Paul's letter to the Ephesians makes good advice to anyone beginning on such a journey.

"Take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having your loins girt with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; and your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God."

Ephesians 6:13-17

INDIANA, LACROSSE
Sandy Heinold

How uplifting it was to have so many visitors worship with us this past month. We are especially thankful for the visiting ministers who shared the Word of Life with us. We extend our

appreciation and heartfelt thanks to Bros. Mike Rinkenberger (Congerville, IL), Mike Thomas (Valparaiso, IN), Doug Grimm (Sabetha, KS), Larry Wenninger (Latty, OH) and Dan Stoller (Remington, IN).

Donalda Ailes (John and Carol) is hospitalized at this time, but hopes to return home soon. May she feel the Lord's healing hand upon her.

May is the month our nation sets aside to honor our mothers. Let's remember to be thankful for and honor our mothers every day of our lives. And, as mothers, we know we have such a responsibility in bringing up our children. How much we need the Lord's guidance and depend upon His help.

A MOTHER'S PRAYER

"Father in Heaven, make me wise,
So that my gaze may never meet
A question in my children's eyes . . .
God keep me always sweet.
And patient, too, before their need;
Let each vexation know its place.
Let gentleness be my creed,
Let laughter live upon my face.
A mother's day is very long
There are so many things to do.
But never let me lose my song
Before the hardest day is through."
Margaret Sangster

INDIANA, LAFAYETTE
PURDUE UNIVERSITY
Gina Huber

Bro. Neal Widmer (Wolcott) and Bro. Nelson Beer (Milford) were with us this past month. May God richly bless them for taking time to come and share God's Word with us.

INDIANA, LEO
Thelma Schlatter

"I was an infant when her love first came;
Though years have passed, I find it still the same;
With thanks to God, I breathe that lovely name,
The sweet dear name of Mother."
Anonymous

The responsibilities, but also the joys, of motherhood are many. May He bless Christian mothers everywhere with an abundant measure of wisdom, love and patience.

Encouraging the congregation in His

Word were visiting ministers, Elder Bros. Edwin Ringger (Gridley, IL) and Nathan Steffen (Elgin, IL), and Bros. James Hoerr (Peoria, IL), Hartzell Kaisner (Detroit, MI), Earl Ringger (Gridley, IL) and Carl Wyss (Washington, IL).

Funeral services were conducted by Elder Bro. David Bertsch and Bro. Lynn Steiglitz for Sis. Marjorie Frautsch, 79. Our prayers and sympathy are for her husband, Al, and son, Bro. Edward, his wife, Sis. Connie, and family. We enjoyed their fellowship through many years when they were part of our Leo church family. They were missed here when they moved to Scottsdale, AZ, in 1986. Isn't it a comforting thought that Christians never see each other for the last time, they meet again.

Leo hosted the well-attended World Relief and Works Projects Committee meetings in April.

Sunrise services were very sacred and beautiful in message and song as the sun shone over the water in front of our fellowship center.

Bits of This and That:

A little girl, when asked where her home was, replied, "Where my Mother is."

Home is the chief school of human virtues. Don't give to the school and church your duties to your children.

What our children will be, they are now fast becoming.

The best thing you can spend on your children is time.

Motherhood is a partnership with God.

All that I am or ever hope to be, I owe to my angel mother. — Abraham Lincoln

It's not what we have in our home, but whom we have that makes it precious.

INDIANA, MILFORD

Marguerite Hoerr — Sue Schieler

Our congregation has been privileged to have Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle (Shioda, Japan), Bro. Paul Gasser (Akron, OH), Bro. Ron Schambach (Elgin, IL) and Bro. Bill Waibel (Bay City, MI) visiting us recently. We thank these brothers for being willing to come and bring us the Word.

We have had several hospitalized recently and we are happy Sis. Aldine Reimschisel, little Simon Beer (Bro. Steve and Sis. Connie) and Everett

Price are all able to be home again.

Several from our congregation went to Juarez, Mexico, to help on a work project and it was our privilege to pray for them and their loved ones who remained at home. Bro. Bob Hoerr, Bro. Walt Steffen, Bro. Dick Steffen, Bro. Phil Price, John Beer and Jeff Haab were willing to go and help with this project of love.

We extend our sympathy to Sis. Dorothy (John) Martin at the passing of her sister, Myrna Wetherholdt (Gary, IN).

We rejoice with Bro. Bill Longcor and Sis. Judy Schafer (Princeville, IL) as their engagement was announced April 17. Bro. Bill's parents are Colter and Katherine (Ruch) Longcor and Sis. Judy's parents are Bro. Fred and Sis. Esther Schafer.

Jon Haab (Bro. Ray and Sis. Paula) has turned his back on the world and testifies of peace with God. We look forward to greeting him as our brother-in-Christ.

INDIANA, REMINGTON

Beth Virkler — Susan Getz

We live in an age when there is no end to the making of books. Because of the increase of leisure time and the advertising influence of the media, the Christian is being faced with decisions in the field of "literature" like never before. Many "experts" and "prophet-like" speakers are waiting to grab your attention and gain a following. As a result, some of us may be faced with the questions: "Why do we believe the Bible is the Word of God?", "How do we know it is different from other books?" The child who has been brought up in a Christian home is trained to believe that the authority of the Bible supersedes that of other literature; therefore, it must be approached with a different attitude.

a.) First, on the ground of the testimony of Jesus Christ. (Mark 7:13; Luke 24:27; John 10:35, 14:26)

b.) Second, on the ground of its fulfilled prophecies — the explicit prophecies about the Messiah and the Old Testament events, institutions and ceremonies which are called types and which portray in picture something future.

c.) Third, on the ground of the unity of the book. "The Bible consists of 66 books, written by more than thirty different men, extending in the period of its composition over more than fif-

teen hundred years; written in three different languages, in many different countries, and by men on every plane of social life, from the herdman and fishermen and cheap politician up to the king upon his throne; written under all sorts of circumstances; yet in all this wonderful conglomeration we find an absolute unity of thought."

d.) Fourth, on the ground of the immeasurable superiority of the teachings of the Bible to those of any and all other books.

— (1) The Bible has in it nothing but truth, while all the others have truth mixed with error.

— (2) The Bible contains all truth. "There is not a truth to be found anywhere on moral or spiritual subjects that you cannot find in substance within the covers of that old Book."

— (3) The Bible contains more truth than all other books together.

e.) Fifth, on the ground of the history of the book, its victory over attack. "This book has always been hated. No sooner was it given to the world than it met the hatred of men, and they tried to stamp it out. Edicts passed by all the power of the empire were issued that every Bible should be burned, and that everyone who had a Bible should be put to death. For eighteen centuries every engine of destruction that human science, philosophy, wit, reasoning or brutality could bring together to bear against the Bible has been done to stamp it out of the world, but it still has a mighty hold on the world today.

f.) Sixth, on the ground of the character of those who accept and of those who reject the book.

g.) Seventh, on the ground of the influence of the book. "There is more power in that little Book to save men, and purify, gladden and beautify their lives than in all other literature put together — more power to lift men up to God."

h.) Eighth, on the ground of the inexhaustible depth of the book. "Nothing has been added to it in eighteen hundred years, yet any man cannot exhaust it by the study of it in a lifetime. A devout Christian man once said, "I have read it through more than one hundred times, and yet it became fresher to me each time I read it." Could that be true of any other book?

i.) Ninth, on the ground of the fact that as we grow in knowledge and holiness, we grow toward the Bible.

j.) Tenth, on the ground of the direct

testimony of the Holy Spirit. "It is possible to get to a place where we need no argument to prove that the Bible is God's Word. Christ says, 'My sheep know my voice,' and God's children know His voice." Are you one of those who definitely know God's voice?

Dr. R. A. Torrey
in "Our Bible" 1898

Visiting ministers April 3 were Bro. Virgil Metzger (Chicago, IL) and Elder Bro. Ed Frank (LaCrosse, IN) and on April 10 Elder Bro. John Klotzle (Altadena, CA). Bro. Walter Herrmann (Princeville, IL) visited us April 17.

Sis. Louise Waibel and Bro. Ray Steffen spent some days in the hospital this month.

Spring weather always brings many surprises to us in the Midwest. On April 6 we had a 10-hour wind storm with 50 - 70 mph winds that left plenty of clean-up and repair work in our area. Our church lot, with its peaceful country setting, lost several large trees and part of the church roof needed to be replaced due to shingle loss. A group of brethren quickly responded to the call of duty and got this necessary work done within a week.

INDIANA, SOUTH BEND
Sue Beebe

"I was glad when they said unto me,
Let us go into the house of the Lord."
Psalms 122:1

Do we appreciate enough the blessing we have of being able to freely gather together in the house of the Lord?

On Palm Sunday, our Sunday school children eagerly presented us with an Easter program, telling in verse and song the story of our Lord's death and resurrection.

Bro. Walter Rager (Toledo, OH) was with us for our Good Friday and Easter services. He poignantly described the pain and agony suffered by our Lord on the cross. It is not something pleasant to dwell on and yet we should often go to the cross and remember His suffering that we might be humbled and more willing to love and serve Him. He gave His "all" for us. Should we not want to give Him our "all"?

We were privileged to be able to partake of holy communion April 9. Assisting our Elder Bro. Jesse Beer

(Milford, IN) was Elder Bro. Ed Frank (LaCrosse, IN).

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

"Communion"
Zion's Harp #200

We thank each of our visiting ministers and their families for fellowshiping with us.

Bringing joy to the home of Mike and Sis. Renee Mangold is a precious son, Joseph Melvin, born March 18. Welcoming him home are Matthew, Joshua, Nathan and Heather. Grandparents are Bro. Melvin and Sis. Helen Mangold (Roanoke, IL) and Mr. and Mrs. Bill Cole (Mishawaka, IN).

Hospital patients this month were baby Joseph Mangold and Sis. Mae Schumacher. We are thankful for the healing touch of God upon both of them.

INDIANA, WOLCOTT

Lorna Knapp — Lynell Blume

Our sympathy is extended to Bro. Vernon and Sis. Arlene Schwab and their family in the passing of Bro. Vernon's father, Sam Schwab (Lamont, KS). We pray they have felt the Lord's comfort and nearness.

Many gathered together Wednesday evening, March 30, for our Easter program. We were reminded of Christ's death and resurrection through recitation and song.

As spring is again upon us, we can see and enjoy the miracles of God's creation. Two "little miracles" have brought much happiness to their family circles. On March 21, Bro. Mark and Sis. Shari Schwab welcomed a sweet baby girl, Marissa Leigh. She has a sister, Stefanie, to help care for her. Happy grandparents are Bro. Merle and Sis. Leona Bucher (LaCrosse, IN) and Bro. Vernon and Sis. Arlene Schwab. On April 8, a precious baby boy, Derek Shane, was born to Bro. Brian and Sis. Lorna Knapp. Jordan, Kyle, Trevor and Krystal are happy for a new brother. We congratulate grandparents, Bro. Myron and Sis. Dorothy Schulz (Oakville, IA) and Bro. Jerry and Sis. Nancy Knapp (Congerville, IL).

Jennifer Hopkins (Sis. Dianne) and

Tim Baugh (Mr. and Mrs. Bob Baugh, West Lafayette, IN) recently exchanged wedding vows.

On March 26, Troy Furrer (Bro. Don and Sis. Rita) and Lisa Ponto (Mr. and Mrs. Richard Ponto) were united in marriage. We wish them a home in which love and peace will always abide.

Our congregation and many visitors shared a very blessed day April 10 when Sis. Melinda Bahler (Bro. Lowell and Sis. Karla) and Bro. Lee Rufener (Bro. Joe and Sis. Lilas, Smithville, OH) joined hands and hearts in holy matrimony. May the Lord bless this union as they walk life's pathway together.

Also on April 10, Bro. Rob Lehman (Bro. Gene and Sis. Verna) announced his engagement to Sis. Beckie Witzig (Bro. Bill and Sis. Mary, Altadena, CA). On April 17, Bro. Jeff Bahler (Bro. Lowell and Sis. Karla) was announced to Sis. Heidi Baumgartner (Bro. Leonard and Sis. Nancy, Bern, KS). We wish these two couples God's guidance and blessings as they make their wedding plans.

We have truly been blessed with encouraging messages from our visiting ministers this past month. They were Bro. Andy Stoller (Smithville, OH), Bro. Walt Herrmann (Princeville, IL) and Elder Bro. John Klotzle (Altadena, CA). We appreciate their being in our midst and the teachings they brought forth.

IOWA, AMES/DES MOINES
Rhonda Reker

We were privileged to have Bros. Dale Wulf and Myron Knobloch (Lester, IA) share God's Holy Word with us April 10.

We will meet once more in the month of May before we break for the summer.

May we all remember to always be alert for the ways Satan would try to come at us during the summer months.

We know that with God's grace we will be able to overcome any trial or temptation that may come our way.

May God bless each one who has been a part of our gathering over this past year.

IOWA, BURLINGTON
Karen Schulz — Deyona Massner

On March 27, Sis. Carolyn Massner and Bro. Leroy Wulf were united in holy matrimony by Elder Bro. Ed Lanz (Oakville, IA). We appreciated all of our visitors, but especially Bros. Bill

Gerst (Alto, MI), Dale Wulf (Lester, IA) and John Schmidgall (Oakville, IA). We also thank Bro. Uriel Gehring for sharing the Word with us this past month.

On April 16 we gathered together to partake of holy communion. Let us not only remember His suffering during the Easter season, but also throughout the whole year.

Twins were born to Mike and Pat Heiniger March 25. Daniel is welcomed home by his two brothers, Lenny and Christopher, while David remains hospitalized hoping to return home soon. The happy grandparents are Bro. Harvey and Sis. Leola Heiniger and Robert and Luanna Alexander.

We extend our sympathy to Bro. Marvin Woodward and his family in the loss of his mother, Lois Woodward, and also to Sis. Esther Peterson and her family in the loss of her son-in-law, Raymond Rauhaus.

IOWA, ELGIN
Gloria Frieden

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

Helen Steiner Rice

Perhaps the best way we can repay our mothers for their love, care and guidance is to pass it on to our children.

We have received the exhortation and are looking forward to holy communion.

IOWA, GARDEN GROVE
Glen and Sally Funk

I Samuel 14:6 . . . "It may be that the Lord will work for us: for there is no restraint to the Lord to save by many or by few." In our small place here in

Garden Grove, this scripture has been a tremendous inspiration to me, especially in the ministering of God's Word. God is so great and His power unlimited. May we trust Him as Jonathan did in his day.

The past month has kept us working and planning together for the Morton choir to visit us the end of this month. It takes everyone's help in a church this size to plan any kind of fellowship. They will double us in number! What a blessed day of fellowship it will be.

Palm Sunday, Bro. Howard Plattner (Wichita, KS) ministered the Word to us. The Sunday after Easter, Elder Bros. Sam Huber (Sabetha, KS) and Lester Huber (Bern, KS) brought the Word to us, read the memorandum and served communion. It was a wonderful day. We had a dinner to end the day. Three young brothers came with them from Bern and were greatly appreciated. As they walked into church that morning to sing with the Sunday school, I had to fight the tears back as I realized what an example they are to young boys in our church. How very seldom our Sunday school children see a group of converted young people that they can feel a desire to be a part of.

Bro. Clifford Grimm (West Bend, IA) willingly came to fill in for Bro. Glen Sunday, April 17, while his family visited Bern, KS, for the day. That same day our older Sunday school children visited Sabetha, KS, with their teacher, Bro. Brad Funk. They all had a wonderful time and our heartfelt thanks go to all of you for inviting and hosting them.

We sincerely thank all our ministers and visitors for the wonderful fellowship they provide and invite anyone to come to Garden Grove for a visit. May God bless one and all.

IOWA, IOWA CITY
Bonita Frank

The weather is continually getting warmer, and we are enjoying seeing spring and summer unfold. God is so wonderful to have provided us the variety in the seasons!

On March 19, Elder Bro. Joe Stoller (Princeville, IL) assisted our Elder Bro. Paul Butikofer (Elgin, IA) in reading to us the conclusions of the brotherhood conference of last August. It was a blessed evening followed by another nice day, Sunday. May God bless these brethren for being our "watchmen on the wall", warning us of dangers.

Other visiting ministers this month

have been Bro. Dale Frank and Bro. John Steiner (Oakville). We appreciate these ministers and their families coming to serve us.

Our Sunday school addition is progressing again with the carpeting, painting and trim being the remaining projects. We hope the Lord blesses these few remaining tasks as He has the rest.

Thank You: We would like to thank the volunteers from Cissna Park, Princeville and Bradford, IL, that came to help with our addition. Many are the ways we have been helped, and we would like to thank each one.

The Iowa City Congregation

IOWA, LESTER

Kathy Metzger — Mary Knobloch

On Saturday evening, March 26, Elder Bro. Jesse Beer (Milford, IN) assisted Elder Bro. Leo Moser and Bro. Dennis Warner in serving holy communion. What a humbling experience it was to partake of bread and wine in remembrance of the broken body and shed blood of our dear Savior. Then on Good Friday, Bro. Nate Stoller (Bradford, IL) ministered to us as we again traveled the road to Calvary and in our minds viewed Jesus hanging on the rugged cross. On Easter Sunday, Bro. Nate and Kent Mogerl (Minneapolis, MN) preached God's Word and reminded us of the resurrection and its meaning and importance in the plan of salvation. May God bless our elders and ministers for again feeding us "Spiritual Manna."

Sis. Marie Nester (Bro. Gene and Sis. Shirley), who now resides in Peoria, IL, and Bro. Paul Sauder (Bro. Dale and Sis. Joanne, Tremont), who now lives in Chicago, IL, were recently betrothed. As they make plans for their wedding, may God direct their hearts in building a solid marriage using Jesus Christ as the foundation.

God has directed Bro. Jerry Knobloch and his brother, Harlan (Orvie and Loretta), to seek employment and reside near Bern, KS. May God bless their new endeavors.

Barb Moser (Dave) recently had back surgery and Andy Leuthold also had surgery. We pray they will soon be up and around and enjoy the blessings of good health once again.

We ask God to comfort Sis. Martha Feucht (Bro. Gus) and Sis. Emily Leuthold (Bro. Art) in the loss of their brother, Norman Schaer (Chillicothe,

IL).

With Mother's Day approaching, we ask God to bless each one as families gather together.

WHAT IS A MOTHER?

It takes a Mother's love to make a house a home,
A place to be remembered, no matter where we roam . . .
It takes a Mother's patience to bring a child up right,
And her courage and her cheerfulness to make a dark day bright . . .
It takes a Mother's thoughtfulness to mend the heart's deep "hurts."
And her skill and her endurance to mend little socks and shirts . . .
It takes a Mother's kindness to forgive us when we err,
To sympathize in trouble and bow her head in prayer . . .
It takes a Mother's wisdom to recognize our needs
And to give reassurance by her loving words and deeds . . .
It takes a Mother's endless faith, her confidence and trust
To guide us through the pitfalls of selfishness and lust . . .
And that is why in all this world there could not be another
Who could fulfill God's purpose as completely as a MOTHER!

Helen Steiner Rice

IOWA, OAKVILLE Debbie Wagenbach

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

Proverbs 17:6

Jenna Jill joined the hearts and home of Bro. Kent and Sis. Denise Grimm. She is their fourth little girl and has happy sisters, Kori, Kelly, Kayla and big brother, Jordon, to welcome her into the family. Bro. Mark and Sis. Margaret Grimm and Bob and Jean Heitmeier (Mediapolis) are Jenna's happy grandparents. Congratulations are extended to Bro. Myron and Sis. Dorothy Schulz on the birth of another grandson, Derek Shane. Derek is the son of Bro. Brian and Sis. Lorna Knapp (Wolcott, IN). Tammy and Gary Sharp (Oklahoma City, OK) are first-time parents of a little boy born April 4. Nathan Don is the grandson of Bro. Gerald and Sis. Bonnie Wagenbach

and Dorothy Sharp (Oklahoma City, OK).

Thought: "Nothing shows dirt like a white lie."

Anonymous

IOWA, PULASKI Teresa Schock

Sis. Elizabeth Wuthrich and Sis. Sue Ann Schaer were our hospital patients this month.

We sympathize with Sis. Elizabeth Wuthrich in the passing of her brother, Bro. Silas Banwart (West Bend, IA).

We were all surprised at the sudden move of Bro. Ken and Sis. Sarah Teubel and their two small children. They are now living in Gridley, IL. We trust the Lord will be with them in this endeavor.

On Mother's Day we all remember our dear mothers. May we not only think of them on this day, but be thankful the whole year for them and all they have done for us.

IOWA, WEST BEND

Polly Zaugg — Phyllis Banwart

We appreciate the visiting ministers who have been with us the past month. They were Bro. Ed Knecht (Silverton, OR), Bro. Elmer Schmidt (Winthrop, MN), Bro. Gary Anliker (Elgin, IL), Bro. Carl Wyss (Washington, IL), Bro. Russell Wuthrich (Pulaski), Elder Bro. Harold Messner (Winthrop, MN), Bro. Wayne Banwart (Champaign, IL) and Bro. Sam Anliker (Lamont, KS).

The death angel has plucked a loved one from our midst. Funeral services were held for Conrad (Dick) Schmidt, 83, March 25. Our sympathy is extended to his wife, Sis. Christine, and two sisters and a brother, Sis. Lydia Wilson, Esther Moadinger and Bro. Earnie Schmidt. In sorrow we can turn to God and find an inner strength. His helping hand is always near.

A LITTLE STEP AWAY

To close the eye, to fall asleep,
To draw a labored breath,
To find release from daily cares
In what we know as death . . .
Is this the crowning of a life,
The aim or end thereof?
The totaled sum of consciousness,
The ripened fruit of love?
It cannot be, for works of God
Are wrought for nobler ends,
And those away continue on
In the hearts of kin and friends.

It cannot be, for they live on
A little step away.
The soul, the everlasting life,
Has found a better day . . .

O. J. Hanson

We laid to rest one of our faithful brothers who has been a pillar in our church for many, many years. Bro. Silas Banwart, 90, passed away April 2. Our sympathy is extended to his family. He is survived by his children, Sis. Berniece, Archie, Bro. Alvin (West Bend), Bro. Victor (Ottosen, IA), Sis. Betty Wirtz (Verner, West Bend), Sis. Phyllis Strahm (Elmer, Sabetha, KS), Franklin (Lake Mills, IA), James (West Bend), Sis. Caroline (Peoria, IL), Leslie (Big Rock, IL); 29 grandchildren and 33 great-grandchildren; and three sisters, Sis. Elizabeth Wuthrich (Albert, Bloomfield, IA), Sis. Lena Grimm (Eli) and Louisa Anliker (Reuben, West Bend).

Our congratulations and best wishes go out to Melissa Fehr (Elder Bro. Wayne and Sis. Kathy) and Todd Kuenzi (Bro. Bob and Sis. Linda, Silverton, OR) who were married March 26. May God bless their lives together.

Blake and Vera Banwart welcomed their second son April 7. Weston Koehl is also welcomed by his brother, Brandon, and grandparents, James and Becky Banwart and Lavonna Christianson. We also extend best wishes to Bro. Clifford and Sis. Rosene Grimm on a new grandson, Brady Alan, born to Keith and Beth Grimm and to Bro. Harley and Sis. Adele Bruellman on their new granddaughter, Kayla Sue, born to Jerry and Deb Larson.

Soon we will observe the day set aside to honor our mothers and we are especially thankful for the Christian teachings we receive from them.

WHY GOD MADE MOTHERS . . .

To sing lullabies
To understand and care
To lend a guiding hand
To smile and understand
To hear their prayers at night.

May God ever be near the loved ones who are hospitalized at this time and those who have spent time there this past month. Included are Sis. Elizabeth (Bro. Duane) Metzger, Sis. Elizabeth Traub, Bro. Fred Wirtz (Sis. Hulda) and Alice Marie Metzger (Bernard).

JAPAN, SHIODA**Kathy Kieser**

In memory of our Lord's resurrection, we gathered in a beautiful park along a river for an Easter sunrise service. Brethren and friends then enjoyed a picnic breakfast together. Later on in the day we had our Sunday school Easter program. Our special visitors, Sis. Joy Blunier and Sis. Diane Steiner (both from Bloomington/Normal, IL) sang some duets for us then, including a verse of "Lead Me To Calvary" in Japanese. They were an inspiration to us not only at the Easter program, but also many other times during their two-and-a-half-week stay in Japan.

March 1 was the orientation day and April 1 was the first day of school for fifteen 4-year-old students at our kindergarten. Little Tomohiro was so anxious and ready to please his teacher that when he heard "1 - 2 - 3 Zip!" (a command the children quickly learn that means "no talking"), he promptly continued counting, "4 - 5 - 6 - !" until he realized that he could just relax and be silent.

The second time he attended Sunday school, he learned that the Living God in heaven made everything in six days and then rested on the seventh day. When his teacher told the class that God also wants us to rest on the seventh day and go to church, he firmly answered, "Hai!" (yes; certainly; all right!). Teacher said it. He believed it and would do it. Period. There were no questions or hesitation. What an example little Tomohiro is! If each one of us were so eager to believe and obey our heavenly Father, how His heart would rejoice! ". . . for the Lord will again rejoice over thee . . . if thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the Lord thy God to keep His commandments . . ." (Deuteronomy 30:9, 10).

JAPAN, TOKYO**Frank and Kathy Sauder**

Recently many Japanese high school students were killed in a tragic train accident during a school trip to China. Soon afterwards, the principal of the high school began visiting the families of the victims. He apologized and took responsibility for the accident. This may seem a little ridiculous, as he had nothing to do with the accident itself. He couldn't have done anything to prevent it except to have not allowed the trip to occur in the first place. Yet,

because of his position, he was willing to bear the responsibility.

This accident occurred around Easter time, as we were remembering the death of our Lord. Do we fully appreciate the responsibility that Jesus took upon Himself for our sins? He certainly had nothing to do with the sins we committed, and could have done nothing to prevent them except to have kept man from being created in the first place. Yet He was willing to bear not only our personal sins, but the sins of the world.

Our Sunday school children told the Easter story through prophecy and fulfillment found in the scriptures. This message at our Easter program helped us to see that surely God's Word is true; and just as surely, the prophecies for the end times will be fulfilled.

We appreciated the visit of several guests from America. Bro. Bob Knapp (Eureka, IL), Brenda Werner (Francesville, IN), Sis. Joy Blunier and Sis. Diane Steiner (Bloomington, IL) were our welcome visitors. May God bless them and help the time that we spent together to have meaning in their lives.

On March 31, the Sunday school children had their annual spring outing. It was a special time for the children to strengthen their bonds of friendship with each other. When I picked up some of the children from the church in Shioda, they wanted to know who was coming from the Tokyo church. They grew more and more excited with each name I mentioned. Because of time and distance between the church families, some of the Sunday school children only see each other a few times each year. We pray that God will bless their friendship, and that when they become adults their relationships will grow even deeper. We pray that they will know each other as brothers and sisters-in-Christ.

KANSAS, BERN**Kathy Strahm
Lori Baumgartner**

"Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above rubies.

"Strength and honour are her clothing; and she shall rejoice in time to come.

"She openeth her mouth with wisdom; and in her tongue is the law of kindness.

"She looketh well to the ways of her

household, and eateth not the bread of idleness.

"Her children arise up, and call her blessed, her husband also, and he praiseth her.

"Favour is deceitful, and beauty is vain, but a woman that feareth the Lord, she shall be praised."

Proverbs 31:10, 25-28, 30

The wise words of Solomon express so well the blessedness of a God-fearing woman. Many of us can be so thankful that we have grown up in homes with God-fearing mothers. Even though we don't express it as often as we ought, we do love and appreciate all that mothers do and have done.

We had one visiting minister this past month, Elder Bro. Phil Stettner (Bluffton North, IN). We are always appreciative of those who labor to bring us the Word of God.

The Bern Sunday school (6th - 12th grades) spent the weekend of April 16 and 17 in Sabetha for the semi-annual Kansas Youth Fellowship Weekend. Elder Bro. Steve Rinkenberger (Cissna Park, IL) spoke to the children about "Choices" we must make throughout life. Our hope and prayer for each of our youth is that they will make the most important choice — the choice of serving our Lord and Saviour.

Our congregation at Bern was pleasantly surprised April 17 to hear of the engagement of Sis. Heidi Baumgartner (Bro. Leonard and Sis. Nancy Baumgartner) to Bro. Jeff Bahler (Bro. Lowell and Sis. Carla Bahler, Wolcott, IN). A June 5 wedding is being planned. We wish them God's blessings and nearness in the months ahead.

Sis. Esther Esslinger wishes to express her thanks and appreciation for all of the nice cards and letters she received for her 90th birthday.

KANSAS, FORT SCOTT**Karen Sinn**

Our older Sunday school classes enjoyed a weekend of fellowship at Sabetha April 16 and 17.

Todd Robb (Steve and Sis. Gayle) was hospitalized for injuries he sustained in a motorcycle accident. We are thankful he wasn't hurt more seriously.

As summer vacation time draws near, we want to encourage anyone coming our way to visit our small congregation.

KANSAS, GRIDLEY**Vola Young — Judy Kraft**

We are thankful for the untiring efforts of our brethren who feed the flock by the ministrations of the Word. Visiting ministers were Elder Bro. Arthur Bahler (Fairbury, IL) and Elder Bro. Ronald Nelson (Kiowa, KS).

Bro. Ivan Beyer is recuperating after requiring surgery. Our thoughts and prayers are with George Beyer, son of Sis. Matilda Beyer. He was involved in an auto accident and is hospitalized with fractures to both lower extremities.

Congratulations are extended to Mike Kraft and Cindy Browning, who are to be married April 16. Mike is the grandson of Bro. Sam Kraft.

KANSAS, KIOWA**Darcy Kisling — Janice Bahr**

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

Matthew 26:28

Communion always gives us a special awareness of the meaning of Christ's suffering. As we took part this month in the Lord's Supper, we were reminded of the special fellowship that we can have with Jesus and with each other.

We want to thank Bro. Howard Plattner (Wichita) for sharing God's Word with us. May the Lord give him and his family a special blessing for their service and fellowship.

A special thanks is extended to Sabetha for hosting the youth fellowship in April. We greatly appreciate the spiritual fellowship our youth took part in and the messages they received. We realize the importance of this fellowship for the spiritual future of our youth. We would like to thank the individuals who so graciously opened their homes to our youth and their sponsors. We especially thank the parents of the youth attending from Kiowa for allowing them to travel to Sabetha.

Many gathered at the rest home this month and sang familiar hymns of praise with the residents. Elder Bro. Ronald Nelson shared God's Word and we fellowshiped one with another.

In the hospital this month were Bro. Vern Schurter and Sis. Frieda Frieden. No doubt they have felt God's healing power as our many prayers have gone out for them.

Bro. Raymond and Sis. Laverne Roth spent two weeks this past winter in Zapata, TX. While there, Bro. Raymond was taken by ambulance to Laredo, TX, fifty miles away with a bleeding ulcer. Both were so thankful it didn't happen on the road traveling where they knew no one nor where to go.

It was wonderful to be near loving, caring and concerned ones assisting in whatever way they could, taking Sis. Laverne up to the hospital, others coming and getting her evenings, and bringing Bro. Raymond back again.

It was beautiful to observe the love and unity of the united body, where one's illness or pain was their pain and one's good health and recovery were their joy also. What a precious faith and fellowship is ours.

Bro. Raymond and Sis. Laverne wish to thank all for their assistance, especially Bro. Leland and Sis. Mary Plattner.

KANSAS, LAMONT**Mary Isch**

This is the month our thoughts turn to our dear mothers, whether they are still among us or have gone to their heavenly reward.

"The sweetest name in the English language," my own mother used to say. True, she was a sentimentalist — but surely we have a right to be sentimental when it comes to mothers. The very word motherhood has an emotional depth and significance few terms have. It bespeaks nourishment and safety and sheltering arms. It embraces not only the human state, but the animal kingdom — the tiger fiercely protective of her cubs, the hen clucking over her brood and spreading her wings to shield them from the storm. It speaks of the very beginnings of life in egg or womb, and of nurture in the most critical stages thereafter.

Marjorie Holmes

Due to a snowstorm in January, our annual meeting was not held until April 2. Bro. Bill Emch was re-elected as clerk of church board, Sis. Jane Isch was elected to teach the Primary Class, Sis. Debbie Frieden was elected as substitute for Primary Class, Sis. Mary Isch was elected for serving on the food committee and Bro. Floyd Isch was re-elected on the personal property insurance board.

We extend sincere sympathy to Bro.

Stephen and Sis. Dorothy Schrader and Bro. Vern and Sis. Arlene Schwab in the death of their father, Sam Schwab.

Visiting ministers have been Elder Bros. Art Bahler (Fairbury, IL), Raymond Banwart (Fort Scott, KS), Ron Nelson (Kiowa, KS) and Bro. Tim Zimmerman (Gridley, KS).

KANSAS, SABETHA**Charleen Hartter — Nita Grimm**

Many times throughout the course of a day a person is confronted with "pressure". What is it? According to "Webster's New World," pressure is: 1.) a pressing or being pressed; compression; squeezing. 2.) a condition of distress; oppression; affliction. 3.) a compelling influence; constraining force: as, we all react to social pressure. 4.) demands requiring immediate attention; urgency. 5.) an impression; mark made by pressing. 6.) electromotive force. 7.) force exerted against an opposing body. Pressure comes in all shapes and sizes! We experience tremendous pressures, and then there are the nagging, little pressures that irritate the soul. The ink pen runs out of ink just as the boss wants you to take notes. The baby spills food all over the clean floor as your husband says "time to go." You flunked the chemistry test with flying colors. The car doesn't start. All are pressures, great or small. They are ever-present and never-ending in this life. As the weight of gravity holds us down physically to the earth, even so would the weight of "earthly pressures" hold us down in the Spirit were it not for the blessed hope of a better land to come! God's grace is ever sufficient to help us overcome the trials and frustrations of life. "If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit." Galatians 5:25. May we keep reading God's Holy Word daily, praying to Him and interceding for others!

Arriving into the hearts and home of Bro. Brad and Sis. Teresa Edelman is a little girl, Elizabeth Jean. She was born April 7, and joins her sister, Emily, in the precious family circle! Elvin and Beverly Goodman are maternal, and Cliff and Sis. Barb Edelman are paternal grandparents.

Our sympathy is given to Bro. Joe and Sis. Vi Traub in the loss of Vi's brother, Jesse Giesel.

We have enjoyed visits from Bros. Ed Bahler (Remington, IN), Phil Stettner (Bluffton North, IN) and Steve

Rinkenberger (Cissna Park, IL). Bro. Phil and his wife shared holy communion March 26. What a blessed event to partake in! We were reminded that communion is the second most important step in life next to conversion. Bro. Steve was with us April 16 and 17 as the Kansas Sunday school youth (along with Lamar, MO, and Garden Grove, IA) united together in Sabetha to fellowship and learn of God's Word.

We had two of our youth overtaken with bouts of pneumonia this past month. Sally Harrter (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Beth) and Wayne Grimm (Bro. Rod and Sis. Arlene) each spent short stays in the hospital to recuperate.

Our congratulations and best wishes are extended to our high school graduates: Bro. Scott Aberle (Bro. Roger and Sis. Lavonne), Matt Aberle (Bro. Fred and Sis. Charlotte), Sis. Marilyn Metzger (Bro. Doug and Sis. Betty), Karen Hartter (Bro. Roger and Sis. Ilene), Loel Strahm (Bro. Elmer and Sis. Phyllis) and Kacie Thompson (Sis. Thirza). May God bless each one in your pathway ahead!

Our sincere thanks is given to each and every one who remembered me with your love and concern while I was in the hospital and since returning home. All the beautiful cards, letters, phone calls, flowers, food and prayers were deeply appreciated. May God bless each of you is our prayer.

Sis. Esther and Bro. Charles Terry

KANSAS, WICHITA Emma Miller

Easter Sunday morning, many from our congregation met at the church for an eight o'clock breakfast. After the breakfast there was a time for sharing about the Lord's grace in individual lives. Various families shared their talent in song.

We are happy to welcome Patty Miskimons, daughter of Bro. Milton and Sis. Lillian Bowers, back to Wichita. It is a pleasure to have her worship with us and we pray the Lord's blessings on her as she adjusts to her relocation.

Spring in the Flint Hills is beautiful this year. The vibrant color of the redbud trees against the greening timberlines is a refreshing sight which calls to mind the words of the Master as he said, "Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin;" Matthew 6:28.

KENTUCKY, LEXINGTON Glenda Neukomm

"In God is my salvation and my glory, the rock of my strength; my refuge is in God. Trust in Him at all times, ye people; pour out your heart before Him. God is a refuge for us." Psalms 62:7, 8. What a comfort this psalm is. We can truly appreciate David's feelings as he trusted and waited upon God.

It has indeed been an encouragement to be blest with so many visitors during the past few months. Visitors were represented from the following churches: Bloomington, Cissna Park, Eureka, Fairbury, Morton and Princeville, IL; Francesville, Indianapolis, LaCrosse, Leo, Remington and Valparaiso, IN; Bay City, MI; and Latty, Smithville and Toledo, OH.

We want to sincerely thank our visiting ministers, Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman (Francesville, IN), Bro. Ken Wuethrich (Indianapolis, IN), Bro. Dan Stoller (Remington, IN) and Bro. John Hartman (Fairbury, IL). May the Lord richly bless them and those who accompanied them for their efforts and labors of love in sharing God's Word with us.

On Palm Sunday weekend, a special men's singing group from Francesville, IN, ministered songs of praise at the Homestead Nursing Home where Madge Dunn is a patient. This ministry was a time of blessing and inspiration for the elderly as well as for the Lexington church. The same weekend, our young people also enjoyed a special time of fellowship with a group from the Francesville Sunday school. It was a blessed time and we pray God to bless Bro. Gene Huber, Sunday school superintendent, for his efforts in helping make this possible.

Bro. Eugene and Sis. Mille Huber have left for their home in Francesville, IN, after spending the last four months here. We thank the Lord for their love, help and many deeds of kindness shared in supporting the church.

Let us honor our Godly mothers today, not only with words of praise for them, but with lives that reflect the impact of their holy influence!

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

Anonymous

MICHIGAN, ALTO Juanita Gerst

It is always a blessing to have visiting ministers. The last month we have been blessed with Elder Bro. Dan Koch (Tremont, IL) and the reading of the memorandum. We also heard Bro. Roy Ehnle (Bradford, IL), Bro. Wes Moser (Lester, IA), Bro. Joe Waibel (Bay City, MI) and Bro. Mark Bahr (Detroit, MI).

We want to welcome two more couples to Alto: Bro. Scott and Sis. Tonya Wieland and family and Bro. Curt and Sis. Sue Heimer and family. They are living in Lansing, MI.

MICHIGAN, BAY CITY Pam Schlatter

The weekend of March 26 and 27 was shared with us by Elder Bro. Norbert Steiner (Croghan, NY). On Saturday evening we heard the memorandum and appreciated the kindly advice contained therein. Sunday evening Bro. Norbert assisted Bro. Andy Virkler in serving communion to our congregation. We were reminded of the costly price paid for our salvation; the broken body and spilled blood of Christ.

We are constantly reminded of the degenerative nature of our physical being. Fred Knochel has experienced further heart problems after having undergone heart surgery this past month. We are thankful that our spiritual being does not have to undergo this same process of deterioration. "For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day." II Corinthians 4:16. We wish Fred returned health.

Bro. Norman and Sis. Leonore Knochel were doubly blessed as grandparents this month. Cassie Marie was born March 30 to Jerry and Michelle Knochel, while Laura Kay was born April 12 to Jim and Kay Knochel.

In these days of preventive medicine and nutrition, remember that mothers can play a role in preventing the moral and spiritual decay of their children. Of all a mother's responsibilities, none is more important than the spiritual training and love she shares with her child. By diligently applying herself to training her children in the ways of righteousness, a mother is not only helping to prevent spiritual depravity of her children, but also of the nation and world. May God bless a mother's work!

MICHIGAN, DETROIT Donna Hartzler

The day we celebrate Easter has come and gone, but we can still retain the wonderful Easter story in our hearts. The Sunday school again brought us the story in song and verse at the Easter program. What a joy it was to remember and praise our risen Lord for giving His life that we might live eternally.

Bro. Milan and Sis. Joyce Germaine and sons, Adam and Aaron, welcomed home a new baby girl, Rachel Trese. She was born April 11. May God's blessings be upon them all.

The Apostolic Christian Woodhaven bazaar was a great success, thanks to those who gave of their time and talents in making and donating craft items and baked goods, to those who volunteered at the sale, and to those who participated by purchasing items. When all work together toward a common goal, much can be accomplished. May God bless each one.

We continue to have those in our congregation who are not able to assemble with us. They include Sis. Hilda Baurer, Sis. Mary Pentik, Bro. Joe and Sis. Martha Szilagyi and Bro. Lewis Varga. Our prayers and thoughts are with them, and we trust God will restore to them a measure of health.

May is the month we pay tribute to our dear mothers.

TO MY MOTHER

A cherished gift, sent from above,
God's gift, my mother and her love.
The one I know is always there,
My sorrows and my joys to share.
The one who'll never turn away
But stand beside me all the way.
When things go wrong, she's there to
see
That somehow things go right for me.
Her guiding hand through childhood
days
Helped lead me on to adult ways.
Her faith, her love, her tender care,
Are golden memories we share.
And always deep within my heart
A special place I've set apart,
A place that no one else can share
For Mother, dear, you're always there.
And when I say my prayers at night
Down on my bended knee
I say, "I'm thankful, yes, I'm thankful
That God has given you to me!"

Doris Roberts

MINNESOTA, MINNEAPOLIS Carol Strassheim

As Mother's Day approaches, honor your mother. Tell her you love her. Make this a day she'll remember!

It is with great joy that we meet our new sister-in-the-Lord, Renee Messner (Todd). We spent a blessed evening together as she shared her testimony and Sunday, we witnessed her public commitment to serve the Lord through baptism. May our heavenly Father richly lead, guide and direct her new Christian walk. A time of fellowship was enjoyed as we shared dinner following baptism. Sunday evening we gathered to partake of holy communion. It was our blessed portion to sit in heavenly places and in faith commemorate the suffering and death of our dear Lord Jesus. For this special time of renewal and for this whole weekend, we want to thank Elder Bro. Harold Messner (Winthrop), Elder Bro. Wayne Fehr (West Bend, IA), Bro. Dean Messner (Winthrop) and Bro. LeRoy Messner (Winthrop). May they be blessed for giving of themselves.

As I sit writing the news, my thoughts go back to the times when our little church family gets together to praise the Lord each week. It is with great joy that we all look forward to moving into our new church building. We sincerely recognize that it is not the building that makes the church, but the people. It is a time to sing praises unto the Lord and to be in harmony with one another. It is hard to conceal the excitement as our new church is nearing completion. Our eyes fill with tears as we are overwhelmed by God's goodness and blessings, for we are thankful for all the willing hands and hearts who have helped make this dream a reality. We truly need each other every day. We welcome others to come and share the blessings the Lord has given us.

The first Sunday in our new church is planned for May 15. Our new address is: 1390 Highway 110, P. O. Box 644, Mendota, Minnesota 55150, (612) 452-9783.

MINNESOTA, MORRIS Christa Sauder — Ruth Nohl

We were privileged to have visiting brethren in our midst over a blessed Easter weekend and throughout the month. Ministering the Word were Bro. Doug Grimm (Sabetha, KS), Bro. Vernon Wettstein (Congerville, IL), Bro. Ken Lawson (Minneapolis, MN)

and Elder Bro. Andy Virkler (Bay City, MI). We thank them for letting themselves be used in God's service in our congregation.

It was a solemn and peaceful evening April 9 when the members of the Morris congregation gathered to partake of holy communion. It was a special time of reflection upon what Christ did for us and what we should do for Him. If we give our all, it's still not enough to repay the debt we owe. May we with thankful hearts serve our Lord daily. Elder Bro. Andy Virkler (Bay City, MI) assisted our Elder Bro. Art Nohl at this special service.

Bro. Tim and Sis. Gwen Gramm have been blessed with another son, Casey Allen. Savannah, Taylor and Austin welcome him home. Grandparents are Elder Bro. Art and Sis. Sandra Nohl and Bro. Harold and Sis. Ila Gramm.

April 9 was the date chosen by Mike Moser and Cindy Eul as their wedding date. We wish them God's blessings in their life together. Mike's parents are Bro. Dave and Sis. Noreen Moser.

Announcement was made of the engagement of Bro. Rob Schmidgall (Minneapolis, MN) and Sis. Kathryn Massner (Oakville, IA). Parents of Bro. Rob and Sis. Kathryn are Bro. Virgil and Sis. Barb Massner (Oakville, IA) and Bro. Richard and Sis. Corrine Schmidgall. May they feel God's guidance as they plan for their wedding and marriage.

Recent hospital patients have been Lane Koehl (Bro. Ken and Sis. Karen), Jillaine Furrer (Bro. Tom and Sis. Jill) and Sis. Madonna Moser.

A note of thanks: The family of Sis. Helen K. Joos wishes to express their sincere thank you for the loving care and compassion given to Sis. Helen and her family during her illness and at the time of her death. We wish to thank you all for your prayers, cards, phone calls, food, flowers and memorial gifts. God bless you for all your acts of love and kindness.

Bro. Carl Joos
Sis. Carole and Bro. Bob Haas
and family
Judy and Roger Hemming
and family
Rhonda and Mick Asmus
and family

MINNESOTA, WINTHROP Wanda Messner Ella Mae Schmidt

The wedding of Scott Carlson and

Paula Dapper (Sis. Marcella and Bro. Ernie) was April 2. We wish them many blessings of happiness in their marriage.

The Easter breakfast served by the Senior and Junior Bible class was enjoyed by all.

"Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you; not as the world giveth, give I unto you." John 14:27

We were privileged to hear how God gave "peace" to Rachael Kent's (Darcy) heart after she sought Him in repentance. On Sunday, April 10, we were able to witness her baptism and greet her as a sister in God's precious family. Later, we partook of the bread and the cup in remembrance of our Lord's death. Monday evening we heard the summary of the brotherhood conference. We heard many teachings about "peace" and how we must walk in order to experience that "everlasting peace". We certainly want to thank Elder Bro. Paul Butikofer (Elgin, IA) and our Bro. Harold Messner, for all their labors of love. May it bring forth pleasing fruit!

The day of grace is still here, and we rejoice with Kim and Joe Messner and Joleen Messner (Julie Messner), who have gone to the cross with their burden of sin and have chosen to follow Him.

Our prayers are for little 18-month-old Dustin Messner (Russel and Teresa, grandson of Bro. Mike and Sis. Joyce) who remains in intensive care after undergoing open heart surgery March 23. We believe God can heal and comfort in times of stress.

MISSOURI, KANSAS CITY

Linda Ziegenhorn

As spring brings forth its green leaves and multicolored flowers, it also brings thoughts of new life in Christ. I thank God for my new life made possible by Christ's death on the cross and His arising from the grave. A new life in Christ is possible for all, if we just ask for forgiveness and turn our lives over to Him.

We thank Bro. Carl Wyss (Washington, IL) for holding mid-week services for us the week before Easter.

We will miss Bro. Edwin and Sis. Ramona Strahm and their daughter, Monica, when they move to Elgin, IL. Our prayers are with them as they settle into their new home.

MISSOURI, LAMAR

Carol Braker — Becky Marti

We have been blessed with several visitors in our congregation recently. We appreciate all of them and encourage anyone traveling in this direction to assemble with us.

Several from our congregation have been ill recently. Those hospitalized were Sis. Edna Frieden, Sis. Pearl Banwart, Sis. Cecile Braker and Sis. Marie Banwart. We are thankful that they have all returned home and are able to assemble with us again.

Bro. Curt and Sis. Martha Kellenberger have been entrusted with another child. Kent Joseph was born April 15 and was welcomed home by Keith and Kayla. Grandparents are Sis. Elaine Kellenberger (Lester, IA) and Bro. Raymond and Sis. LuEtta Braker.

Our graduates this year are Kristi Luthi (Bro. Ray and Sis. Marilyn) from high school and Sis. Jodi Kellenberger (Bro. Orlan and Sis. Mary) from college. May they seek God's direction as they make plans for their future.

MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS

Loren and Betsy Schrenk

Ministers serving our St. Louis church this past month were Bros. Carl Wyss (Washington, IL), Gary Anliker (Elgin, IL) and Arnie Gerst (Taylor, MO). We thank them and each of their family members who accompanied them.

Several of our congregation decided to stay in the St. Louis area over the Easter weekend, and were blessed by visits from our families. Easter services were held here for the first time. We were so thankful for the Anliker family's willingness to come so we could have a minister on this most important of days.

On Good Friday a number of us gathered at Bro. Jerry and Sis. Doreen Leuthold's home to listen to a Good Friday service taped in Princeville several years ago. Although we can hardly bear to hear of the excruciating pain Jesus suffered in order to make His sacrifice, we benefit from hearing it again and rejoice anew at the opportunity it provides for our salvation.

MISSOURI, TAYLOR

Loida Hodel — Lori Marquart

EASTER

Because of Easter we know Chris-

tians will meet again on the other side. In glorified bodies, we'll embrace one another again. Because of Easter, the horizon is bright! Life could be depressing, but it isn't — not for a child of God! Because of Easter, Christ lives and so shall we.

H. L. V.

"Christ's resurrection is the bud of promise — Our resurrection is the flower of fulfillment."

We enjoyed the Easter program presented by our Sunday school students March 27 and the privilege of sharing this special event with many visiting grandparents, neighbors and friends from far and near was an added blessing. We thank one and all for their sincere participation and may God richly bless each one.

The weekend of April 10 also afforded many blessings through the ministry of Elder Bro. Joe Braker (Morton, IL) and Bro. Jon Schmidgall (Oakville, IA). We thank them, as well as our local ministers, for proclaiming God's Word "in season and out of season."

"Ready to go, ready to stay,
Ready my place to fill;
Ready for service, lowly or great,
Ready to do His will."

S.E.L.

"Hate" is sand in the machinery of life — "Love" is oil.

NEW JERSEY, UNION CITY

Heidi Haerr

Our congregation is thankful for the ministers and their families who have taken the time and effort to travel and share worship services with us. They were Bro. Terry Virkler (Naumburg, NY), Bro. Merrill Laukhuf (Latty, OH), Bro. Ron Steiner (Rittman, OH), Bros. Pete Baltic and Fred Domka (Mansfield, OH), Bro. Ken Indermuhle (Sardis, OH) and Bros. Al Schneider, Lee Bahler, Dan Stoller and Kevin Ryan (Rockville, CT).

We are saddened by the loss of one of our group. Myron Weber, who has lived in the New York Metropolitan area for the past few years, is moving to Rittman, OH. Myron has been a strong support for our little congregation and we will miss his warm friendship for a long time to come. However, our prayers and best wishes go with Myron to his new home.

NEW YORK, CROGHAN Alice Virkler

Our Sunday school children presented a short Easter program of verse and song March 27 after our afternoon services. It is our prayer that our children will carry these teachings of Christ's death and resurrection with them throughout their lives.

Sis. Mavel Ebersol has returned to the Extended Care Facility after having been a hospital patient. Also, Harriet Lasher was a hospital patient a few days. We are thankful when good health is returned in a measure to our loved ones. May each of them be comforted by God's nearness.

We enjoyed a covered dish meal and song service the evening of March 24. The Naumburg congregation and others who worked on our basement renovations were with us for the evening of fellowship.

Midweek services for the season have begun. We assemble at 7:30 Wednesday evening alternating with the Naumburg church. Visitors in our area are welcomed to assemble with us.

NEW YORK, NAUMBURG Rachel Snyder

The Naumburg and Croghan congregations got together for a covered dish supper March 24. The fellowship was enjoyed by all.

We also had a nice evening April 8 when we got together at Croghan for relief work. Some tore and made bandages and some made lamp shades that will be sent to the Children's Home sale.

It has been nice to see faces at church which we haven't seen for some time. We're glad to know they are doing better and are able to be with us. Sis. Minnie Tauber came Easter Sunday and Sisters Corine Virkler, Ella Einbeck and Betty Herzig have been coming the last few Sundays. May God continue to strengthen them.

OHIO, AKRON Joyce Gasser

Sis. JoAnn Graf and Bro. Tim Schar were united in marriage Palm Sunday. Parents of the newlyweds are Bro. Art and Sis. Audrey Graf and Bro. Rowen and Sis. Judy Schar (Rittman). We welcome Bro. Tim into our congregation and we wish for them God's blessings.

Sis. JoAnn (Graf) Schar will be graduating from Cuyahoga Community

College as a dental hygienist. Sis. Amy Stoller (daughter of Bro. and Sis. Mildard Stoller, Latty) is graduating in July from Cleveland Clinic as a radiation therapy technician.

Our high school graduates: Michael Palitto (Bro. and Sis. Ron Palitto) has been accepted at Ruether Mold & Manufacturing Co. in Cuyahoga Falls in a 4-year apprenticeship program as a machinist; Eric Spangler (Bro. and Sis. Ned Spangler) has been accepted at college for pharmacy; Jodi Grawunder (Bro. and Sis. Fred Grawunder) plans to go to Akron University; Susan Bako (Bro. and Sis. Sandor Bako) plans to go to Akron University; Craig Graf (Bro. and Sis. John Graf) has been accepted at Kent State University and Ann Gallagher plans to go to Bowling Green State University.

Sis. Juliet Graf is in the hospital with pneumonia and we pray for her speedy recovery.

We were blessed to have communion and Elder Bro. Ken Sauder with us for the day, helping Elder Bro. Gene Pamer serve communion.

We appreciated Bro. Glenn Riggenschach visiting and ministering to us.

OHIO, COLUMBUS John Grimm

We want to thank Bro. Bill Schlatter (Junction, OH) and his family for visiting us in the past month. May God bless Bro. Bill for his effort in ministering His Word. We appreciate any visitors who make the effort to come and worship with us.

OHIO, JUNCTION Les Manz

Elder Bro. Loren Stoller (Latty) and Bro. Bill Schlatter served us holy communion in remembrance of the Lord's death for our sins. As we partook of the cup and the loaf, we were reminded how much the Lord suffered for us, how much pain He bore, and, most of all, how He had to feel condemned to hell so that we could have our sins covered. It is hard for our minds to fully comprehend God's plan, but those of us who have tasted of His forgiveness know that His peace surpasses all that Satan could possibly offer.

Our graduating high school seniors this year are Bro. Steve Manz (Bro. Ben and Sis. Carolyn) and Rex Boroff. Also graduating from college is Chris Schlatter (the late Bro. Ben and the late Sis. Esther). As they make prepar-

ations for the future, we wish them God's blessings.

OHIO, LATTY Rhonda Stoller Marlene Reinhard

My faith looks up to Thee,
Thou Lamb of Calvary,
Saviour divine;
Now hear me while I pray,
Take all my sin away,
O let me from this day
Be wholly Thine!

"My Faith Looks Up To Thee"
Ray Palmer

We pray God's blessings will be upon visiting ministering Bros. Jim Ramseyer and Bill Waibel (Bay City, MI), Earl Kilgus (Remington, IN) and Duane Kilgus (Fairbury, IL) for laboring to bring God's Word to us.

We rejoice with the families of Kevin and Della Wenninger with the arrival of their first child, Kimberly Marie, and Bro. Ed and Sis. Alice Wenninger and family as they welcome home Spencer Logan. Grandparents to both happy families are Bro. Don and Sis. Josephine Wenninger.

Hospitalized this past month were Matt Miller (Bro. Roger and Sis. Kay) and Judy Fetzer (Jim). We are thankful to see their smiling faces assemble with us once again.

We express our heartfelt sympathy to the family of Sis. Maria Heffner. May God comfort the heart of her son, John, and his family and those whose lives she touched.

As we have come again to the time of year called Mother's Day, may we thank our God more sincerely for the blessings He has bestowed on us through our mothers and wives. May they each one be blessed for their labors of love toward their families and friends.

All the water in the world,
However hard it tried
Could never sink a single ship
Unless it got inside.

All the evil in the world,
The wickedness and sin;
Can never sink your soul to doom
Unless you let it in.

Give Your New Address
To Your Reporter

OHIO, MANSFIELD Linda Morrison

"My lifetime doth pass away;
Hourly to the grave I hasten,
And I know each fleeting day
My allotted span will lessen.
Think, man, death comes soon or late.
Tarry not, it will not wait!"

Zion's Harp #253

Sis. Louise Sabo completed her allotted span here on earth March 20. Her funeral services were conducted by her grandsons, Bro. Doug Sabo (Sarasota, FL) and Bro. Fred Domka. We trust God will comfort her daughters, Sis. Clara (Bro. Jim) Zimmer, with whom she had made her home for a number of years, and Sis. Ruth (Bro. Steve) Domka. Sis. Louise lived a life exemplifying Christian love and hospitality. Her life in Christ is a wonderful legacy to leave her many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

The family wishes to thank everyone for their prayers, cards and deeds of love shown their mother during her extended illness and death.

The Sunday school program was held Palm Sunday. The joy and enthusiasm displayed by the children warmed the hearts of all in attendance. "I'm happy, oh so happy, as glad as I can be; because it's joyous Easter and Jesus lives in me."

Elder Bro. Aaron Steffen (Alto, MI) held Good Friday services. We were reminded that grace is free but it wasn't cheap! It was bought by a great price through the suffering of Jesus. "But I am a worm, and no man; a reproach of men, despised of the people. All they that see me laugh me to scorn: they shoot out the lip, they shake the head, saying, He trusted on the Lord that he would deliver him: let him deliver him, seeing he delighted in him. (Psalms 22:6-8).

"Take, eat; this is my body . . . Drink ye all of it; For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins." Matthew 26:26-28. Elder Bro. Aaron Steffen and Elder Bro. Ken Sauder served holy communion.

Bro. Larry Banks and Bro. Chuck Beer spent some time in Haiti. "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me." (Matthew 25:40). Have you ever wondered what the names of the starving, naked, sick,

people of the world are? Could it be that we should just call them Jesus and react to them then?

Sis. Francelia Beer and Sis. Mary Stanoyevic were short-term hospital patients. May they be encouraged with God's Word: "Rejoice evermore. Pray without ceasing. In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you." (I Thessalonians 5:16-18).

Staci Lynn was born March 19 to Bro. Marvin and Sis. Robin Beer. The thankful, supportive grandparents are Bro. Rex and Sis. Marilyn Beer and Bro. Barney and Sis. Bev Washington.

OHIO, RITTMAN Stephanie Baltic — Diane Gasser

THE MINISTERS OF THE GOSPEL

O, may I seek the souls who stray
And save them from destruction,
And through Thy holy love still lead
Them to Thy congregation.
May pray'rs and pleadings penetrate
To warn them of their lost estate.

Zion's Harp #113

May Bro. Art Ingold feel our love and prayerful support as we feel it is God's will for him to minister. We trust our heavenly Father will bestow much grace and wisdom upon him and give him words that are edifying to us all. May God's richest blessings be upon Bro. Art, Sis. Bonnie and their dear family.

We are thankful that we were blessed with three visiting ministers this past month. They were Elder Bro. Joe Braker (Morton, IL), Bro. Bill Brake (Sardis, OH) and Bro. Dean Messner (Winthrop, MN). May God bless them for their services of love toward us.

The engagement of Bro. Aaron Beery (Bro. Everett and Sis. Carol) and Sis. Lynn Uhler (Dale and Sis. Marilyn, Smithville, OH) was recently announced. May they continue to feel God's direction as they make plans to be joined as one in the Lord.

April 16 was the wedding date of Jim Bauman (Sis. Marie) and Joy Mueller (Mr. and Mrs. William Mueller). It was also the day Ralph Beery (Bro. Karl and Sis. Ruth) and Cheryl Labik (Mr. and Mrs. Milan Labik) joined hand and heart in marriage. May God's blessings rest upon these two couples.

Rejoicing over the birth of their first child, a daughter, Amber Rachael, is Alan and Pat Beery. Happy grandparents are Bro. Karl and Sis. Ruth Beery and Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Lipps.

Rachel Sue is the new daughter born to Bro. Jim and Sis. Sharon Rupp. Anna and Esther are her sisters. Thankful for a healthy new granddaughter are Bro. Don and Sis. Martha Walder and Ralph and Arlene Rupp.

It seems there are always those who must suffer in the flesh. The past month these dear ones experienced a need of hospitalization: Clara Hafely (Arthur), Bro. Henry Dotterer (Sis. Martha), Bro. Harry Gasser (Sis. Marguerite), Bro. Dick Hartzler (Sis. Karen) and Bro. David Maletich, Sr. (Sis. Mary). We are thankful when health is restored and trust God to heal as He sees best those who are still afflicted.

We extend our sympathy to Sis. Bertha Kiser (Bro. Henry) in the death of her brother, Carl Tinsler. May God comfort those who sorrow.

Saturday evening, April 16, both the Smithville and Rittman congregations gathered together in the Rittman church to partake of holy communion. We were reminded of the suffering and death of our Saviour on our behalf. Let us never take this lightly, but, as we were reminded, think on it daily and show our appreciation by walking an obedient and upright life. Assisting Elder Bro. Joe Ramsier were Elder Bros. Eugene Pamer (Akron, OH) and Kenneth Sauder (Mansfield, OH). We are thankful to them. May God bless them for their deeds of love done in His service.

We truly want to thank every one of you who helped us to celebrate our 60th wedding anniversary. We thank every one of you for all the cards and all you have done for us to make this possible. We wish you all the Lord's grace and blessings. It was all greatly appreciated.

Your least brother and sister-in-faith,
Reuben and Velma Hartzler

Remember, May is the month for our Silver Lining dues to be paid.

OHIO, SARDIS Linda Indermuhle

The annual meeting for the West Virginia church was held April 5. Those of us who could attend had a nice evening together discussing items that pertain to the upkeep of the

church and cemetery. Services at the West Virginia church will be held June 19. Song services start at 10:30 and afternoon services at 1:00. There will be church at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, June 18, at Sardis. We look forward to a blessed weekend. All are welcome.

Our dear Sis. Martha Indermuhle (Bro. Delbert) spent some days in the hospital. We're thankful that she is feeling better again.

This time of year, when mothers and fathers are especially remembered, brings to mind a blessing that could be taken for granted in our church communities because it is more common than uncommon. It is a blessing to grow up in the stability of a home with loving parents and little or no unnecessary moving from place to place and always the support of the church from infancy to adulthood. If you have had these seemingly "normal" blessings all your life, remember to thank the Lord for this precious possession that no amount of money could have purchased.

OHIO, SMITHVILLE

Verla Stoller — Ann Maibach

Now it is accomplished!
I'm no longer mine;
Lord, I will forever and always be
Thine,
For Thou hast created and purchased
me too,
Baptized with Thy Spirit,
Thou makest me new.

Zion's Harp #209

March 19 and 20 were special days as we first listened to the testimonies and then witnessed the baptisms of our dear Bro. Mark Maibach (Bro. Gary and Sis. Mary Ann) and Bro. Ted Luginbuhl (Bro. Marvin and Sis. Rose). May God richly bless their lives as they begin their walk as His children. Assisting our Elder Bro. Joe Ramsier with this work were Elder Bros. Don Sauder (Roanoke), Joe Braker (Morton, IL) and Eugene Pamer (Akron). Other ministering brothers here for the occasion were Bro. Roy Luginbuhl (Fort Lauderdale, FL) and Bro. Ken Schneider (Remington, IN). May God richly bless them for their labors of love.

March 25 was another day of happiness for Bro. John and Sis. Janice Rufener as Joy Beth joined their family. Jenny, Jacob and Jared are happy to have a little sister. Grandparents are

Bro. Chet and Sis. Roma Rufener and Bro. Gordon and Sis. Emily Greenbank (Phoenix, AZ)

April 3 will always be a special day in the lives of Bro. Aaron Beery (Bro. Everett and Sis. Carol) and Sis. Lynn Uhler (Dale and Sis. Marilyn) as their engagement was announced. May God bless them as they make plans for their life together.

On April 10, Bro. Lee Rufener (Bro. Joe and Sis. Lilas) and Sis. Melinda Bahler (Bro. Lowell and Sis. Karla, Wolcott, IN) were united in holy matrimony in Wolcott. We welcome Sis. Melinda to our congregation. May God bless their life together.

Ring the bells of heaven! there is joy
today,
For a soul returning from the wild;
See! the Father meets him out upon
the way,
Welcoming His weary, wand'ring child.
Wm. O. Cushing

We rejoice with the news of another soul heeding God's call. We wish Diane Jarrett (Mike) God's grace and strength as she experiences repentance and conversion.

May we in perfect love be found
When we Thy table, Lord, surround;
Keep soul and body purified;
Thy blessings, Lord, be multiplied
Upon this feast.

Zion's Harp #200

On April 16, we were privileged to assemble with the congregation in Rittman to partake of holy communion. We were reminded that it is necessary to daily partake of the Word of Life to keep ourselves spiritually healthy.

Remember: May is the month for Smithville's collection of dues. The rate for one year remains at \$7.00. Please pay one of your reporters.

OHIO, TOLEDO
Frances Laidig
Josephine Rehkla

ARE ALL THE CHILDREN IN?

I think oft times as the night draws nigh
Of an old house on a hill.
Of a yard all wide and blossom-starred
Where the children played at will.

And when the night at last came down,

Hushing the merry dim,
Mother would look around and ask
"Are all the children in?"

I wonder if, when the shadows fall
On the last short, earthly day,
When we say goodbye to the world
outside

All tired with our childish play,
When we step out into that other land
Will we hear her ask, as we did of old,
"Are all the children in?"

This is part of a poem given by a friend written years ago by a grandmother in their family. With Mother's Day approaching, it seemed so appropriate. What mother, with a hope of entering heaven's gate, would have more peace, comfort and joy, than to know, "All her children are in." What child could have more joy than to know their mother could say, "All my children are in." What a beautiful thought and a prayer that can be answered for each of us if we faithfully live for the Lord.

Our Bro. Aaron Fetter, 82, was taken from this life to his eternal rest April 1. Bro. Aaron spent the last 4 years of his life in the Apostolic Christian Home (Rittman, OH). He was a carpenter for 22 years. As he was building earthly homes, he was also building his spiritual home from the building blocks found in God's Word. We extend our sympathy to his sisters, Mrs. Herma Wittaker, Ida, Mary and Grace; and brothers, John, Paul, Richard and Eugene Fetter.

We want to thank Bro. Ray and Sis. Corrine Schlatter and family for spending a Sunday with us.

We are happy that Bro. Walter and Sis. Freda Rehkla and Bro. Homer and Sis. Dorothy Reineck are back home with us again having been in the warmer climates during the past winter months.

Having illness among us are Bro. Chris Weigele (Sis. Anna) and Bro. John Fetter (Sis. Minnie). May the Lord be with them and grant them a measure of health and strength as it is His will.

Bro. Aaron Beery (Rittman, OH) and Sis. Lynn Uhler (Smithville, OH) have announced their engagement. Sis. Lynn has been attending worship services with us while going to the University of Toledo. We wish them God's blessings while they are planning for their future life together.

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

The weekend of March 19 and 20 we enjoyed having six couples among us who, 10 years ago, began the construction of "Restless Surf", a cabin located along the Oregon coast, for our brethren. We appreciate Bro. Walt Steffen sharing God's Word with us. A potluck was held for the Silverton and Portland brethren with a singing following.

On Saturday evening, April 2, the Portland Sunday school joined the Silverton Sunday school in their Easter program. Through youthful voices we were blest with the story of Christ's crucifixion and resurrection.

We thank Bro. Ray Moser for his efforts as trustee and ask God to bless Bro. John Wiegand as he assumes his new responsibilities.

OREGON, SILVERTON**Rosa Lee Kuenzi**

Warm spring weather greeted our visitors arriving from Pulaski, IA, for our recent Sunday school weekend. In Oregon, that means bringing in a minister from another area rather than busing our Sunday school out to fellowship with another Apostolic Christian Sunday school as is often done in the Midwest and the Southwest. Since our nearest churches are twelve and fourteen hundred miles away, it is easy to see, both practically and economically, the wisdom of bringing in a speaker. This is the third year our Sunday school teachers have planned this activity and it has again proven to be a blessing to everyone involved. Our guests, Bro. Doug and Sis. Clara Schock and Bro. Roger and Sis. DeAnn Wuthrich were kept busy for the four days they were here with activities that included the Sunday school students as much as possible, although there were more things directed towards the teens and young adults. May God bless all who helped make this project a success.

We rejoice with Bro. Bob and Sis. Linda Kuenzi and Elder Bro. Wayne and Sis. Kathy Fehr (West Bend, IA) as these two couples shared the special joy of seeing the oldest child in each family joined in holy matrimony. Todd Kuenzi was wed to Melissa Fehr March 26. It was also the first marriage in each family and it was a joy to watch as the families worked together to plan the wedding and reception held in West Bend and the reception held in Oregon

two weeks later. We pray that God will richly bless Todd and Melissa as they begin their married life together.

Since there didn't seem to be much else going on, one evening several weeks ago Bro. Jim Dietrich decided to get up on the roof and clean out the chimney. Imagine his surprise when he looked out in the direction of his long driveway to see it lined with cars full of brethren and friends who were arriving for a surprise 40th birthday singing for Jim. Sis. Joan and the children had been busy planning but no amount of planning could have gotten Jim up on the roof in his work clothes . . . he did that all by himself. But, from the looks of the grin on his face when everyone arrived and the tears in his eyes when he thanked everyone for coming, he really didn't mind at all.

Our special thanks go to our visiting ministers who so willingly lend themselves to the service of the Lord. They were Elder Bro. Wayne Fehr (West Bend, IA), Bro. Duane Kilgus (Fairbury, IL), Bro. Doug Schock (Pulaski, IA) and Bro. Garth Steffen (Portland, OR).

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

We thank our three visiting ministers for sharing their time and talent in bringing us God's Word. They were Elder Bro. Corbin Bahler (Rockville, CT), Elder Bro. Robert Beyer (Naumburg, NY) and Bro. Duane Farney (Croghan, NY). May the Lord be their rich rewarder.

Sermon . . .

(Continued from Page 32)

had no fear or apprehension about talking to Jesus and asking Him why these things could not happen. But it says that they feared to ask. (See Luke 9:45).

"Then there arose a reasoning among them, which of them should be greatest." Luke 9:46. You can see the self-interest that these men had. They were just as little children trying to get those things that they wanted for themselves.

They did not really give Jesus a chance.

Here they reasoned among themselves. They wanted to make sure to get themselves in a position where they could be great in His kingdom.

"And said unto them, Whosoever shall receive this child in my name

receiveth me: and whosoever shall receive me receiveth him that sent me: for he that is least among you all, the same shall be great." Luke 9:48. We never quite understand the power that the Word has for us.

We live in a world where everyone is trying to gain the advantage. We are trying to elevate ourselves to positions where people will look upon us as something great. We try to do things which will draw attention. But all of these things are contrary to what Jesus told His disciples.

It doesn't hurt us to sit here this morning and actually read what Jesus tells us about being as a little child. He wants us to be of that frame of mind. He wants us to be humble and trusting. He wants us to put our trust in Him in all things. In doing that, He will give unto us those things which He has promised.

He says, "He that is least among you all, the same shall be great." Luke 9:48.

All of these teachings are wrapped up in these few verses for everyone of us to understand exactly what He says.

"And John answered and said, Master, we saw one casting out devils in thy name; and we forbade him, because he followeth not with us. And Jesus said unto him, Forbid him not: for he that is not against us is for us." Luke 9:49, 50. As Christians and believers here today, we have to take stock of what this means.

So we live in a cross section. We live where there are many believers, many Christians, and many denominations. In so doing, we have to understand that Jesus has control of every one of them. When Jesus was told that this man was casting out devils in His name, the disciples thought that they had a monopoly on that. They thought that they were the only ones that would be able to do these things in the name of Jesus.

But Jesus had a broader outlook than that. He said unto them, and reminded them, "he that is not against us is for us." Luke 9:50. We have to understand the Scriptures we read today, just as the Scripture is being considered in many other places today. We just pray that those that are entrusted in bringing this Word to those that would hear, would do it in the way that Jesus and God intended. We can look at those who are believers in Jesus Christ and have this faith and confidence to believe that they are not against us. They are for us.

FEB 02602 LK
CHARLES WALDER
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SERMON BY BRO. JOSEPH C. ZIMMERMAN, JR. OF MORTON, IL

The Transfiguration of Jesus

Luke 9:28 - 50

We can see here that Jesus used this opportunity to tell His disciples what would be expected of them. He also gave them a little glimpse of what heaven would be like when He called them to the top of the mountain and was transfigured before their eyes. As they were called there, they wondered what was happening.

It says here . . . "He took Peter and John and James, and went up into a mountain to pray." Luke 9:28. Now these three men were some of the very first disciples that Jesus called.

Think back to the time when Jesus called His disciples to Him along the Sea of Galilee. Peter, James and John were fishing, which was their occupation. When He called them, He said, "Come ye after me, and I will make you to become fishers of men." Mark 1:17. Then they forsook their nets, left their father and followed Jesus.

From that time on, Jesus used every opportunity He had to teach and instruct them. This was quite an experience to be one of the three disciples that happened to be invited or available when Jesus went up into that mountain.

While He was praying there, It says, "The fashion of his countenance was altered, and his raiment was white and glistening." Luke 9:29. There could be little doubt in the minds of the three that were watching that something great was about to happen.

As they were watching, "Behold, there talked with him two men, which were Moses and Elias." Luke 9:30. Here we can see three people in the light, the very brightest light that could come down from God. It was focusing on these three men . . . Jesus, Moses and Elias.

Let's think of the mission and responsibilities that each had in the time in which they lived. We have to think in terms of what God had in mind for the long range.

First He called forth Moses. Moses was the man that received the law that God gave him. Moses was the leader of the Jewish people. Still, we see that Moses was a man, just as we are. As Moses was there and had the opportunity and privilege of meeting Jesus, we can see him as representative of the law that God had given. Moses, himself, had already gone to be with God.

Then there was Elias, a man called by God. Recall the situation back in time when Elisha was walking with Elijah. As they were walking together, God took Elijah in a chariot of fire up into the heavens.

Jesus had told them before that He was going to be crucified and would be taken into heaven. When Jesus rose from the grave, they still did not fully comprehend it.

"But Peter and they that were with him were heavy with sleep; and when they were awake, they saw his glory, and the two men that stood with him. And it came to pass, as they departed from him, Peter said unto Jesus, Master, it is good for us to be here..." Luke 9:32, 33. The first thing that Peter could say was, "It is good for us to be here."

To put the proper emphasis on this is to see that there were three great men of God assembled on that mountain, and each of them had a very particular mission and part in God's plan.

But the One that we have to remember is Jesus, the Son of God. He was a man of flesh, but He was truly the Son of God.

When they wanted to make three tabernacles there, they were putting all three on the same level. They were speaking of all three as being of equal importance. But, God wanted them to understand that Jesus was His Son, and that they should hear Him.

"There came a voice out of the cloud, saying, This is my beloved Son; hear him. And when the voice was past, Jesus was found alone. And they kept it

close, and told no man in those days any of those things which they had seen." Luke 9:35, 36.

The disciples were able to see two men come into view with Jesus standing between them. Then the two men disappeared, and Jesus was still there to fulfill the mission for which He had come.

As He saw that there were further things to do, He healed a boy that was afflicted with epilepsy. In this day and time, we know what He was talking about. We know that it is a dreaded disease that we cannot control when it gets a hold of us. We do not have control of our faculties or physical self and are in a position where we could destroy ourselves.

This is why the father of that boy came to Jesus. He had witnessed these attacks and had seen how they affected his son and how he would react. We can understand the anxieties of the father and why he wanted Jesus to cure him if He could.

He even wanted the disciples to do this for him. He came there thinking that the disciples could do this. We can read in the Scripture that they had done miracles such as this, but apparently at this time there was a reason that God did not give them the ability to go ahead and cure this boy. So they came to Jesus and asked why they could not do this.

"And they were amazed at the mighty power of God. But while they wondered every one at all things which Jesus did, he said unto his disciples, Let these sayings sink down into your ears: for the Son of man shall be delivered into the hands of men. But they understood not this saying, and it was hid from them that they perceived it not: and they feared to ask him of that saying." Luke 9:43, 44, 45.

If they would have grasped all that Jesus said and did, they would have
(Continued on Page 31)