



"Children, obey your parents in all things; for this is well-pleasing unto the Lord."

Colossians 3:20

"Lo, children are a heritage of the Lord."

Psalms 127:3

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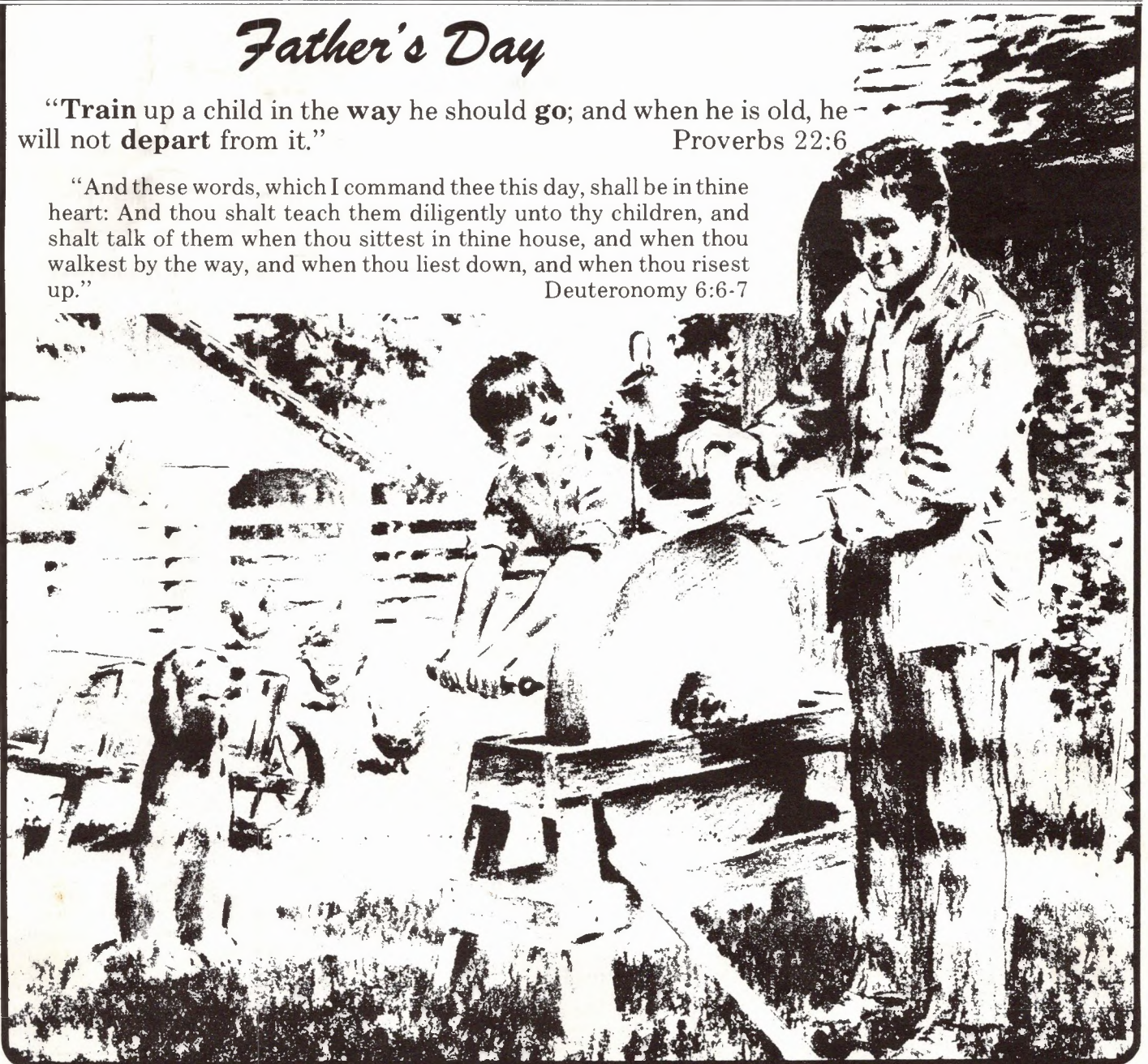
Father's Day

"Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it."

Proverbs 22:6

"And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up."

Deuteronomy 6:6-7



NEWS FROM EASTERN EUROPE

Andy Hunyady

Greetings Beloved:

It has been rather difficult lately to communicate with relatives and brethren in Romania. Because of demonstrations and protest marches by university students and factory workers demanding more food and fuel for their families, and restoration of wages cut earlier in 1987, the officials are keeping a very tight grip over the movement of their people. Mail and telephone contact with those outside of their country is delayed and restricted.

I was very fortunate recently to make telephone contact with an elder brother, the first time in eleven months. He assured me that they are all well and are meeting in homes as in the past.

As reported previously, the food parcels ordered through the Romanian agency Comturist have not been delivered as promised. Instead, they requested that the number of parcels per month be reduced and that money vouchers should be sent to our beneficiaries, who, then can pick up certain food items of their choice in the so-called "dollar shops" operated by the government in 32 cities. The latest such order was placed April 24, and we are waiting and hoping for better service.

In Yugoslavia, the high rate of inflation continues to add more hardships for those on pension. In order to help our brethren, the World Relief Committee recently granted some increase in the bimonthly allowance. Aid to the prisoners and their dependents was also increased.

Elder Bros. Ben Maibach, Wendell Gudeman and their dear wives are planning to visit some of the churches in Europe. I was invited to join them in Hungary and Yugoslavia. Upon our return a more complete report will be presented to our readers and supporters.

We plead for your prayers that God may extend His divine protection over us as we travel in various Communist countries. But most of all, pray for the brethren who live in these countries, and many of whom must endure great difficulties, persecutions and imprisonment for Christ's sake!

"And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake, but he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved."

Mark 13:13

EDUCATIONAL COORDINATOR

AT THE CHILDREN'S HOME

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

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

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

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

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

Bro. Tim Sauder
P. O. Box 151
Leo, IN 46765
219/627-2159, office
219/627-2606, home

Elder Bro. David Bertsch
11520 Grabill Road
Grabill, IN 46741
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APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S HOME

Tim Sauder

A friend of mine shared an experience he had recently. It seems that in a recent wind storm several bird's nests were blown out of his pine trees. Some nests lay broken in pieces while others appeared perfectly sound despite being dislodged. Believing it was worth a try, he and his boys attempted to undo some of the damage. In one case the baby birds had fallen, but the nest remained firmly attached to the branches. As he looked at the helpless, naked and chirping birds floundering on the ground, he realized how vulnerable they were to the elements or to a hungry, prowling cat and decided to return them to their home. Gently cradling them in the palm of his hand, he scaled the tree to find that the mother was quite agitated but nevertheless waiting and welcoming her tiny offspring back into the warmth and security of her nest and her protecting wings.

He then related to his son this anal-

THE SILVER LINING

Grabill, Indiana 46741
USPS 496780

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

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IN MEMORY — EDITORS:
HENRY SOUDER
EDWARD SOUDER



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).

What Is Worldliness?

The world can be defined as human life and society without God. Worldliness is conformity to or affection for those things which are of the world, which is Satan's domain. The Apostle Paul wrote, "Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth" (Col. 3:2). Living devotedly in Christ or walking aimlessly in the world are as different as life and death. "And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins; wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience" (Eph. 2:1-2). Man finds himself in the middle of a great battle between monumental spiritual forces. "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places" (Eph. 6:12). The child of God must be able to recognize the "darkness of this world" so that he will not fall back under the power of Satan.

Believers are not to be conformed to the world (Rom. 12:2), but they are to be crucified unto the world (Gal. 6:14), remain unspotted from the world (James 1:27), and be separate from the world (2 Cor. 6:17). In order to obey these scriptural truths, it is necessary to understand thoroughly the nature of worldliness, which has both inward and outward components. The inward includes ungodly attitudes and feelings such as selfishness, envy, bitterness, evil surmisings, judging, stubbornness, disrespect of persons, pride, and an unforgiving spirit. Outward worldliness is a manifestation of these attitudes as words and deeds characteristic of humanity which is not under the control of the Holy Spirit. Biblical examples indicate that outward worldliness constitutes a wide range of behaviors, from indulgence in gross evils to association with unedifying aspects of human life and society.

A converted person's pattern of life should differ markedly from that of his sinful past. Formerly he was "in bondage under the elements of the world" (Gal. 4:3). Through conversion he has

"escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust" (2 Pet. 1:4). The child of God who is living under the influence of the Holy Spirit has no place in his life for the works of the flesh (Gal. 5:19-21). Few would deny the need to remain clearly separate from the obvious corruptions of worldliness. Unfortunately some of the more subtle aspects of worldliness are often allowed to creep into a believer's life.

For example, it is very easy for anyone to allow his mind to become cluttered with anxiety about everyday obligations and material possessions. In the parable of the sower, the individual who receives the seed (God's Word) among thorns experiences the following consequences: "... the care of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, choke the word, and he becometh unfruitful" (Matt. 13:22). Do we recognize that undue worry and concern about temporal things are dangerous forms of worldliness? The Word says, "Be careful (anxious) for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God" (Phil. 4:6).

Many forms of entertainment which the world offers attract huge crowds and produce great wealth for their promoters. Jesus said, "... that which is highly esteemed among men is abomination in the sight of God" (Luke 16:15). These activities seldom lend themselves to "redeeming (making the best use of) the time" (Eph. 5:16), nor do they bring glory to God. They include aimless entertainments such as fictitious dramas and frenzied athletic competitions which glorify man and can lead to worshipping the "creature more than the Creator" (Rom. 1:25). Perhaps the most predominant form of creature worship today is hedonism or love of self-satisfying pleasure (2 Tim. 3:4). It is exactly the opposite of denying self and seeking the welfare of others (1 Cor. 10:24). "He that loveth pleasure shall be a poor man: he that loveth wine and oil shall not be rich" (Prov. 21:17).

Some of the outward manifestations of worldliness are motivated by pride. Personal glamor is given high priority in the world. Great efforts are made to

enhance human attractiveness with fashionable adornments and hair styles. The Apostle Paul wrote, "... the fashion of this world passeth away" (1 Cor. 7:31). God's priorities are very different from those of the world: "Favor is deceitful, and beauty is vain; but a woman that feareth the Lord, she shall be praised" (Prov. 31:30). The common expression "letting your hair down" describes a condition of being very relaxed and off guard. Is there something to be learned by pondering the implications of this expression? The Apostle Peter wrote, "Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation (behavior) and godliness" (2 Pet. 3:11).

When the believer sets his affection on the spiritual treasures which God has given to him to enjoy, he is much less likely to be drawn back into the world. Through the wisdom of God, his goals are elevated far above the beggarly elements of this world, and his life radiates with godly virtues. "But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy" (James 3:17).

This beautiful state can be destroyed by rekindling a friendship with the world: "... know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God?" (James 4:4). Even one of Paul's collaborators became a backslider: "For Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world" (2 Tim. 4:10).

As we seek to avoid worldliness it is wise to ask, "What would Jesus do?" He obviously would not partake of any of the evil works of the flesh nor would He be associated with such entertainments, fashions, or worldly pursuits that corrupt the inner man. "Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering..." (Heb. 10:23) and strive with all diligence for our heavenly homeland. "For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens" (2 Cor. 5:1).

ogy of God's love and plan of salvation. As we begin life in the care of our heavenly Father and our earthly parents, we are totally dependent, in need of nurturing, and innocent. Through time and the storms of life we are separated from our Father. We have fallen and are bound to the earth and its corruption by the law of sin, just as the law of gravity holds objects to the ground. We make our futile human leaps toward God but can do nothing on our own strength and effort to save ourselves and reunite with God.

He looks at us in our helpless, naked state with compassion and mercy. However, His holiness cannot be defiled with the corruption of our sinful presence. We need a Saviour. Without Christ's help we'll be devoured and perish in the jaws of Satan. Just as my friend reached down and lifted the birds up to their mother's nest, our Lord Jesus spans the gap between God and man and delivers us by faith into our Father's waiting arms that are longing to hold His precious children.

As I pondered further on this exper-

ience, another analogy came to me about our work at the Children's Home. There are children across the country who are fallen from their families' nests. Wounded children and broken families are strewn and scattered across the landscape of this nation by the torrents and persecutions of abuse, neglect, alcoholism, mental illness and retardation in a society that has fallen asleep in the midst of the heaviest barrage. The nests have been damaged, some beyond repair. Others hang precariously in the winds from poor construction or lack of maintenance.

We are in the business of lifting up and nurturing the fallen and wounded. They are placed in the nest of our home for security — for healing. Some will remain through adolescence until they are able to fly on their own. Others leave sooner. We are also in the business of repairing the nests of damaged and dysfunctional families to enable the reunification of a family. By God's grace we do what we are able, while reality reminds us, with a certain frustration, that we cannot help them all.

Our new house construction continues at a good pace. The exterior is entirely completed except for the landscape and the lawn. The main focus of the work through the next two months will be on the interior, including painting, wallpapering, floor covering, finish carpentry, plumbing, heating and electrical work. Our construction superintendent, Bro. Andy Hunyady is leaving us to travel to Eastern Europe. We appreciate him and miss him. Other brothers, including our Volunteer Coordinator Bro. Tim Reinhard, will continue the work with the help of much needed volunteers.

We plan to have the official Open House on the day of our annual Auction and Sale August 13. Plan to join us for this exciting day. We are welcoming individual donations as well as soliciting material donations from businesses and merchants from our churches around the country. Also, it is our hope that there will be chartered buses coming to the Sale from certain areas in the Midwest. If you are interested in organizing or riding a bus to the Sale, please contact the Home or your local church representative.

We have both sad and exciting news concerning our staff. Bro. Art and Sis. Ruth Gramm (Gridley, IL) have been hired as alternate houseparents for when we expand to three houses in the fall. Bro. Jack and Sis. Velma Bollier will continue to substitute in a third house. Bro. Bill and Sis. Cheri Blunier and their daughter, Emily, will be leaving the Home in August, after nearly four years of excellent service to children and the Lord. They will be greatly missed at the Home. So, we remain in need of a married couple and single sisters to serve in various houseparenting positions. Change is a constant here that keeps us dependent and thankful.

One of our girls, Penny G., has just graduated from New Haven High School. We congratulate her for her good work and encourage her as she steps into the future. Her plans include continuing her job at a restaurant and moving into the Independent Living Program in the near future.

Summer is here and along with it the excitement of new activities, new jobs, new kids, and family vacations. The Blunier family spent a week camping and touring in the Washington, D.C. area, while the Gerber family journeyed to the lakes of Minnesota. Much

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

Bro. Tim Sauder
P. O. Box 151
Leo, IN 46765
219/627-2159 - office
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Elder Bro. David Bertsch
11520 Grabill Road
Grabill, IN 46741
219/627-2923

of the money for these trips was earned at our third annual garage sale and car wash held in May. Everyone worked hard and had a lot of fun. Thanks to the Leo church for their support and the Lord for good weather.

We are looking forward to a number of summer volunteers scheduled to come from all over the U.S. to help in

our summer program. It should be an exciting and growing time.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

Eric Ringwald and Zita Palko came to live with us in April. Eric lived at Davies Square in Pekin prior to coming here. His mother is Grace Ringwald,

and his father, Walter, is deceased. Eric has two sisters and one niece. Eric was born in Pekin, IL, August 4, 1963, and later on attended Schramm School. He enjoys swimming, shooting baskets, listening to tapes and watching TV. As for favorite foods, he likes everything. Eric attends the Tremont workshop.

Zita Palko was born April 27, 1966, in Kansas City, MO. Her foster parents are Ray and Norma Johnson (Pekin, IL). Zita lives with them and attended Schramm and Holiday Schools. Zita has two foster sisters, one brother, one niece and four nephews. Her favorite pastime is swimming and favorite foods are chocolate milkshakes, spaghetti and tuna casserole. We are happy to have Eric and Zita join our "family" and we hope they will be very happy here.

Residents with birthdays in July, with the date in parentheses, are Billie Tatum (1), Gary Feller (5), Cindy Virkler (6), Clark Lewis (24), Gloria Heiniger (26), Janet Giberson (29) and Ed Getz (31). We give thanks to those of you who send them cards so faithfully. They appreciate them so very much.

On Friday evening, May 6, we had an appreciation dinner at our new group home, Oakwood Estate, for the volunteers and their spouses who helped on the new home, garage and yard. Not everyone was able to come, but approximately 200 were in attendance. Tours were also given. The weather was beautiful, and everyone seemed to enjoy the evening. We are so grateful to all of you who helped to make this lovely home a reality. May God richly bless you for what you have done, whether it be physical help, monetary help or prayerful support.

A letter has gone out to all the church representatives concerning Oakwood Estate. Following are the contents of the letter:

"We are pleased to announce to all of you that our new group home, Oakwood Estate, is completed. We are very excited about this and so are the people who will be living there.

"We want to invite all of you to come and see the facility Sunday, June 26, from 2 - 5 p.m. at our "Open House".

"This will be a small home which we want to make as private and homelike as possible; therefore, we are asking that you take advantage of this opportunity to come and see the home at Open House before people are living there.

— 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 Huette (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
May 1988 —	1903	22832

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.

"For those of you who know people who will be living at Oakwood, please feel free to visit them as you would other family and friends. It would probably be best to call ahead and be sure they are home and not busy.

"If anyone else has a need or desire to see the home, itself, after people have moved in, please call us and we can arrange a time when it will not invade the privacy of those who live there.

"We believe that God has inspired this work and blessed it, and we plan to have a dedication service to dedicate it to God's glory and honor. We wish that all of you could come, but because it is quite small we will have to limit the dedication to those directly involved. Please be with us in prayer.

"Thank you for your continued prayers and support."

On Sunday evening, May 8, our Home for the Handicapped was hit by tornadic winds which ripped a portion of roof from our Activity Room, which in turn caused much water damage to the ceilings. The residents were still in

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.

2 Scales for Hospital, Tissue Paper, 8½ x 11, Typewriter - manual or electric, Air conditioner for Operating Room, Sewing Machines - can be small cabinet, electric or portable in good operating condition.

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

the dining room after just finishing their meal when the storm struck, so the nurses had them remain there until it was safe to take them to their rooms. We thank and praise the Lord that no one was injured! We are grateful to the many people - staff, relatives and friends, who came to help clean up, scoop up soggy ceiling tiles and mop up water that Sunday evening. Others came later on to pick up debris in the yard, etc. The roof was temporarily patched Monday, and they will soon be starting on the repair work. The two Activity Rooms are the only rooms that cannot be used, although we also had some ceiling damage in the hallway, north living room and dining room. Activities have temporarily been moved to the multipurpose room. Once again our God has been good to us and we praise His name for watching over us.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL OF ATHENS, AL Marilyn Walder

We are looking forward to our graduation Friday, May 20. Thirty-three children will participate. We have spent many hours practicing. Our hope is that it will be a glory to God.

We still have a need for summer volunteers. We only have two lined up so far and need many more. If you would like to come, please contact Sis. Marilyn Walder at Route 11, Box 333, Athens, AL or call 205-233-0591 as soon as possible. Summer school starts May 31 and goes until the third week of August. Accommodations are available.

Our theme for the summer is God's Wonderful World. We hope to study Creation and many other Bible stories. We will learn about water, air, plants, animals, weather, families and vacations. We will have several school-aged children between kindergarten and fourth grade. We anticipate a lot of fun in the sun as we learn about God's world through first-hand experience outside.

ALABAMA, ATHENS Marilyn Walder

We have enjoyed the Sunday school lessons given by Bros. Roy Barnett and James Massey. The brothers of our congregation have been taking turns bringing us the message during adult Sunday school. We have read and discussed Acts and Matthew 7.

Our new Sunday school teachers started new terms at the beginning of May. They are Sis. Louise Hall, 2 - 6 year olds; Sis. Pam Moore, 7 - 12 year olds; and Bro. Harold and Sis. Laura Haggemaker, teenage class. We want to thank Sis. Joan Meister, Sis. Claran Lynn, Bros. Buddy Lynn and Jr. Hall for their time teaching. They will be the substitutes for the new teachers.

David and Barbara Coulter have found peace with God through repentance and confession and are looking forward to bringing their testimonies before the church and their baptism in the near future. We wish them God's nearness and blessings as they seek His will for the rest of their lives.

ARIZONA, PHOENIX Ron and Ev Hoerr

"Give instruction to a wise man and he will be yet wiser; teach a just man and he will increase in learning."

Proverbs 9:9

Our graduates were honored at a tea May 15 in the congregational room of our church. Jim Zollinger, Mark Anliker and Sis. Nancy Dotterer are high school graduates, those who need to "Hear instruction, be wise and refuse it not." Proverbs 8:33. Our eighth grade graduates are Kelli Tooley, Kolette Niemeyer, Joe Martin and Brian Emch.

The graduates' parents are Bro. Ed and Sis. Shirley Zollinger; Jim and Sharon Anliker; Bro. Bill and Sis. Sharon Dotterer; Jerry and Sis. June Tooley; Bro. Ellsworth and Sis. Lois Niemeyer; Sis. Josephine Martin; and Bro. Don and Sis. Cathy Emch.

We are looking forward to greeting Nathan Knochel as our brother-in-Christ after his testimony service and baptism take place later in May.

Jay Schmidgall (Bro. Ken and Sis. Mary Jo Schmidgall) is engaged to Robin Sylvia. May the Lord direct them as they plan their June wedding.

Our condolences are offered to Sis. Esther Harmon on the death of a brother, John Kinsler, to Ed and Jane Kilgus on the death of his brother, Andrew, and to Sis. Carol and Bro. Keith Kaufman on the death of an infant niece.

We can always find something to be grateful for such as Sundays when we know we will hear a sermon to lift us up. We appreciated visits from Bros. Walter Anliker (Eureka, IL), Loren Knapp

(Tucson), Mark Bahr (Detroit, MI) and Loren Schrenk (St. Louis, MO). Just a couple of yesterdays ago, Bro. Loren Schrenk was in our Phoenix Sunday school.

We are glad to report Rachel Roth (Bro. Harry) and Sis. Dorothy Kraft (Richard) are home from the hospital. Also, Bro. Ed Frautschi is getting along nicely after an anthroscopic procedure on his knee.

This past month Bros. Dick Beery and John Kaufman, high schoolers, Chris Frautschi, Gabriel Hill and Nathan Gramm went to Juarez on a work project.

Bro. David Zeltwanger and Nathan Knochel showed slides of their jaunt to Haiti doing work on the A.C. church project.

"Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord." Psalms 127:3. Franz Jacob Hoerr was born May 12, when Bro. Jacob and Sis. Wanda became first-time parents. Franz's grandparents are Bro. Eugene and Sis. Nellie Huber, who came from Francesville, IN, to be with him and Bro. Ronald and Sis. Evelyn Hoerr (Phoenix).

The Lord will be blessing our church with other new babies before the next issue of the Silver Lining. The Bible has many teachings on bringing children up in these times: Proverbs 32:6 and 15; Proverbs 23:13; Proverbs 29:17. May the Lord bless the new families and the dear babes.

ARIZONA, TUCSON

Lisa Knapp

We were saddened to hear of the tragic loss suffered by our Bro. Rudy and Sis. Irene Bertschi as their son-in-law, Bro. Steve Zimmerman (Latty, OH), passed away recently. Our sympathy and prayers go out to Bro. Steve's wife, Sis. Mary Ann, and to Bro. Steve's family. They will need our prayers and will be in our thoughts over the coming months. May the Lord be their constant companion as they deal with their loss.

Ministering Bro. Greg Gramm (Phoenix) and his family visited Tucson recently. We wish to thank Bro. Greg and Sis. Denise for their support and ask the Lord's blessings upon them.

Our friend, Janeen Hari, graduated from high school this June. We certainly wish Janeen every good thing as she begins a new period in her life. We hope she will continue to worship with

us now that she has "graduated" from Sunday school.

We were also visited by our Elder Bro. Richard Schupbach (Phoenix) this month and, as always, we appreciate his efforts. The Lord will surely bless him.

Our Bro. Tim Feucht graduates from college this month. Of course, we hope Bro. Tim finds employment in the Tucson area but we realize the Lord might lead him elsewhere. Wherever Bro. Tim may end up, we pray the Lord's blessings will follow.

The family of Sis. Lorraine Herman wishes to extend a sincere thank you to all who so kindly remembered them with prayers, flowers and cards during their time of great loss. May God richly bless each deed of kindness.

Bro. Noah Herman
Jim and Sis. LouAnn Funk
& families

Bro. Don and Sis. Gloria Bauer
& families

COLORADO, DENVER

Mike Martin — Marlene Leman

Greetings Brethren! Our minds are taken back to the time when the Lord sat at the table with His disciples. "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. But, behold, the hand of him that betrayeth me is with me on the table. And truly the Son of man goeth, as it was determined: but woe unto that man by whom he is betrayed!" St. Luke 22:19-22. It is extremely humbling to think of the agony and heartache our dear Saviour went through so that we, as individuals, could have a hope of eternal life in heaven with Him. We thank our dear Elder Bro. Nathan Steffen for coming and sharing holy communion with us. May God bless him for this labor of love.

We rejoice with Bro. Ed and Sis. Gail Leman (Congerville, IL) in the birth of their baby girl, Kary Lynn was born April 22. "Lo children are an heritage of the Lord." Psalms 127:3. May they always look to the Lord for direction as they guide this little life He's given into their care. On a sadder note, we weep with Bro. Ben and Sis. Kris Bauman (Goodfield, IL) as their first-born died just two days after his birth. Little

Jonathan Daniel was born April 27.

GONE TO BLOOM ABOVE

A gentle hand unseen by us has left our tender hearts. By this alone, our grief is blessed; it was the hand of God. In all our hearts, he planted deep this precious little one. As forth he takes his own, we weep, but say, thy will be done. No care was lavished here in vain, upon this plant of love, so soon we lose; we bloom again, in sweeter form above. Dear Jesus, thou hast died for us, and for our darling too. We trust thee in each providence, thy love is ever true. Oh gentle one, we miss thee here, sweet form we love so well; but in our Father's better care, we know the child is well.

Jon Stoltzfus,
Living Stones Quartet

Both of these babies are grandchildren of Bro. Tom and Sis. Marlene Leman.

Our hospital patient this month was Bro. Rod Schmidt (Sis. Cindy) who had surgery. We trust Almighty God will touch him with His healing hand that all may be well again.

We appreciate Bro. Paul Gasser (Akron, OH) visiting here and his service to us. May God continue to grant him grace in his ministry.

"So many roads to choose from
Don't know which way to turn
'Cause every road leads no where
Every road except for one."

Praise the Lord by David Baker

We rejoice with Sis. Kathy Leman (Bro. Tom and Sis. Marlene) on her graduation from Rangeview High School. We thank God that she has already chosen that "one road" and pray that God will continue to guide her as each new decision must be made.

CONNECTICUT, ROCKVILLE

Martha Hany

"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."

Hebrews 11:1

The faith of our dear Sis. Emma (Diggelmann) Marti became a reality April 28 when the Lord answered her prayers and her spirit left this temporal

life to be with Him forever — what a blessing! Sis. Emma, 85, was employed for many years at a local bank and was able to work right up until her recent hospitalization. She leaves a sister, Sis. Elsie Lanz, with whom she made her home, and two brothers, Bro. John Diggelmann (North Bergen, NJ) and Bro. Ernest Diggelmann (Bloomington, IL).

On Sunday, April 30, Bro. Tom Hoffman (Roanoke, IL) stopped briefly in Rockville and ministered to us. May the Lord bless him for his efforts in preaching the Word and we hope he will visit again soon.

“... God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.”

I Corinthians 10:13

Our thoughts and prayers are with those who are sick, especially Sis. Irma and Bro. Lenny Luginbuhl who has had a setback recently and had to be hospitalized, and also, the elderly who can often become discouraged and tempted as they are prevented by physical ailments from participating in common, everyday activities formerly accomplished routinely. May we all experience God's nearness and patience in stressful times as He has promised to be with us.

Jeff Bailey, who was living in Altadena, CA, has moved back to Rockville and we welcome him to our fellowship. During his conversion, may the Lord give Jeff much understanding and faith to recognize and differentiate between the subtle influence and temptation which originate from the Satanic spirit versus the Holy Spirit.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, WASHINGTON

“And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.”

Ephesians 4:32

“Bless them which persecute you...”
Romans 12:14

How difficult it is for us sometimes, when we are spoken to unfairly or unkindly, not to respond with the same. Have you ever thought of it as follows:

by letting another person's unkindness affect our response (in a negative way), we are a slave to that person. But, if we do not allow them to change the laws of kindness in our heart, then are we free of their unkindness?

On May 1, Bro. Lynn Stieglitz (Leo, IN) was our visiting minister. On May 15, Bro. Will Scheiler (Milford, IN) ministered to us. We are so thankful for these brethren who travel to be with us.

Ken Belsley had hip surgery and we are thankful that he is now home and recuperating.

We meet the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month at the Best Western Westpark Hotel in Tyson's Corner, VA. For more information, contact Bro. Ralph Klopfenstein at 703-979-3476 or Bro. Doug Germann at 703-481-5163.

FLORIDA, FORT LAUDERDALE Terri K. Huber

We sincerely thank the group at North Fort Myers who hosted a big weekend for the Fort Lauderdale and Sarasota Sunday schools! We enjoyed the fellowship and appreciate all the work that went into coordinating and planning the activities and meals. We don't have many opportunities to travel to a neighboring church down here at the southern tip of the States!

A precious baby girl was born to Dan (Elder Bro. Bud and Sis. Billie) and Sally Klopfenstein. Little Holly Elizabeth is a welcome addition to Dan and Sally's home, and to our church family as well.

There is a time for a child to be born, and there is also a time when that child becomes an adult. This spring we have three high school graduates to congratulate. They are Paul Fulop (Bro. George and Sis. Katherine), Amy Sutter (Bro. Rich and Sis. Kathy) and Doug Sauder (Bro. Roger and Sis. Judy). We'd like to take this opportunity to encourage them as they are faced with a time of decision-making and increasing responsibility.

Our wishes for continued recovery are extended to Sis. Charlotte Graf's grandmother, Loretta Gilbert, who had a fall and has been somewhat immobilized for several weeks. It can be frustrating to be laid up in bed waiting for the body to mend. It is nice to remember those who are homebound with visits, cards and prayers and even gifts of books and activities to occupy the mind and help pass the time.

FLORIDA, NORTH FORT MYERS Kay Eisenmann

This past month has been most uplifting for our little church! We hosted Fort Lauderdale and Sarasota Sunday schools. The weather was beautiful and the fellowship divine! What does fellowship mean to you? Is it not the sharing of the good and the bad in our lives? As we heard from the pulpit, sharing is asking for help and prayer from each other when we can't handle things alone. It's also showing a thankful heart for the good in our lives. By sharing, we have the assurance that prayer can change what man cannot! Sometimes some people will say that this or that problem is exaggerated. Then our fellowship becomes gossip! As we grow older we should all learn to have a more compassionate heart. Let us all try to be more loving and caring. It is easy to be our brother's keeper when all is well, but the true brother or sister is always there! By doing this we beat Satan at his own game. We have to fight him with the Word, not trying to reason with him for he can make a lie look real. He is, after all, the father of all lies!

A kind word from a friend, brother or sister can help some poor struggling soul to fight on in this battlefield of life to win the better life in heaven forever with the Lord! If we are truly loving and caring as a church, God will surely bless us. Others will want to be a part of such a loving family. We don't like to be around someone who is never happy and always complaining. We should all listen to ourselves to see that we don't become like such a person. By doing for others, we forget about “self”. Let's all pray for more grace to serve as our brother's keeper, so when Christ comes again, He will find real love.

What a wonderful heavenly Father we have! Those who have a God-fearing father are doubly blessed for they always know that dad will never lie to them. He will always help them to do what is right for their never-dying soul. Let's not forget to tell dad we love him. It will give him more courage, and life will be as joyful as the Lord meant it to be.

Some of our winter residents have been on the sick list. We want to pray that God will stretch His healing hand to them or give them the needed courage to endure.

Brett Stoller (Bro. Ivan and Sis. Maxine) graduated this year and is

planning to go on to Edison College to study architecture. We wish him God's blessing in his study.

Dathan is in about the same health and is looking forward to summer vacation.

Visiting ministers were Bro. Brian Webb (Fort Lauderdale), Bro. Glenn Price (Sarasota) and Bro. Steve Ringger (Bluffton North, IN).

FLORIDA, SARASOTA
Suellen Ott

We rejoice with Katrine Streitmatter that she was able to find grace to call upon her Lord while it is yet time and has found peace within her heart which was made known to the church. We are looking forward to having her in our family.

Another stepping stone has been accomplished in Bro. Jeff, Jr. and Sis. Ruth Streitmatter's family. All three of their children have graduated from college this month. We pray that the knowledge given to Bro. Jeff III, Sis. Gloria and Katrine can be used to glorify the Lord in many ways.

Along with rejoicing with Katrine, we are saddened to see her employment take her and Sis. Gloria to Chicago, IL. We will miss them but pray that the miles that separate us will be miles of love.

We are grateful for our Elder Bro. Ben Maibach, Bro. Marvin Stieglitz (Leo, IN) and Bro. Bill Gudeman (Elgin, IL) who have fed us the Word of Life this month. We also appreciate and encourage our ministers, Bro. Doug Sabo and Bro. Glenn Price, for their love and concern as they are alone on the pulpit many times but we know that the Holy Spirit is there with them.

Thirty from our church were blessed with a 2-day fellowship and worship as the Fort Myers church hosted the weekend together. We are thankful for times like these and hope as the children grow in age, they can look back on these times as a blessed remembrance. May the seeds be planted young and continue to nurture growth in the children.

We are saddened to hear of the sudden passing of our winter resident, Bro. John Rokey (Goodfield, IL). We extend our sincere love and sympathy to dear Sis. Ruth and the family.

 Give Your New Address
 To Your Reporter

GEORGIA, ATLANTA
John Brewer

A ministering brother who was down here recently stated that while on this earth God uses us as instruments for the building and forming of His church here on this earth. Every board and joint has to fit perfectly for the church to stay in one piece. This brother also stated that as instruments, we must stay sharpened and in top condition if we are to be used continually by God. It is important, as children of God, that we continue in prayer and reading His Holy Word to keep in top condition. Thus, when He calls on us to be used, we are then prepared for whatever needs to be "put together".

On April 24, our visiting minister was Bro. Roy Luginbuhl (Fort Lauderdale, FL) and his wife, Sis. Helen. On May 8, Bro. Neal Widmer (Wolcott, IN), his wife, Sis. Kris, and their family came down to bring us the Word. We appreciate the time they took to visit our congregation.

Our prayers are with Sis. Nancy Foltz who recently suffered the loss of her mother from a sudden stroke. May God bless and comfort her and her family through this sudden loss.

Services are held every second and fourth Sunday of the month. For right now we are meeting at Bro. Don Seller's business office. The meeting place is located on Buford Highway in Norcross, GA, 2.5 miles north of I-285 on U.S. 23 in northeast Atlanta. This will probably be subject to change over the summer months, so please give us a call to be sure of our location. Please contact either Bro. Don Sellers at 404-923-0721, Sis. Nancy Foltz at 404-451-9191 or myself at 404-949-7734.

ILLINOIS,
BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL
Karen Brummit — De Anderson

"Her children arise up and call her blessed."

Proverbs 31:28

On Friday evening, May 6, a large group gathered together to enjoy the Mother/Daughter Banquet. May we continue to pray for our mothers and praise the Lord for their loving kindness.

Our adopted students and parents enjoyed a picnic shared together at the Towanda Community Center.

God has blessed the home of Bro.

Tim and Sis. Beth Leman with the birth of their first child, Nathaniel Jay. Grandparents are Bro. Sam and Sis. Ann Leman (Roanoke) and Elder Bro. Joe and Sis. Shirley Braker (Morton).

This month our visiting ministers included Elder Bro. Dan Koch (Tremont), Bro. Art Bauer (Princeville) and Bro. Greg Rassi (Chicago). We appreciate their ministry and invite them back soon.

Sis. Carolyn Fischer spent a short stay in the hospital.

It was a joy to host the Chicago choir the weekend of May 14 and 15. We appreciated the many beautiful hymns they shared with us.

ILLINOIS, BRADFORD
Carol Kieser

"I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth . . ."

Luke 15:7

How happy we are for Jeff Kieser (Bro. Loris and Sis. Martha) and Mitchell Leman (Bro. Marvin and Sis. Jane) that they are walking on the narrow way in repentance, committing their lives to the Lord. It is our prayer for the Lord to lead them gently on!

We rejoice with Sis. Barb Kieser (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Wilma) and Bro. Les Fehr (Bro. Larry and Sis. Carol) as they announce their engagement. We wish them God's blessings as they walk this life, hand in hand.

Bro. Marvin and Sis. Diane Knobloch are grandparents for the first time! Amanda Diane, born April 23, is a blessing from above, adding to the lives of their daughter, Sis. Angie and her husband, Bro. Doug Herrmann (Bro. Walt and Sis. Betty).

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

Proverbs 4:1

It is our prayer for the Lord to continue to bless our fathers with Godly wisdom and understanding.

Saturday evening, April 30, Elder Bros. Joe Braker and Joe Stoller drew us to the Lord's sacramental supper. How blessed we were to break bread and take the cup together in remembrance of Christ, who gave His life that we might live.

ILLINOIS, CHAMPAIGN**LaRae Dill**

Our annual business meeting was held April 20. The following individuals were chosen to serve our church: Sis. Margie Heintz and Bro. Ron Walder (Sunday school teachers), Bro. Melvin Walder (trustee) and Bro. Les Marti (usher). We're thankful for the faithful service of Bros. Justin Koch (Sunday school), Rich Fischer (trustee) and Sam Furrer (usher) whose terms expired this year. As each part is necessary for the body to function properly, likewise, each member is necessary for the church to be maintained both spiritually and physically. We're thankful for the useful talents God has given each one to be used in His service.

Our congregation was quite excited as we heard the engagement of Bro. Justin Koch to Sis. Marcia Stieglitz (Leo, IN). Their parents are Bro. Vernon and Sis. Merna Koch (Tremont, IL) and Bro. Oliver and Sis. Emma Jean Stieglitz (Leo, IN). We look forward to the fellowship of this couple here in Champaign.

Mother's Day, May 8, was extra special for John and Brenda Baer as their first child, Tressa Louise, was born. Tressa's grandparents are Dr. and Mrs. Daniel Baer (Tremont, IL) and Mr. and Mrs. LeRoy Rhodes (Morton, IL). May God guide John and Brenda as they raise Tressa for Him.

We were glad our Elder Bro. Bob Grimm (Goodfield, IL) could be with us as he and Bro. Dave Wiegand served communion to our congregation. The bonds of Christian love are strengthened when we can share this holy time, and be reminded of Christ's life-giving blood shed for us.

Other ministers visiting us were Bros. Glenn Dill (Tremont, IL), Jaye Rinkenberger (Goodfield, IL), Gene Lehman (Wolcott, IN), Vernon Leman (Eureka, IL), Ed Alt (Cissna Park, IL), Bob Pflederer (Morton, IL), Ken Dietz and Roy Ehnle (Bradford, IL) and Earl Ringger (Gridley, IL). We ask God's blessings on these brothers and their families for serving us.

May brings changes to our church in Champaign as many students graduate and move to new jobs in different communities. The college students are an important part of our congregation and we will miss the love and fellowship of these graduates. Mid-term graduates from the University of Illi-

nois were Dale Kaisner and Bros. Jeff Strunk, Randy Schrock, Stan Weninger and Ross Meyer. Spring graduates were Todd Martin, Joel Feucht, Jim Streitmatter, Wendell Stahl and Bros. Rod Anliker, Doug Hoerr, Mike Walder, Richard Gramm and Norm Knapp. We congratulate Bro. Bob Zimmerman on the completion of his master's degree. We are thankful that Bro. Bob has found employment in this area and will continue to assemble with us. Congratulations are also extended to the following Parkland College graduates: Kim Metz, Amy Ricketts and Bro. Allen Ricketts.

We miss Sis. Steph Schieler who assembled with us for the past three years and has recently accepted a new job in Peoria, IL. Likewise, Bro. Todd Kupferschmid will be moving back to his home in Forrest, IL, where he will work as well as continue his studies. We have appreciated the loving fellowship of Bro. Doug and Sis. Peg Hoerr and son, Chad, during the past two years. We pray God will bless them as they establish their home in Peoria, IL.

The students have chosen new officers in preparation for the '88 - '89 school year. They are Bro. Rick Meyer, president; Bro. Weston Stahl, vice-president; and Sis. Rachel Kellenberger, secretary. We thank Bro. Mike Walder, Bro. Phil Baurer and Sis. Renae Meiss for serving in these offices during the past year.

ILLINOIS, CHICAGO**Kathy Schlatter**

I searched as I came out of the stall and walked toward the sink, not panicked, but quite puzzled. I saw no faucet handles. How was I to wash my hands? Then for a moment I stopped directly in front of a sink, and water poured forth. I thought it was magic, but above the sink the sign read, "Stand in front of the sink and the water will turn on automatically." Too often I act in a similar manner spiritually. I stew and pray distractedly, not having faith, not at all sure that there is an answer or way available. When for a moment I stop and do as the Word says, lo, a door is opened, and peace again reigns. Why do I forget His instructions so often? Reading His Word and obedience can teach me more peace.

Bros. Gary Anliker (Elgin) and Jim Leman (Roanoke) lent their talents in the preaching of the Word. We thank

them for our Lord's messages, made possible through them.

Andrew Scott Leman, born April 27 to Bro. Jeff and Sis. Jackie Leman, joins brothers, Marcus and Stephen, to make their family thrice blessed with sons. Bro. Paul and Sis. Milli Leman (Chicago) and Bro. Bob and Sis. Nola Gramm (Gridley) are the grateful grandparents. We delight with them all in the Lord's newest gift and pray for Andrew and his family as they seek to guide him aright.

Bro. Brian Rumbold (Princeville) has taken a job in Chicago with a large accounting firm. Katrine Streitmatter (Fort Lauderdale, FL) has taken a nursing position with Mercy Hospital in the city, and Sis. Elaine Steffen (Bluffton, IN) is participating in an internship in music therapy at Hartgrove Psychiatric Hospital. We rejoice in the Lord's direction, which has led these young people to join us. We would be their encouragers and pray that the Lord will mightily bless their work in our area.

The end of March we said farewell to Bro. Ron and Sis. Mary Bertschi, who returned to their home church in Morton. We miss them and wish them the Lord's continued strength and counsel.

Being without phones has been an experience. We think we are inconvenienced and can't communicate, but the most important lines of communication are up to us to maintain. The Lord allowed a fire to disrupt our phone lines, perhaps to remind us of His power and to give us to understand that His lines are still open and always available. They are not vulnerable to physical catastrophe, and no rate increases are indicated. Money has never been the object.

"Padre nuestro..." "Our Father..." "Pater noster..." Neither a regional accent nor an unfamiliar language affects the beauty, the content, the power of our Lord's Prayer. Each of us still has access to His throne of grace. May we help others to reach out to Him, as others have helped us. May we truly see spiritually, realizing how alike we are, under our different colored skins and varying ethnic and family backgrounds. May we also love as He loves, each as an individual from every tribe and nation.

Give Your Address Changes
To Your Reporter

ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK Mary Knapp — Elaine Sauder

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

Job 1:21

Why little seven-year-old Kenton Rudin was fatally injured while riding his bicycle we do not know. But we do know a child is a gift from God and the length of time we have them to enjoy is not our choice. We extend heartfelt sympathy to his parents, Bro. Craig, Sis. Trudy and his brothers and sisters from Forrest; his grandmother, Sis. Tillie Rudin from here; his aunt, Sis. Sandy Rudin (Elgin), as well as all his relatives from here.

We enjoyed our visiting ministers again this month as Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann (Chicago) came for our evening Bible study and Bro. Jaye Rinckenberger (Goodfield) spent a Sunday with us. Bro. Robert Beebe (South Bend, IN) was home for Mother's Day.

Elder Bro. Steve Rinckenberger has certainly been in our thoughts and prayers lately as he recuperated from a light heart attack. Several went in to assist with the bean planting that wasn't quite completed. May he feel strength and assurance as he relies on the healing hand of our almighty God these next uphill weeks.

The sick list seems endless this month as we received word that Bro. Jim Waldbeser (Bro. John and Sis. Carol) is scheduled for open heart surgery at Children's Memorial Hospital in Chicago.

Other surgical patients were Sis. Marilyn Winger, Valerie Kaufmann (Bro. Sid and Sis. Sandy), Sis. Clara Hofer (Bro. Herbert), Sis. Lucille Walder, Helen Janssen (Louis) and Sis. Anna Gudemann. Alvin Rudin was hospitalized for medical reasons and Tracy Rudin (Bro. Arlyn and Sis. LaNae) was shut-in with a broken leg. We're thankful she's able to be out again. May the Lord's blessing and healing be granted to each dear soul and may His will be done.

Happy Heart — Happy Home was the theme for our Mother-Daughter dinner. Bro. Wayne Laubscher gave the devotion and spoke briefly on the home and heart. How nice it is to set an evening aside to show our love for those who are so very near and dear to

us. Hopefully each one present returned home with the blessing of a happier heart to a happy home.

The church was filled to overflowing on Sunday evenings, April 24 and May 1, when our Bible class hosted ACYF. Our hearts were touched as we listened to the beautiful singing and messages given by Bros. Bill Hodel (Roanoke) and Glenn Dill (Tremont).

ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE Sandy Knapp — Susan Zobrist

". . . and the glory of children are their fathers."

Proverbs 17:6

We want to express our love for our fathers who have patiently labored to bring us up in the precious faith of our Lord Jesus.

"The father of the righteous shall greatly rejoice . . ."

Proverbs 23:24

We are rejoicing as our heavenly Father rejoices over two new souls who have turned their backs to the world and now seek the path of righteousness. We are thankful that Lori Rumbold (Bro. Allen and Sis. Carol Schrock) has joined her husband, Myron Rumbold (Bro. Bob and Sis. Jackie Rumbold), in walking in the Lord. Our congregation is also thankful that Lorene Schlipf (wife of Clarence Schlipf) has repented and looks forward to the hope of heaven. She needs our love and prayers, for she has been hospitalized.

Two more precious souls, having sought the way of righteousness, found peace with our Lord. Deb Deitrich (Bro. Bill and Sis. Sherri Dietrich) and Becky Ott (Bro. Don and Sis. Carolyn Ott) are now looking forward to following the Bible's commandment of baptism in Christ. May they continue to look to God for His loving guidance.

". . . therefore the children of men put their trust under the shadow of thy wings."

Psalms 36:7

A child has been born to Bro. Ed and Sis. Gail Leman. May they put their full trust in God as they strive to raise up Kary Lynn. Her grandparents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Doris Williamson (Congerville) and Bro. Tom and Sis. Marlene Leman (Denver, CO).

"What therefore God hath joined together let not man put asunder."

Matthew 19:6

Trusting in God, Sis. Julie Knapp (Bro. Willis and Sis. Bernice Knapp) and Bro. Dave Schumacher (Bro. Bob and Charlene Schumacher, Eureka) were united in a threefold cord with our Lord. We pray that their union will be strong as they put their faith in God and not in themselves.

"Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow . . ."

Hebrews 13:7

Remembering those who speak the Word in our behalf, we are thankful in our prayers for Bro. Tom Leman (Denver, CO), Elder Bro. Joe Braker (Morton), Bro. Walter Anliker (Eureka) and Bro. Willis Wiegand (Goodfield).

ILLINOIS, ELGIN Elizabeth Schambach Betty Bachtold

It was a solemn hour Saturday evening, April 30, when our hearts and minds were led out to Calvary to remember the Lord's suffering and death. ". . . Through His wounds and blood divine was my ransom paid so dearly." Zion's Harp #228. We thank Elder Bros. Paul Butikofer (Elgin, IA) and Harold Messner (Winthrop, MN) for coming and helping Elder Bro. Nathan serve holy communion. Also, Bros. Elmer Schmidt (Winthrop, MN), Paul Gasser (Akron, OH) and Wayne Anliker (Forrest, IL) served us through Word and Spirit. May our heavenly Father richly bless them for their labors of love.

Sis. Lana Schifferer (Bro. Bill) and Amy Kellenberger (Bro. Lloyd and Carol) recently spent time in the hospital.

Bro. Calvin Weiss wishes to express deep appreciation and thanks to all who remembered him with prayers, cards, gifts and visits during his stay in the hospital and time of his recovery. May God bless each one for their thoughtfulness.

Our family and congregation were saddened Monday evening, April 25, as we learned of the untimely death of little Jennifer Kay Schambach, 14-month-old daughter of Bro. Tom and Sis. Connie. In a moment of time, God

sent His death angel to claim her life in a drowning accident. "... Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God." St. Luke 18:16. In addition to her parents, she leaves three brothers, Jason, Matthew and Scott; two sisters, Jolene and Jenean; two grandmothers, Sisters Marilyn Kellenberger and Elizabeth Schambach; and a great-grandfather, Bro. Nathan Kellenberger.

We loved her, yes we loved her
But Jesus loved her more,
And sweetly He has called her
To yonder shining shore.

The wondrous gates were opened,
A gentle voice said "Come",
And with farewells unspoken
She calmly entered home.

The family of little Jennifer wishes to convey heartfelt thanks to each one for prayers and love shared in their deep sorrow. God bless you.

Our dear Sis. Anna Lohbauer, 86, who resided at Apostolic Christian Resthaven, was also called to the heavenly portals May 15. After much suffering and pain, she could softly whisper, "I'm coming" to the Lord's beckoning. "There freed from earthly burdens, With no more pain or ache, Till in the glorious morning He calls: "Awake, Awake!" Zion's Harp #139. She leaves one daughter, Sis. DeLores (Bro. Lyle) Kellenberger, one granddaughter, Sis. DeAnne (Bro. Robert) Cox; one grandson, Daryle (Sonia) Kellenberger; and three great-grandchildren.

The family of Sis. Anna Lohbauer wishes to express their heartfelt thanks in deep appreciation to each and every one for their prayers, words of comfort, and all the acts of love shown to them. It has served as a source of comfort, love and strength. May God richly bless each one as He alone can do.

To all our graduates, we offer a sincere prayer that God, creator of heaven and earth, will guide and bless you with His love and mercy. Those graduating this year are Bro. Brian Anliker (Bro. Gary and Sis. Edie), Kevin Braun (Herman and Sis. Sharon), Lorri Cargill (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Kay), Amy Kellenberger (Bro. Lloyd and Carol), Neal Kellenberger (Bro. Keith and Sis. Sharon), Ann Martin (Bro. Dave and Sis. Jean), Stacey Martin (John and Ella), Audrey Scham-

bach (Ernest and Annette), Michelle Schifferer (Jerry and Barb), Paul Schifferer (Bro. Tom and Sis. Kathy) and Craig Spohr (Les and Janet).

Father's Day will soon be here. We are forever grateful for God-fearing fathers and husbands. God bless each one of you.

ILLINOIS, EUREKA

Kathy Leman

"And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you." Ephesians 4:32. May 15 was the date Sis. Julie Knapp and Bro. Dave Schumacher selected as their wedding day. We rejoice with them and their parents, Bro. Willis and Sis. Bernice Knapp (Congerville) and Bro. Bob and Sis. Charlene Schumacher (Eureka). We welcome Sis. Julie to our congregation and wish God's blessings upon their marriage.

Our sympathy is extended to Bros. Walter and Ben Schumacher in the passing of their sister, Sis. Emma Schumacher (Peoria).

Sis. Kathryn Schumacher and Sis. Lorine Stoller also have our sympathy in the passing of their son and brother, John "Bill" Schumacher. May God comfort each one in their loss.

Bros. Sam Leman (Sis. Aldine) and Dan Hartter (Sis. Dorothy) were hospital patients this past month. We are thankful they have all returned to their homes.

Bro. Paul and Sis. Kristine Schmidgall welcomed Heidi Laraine into their hearts and home May 4. Angela, Evan and Molly are anxious to get to know their new sister as are grandparents, Bro. Richard and Sis. Marge Rocke and Bro. Marvin and Sis. Dorothy Schmidgall.

We are thankful souls are answering the Lord's call to come and taste and see of His goodness. May God grant much grace to Jill Eastman (Bro. Dick and Sis. Nelma) and Deb Schumacher (Bro. Bob and Sis. Charlene).

We thank Bro. Lenard Meyer (Chicago) for coming into our midst and preaching the gospel to us May 8. May we remember the precious teachings that were given to us and apply them to our daily walk of life.

ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY

Jean Bachtold — Crystal Fehr

This month we celebrate Father's Day. We can be thankful for our fathers

who reared us to learn of our heavenly Father. May we follow our heavenly Father's footsteps every day.

The Lord is still calling souls unto Him. We rejoice that Chris Leake (Sis. Bethany) has answered that call. We pray that God will lead him in the paths of righteousness and that he can be submissive to His will.

We extend heartfelt sympathy to the following families: Bro. Amos Meyer passed from this life to eternity May 4. His wife, Sis. Ruth; one son, Ralph (Greer, SC); and one daughter, Sis. Roberta, survive.

Clarence Goodart went to his rest April 24. His wife, Leona, survives.

Danny Powell, brother of Sis. Linda Oberlander, died unexpectedly in Oregon.

Amos Fehr, Bro. Herbert Fehr's brother, died in an auto accident.

May God comfort and console each heart in this time of sorrow.

Bro. Carl Kieser (Sis. Becky) had surgery on his neck. May God strengthen his faith and grant that his health can be restored.

The 1988 high school graduates are Bro. Neil Bahler, Mark Bazzell, Troy Cottrell, Daniel Fehr, Darren Fehr, Carmen Hartman, Dawn Meiss, Kevin Moser, John Slagel, Tricia Steffen, Beth Ann Steidinger and Julie Young. Kathy Walter has graduated from ISU. May God direct their paths in their future plans.

ILLINOIS, FORREST

Sherri Kelson — Sandra Schneider

As Father's Day approaches, we are reminded of a father's great responsibility to his children. It's so much more than just providing for the physical needs. May each father be encouraged to take time to bring up his children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

Our congregation was deeply saddened to hear of the bicycle-car accident in which Kenton Rudin was killed. He was the seven-year-old son of Bro. Craig and Sis. Trudy Rudin. He is missed dearly by his brothers and sisters, Scott, Andy, T. Anne, Heidi, Joseph, Betsi and Benjamin. His grandparents are Bro. Glen and Sis. Mildred Zimmerman and Sis. Tillie Rudin (Cissna Park). We hope our loved ones will feel the many prayers that are being offered on their behalf and feel the Lord's nearness and comfort.

Bro. Emanuel Rieger, 95, was called

to his eternal reward May 6. Our sympathy is extended to his son, Leonard, and family.

We appreciate the ministers who have visited our congregation this month. We sincerely thank Bros. Harold Schmidgall (Gridley), Tom Hoffman (Roanoke), Al Schneider (Rockville, CT), John Lehman (Bern, KS), John Hartman (Fairbury), Ken Schneider (Remington, IN), Virgil Metzger (Chicago), Jim Plattner (Princeville), Bill Schlatter (Junction, OH) and Ralph Garber (Morton),

Shanna Schaffer (Bro. John and Sis. Sally) and Bro. Perry Honegger (Sis. Louise) have required hospitalization. We pray the Lord will look down upon their needs and heal according to His will.

Troy Lanz and Kathleen Slagel have made known their engagement. Parents of the couple are Jim and Mary Slagel (Fairbury) and Bro. Elmer and Sis. Lavonne Lanz. They are planning a September wedding.

Bro. Ron and Sis. Carol Koehl are happy to announce the adoption of three-year-old Miranda Lynn. Mandy is the sister of Mark, Matt and Rachel. Her grandparents are Bro. Leroy and Sis. Janeta Koehl and Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Marge Laukhuf (Latty, OH). We share in their joy.

Our high school graduates are Kevin Kafer (Kenneth and Gail), Jill Koehl (Maurice and Carol), Chad Kupferschmidt (Bro. Al and Sis. Wanda), Michael Kupferschmid (Bro. Dean and Sis. Robin), Lori Lanz (Bro. Elmer and Sis. Lavonne), Cory Masters (Bro. Bill and Sis. Mary), Daren Metz (Bro. Gene and Sis. Carol), Sis. Julie Ricketts (Bro. Nick and Sis. Jean), Jeff Rieger (Richard and Jackie) and Kathy Schneider (Bro. Duane and Sis. Janny). We wish them the best as they go on to school or find jobs.

We want to wish the blessings of the Lord on two families who will be leaving our community. Bro. John and Sis. Patsy Stoller and children, Candi, Sandi and Kevin will be appreciated by the Leo Children's Home as they take on the responsibility of houseparents. Bro. Ron and Sis. Carol Koehl and children, Mark, Matt, Rachel and Mandy will be making their home in the Sarasota, FL, area. Both of these families will be missed by our congregation.

Note: July is the month for collection of Silver Lining dues for the Forrest congregation.

IN MEMORY

Often times some precious blossom
That we hoped would grow and flower,
Suddenly begins to wither
And is gone within the hour!
How our heart doth ache within us
For the parting cuts it sore,
Yet we know, although we loved him
Jesus loves him even more.
Oh that sweet and tender blossom,
That was fragile and so fair —
How the memories of our child
Linger on the summer air.
Oh so soon our arms are empty —
Oh so soon we had to part;
Yet the deepest peace from heaven
Heals our empty aching heart.
After bitter pangs of parting,
We will try to grieve no more —
He has gone a step before us
And has crossed to yonder shore.
Let our hearts be lifted upward
To that joyful land above,
Where God holds His newest angel
In His heavenly home of love!

Anonymous

We humbly thank you all for the thoughts, prayers, kind deeds and gifts of love after our precious son's accident. We truly appreciate each one of you and can feel much inner comfort from it. May God richly bless all of you.

Bro. Craig and Sis. Trudy Rudin
Scott, Andy, T. Anne, Heidi,
Joseph, Betsi, Benjamin,
and grandparents

ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD Trish Gerber

MOTHER'S PRAYER

Dear God,
This prayer is very old.
You hear it every day
From lips of mothers everywhere
In all the tongues that pray.

Behold these children round my knee
Whose steps do falter still,
Unhurt by fears or sorrows yet,
Untouched by hatred's chill.

How well you know what's in my mind,
And what I'm going to ask.
It's just that You will guide my hand
In my momentous task.

I feel so very awed within
At what I have to do
To help them be the kind of folk

Who, too, will turn to You.

Margaret Rorke

MY DAD

I love my dad, he's big and strong
When anything at all goes wrong
Whatever it might be!
He fixes it for me.

There seems to be no limit to
The many things that he can do.
My heart delights to see him toil
With skill and tactics almost royal.

Sometimes when I am by his side
I marvel at his giant stride . . .
I feel so safe when he is near
There's nothing that he seems to fear.

My dad is brave and strong, it's true,
But he is very tender, too . . .
I've seen his eyes with teardrops fill
When I have gone against his will.

He reads the Bible every day,
And many times I see him pray . . .
He sometimes takes me on his knee
And speaks of Godly things to me.

I'm grateful for my dad today,
Dear Father, bless him, this I pray
He's taught me of your kindly ways
And so to Thee, I give the praise.

Elna Grimm

Our parents are such special people.
We thank God for giving us loving,
caring, Christian parents and the
prayer on all our hearts as parents is
that we train up our own children to
love and appreciate our dear Lord and
His precious sacrifice.

Our congregation grieved in the loss
of two dear souls, but rejoiced for them
with the confidence that they're in a
better place.

Bro. Ben and Sis. Kris Bauman's
lives were so briefly touched by their
precious little angel, Jonathan D. He
came into this world April 27, and God
took him back home only two days
later, April 29. We all pray that his
parents' empty arms will be filled with
his love when they see him on that
yonder shore.

Our Sis. Ruth Rokey, her children
and grandchildren were shocked when
the Lord called His servant, Bro. John
Rokey, home May 2. May God comfort
and fill the void for Sis. Ruth and her
children, Bro. Kenny, John and Ver-
meda, and their children.

Hospitalized this past month were Mindy Knapp (Bro. Stan and Sis. Judy), Sis. Esther Tanner (Bro. Adolph), Bro. Kenny Rokey, Sis. Hulda Witzig and Jan Hinrichsen (Bill).

We appreciated our visiting ministers this month. They were Gene Metzger (Lester, IA) and Bro. Tom Leman (Denver, CO).

Our sympathy is extended to Bro. Norm Musselman in the loss of his mother.

Ben and Kris Bauman and families would like to thank everyone for all the prayers, love and support they felt through the hospital stay and death of their dear Jonathan. May God richly bless you all!

ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY Perry A. Klopfenstein

As we have assembled ourselves together during the past month, we have enjoyed many blessings and spiritual enrichments. On Wednesday evening, April 20, Bro. Tom Schrenk (Alto, MI) ministered to us.

On April 24, Bros. Ron Heiniger (Bloomington) and John Rowell (Burlington, IA) were our guest ministers. On Mother's Day, May 8, Bros. Harold Gramm (Morris, MN) and Wes Knapp (Goodfield) occupied our pulpit.

On Friday evening, April 29, Elder Bro. Joe Braker (Morton) spoke to a meeting of our Sunday school teachers. Following a potluck supper, he spoke words of encouragement to the teachers as they face the growing challenge of relating effectively to today's youth. He pointed out that as teachers "your walk is more important than your talk." A teacher's walk of life, along with sincere expressions of love, kindness and concern, will far outweigh the words he speaks in the classroom.

Bro. Roger and Sis. Darleta Gramm are the parents of a baby girl, Traci, born April 25. She has two sisters, Tara, 6, and Tina, 2; and a brother, Tyler, 4. Grandparents are Sis. Delores Marti (Gridley) and the late Bro. Allen Marti and Mr. and Mrs. Ron Daugherty (Gridley); and the late Bro. Willis "Butch" Gramm (Gridley).

Bro. Henry Gramm was recently hospitalized for a brief time, but is now at home. Sis. Gloria Wettstein was also a hospital patient this month.

ILLINOIS, MORTON Phyllis Farney — Cheryl Wuthrich

John 14 promises that the Comfort-

er will come, and that God has prepared a place where we can meet our loved ones once again. We were very saddened to hear of the sudden death of our Bro. Steve Zimmerman. Bro. Steve and his wife, Sis. Maryann, were living in Ohio and attending the Latty church. His funeral was held here in Morton May 9. May Sis. Maryann; his parents, Bro. Russell and Sis. Alvina; his sister, Sis. Kris (Bro. Dana) Taufer; and his brother, Bro. Mike (Sis. Sue) all feel the presence of the Comforter.

We want to wish our Father's blessing upon the engagement of Sis. Lisa Peterson (Steve and Joyce Quinn and Jim Peterson) and Bro. Randy Schrock (Bro. Don and Sis. Lorna Schrock). May He continue to be with them.

Matilda Smith has been called into eternity. Her funeral was May 14. May our heavenly Father comfort and bless her family and friends.

We wish to thank Elder Bro. Ben Maibach (Detroit, MI) for ministering God's Holy Word to us Mother's Day. May he be richly blessed for his labors of love.

Our ministers are quick and generous with their praise of mothers on Mother's Day, but, probably because most of them are fathers themselves, it seems they never quite give themselves the honor they deserve on Father's Day. The Bible is full of exhortations to honor and obey our fathers. Eight times in the scripture (according to my concordance) we are given the commandment to "Honor thy Father and thy Mother . . ." This commandment is the first commandment with promise, ". . . that thy days may be prolonged, and that it may go well with thee, in the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee." Deuteronomy 5:16. If these promises don't show clearly enough the importance God puts on honoring our fathers, let us look at what He says about not honoring them; ". . . and he that curseth Father and Mother let him die the death." Matthew 15:4. And what does cursing consist of? This is how the Amplified Bible puts it, "He who curses or reviles or speaks evil of or abuses or treats improperly his father or mother . . ." This should motivate us all to examine our speech and our actions.

Obedience is a manifestation of honor, and should be taught to our children. Many places in the scripture children are instructed to obey their parents. "My son, hear the instruction

of thy father and forsake not the law of thy mother." Proverbs 1:8. "Children, obey your parents in all things for this is pleasing unto the Lord." Colossians 3:20. Most likely not many young children, adolescents, and teenagers will be reading this article. So, mothers, how can we help our children to honor their fathers (our husbands)? We can do it best by example. We should reverence our husbands (their fathers). ". . . and the wife see that she reverence her husband." Ephesians 5:33. And reverence is no small commission as it is clearly shown in the Amplified version. ". . . and let the wife see that she respects and reverences her husband — that she notices him, regards him, honors him, prefers him, venerates and esteems him; and that she defers to him, praises him, and loves and admires him exceedingly." By reverencing our husbands we are teaching our children to honor their fathers and are setting the proper tone for our homes.

The scripture does not put an age limit on honoring our fathers. Those children living away from home, those married children, and even middle-aged children with elderly parents, all fall under the commandment to honor their fathers and their mothers.

ILLINOIS, PEORIA Kathy Huthmann

First-time parents, Bro. Don and Sis. Jackie Hoerr, are rejoicing with the arrival of their daughter, Olivia May. Grandparents are Bro. Don and Sis. Velma Hoerr and Bro. Bill and Sis. Joyce Waibel.

Graduating from high school this year are Bro. Brad Bowald (Bro. Dwayne and Sis. Mary Lu), Amy Herman (Ron and Mary Ann), Sis. Lori Herman (Bro. Howard and Sis. Nancy), Lisa Hoerr (Bro. Tom and Sis. Jeanette), Angie Scholl (Bro. Rolland and Sis. Carol), Amy Snider (David and Joyce), Tim Triplett (Bro. Willis and Sis. Shirley), Bro. Matt Waibel (Bro. Bill and Sis. Joyce), Don Bowen (Teresa), Kim Schneider (Norb and Mary Jane), Sis. Serena Sauder (Bro. Dave and Sis. Rita), Mike Heller and Brad Martin (Bro. Tom and Sis. Jessica). Graduating from college are Bro. John Hoerr (Bro. John and Sis. Dot) and Sis. Dawn Haerr (Bro. Norman and Sis. Sally, Taylor, MO). We wish them all God's blessings and His guidance as they take the next step in their lives.

We pray that God will comfort the

family of Sis. Emma Schumacher as she has passed away.

We rejoice to have a new brother in the faith. Art Pfister gave his testimony and was baptized May 18.

Those who were hospitalized last month were Sis. Evie Stoller, Randy Purdom, LaVerne Perdelwitz, Sis. Nettie Owens, Sis. Mabel Hoerr, Cori Hoerr (Bro. Dan and Sis. Kayla), Sis. JoAnn Koehl, Bro. Walter Knepp and Bro. Bud Fehr. May each one experience the healing touch of our Father in heaven.

Our thanks, love and appreciation are given to our visiting ministers this past month. They were Bro. Marshall Heinold (Washington), Bro. Doug Wagenbach (San Diego, CA), Bro. Ron Heiniger (Bloomington) and Bro. Ted Witzig (Morton).

“Hear ye children the instructions of a father, and attend to know understanding.”

Proverbs 4:1

As Father's Day approaches, let us be truly thankful for those dads who have raised us in the way of the Lord.

ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE Marjean Lehman

“What woman having ten pieces of silver, if she lose one piece, doth not light a candle, and sweep the house, and seek diligently till she find it? And when she hath found it, she calleth her friends and her neighbors together, saying, Rejoice with me; for I have found the piece which I had lost. Likewise, I say unto you there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth.”

Luke 15:8-10

Visiting ministers have been Bro. Gary Anliker (Elgin), Bro. Kenny Dietz (Bradford), Bro. Everett Hari (Bloomington), Elder Bro. Chuck Hemmer (Peoria), Bro. Kenneth Knapp (Taylor, MO), Bro. Al Langhofer (Wichita, KS) and Bro. Marvin Leman (Bradford). We give thanks to these brethren for ministering unto us of the Word of Life.

The weekend of April 23 and 24 we heard the testimonies and witnessed the baptisms of three converts. Sis. Julie Gehrig (Bro. Kenny and Sis. Donna), Sis. Coleen Knobloch (Bro. Ed and Sis. Frances) and Sis. Peggy Knobloch (Bro. Ed and Sis. Frances)

are our new sisters-in-faith. May they walk in the fullness of God's grace, love and peace every day of their lives in service to Him.

On April 24, we heard the engagement announcement of Bro. Les Fehr and Sis. Barb Kieser (Bradford). Parents are Bro. Larry and Sis. Carol Fehr (West Bend, IA) and Bro. Jerry and Sis. Wilma Kieser (Bradford). We wish them God's blessings as they plan their lives together.

On April 23, Amanda Diane Herrmann was born to Sis. Angie and Bro. Doug Herrmann. Grandparents are Bro. Marvin and Sis. Dianne Knobloch (Bradford) and Bro. Walt and Sis. Betty Lou Herrmann. We wish them God's blessings as they nurture this precious little soul.

Bro. Eugene Herrmann was a surgical patient in the hospital and has returned home.

ILLINOIS, ROANOKE

Patsy Kaeb — Judy Luginbuhl

The Mother-Daughter Brunch was held the day before Mother's Day, May 7. It was a wonderfully warm and sunny day for many of us to enjoy time set aside to honor our Mothers and to reflect on the many blessings of life God has shared to us through them. It also motivates those of us who are still raising children to try to be the Christian mothers we read about in God's Word.

Beverly Aeschleman and Scott Luginbuhl were united in marriage April 23. Bro. Joe and Sis. Mardell Aeschleman and Bro. Ray and Sis. Carol Luginbuhl are parents of the happy couple. We pray God's richest blessings on their marriage.

Bro. Dick and Sis. Mardell Bowald have two daughters who have recently announced their engagements. Beverly Bowald is engaged to Doug Miller (Morton). Doug's parents are Dave and Sandy Miller (Carlock). They have set August 27 for their wedding date.

Lori Bowald is engaged to Victor Zimmerman. Victor is the son of Jerry and Barb Zimmerman (Paxton). We offer our congratulations to both of these couples.

Bro. Harold and Sis. Emma (Rocke) Blunier celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary May 8. They are the parents of four children, Wayne (Pontiac), Bro. Melvin (Goodfield), Sis. Sharon (Bro. Keith) Kellenberger (Elgin) and

Marilyn (Bob) Ott (Roanoke). They also have twenty grandchildren.

The Family Hymn Sing was held April 24 with our Roanoke choir sharing the evening with us. It was a real blessing and inspiration and we thank our choir for their efforts.

Bro. Earl Ringger (Gridley, IL) was our only visiting minister last month. It truly was a blessed day and we thank Bro. Earl for serving us.

Hospital patients this past month were Elsie Sauder, Jeremy Hodel (Bro. Ken and Sis. Kathy) and Kathryn Kempf. It is our sincere prayer these loved ones can be healed according to His will.

Jerry and Betty Hodel have a new grandson born April 23 to Ken and Lori Washer. Jacob has a big sister, Jessica, to welcome him home.

Bro. Walter and Sis. Marian Blunier also have a new grandchild. Kellie Jo was born April 27 to Gary and Cindy Blunier (Eureka). Kellie has three big sisters, Janel, Jennifer and Keri.

Gary and Tammy Leman have a new daughter born May 4. Her name is Tricia Jane and she has one brother, Tyler. John and Sis. Sara Diggle and Bro. Jim and Sis. Myra Leman are Tricia's grandparents.

Funeral services were held April 28 for Sis. Rose Minger. Sis. Rose had a special place in our hearts and her beautiful smile will be remembered for a long time. Her children are Sam and Mike (both of Eureka), Sis. Anna (Bro. Sam) Leman and Ellen Ulrich (both of Eureka), Sis. Ruth Hodel (Bro. Warren, Roanoke), Margaret Weber (Morton) and Rachel O'Malley (Chicago). Two sisters, Sis. Anna Heiligenstein (Eureka) and Sis. Ella Belsley (Roanoke) and 22 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren also survive. Her husband, Bro. Theo, preceded her in death. Our sincere sympathy is extended to all of her dear family.

We also extend our sympathy to Sis. Dorothy Bittner whose sister, Sis. Emma Schumacher (Peoria), recently died.

Sis. Velda Schlipf and Bro. Wilmer and Sis. Lavina Leman had a little great-grandson, Jonathan Bauman, who died three days after birth. Our sympathy is also with this family.

Funeral services were held in Fairbury for Bro. Amos Meyer, a brother of our Sis. Margaret Leman, and we extend our sympathy to her.

ILLINOIS, TREMONT**Carolyn Bolliger — Marsha Koch**

"If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? or if he ask a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent? Of if he shall ask an egg, will he offer him a scorpion?" St. Luke 11:11, 12. Father's Day is upon us again to remind us how thankful we should be for our loving and God-fearing fathers. May this be a day of blessing to them all.

We wish the best of luck for the eighth grade graduates in their high school years. They are Jennifer Beutel (Bro. Fred and Sis. Jeanette), Christine Holmes (Marshall and Sis. Phyllis), Trent Hopkins (William and Maizie), Brad Kaufmann (Bro. Dale and Sis. Jane), Derek Sauder (Bro. Steve and Sis. Mary), John Schweigert (Dan and Connie) and June Steiner (Bro. Joseph and Sis. Marcella). We also wish God's blessings and guidance on the high school graduates as they seek out their profession. They are Colleen Beutel (Bro. Alvin and Sis. Carol), Kathy Dill (Bro. Glenn and Sis. Marilyn), Kevin Dill (Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Sandy), Sis. Cheryl Frank (Bro. Robert and Sis. Rose Mary), Sis. Karol Glueck (Bro. Karl and Sis. Velda), Sis. Karen Holmes (Marshall and Sis. Phyllis), Doug Huette (Bro. William and Sis. Marilyn), Nathan Koch (Sis. Nancy), Sis. Janet Schaefer (Bro. Maurice and Sis. Marjorie) and Jeff Wagenbach (Bro. Simon, Jr. and Sis. LaVonne).

Royce Jonathan was born May 12 to Bro. Pete and Sis. Debbie Aberle. Brothers, Randy, Ryan, Rodney and Rollyn, welcome him home. Grandparents are Bro. Ernie and Sis. Frieda Aberle and Bro. Vernon and Sis. Bernice Stoller (Princeville). We wish them God's strength and guidance.

The engagement of Karla Glueck (Bro. Karl and Sis. Velda) to Marty Rollins (Kenneth and Linda) was announced. We wish them God's blessings.

We would like to thank Bros. John Steiner (Oakville, IA) and Vernon Wettstein (Congerville) for laboring on our behalf. May God be their rich rewarder.

Our hospital patients this month were Karla Glueck (Bro. Karl and Sis. Velda) and Bro. Herman Laidig. We are thankful all went well and that they are back home.

ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON**Carol Schick**

This past month we have been presented with ample opportunities to receive many blessings and draw closer to the brotherhood. May God bless the labors of everyone involved in presenting these opportunities.

The Sisters in Song (Francesville, IN) joined us April 17 for an all-church hymn sing. We thank them for their contribution to a blessed evening.

Bros. Ted Witzig and Bob Pflederer (Morton) joined us for services and an all-church potluck Sunday evening. We appreciate their efforts on the pulpit and the fellowship of their families and all the Morton visitors that day.

Mother's Day this year was celebrated with a Mother-Daughter Banquet Saturday and Bro. Steve Gutwein (Francesville, IN) joined us Sunday as he allowed God to use him to minister to us. We thank him and wish him God's blessings.

A Bible study May 13 was led by Bro. James Plattner (Princeville), the topic being Prophecy. Bro. Jim gave us many sobering thoughts as he reminded us that the only prophecies left to be fulfilled are those that will take place after Christ's second coming. We very well could be much closer to that great day than we realize. If that puts a little fear in your heart or mine, then we should set about to make things right in our lives so we are ready.

The Detroit Choir and their families joined us May 14 and 15 for a Saturday evening hymn sing, Sunday worship and all-church potluck. Bro. Hartzel Kaisner (Detroit, MI) and Bro. Doug Wagenbach (San Diego, CA) ministered to us Sunday. We thank God for allowing all of these brethren to travel so far to be with us, to praise God and share His Holy Word with us. We truly appreciate their efforts and thank them all.

Hospital patients this month were Sis. Martha McGough, Bro. Steve Elsassner and Bro. Don Wagenbach. Our prayers are with them as they recover.

Hope Klaus has turned her life over to God and begun her walk toward the baptismal waters. Her parents are John and Betty Klaus (Japan). We pray she will soon fully comprehend the meaning of the "peace that passes understanding".

Washington recently held its annual business meeting and election. Stan Schick was put in as trustee. New

ushers are Bros. Jon Ricketts, Greg Schumacher and Marvin Wieland. Newly elected Sunday school teachers are Bros. John Cox, Gary Folkerts and Randy Mogler and Sisters Jane Des-Carpentrie and Charlotte Mangold. May God richly reward those who have completed their duties and grant grace to those beginning new tasks.

As the school year draws to a close, we want to congratulate our high school graduates and we pray they will always consider their spiritual future as they plan their lives. They are Chris Bucher (Bro. Steve and Sis. Vicki), Pete Monagle (Gary and Sis. Kay) and Doug Fritz (Bro. Ed and Sis. Sally).

We want to give a special thanks this month to all fathers and husbands for all the hard work and patient stability they have given us this past year but especially for the steadfast faith and guidance they have given us in spiritual matters. May God's love shine upon them in abundance, not only on Father's Day, but all year through.

INDIANA, BLUFFTON**Jean Moser — Becky Isch**

"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

It is always a special privilege to partake of the Lord's Supper. We gathered together April 30 and rededicated our lives to the Lord. We were blessed to have Elder Bro. Phil Stettner and Bro. Bob Meyer (Bluffton North) with us for this sacred occasion.

"Favor is deceitful and beauty is vain: but a woman that feareth the Lord, she shall be praised." (Proverbs 31:30). Proverbs 31 was the basis of meditation on Mother's Day. May we always be thankful for God-fearing mothers.

We gathered at the Bluffton North church April 18 for a presentation on the Christian Care Center. A vote was taken and the majority expressed their wish to move forward with plans for this facility. The brothers serving on this committee certainly covet our prayers that God's will might be accomplished.

"And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might. And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children."

Deuteronomy 6:5-7

David Ray and Paul Robert are the names given to twin sons born April 22 to Bro. Keith and Sis. Connie Aschliman. A brother, Brian, and grandparents, Bro. Robert and Sis. Ida Aschliman and Bro. Ramon and Sis. Flossie Stoller welcome them.

Bro. Darryl and Sis. Jinny Gerber are the parents of their second son, David Alexander, born April 26. A big brother, Aaron, welcomes him home. Grandparents are Bro. Wilmer and Sis. Clara Gerber and Bro. Edison and Sis. Chrisann Gutwein (Francesville).

First-time parents, Bro. Todd and Sis. Teresa Earney, welcome a son, Tyler Andrew, born May 9. The proud grandparents are Bro. Gerald and Sis. Eunice Fiechter and Charles and Patricia Earney (Fort Madison, IA).

"The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusted in him, and I am helped."

Psalms 28:7

Hospital patients this month were Kristi Schwartz (Bro. Jack and Sis. Diane), Sis. Clarabelle Baumgartner (Bro. Milo), Sis. Teresa Earney (Bro. Todd), Sis. Frances Dubach, Bro. Derryl Aschliman (Sis. Peggy), Sis. Charlotte Kipfer and Paul Robert Aschliman (Bro. Keith and Sis. Connie). We pray that God will be near and all will trust in His strength and His power.

Our dear Sis. Thelma Kipfer, 82, passed away in her sleep at Swiss Village April 27. She was the widow of Bro. Albert Kipfer. Our sympathy goes to her brother, Bill Kick (Mansfield, OH), and the Kipfer family.

Mary Lou Feichter, 43, passed away April 30 after a three-year battle with cancer. We are thankful that Mary Lou could go to her rest. We know she will be missed by her parents, Lloyd and Pauline Fiechter and brothers, Terry and Thomas, and their families.

Daniel V. Bertsch, 82, passed away April 29. He is survived by a daughter, Barbara Ann Perry (Bluffton) and a brother, William (Berne).

We extend our sincere sympathy to Bro. Jay Bertsch (Tucson, AZ), Bros. Herman, Laurin, Oscar, Walter, Leonard and Sis. Gladys Lantz (Bro. Dan) and Sis. Beulah Schwartz (Bro. Howard) in the loss of their brother, Melvin (Jerry) Bertsch. He is survived by his wife, Marietta; a daughter, Mrs. Richard (Mary Elizabeth) Todd; and a son, Roy (Vacaville, CA).

We are happy to announce the engagement of Bro. Fred Moser and Sis. Mabel Heyerly. We ask God's blessing on this couple as they blend their lives and families together.

"Choose you this day whom ye will serve."

Joshua 24:15

Five dear souls have chosen to serve the Lord. They have given their testimonies and were baptized Sunday, May 15. We welcome Bro. Ben Beer (Bro. Phil and Sis. Millie, Milford) and his wife, Sis. Kara (Bro. Perry and Sis. Becky Isch), Bro. Wayne Steffen (Bro. Terry and Sis. Gloria), Bro. Marvin Reinhard (Bro. Roy and Sis. Virgene) and Sis. Lyn Moser (Bro. Phil and Sis. Jean) into the fold. We thank Elder Bro. Phil Stettner (Bluffton North) for being with us on this special day. We pray that more souls would choose to serve the Lord.

We wish our many graduates from high school, college and technical schools God's richest blessings. We trust that each will seek God's direction and His will for their lives.

INDIANA, BLUFFTON NORTH Lois Drayer — Debbie Aeschliman

"Who plants the seed beneath the sod,
And waits to see
Believes in God."

This saying comes to mind as we watch the farmers planting the fields and the women working in their gardens. It is such a miracle that such a small seed can blossom into a large plant. Just as the farmer plants the seed into the ground, the seed of faith was instilled into our hearts when we were very small, and our faith grows as we mature. Let us be thankful for our fathers and mothers who have taken us to Church and cared and provided for us. With Mother's Day recently past and Father's Day almost here, let's say a special thank you to our parents and

tell them that we love them and appreciate the home they made for us. Let us remember them, not just on Father's Day and Mother's Day, but all year.

We warmly welcome back to Bluffton North Bro. Rodney and Sis. Connie Bucher. A special welcome back is also given to Bro. John and Sis. Tammy Baumgartner and their new little son, Chase Robert, who was born March 23. Chase's grandparents are Bro. Truman and Sis. Marjorie Baumgartner and Bro. Jerry and Sis. Pauline Gerber. We rejoice with Bro. Kent and Sis. Kim Gerber in the birth of their son, Kyle Wayne, born May 16. He is welcomed home by his sister, Kasha, and grandparents, Bro. Harry T. and Sis. Lois Gerber and Bro. Vic and Sis. Julia Gerber.

We bid a fond farewell and God's blessings to Sis. Elaine Steffen (Bro. Ken and Sis. Roberta). She will be working in the Chicago, IL, area for several months.

Our sympathies are extended to Bro. Joseph Meyer (Sis. Josephine), Sis. Ida Gerber (Bro. Ray) and Sis. Lillian Wright (Bro. Mark) in the loss of their brother, Bro. Amos Meyer (Sis. Ruth, Fairbury, IL) who passed away May 4. Heartfelt sympathies are also extended to Bro. Leonard Bertsch (Sis. Wava) in the recent passing of his brother, Melvin Bertsch (Marietta).

Our loved ones who have spent time in the hospital this past month are Sis. Goldie Kipfer (Bro. Art), Bro. Amos Reinhard (Sis. Martha), Bro. Walter Aeschliman (Sis. Imogene) and Jarrod Gerber (Bro. Linus and Sis. Nancy). May they all feel our thoughts of love and prayers as the Lord watches over them.

"As we go through life, we are not promised an easy passage, only a safe landing."

INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE Jacki Huber

In this month of Father's Day, these words reflect the desire of Godly dads for their children — not to boast, except in the blood of Christ. In the same vein, we wish our congratulations to the graduates and pray they will each recognize where all honor belongs, with God for His goodness to us!

On a recent Wednesday evening, many gathered for the annual graduation program. Inspiring songs were sung and verses read, followed by

Bibles being given to each of these graduates: Stuart Boehning (Richard and Phyllis), Bradley Cook (Herb and Sis. Suzanne), Bryan Cook (Herb and Sis. Suzanne), Stacey Eide (Chuck and Karen), Sis. Lauri Erb (Bro. George and Sis. Elaine), Bro. Jason Furrer (Bro. Alvin and Sis. Phyllis), Matt Gudeman (Bro. Wendell and Sis. Marcella), Andrew Gutwein (Bro. Edison and Sis. Chrisann), David Gutwein (Bro. Fred and Sis. Madeleine), Jason Gutwein (Gordon and Judy), Travis Gutwein (Sis. Donna), Sis. Missy Huber (Bro. Gene and Sis. Barb), Randy Leman (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Linda), Gary Linback (Bro. Larry and Sis. Connie), Helen Metz (Bro. Ben and Sis. Miriam), Andrea Neihouser (Bro. Andre and Sis. Lois), Susan Peregrine (Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd), Tracey Putt (Norm and Sis. Mary) and Steven Vogt (Bro. Don and Sis. Pam).

We enjoyed the following visiting ministers and thank them for their time with us: Bros. Paul Gasser and Ron Palitto (Akron, OH), Bro. Steve Ringger (Bluffton North, IN) and Bros. Vernon Schwab and Neil Widmer (Wolcott, IN).

We congratulate Stanley and Maxine Boehning on the birth of a grandson, Daniel Joseph, born to Mr. and Mrs. Darrell Boehning (Moosville, IN) April 12. Daniel has one sister, Alison Jo.

We extend sympathy to the Doug Gutwein family in the death of Mary-Lew's father, Henry W. Finley (Georgetown, KY), and also to Bro. Earl and Sis. Liz Anliker and their family in the death of Sis. Liz's mother, Dorothy Kendall (Wolcott, IN).

Many prayers have been with Sis. Paulette Putt as she has been hospitalized recently.

A reminder to Francesville subscribers — July is collection month for the Silver Lining for us.

INDIANA, INDIANAPOLIS

Kathy Freed — Gail Bradford

We thank Elder Bro. Alfred Bahler (Wolcott) and Bro. Jack Bollier (Leo), for being with us this month.

We said goodbye to Sis. Nadine Yaggie, who is moving to Lafayette. We hope she can return to see us often.

We rejoice in the birth of Anna Louise, daughter of Bro. Ron and Sis. Edie Bollier. Welcoming her with joy are her sisters, Sarah and Emily, and grandparents, Bro. Elmer and Sis.

Marjorie Witzig (Gridley) and Bro. Jack and Sis. Velma Bollier (Leo).

Visitors to an Apostolic Christian church on Sunday are immediately aware of several unique practices: separate seating of men and women, prayer veils worn by the sisters, and the holding of a morning and afternoon worship service with a lunch served in between. Traditionally called the "Noon Lunch", this time of being together offers several kinds of nourishment! After morning worship, brethren and friends and visitors sit together in the dining room and are served a simple meal of milk, coffee, rolls and sandwiches, hosted by the family whose Sunday it is to "give dinner". A prayer is offered to thank God for the food and hands that prepared it; and often heartfelt thanks for the bounty we experience every day in the United States.

Young and old share food together and enjoy old friends and new acquaintances, share experiences and the blessings of Christian fellowship. Although the desire may be to linger, it is soon time to help clear tables, clean up and gather again for afternoon worship. Singing from the assembly hall soon beckons all to another hour of worship. A sense of friendliness and closeness is very evident in the sanctuary, a blessing and benefit of a happy noon hour.

This practiced tradition had its beginnings in days gone by when travel was difficult and long, but its foundation was in the early church's fellowship meal.

"And they continued steadfast in the Apostle's doctrine and fellowship and in the breaking of bread, and in prayers."

Acts 2:42

The lunch hour fosters love, unity and fellowship — a precious tradition worth preserving!

(Thanks to the author of the booklet, "Noon Fellowship Hour". This booklet can be obtained from any elder along with other booklets on church practices.)

INDIANA, LACROSSE Sandy Heinold

To break Thy bread we now have gathered,
In covenant to drink Thy wine;
As brethren we unite together,

That unto death we might be Thine.
This promise we, with heart and will;
Give grace our promise to fulfill.

"The Lord's Supper"

Zion's Harp #25

It was a special evening for us as we gathered together to partake of holy communion. We all took a journey back to Calvary to think upon the suffering our Lord endured for us there. We were reminded how He prayed in the garden, "... not my will, but Thine be done." How easy it is for us to want things to go our own way, but Jesus showed us that only by submitting our will to God can we be used in His service. We wish to thank Elder Bro. Ed Schwartz (Bluffton, IN) for assisting Elder Bro. Ed Frank in this blessed service.

On Mother's Day, we were inspired by the message of Bro. Bill Schlatter (Junction, OH). How much we appreciate the efforts put forth by all of our ministers and their families as they lend themselves in service for the Lord.

Congratulations go to our high school graduate, Doug Ailes (John and Carol) as he takes up temporary residence in Connecticut. May the Lord watch over and protect him till we meet again.

A dad is a special blessing —

So kind, so strong and wise,
The first to give encouragement,

The last to criticize —
A dad's the first to lend a hand,

The last to turn away,
The only one who always seems to know

The perfect thing to say —
The special things about him

Are cherished more each year —
A dad is a special blessing,

So wonderful and dear.

Author Unknown

How thankful we are for fathers who were such a good example to us. We praise our heavenly Father for making these blessings possible.

INDIANA, LEO Thelma Schlatter

A FATHER'S TEN PRECEPTS:

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

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

ing and correcting weaknesses.
 He makes his child feel secure.
 He shares in his child's activities.
 He has his child's complete confidence.
 He always is available to help solve
 youthful problems.
 He doesn't demand filial devotion —
 he wins it.
 He recognizes and accepts as largely
 his responsibility the mental and
 spiritual development of his child.
 He contributes to making the home his
 child's haven.
 He strives to be the man his child
 thinks he is."

Speaking to yourselves in psalms
 and hymns and spiritual songs, singing
 and making melody in your heart to the
 Lord."

Ephesians 5:19

The Chicago Choir favored us with
 just such melodious singing. Bro. Len-
 ard Meyer, also from Chicago, IL, de-
 livered the sermon. We thank them all
 for their visit and ministry in word and
 song.

Congratulations to our high school
 graduates: Rachel Gehring (Bro. Uriel
 and Sis. Judy), Penny Gordon (Bro.
 Nathan and Sis. LeAnn Gerber) and
 Elaine Pfister (Robert and Sis. Janice).

Congratulations to our college gradu-
 uates: Troy Klopfenstein (Dennis and
 the late Sis. Roberta), Sis. Patty Sou-
 der (Sis. Irma and the late Bro. Ed-
 ward), Sis. Marcia Stieglitz (Bro. Oli-
 ver and Sis. Emma Jean, Tim Stoller
 (Bro. Ernie and Sis. Dean) and Bro.
 Ross Meyer (Bro. Lenard and Sis.
 Charlotte, Chicago, IL). We're thankful
 to have Bro. Ross staying on here to
 work at the Children's Home.

Sis. Marcia's graduation is followed
 by wedding plans. Her engagement to
 Bro. Justin Koch (Champaign, IL), son
 of Bro. Vernon and Sis. Merna (Tre-
 mont, IL) was recently announced.

The Spring Luncheon was well at-
 tended. There was excellent develop-
 ment to the theme, Fruit of the Spirit.

Happy Father's Day to all the dear
 Dads!

INDIANA, MILFORD

Sue Schieler — Marguerite Hoerr

Bro. Gary Tonner (Bluffton) assisted
 Bro. Nelson Beer in the ministry re-
 cently when three of our ministering
 brothers were visiting in other congre-
 gations.

We look forward to Vacation Bible

School when Bros. LaVoyd Moore,
 Kent Ringger, Uriel Gehring and Earl
 Ringger will be our guest speakers.

Sis. Aldine Reimchisel has left her
 home at Greencroft Apartments tem-
 porarily and is staying with her daugh-
 ter, Phyllis, and family.

We rejoice with Bro. Phil and Sis.
 Millie Beer. Their son, Ben, and his
 wife, Kara (Isch), gave their testi-
 monies before the Bluffton congrega-
 tion and received the holy rite of bap-
 tism.

Our sympathy is extended to Sis.
 Kate Price, whose sister, Lillian Kaiser,
 went to her rest after a prolonged
 illness.

Jon Haab is recovering from out-
 patient surgery at this time. We look
 forward to hearing his testimony of
 faith June 4.

Communion services will be held
 June 25.

Congratulations are extended to our
 high school graduates this year. They
 are Bevan Hurd, Tim Troup, Niles
 Miller, Mitch Price, Rene Beer, Sis.
 Sherri Beer and Sis. Stacy Schieler.
 May God guide their futures and give
 them fulfillment in Him.

INDIANA, REMINGTON

Beth Virkler — Susan Getz

"The aged women . . . becometh holi-
 ness . . . that they may teach the young
 women to be sober . . . to be discreet,
 chaste, keepers at home . . ." Titus 2;3-
 4. Sisters Eliza Getz, Louise Waibel
 and Emma Bahler have moved to Park-
 view Haven in Francesville, IN. We will
 miss their presence but praise the Lord
 for His continual provision. "Fear not
 therefore: ye are of more value than
 many sparrows." Luke 12:7.

"Children are an heritage of the
 Lord: and the fruit of the womb is his
 reward." Psalms 127:3. Ruth Ellen is
 welcomed by Bro. Stan, Sis. Beth Virk-
 ler, Paul, Nathan, Joel and Rachel.
 Grandparents are Bro. Edwin and Sis.
 Lois Bahler (Remington, IN) and Elder
 Bro. Andy and Sis. Maxine Virkler
 (Bay City, MI).

The Spirit of the Lord was in our
 midst for communion April 24. Elder
 Bro. Andy Virkler (Bay City, MI) and
 Elder Bro. Bob Grimm (Goodfield, IL)
 were present to help Elder Bro. Alfred
 Bahler (Wolcott, IN) in the holy rite.

Address Changed . . .

Give Old and New Address
 To Your Reporter

INDIANA, SOUTH BEND

Sue Beebe

What could be more delightful,
 More joy and peace create,
 Than when to Thee, O Saviour,
 Our lives we consecrate?

"Living in Faith"
 Hymns of Zion #266

On May 1, we welcomed Andrea
 Stoller (Bro. Steve and Sis. Anna
 Marie) as a dear sister-in-the-Lord.
 Elder Bros. Jesse Beer (Milford) and
 Leroy Huber (Eureka, IL) were with us
 for this joyful occasion.

Ministering to us May 15 was visit-
 ing Bro. Rod Huber (Valparaiso).

We sincerely appreciate the efforts
 of these brothers on our behalf and
 trust that the Lord will bless them.

Our junior and senior high classes
 enjoyed a beautiful day of fellowship
 with the Milford Sunday school May
 15.

Sis. Helen Martin was a hospital
 patient recently. We're thankful she is
 home once again.

Our high school graduate is Michael
 Beebe (Bro. Robert and Sis. Sue). May
 he look to God for guidance as he
 begins this new chapter of his life.

As we think of our fathers and their
 efforts on our behalf, a poem comes to
 mind.

They who can read no printed pages,
 Or tell two words apart,
 Perceive with wisdom of a sage
 The true unspoken heart.

Betty W. Stoffel

May the Lord grant each father a
 pure and loving heart.

INDIANA, VALPARAISO

Beth Heinold — Trish Bucher

MATERNAL SONG

How can I tell of a mother's worth?
 By a song of the all-sustaining earth:
 The earth that watches young plants
 rise
 With arms outstretched to the distant
 skies;
 The earth that gives them zeal to grow
 But keeps their eager roots in tow;
 That urges them to stand up proud,
 Sustains them when their heads are
 bowed,
 And strengthens them to face again
 The thrust of wind and hail and rain,

So they may bloom, bear fruit and seed
To meet the hungering, tired world's
need.

I sing of the kindly, nurturing earth
To tell of a mother's priceless worth.
Sudie Stuart Hager

On May 6 we enjoyed our Mother-Daughter Banquet. The theme was "Precious Memories" — reflecting on past generations.

Our church family is rejoicing with Bro. Rod and Sis. Mary Huber as their son, Brett, has surrendered his life to the Lord in repentance. May he feel God's grace and guidance in his new walk of life.

Bro. Merle Bucher and Sis. Leona Bucher felt God's protecting and healing hand as Bro. Merle recovers from a recent farming accident. We are thankful that the Lord has once again been faithful and merciful.

Bro. Andy and Sis. Diane Moser have two foster children added to their family, Ricky, 4 years, and his brother, Matthew, 2½ years. May the seeds of faith they sow in their hearts and the treasures they learn in Sunday school bear fruit as they grow older.

Our visiting ministers this month were Bro. Jim Byrd (Roanoke, IL), Bro. Duane Kilgus (Fairbury, IL) and Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL).

INDIANA, WOLCOTT

Lorna Knapp — Lynell Blume

Once again we had the blessed privilege of pondering our Lord's suffering and death as we partook of holy communion Saturday, April 23. We thank Elder Bros. Andy Virkler (Bay City, MI) and Bob Grimm (Goodfield, IL) for assisting our Elder Bro. Alfred Bahler in serving us. May we daily give thanks as we remember the great price which was paid for our debt of sin.

On Sunday morning, Elder Bro. Bob remained with us to bring forth God's Holy Word. Bro. Edwin Bahler (Remington) was also a visiting minister to our congregation this month. We do appreciate their willingness to be used and pray for all ministers that they may be endowed with an extra portion of God's grace and wisdom.

On May 18, Bro. Duane and Sis. Suzanne Schieler welcomed a new son, Curt Matthew. Chad and Amy will be mommy's helpers. Happy grandparents include Sis. Marilyn Schieler of our congregation and Bro. Otto and Sis. Donna Wuetrich (Francesville).

As Father's Day approaches, we think of our Heavenly Father and all He has done for us. One of His most special blessings is certainly our God-fearing earthly fathers and fathers of our children. They toil all day to provide us with food, clothing and shelter which are essential, but it is the stability they give a home, their teaching, by example, the importance of living a life of obedience toward God, and their time and attention which are priceless. We know it is not always easy after a long, stressful day to meet more demands. Yet no one can take their place. The magnitude of the influence they have on their children is beyond measure. On their special day and throughout the year, may we uphold them in prayer and somehow let them know how much we need them and appreciate their good examples and selflessness.

IOWA, AMES/DES MOINES

Rhonda Reker

The Word was brought to us by Elder Bro. Wayne Fehr and Bro. Wayne Grimm (West Bend). Many enjoyed the day of fellowship together.

This spring we have two graduates. Dave Funk is graduating from the Veterinarian College and Jeff Zaugg graduated with a baccalaureate degree in Physics. We wish them much grace and wisdom as they begin their new jobs of employment.

We wish all an enjoyable summer.

IOWA, BURLINGTON

Deyona Massner — Karen Schulz

We have five high school graduates this year. We extend our congratulations to Mark Eisenmann (Bro. Paul and Sis. Elaine), Dwayne Massner (Bro. Dale and Sis. Evelyn), Ward Buster (Bro. John and Sis. Ingrid), Nathan Rowell (Bro. John and Sis. Nelda) and Jana Massner (Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Edith). May God bless each one and our prayer is that they will seek His will throughout their life.

We appreciate the visit of our Elder Bro. Ed Lanz on a recent Wednesday night.

Bro. Ben Wagler has spent time in the hospital with pneumonia this past month. He is home now, but still is unable to come to church. Also, Sis. Sophia Mellinger has not been able to assemble with us for some time. We pray they would feel God's nearness and our prayers at this time.

IOWA, ELGIN

Gloria Frieden

"And he said unto them, with desire I have desired to eat this passover with you before I suffer:"

Luke 22:15

On April 24, we gathered together to partake of the bread and wine in remembrance of our Lord's suffering and death. What a blessing it was to partake of this solemn feast.

The harvest truly is great but the labourers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth labourers into his harvest."

Luke 10:2

Our prayers and support are with Bro. Jim Knoblock (Sis. Marcy) who has submitted to the call into the ministry.

Sowing the seed with an aching heart
Sowing the seed while the teardrops
start,

Sowing in hope till the reapers come
Gladly to gather the harvest home:
Oh, what shall the harvest be?

"A time to be born . . ."

Ecclesiastes 3:2

We rejoice with Melanie and Steve Streicher at the birth of their first child. Little Branden DeWayne arrived May 8. Grandparents are Bro. Bert and Sis. Beulah Butikofer and Mr. and Mrs. DeWayne Streicher.

". . . and a time to die . . ."

Ecclesiastes 3:2

We extend our sympathy to Sis. Milly Butikofer (Bro. Paul) in the loss of her brother, Elmer Reitz.

". . . the glory of children are their fathers."

Proverbs 17:6

May God grant a special blessing to our fathers this Father's Day, and may He continue to answer the prayers of fathers who are no longer with us.

Our thanks go to Elder Bro. Leo Moser and Bro. Gene Metzger (both of Lester) for visiting us and their labors of love in our behalf.

Sis. Marie Butikofer would like to thank all who remembered her with cards and gifts on her 98th birthday.

IOWA, GARDEN GROVE Glen and Sally Funk

When you cannot figure out who was the giver or the receiver, or who was blessed the most, the only conclusion you can come to is that the Spirit was present, and the Lord's blessings and love were in abundance. On Saturday, April 23, the Morton choir arrived. I am quite sure that all brothers, sisters and visitors present felt the inspiration and blessings from above. We felt so blessed to think they would spend their time, money and talents on such a small group. But, they seemed to feel blessed to have been able to be in Garden Grove. May all honor and praise go to our heavenly Father for the wonderful fellowship that our church provides.

The Garden Grove church would like to thank all those who came for the weekend from Morton and for all they did. We appreciated the nice notes sent afterwards. May God bless you!

Our visiting ministers for April and May were Elder Bro. Joe Braker (Morton), Bro. Elmer Witzig (Gridley) and Bro. Jon Schmidgall (Oakville). We thank them. Each visit was special.

Our church has two graduates from eighth grade this year. They are Dawn Clark (Bro. Don and Sis. Willa) and Patrick Funk (Bro. Glen and Sis. Sally). David Funk (Sis. Verle) will graduate from Veterinary school and is taking a job at Dunlap, IA. We ask for God's blessings on all of them.

IOWA, IOWA CITY Bonita Frank

Our dear Bro. Brian Moser has left us rather suddenly to be employed in the Philadelphia, PA, area. We are sad to see him leave us, but glad for the opportunities that awaited him there. We are glad the Lord will be with him there, also.

We welcome Bro. Tim and Sis. Georgia Pfloderer who are moving here to begin Tim's internal medicine residency. We pray that the years they and their daughter, Brittany, spend here can be positive ones.

We thank our visiting ministers of this past month. They were Bro. Walt Anliker (Eureka, IL) and Bro. Harvey Heiniger (Burlington, IA). God's Word is the nourishment our hungry souls need.

We are looking forward to holy communion next week. So, just as we are weeding the little weeds out of the garden this spring, we can take the

opportunity to weed our soul's gardens too.

IOWA, LESTER

Kathy Metzger — Mary Knobloch

We were privileged to have Bro. Paul Gasser (Akron, OH) among us one evening for midweek services. May God continue to bless and inspire Bro. Paul and all our ministers as they fill our cups to overflowing.

"Wait on the Lord; wait, I say on the Lord." Psalms 27:14. Ben Feucht was recently hospitalized and Andy Leuthold and Bro. Eli Metzger are recovering from surgery. Sis. Linda Moser (Jim) remains in the hospital at this time. What a comfort it is to know that if we wait on the Lord and trust completely in Him, He will perfectly manifest His will in our lives.

We rejoice that God has again granted achievements to our high school and college students. High school graduates are as follows: Neil Knobloch (Bro. Ezra and Sis. Marie), Denton Knobloch (Bro. Melvin and Sis. Wilma), Jerome Knobloch (Bro. Earl and Sis. Vera), Lloyd Metzger (Bro. Don and Sis. Mary Jane), Terry Meyer (Bro. Raymond and Sis. Twyla), Loren Knobloch (Bro. Art and Sis. Elgeva), Perry Mogler (Bro. Howard and Sis. Lolly), Dan Leuthold (Jim and Betty), Gary Popkes (Sis. Eleanor), Randy Feucht (Bro. Ronald and Sis. Sandy), Jackie Feucht (Jerry and Judi), Holly Knobloch (Bro. Si and Sis. Edith), Sis. Renee Knobloch (Bro. Bill and Sis. Eleanor), Jill Metzger (Bro. Art and Sis. Kris), Carmen Claret-Castany (foreign exchange student from Spain living with Bro. Don and Sis. Mary Jane Metzger), Lynette Knobloch (Orvie and Lauretta), Marla Meyer (Earl and Barb) and Charlotte Nester (Bro. Gene and Sis. Shirley). College graduates are Joe Metzger (Bro. Eli and Sis. Alice), Sis. Patti Knobloch (Bro. Dale and Sis. Mary) and Sis. Dawn Knobloch (Bro. Stan). Mary Metzger (Keith) graduated from RN training. May the blessings of our heavenly Father be with each graduate as they pursue their education or careers.

Our sympathy is extended to John and Freda Giesel and family in the passing of John's brother, Jess (Bern, KS).

As Father's Day approaches, our thoughts turn to our earthly fathers and, in turn, our hearts overflow with

many precious memories of them and all the love and concern they shared with us. In Proverbs 4 we read of a father's wisdom and that this wisdom, along with instruction to avoid wickedness, is life and health!

IOWA, OAKVILLE Debbie Wagenbach

"Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favour of the Lord." Proverbs 18:22. With much joy in our hearts, we heard of the betrothal of Sis. Kathryn Massner (Bro. Virgil and Sis. Barbara) to Bro. Rob Schmidgall (Bro. Rich and Sis. Corrine, Morris, MN). May God bless Bro. Rob and Sis. Kathryn as they plan their future together through the direction of His Spirit.

"In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also." (John 14:2, 3). We are thankful that our Sis. Julia Ellenson can now rest in these heavenly mansions prepared by our Saviour. Sis. Julia was in her nineties and we know that she is now free from the afflictions of the aged in her heavenly home. Our sympathy is extended to her surviving grandchildren and also Bro. Earl and Sis. Ada Massner, who so willingly gave of their time to care for Sis. Julia.

Bro. Paul Gasser (Akron, OH) has recently been in our congregation for a weeknight service. We thank Bro. Paul and Sis. Joyce for thinking of us on their way out to the West.

"And all thy children shall be taught of the Lord; and great shall be the peace of thy children." (Isaiah 54:13). On May 15, we held our annual Sunday school election in Oakville. Bros. Jack Larson, Galen Metzger and Larry Moser were elected to replace Bros. Tom Steiner, Ron Massner and Curt Frank whose terms have expired. Sis. Marian Pflum will replace Sis. Ruby Eberhardt as the first grade teacher. May God be near each new teacher that they may teach the children according to His holy will. We are thankful for the efforts of our retiring teachers and may God reward them according to their efforts.

With spring, comes graduation and with graduation, comes changes. Some will go on to school to further their education, and some perhaps will be-

gin working. Whatever may be their situation, we have confidence that they will always remember what they were taught in the house of the Lord and think on those things. Our graduates this year are Tom Lanz (Elder Bro. Ed and Sis. Joan), Stacia Marti (Bro. Ervin and Sis. Teresa), Mara Massner (Bro. Doss and Sis. Bert), Taylor Massner (Bro. Virgil and Sis. Barbara), Tricia Pflum (Bro. Lyle and Sis. Marian) and Jay Wiegand (Bro. Al and Sis. Martha).

Note: Sis. Dolly Stoller wishes to thank everyone who remembered her with cards, gifts and prayers during her two months of illness at their home in Burlington. Also Bro. Walter and Sis. Dolly wish to thank everyone who remembered them on their 67th wedding anniversary with cards, gifts and phone calls. They heard from 76 dear brothers and sisters from the Zapata, TX, church congregation where they lived for the past 18 years.

IOWA, PULASKI

We are very happy to have Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Carol Wettstein with us. They have moved to our area from Eureka, IL. We hope they will feel at home here.

Bro. Dale Frank (Oakville, IA) ministered to us April 24. We thank him and his family for coming.

IOWA, WEST BEND

Polly Zaugg — Phyllis Banwart

We were pleased and thankful to have Elder Bro. Roy Grimm (Taylor, MO) to help Elder Bro. Wayne Fehr serve us holy communion the weekend of April 24. Bro. Harold Gramm (Morris, MN), Bro. Ken Wuethrich (Indianapolis, IN), Bro. Joe Gerst (Iowa City) and Bro. Dean Messner (Winthrop, MN) were with us this past month also. We sincerely thank them for coming and sharing God's teachings with us.

Several loved ones have been hospitalized. May we continue to pray for God's healing power that they may all soon be feeling well and can assemble with us again. Included were Sis. Marie Gress (Bro. Fahey), Bro. Ozcar Zaugg (Sis. Frances), Sis. Jesse Fehr, Sis. Pat Banwart (Art and Madeline), Sis. Esther Banwart (Bro. Walter) and Mike Tapavica (Donna). Sis. Elizabeth Traub is now residing at the West Bend Care Center. We are thankful Reuben and Louisa Anliker and Sis.

Anna Schmidt can be in their own homes again.

We welcome two new baby boys to our congregation. Bro. Bruce and Sis. Audrey Messner became parents of Kristopher Bruce April 15. Sisters, Jamie and Breann, are enjoying him, too. Grandparents to Kristopher are Elder Bro. Harold and Sis. Gerry Messner (Winthrop, MN) and Bro. Roy and Sis. Evelyn Metzger (Pulaski). On April 18 Dustin Jeffrey was born to Jeff and Beth Fehr and his brothers are Christopher and Anthony. Grandparents are Bro. Larry and Sis. Carole Fehr and Roger and Joyce Anderson.

The engagement of Bro. Leslie Fehr (Bro. Larry and Sis. Carole) and Sis. Barbara Kieser (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Wilma, Bradford, IL) was announced April 24. May they feel His love and presence as they make the necessary preparations for a July wedding.

We extend our sympathy to Bro. Fahey and Sis. Marie Gress and their family in the loss of Bro. Fahey's sister, Catherine Fitz (Watertown, SD).

This year we have eleven high school graduates and we wish them God's blessings in their future endeavors. They are Bill Banwart and Ginny Banwart (Bob and Kay), Brent Metzger (Bro. Duane and Sis. Elizabeth), Roger Banwart (Paul and Emmy), Bro. Mark Fehr (Bro. Jim and Sis. Sharon), Susan Fehr (Bro. Marvin and Sis. Charlotte), Michael Fehr (Bro. Bob and Sis. Barb), Jill Wickman (Bro. Larry and Sis. Marvella), Angie Schneider (Bro. Gary and Sis. Sue), Melissa Banwart (Mike and Marilyn) and Timo Kauppinen (foreign exchange student from Finland making his home with Bro. Eldon and Sis. Karen Banwart).

"Fathers many times think they are needed only for special favors desired by the son or daughter. The Father in heaven is noted for granting special favors to His own.

"A child revels in his times of fun and fellowship with his father. How it thrills the child of God to have those moments of sweet communion with his Father above.

"A father labors day after day to be a provider for his family. One of God's attributes is that of being the Provider of all our needs.

"The father takes time to hear and understand the difficulties of his child. Father God knows all about our troubles. He hears, He understands and

promises to lighten our burdens.

"Is it not therefore a responsibility, a challenge of utmost importance for a father to be really a "father" to his children? The father who knows God the Father will be the most complete father, the most honored father. He cannot risk being less."

Marie Taylor

JAPAN, SHIODA

Kathy Kieser

Our annual Sunday school picnic was held at church because of rain. We ate lunch together before the children sang songs and played games.

Some of our Sunday school children are the children of church members and some are children who attend our kindergarten. Their parents have no other connection with our church. Several kindergarten students' mothers attended the Sunday school gathering to be with their children. Some have specifically stated that they want to learn about Christianity. They began to attend church when their children entered our kindergarten. Please pray that God's Word will touch their hearts and change their lives as they learn about the plan of salvation. Please pray for our involvement with them. We are praying about and planning to start a special Bible study for them.

Special thanks is given to our brothers who met once again to discuss kindergarten issues. We are thankful for their willingness to serve as kindergarten board members.

JAPAN, TOKYO

Frank and Kathy Sauder

"Because they had no root, they withered away." (Matthew 13:6) The root is not a very beautiful part of a tree — it is hidden away out of sight, and nobody praises it; yet it is essential to the tree's life. In like manner, there is a hidden part in every Christian's life. It is the heart-life — faith, love, communion with God in His Word and in prayer. No one praises a Christian's inner, closet life; it is secret, and no one sees it; yet it is the root of the whole strong, beautiful life which men do see and praise, and whose ripe fruits feed their hunger.

J. R. Miller

We are preparing for our annual church fellowship meeting. We pray for God's blessings upon it and that we can be encouraged to deepen our roots.

Bro. Bob Knapp (Eureka, IL) was once again able to assemble with us. Each visitor is such a blessing to our little congregation. On July 17, the Lord willing, we are looking forward to about 40 brothers, sisters and friends from America gathering with us. What a blessing it will be.

KANSAS, BERN
Lori Baumgartner
Kathy Strahm

We read in Romans 10:13-15, "For whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved. How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?"

"And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!"

We have enjoyed the blessings of having visiting ministers in our midst the past month. Included were Bro. Glen Funk and his family (Garden Grove, IA), Bro. Clarence Dietrich (Silverton, OR) and Bro. Dale Wulf and his family (Lester, IA). May the Lord reward and bless these brethren that they may continue to preach the gospel of peace.

On May 1 Elder Bro. Lester Hartter brought to us an exhortation on partaking of holy communion. It was such a solemn and blessed occasion that we could come together to partake of the body and blood of Christ, having first spent time in prayer and self-examination that we not partake unworthily.

The following day, Sunday, we were so fittingly reminded that we must "Strive Aright" as we sang several verses of Hymn #47 from the Zion's Harp. Verse 1 says:

Strive aright when God in mercy
 His compassion turns to you,
 That your soul so long o'erburdened,
 Freed from sin might live anew,
 and verse 5:

Trembling, keep your soul from
 falling;

Prize your ransom more and more;
 Daily round your mortal body
 Countless dangers hover o'er.

In May we think of the graduates, those who have completed a course and now will go on to a new phase of their life. Graduating from Washburn University as a nursing student is Sis.

Beth Plattner (Bro. Eldon and Sis. Wanita). High school graduates include Roger Edelman (Bro. Fred and Sis. Joann), Lana Edelman (Bro. Morris and Sis. Marge) and Marcia Strahm (Bro. Wilfred and Sis. Verona).

As the graduates go forth, may they remember the words of Solomon, "My son, forget not my law; but let thine heart keep my commandments: For length of days, and long life and peace, shall they add to thee." Proverbs 3:1, 2.

Surgical patients spending time in hospitals are Sis. Wanita Plattner (Bro. Eldon) and Sis. Janet Meyer (Bro. Robert). May they feel God's healing touch as they return to their homes to convalesce.

Services were held for Reuben Locher who passed away May 6. Sympathy is extended to his brothers and sister, Sis. Leola (Locher) Lehman, Bro. Andy, Bro. Theodore (Sabetha) and Joseph. Our hearts also go out in sympathy to Bro. Roy (Sis. Lucy), Bro. Melvin (Sis. Florence) and Bro. Joe (Sis. Lila) and Ben Rokey who mourn the passing of their brother, Bro. John Rokey (Sis. Ruth, Goodfield, IL).

KANSAS, FORT SCOTT
Karen Sinn

We are always thankful for visiting ministers. Bro. Richard and Sis. Kathy Strahm (Bern) brought her father, Bro. Clarence Dietrich (Silverton, OR) to spend a weekend with us recently. May he be blessed for sharing God's Word with us.

Bro. Harold Kraft was hospitalized for surgery. We are thankful he is able to minister to us again.

First-time parents, Roger and Christina Kraft, welcome Rachel Elizabeth into their hearts and home. She was born May 9. Happy grandparents are Bro. Harold and Sis. Wanda Kraft and Dan and Sue Pearn (Quincy, IL).

We extend congratulations to our graduates! High school graduates are Jason Sinn (Lester and Shirley) and Nicole Smith (Randall Smith and Joyce Sinn). College graduates are Diana Kraft (Bro. Harold and Sis. Wanda) who received a BS in Elementary Education and Bro. Jim Schrader who received an MS in Clinical Psychology. May they seek God's guidance in their future lives.

KANSAS, GRIDLEY
Vola Young — Judy Kraft
 God alone can give comfort and

solace to hearts that sorrow. Sympathy is extended to the family of Willis R. Young, who died after a lengthy illness with cancer. We are so thankful that Willis realized the need for a Savior and did seek his salvation towards the end of his life.

Appreciation and thanks are extended to Bros. Lawrence Luthi (Lamar, MO), Rodney Moser (Lester, IA) and Glen Funk (Garden Grove, IA), who lent themselves in bringing forth God's Word.

Congratulations and best wishes! High school graduates are Dora Edelman (Bro. Albert and Sis. Mara Jean) and Rhonda Owens (Steve and Sis. Marilyn). Ilene Rogers (Sis. Hannah Grimm) graduated with an associate degree in computer information systems.

KANSAS, KIOWA
Janice Bahr — Darcy Kisling

He's standing at the threshold of every
 bright new day

Waiting to be noticed as you go your
 busy way.

He'll guide you past the rough spots
 and His blessings will impart,

Just follow where He leads you as
 you hold Him to your heart.

Catherine Janssen Irwin

This verse is dedicated to our graduates for 1987 - 1988, Richard Allenbach (Bro. Ronald and Sis. Lois Allenbach) and Brandon Domnick (Floyd, Jr. and Vanda Domnick) with a fervent prayer for God's guidance, direction and love as they take this new step in life. We also congratulate our dear Sis. Jan Willson, who is graduating from Nurses Training. May God bless her as she faces her State Board exams.

Elder Bro. Raymond Banwart (Fort Scott) and his dear wife, Catherine, were in our midst one weekend this month as Bro. Raymond shared with Elder Bro. Ronald Nelson in the reading of the memorandum. We praise God for faithful stewards who love us and care enough to face tribulation in keeping our church true until Christ returns to take His bride home. May God help us that we may help and not hinder their stewardship.

It seems like we have had so many loved ones ill this past month, and our thoughts and prayers have been turned heavenward continually on their behalf. Bro. Vern Schurter, Sis.

Sophia Kurcher, Sis. Shirley Nelson, Judy Tucker and Edna Tucker were all hospital patients and we hope and pray they will all soon be in our midst again.

We celebrated Mother's Day and in a few weeks time will celebrate Father's Day. I'm glad someone set aside these two days. How precious our parents and grandparents are to those of us who have been granted the special blessing of being reared in a Christian home. It is a gift I truly thank God for, and, can only partially repay by trying to give the same gift to my children. May God grant that we all may strive to leave our children such a heritage.

Thought: Harvest is almost here! Are we, as God's children, ready for God's harvest, as the wheat is ready for the harvest, or will we be as the chaff which the wind blows away to destruction?

KANSAS, LAMONT
Mary Isch

"Not until each loom is silent,
 And the shuttles cease to fly,
 Will God unroll the pattern
 And explain the reason why
 The dark threads are as needful
 In the weaver's skillful hand,
 As the threads of gold and silver
 For the pattern which He planned."

He that is mastered by Christ is the master of every circumstance. Does the circumstance press hard against you? Do not push it away. It is the Potter's hand. Your mastery will come not by arresting its progress, but by enduring its discipline. It is not only shaping you into a vessel of beauty and honor, but it is making your resources available.

Bro. Doug Grimm (Sabetha) was a visiting minister.

Clarence Fankhauser was a surgical patient in the hospital this month. We are glad to see him back in our assembly again.

Graduates are Jill Isch (Bro. Ron and Sis. Jane) from junior high; Matt Schrader (Bro. Stephen and Sis. Dorothy) from high school; and Sis. Jill Luthi (Bro. Lloyd and Joann) from college.

KANSAS, SABETHA
Nita Grimm — Charleen Hartter

Lord Jesus, I long to be perfectly whole;
 I want thee forever to live in my soul;

Break down every idol, cast out every foe;
 Now wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

"Whiter Than Snow"
 James Nicholson

As a child I remember this hymn being sung on the days of baptisms. It always created a longing in my heart to be in the baptized person's place — clean, whiter than snow. It is a privilege to have experienced the call of God and His grace to answer. The tender, gentle leading of Christ through the years has been wonderful.

To you who are longing as I did, Christ's blood can still wash as white as snow. His peace can still satisfy.

We will miss Sisters Lisa Steiner and Patti Knobloch as they have completed their studies at Kansas State University. They will be returning to their home areas of Los Angeles, CA, and Lester, IA, respectively.

We thank ministering Bros. Paul Gasser (Akron, OH) and Harvey Grimm (Bern, KS) for being willing to visit our congregation. May God bless them for their service to us.

Roger and Janice Young were blessed with Trevor Alan May 2. Big sister, Miranda, is excited for a brother. Maternal grandparents are Bro. Harvey and Sis. Arleta Wenger and paternal grandparents are Lucy Menomin (Milwaukee, WI) and Mr. and Mrs. Warren Dickson (Pulaski, WI).

Barry Koehl (Bro. Dale and Sis. Lili) and Bro. Nathan Grimm (Sis. Lois) were surgical patients. How precious to have Christ in our time of need. He sees, He cares, He helps. Doesn't it make us want to be more faithful, more obedient?

Bro. Willard and Sis. Eloise Bahr greatly appreciate the sincere concern shown by their friends and brethren since Sis. Eloise's illness. The cards, spoken words, prayers and many other kind deeds were a strength and comfort.

KANSAS, WICHITA
Emma Miller

Our annual Mother-Daughter Banquet was held Saturday evening, May 7, in the church dining room. This is always a special time for us to renew friendships that were formed in our Sunday school and church.

New Sunday school teachers elected for a three-year term at our annual

business meeting are Sis. Kristen Plattner, preschool and kindergarten, and Sis. Sondra Todd, primary. Sis. Emma Miller was elected to fill the one-year vacancy created in the intermediate class by Sis. Carol Carter's move to Holland, IN. Bro. Jim Bowers was elected to serve as secretary to the board and Sis. Kathleen Gallatin will be chairman of the kitchen committee.

The Wichita congregation extends sincere sympathy to Sis. Dora Young in the loss of her youngest son, Dr. Willis Young (Idaho Falls, ID). He was also the brother of Sis. Gussie Wullschlegler and Sis. Judy Langhofer.

MICHIGAN, BAY CITY
Pam Schlatter

We were privileged to hear the testimonies and witness the baptisms of four souls the weekend of May 7-8. We welcome to the brotherhood Bro. John Jackson (Bro. Richard and Sis. Yolanda), Bro. Greg and Sis. Lynette Munsel (Bro. Frederick and Sis. Delores Munsel, and Bro. Gary and Sis. Shirley Wright) and Bro. Nathan Wieland (Bro. Roger and Sandy Wieland). Assisting Bro. Andy in the work of the weekend were Elder Bros. Aaron Stefan (Alto, MI) and Ken Sauder (Mansfield, OH).

We rejoice with Kent Andrzejewski (Norm and Sis. Linda) in his decision to follow in the ways of righteousness. Like the psalmist, we wish him grace to say: "Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts, and see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting." Psalms 139:23, 24.

Those hospitalized among us this past month have been Sis. Loretta Mosher (Winsor) and Bro. Bob Schlatter (Sis. Betty). We wish them the nearness of His presence during this time of trial and a return of health.

MICHIGAN, DETROIT
Donna Hartzler

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

Zion's Harp #25

At our communion service Saturday,

April 22, Elder Bro. Lester Hartter (Bern, KS) spoke of when the passover was instituted, the lambs were slain, the blood was sprinkled on the doorposts, the firstborn of Egypt were slain, and the Israelites were driven out of the land of Egypt; and how it relates to God's sacrifice of His Son who died on the cross as a sacrifice for our sins. It's a blessed privilege to be able to share communion. We thank Bro. Lester and Sis. Ella, who accompanied him, for assisting our Elder Bro. Ben Maibach and for ministering to us.

On Sunday, April 23, it was announced that Ingrid Fortenbacher has repented, is at peace and wishes to be baptized. May God continue to look down favorably upon her.

A special thank you is given to the Washington, IL, congregation for hosting the Detroit choir the weekend of May 14 and 15. May God bless all who helped to make it so enjoyable. Their love and hospitality were sincerely appreciated.

God has blessed Bro. Randy and Sis. Sue Gasser with a son, Brice Oliver, born May 20. Their other children are Brady and Alexis. Grandparents are Sis. Doris Gasser (Rittman, OH) and Bro. Oliver and Sis. Emma Jean Stieg-litz (Leo, IN).

MINNESOTA, MINNEAPOLIS Carol Strassheim

It is such a joy to see the happiness when God has brought two people together. We had an engagement announcement this month of our dear Bro. Rob Schmidgall (Bro. Richard and Sis. Corrine, Morris) to Sis. Kathryn Massner (Bro. Virgil and Sis. Barbara, Oakville, IA).

Beatrice Miller has spent time in the hospital this month with pneumonia. We continue to pray for her.

Bro. Don and Sis. Jo Esterling have been a part of our fellowship for a long time. We regret that they have moved to Glenwood near Morris, but are happy that they still plan to worship with us often.

We spent a blessed day together, May 15, as we shared in our first church services in our new building. There was a true sense of excitement and thankfulness and blessing after all the hours of labor and meetings and prayers. We appreciated having the following elders visit us and share in God's Word: Bro. Art Bahler (Fair-

bury, IL), Bro. Leo Moser (Lester, IA), Bro. Joe Stoller (Princeville, IL) and Bro. Harold Messner (Winthrop, MN).

The children of Bro. Ray and Sis. Millie Schmidgall will be hosting an open house in honor of their parents' 50th wedding anniversary. This will be held July 2, from 12:00 - 3:00 p.m. at the VFW Post in Savage, MN. All relatives and friends are welcome to attend to help make this a special day for them!

We also thank Bro. LeRoy Messner (Winthrop) for coming and bringing us the Word this month.

Our new church address is 1390 Highway 110, P. O. Box 644, Mendota, MN 55150, (612) 452-9783.

MINNESOTA, MORRIS Christa Sauder — Ruth Nohl

We would like to recognize our graduates this year and wish them God's blessings as they go forward into a new phase of life. May they look to God for their help and guidance. Graduating from high school are Doug Feuchtenberger (Bro. Gerald and Sis. Karen), Beth Schmidgall (Bro. Neil and Sis. Linda), Patti Wulf (Bro. Leonard and Sis. Vi), Ruth Schmidgall (Bro. Gene and Sis. Dorothy) and Shelly Nohl (Bro. David and Sis. Eileen).

Our visiting ministers this month were Bro. Ken Lawson (Minneapolis, MN), Bro. Dennis Warner (Lester, IA) and Bro. Gene Metzger (Lester, IA). We sincerely thank these brothers for sharing the Word of God with us.

We wish to remember our hospital patients this month. Those spending some time in the hospital were Sis. Madonna Moser, Sis. Ruth Nohl, Bro. Orville Nohl and Virgil Sauder.

Two families were blessed with babies. Dale and Betty Noordman were blest with a boy, Jason. Melissa and Amy welcome Jason home. Bro. Noah and Sis. Shirley Nohl are the grandparents.

Ted and Kim Schmidgall welcome a son, Dustin. His two sisters will be glad for a brother. Grandparents are Bro. Don and Sis. Virginia Schmidgall.

Father's Day! We have a heavenly Father to watch over us, guide us and love us. God gave us a father, along with a mother, to make up a secure and happy home in which we can grow. God knows how important a home is, and Satan is always there trying to destroy it. We should be thankful to God that we were brought up in a God-fearing

home. Let us always thank God for His blessings.

MINNESOTA, WINTHROP Wanda Messner Ella Mae Schmidt

We offer best wishes to our graduates, Marc Messner (Bro. LeRoy and Sis. JoAnne), Sis. Kelly Messner (Bro. Marlyn and Sis. Lois), Amy Messner (Sis. Carol Ann), Lila Messner (Sis. Julie) and Sidney Schmidt (Gene and Sis. Ella Mae). May they seek the Lord's guidance with their future plans.

TEN COMMANDMENTS FOR TEENAGERS

1. Don't let your parents down; They brought you up.
2. Be humble enough to obey; You may give orders some day.
3. Choose companions with care; You become what they are.
4. Choose only a date who would make a good mate.
5. Guard your thoughts; What you think, you are.
6. Be master of your habits; Or they will master you.
7. Don't be a show off when you drive; Drive with safety and arrive.
8. Don't let the crowd pressure you; Stand for something, or you fall for anything.
9. Go to church faithfully; Make the first steps the church steps.
10. To Christ always be true; He gave His all for you.

Author Unknown

We rejoice with Kim and Joe Messner as they testify of being at peace with their God and mankind.

Born to Sara and Keith Kuhn was a little boy, Jeremy Allen. Grandparents are Duane and Mona Messner.

Our new substitute teachers are Sis. Lois Messner (Bro. Marly) and Bro. Dick Schmidt. Sis. Georgia Messner (Bro. Leo) will be the new Silver Lining correspondent. May the Lord be with each as they fulfill their duties.

Fathers come in all ages, shapes and sizes, and with an assortment of jobs, hobbies and habits. No two fathers are alike, but every father has the same privilege of helping his child be the best he or she can be. As head of his family, God gave fathers the awesome and challenging responsibilities for each family member's well-being. (Family Walk)

"As ye know how we exhorted and comforted and charged every one of you, as a father doth his children, that ye would walk worthy of God, who hath called you unto his kingdom and glory."

I Thessalonians 2:11, 12

MISSOURI, KANSAS CITY

Linda Ziegenhorn

If you suddenly found yourself in a situation where you had no access to a Bible and no other Christians to talk to, how much of God's precious Word could you remember? Is it time for YOU to start memorizing scripture?

We welcome Jesse and Sophie Delph to our congregation. They moved here from California. We hope they enjoy the Midwest as much as we enjoy having them. Elder Bro. Sam Huber (Sabetha) was here to help Elder Bro. Gene Marti serve communion. It's always a thoughtful and loving time when we have communion.

MISSOURI, LAMAR

Becky Marti — Carol Braker

We enjoyed fellowship and a delicious meal at a farewell picnic for Sis. Marie and Sis. Pearl Banwart. They plan to move into an apartment at the Sabetha Home. We'll surely miss their faces in our congregation. May God's blessings go along with them.

We apologize for failing to include two graduates in last month's column. Kathy Marti (Kevin) and Sis. Carol Marti (Leonard Braker) have now completed their schooling. Kathy finished RN training and Sis. Carol has a degree in Accounting. May God lead them on their new pathways of life.

To any of you who may be traveling through our area this summer, we extend a hearty welcome!

MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS

Loren and Betsy Schrenk

Ministering brothers visiting St. Louis this past month were Elder Bros. Bob Grimm (Goodfield, IL) and Roy Grimm (Taylor) and Bros. Charles Marti (Lamar) and Gerald Sutter (Taylor). We thank them for sharing.

The weekend of April 30 and May 1 was a full one for the brethren in St. Louis. Bros. Bob Grimm and Roy Grimm were here to carry out many duties. On Saturday morning many of us met with a realtor to see two acres of land with a home that we hope to purchase and convert into a church building. In the afternoon we were all

interviewed by the elders to determine if there was support for a resident minister and then at 4:30, we shared communion at the Gudeman's home. A meal followed, and in the evening we had our annual business meeting.

After fervent prayer and seeking God's will through the Scriptures, and encouraged by the unity of the brethren and their commitment to the St. Louis church, the elders were encouraged enough to proceed with further development of the church by installing Bro. Loren Schrenk as minister and supporting efforts to purchase the real estate for our own church building. We all covet your prayers as we move ahead in establishing a permanent church here.

Bro. Dan Gudeman is the Sunday school superintendent, and he and Bro. Morris Braker are trustees. Sis. Doreen Leuthold is the new Silver Lining correspondent. The visiting minister rotation here will continue.

We have felt the love and support of the brotherhood across the nation, and humbly thank each one. With the proper attitude, we each can learn and be used, regardless of our experience or education.

MISSOURI, TAYLOR

Loida Hodel — Lori Marquart

"Delight yourself also in the Lord, and He shall give you the desires of your heart."

Psalms 37:4

April 22 was a special day for Douglas Hoerr (Bro. Louis and Sis. Ruthie) and Lori Gramke who were married by Elder Bro. Roy Grimm in the fellowship center at Taylor. May God bless this couple as they establish their home in our community.

A GIFT OF LIFE

A baby is a gift of life born of "the wonder of love"
A little bit of eternity sent from the Father above,

Giving a new dimension to the love between husband and wife

And putting an added new meaning to the wonder and mystery of life!

Helen Steiner Rice

Happy first-time parents are Bonnie and Gary Lutener upon the arrival of a baby daughter, Amanda Rose, May 10.

Maternal grandparents are Buddy and Barbara Plank. May God bless and direct these new parents in raising their precious little girl.

Because He lives, I can face tomorrow
Because He lives, all fear is gone —
Because I know He holds the future
And life is worth the living — just
because "He lives"

Author Unknown

Elmer Reitz (Kahoka, MO) who lived in our area for many years and was a special friend to many of us, passed away suddenly at his home near Kahoka May 8. Our sympathy is extended to his widow, Francis, three daughters, 9 grandchildren and four sisters, Mabel Hodel and Rose Curry (California), Sis. Mildred Butikofer (Bro. Paul, Elgin, IA) and Sis. Margaret Grimm (Mark, Wapello, IA).

We are thankful that Lisa Hoerr and little Sandra, daughter and foster daughter of Bro. Donnie and Sis. Elaine are improving at this time, after several days in the hospital as medical patients.

HE LOVES YOU!

It's amazing and incredible, but it's as true as it can be,
God loves and understands us all
And that means you and me —
His grace is all sufficient
For both the young and old,
For the lonely and the timid,
For the brash and for the bold —
His love knows no exceptions,
So never feel excluded
No matter who or what you are
Your name has been included —
And no matter what your past has been,
Trust God to understand,
And no matter what your problem is
Just place it in His hand —
For in all of our unloveliness
This great God loves us still!
He loved us since the world began
And what's more, "He always will!"

Helen Steiner Rice

NEW YORK, NAUMBURG

Rachel Snyder

Scott and Sarah (Hirschey) King of York, PA, have a nice bundle of love. A son, Ryan Scott, was born Friday, May 13. Bro. Leland and Sis. Bernice Hirschey and Anna King (Russel, KS)

are the grandparents. Ryan is the Hirschey's 28th grandchild.

The past Friday evening, we gathered again at Croghan to finish the project we started last month of making lamp shades for the Children's Home sale. We also made up more bandages.

OHIO, AKRON Joyce Gasser

We just returned from Colorado, and native to that state is the beautiful white flower that grows above timberline called Saxifrage. From the Latin it means a rock breaker. It grows higher than dirt, and we would say it is impossible for a flower to grow in that rock, but some way, as its roots go down into the rock, it splits the rock and the rock breaks. God calls us to be like the Saxifrage, a rock breaker. He says in Jeremiah 23:29 that His Word is like a hammer that breaks the rock in pieces. He freely gives us His Word to use, and every time we hit the problem with His Word, the hammer, it weakens until it breaks just as the Saxifrage breaks the rock. God gives many examples. The Egyptian ruler ordered the death of the babies, but rather than follow such a rule, Moses' parents used an ark, symbolic of the Ark of Jesus, the Word, and their burden was lifted. Then Moses, too, became a saxifrage. The people were burdened with the rule of the Pharaoh. Each time Moses used God's Word, it weakened until the burden was broken and the people were delivered. Thanks to God for His Word, the hammer, that breaks our burdens.

A "thank you" goes to our Bible class students and young people for treating us all and doing the work and clean-up for the noon lunch Sunday, Mother's Day. They did an excellent job so cheerfully and we enjoyed it and are grateful.

We appreciated the sermons of Bro. Earl Kilgus and the visit with the others with him.

Sis. Elizabeth Heib had out-patient surgery and we are thankful she can assemble with us again.

Sis. Juliet Graf wishes to thank all who remembered her with prayers, cards, gifts and visits while she was in the hospital and at the Home. May God bless you all.

OHIO, COLUMBUS John Grimm

We want to thank Bro. Larry Wenninger (Latty, OH), Bro. Fred Domka

(Mansfield, OH) and Bro. Bill Brake (Sardis, OH) for ministering God's Word to us. May God bless them and their families.

OHIO, JUNCTION Les Manz

Elder Bro. Edwin Ringger (Gridley), Bro. Russell Wuthrich (Pulaski, IA), Elder Bro. Ken Sauder (Mansfield, OH) and Bro. Bob Meyer (Bluffton North, IN) visited us and brought us God's Holy Word this month. As they delivered us His Word from their different backgrounds, we could feel the common Spirit in each of their messages. We thank God that the Spirit will work through each of our brothers who bring us the Word, if they humble themselves and let Him work through them.

We are glad with Bro. Ralph and Sis. Sheila Schlatter that their son, Brian, is recovering after being hospitalized for a couple of days following an accident at home.

OHIO, LATTY Rhonda Stoller Marlene Reinhard

"I wait for the Lord, my soul doth wait, and in his word do I hope."
Psalms 130:5

Sharing with us the hope of God's Word were visiting ministers, Elder Bro. Perry Zimmerman (Forrest, IL), Bro. Merle Kaisner (Fairbury, IL) and Bro. Walt Steffen (Milford, IN). May God bless them and their families for their never-ending service of love towards God's church.

"Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me."
Psalms 23:4

We extend our love and our sympathy to Sis. Mary Anne Zimmerman in the loss of her husband, Bro. Steve. We also extend our prayers and sympathy to Bro. Gus, Sis. LeAnn Schlatter and their family over Bro. Steve's death. The life Bro. Steve lived was an example of God's great love. Bro. Steve touched many hearts and will be loved and missed by so many of us.

"O Lord my God, I cried unto thee

and thou hast healed me."

Psalms 30:2

Loved ones spending time in the hospital this month were Eli Laukhuf (Lola), Sis. Marie Stoller and Jordan Miller (Bro. Roger and Sis. Kay).

"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

Our high school graduates this year are Marlise Stoller (Bro. Willis and Sis. Ellen), Theresa Stoller (Bro. Russell and Sis. Melvane), Sue Stoller (Bro. Millard and Sis. Irma), Matt Schlatter (Bro. Gus and Sis. LeAnn), Tim Sinn (Bro. Walt and Sis. Renee). Our college graduates are Sis. Amy Stoller (Bro. Millard and Sis. Irma) and Denny Wenninger (Bro. Donald and Sis. Josephine). May each one's future prosper and be filled with a hope in God.

"But thanks be to God which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

I Corinthians 15:57

What a joyful weekend we all shared in as we welcomed a new sister and three new brothers into God's army. Those who were baptized are Bro. Rick Plummer (Denise), Bro. Mark Sinn (Bro. Ray and Sis. Ann), Bro. Kevin and Sis. Della Wenninger. We rejoice with them and wish them God's love and nearness always.

Let each of us take a few moments this month to stop and reflect upon the Godly fathers by whom we have been blessed. Have we ever really stopped to realize how hard our fathers have labored throughout the years to give us the homes, family and church we so much appreciate and rely upon each day. Or how can we ever forget the protection we felt when we were close to our fathers? Let each of us thank our God in a very special prayer for our fathers. Let us also take time to let our fathers know how special they are.

Do something special just for your father that says, "Dad, I love you."

OHIO, MANSFIELD Linda Morrison

"To every thing there is a season,

and a time to every purpose under the heaven: A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted . . . A time to get and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away; A time to rend, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; A time to love, and a time to hate; a time of war, and a time of peace."

Ecclesiastes 3:1-2, 6-8

We were again reminded of "a time to die" with the passing of our dear Bro. Martin Kleshinski. Our prayers and sympathies are with his daughters, Bev Cole (Lucas, OH) and Mary Kleshinski (Florida). We trust that Bro. Martin's "time to keep silence" will break forth in singing in heaven. It's been many years since Bro. Martin's deep bass voice helped sing praises in worship to God.

"Give ear to my prayer, O God; and hide not thyself from my supplication. Attend unto me, and hear me:" (Psalms 55:1, 2). We trust God hears the many prayers being offered for our hospital patients this month: Bro. Dan (Sis. Pam) Sauder, surgery; Sis. Nina (Bro. Wayne) Rufener, surgery; and Carl (Sis. Ruth) Weiss. "Evening, and morning, and at noon, will I pray, and cry aloud; and he shall hear my voice." (Psalms 55:17). May we ever support one another in prayer and may each feel the nearness of our gracious God in our lives.

We bid farewell to Brent and Penny Mosher and children. They are returning to the Bluffton area after spending a number of years in Mansfield. We will miss their support in our church circle.

We appreciate Bro. Doyle Frauhiger (Bluffton North) for taking time to come to Mansfield. We were richly reminded that we have no promise of time and death can come at any age; we do have a promise of eternity with the Lord if we "repent and believe the gospel." (Mark 1:15) During the week after Bro. Doyle's visit, the news carried reports of 27 killed in a bus accident; 27 souls were hurled into eternity . . . "Haste and seek your soul's salvation, come and harden not your heart."

June is Silver Lining collection month for Mansfield. Please make your contribution through your local reporter.

OHIO, RITTMAN

Stephanie Baltic — Diane Gasser

Lord,
Let me be Your follower,
Let me be Your friend,
Let me hear Your voice and heed Your call.

Let me come to know the special plans
You have for me, and let me,
With Your help, fulfill them all.

Amanda Bradley

This year's high school graduates are Denise Baltic (Bro. Dan and Sis. Betty), Carol Christian (Bro. Ron and Sis. Joanne), Tami Gills, Mark Hartzler (Bro. Merle and Sis. Bonnie), Eric Keiper (Bro. Reinhart and Sis. Betty), Brent Murray (Gary and Sis. Susan), Brent Steiner (Bro. Dave and Sis. Carole), Scott Stoller (Bro. Everett and Sis. Marge), Sis. Lois Stoller (Bro. Fred and Sis. Joyce), Sis. Sara Winkler (Bro. Andy and Sis. Mary Jane), Amy Young (Rex and Carol) and Bob Zollinger (Bro. Rudy and Sis. Brenda). May these graduates ask the Lord for guidance as they take their next step in life.

We appreciate Bro. Don Manz (Junction, OH) for ministering the Word unto us. May the Lord reward him for his services.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Sunday school is our delight.
We love it more and more;
'Tis here we learn to do the right
And live forever more.
We hear the truth, so pure and clear,
Of Jesus' love so sweet and dear;
There we are taught to lift our eyes
To Him who lives on high.

Hymns of Zion #73

Bro. Jerry Bauman (Sis. Martha) was elected as Sunday school superintendent. We wish him the Lord's strength and guidance as he carries out this duty.

May 13 was a happy day for Dan and Janice Bauman as they became first-time parents. Their son's, Judson Michael, thankful grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Richard Bauman and Mr. and Mrs. Bill Davis.

May God extend His healing hand to those who were hospitalized this past month. They are Bro. Henry Dotterer (Sis. Martha) and Rodney Hartzler (Bro. David and Sis. Linda).

Bro. Henry and Sis. Martha Dotterer say thanks for the many tokens of love bestowed upon them during the time of Henry's illness. May God richly bless each of you.

OHIO, SARDIS Linda Indermuhle

To remember Christ's death and suffering, holy communion was lovingly served to us by Elder Bros. Joseph Ramsier (Rittman) and Eugene Pamer (Akron).

The same evening Bro. Mark Ramsier was chosen to be our minister. As Bro. Mark and Sis. Alice adjust to this new calling, we hope they can feel our love and support. "Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with all long-suffering and doctrine." II Timothy 4:2.

Bro. John and Sis. Paula Figel's son, Andrew, was married to Linda Lehman May 7. May the Lord bless them as they are joined hand in hand.

Matthew Brake (Bro. Bill and Sis. Miriam) had ear surgery and is recovering well. We realize God gives wisdom to the surgeons, but He alone can heal the body.

Graveside services were held for Morris Brake, brother of John (Sis. Almeda) by Bros. Ken Indermuhle and Bill Brake.

OHIO, SMITHVILLE

Ann Maibach — Verla Stoller

What a blessing it is to be able to worship in God's house unhindered and hear His Word brought forth in its truth and sincerity. Our visiting ministers this month were Bro. Edwin Bahler (Remington, IN) and Bro. Wayne Anliker (Forrest, IL). We were thankful they could be with us and pray that God will richly bless them for their labors of love.

Those graduating from high school this year are Margaret Blough, Sis. Kathy Dotterer, Sis. Tami Hartzler, Paul Marty and James Smith. We wish them God's blessings and may each one seek God's help and guidance as they make plans for their future.

A little ray of sunshine, Becky Ann, has come to bless the hearts and home of Bro. Ralph and Sis. Marie Marty. Aaron and Kathy are happy to have a new baby sister. Grandparents are Bro. Dean and Sis. Martha Lou Marty and Bro. Don and Sis. Luzelda Stoller.

"My son hear the instruction of thy

father, ..." Proverbs 1:8. At this time of year we remember our earthly fathers and all they have done for us. Those of us who have had fathers who have instructed us in the ways of truth and salvation have been especially blessed. We should be so thankful for their love and guidance and especially for our heavenly Father who watches over us and helps us along the narrow pathway of life.

OHIO, TOLEDO
Frances Laidig
Josephine Rehkla

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 were privileged to partake of holy communion to renew our closer walk with Jesus. This service was conducted by our Elder Bro. Ben Maibach (Detroit, MI) and Bro. Walter Rager. It was undertaken, at this time, to provide for us another minister. This duty is now that of our Bro. Douglas Harmon (Sis. Lanna). We wish Bro. Douglas and his wife, Sis. Lanna, much grace and strength to carry on this work of the Lord.

We were pleased that Bro. John Fetter (Sis. Minnie) was able to attend Sunday afternoon services after a recent illness.

Our Sis. Lydia Meister is now living at the Apostolic Christian Woodhaven, Livonia, MI. We wish Sis. Lydia many added blessings in her new home.

OREGON, PORTLAND
Jane Rocke — Brenda Knobloch

Spring is a gorgeous time of year, anywhere, but seems to be especially beautiful in the Northwest. The azaleas, the rhododendrons, the trees and shrubs all are blooming and coloring the outdoors.

"All things bright and beautiful,
 All creatures great and small,
 All things wise and wonderful,
 The Lord God made them all."

Hymns of Zion #207

Who else but God could make such
 an amazing world?

Our prayers for comfort and renewed strength are with Bro. Bob Miller, who cut his hand in a power saw. He had surgery and is now recuperating for 8 weeks before he can use his hand again.

Recently, we held our annual spring housecleaning at church. It is so much more enjoyable to clean the church with all your brothers and sisters! Here in Portland, we take turns cleaning the church, cleaning before the Sunday that you serve lunch. It was fun and real enjoyable to visit as we worked cleaning the lights and polishing the benches and floors. We ended our morning of work by gathering around a table in the dining room and eating pizza and reminiscing about the first churches established in Portland.

We are looking forward to our summer visitors very much. Each newcomer has no idea how they add to our little family by singing and worshipping with us. We appreciate any ministering brothers who stop in Portland and share the Word with us. We are especially grateful to Bro. Dave Wiegand (Champaign/Urbana, IL) who ministered to us this month. He and his wife, Ethel, were vacationing to the West Coast to see their son, Bro. John.

Thought for today: When we were children we were grateful to those who filled our stockings with toys at Christmastime. Why are we not grateful to God for filling our stockings with legs?

OREGON, SILVERTON
Rosa Lee Kuenzi

June 1988 brings graduation to four of our students. Graduating from Silverton Union High School is Tresa Kuenzi and from Victor Point Grade School is her sister, Trinda. Both are daughters of Bro. Bob and Sis. Linda Kuenzi. Jason Snook is graduating from Pratum Grade School and is the son of Vance and Sis. Liz Snook. Marie Kuenzi is finishing eighth grade at Parrish Junior High and is the eldest daughter of Bro. Nick and Sis. Mary Kuenzi. Bro. Nick and Sis. Mary are hosting a potluck supper and reception for the graduates and both the Silverton and Portland congregations.

Congratulations and well-wishes for God's blessings were heartily extended to ministering Bro. Art and Sis. Betty Metz at a surprise singing at their home in honor of their 25th wedding anniversary. The singing and reception were planned by their children, Sis.

Lisa, Amy, Joel, Eldon and Mary.

Visiting minister this past month was Bro. Dave Wiegand (Champaign-Urbana, IL). Bro. Dave and Sis. Ethel were visiting their son, Bro. John (Portland). This was their first trip to Oregon and we hope they enjoyed it. We certainly enjoyed having them here and getting acquainted.

**PENNSYLVANIA,
 PHILADELPHIA**
Jerry Isch

Our congregation has been richly blessed this month.

We experienced our first testimony and baptism. It is beautiful to see how the Lord can work in the heart of a hardened sinner and take away the old man and create a new man. We welcome Franz Soni as our new brother-in-Christ.

After the baptismal service and supper, we were then privileged to partake of holy communion. We were reminded again of the body that was broken and the blood that flowed on our behalf. Christ shed His blood that made it possible that we each can be forgiven and set the example how we should forgive our brother.

We especially thank the brethren who served us on this special weekend. They were Elder Bros. Corbin Bahler (Rockville, CT) and Edwin Ringger (Gridley, IL) along with Bro. Al Schneider (Rockville, CT).

It also was an encouragement to welcome Bro. Brian Moser (Iowa City, IA) to our small congregation. Brian is employed by Bro. John Lanz in the printing business.

TEXAS, ZAPATA
Mary Plattner

All of our winter family have returned to their homes in the north and only our summer residents now remain. Most of them are making plans to visit their families in the north this summer. Anyone traveling to south Texas is most welcome and encouraged to visit us here.

Dallas Plattner (Bro. Lee and Sis. Mary Plattner) is graduating from high school this year. He is our only graduate this year. He is making plans for further studies here in Texas.

The Bible school class is anxiously looking forward to a trip to Wolcott, IN, as they have been invited by the Wolcott Bible class. Bro. Lloyd and Sis.

Joyce Nohl plan to take the class to Wolcott in June.

YOU TELL ON YOURSELF

You tell on yourself by the friends you seek,
By the very manner in which you speak;
By the way you employ your leisure time,
By the use you make of dollar and dime.
You tell what you are by the things you wear,
By the spirit in which your burdens you bear;
By the manner in which you bear defeat,
By so simple a thing as how you eat.
You tell what you are by the way you walk,
By the things of which you delight to talk;
By the book you choose from the well-filled shelf,
In those and more you tell on yourself.

Anonymous

SILVER THREADS

TO ANY DADDY

There are little eyes upon you,
And they're watching night and day;
There are little ears that quickly
Take in every word you say;
There are little hands all eager
To do anything you do;
And a little boy who's dreaming
Of the day he'll be like you.

You're the little fellow's idol;
You're the wisest of the wise,
In his little mind about you,
No suspicions ever rise;
He believes in you devoutly,
Holds that all you say and do,
He will say and do, in your way
When he's grown up like you.

There's a wide-eyed little fellow
Who believes you're always right;
And his ears are always open,
And he watches day and night;
You are setting an example
Every day, in all you do,
For the little boy who's waiting
To grow up to be like you.

Author Unknown

A dad is a special blessing —
so kind, so strong and wise,
The first to give encouragement,
the last to criticize —
A dad's the first to lend a hand,
the last to turn away,
The one who always seems to know
the perfect thing to say —
The special things about him
are cherished more each year —
A dad is a special blessing,
so wonderful and dear.

Author Unknown

“. . . 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

Sermon . . .

(Continued from Page 32)

Christ, with a holy kiss. That is something to greet a brother that I love so much and to experience a time of fellowship with him.

Each holy kiss means so much because it is sacred and holy. It is a privilege and a blessing for us to be able to exercise this privilege of greeting a brother or sister. What a beautiful thing it is.

We have to realize that what is ahead of us is much more dear and precious than what is behind us. That which is behind us was fleshly and had no real purpose in our lives. So we don't want to grab those things again because they will keep us from the kingdom of God. They will tear us apart and our spirit will not abide in Christ, if we are dragging those things around.

Then it says He showed himself there forty days with His apostles and God's children. “. . . he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God.” Acts 1:3. What a blessed time that would be!

Can we keep our hearts and minds upon the kingdom of God? Or do we look around even when we are in worship to see how the fans are working, if the lights are too bright or if it is too cold or too hot? Do we have a real interest in the Word of God?

I often think of a dear brother-in-faith years ago, who has now left us. I often sat with him and could see how

intent he was listening to the Word of God and how he enjoyed it so much. But I noticed when he drifted away from us in those last few months, his mind was not upon the household of faith or on the Word of God. He was looking around and observing things around him.

That reminds of a dear one I brought to church one time who was not a believer, and I noticed that very thing. It seemed they didn't have any interest. They were worried about the seats, the carpet, about this and that and the next thing. They didn't seem to even hear the Word of God. We are helpless, aren't we?

We have to be careful, even if we are born again through water and spirit and have become children of God. We have that promise if we are faithful to the end, have a real burning desire for God's Word within our hearts, and if we have a love for God's children. We can be of various personalities, various backgrounds and yet, when we are of the Lord, we have the Lord's promises.

We can pray and beg each day to be possessed with this Holy Spirit. It can lead us upon the pilgrim pathway of life.

“When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel? And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power. But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.” Acts 1:6-8.

What a manifestation of the Holy Spirit there is going to be upon the earth! God's children have a tremendous duty, but not God's half-way children. The committed Christian, the committed believer, the Christian in Christ Jesus is going to have a tremendous responsibility to let their light shine forth in meekness of spirit. It is not a spirit that pushes it all on everyone, but it is a spirit that is willing to teach and be able to help whenever the need arises.

We know that it will go to the uttermost part of the earth. In this day and age, we are a very small portion of the earth, but let us do our duty where we are stationed in life by being, by God's grace, the light and example we should

be. It is very difficult at times.

"And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight." Acts 1:9. What a wonderful thing to experience and yet how sad they must have been to see their Lord taken into heaven. They didn't know when He would return. Possibly, they thought He would come back again in their lifetime.

"And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel." Acts 1:10. Who were the two men who stood by them in white apparel? They were angels of God, "Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven?" Acts 1:11. That would be a beautiful thing to gaze upon and see!

"... this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven." Acts 1:11. Now we could say we don't know exactly how that is going to be. But our duty is not so much to know how He will come, but how we are prepared for that coming... when the Lord comes and takes His church. We call it the rapture of the church. Some people would call it that, but it is to take the church from the world. If we are going to live like the world, how is the Lord going to know?

One time someone asked me, "If you were on trial and had to prove that you were a believer in Christ Jesus, how would you prove it?" If you were living in the world and doing everything the world does, you could not prove it. We have to be a peculiar people, a people set aside for God, and willing to lead a life of Godliness and holiness.

"Then returned they unto Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is from Jerusalem a sabbath day's journey." Acts 1:12. They went in the upper room and had a meeting. It says here there were about one hundred and twenty in this meeting together. (See Acts 1:15).

The names of the apostles are listed here and then it says, "These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren." Acts 1:14. What a beautiful time this was! They needed time alone where they could talk over what had happened.

They were, I'm sure, a little upset or shaken up in spirit and mind with what

had transpired here. The Lord had now ascended into heaven.

But Peter made an address to them. It says, "And in those days Peter stood up in the midst of the disciples, and said, (the number of names together were about a hundred and twenty,) Men and brethren, this scripture must needs have been fulfilled, which the Holy Ghost by the mouth of David spake before concerning Judas, which was guide to them that took Jesus. For he was numbered with us, and had obtained part of this ministry." Acts 15-17.

We may say that Judas failed the Lord. Yet, we can see that the Lord's will was done. But we would not want to be a Judas. Yet, have we ever betrayed our Lord? When we were unbelievers, we didn't consider too much betraying our Lord, but now as believers, do we ever betray our Lord? Do we fail to speak up for Him where we should? Are we the proper light and example where we should be?

It is a little more difficult when we have the duty as a child of God, but this Holy Spirit is faithfully by the Christian's side and able to lead us if we are living, not close to the world, but close to the heart of God and the Son of God.

When living for the Lord, He will lead us, direct our paths and keep us above the reproach, sin and darkness that prevails in the world.

It is all around us. We see people living like animals today. Yet, we know that is sin and disobedience. We should not live just a moderate life in the world, or allow ourselves to be moderately worldly. We have to live right where we know God's children walk and are upright and sincere in their calling.

"Now this man purchased a field with the reward of iniquity; and falling headlong." (It describes Judas here), "he burst asunder in the midst, and all his bowels gushed out. And it was known unto all the dwellers at Jerusalem; insomuch as that field is called in their proper tongue, Aceldama, that is to say, The field of blood." Acts 1:18, 19.

"For it is written in the book of Psalms, Let his habitation be desolate, and let no man dwell therein: and his bishoprick let another take." Acts 1:20. Dear ones, we are warned of disobedience. We are warned of the betrayal of the Lord, His blessings and wonderful name, which is above all

names on the face of the earth. We have a duty to follow our Lord.

Then they chose another apostle, another disciple, to be with those who were numbered with the Lord.

"Wherefore of these men which have companied with us all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us. Beginning from the baptism of John, unto that same day that he was taken up from us, must one be ordained to be a witness with us of his resurrection." Acts 1:21, 22.

It seems very simple for us to believe that Christ died, rose from the grave and now has ascended into heaven and is interceding for you and me. He is seated on the right hand of God and is interceding for our prayers.

It takes so much grace and a living faith to walk faithfully, upright, sincerely and to be a proper light. We have a beautiful living faith. It might grieve some when they can't have this or that, or can't do this or can't do that. What does that all add up to? Nothing. It's vanity in this world in which we live.

There is so much beauty in this creation that is so nice to observe and know. Yet, we have to be careful that we don't get caught up in the things the world enjoys. May we keep the precious faith and keep our lamps burning. We need to have enough oil, as we heard last evening about the virgins. We need to have enough oil in our lamps that we don't have to go out to buy. If we know we don't have enough oil, can we buy some from others? They couldn't buy from them as they wouldn't sell. They needed all they had. I am sure each one of us feel we need all we can muster within ourselves to be prepared for that time when the Lord will come in like manner from heaven.

Let us have that thought in mind. As we know He has ascended to heaven, we have faith to believe that He will return in like manner. Let us be a faithful servant in a living faith. Let us be encouraging others that we have the Holy Ghost, the Holy Spirit, to correct us and show us where we fail and where we fall short. The Lord will bless a living faith. The Lord will keep us until the very end of our lives.

We trust that as we have read these words together that we will be encouraged to know that the Lord is a faithful Lord, a faithful God, unto all those who wait for the fulfillment of His promise to all of God's children.

FEB 02602 LK
CHARLES WALDER
EAST LYNN IL 60932

SERMON BY BRO. RONALD STEINER OF RITTMAN, OH

"The Ascension of Jesus"

Acts 1

What a wonderful work! What an important work begun at the ascension of Christ. I don't believe any of the eleven apostles really understood the importance of this work. Yet, there might have been some that did.

What I wonder is if they really understood how many years this work would go on. I think most of them thought that in their lifetime the Lord would return, just as they had seen Him go up into heaven. It could have been in their lifetime, but many years and centuries have gone on since that time.

We can find that people will designate a time when they feel the Lord will come. It may not be the exact date or hour, but maybe the year that our Lord would return. We know that the Lord said that no man knows the time or the season when He shall return, but only the Father in heaven. (See Mark 13:32).

Yet that is very interesting to mankind today. If you had a well-known speaker on prophecy in an auditorium to talk about the coming of Christ to the earth to rescue the body of Christ (the church) from the perilous times in which we live, and would announce it on the radio or wherever, you would probably get a tremendous audience.

Prophecy intrigues people and yet I often wonder why. Is it because they want to know when He is coming back so they can get right with God within the next week and get their lives cleaned up? Is it so they can get everything in proper order because they know that Christ is coming Friday of this week?

Or, would they want to know because of the promised blessings of God upon the holy life they desire to lead.

The Lord would bless them so much more than the life they were living, that it would be a joy for them to serve the Holy Christ, our wonderful Lord. Would that be their reason to search out their salvation and make sure they are in a right relationship with God?

Or would they have another reason? Would they want to be entertained? Today we could be somewhat entertained with prophecy. I don't think our ministry should be necessarily entertaining, but words of eternal life for hungry souls that want to be fed. It is the Word of God through the apostles of God.

In this chapter, we see the ascension of Jesus. What a beautiful time that was. Yet, there is so much the apostles, I'm sure, did not understand about how He felt forsaken, even for that moment upon the cross. He felt forsaken of God. As He hung there suspended between heaven and earth, He felt the loneliness, despair and the load of the sins of the world upon His shoulders and His heart.

It grieved Him in that holy hour when He felt forsaken. Now we could say, "Well, I have felt forsaken already in my life." I'm sure we could ask people upon the street, or even here in the household of faith, and they would say, "I have felt forsaken already in my life."

We could talk to others who say, "Well, I have never really been depressed." I've talked to people who say they have never been that discouraged. They have such an "even keel" about them, they never really get too low or too high. They just keep going along and have faith that everything will work out well. I believe these are believers who are anchored truly in the Lord.

But, we experience both highs and lows, generally speaking, when we are living a closely-knit life in the Spirit and power of God.

This morning as Bro. Henry read that chapter, the last two verses about how we are the temple of God struck me. Do we cherish that enough? Do we really understand that we are the temple of God where the Spirit makes His abode? That is something to cherish when we think of it.

Have you ever talked to somebody and said the wrong thing, only to be very upset later? "Oh, I wish I would not have said that! I wish I could say that over. I did not really mean it that way!" We have all probably experienced that and said, "I wish I could have said that a little different." Maybe we didn't realize and had it called to our attention later by our wife, husband or child, who said, "Dad, why did you say it that way? What did you say that for?" We have to be very concerned about our light and example. We are not a perfect example.

Yet, we are His children . . . saints of God, the Word tells us. As we are cleansed and purified through the blood of Christ, we look to the Author and Finisher of our faith Who keeps us with great passion and mercy to the very end.

We, as God's children, have so much to look forward to in the positive things of life. The Holy Spirit offers us much through His Word. He feeds us, accelerates us, strengthens us and encourages us in those things which are eternal in the heavenly. We have got to keep our perspective proper in life and our attitude above those things that want to tear us down.

We know Satan would want to take us from a holy and precious faith and carry us away to the things that are fleshly. Things we left behind years ago. We have to be careful that we are taught properly from the Word of God. "Until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen." Acts 1:2. He had chosen these twelve apostles. Someone questioned why one who was chosen, Judas Iscariot, betrayed Jesus with a kiss.

What a sacred thing that is in our precious faith! We have the chance to greet a brother-in-faith as a brother-in-

(Continued on Page 30)