



"For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection."

Romans 6:5

"... he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you."

Romans 8:11

VOLUME 39

MARCH 1989

NUMBER 3

## Redemption . . . How Did It Happen?

### The Battle Was Fought In The Garden . . .

"Now is my soul troubled; and what shall I say? Father, save me from this hour: but for this cause came I unto this hour."

John 12:27

"... Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done."

Luke 22:42



### The Work Was Completed On The Cross . . .

"After this, Jesus knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the scripture might be fulfilled, saith, I thirst.

"When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, It is finished: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost."

John 19:28, 30

### The Empty Tomb says the Price has been Paid! Hallelujah. Christ is Risen!

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead."

1 Peter 1:3



**HEFT (LONG BOOK) TAPES**

All three volumes of the Long Book Tapes are now available. Bro. Josef Farkasch, of Salzburg, Austria, has made tapes from the old "Long Book" beginning at number one and going straight through the book. He plays the classical guitar and other instruments. There is also singing on a few songs. All proceeds go to our needy brethren living behind the Iron Curtain in Eastern Europe.

Vol. I includes songs 1-11, 13-18

Vol. II includes songs 12, 19-31

Vol. III includes songs 33-48

For the complete story about these tapes, refer to the May 1987 and the September 1988 Silver Lining issues.

Each tape costs \$8.00. For shipping costs on orders of 1-5 tapes, add .75 extra for each tape. On orders of 6 tapes or more, add only .30 extra for each tape. Make checks for LONG

BOOK TAPES payable to the Long Book Tape Fund.

**HUNGARIAN TAPES**

Two cassette tapes are now available of the singing and playing of the Hungarian churches. The music, performed by choir and orchestra, is from the Zion's Harp and the Heft and other church books used in our church in Hungary. This music is played beautifully and reverently.

The two tapes, "Holy Love," a tape of orchestra, and "Blest Be The Tie," which has both orchestra and singing, are available at \$6.75 for each tape. For shipping cost on orders of 1-5 tapes, add .75 extra for each tape. On orders of 6 tapes or more, add only .30 extra for each tape. All proceeds from these tapes are being donated to the distressed church members in the poor country of Romania.

Make checks for HUNGARIAN TAPES payable to the person you order from -- Dennis Feucht or Don Schrock or Al Betz.

HEFT (LONG BOOK) TAPES and HUNGARIAN tapes may now be ordered from:

Dennis & Beth Feucht  
317 N. Third Avenue  
Morton, IL 61550  
(309) 266-9498

or

Don & Lorna Schrock  
100 Forest View Road  
Morton, IL 61550  
(309) 266-6810

HUNGARIAN tapes only may still be ordered from:

Al Betz  
455 Logan Road, Apt. A-2  
Mansfield, OH 44907  
(419) 756-2756

## THE ENDOWMENT FUND OF THE APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA

The elder body has approved the formation of The Endowment Fund of the Apostolic Christian Church of America. This fund has been created for better stewardship of assets given to the church for the Lord's work.

In addition to outright gifts, the Endowment Fund would receive gifts from donors who want their gifts used over a period of years rather than immediately. The donor may designate how the gift should be used, or the use can be left to the discretion of the Endowment Fund management committee.

The Endowment Fund can also accept non-cash gifts and can provide advice on compliance with tax laws to provide more funds for the Lord's work than would be possible without following the tax guidelines. An example is a gift of real estate, securities or other properties on which the donor can receive all or part of the income during the donor's lifetime.

The Endowment Fund would use its assets in the following ways:

1. To assist existing church funds such as local and national charity, World Relief, Mission and Bible funds.
2. To provide a source of funds for ongoing projects, unusual or unexpected needs as deemed fit and proper by the Elder-supervised Endowment Fund Committee.
3. To provide emergency loans and grants for other funds or projects within the church.

Questions about the Endowment Fund or contributions to the fund can be directed to any brother on the committee (listed here with their home church) or by contacting the secretary at the address or phone numbers listed below:

James J. Stoller, Chairman -- Eureka, IL  
Jerry Banwart, Secretary-Treasurer -- Congerville, IL  
Ben Maibach -- Detroit, MI  
Bob Walder -- Congerville, IL  
Bob Grimm -- Goodfield, IL  
Roy Grimm -- Taylor, MO  
Jim Hoerr -- Peoria, IL

Jerry Banwart, 2400 N. Main, East Peoria, IL 61611  
Office: (309) 694-4251 Home: (309) 448-2416

**THE SILVER LINING**

Grabill, Indiana 46741  
USPS 496780

**EDITORIAL STAFF:**

David Bertsch  
Uriel Gehring  
Lynn Stieglitz

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

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**SEND CORRESPONDENCE TO:**

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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).

## HUMILITY OF MIND AND MANNER

Humility stands out as a prime virtue of the men and women of God who throughout history have been most useful in His service. True humility consists of a beautiful scriptural balance in one's attitude about himself. It is far removed from pride or self-exaltation, but likewise it does not imply self-condemnation. It is perfectly portrayed in the selflessness of our beloved Savior, who did not focus upon himself, but sought to fulfill the Father's will and serve others.

Many times in the Word, humility is a result of an individual's own actions in humbling himself. One of these examples involves the prayer of Solomon when he dedicated the house of the Lord in Jerusalem (2 Chr. 6). By this time in history God's people had seen many of His mighty works, and had been recipients of both blessings and wrath. When wrath fell upon them, in every case it became necessary for them to humble themselves before God, and it was this alone which moved His heart. God acknowledged that he had accepted the King's prayer by a miraculous sign: "The fire came down from heaven, and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices; and the glory of the Lord filled the house" (2 Chr. 7:1). The Children of Israel were deeply impressed by this manifestation of God's might. With faces bowed to the ground, they "praised the Lord, saying, for he is good; for his mercy endureth for ever" (2 Chr. 7:3).

Then in the night, the heavenly Father revealed Himself to the King, and told him his prayer was acceptable. God spoke of what would happen if calamity fell upon the land and the people, and he very clearly explained what would move His heart. "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will for-

give their sin, and will heal their land" (2 Chr. 7:14). Once again, man was told that the sacrifices acceptable to God are a broken spirit and a contrite heart (Psa. 51:17).

Solomon's father David also learned, sometimes painfully, the significance of humility. A prime example was David's sin in numbering the people of Israel (2 Sam. 24). Against the commandment of God and the advice of his own counselors, the King persisted in counting Israel. In verse 14 he cries, "I am in a great strait." God gave him three choices of punishment, and David chose three days of pestilence, committing himself and his people into the hand of the Almighty. The foolishness of their king cost the people seventy thousand men who fell before God's wrath. Much later the church at Philadelphia was told of the key of David (Rev. 3:7), and perhaps nothing reveals this key more clearly than David's reaction in his dire straits. David cried out in the anguish of his soul, "Lo, I have sinned, and I have done wickedly: but these sheep, what have they done? let thine hand, I pray thee, be against me and against my father's house" (2 Sam. 24:17). This humbling of himself moved the heart of God, and He accepted this sacrifice. The key of David was humility!

Pharaoh was confronted with God's question: "How long wilt thou refuse to humble thyself before me?" (Ex. 10:3) The land of Egypt was devastated and its firstborn sons lost because the leader could not be humbled.

A multitude of scriptural references give clear testimony to the importance of our voluntarily humbling ourselves before God and man. Believers will benefit from reading and carefully pondering these examples: Deut. 8:2, 16; Prov. 6:3, Jer. 13:18; Matt. 18:4; 23:12; Jam. 4:10; 1 Pet. 5:6.

Humility finds expression

through many avenues in a believer's life. These include resisting the exalting of one's personal opinion above the accepted practices of the church and avoiding a lifestyle that knowingly brings distress to a weaker brother or sister.

Humility is extolled in Scripture as a virtue with untold benefits. Proverbs 15:33 explains that humility comes before honor. While we should not be seeking honor as such, yet all of us wish to be respected by our fellow men and above all, approved by God (2 Cor. 10:18). The Apostle Paul spoke of "serving the Lord with all humility of mind" (Acts 20:19) and God certainly honored him as one of His most useful servants.

The soul of man was created to live forever, but not on this earth. Only by taking advantage of the simple plan of salvation by faith in Jesus Christ and His shed blood can we have hope of eternal life. And the greatest examples of a life of humility are those recorded of our Savior's life on earth. He did not exalt himself, even though He was the Son of God. He put on no airs, rather He was gracious, loving and gentle.

Every believer should be highly desirous of God's grace, the most powerful force on earth. Thus, it is of paramount importance that we put ourselves in the proper position to receive this great favor, for "... he resisteth the proud, but giveth grace to the humble" (Jam. 4:6). We should strive to be "clothed with humility" (1 Pet. 5:5) in all aspects of mind and manner. Humility is in no sense an indication of weakness, indeed true strength is found therein.

So I'll strive to be more humble,  
Evermore be meek and kind;  
Humbleness shall rule my actions,  
Meekness dwell in heart and mind.  
In my manner and my being  
All my neighbors may be seeing  
That it is God's Spirit's might  
Leading me in truth and right.

Zion's Harp #186



## APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN PUBLICATIONS

From time to time we get calls wondering what we carry at Apostolic Christian Publications, and also questions about ordering materials from the store. We hope the following information will be of help to all that are interested.

Any church or individual can purchase materials from us at 524 Valley Court, Eureka, IL; or if you would prefer to call us with your order you may do so at 309-467-3611 and we will be glad to get it ready for pickup. Our hours are Monday thru Friday 8:30 - 11:30 a.m. If these hours are not convenient for pickup, other arrangements can be made, or we'll be glad to mail the materials to you. If you would like an order blank showing all materials and prices, we will send one to you at your request. All the items make nice gifts for special occasions. Following is a brief summary of available materials:

### **BIBLES - King James Version**

Reference Bible - 86RL, black genuine leather, 7 3/4 x 5 1/4 x 1 1/4, red letter edition; New Testament & Psalms, black limp leathertex cover, 5 3/8 x 7 1/4 x 5/8, red letter edition in large print; Hard Cover Bible, 5 1/2 x 8 x 1 1/4, suitable for use in pews; Pocket New Testament, Psalms & Proverbs, imitation leather; Reference Bible - 956C, black genuine leather, 6 1/2 x 9 1/4 x 1 1/4, red letter edition with concordance; Thompson Chain Reference Bible - 410RL, red letter edition; Thompson Chain Reference Bible - red letter edition, thumb indexed; Thompson Large Edition Chain Reference Bible - 414RL, red letter edition; Thompson Chain Reference Bible - 414RL, red letter edition, thumb indexed; Giant Print Bible, red letter edition, 7 x 9 1/4 page size, excellent for homes for the aged.

### **SUNDAY SCHOOL MATERIAL**

Workbooks and teacher's guides available for ages 4-year-old thru 4th grade.

### **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

Workbooks and teacher's guides available for ages Nursery (3-year-old) thru 8th grade.

### **BIBLE STORY BOOKS**

Marian's Big Book of Bible Stories; Marian's Favorite Bible Stories (63 stories); Egermier's Stories of the Bible; Egermier's Favorite Bible Stories (30 stories); Hurlbut's Stories of the Bible; Apostolic Christian Commentary on Old Testament stories of Hurlbut's; Apostolic Christian Commentary on New Testament stories of Hurlbut's.

### **SONG BOOKS**

Zion's Harp (white edge); Zion's Harp (gold edge); Zion's Harp (large print); Hymns of Zion; Hymnal insert - "How Great Thou Art"; Gospel Hymns; Christmas Carol booklets; Tabernacle Hymns.

### **FROEHLICH LIBRARY (can be purchased individually or as a set)**

Hebrews; Ephesians; Baptismal Truth; Two Mysteries - Matrimony; Philipians - Revelations; Evidence - the Truth of the Word of God; Epistle of John Volume 1, 2, 3 or 4.

### **CASSETTE TAPES OF FROEHLICH WORKS**

Meditations on Psalms; Life - Conversation - Secession from state church; Baptism of faith and answers to London Continental Society; Isaiah; Gospel of St. Matthew Volume 1 or 2; Hebrews; Revelation; Genesis.

### **SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL**

Apostolic Christian Church History book; Marching to Zion; A Treasure of Praise (history of the Zion's Harp hymnal); Fundamentals of Faith and Fellowship.

### **MATERIALS AT NO CHARGE**

Statement of Faith (pocket size and large print); Spiritual Heart of Man; Ye Must Be Born Again; Winds of Doctrine; Daily Bible Reading Guide.

## A NOTE OF THANKS

Dearly beloved:

I wish to take this opportunity to thank every one of you who remembered me with cards, notes, phone calls, visits and gifts while I was in the hospital undergoing a quintuple coronary bypass surgery and while recovering at home. Most of all, I thank you for the prayers offered in my behalf. Surely, God answered it, as evidenced by the slow, but steady healing and returning strength I experience day by day.

I thank the Lord for His mercy and compassion and thank you, my dearly beloved, for lifting me and carrying me in your arms of love.

A very special "thank you" is given to the ministering brothers who come to minister and serve our small flock every Sunday while I am convalescing. God bless you all.

Gratefully yours,  
Andy Hunyady

### **APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S HOME Art and Ruth Gramm**

We have had the privilege of being Alternate Houseparents here at A.C.C.H. since August 1, 1988. As "Alternate Houseparents," we come in while the regular houseparents have days off, in addition to doing whatever else needs to be done. Please note, we used the word "privilege," and we count it just that, to work with a Christian staff who care so much for the neglected, abused and love-hungry kids of today, that they are willing to give and give of themselves and of their time. The staff tries to direct these kids to become useful citizens for their country, and hopefully guide them to the Lord. What a privilege to have had parents and families to teach us to love God and life!

We have really enjoyed working with the kids also -- even though they don't always show appreciation or respond in love. We need to tell ourselves it takes time to have a "built-in" love.

We came to A.C.C.H. from Gridley, IL, after having farmed for forty years (really all our lives), and rearing seven children of our own. We had thought of retiring and enjoying

perhaps Florida or the South, but we really felt God wanted us to give Him a few years of service, via A.C.C.H., while we both have good health and strength. Our only regret is that we didn't come ten years sooner, to have more time to give to these dear kids. Of course, we do miss family and friends back in Gridley, and have blessed memories of those times.

The highlight of February was the Appreciation Dinner and program the kids and staff gave for all the Leo church folks for all their valuable, and much appreciated, volunteer help to A.C.C.H. Without them, A.C.C.H. could not function. God continues to work through His people.

We miss Bro. Nathan and Sis. LeAnn Gerber who resigned as house-

parents and recently moved with their baby daughter, Sarah, to Minneapolis, MN. We wish them God's blessings in their new life and really thank them for the years of service. Our prayer is that another couple who cares for kids will soon answer God's call to serve as houseparents. We solicit your prayers for the need to be met. Presently, we are serving as houseparents in the East House on a temporary basis.

After almost ten years at the East House, John W. (18) recently moved into the foster home of Bro. Lynn and Sis. Leonda Stieglitz. Lynn and Leonda are the first foster family to be licensed through the Children's Home's Child Placing License and will provide a "transitional living" setting for John until he moves out on his own.

We welcome Chris W. (12), from the Fort Wayne area, who recently joined the New House family.

Our kids and staff enjoyed hosting the Oakville, IA, Bible class for a weekend in late January.

Leo-Grabill area is a unique and picturesque place, a blend of old and new. As one observes the countryside with the Amish horse-drawn machinery in one field and modern technology in the next, one can also sense God's presence in the woods and streams He has created; not a bad place to live.

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## OPENING FOR HOUSEPARENT COUPLE AT THE CHILDREN'S HOME

We are very thankful for the many generous ways that our faithful brothers and sisters throughout the land support the Children's Home. Here is yet another opportunity that goes to the very heart of our work.

There is an immediate opening at the Children's Home for a married couple to serve as Houseparents for troubled children, ages 11 - 18 years old. We encourage mature couples with a heart for young people to seriously and prayerfully consider this calling to serve the Lord, the church and children. There are children waiting who desperately need and desire the stability, security and love of a Christian home.

For more information on responsibilities, salary and benefits, please contact either of the brothers listed below.

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

Elder Bro. David Bertsch  
11502 Souder Road  
Grabill, IN 46741  
219/627-2923

We solicit your support in praying that a couple will respond to the Lord's call to fill this important position.

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## KINDERGARTEN TEACHER NEEDED IN JAPAN

Our church in Japan has a kindergarten where Sis. Kathy Jo Kieser and Sis. Renee Baurer are now teaching. Sis. Kathy Jo will be leaving the kindergarten next July and a brother or a sister who is qualified to teach kindergarten is needed to replace her. Anyone who has the faith and conviction to apply for this position should speak to his or her elder and if he approves, apply to the missionary committee for consideration.

All expenses involved in the two-year stay in Japan are paid by the church. The brother or sister is asked to give two or more years of his or her life in Japan at some sacrifice of compensation, although we do pay, in addition to expenses, a small monthly salary.

Bible stories are taught every day in the kindergarten. English is the language of instruction, but incoming teachers are encouraged to begin studying the Japanese language before coming to Japan. This is helpful in communicating with the Japanese people and in singing the hymns in Japanese.

The teachers are presently living in a new, modern apartment about a 10-minute walk from the church.

Anyone having any questions may inquire of any of the teachers who have been to Japan, may contact Bro. Ben Maibach, 34050 Ramble Hills Drive, Farmington Hills, MI (phone 313/478-3771); or Bro. Willis Ehnle, 692-2 Shioda, Ichinomiya-Cho, Higashi Yatsushiro-Gun, Yamanashi-Ken, Japan 409-14.

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## APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

"Take My yoke upon you and learn of Me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls." Matthew 11:29

A story was told about oxen. It seems that oxen work in teams and whenever one ox of the team is yoked, the other, no matter where it is will come trotting over to be yoked with his team member. We can liken this to our lives. Whenever we feel the yoke of the Lord, we know we, too, have a team member. His name is Jesus. He is yoked with us and walks beside us, taking the burdens of life upon Him. Our yoke is easy because He always takes the greater part of the load. Praise His name!

Here at the Home for the Handicapped we welcomed Anita Schuon January 30, as our 101st resident. Anita lived with her parents, Elsa and Karl, in Morton before coming here. Her birthday is October 13. We are happy to have Anita join our family, and she seems to be adjusting nicely.

April birthdays at the Home for the Handicapped are: Jane Kohler (1), Velma Hoffman (4), Jason Gingrich (7), Mark Gundy (17), Jaleen Mogler (18), Kennan Knapp (19), Miriam Schulz (24), Steve Steffen (26), Nancy Jones (27) and Zita Palko (27). At Oakwood Estate, Sonja Metzger has a birthday April 14.

Although activities slow down in the winter season (and hasn't it been a mild one?) we still have been keeping busy. Special Olympics' training keeps quite a few busy. There is horseback riding on Saturdays as long as windchill is above 20 degrees. Swimming at Eureka College is a monthly regular enjoyed by many, and as a part of a community integration effort, a number of resident have begun a regular trip to a local restaurant for their evening meal. Groups of 3 or 4 participate in this project, along with a staff member. It has been a worthwhile experience for all involved. Our "cabin-fever-time-of-the-year" overnight trips to Jumers Motel have begun. This is a real highlight for our people.

Oakwood Estate has had a slowing trend, too. Looking forward to spring, mini-vacations are being discussed and planning will soon begin. Some of the places selected are Chicago and Springfield, IL, and St. Louis, MO. Then, on the learning skills program, a cooking program has been started. People will initially learn to prepare the vegetables for supper and continue to learn to prepare the meal. They have become acquainted with doing their own banking, writing their own checks and doing their own shopping. The concept of Oakwood brings a joy to our hearts. We thank the Lord for allowing this "branch off" from the Home for the Handicapped. At the resident council meeting, Alan Unsicker was elected chairman and Ed Getz was elected secretary of resident council.

As we begin looking toward spring, we thought you might enjoy this poem:

#### TIME FOR SPRING

It's time the doves were cooing,  
And robins molding nests;  
It's time to find in branches  
A million treasure chests.

It's time the bees were buzzing  
And hov'ring around a hive,  
And bluets should be smiling,  
But non are yet alive.

The gard'ners should be working,  
Out sweating in the sun,  
A-bragging 'bout their blisters  
And all the work they've done.

## --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, have been helping in this work.

If our churches or individual members have Bibles, Bible story books, Hymns of Zion, Tabernacle or Gospel Hymns 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  
Fifth Year -- August 1987 thru July 1988 -- 25,969

##### Bibles Distributed -- Sixth Year

	MONTH	TO DATE
August 1988 --	3486	3486
September 1988 --	1365	4851
October 1988 --	1762	6613
November 1988 --	2655	9268
December 1988 --	1637	10,905
January 1989 --	2070	12,975
February 1989 --	2562	15,537

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

But look! There's snow still falling--  
A cold and bitter day!  
And pines are still a-shiv'ring  
Neath winter's white array.

Oh, how my heart would falter  
If truth from omens sprung,  
But God won't pass the season  
Without His beauty sung.

Alys M. Hoffman

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

We have learned about emotions and music in February. Little children are happy most of the time. Once in awhile they may be grumpy because they are sick or tired or sometimes they are sad because they want their parents. Of course, they get into little fights and arguments sometimes and then are mad for awhile. But, most of the time they are happy, bubbly, and excited about life, and are enthusiastically interacting with their environment. We can learn so much from them.

Once again we will be needing volunteers for the summer. We would invite anyone who is interested to spend a week or longer with us. The only qualification needed is a willing attitude. We think you will enjoy your experience here and God will bless you for your willingness to work for Him. Accommodations are available. If you have any questions you can call 205-233-0591 or write to Sis. Marilyn Walder or Sis. Julie Bauer at Route 11, Box 333, Athens, AL 35611.

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**ALABAMA, ATHENS  
Marilyn Walder**

We appreciate the message brought to us by Bro. Mike Reiker (Peoria, IL). We have had other visitors from Denver, CO, Phoenix, AZ, and Tremont and Goodfield, IL. We benefit from the fellowship we have with others and thank God for it.

God knows all our needs and it always amazes me how He can meet the needs of the whole congregation in one sermon. We have heard from I Corinthians 12, how each part of our body is as important as any other part. Each individual Christian is as important to the body of Christ as any other. We all have a job to do for God

and His church. Are you doing your job or is the body of Christ suffering because you are not functioning at full capacity?

We have also heard how "the Lord will perfect that which concerneth me." Psalms 138:8. Each and every thing that we are concerned with is important to God and He will always be beside us, helping and showing the way. He is working "all things together for our good" (Romans 8:28) as we let Him.

It was also pointed out in a recent sermon that there are three things that the human mind cannot comprehend. They are: how beautiful heaven will be, how horrible hell will be, and how long eternity is. Think about them for awhile.

-----

**ARIZONA, PHOENIX  
Ron and Ev Hoerr**

"There is nothing in life God won't help us overcome."

We have been blessed with many teachings from the scriptures by visiting ministers from Ohio to California. We are grateful to Elder Bro. Bob Grimm (Goodfield, IL), Bro. Walter Rager (Toledo, OH), Bro. Vernon Leman (Eureka, IL), Bro. Jim Leman (Roanoke, IL), Bro. Henry Dotterer (Rittman, OH) and Elder Bro. John Klotzle (Altadena, CA). A special thanks is given to our many visitors. We've been receiving greetings from ten to twelve churches each week.

Elder Bros. Richard Schupbach and Bob Grimm and Bro. Jon Kokanovich shared the conference letter with us. How fortunate we are to have shepherds to guide us onward to Zion.

January 11 and 12 will always be remembered as a big step in the right direction for Shawn Maurer, Todd Baum, Jim Zollinger and Stephanie Frautschi. They gave their testimonies of faith to Elder Bros. Richard Schupbach and John Klotzle and Bro. Jon Kokanovich and were baptized on Sunday. There were many family visitors present. Happy parents are Bro. Howard and Sis. Eileen Maurer, Bro. Robert and Sis. Christine Baum, Bro. Ed and Sis. Shirley Zollinger and Bro. Ed and Sis. Connie Frautschi. Our prayer is that our brothers and sister-in-faith can witness to their siblings.

The fellowship supper was enjoyed by 300 before a singing later in the evening.

May the Lord watch over Bro. Richard and Sis. Barbara as they go to Sarasota, FL, for the winter elder's conference.

Bros. Harry Roth, Happy Hodel and Sis. Rachel Bauman have been hospitalized. Prayers and notes of encouragement to Sis. Doris and Bro. Dan Kokanovich, Sis. Emma and Bro. Earl Sanders and Ed and Ella Harmon will be appreciated.

Our sympathy is extended to Sis. Helen and Bro. Lyle Huette on the death of Sis. Helen's sister.

Did you share God's love with someone today?

We are truly enjoying our many winter visitors and are happy you came.

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**ARIZONA, TUCSON  
Lisa Knapp**

We were fortunate to have two visiting ministers this month. Bro. Vernon Leman (Eureka, IL) was with us for the day and Bro. Ken Hoerr (Peoria, IL) and his family spent some time vacationing in our area. We thank them for their visits and invite them to come again!

We have also some hospital patients this month. Bro. Maynard Beery was hospitalized for a short time as is Alice Enz (Loyal). We wish both the Lord's blessings for a speedy recovery.

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**CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA  
Lisa Steiner**

We were thankful to have Elder Bro. Perry Zimmerman with us this past month for the reading of the memorandum. Let us strive to uphold Christian doctrine which has been so carefully preserved.

Over President's weekend, our young group traveled to Tucson, AZ, and had a wonderful time of singing and fellowship. We were also fortunate to have many Sunday school kids from Phoenix and Tucson, AZ, and San Diego, CA, in Altadena that weekend. They enjoyed the snow in the mountains and good fellowship during their stay.

We are always thankful to have visitors in our midst. Anyone who



will be traveling out to California, and wishes to stay at the church in Altadena should contact Sis. Lois Klotzle.

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### **COLORADO, DENVER**

#### **Tom and Marlene Leman**

Springtime! What pleasant thoughts this word brings to us as we think of the passing of winter, the warming of the earth and the budding forth of new growth on trees and plants. But what does springtime mean to the child of God? Does it turn our thoughts to that event one spring day nearly 2,000 years ago as a quiet man was "brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth"? Isaiah 53:7. Do our thoughts turn to this man who was "despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief"? Isaiah 53:3. This is where our focus should be, not only in this springtime season, but every day of the year.

What does the death and resurrection of this man mean to us? The hymnwriter wrote, "I gave my life for thee, what hast thou giv'n for Me?" When someone gives us something or does something for us, it usually causes us to want to do something back for them. How much more then if one has died to give us eternal life ought we to have a fervent desire to give something back to him? How much of our life is lived for our pleasure and how much is lived to give glory unto God and pleasure to the heart of God?

We might then ask ourselves another question, "What does God require of His children?" Jesus said, "If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love." (John 15:10) Jesus also said, "Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away." (John 15:2) This tells us very plainly that God requires of us that we bear "fruit," that we keep His commandments and abide in His love. If we have a strong desire to give our lives to God and a willingness, even a desire, to put aside the worldly pleasures and pride of life, praying to God for grace to do so, we can fulfill what God asks of us. We will be giving everything we have to Him who gave His life for us.

Our congregation and especially the home of Bro. Rod and Sis. Cindy

Schmidt has been blessed by the birth of Kristine Michelle Schmidt. She arrived January 22. Her grandparents are Bro. Alph and Sis. Ginny Streitmatter (Princeville, IL) and Bro. Verner and Sis. Betty Wirtz (West Bend, IA). May God be with Bro. Rod and Sis. Cindy as they direct this little life He has given into their charge.

Sis. Katherine Reis has spent quite a bit of time in the hospital this winter and is there again at the time of this writing. She has been such an inspiration to us all here over the years. Even in her suffering she continues to smile and tell us that "God has been so good." We ask that God continue to care for her in all her days ahead, whether they be many or few.

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### **CONNECTICUT, ROCKVILLE**

#### **Martha Hany**

"... O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt.

Matthew 26:39

What a blessing to have such an example of obedience from One who made the path for us to follow -- not only through this life but through death in which He was not destroyed but arose victoriously!

On January 28, we heard the testimony and witnessed the baptisms of two dear souls: Wayne Schneider (Walt Schneider and Minnie Wisniewski) and Gerri O'Brien (Edmund and Bea O'Brien). Elder Bros. Norbert Steiner (Croghan, NY) and Bob Beyer (Naumburg, NY) assisted Elder Bro. Corbin in this important work and we thank them for sharing God's Word with us. It encourages us to know that there are those who are still seeking a better way in accordance with scripture. We rejoice that Steve Moser (Bro. Ben and Sis. Glenna) has faith and grace to forsake his former life and to be spiritually reborn through repentance. May Steve and the many others who are awaiting baptism continue to look to God for guidance and direction.

We welcome three new babies in our church, namely, Lauren Elizabeth, January 26 to Bro. Ben and Michelle Wiegand. Bro. Dave and Sis. Ethel Wiegand (Urbana, IL) and Bro. Jim and Sis. Juanita Walter

(Fairbury, IL) are the delighted grandparents. On February 10, Samuel John Schneider arrived to brighten the lives of Tim and Sis. Dana Schneider. Grandparents are Bro. Wilbur and Sis. Marge Schneider and Bro. Jim and Sis. Jane Moster. Also, born to Bro. Guy and Sis. Beth Gottier February 15 was their second son, Kevin Bradley, a companion for Bruce. Grandparents are Warren and Sis. Carol Gottier and Bro. Roy and Sis. Joyce Schneider. May the Lord bless these families with their new responsibility of love.

Our thoughts and prayers are often with those who are sick -- possibly under a doctor's care -- and especially those who each day are confined in nursing homes. May the love and nearness of God strengthen their faith to endure patiently one day at a time as He wills.

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### **DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, WASHINGTON**

#### **Catherine Klopfenstein Rebecca Germann**

Our recent ministers have been Bro. Glenn Price (Sarasota, FL), Bro. David Eisenmann (North Fort Myers, FL) and Bro. Wayne Laubscher (Cissna Park, IL). We sincerely appreciate their efforts as well as their wives and others who accompany them.

Other visitors have been from Rockville, CT, Norfolk, VA and Black Mountain, NC.

Marvin Hartzler (Rittman, OH) will be spending several months in the Washington, D.C. area in connection with his education at the University of Akron. We appreciate his attendance in our small assembly. Marvin is the son of Bro. Vince and Sis. Jane Hartzler.

Services are held the first and third Sunday of each month, at 10:30 a.m., eastern time, at the Westpark (Best Western) Hotel, located on U.S. Route 7, 1 mile west of I-495. Visitors are always welcome, and for information, please call Ralph Klopfenstein, 703-979-3476 or Doug Germann, 703-481-5163.

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### **FLORIDA, FT. LAUDERDALE**

#### **Terri Huber**

We have had an abundance of visitors this month. What a blessing



visitors this month. What a blessing it is to see the pews so full! Among them were several visiting ministers, including Bros. Walter Anliker (Eureka, IL), Marshall Heinold (Washington, IL), Dave Graf (Akron, OH) and Al Schneider (Rockville, CT).

Elder Bro. Chuck Hemmer (Peoria, IL) joined our Elder Bro. Bud Klopfenstein in reading the memorandum.

We were also served by Elder Bros. Joe Braker (Morton, IL), Edwin Ringger (Gridley, IL) and Corbin Bahler (Rockville, CT).

Of course, we use the visitors' and administrators' presence as an excuse for church suppers, evening church services or Sunday evening singings.

I am happy to report the engagement of Sue Gerber (Bro. Ed and Sis. Vi) to Sid Troxel (Bro. Ken and Sis. Joyce). We all wish them a home and life together filled with God's love and joy.

We have had an exceptionally warm (hot!) winter this year, so if the snow, ice and cloudy skies (and scraping your car windshield) is getting you down, come down south!

#### FLORIDA, NORTH FT. MYERS Kay Eisenmann

Our visiting ministers were Bros. Don Gudeman (LaCrosse, IN), Carroll Gerber and Doyle Frauhiger (Bluffton North, IN), Harold Schmidgall (Gridley, IL), Richard Schupbach (Phoenix, AZ), Ben Maibach (Detroit, MI), Perry Zimmerman (Forrest, IL), Merle Kaisner (Fairbury, IL), Edwin Bahler (Remington, IN), Loren Stoller (Latty, OH), Gene Lehman (Wolcott, IN), Homer Reineck (Toledo, OH), David Kieser (Princeville, IL) and Wendell Gudeman (Francesville, IN).

Our little church is thankful for all the visiting ministers and elders. We are truly praying for the elder body this month that, through grace, they can help the church to grow in the love of God. With so many ministers and elders present, it is uplifting to the mind and spirit!

Our church is full of our "most welcome" winter residents. The summers tend to get a little long, as our group is precious, but small.

One of our ministers reminded us that even though the sun is always

shining sometimes the clouds get in the way, but that doesn't mean that the sun is gone. Sometimes when we feel we have lost the presence of God's grace, we need to get rid of self and the desire to have our own way. Then we will see that God is still there. may we have the grace to look to God to solve our cares and we will find that peace once again.

Dathan is about the same. We are still keeping a watchful and prayerful eye on him.

#### FLORIDA, SARASOTA Suellen Ott - Kristine Price

Our congregation has truly witnessed the healing hand of the Great Physician.

#### PRAYERS ARE THE STAIRS TO GOD

Prayers are the stairs  
We must climb every day,  
If we would reach God  
There is no other way,  
For we learn to know God  
When we meet Him in prayer  
And ask Him to lighten  
Our burden of care --  
So start in the morning  
And, though the way's steep,  
Climb ever upward  
'Till your eyes close in sleep --  
For prayers are the stairs  
That lead to the Lord,  
And to meet Him in prayer  
Is the climber's reward.

Our prayers go out to each of the dear brothers and sisters that have been ill. We wish a speedy recovery to Sis. Ruth Cottress, Bro. Rich Martin, and wish to especially remember Sis. Marie Seidal, who is in the hospital at this time. May each of these dear souls find the strength to climb the stairs of prayer to our God in heaven. We are glad to welcome Bro. Eli Anliker back into our assembly after a long recovery.

We are grateful for each of our visiting brothers and sisters. We are especially grateful to the ministering brothers that have sounded the gospel warning in the past month. May God bless each of these brothers: Bro. Gary Anliker (Elgin, IL), Elder Bro. Sam Anliker (Lamont, KS), Bro. Harold Schmidgall (Gridley, IL), Bro.

Joe Zimmerman (Morton, IL), Bro. Ben Wysong (Sabetha, KS), Elder Bro. Roy Sauder (Peoria, IL), Bro. Dave Kieser (Princeville, IL), Bro. Jim Byrd (Roanoke, IL), Elder Bro. John Klotzle (Altadena, CA) and Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL).

Much prayer and preparation is being made for our mid-winter elder conference in the coming week. We pray a safe and blessed week will be ahead for all those planning to travel here for this annual meeting.

#### ILLINOIS, BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL Marcia Bauer - De Anderson

Our monthly hymn sing was held Sunday, January 29. We were so blessed by the beautiful voices of the Goodfield choir. May the Lord richly bless them for making the effort to come and sing for us. We also bid farewell that evening to Bro. Jeff and Sis. Brenda Thames, David and Katelyn. They are moving to the Leo congregation as Bro. Jeff has taken a job as counselor at the Leo Children's Home. They will be missed so much here in our congregation. Bro. Jeff taught Sunday school and was loved so much by the children. It was obvious how much he will be missed by the tears on the faces of his students on Sunday evening. Sis. Brenda has been such an example to us all of a Christian wife, mother and support for Bro. Jeff. We send our love and prayers with them as they settle in the Leo area.

"Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost."

Acts 2:38

We welcome Bro. Eric Haefli as a new brother-in-Christ. He was baptized in Peoria January 29. Bro. Eric's parents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Eileen Haefli (Peoria, IL). We are rejoicing with Bro. Eric on this most important decision in his life.

Our hospital patients this month are Sis. Ella Schlipf and Dave Brummitt (Sis. Karen). We pray for God's healing hand upon them and for strength and support for their families.

On January 25 we had our annual

business meeting. Our newly elected trustee is Bro. Marvin Huette who will replace Bro. Ron Hodel and our newly elected treasurer, Bro. Larry Mariani, will replace Bro. Clyde Knobloch. A special thanks is given to Bro. Ron and Bro. Clyde for their work and dedication to the offices they held.

We extend our sympathy to Sis. Bonnie Traub (John) in the loss of her father, Chester Stein. It is so hard when we have to part with our loved ones. Sis. Bonnie's mother passed away January 2, so God was merciful to her father to take him home to be with his wife. We know they are both dearly missed by their family.

We want to thank Bro. Wayne Anliker (Forrest, IL) for ministering to us February 12. We are so thankful when we hear God's Word in truth and love.

The family of Sis. Lulu Miller wishes to express their thanks and appreciation for the many deeds of kindness and the prayerful support rendered to her during her illness and death. May God richly bless you all.

### ILLINOIS, BRADFORD

#### Karen Ringger

On January 18, Steve and Marjie Loudenburg became the parents of a precious baby boy. Jason Loren's happy grandparents are Bro. Elwin and Sis. Loretta Rumbold and Loren and Mary Loudenburg (Wyoming). Our best wishes are extended to all of them.

It's always a joy to have visitors, and on a recent Sunday, ministering Elder Bros. Ed Lanz (Oakville, IA), Don Sauder (Roanoke) and Joe Stoller (Princeville) were with us. Also visiting us on a Wednesday evening was Bro. Kenny Knapp (Taylor, MO). We look forward to seeing Bro. Kenny and Sis. Phyllis more, since Bro. Kenny's work brings him to our area.

Our annual business meeting was this past month. Bro. Jordan Elsasser was elected trustee; Bros. Bill Ringger and Mark Rumbold as ushers; and Bros. Ben Ehnle, John Endress and David Kieser on the cemetery committee. We pray God will bless these brothers with willing, helpful hearts, so our church will be kept in Godly order.

### ILLINOIS, CHAMPAIGN

#### LaRae Dill

We welcome Bro. Rod and Sis. Anne Anliker and sons, Lucas, Lane and Austin, to our church family. They have returned to Champaign-Urbana after living in Florida for a time.

Sis. Lorna Clauss was hospitalized for surgery in early February. We are thankful her surgery was successful and pray for her further recovery.

John and Mary Tucker are thankful for the safe arrival of their son, Ross John. Ross was born a bit earlier than expected on February 8. He is home now, enjoying the love and care of his parents, as well as grandparents, Bro. Howard and Sis. Vi Greiner (Cissna Park, IL) and Florence Tucker (Palos Verdes, CA).

We're thankful for the ministry of these visiting brothers: Bros. Jaye Rinkenberger (Goodfield, IL), Ken Weerts (Cissna Park, IL), Steve Martin (Eureka, IL), Ken Eisenmann (Cissna Park, IL) and our elder, Bro. Bob Grimm (Goodfield, IL).

### ILLINOIS, CHICAGO

#### Kathy Schlatter

When will we realize that Satan is the one telling us we have no choices? The Lord gives us, first of all, the choice to listen to Him or not. Because of His shed blood, we have an option other than eternal darkness: the hope of eternal life. He grants us numerous avenues, not to change everything we don't like in life -- but to change ourselves. He can change our outlook, take away our anxieties, fill us with awe and wonder and His power, keep us from evil. Even if at first we are unwise in our choices, He can be called upon to turn our attention to better desires. Truly He is the Lord of choice!

Bro. Mike Thomas (Valparaiso, IN) spoke to us at a topical Bible study on "The Benefits of Good Works." We were exhorted to the practice of living faith, "For faith without works is dead." Yet we were reminded that we are not earning salvation with our deeds; we are only doing what is our duty to do, that our Lord and God might be glorified by our lives, by our being.

Bro. Ross Meyer has returned to

Illinois to work on his master's degree in social work at Northwestern University. We welcome him home, appreciating his work at the Children's Home in Leo, IN, but glad to have him back. We look forward to much fellowship with him.

Perhaps our worst tendency as a result of the prevalence of competition in our lives is "keeping score." If someone made a basket, someone else allowed them to -- and so weren't doing the best job. There are awards which separate best from next-best, promotions for the deserving, and plenty of criticisms for our errors. Sometimes we look on our Lord as a Scorekeeper, too. I think, though, that He looks on our lives as much more of a cooperative effort than we do. When I get depressed (or even covetous) because of what I perceive as someone else's plus and my minus, I pray for these things: 1) I pray that God's glory be radiated through the other's plus; 2) I also pray for forgiveness for the selfish direction of my thoughts; and finally, 3) I pray for my change of heart, that my thoughts may become other-directed within His will. Paraphrasing an anonymous poem, when the end of life comes to each one, man's impression of win or lose is not what counts with God but rather how one "played the game." Competition is not what He is looking for, but sportsmanship, using one's talents and striving toward our heavenly goal while esteeming one's brother higher than oneself.

Our congregation invites anyone from other church communities to let us know about loved ones living in the Chicago area. We would like to gather names and addresses and then make a determined effort to reach out in loving friendship to all those who in the past have had associations with our brotherhood. In this expression of our love, we would welcome newcomers, offer assistance, include invitations to our homes, and, with loving patience, pray that the Spirit of God would kindle their desire to worship with us.

We want to know about relatives and friends who have recently moved to Chicago. And, where appropriate, we ask that you also share with us the whereabouts of loved ones who have been living here for sometime. Send names and addresses to: Lenard

Meyer, 9506 Central Park Avenue, Evanston, IL 60203, or call Bro. Leonard at 312-677-7028.

### ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK

#### Elaine Sauder - Mary Knapp

At the beginning of a new year it is so encouraging for us here to once again have a large number of converts. They are looking forward to giving their testimonies and experiencing baptism in the near future. We wish them His guidance each step along the way.

January 21 a group gathered for a church potluck at the fellowship hall followed by a singing. Our gatherings are smaller through the winter months when many are gone to warmer climates. We look forward to the travelers returning as the days become warmer.

Due to the unintentional errors in last month's obituary of Bro. Jeff Young, we have the corrected version as follows:

Bro. Jeff Young passed away at the Fairview Haven Home where he had resided only a few months. He was married to the late Sis. Mary Farney; and leaves a son, Raymond, and wife, Carol; two daughters, Dorothy Rudin (Alvin, rural Hoopston) and Aldine Winger (Gordon, Cissna Park); nine grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren. The home ministers were in charge of services January 7.

Due to bad weather the reading of the conference report was postponed from February 8 to a date in March.

Fortunately our winter has not been as severe as some years. The installation of the new heating system has kept many brothers quite busy as they donated time and skills doing preliminary work ahead of the contractor.

Bro. Ed Alt spoke to us on "Dedication" at our first topical Bible study, and Bro. Ken Eisenmann had the topic, "Contentment in our Spiritual Lives," at the second session. Each winter there are four classes held, one each month, with exceptionally good attendance.

There have been many on the sick list this past month and we all pray for their healing and improvement according to God's will. Medical patients have been: Bro. Herbert Hofer

(Sis. Clara) who suffered a stroke, Sis. Laura Hodel, Bro. Bob Kaufmann (Sis. Marie), Sis. Anna Hari, and Bro. Charles Walder, who spent several weeks at Hines V.A. Hospital undergoing tests.

Surgical patients were: Sis. Jean Knapp, Sis. Bev Knapp (Bro. Curt), Bro. Herman Bauer, Sis. Marilyn Winger, Sis. Judy Bauer, Bro. Harry Walder (Sis. Leona) and Bro. Wayne Knapp (Sis. Delores). The surgical patients have had some serious operations and surely need to be remembered.

We appreciate Bro. Ken Schneider (Remington, IN) and Bro. Bob Beebe (South Bend, IN) who shared the Word with us this past month.

Bro. Ben Yergler is now a resident at Fairview Haven and Sis. Kathryn Enz has been transferred to Gilman Nursing Home to be closer to her daughter.

The Bible class and their teachers are to travel to Eureka February 19 for ACYF. With the coming of spring and Easter, the Bible class gets quite busy, and needless to say, their teachers and wives give often of their time. Time spent with the youth is time well spent.

My heartfelt thanks is given to my co-worker, Sis. Elaine, for the assistance she has so willingly given me the past two years, and a warm welcome is offered to my new co-worker, Sis. Karol Stock (Bro. Tom). We need the help and support of all those of our congregation to fulfill our assignment.

Sis. Judy Bauer would like to thank everyone for the love and prayers since her accident in January. It is humbling to know how many across our land and in Japan were praying for her. Those prayers are being answered as she regains the use of her voice.

We then that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, and not to please ourselves.

Romans 15:1

### ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE

#### Sandy Knapp - Deb Dietrich

"Depart vain world with all your sin!  
From bondage I am free.

A humble offering do I bring;  
My heart I give to thee!"

Zion's Harp #163

This Easter may we be sincerely thankful to God for sending His Son to die on the cross. Through His painful death we can be freed from the bondage of sin. Jesus gave His life for us; may we all give our hearts over solely to Him. How important it is to remember this on a daily basis., and to never cease to thank God!

It becomes so easy to take for granted our faithful ministers. Imagine coming to church on a Sunday morning or Wednesday evening and not having a minister to preach the Word. This is a thought to help us all realize how much we rely on weak brethren to serve as God's tools so we all may receive a blessing. We are very thankful to Bro. Andy Virkler (Bay City, MI) for willingly bringing God's Word to our congregation.

The family of Sis. Lulu Miller wishes to express their thanks and appreciation for the many deeds of kindness and the prayerful support rendered to her during her illness and death. May God richly bless you all.

### ILLINOIS, ELGIN

#### Elizabeth Schambach

#### Betty Bachtold

In God's infinite and loving way, three dear souls were taken from our midst this month.

On January 22, our dear one, Emily Hoppe, 84, who resided at Resthaven, quietly slept away, and entered into eternity. She leaves her sister, Mary Gross (Elgin), who lovingly cared for her; one brother, Emil Jordi; and several nieces and nephews.

Her family wishes to thank everyone for their prayers and deeds of love and kindness extended to them during her passing. God bless you all.

Sis. Florence Feucht, 71, was relieved of the burdens of this life and taken to her reward February 12. We are thankful to our merciful Father who called her to repentance. She embraced the love and peace of God and was baptized. We share sympathy with her husband, Bro. John; their children, Bro. Dennis (Sis. Beth) of Morton, IL, and Charles (Carolyn) of Elgin; six grandchildren; and one



brother, Bro. Clarence Dietrich (Silverton, OR).

Bro. John Feucht and his family wish to thank everyone for the love, prayers and gifts extended to them during the illness and death of Sis. Florence. May God bless each and every one.

A beloved mother and aged sister-in-faith, Mary Weiss, 93, who also resided at Resthaven, was called home February 15. We shall miss her Christ-like example which she portrayed with much patience and long suffering. May God's comfort be with her family: Sisters Kathryn Rudin (Clifton, IL), Lucille (Bro. Freeman) Kellenberger, Gladys Weiss and Patricia (Bro. Howard) Schiefferer, Bro. Calvin (Sis. Dena), Bro. Paul (Sis. Joyce), all of Elgin, Oliver (Marie) of Mendota, IL, Ted (Geraldine) of Valparaiso, IN, Robert (Eleanor) of Dundee, and Bro. Morey of Boston, MA; 32 grandchildren; 49 great-grandchildren; and a sister, Minnie Weck of Eureka, IL.

The family of their dear mother and grandmother, Sis. Mary Weiss, wishes to express their sincere thanks for the love and kindness shown to them during the extended illness and loss of their loved one. Thank you for all of your prayers, cards, flowers, food and memorials. A special thank you is given to Doctors Cargill, Gasser and the staff at Apostolic Christian Resthaven.

Several of our brethren have come through surgery, and we implore God's continued healing powers, with His permission. These include Bros. Albert Schambach, Harvey Schurter and Sis. Madeline Tobler, who still remains hospitalized.

Donna Schifferer (Bro. Howard and Sis. Patricia) and Brooks Boyce (Elgin) have announced their engagement and are planning a spring wedding.

The engagement and approaching marriage of Mary Kay Kinsinger (Bro. Bill and Sis. Sandra) to Roger Smithberg was also made known recently. May God direct and bless each of them as they plan their weddings.

#### ILLINOIS, EUREKA

##### Kathy Leman

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

Genesis 2:18. Following God's guidance and according to His will, we heard the wedding engagement of Sis. Evie Blunier and Bro. Randy Mogler (Washington) February 5. Their parents are Henry and Sis. Wilma Blunier and Bro. Andy and Sis. Frieda Mogler (Lester, IA). May God's presence be with them as they plan for an April wedding and life together here on earth.

"Thus united and in concord, let us walk the path of life, hand in hand O may love bind us, for each other's welfare strive." Zion's Harp #237. On February 5, we witnessed the wedding vows of Sis. Ruth Zimmerman (Bro. Earl and Sis. Elsie) and Bro. Ed Leman (Bro. Gerald and Sis. Velma). We rejoice with them and ask God's blessings to be upon them as they walk this pilgrim's pathway together towards Zion's gates.

Our sympathy is extended to Sis. Marie Aeschleman and Sis. Nelma Eastman (Bro. Richard) in the passing of their husband and father, Bro. Ori Aeschleman (Roanoke). May God comfort them as only He can.

Steve and Deb Fehr welcomed Justin David January 16. Lindsey and Erik are anxious to know their new brother. Justin's grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Glazebrook and Bro. Ernie and Sis. Mary Fehr. May God bless the family circle.

Hospital patients or those who have been confined to their homes are Brian Vierling (Bro. Jim and Sis. Linda), Darin Kupferschmid (Bro. Richard and Sis. Maribeth), Elder Bro. Leroy Huber, Bro. Bob Wettstein (Sis. Verna), Bro. Aaron Moser (Sis. Caroline) and Sis. Laurene Zimmerman (Bro. Leland). May we remember them in prayer, for our good health is certainly a blessing from God.

Our sympathy goes out to Bro. Leroy Stoller and family in the recent passing of their daughter-in-law and sister-in-law, Sis. Carol Stoller (Bro. Larry) of Gridley. We appreciate her steadfast faith in her God amidst the many afflictions of this mortal body. It is hard to grasp that in heaven there will be no pain, no tears, no sorrows, but joy and bliss forever with our Lord.

We are thankful there are souls who are surrendering their hearts to the Lord. We wish much grace and God's nearness to Ben Wiegand (Dale

and Sis. Freidora) and Matt Rocke (Bro. Merle and Sis. Bev).

We gathered together Saturday evening, February 11, for the reading of the memorandum. We appreciate Elder Bros. Bob Walder (Congerville) and Art Bahler (Fairbury) for lending themselves in His service. May we apply what we heard to our daily lives that we can live quiet and submissive lives that are pleasing to our God.

"Sit and pause awhile, my Spirit, This great miracle behold; See the King of highest merit On the cross, so bare and cold! Out of heaven God has given His own Son in love untold!" Zion's Harp #226. May we daily take that walk out to Calvary's hill where our dear Lord and Saviour hung and shed His blood for our sins. We truly are humbled to think of God's divine plan for mankind, and that He granted us sufficient grace to repent and be converted. What a priceless gift!

#### ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY Jean Bachtold - Crystal Fehr

##### EASTER

I'll never forget that fatal day  
When a kiss of hate, carried my  
Saviour away.

A kiss to me, I always did think  
Showed love, and much kindness to  
the very brink.

But now I know there is a kiss of  
deception  
For Judas' kiss was a very cold  
reception.

My Saviour's love is so very, very  
great  
For mankind's destiny and our  
estate.

His bountiful blessings, He will  
always share  
If we prove to Him, that we really  
do care.

That care you see, must always be  
Out on the hill of Calvary.

They took my dear Lord, a  
Redeemer to me  
And nailed His hands to that  
cross-like tree.



With thorns on His brow and  
vinegar, and bread  
Yet a harsh word from my Saviour,  
just wouldn't be said.

As the people began to notice a very  
dark sky  
My Father in heaven gave them  
their reply.

For it lightning and thundered and  
people began to cry  
As my dear Lord and Saviour took  
His last sigh.

From the cross He was taken and  
to the grave He was carried  
So our sins and His body could now  
be buried.

Three days had gone by and what  
blessings for them  
Who trusted and believed for again  
they saw Him.

We, too, can see Him in brightest  
array  
If our heart is with Him to our very  
last day.

Author Unknown

Easter is Christ's greatest contri-  
bution to the human race.

Frank Warren

On January 22, Bro. Neil Bahler  
(Elder Bro. Art and Sis. Suzanne)  
and Sis. Tami Steffen (Bro. Henry  
and Sis. Lola) exchanged wedding  
vows and began their life together.  
May love, joy and peace abound  
through this union of hearts.

Along with the Forrest brethren,  
we had the privilege to assemble to  
hear the memorandum. As we lis-  
tened to many exhortations, encour-  
agements and warnings given by our  
elder brothers, it created within us a  
desire to walk closer to our Lord. We  
thank Elder Bros. Ed Lanz (Oakville,  
IA) and Perry Zimmerman (Forrest)  
for sharing their concerns, along with  
our elder, Bro. Art Bahler.

We are thankful for those who are  
willing to minister unto us from God's  
holy Word. May the Lord richly bless  
our visiting ministers, Elder Bros.  
Dale Eisenmann (Chicago) and Alfred  
Bahler (Wolcott, IN), and Bros. Paul  
Gasser (Akron, OH), Dean Messner  
(Winthrop, MN), Duane Metzger  
(West Bend, IA), Fred Domka (Mans-

field, OH), Kenny Weerts and Ken-  
neth Eisenmann (Cissna Park).

A baby girl, Maggie Beth, was  
born to Bro. Richard and Sis. Dawn  
Huber January 26. Jason, Timothy,  
Isaac and Amber welcome her, along  
with grandparents, Bro. Jesse and  
Sis. Donna Huber and Ray and Ber-  
nice Ellis.

Bro. Keith and Sis. Kristine Steid-  
inger became first-time parents Feb-  
ruary 12 with the birth of a daughter,  
Amber Nicole. Happy grandparents  
are Bro. Maurice and Sis. Alma Steid-  
inger and Bro. Walt and Sis. Esther  
Bahler (Remington, IN).

Bro. George and Sis. Clara Bro-  
quard celebrated their 60th wedding  
anniversary this year and Bro. John  
and Sis. Katharine Fehr celebrated  
40 years together. We are thankful  
that God has blessed these unions  
with His love.

Edward Rapp died unexpectedly  
January 19. We extend sympathy to  
his wife, family and his sister, Sis.  
Ernestine Stoller.

Hospital patients this month were  
Bro. Josh Broquard, George Walter,  
Sis. Gertrude Moser, Chad Welborn,  
Rachel Broquard and Jacob Walter.  
We pray for God's healing touch for  
each one.

The family of Sis. Bertha Moser  
thanks you for the kind expressions  
of sympathy cards, flowers, memori-  
als and prayers at the time of their  
mother's illness and death.

From the bottom of their hearts,  
Bro. George and Sis. Clara Broquard  
humbly thank everyone who so lov-  
ingly remembered them on their 60th  
wedding anniversary.

## ILLINOIS, FORREST

**Sherri Kelson**

**Sandra Schneider**

We appreciated the visits of Bros.  
Elmer Schmidt (Winthrop, MN) and  
Randy Gasser (Detroit, MI). May God  
bless them for their labors of love.

"Precious in the sight of the Lord  
is the death of his saints."

Psalms 116:15

We want to extend our sympathy  
to the family of Sis. Rose Zimmerman  
who passed away February 3. She  
was a good example of patience in her  
many years of affliction.

We also extend sympathy to Bro.  
Gene and Sis. Carol Metz and family  
in the passing of her father, Bro. Orie  
Aeschleman of the Roanoke congre-  
gation.

A memorial service was held for  
Bro. Albert Kaisner who resided at  
Fairview Haven. He was a faithful  
minister of God's Word for many years  
at Maywood, CA. He was taken to  
California for burial.

May the families of each of these  
dear ones feel God's nearness at this  
time.

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

Psalms 127:3

Bro. Mark and Sis. LaVerne Aberle  
have been blessed with a baby boy,  
Kevin Louis. Jamie, Shelly, Shane,  
Shawn, Bryan, Marcus and Ashley  
welcome him home. Grandparents  
are Bro. Bill and Sis. Jean Aberle.

Chase Douglas has been added to  
the family of Tom and Shannon  
Bushman. He has one brother, Blake.  
Grandparents are Bro. Roger and  
Sis. Janet Farney.

Chad Leman (Bro. Jerry and Sis.  
Kathy) and Wendy Kelson (Bro. Paul  
and Sis. Sherri) both have spent time  
in the hospital because of pneumo-  
nia. We are happy they are both  
progressing well. We pray God will be  
with Joe Wiegand (Sis. Pauline) as he  
is in the hospital. Our thoughts and  
prayers are also with Bro. Art and  
Sis. Velda Huetter as their daughter,  
Julie Shambrook, was hospitalized  
and now is home awaiting major  
surgery.

We experienced a blessed evening  
when Elder Bros. Ed Lanz (Oakville,  
IA), Art Bahler (Fairbury, IL) and  
Perry Zimmerman read the memo-  
randum to us at Fairbury. It is so  
important, in this time in which we  
live, to be exhorted in our spiritual  
walk of life.

The family of Sis. Rose Zimmer-  
man would like to thank relatives  
and friends for the kind expressions  
of sympathy extended to them during  
their recent bereavement.

Sis. Eldora Walter wishes to thank  
everyone that remembered her in  
any way with cards, flowers, phone  
calls and visits after having surgery  
at Carle Hospital and since returning  
home. This includes the surrounding

Fairbury, Champaign and Francesville, IN, churches, as well as her home church. A special thanks is given to her daughters where she stayed to recuperate. May God be with each and every one.

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**ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD**  
**Trish Gerber**

It has been such a blessing to witness the testimonies of so many dear souls who have turned their lives over to God. During this past month we've been privileged to greet six new sisters and four new brothers in the Lord. They are Sisters Kelly Meece, Kelly Wiegand, Rita Bauman, Heidi Plattner, Shannon Roth, Tiffani Gerst and Lisa Grimm, and Bros. Rob Wiegand, Brian Rieke, Andy Bauman and Darren Plattner. Each one is precious in God's sight and we pray for His continued grace for all of them.

Our genuine thanks and appreciation is extended to all of the visiting ministers who assisted with the baptisms and shared God's Word with us. Those brothers are Elder Bros. Joe Stoller (Princeville, IL), Roy Grimm (Taylor, MO) and Don Sauder (Roanoke, IL), and Bros. Dave Wiegand (Champaign, IL), Earl Ringger (Gridley, IL), Vernon Wettstein (Congerville, IL), Tom Hoffman (Roanoke, IL), Dennis Kaufmann (Bloomington, IL), Roy Ehnle (Bradford, IL) and Todd Feller (LaCrosse, IN).

Bro. Jerry and Sis. Valerie Mooberry, along with their little girl, Kristen, welcome Steven Lee to their family. Steven was born February 4. His grandparents are Melvin Martin and Mr. and Mrs. Hershel Mooberry, both of Eureka.

It's good to see Sis. Joyce Hohulin (Bro. Wes) is doing so well after her surgery.

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**ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY**  
**Perry A. Klopfenstein**

Our church continues to receive the blessings of God. On January 29, four more souls were added to the fold: Ralph and Marge Kuntz, John Yoder and Katie Martin. Elder Bro. John Lehman (Bern, KS) a classmate of Sis. Katie, was here for the occasion. During the week of February 12, two more souls turned their hearts

in repentance toward Christ Jesus.

Yet, amid the joys of salvation, our church was also affected by the sorrow of death. Sis. Carol Stoller, Sis. Setta Klopfenstein and Elmer Hany were laid to rest during the month.

The funeral of Sis. Carol Stoller, 46, who valiantly fought a malignancy for several years, was held February 16. She is survived by her beloved husband of 26 years, Bro. Larry; one son, Brian, and one daughter, Sis. Brenda Hodel, both of rural El Paso; her mother, Pauline Bell (Hudson); one brother, Larry Bell (Heyworth); two sisters, Nancy Diedrich (White Heath) and Judith Wright (Heyworth). The memory of Sis. Carol will linger on in our hearts. She possessed a kindly disposition, a deep appreciation for the church, and at her death many comments were made about the "good example" of her Christian walk.

At the February 19 funeral of Sis. Setta Klopfenstein, 90, the choir sang one of her favorite hymns, "Oh, To Be Nothing." As they sang verse three, the words seemed to reflect the idealism of dear Sis. Setta:

"Oh, to be nothing, nothing,  
Painful the humbling might be,  
Yet low in the dust I'd lay me  
That the world might my Saviour  
see."

Sis. Setta was married to the late Bro. Joe Klopfenstein for one day short of 44 years. For more than 17 years she stood faithfully with him in his duties as an elder. He died in 1965. She is survived by a daughter, Sis. Carolyn Schlipf; three sisters, Sis. Helen Stoller (Bluffton, IN), Sis. Elizabeth Kaehr and Marie Anderson (Berne, IN).

As an elder's wife, she had a wonderful gift of hospitality. She will be remembered for her enormous energies of meal preparation for church gatherings, and for her ability to glorify God with her expressions of Christian charm and godly affection.

Elmer Hany, 71, died February 5. He was the next-to-last surviving son of the deceased Bro. Paul and Sis. Emma Bruner Hany. He is survived by a brother, Loren (Gridley), and a host of nieces and nephews. He never married. Very sick at the end, he expressed appreciation for prayer and the reading of the Word at his bedside

by our church ministers. He affirmed that he pondered these matters in his heart.

Sis. Julia Schieler was hospitalized this month. Visiting ministers were Bros. Roger Aberle (Sabetha, KS), Charles Sauder (Tremont) and Duane Kilgus (Fairbury).

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**ILLINOIS,**  
**ILLINOIS STATE UNIV.**  
**Brenda Huber**

How many times, as believers, have we said, "I sincerely desire to do God's will in this situation; I'm just not sure what that is"? The Word says it is God's will that none should perish. The Word does not give us such direct statements about occupation, marriage, or daily decisions. The Lord does, however, give us definite direction as to what is necessary to discern His good and perfect will. First, we must have the mind of Christ. Romans 12:2 says, "be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God." Second, we must have wisdom to discern the spirits. James 1:5 tell us that "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him." Let us be "not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is." Ephesians 5:17.

Once again, we express our heartfelt thanks to the Lord and our visiting ministers: Bros. Thomas Hoffman (Roanoke, IL), Ron Heiniger (Bloomington, IL), Jim Vierling (Eureka, IL) and Ken Eisenmann (Cissna Park, IL).

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

The Easter season is here, and once again it calls us to focus our attention on Jesus Christ's supreme sacrifice of His life that we might have eternal life. Jesus gave us so many truths in His short ministry that we can spend a lifetime learning from them. One of his teachings we like to reflect on is the legacy of peace He left His disciples. "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto

you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid." John 14:27.

His gift of eternal life and His promise of peace should be especially comforting to those who have lost loved ones recently. Our Sis. Alberta Rassi was called home after a long illness. Her funeral was February 6. We pray the Holy Spirit will continue to comfort her husband, Solomon; her son, Tim; her daughters, Sis. Cindy Witzig, Teresa Cunningham and their families; and her and Sol's many brothers and sisters.

George Greiner's funeral was held February 16. May our heavenly Father comfort and bless his wife, Martha; his daughter, Shirley Houghton; his sons, James, Gerald, Stephen and Charles; his sisters, Pauline Rittaler, Emma Wildermuth, Lena Miller and Esther Miller; his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Amos Kaisner was called into all eternity with his funeral held January 26. May his brothers and sisters be comforted. They are Victor, Ervin, Sophia Aupperle, Sis. Esther Getz, Alvina Nelson and Elizabeth Bartlett.

Bro. Leonard and Sis. Ann Hartter plan to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary February 23. We wish them God's continued blessings and grace as they walk life's pathway together.

Sis. Katherine A. Birkey celebrated her 90th birthday January 31. She wishes to thank all those who remembered her with many beautiful cards, flowers and gifts.

We wish to thank our young group who had a delicious pork chop dinner and singing February 5. The proceeds went to a school in Haiti. May our heavenly Father richly bless them for organizing this event.

As the Easter season approaches, let us take time to read and meditate in the gospels that relate to Christ's last weeks on earth. Let Easter become more personally meaningful this year than it ever was before.

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**ILLINOIS, PEORIA**  
**Joe and Jackie Herman**

"And when they looked, they saw that the stone was rolled away: for it was very great. And entering into the sepulcher, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, clothed in a

long white garment; and they were affrighted. And he saith unto them, Be not affrighted: Ye seek Jesus of Nazareth, which was crucified: he is risen; he is not here: behold the place where they laid him. But go your way, tell his disciples and Peter that he goeth before you into Galilee: there shall ye see him, as he said unto you."  
 St. Mark 16:4-7

Have you ever felt the pain of separation? The alienation from that which you love most. Some of us have, but I doubt any of us can comprehend the total severance of fellowship that our Lord experienced that day on the cross. Jesus did this willingly and gladly. Would we do the same? Even if we would die for our fellow man, there is one thing we could not do; that is take up our life again. Jesus did, and without this resurrection there would be no purpose in the Christian life. This Easter season we acknowledge the power and majesty of the one who rose again for each one of us . . . Jesus Christ our Lord!

"Baptized into Thy name most holy,  
 O Father, Son and Holy Ghost,  
 I claim a place, though weak and lowly  
 Among Thy seed, Thy chosen host.  
 Immersed with Christ, I'm dead to sin;  
 Thy Spirit now shall live within."  
 Zion's Harp #41

We were privileged to hear the testimonies and witness the baptisms of four precious souls. We joyfully welcome them: Sis. Elma Brustin, Bro. Eric Haefli, Bro. Danny Meister, and Bro. David Sauder, Jr.

We rejoice in the engagement of Bro. Ed Dingleline and Sis. Sarah Unsicker. They are planning a May wedding. We wish the Lord's best always.

Hospital patients this month were Bro. Al Domnick, Kevin Clatt, Bro. Fred Koehl, Sis. Joyce Waibel, Sis. Mary Lawless, and Bro. Les Stoller. May the healing power be the will of our Father in heaven.

We wish to thank Elder Bro. Dan Koch (Tremont) and Bro. Ron Heiniger (Bloomington) for ministering God's Holy Word unto us.

We extend our sympathy to the family of Bro. Oscar Hoerr. We pray

that they can feel the comfort of our Lord in the loss of their loved one.

Sis. Stella Bessler wishes to thank all who remembered her with cards, gifts and prayers upon the death of her mother, Sis. Rose Zimmerman.

Sis. Mildred Hoerr and family wish to thank everyone for their love, prayers, gifts of money, flowers and kindness shown to them in the loss of their husband and father, Bro. Oscar Hoerr. It is their wish and prayer that God will bless each one.

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**ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE**  
**Marjean Lehman**

"O, slaughtered Lamb, by whom  
 the seal was broken,  
 That gave me comfort and eternal cheer!  
 My faith sends up to yonder Zion's mountain,  
 A look of longing to Thee, Lamb so dear!  
 Thou art, O Lamb, now raised on high,  
 What wonder that my thoughts  
 would ever to Thee fly!"  
 Behold The Lamb Of God

Our special thanks is extended to our visiting ministers who were willingly used as a vessel of God in bringing us the true Word. They were Bro. Tom Hoffman (Roanoke), Bro. Fred Knapp (Congerville) and Elder Bro. Ed Schwartz (Bluffton, IN). Elder Bro. Ed was also here Saturday evening, January 4, and assisted Elder Bro. Joe Stoller in reading and meditating upon the conclusions of the memorandum. May God's blessings be upon them for their service.

On January 29, Arica Ann Baer was born to Carol and Don Baer. Big sister, Megan, is happy to have a little sister and is also welcoming Arica home. Grandparents are Katherine Baer and John and Lois Ratcliff.

On February 2, Brittany Beth Streitmatter became the first-born of Sis. Crystal and Bro. David Streitmatter. First-time grandparents are Sis. Bertha Jean and Bro. Harry Herrmann and Sis. Joyce and Bro. Norman Streitmatter. May God's blessings be with each family as they teach and nurture their children in the love of God.

Our congregation was fortunate

to have Sis. Renee Baurer (Bro. Ed and Sis. Carol) home for a month. Sis. Renee is allowing her life to be used on foreign soil for the mission work in Japan. Though she has returned now to Japan, we feel joined by the avenue of prayer. We trust God to keep all who are in His service and away from home for a time.

Our congregation wishes to express sincere sympathy to Eleanor Baer in the death of her father, Bro. Albert Grusey (Gridley). May God's nearness be felt and may His comfort help ease their loss.

Bro. Ken Gehrig was a surgical patient and has returned home. Sis. Marie Seidel (Bro. Dick) was a surgical patient also. Sis. Marie is in Florida in the hospital at this writing. We trust God's healing hand to be extended unto both. May health be restored fully if it can be God's good will.

Thank you note: The Elmer Martin family would like to thank all who have been loving and supportive to them since their dear husband and father's passing. They love each of you and thank God for all your acts of kindness shown them. They trust God's blessings to be upon each one of you.

"O, Lamb of God, who bled for my transgression,  
And for my guilt on Calv'ry's brow has trod!  
Who could unto such great love give expression?  
Who is like Thee, Thou chosen Lamb of God?  
As often as my pulses beat, I lay my life, my blood, my all at Jesus' feet."

"Behold The Lamb Of God"

#### ILLINOIS, ROANOKE

##### Sandy Leman - Patsy Kaeb

"My hope is built on nothing less, than Jesus blood and righteousness." As we look toward the Easter season, we cannot comprehend what Jesus' blood has done for us. May we all take this to heart and try to live a closer walk with Him.

This month our congregation was blessed to have Bro. Dennis Kaufmann (Bloomington) to share God's Word with us. Also, Elder Bro. Bob Grimm (Goodfield) conducted our February

Bible study and Elder Bro. Joe Stoller (Princeville) shared in the reading of the memorandum. May God richly bless these brothers and their families for the time they have shared with us.

Our thanks is extended to "Joyful Life," a mixed group from the area churches, who blessed us through song at our January hymn sing.

Bro. Bob and Sis. Cindy DeSigne were blessed with a new little baby boy, Robert "Robbie" Raymond, II, born January 21. Robbie has a big sister, Darci, to give him lots of love. His grandparents are Sis. Rose Hoerr (Taylor, MO) and Ray DeSigne (Roanoke).

Congratulations go to Bro. Walt and Sis. Marian Blunier, who recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary February 5. They are the parents of Glenna Lober (Lexington, KY), Bro. Wally (Roanoke), Herb (Roanoke), Judy Magnuson (Roanoke), Jan Martin (LaSalle), Gary (Eureka) and Laurie Ulrich (Dayton, OH). May God bless them with many more happy years together.

May God's strength and healing hand be with little Samuel Fischer (Bro. Bruce and Sis. Debbie) and Sis. Madalyn Zimmerman (Bro. Bob) who were hospitalized.

Our Bro. Orie Aeschleman is "safe in the arms of Jesus" as he laid down his cross and entered into his eternal rest. Our sympathy is extended to Sis. Marie and his three daughters, Sis. Nelma Eastman (Eureka), Sis. Carol Metz (Forrest) and Mary Jane Meginnes (Peoria). He is also survived by four brothers, David, William and Sol (Peoria) and Bro. Larry (Roanoke); and one sister, Sis. Leah Frank (LaCrosse, IN).

#### ILLINOIS, TREMONT

##### Carolyn Bolliger Marsha Koch

We recently spent a blessed evening listened to the testimonies of six dear ones who are now our new brothers and sisters-in-faith. Our hearts are rejoicing with Bro. Gregg and Sis. Cindy Sauder, Bro. Tom and Sis. Jane Bolliger, Bro. Marshall Holmes and Bro. Ron Wagenbach. Elder Bros. Nathan Steffen (Elgin, IL) and Don Sauder (Roanoke, IL) shared this joyous weekend with us.

We also thank ministering Bros. Jim Hoerr (Peoria), Roy Ehnle (Bradford) and Nelson Beer (Milford, IN) for sharing the Word with us this month.

Our hearts go out to Bro. Robert and Sis. Doris Baer as they recently had the misfortune of having a fire in their home. Even though there was extensive damage to their home and belongings, we are all thankful no one was injured.

Loved ones hospitalized this month are: Lester Staker, hip replacement surgery; Sis. Becky Schweigert (Bro. Roger), hand surgery and Sis. Anne Zuercher (Bro. Curt and Sis. June) was a medical patient. We are thankful they are all recovering.

A very recent surgical patient was Jennifer Knobloch, daughter of Kelvin and Marian Knobloch. We hope she will soon be well and back in school again.

#### ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON

##### Carol Schick

Greetings and Happy Easter to all from the Washington congregation!

Our visiting ministers the past month were Elder Bros. Don Sauder (Roanoke) and Dan Koch (Tremont) who read the memorandum to us. Also sharing the Word with us were Bro. Byron Stoller (Gridley), Bro. Rick Plattner (Peoria) and Bro. Kevin Knapp (Bloomington). We enjoyed having them and their families worship with us.

Our monthly Bible study was conducted by Bro. Bill Hodel (Roanoke) who reminded us how very important the home is to our spiritual health and the spiritual health of our families.

Our congregation enjoyed an all-church potluck Sunday, February 12, immediately following services. The afternoon was a real blessing and we want to thank all the brothers and sisters that were involved in helping to organize it.

We are thankful that Sis. Linda Fehr (Dave) is doing better after a short stay in the hospital.

The following engagement was announced: Bro. Randy Mogler of Washington (Bro. Andy and Sis. Freida Mogler, Lester, IA) to Sis. Evie Blunier (Bro. Henry and Sis. Wilma Blunier, Eureka). We are happy for this couple



and wish them well as they plan their wedding in Christ.

Two young souls have turned from this world and are repenting according to God's Word. They are Chris Bucher (Bro. Steve and Sis. Vicki Bucher) and Peter Monagle (Gary and Sis. Kay Monagle). We wish them an abundance of grace in their new walk with the Lord.

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### INDIANA, BLUFFTON

Jean Moser - Shari Fiechter

"... for many be called, but few chosen."

Matthew 20:16

We spent a wonderful weekend January 28 and 29 hearing the testimonies and witnessing the baptisms of three young people who have given up their old lives and have now found a new life in Jesus Christ. We welcome Sis. Sara Kipfer (Bro. Ned and Sis. Dixie), Bro. Joe Isch (Bro. Ernie and Sis. Lucy) and Bro. Troy Leyse (Bro. Mike and Sis. Becky) and wish them the fullness of the Holy Spirit throughout their entire lives.

We also rejoice with two young men who have recognized the need for a personal Saviour in their lives and have turned their hearts to the Lord in repentance. We need to remember to pray for Shawn Reinhard and Jeff Geisel as they begin their new walk in life. How it encourages us as believers to see that God is still calling souls, offering His abundant grace.

It has been a very difficult month for many in our congregation who have had to say goodbye to loved ones. Even though we rejoice with those who go on before us, we grieve as we miss their presence and smiling faces among us. Our sympathy is extended to Bro. Fred and Sis. Mabel Moser on the loss of Bro. Fred's brother, Bro. John Moser (Bluffton North).

Sis. Lucinda Fiechter, 91, was called home to be with our Saviour February 3. We sympathize with her family which includes Bro. Melvin (Sis. Doris), Bro. Homer (Sis. Clara), Bro. Alvin (Sis. Bernice), Bro. Wayne (Sis. Dorothy), Sis. Gladys (Bro. Bob) Maller, Sis. Devona (Bro. Ralph) Gerber, Sis. Justine (Bro. Don) Gerber and son-in-law, Bro. Willis Stoller

(Latty, OH). Our sympathy also goes to her many grandchildren, great-grandchildren and even great-great-grandchildren.

Just 13 days later on February 16, double sorrow came to the family of our dear Bro. Bob Maller, Sr. Bro. Bob died of complications following heart surgery at the age of 66. Our hearts ache for Sis. Gladys and her family and we pray for God's healing touch in their lives. Bro. Bob is survived by his wife, and sons, Larry (Gwen), Bro. Rod (Sis. Pat), Steve (Cindy), Bro. Joe (Sis. Denise), Bro. Bob, Jr. (Sis. Kim), and daughter, Sis. Barb (Bro. Gary) Schwartz. His family also includes his brother, Bro. Melvin (Sis. Berniece) and sisters, Sis. Helen (Bro. Cliff) Heyerly, Sis. Naomi (Bro. Ted) Kaehr, Sis. Vera Laukhuf (Latty, OH), and 18 grandchildren. We are thankful that Bro. Bob got to meet his newest grandson shortly before his home going. Mark Robert Maller is the precious little bundle born February 10 to Bro. Bob, Jr. and Sis. Kim. Mark's maternal grandparents are Bro. Ralph and Sis. Jean Baumgartner.

Also blessed with a son this month are Bro. Doug and Sis. Jill Fiechter. Little Travis Lee, born February 13, is a very nice addition to the Fiechter home. Bro. Stan and Sis. Genny Isch and Bro. Gerald and Sis. Eunice Fiechter are the happy grandparents. Our congratulations also go to grandparents, Bro. Ned and Sis. Dixie Kipfer, on the birth of their first grandson, Andrew Craig, born January 29. Bro. Craig and Sis. Beth Baumgartner (Bluffton North) are Andrew's pleased parents.

Our prayers have also gone to the Father for John Steffen (Sis. Etta), Bro. Roy Gerber (Sis. Helen) and Sis. Emma Steffen as they have spent time in the hospital.

We wish to thank Bro. Uriel Gehring (Leo) and family for spending a weekend with us and for Bro. Uriel's faithfulness in preaching God's Word. Also, our thanks goes to Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman (Francesville) for taking time out on a Tuesday evening to give a Bible discussion on "The Church in the Wilderness." Both young and old found this topic to be very interesting. God bless these dear brothers for their willingness to serve so that we could benefit.

It's hard to believe that the Easter season is here already. As we heard in a recent sermon, we need to see our own name carved in the cross that Jesus carried up Golgotha's hill and was crucified on. He died for us so that we can live eternally with Him. Let's thank and praise Him in the coming week as we remember His suffering, His crucifixion, and then His victory over death.

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### INDIANA, BLUFFTON NORTH

Lois Drayer  
Debbie Aeschliman

"Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost."

Matthew 28:19

On February 19, our congregation rejoiced with the baptism of three precious souls. Our new brothers and sister are Bro. Grant Frauhiger (Bro. Doyle and Sis. Jane), Sis. Carol Mock (Tim), and Bro. Matt Markley. We thank Elder Bro. Ed Schwartz who came to share this occasion with us and welcome him back anytime. We are thrilled to have one new convert, Laura Dubach (Bro. Mike and Sis. Linda). We wish them much grace and happiness in their new lives with Christ.

Our special thanks goes to Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman (Francesville) for speaking at our Bible discussion February 7. The topic was "The Church in the Wilderness." We appreciate his time and effort.

We rejoice with Sis. Mary Steffen (Bro. Leroy and Sis. Elizabeth) and Bro. Dean Lehman (Bro. Wayne and Sis. Shirley, South Bend) in their engagement and upcoming summer wedding. We wish them God's blessings.

Andrew Craig Baumgartner was born January 29 to Bro. Craig and Sis. Beth Baumgartner. He is welcomed home by big sister, Leah. Grandparents are Bro. Howard and Sis. Joyce Baumgartner and Bro. Ned and Sis. Dixie Kipfer (Bluffton).

Bro. John Moser (Sis. Mary) passed away January 17 at the age of 87. He had been living at Swiss Village following an illness. Our sympathy is extended to Sis. Mary and their chil-

dren, Sis. Lela Meyer (Bro. Bob) and Sis. Sally Shively (Bro. Charles). He is also survived by two brothers, Bro. William Moser (Emma) and Bro. Fred Moser (Sis. Mabel, Bluffton), eight grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren, and our sympathy is likewise given to them. We extend our sympathy to Bro. Alvin and Sis. Bernice Fiechter in the loss of his mother, Sis. Lucinda Fiechter (Bluffton) who passed away February 3 at the age of 91. "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

Several from our congregation have been hospitalized this past month: Sis. Phyllis Bucher (Bro. Nile), Sis. Lillian Wright (Bro. Mark), Bro. Eugene Maller (Sis. Delores), Jason Bussel (Bro. Dave and Sis. Cathy), Sis. Leona Gerber (Bro. Obed) and Bro. Dan Steffen (Sis. Priscilla). Our prayers are with these loved ones.

Sis. Elaine Steffen (Bro. Ken and Sis. Roberta) has begun employment at the Leo Children's Home and will be attending Leo church. Our thoughts go with her as she starts this new job.

As Easter is approaching the days are getting warmer and longer, and spring is around the corner.

Today I yearn to hold this spring  
anew,  
To feel its free and brightly surging  
life,  
Knowing God is always watching too,  
Guarding our lives against all  
seeming strife.

And now to hear once more the  
age-old story . . .  
The resurrection plan through Easter's  
glory.

May Smith White

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**INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE**  
**Jacki Huber**

Dear restless heart, be still;  
don't fret and worry so;  
God has a thousand ways  
His love and help to show;  
Just trust, and trust, and trust,  
until His will you know.

Dear restless heart, be still;  
for peace is God's own smile,

His love can every wrong  
and sorrow reconcile;  
Just love, and love, and love,  
until you braver grow.

Dear restless heart, repose  
upon His breast this hour,  
His grace is strength and life,  
His love is bloom and flower;  
Just rest, and rest, and rest,  
within His tender power.

Dear restless heart, be still!  
Don't struggle to be free;  
God's life is in your life,  
from Him you may not flee;  
Just pray, and pray, and pray,  
till you have faith to see.

We rejoice with four dear ones  
who have found peace with God be-  
cause of their prayers to God, trust  
and hope in Him, and love for Him.

On Saturday, February 11, brethren gathered to hear testimonies of faith, and on Sunday, February 12, many witnessed the baptisms of brothers and sisters, Barb Putt (Bro. Wayne and Sis. Paulette), Kevin and Connie Wuethrich and Brad Neihouser (Bro. Andre and Sis. Lois).

Elder Bro. Alfred Bahler (Wolcott, IN) assisted Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman that blessed weekend. Visiting ministers were Bros. Rod Huber (Valparaiso, IN) and Ken Wuethrich (Indianapolis, IN). We appreciate their service to us and wish them God's blessings!

We were also happy to have Elder Bro. Roy Grimm (Taylor, MO) with us on a recent Sunday, and thank him for his service.

Recently hospitalized were Nicholas Wuethrich (Bro. Mark and Sis. Lynne) and Bro. Earl Anliker. We're thankful that both of them have returned home and are getting along fine.

On January 19 a dear sister, Persida Aeschliman, went home to be with our Lord. Persida was 99 years of age and lived a life of example for all of us.

We extend our sympathy to Persida's brother, John, as well as to her nieces, nephews and many friends. We will miss her but rejoice that she has reached the goal we're still striving towards!

**INDIANA, LACROSSE**  
**Mary Lynn Massner**

I love a quiet Sunday  
With peacefulness in the air.  
Let's count our blessings,  
go to church,  
And say a little prayer.

Marguerite Halker

On January 29, our dear sister, Esther Hitz, turned 83 years old. She has been living at Whispering Pines Nursing Home and many of her friends and relatives assembled with her for a singing and short service. It was a touching hour for our loved one who has not been able to attend church for a long time.

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

I Corinthians 15:55

Our beloved sister, Alice Heinold, quietly slipped away January 30. She was 96 years old and lived a long, full life, seeing five generations of her family. We extend our sympathy to her surviving children, Sis. Dorothy Steward, Bro. Virgil Heinold and Fern Antrim, and a host of grandchildren, great and great-great-grandchildren. We rejoice that she is now with our heavenly Father and has won her "victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

Bro. Phil Troxel is home after a lengthy hospital stay, and we pray for his continued recovery.

A special thank you is given to our visiting ministers, Bro. Marvin Stieglitz and Elder Bro. Aaron Steffen, for giving of themselves this past month. We were privileged to have the conference report, February 11, and were encouraged to walk a closer walk, "forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord." I Corinthians 15:58.

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**INDIANA, LEO**  
**Doug Kellenberger**

We are encouraged by the growth that is taking place in our little fellowship at Leo, both physically and spiritually. New people are still moving in, and a sense of appreciation for one another is spreading.

Consistent, heart to heart interaction with one another is absolutely

necessary for spiritual survival. Paul said, "The more you see the Day of the Lord approaching, the more you should get together and exhort one another." Hebrews 10:25. James said, "Confess your faults to one another and then pray one for another so that you may be healed." James 5:16.

The first church exemplified that interaction. Acts 2:42-47. Their success was marked by four basic activities:

-- continuing steadfast in the Apostles' doctrine,

-- continuing instant in fellowship,

-- continuing instant in breaking of bread,

-- and continuing instant in prayer.

The results from those personal interactions were remarkable:

-- Godly fear came upon every soul,

-- many miracles were done by the leaders,

-- the believers became united in one accord,

-- and the Lord added to the church daily.

Those open and faithful interactions would produce the same results today.

We welcome Sis. Elaine Steffen (Bluffton). She is serving at the Children's Home.

A daughter was born to Bro. Loren and Sis. Rita Klopfenstein early one Sunday morning. Later after Sunday school, their 4-year-old son confidently informed us that her name was Lollipop. However, we understand that Loren and Rita call her Allisa Lee. Congratulations!

Bro. George Zimmer has been hospitalized. We wish him well.

We thank three visiting ministers for serving us the past two weeks: Bros. Alfred Bahler (Wolcott), Chris Huber (Francesville) and Carl Wyss (Washington, IL).

The Leo congregation was again treated to the annual Children's Home Appreciation Supper. As usual, everyone really enjoyed it. The children and staff do an excellent job each of year of entertaining us with home-made skits. The reputation of this event must have spread throughout the church, because there was a record attendance of 110. This year the staff and children acted out each Leo member as they volunteered through-

out the year. It was good.

A farewell was given to Bro. Nate and Sis. Leann Gerber. They are taking quite a venture of faith to their new location in Minneapolis and would appreciate intercession on their behalf.

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

We rejoice that four dear souls have been announced for baptism. They are Tricia Wuthrich (Bro. Stan and Sis. Linda), Jenny Beer (Bro. Dan and Sis. Debbie), Rita Beer (Bro. Nelson and Sis. Shelby) and Brent Beer (Bro. Bob and Sis. Linda).

We are thankful for brethren who are willing to be used in His service. May God bless Bro. Gary Tonner (Bluffton) and Bro. Merle Kaisner (Fairbury, IL).

Our hospital patients recently were Bro. Don Beer and Bro. John Lehman, Sr. May God be near them and grant His healing.

We welcome Bob and Sue Bowerman and their children, Ricky and Laura, to our congregation. They moved to Milford from Fairbury, IL, and we hope they feel really "at home" here.

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**INDIANA, REMINGTON**  
**Beth Virkler**

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

Proverbs 17:6

Becoming grandparents for the first time February 12 were Bro. Walt and Sis. Esther Bahler as Amber Nicole was born to Bro. Keith and Sis. Kristine Steidinger (Fairbury, IL).

Bro. Frederick Knapp (Congerville, IL) ministered to our congregation this month.

Bro. Phil Isabell spent several days in the hospital this month and Nettie Wasner had major surgery on her hip. Her address is: R.R. #1, Box 10, Remington, IN 47977, for anyone wanting to cheer her during her recovery period.

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

that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance." (Luke 15:7) ". . . Good news brings happiness and health." (Proverbs 15:30, paraphrased) These verses seem to express the joy our congregation experienced after hearing the news of Greg Schneider (Bro. Ken and Sis. Loretta) turning his heart to the Lord in repentance. It has been over two years since our last convert, so our faith is being strengthened towards the power of prayer.

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

**EASTER!**

Oh, joyful day! oh, glorious hour!  
 When Jesus, by almighty power,  
 Arose and left the grave;  
 In all His works behold Him great,  
 Before, Almighty to create,  
 Almighty now to save.

Ye ransomed, let your praises  
 resound,  
 And in your Master's work abound,  
 His blessed work of love:  
 Be sure your labor's not in vain,  
 For we with Jesus soon shall reign,  
 With Jesus dwell above.

Author Unknown

Has there been a resurrection in  
 your heart this Easter Morn;  
 A resurrection from the death of  
 sin and shame;  
 Have you left the tomb forever,  
 A dear Savior's love to claim?  
 Excerpt from "This Easter Day"  
 Author Unknown

We are thankful for God's watchful care over Sisters Pauline Laidig, Mildred Meister and Mae Schumacher, as they all continue to improve at home from an automobile accident suffered December 2. (Sis. Pauline is currently staying with her daughter and family, Bro. Walt and Sis. Sharon Rager in Toledo, OH).

We sincerely thank our Elder Bro. Jesse Beer (Milford, IN) who shared the Word with us January 29, and Bro. Howard Plattner (Wichita, KS) who was with us February 5.

Mildred and Ernestine Meister want to thank everyone for their prayers, their love, their words of

cards, the gifts, and the telephone calls since their accident. May God bless each and all of you.

Sis. Pauline Laidig wishes to thank everyone for their prayers, cards, gifts and other deeds of kindness extended to her since her accident. Everything was appreciated very much.

#### INDIANA, VALPARAISO

##### Beth Heinold - Angie Heinold

We rejoice with Bro. Terry and Sis. Bev Miller as their son, Jeff, has decided to give his life to the Lord. Our congregation enjoyed and received a blessing from his testimony and baptism. We pray that the Lord will guide Jeff, and his wife, Janet, and their children, Tiffany and Zachery.

We are thankful to have had visiting minister Bro. Elmer Schmidt (Winthrop, MN). May the Lord richly bless Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL) and Elder Bro. Ed Frank (LaCrosse, IN) for their willingness to share the reading of the memorandum.

#### INDIANA, WEST LAFAYETTE PURDUE UNIVERSITY

##### Lynn Martin

In Galatians 2:20, Paul said, "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me." As Christians on a secular college campus, we can let Christ live in us and share Him with others who don't know our precious Lord. Paul also wanted to share the gospel with those who didn't know Jesus. After all, Jesus said in Matthew 28:19-20, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world."

Paul obeyed Jesus' command and preached the gospel. He strategically picked towns that had Jewish synagogues. The Jews were, and are, the people who believe that the Messiah is still coming. A college campus is similar to the Jewish synagogue. Both

of these places have unbelievers, some have heard the Word of God and have rebuked it, and some who don't know the Word of Life or God. God has given us, as college students, a wonderful opportunity to share Him with our friends and classmates.

"And whatsoever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father by him." Colossians 3:17. We would like to thank those who came and shared the gospel with us at our Thursday evening services. They include Elder Bro. Alfred Bahler (Wolcott) and Bro. Ken Schneider (Remington). Services for the remainder of the semester will be held March 30, April 13 and April 27. We gather to praise and glorify the Lord at the Nazarene Church on Soldier's Home Road at 7:30 E.S.T.

#### INDIANA, WOLCOTT

##### Lynell Blume - Lorna Knapp

Bro. Wayne Anliker (Forrest, IL) conducted our Bible study titled "Patience" January 24. We were reminded that patience is a result of true faith in God and true humility. Let us all strive to practice this Christian virtue and be patient with one another. We appreciate the effort Bro. Wayne put forth in preparing for this Bible study and the time he gave to us that evening. May our Father in heaven be his rewarder.

We rejoice with the angels in heaven that Troy and Lisa (Ponto) Furrer (son and daughter-in-law of Bro. Don and Sis. Rita) and Dave and Merri (Armstrong) Schieler (son and daughter-in-law of Sis. Marilyn) have heeded the call and are seeking their salvation. May God supply their every need and grant them grace as they seek His will through repentance.

We extend our love and sympathy to Sis. Dianne Hopkins in the death of her mother-in-law, Orlee Hopkins. Also, Sis. Dianne underwent hand surgery and we pray she can feel God's strength and His healing hand resting upon her.

Wesley Mailloux (Scott and Diane) and Melissa Minniear (Bro. Mike and Sis. Glenna) were recent surgical patients. The Lord blessed them both with a quick and complete recovery.

Our prayers also have been with

Bro. Irv Furrer as he was involved in an auto accident. We are thankful the Lord protected him from serious injury. May he continue to feel God's nearness and His healing power.

#### IOWA, BURLINGTON

##### Karen Schulz - Deyona Massner

On January 24, Bro. Leroy and Sis. Carolyn Wulf welcomed their son, Brett Martin. May they look to God for guidance as they raise their first child. The happy grandparents are Bro. Bill and Sis. Leona Wulf (Lester, IA) and Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Edith Massner.

Sis. Mayme Gerst was recently announced for marriage to Bro. Lester Gerst (Oakville, IA). May God's blessings be upon them as they become one in Christ.

Our prayers are with Sis. Sophia Mellinger as she seeks treatment for cancer in Iowa City. We also extend our prayers to Mike McDonough who had a recent car accident. He is now recovering from severe injuries at the Iowa City Hospital.

We always appreciate the labors of our ministers each time they stand to bring forth the truth. This past month we were thankful to have the support and help of Bro. Dale Frank (Oakville, IA) while Bro. Harvey Heiniger remains in Zapata, TX.

#### IOWA, ELGIN Gloria Frieden

Christ the Lord is risen today,  
Sons of men and angels say:  
Raise your joys and triumphs high,  
Sing ye heavens and earth reply.

Live again our glorious King,  
Where O death, is now thy sting?  
Dying once He all doth save:  
Where thy victory O grave?

It seems such a short time ago that we were celebrating the birth of Christ and now we are commemorating His death. But there would be no rejoicing at Christmas if there would not be an Easter. Our Savior walked on this earth a few short years, but He completed His mission for us. Hallelujah!

Dan Lehman again spent a few days in the hospital (surgical). We



are thankful he is able to be back home now, as he continues to recuperate.

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**IOWA, IOWA CITY**  
**Bonita Frank**

Our congregation has been blessed with visits this past month from Elder Bro. Ed Lanz (Oakville), Elder Bro. Paul Butikofer (Elgin, IA), and Bros. Nathan Stoller (Bradford, IL), Don Wagenbach (Washington, IL) and Clifford Grimm (West Bend). We are thankful God granted us an unusual January and February with good travelling conditions so these brothers and their families could travel here and home safely.

One Saturday we gathered at our church building to spend a World Relief work day together to sort items we had been given from a local hospital. A good day was enjoyed by all, and we were very thankful for the extra helpers that came from Oakville.

On Wednesday evening, February 8, we gathered for the reading of the memorandum from the 1988 brotherhood conference. We appreciate hearing the results being presented to us as a reminder.

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**IOWA, LESTER**  
**Kathy Metzger**  
**Mary Knobloch**

"Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost." St. Matthew 28:19. It was a blessing for all of us to hear the testimony of a dear soul, Ruth Nester (Bro. Wilhelm and Sis. Elizabeth) Saturday evening, February 4, and then witness her baptism Sunday. Elder Bro. Paul Butikofer (Elgin) assisted Bro. Leo and Bro. Dennis in this undertaking. After Ruth's testimony, we were privileged to listen to the conclusions of the elder conference and again be uplifted as we were reminded of our duties as a child of God.

God's Holy Word has been brought to us again in abundance. On January 22, Bro. Kenneth Indermuhle and Bro. Mark Ramsier (both from Sardis, OH) ministered to us and on January 29, Bro. Carl Wyss (Washington, IL) and Bro. Russell Wuthrich

(Pulaski) shared the Word with us. May we always remember them in our prayers.

On January 22, Sis. Jane Metzger (Bro. Jake and Sis. Donna) and Bro. Wayne Klotzle, Sardis, OH, (Bro. Irwin and Sis. Jane, Rittman, OH) were united in holy matrimony. May God bless their lives as they walk together down the path of life.

Believing that children are a heritage of the Lord, we rejoice that God has blessed four families with healthy babies. On January 16, a son, Jon Robert, was born to Dan and Darcy Gerber. Paternal grandparents are Bro. Robert and Sis. Nancy Gerber. On January 27, Chet Alan was born to Bro. Brian and Sis. Beverly Mogler. Maternal grandparents are Bro. Paul and Sis. Betty Leuthold and paternal grandparents are Bro. Howard and Sis. Lolly Mogler. A daughter, Ashley Jo, was born February 8 to Bro. Bill and Sis. Charlotte Metzger. Maternal grandparents are Bro. Simon and Sis. Louise Wagenbach (Tremont, IL), and paternal grandparents are Bro. Jake and Sis. Donna Metzger. On February 12, Bro. Rick and Sis. Lori Moser welcomed a daughter, Crystal Lyn. Maternal grandparents are Bro. Ray and Sis. Marilyn Luthi (Lamar, MO), and paternal grandparents are Bro. Frank and Sis. Verna Moser. May God richly bless these families as He has again touched their lives with His love.

Sis. Linda Moser (Jim) was recently hospitalized and Sis. Emma Gerber (Bro. Ted) submitted to surgery. May God's unending love and healing powers be with our dear ones as they endure many physical afflictions.

"Grandpa" Fred Metzger, 104, is sorry he can't thank everyone personally for their gifts, cards and visits. May God bless you for your love.

Jesus Christ suffered, died on the cross at Calvary, and shed His innocent blood so that we might live. As we "kneel at the cross" and remember the great price that was paid, may our prayers and pleadings be that we be worthy to one day go free!

**LET US PRAY AT THIS  
 GLORIOUS EASTER SEASON**

What better time  
 or more beautiful season,

What greater occasion  
 or more wonderful reason  
 To kneel down in prayer  
 and thank God above  
 For Eternal Life  
 the Gift of His Love --  
 For in sending His Son  
 to be crucified  
 He granted man Life  
 because His Son died --  
 So at this glad season  
 when there's joy everywhere  
 Let us meet Our Redeemer  
 At The Altar of Prayer.

Helen Steiner Rice

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

We rejoice with those who rejoice and weep with those who weep. We are rejoicing with Bro. Les Gerst on his upcoming marriage to Sis. Mayme Gerst (Burlington, IA). Surely God has answered prayer and we trust He will be with Bro. Les and Sis. Mayme in their future years together.

As life is full of many joys, so is it seasoned with the sorrows that we cannot always explain. Our hearts were deeply saddened with Bro. Peter and Sis. Luanne Beyer in the passing of their dear son, Andrew. At the young age of 13, Andrew felt the need of a Saviour in repentance. It's so hard to understand the ways and timing of the Lord, but as Andrew stated in a recent letter to a friend, "The will of God is unknown to man, and it wasn't meant to be either." Our prayers are with Bro. Peter, Sis. Luanne, Barbechen, Koertland, and the rest of the family who will sorely miss their loved one. May God continue to comfort and strengthen the hearts of those who have suffered so great a loss.

Bro. Arnie Gerst (Taylor, MO) and Bro. Clarence Kachelmuss (Forrest, IL) have recently ministered to our Oakville congregation.

Bro. Orel and Sis. Rose Steiner have recently observed their 50th wedding anniversary. We are thankful that God has allowed them to reach this milestone in their lives. May He continue to bless them throughout their remaining years.

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 Give Your Address Changes  
 To Your Reporter

**IOWA, PULASKI****Teresa Schock  
Ginny Wuthrich**

We are thankful to Elder Bros. Ed Lanz and Roy Grimm for coming to lend themselves in reading the memorandum. May God bless them for all their time and efforts.

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**IOWA, WEST BEND****Phyllis Banwart - Mary Gerber**

Elder Bro. Perry Zimmerman (Forrest, IL) helped bring us the conference deliberations. We were encouraged to have a "Spiritual mind" and maintain it. Bro. Perry reminded us that, "We pass this way once, then comes judgment." Is our heart willing to be filled with the Spirit of God, or is it an empty shrine? Is it filled with the proper spirit and ready for judgment? Let us continue to pray to keep and maintain a "Spiritual mind."

We are reminded of several hospital patients and pray for God's healing power for each of the following: Sis. Tillie Mogler (Sam), Sis. Jessie Fehr, and Ervin Gerber (Helen).

We rejoice with Bro. Jim and Sis. Joan Wirtz on the birth of their son, Derek James, January 20. His sisters, Amy and Bethany, his brother, Adam, grandparents, Bro. Don and Sis. Verda Bruellman and Bro. Verner and Sis. Betty Wirtz, are on hand to welcome him, too.

Sis. Ella Banwart is now residing at the West Bend Care Center and we pray a blessing for her.

We extend sympathy to Eli and Pearl Gerber in the loss of her sister, Esther Wibben.

Congratulations go to David Banwart (Benj. and Betty) and Angela Rothweiler (Mr. and Mrs. Herman) of Hoffman Estates, IL, on their engagement.

We are again reminded during this season of the year of the great sacrifice of our Lord and Savior. His death was for each one of us and these lines seem to be very fitting.

Gethsemane and Calvary  
And death and bitter loss,  
Are these but echoes drifting down  
From a forgotten cross?  
Nay, Lord for all our living sins  
Thy cross is lifted up,  
And as of old we hear Thee say,  
"Can ye, too, drink My cup?"

O Life that seems so long ago,  
And yet is ever new,  
The fellowship of love with Thee,  
Through all the years is true.  
O Master over death and time,  
Reveal Thyself, we pray,  
And as before amongst Thine own,  
Dwell Thou in us today!

W. Russell Bowie

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**JAPAN, SHIODA****Kathy Kieser**

Elder Bro. Akito Inoue and his wife, Sis. Marie, plan to travel to Shioda to assist Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle with holy communion in February. Because of our Lord's love for us, we can share a special time such as this together.

One of our sisters suggested that we write letters of encouragement and friendship as a form of outreach to people with whom we've formerly had contact. We decided to write to former Sunday school students, kindergarten graduates, and people who have worshipped with us in the past. We're looking forward to beginning this church project and hope that we can encourage people to come to church.

Bro. Randy Mogler and Sis. Evie Blunier have each given of themselves in the past to the work here in Japan. Because they both were a special part of our Shioda congregation at one time, we are amazed at the work of the Lord in bringing their lives together as their engagement was made known to us recently. Truly God's ways are above our ways. "Kamisama ga shukufuku hasaimasu yo ni!"

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**JAPAN, TOKYO****Frank and Kathy Sauder**

Last year ended and this year began in a memorable way as special guests spent the holidays with us. We thank Sis. Jana and David Kieser (Bradford, IL), Joe Klotzle (Altadena, CA) and Robert and Jewel Ehnle Maeda for their visits. May God watch between us as we are once again absent one from another.

Sis. Shizuko Utsuki has not been able to worship with us for quite awhile as she spent some time in the hospital and is now recovering at

home. Our prayers are for God to bless her with a quick recovery, and her daughters, Sis. Hiroko and Nobuko, with strength and courage as they faithfully and willingly care for her.

The Shioda congregation hosted our annual church conference January 15. Our elder brothers encouraged us towards attaining a spiritual mind, based on the messages from the brotherhood conference last August. In the afternoon a discussion followed which included the topics of inviting people to church and the vision we each hold for the church's future in Japan. We thank the Shioda brothers and sisters for the efforts and love that they shared with us on that day.

"As cold waters to a thirsty soul, so is good news from a far country." Proverbs 25:25. We rejoice at the work of the Lord in the lives of Bro. Randy Mogler (Washington, IL) and Sis. Evie Blunier (Eureka, IL). Because of the special place they hold in our hearts after sharing some years of their lives with us here in Japan, their engagement was announced to our congregation recently. Our prayers are with them as God continues His work in their hearts. As they become one in Him, may the Lord continue to use them as mightily as He has in the past.

The school year is soon coming to an end in Japan, so this is a time of exams for entrance into junior high schools, high schools and universities for the coming year. Our prayers are with our students, that God will open the doors to the places He has chosen for them, the places that He knows are best for their lives.

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**KANSAS, BERN****Kathy Strahm  
Lori Baumgartner**

The weaving of sunshine and  
shadow forms every pattern of  
life;  
There is always a blending of joy, of  
sorrow, of strife.  
All this leaves us in wonder; the  
questions cannot be solved,  
But we must have faith there is  
Someone who in all of our days  
is involved . . .

The view from above may be different than to us who live on this land,  
So with faith we must bear our sorrow and leave time in the Master's hand.

Helen Kitchell Evans

We express our sympathy to Fremond and Ruth Meyer upon the passing of Ruth's mother, Susie Strahm (Sabetha, KS). Although there is sure to be a void, may the family be comforted in knowing that she is now relieved of the suffering from her failing health.

We've had two hospital patients so far this month. Bro. Wayne Strahm (Sis. Claudia) underwent microsurgery on his back. He appears to have recovered quite rapidly, and we are thankful for that. Bro. Dan Sinn is hospitalized as this is being written. May he feel the comfort from our heavenly Father and the prayers of his family and friends. We hope to see him assemble with us again soon.

We have had two visiting ministers this past month: Bro. Harold Plattner (Wichita, KS) and Bro. Charles Sinn (Fort Scott, KS). We very much appreciate them sharing the Word with us.

We wish God's richest blessings to Bro. Dave (Bro. Virgil and Sis. Marie, Sabetha) and Sis. Beth Hartter (Bro. Eldon and Sis. Waneta Plattner) as they begin their new life together. We, as well as many visiting brethren from near and far, witnessed their wedding vows February 12.

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**KANSAS, FORT SCOTT**  
Karen Sinn

"Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee: yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."

Isaiah 41:10

After a mild winter, several of us were unprepared for the cold weather and storms that we've had this last month. Many from our small congregation have been ill. In our spiritual life, let us not get too lax that we be caught unprepared for trials or storms that may come our way. If we remain

faithful to God, He will always provide a way of escape.

Our prayers have been with our beloved elder brothers this past week as they have met together.

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**KANSAS, GRIDLEY**

**Vola Young - Judy Kraft**

Elder Bros. Sam Huber (Sabetha, KS) and Eugene Marti (Lamar, MO) were in our midst one weekend. The conference conclusions were read Saturday night and the elder brethren then assembled with the Gridley/Lamont congregation Sunday.

Announcement has been made of the engagement and approaching marriage of Bro. Shawn Metzger (Bro. Eldon and Sis. Doreen, Gridley) and Sis. Sandy Lanz (Bro. Ed and Sis. Marilyn, Philadelphia, PA). They are living and working in the Philadelphia, PA, area. May God bless and direct them in this important step in their lives.

We're thankful for healing restored to our loved ones who have been sick, requiring hospitalization or surgery. Those individuals include: Bro. Ephraim Young, Helen Bahr and Sis. Gail Strahm.

A child is a miraculous gift sent from God. The Lord has entrusted a second born child to Bro. Phil and Sis. Gail Strahm. His name is Javan Phileman. Paternal grandparents are Bro. Loren and Sis. Liseten Strahm. Maternal grandparents are Bro. Art and Sis. Ruth Banwart (Lamar, MO).

Sis. Esther Knapp, 89, died February 7. She had been residing at the Regency Health Care Center in Yates Center.

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**KANSAS, KIOWA**

**Darcy Kisling - Janice Bahr**

Oh who among the sons of men,  
By word or song or deed or pen,  
Can ever fittingly convey  
The meaning of this blessed day.  
It gilds the holy sacred page,  
It brings to every clime and age,  
To every people tribe and race  
The story of redeeming grace.

Henry Beer

How true this is! Who among mortal men can ever truly express the importance of Easter to mankind?

Christ's triumph over death and the grave gives hope to all. As we watch the beauty of God's creation unfold around us this Easter season, let us be reminded of the new life we have in Jesus.

The annual meeting was held to conduct all necessary church business. May God give those who have duties in our church the guidance and wisdom to do their jobs faithfully.

Our hospital patient this month was Laverne Roth, who underwent surgery. She is recovering quickly and has rejoined our fellowship. Let us keep her in our prayers.

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**KANSAS, LAMONT**

**Mary Isch**

Bro. Tom and Sis. Jeri Knobloch are the parents of a boy, Corbin Joseph, born Saturday, January 28. He has two brothers and a sister to welcome him home. Grandparents are Bro. Lloyd and Joann Luthi and Bro. Nathan and Irene Knobloch (Lester, IA).

The engagement of Marvin Anliker (Bro. Glen and Sis. Lorene) to Jeana Kleysteuber was announced. They plan an August wedding. May God be with them as they plan their future together.

Hulda Jacobs was a surgery patient this month. She is in the skilled care unit of Newman Hospital and slowly gaining strength. We wish her the Lord's nearness and ever abundant grace in this great trial.

Visiting ministers have been Elder Bros. Sam Huber and Gene Marti and Bro. Lawrence Luthi and Bro. Charles Marti (Lamar, MO).

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**KANSAS, SABETHA**

**Julie Edelman - Beth Hartter**

January 24 was the date for our annual business meeting. May we encourage and support those who have new duties in the church. Chosen were Bro. Gordon Huber (trustee), Bros. Kevin Grimm and Loren Edelman (building assistance), Bro. Larry Bailey (personal property assistance) and Bro. Jay Kellenberger (fellowship center trustee). Sisters Barb Edelman, Cornelia Aberle and Linda Bailey were selected for the food committee.



It is our prayer that those who have been hospitalized can experience God's healing powers and the nearness of His Spirit. Surgical patients this month were Bro. James Hartter and Bro. Joe Menold. Also hospitalized were Bro. Joe Steiner and Sis. Julie Edelman. Let us remember those who are ill.

The messages brought to us by visiting ministers this month were greatly appreciated. We thank Bro. Lloyd Kraft (Gridley, KS) and Bro. Tom Leman (Denver, CO) for their services.

February 12 was a beautiful day for those of us who witnessed the wedding of Bro. Dave Hartter to Sis. Beth Plattner (Bern). May they continue to feel God's nearness as they make their home in Sabetha.

A reminder to our Sabetha readers: April is collection month for the Silver Lining.

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**KANSAS, WICHITA**  
**Emma Miller**

Rachael Elaine Bowers was born to Bro. Jim and Sis. Marsha in January. We all rejoice with this happy family. Grandparents are Sis. Lillian and Bro. Milton Bowers and Sis. Elaine and Bro. Merle Wieland.

Bro. Milton Bowers was a recent hospital patient. We are thankful he is able to worship with us again.

Christy Meyer, formerly of Sabetha, has found employment in Wichita. We are happy to have her worship with us.

Bro. Max and Sis. Judy Reimschisel returned home safely from a two-week trip to Europe where they visited their son, Mark, who is stationed in Germany.

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**KENTUCKY, LEXINGTON**  
**Glendoris Huber**

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

I Corinthians 11:26

We were thankful to have Elder Bros. Wendell Gudeman (Francesville, IN) and David Bertsch (Leo, IN) with us February 15 - 16. May God bless them for their efforts of coming and sharing. We were richly blessed and

strengthened as we gathered together for Wednesday evening service and business meeting and holy communion Thursday evening. It is a time of soul searching and renewing our commitment to our Lord and Saviour as we, in faith, commemorate how He suffered the bitter death and shed His blood on the cross of Calvary for our sins. "Anew Lord we are bound to Thee thru Thy blest sacrament which we partook." Zion's Harp #200. We would also like to thank Bro. Gary Anliker (Elgin, IL) who ministered to us February 12. Bro. Gary and Sis. Edith were traveling through with their parents, Bro. Emil and Sis. Louise Anliker and Bro. John and Sis. Beverly Eisenmann (Forrest, IL). Other visitors for January and February were Sis. Marcella Gudeman, Bro. Eldon and Sis. Melba Steffen, Bro. Jacob Funk (Cissna Park, IL) and Bro. Virgil and Sis. Ruth Heinold (LaCrosse, IN).

We are thankful for God's blessing of recovery for Bro. Lester after recent surgery.

Our sympathy goes out for Bro. Harold and Sis. Sherry Fritz and family in the passing of their grandmother, Sis. Alice Heinold (LaCrosse, IN). She lived to be 95 years of age, a blessed saint. How sweet it is to be asleep in Jesus.

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**MICHIGAN, ALTO**  
**Denise Oesch**  
**Michelle Oesch**

The weather has been changing here in Michigan from unseasonably warm to very cold. It is just like we were before we found the calm even temperature in the service of our Lord.

We gathered together in January for our annual business meeting and these sisters and brothers were chosen for new offices: Sis. Marguerite Blough (Bro. Noah) and Sis. Julie Blough (Bro. Jim) for World Relief, Bro. Fred Oesch (Sis. Donna) as trustee, Bro. Terry Steffen (Sis. Laurie) as secretary, Bro. Otto Schlatter (Sis. Pat) as treasurer, Sis. Penny Erismann (Bro. Ron) will be in charge of the kitchen committee, and our three new ushers are Bro. Wally Gerst (Sis. Donna), Bro. Joe Oesch (Sis. Melva) and Bro. Ron Erismann (Sis. Penny). We pray that the Lord's guidance will

be with each as they carry out their duties and that they will find a blessing in doing His work.

"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. Go your ways: behold, I send you forth as lambs among wolves."

St. Luke 10:2-3

We were again inspired to walk ever closer with God and His precious Son as we witnessed the testimonies and baptisms of Bro. Ed Sanders and his wife, Sis. Julie (granddaughter of Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Elouise Blough) the weekend of February 5. It was a blessed day and it was almost as if we could hear the angels rejoicing as two more souls were brought into the fold of grace. We thank Elder Bro. Jesse Beer so much for coming and lending himself in this work and for sharing the Word with us. It is always our prayer that others will find the grace to make a new beginning in our Lord Jesus and to follow the narrow pathway leading to His home in heaven.

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**MICHIGAN, BAY CITY**  
**Pam Schlatter**

Come draw near of every nation,  
 Heed the Saviour's loving voice;  
 Hear the words of consolation,  
 Make the way of truth your choice!  
 Zion's Harp #54

Another soul has decided to follow the way of truth. Winsor Mosher (Sis. Loretta) has expressed his desire to dedicate his life to the Lord. We pray for Winsor as he seeks to establish his soul's foundation upon the Rock.

Kent Andrzyiwski is enjoying the peace he has experienced as a result of his conversion. May the peace he has confessed always remain intact, and may he guard it as a possession of great price. "... the chastisement of our peace was upon him." Isaiah 53:5.

I couldn't help but think of the story of Dorcas (Acts 9:36-43) as we laid to rest our Sis. Eldine Wackerle. Sis. Eldine, like Dorcas, was a woman of faith and good works. Many of us have handiwork of hers in our homes which will long remind us of her kind, thoughtful ways.



Bro. Bob Knochel and Sis. Naomi Ramseyer have been absent from us during the last month due to hospitalization. We pray for strengthening of both their body and spirit.

Michelle Renae was the welcomed addition to the home of Jim and Laurel Curtis. Maternal grandparents of Michelle are Bro. Fred and Sis. De-lores Munsel.

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**MINNESOTA, MINNEAPOLIS**  
**Carol Strassheim**

This month twelve of us traveled north by carloads to Deer River to visit Bro. Gus and Sis. Alma Baum's home for church services. They fixed us a gourmet meal to enjoy and then we took a beautiful, but cold, walk up their snowy road to feed the birds. It was such a blessing just to be there.

First-time parents are Bro. Larry and Sis. Marcy Schmidgall. Isaac James was their blessing from God. Grandparents are Bro. Ray and Sis. Millie Schmidgall and Gene and Sis. Ella Mae Schmidt (Winthrop).

Sis. Vera Schmidt is recovering at home after back surgery. We pray God will stand by her and grant her healing. Many have been very sick with the flu bout this year and we miss each one of them in our small congregation.

A precious young couple is moving into our area. They are Bro. Nathan and Sis. LeAnn Gerber (Leo, IN). We are confident that they have sought and found the Lord's will for them at this time. Our love and prayers turn to them with peace and warm welcome as they bring some love and a little bit of Leo along with them.

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**MINNESOTA, MORRIS**  
**Christa Sauder - Ruth Nohl**

On January 28 the Morris congregation assembled to hear the memorandum of our brotherhood conference. Elder Bros. Leo Moser (Lester, IA) and Arthur Bahler (Fairbury, IL) assisted our Elder Bro. Art Nohl in this service. We thank Bro. Leo and Bro. Arthur for laboring among us and ministering God's Word to us on the Lord's Day.

We welcome Bro. David and Sis. Kelly Zeltwanger, and their young son, Nathan, to our congregation. They have moved here from Phoenix,

AZ. We hope they can feel at home among us.

We bid a fond farewell to Bro. Loren and Sis. Rhonda Zeltwanger and their children, Emily and Nathan. They have moved to Goodfield, IL. We will miss them, but we trust God has directed their lives in this way and He will bless them in their new home.

We want to announce the birth of Whitney Renee Poe. She is the first child of Dennis and Karen Poe of Paragoula, AR. Sis. Mabel Schmidgall is Whitney's grandmother.

How precious is the peace of God! Our converts, Rick and Julie Gramm, profess to have found that peace that passeth all understanding. Lord willing, they will give their testimonies in the near future.

Hospital patients this month have been Sis. Mabel Schmidgall, Bro. Herman Schaefer and Tim Schmidgall (Bro. Keith and Sis. Lois). May the Lord provide healing for the physical afflictions if it be His will.

Once again the spring season will soon be here, and as the earth springs forth with new life, it reminds us of our Lord's glorious resurrection as He triumphed over death and came forth from the tomb. May our hearts overflow with praise and thanksgiving to our Lord for the debt He paid for us on Calvary. May a humble and obedient life of service be evidence of our appreciation for His love.

Notice: Silver Lining dues are to be paid to your correspondents by April 1.

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**MINNESOTA, WINTHROP**  
**Ella Mae Schmidt**  
**Georgia Messner**

**CHRIST THE CRUCIFIED**  
**AND GLORIFIED**

Ask ye what great thing I know  
That delights and stirs me so?  
What the high reward I win?  
Whose the name I glory in?  
Jesus Christ, the Crucified.

This is the great thing I know;  
This delights and stirs me so;  
Faith in Him who died to save,  
Him who triumphed o'er the grave,  
Jesus, God of Majesty.

Zion's Harp #225, vs. 1 & 10

Bro. George Messner would like to thank everyone for prayers, gifts, cards, visits and deeds of kindness during his recent illness.

Trent Messner was a surgical patient this month. He is doing fine.

Bros. Verl Schmidt, Dean Messner and Kendal Messner returned safely home after spending a week in Haiti for a World Relief Work Project. They would like to thank everyone for their prayers and support. Following are a few thoughts about their experience:

Words can hardly describe our experiences and what a reward it was! Upon arriving in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, and riding to the guest house where we stayed the first night, we saw how much poverty abounds in that country. We could truly appreciate our material blessings that God has granted us in America. Yet as the week went by, we began to wonder if we appreciate the plan of salvation as much as the Christians in Haiti do! The greatest joy we received came from the people, showing us how much they appreciated what we did, and more importantly, how much they appreciate what God has given them!

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**MISSOURI, KANSAS CITY**  
**Carole Kellenberger**

Services have been held in the Kansas City area since 1975, and we recently passed the seventh anniversary of meeting in our own church building. So many prayers have been answered! We have had families move here and our Sunday school has grown to over 20 students. We have a number of older people, brethren and friends alike, who have been very instrumental in the growth and maintenance of our church. For years we fervently prayed for local brothers to occupy our pulpit. We are so grateful for the faithful brethren from surrounding churches who have proclaimed God's Word to us, and are still willing to come and assist our new ministers, Bro. Don Braker and Bro. Randy Kellenberger. This large metropolitan area offers many fine schools and employment opportunity. We encourage you to visit us.

Our Elder Bro. Gene Marti and Sis. Mary assembled with us January 22 for services and for our annual business meeting. The following po-

sitions were filled: Bro. Ron Kellenberger, trustee; Sis. Linda Ziegenhorn, food committee; Bro. Roger Ziegenhorn, usher; and Bro. Ron Kellenberger, Sunday school teacher. Our thanks are extended to Bro. Don Wales and Sis. Eileen Braker whose terms expired. We are so thankful for everyone, whether they fill an elected office or encourage us by assembling with us.

Louise (Meyer) Wreath has been feeling stronger and we are glad she and Ed are again assembling with us. We miss Jack Abshier and pray that he, too, will regain strength.

"For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body; so also is Christ . . . That there should be no schism in the body; but that the members should have the same care one for another."

I Corinthians 12:12, 25

#### MISSOURI, LAMAR

##### Becky Marti - Carol Braker

A pretty little red-headed woodpecker was outside our window this morning to remind us of God's intricate creation. Soon it will be springtime, the time of new life and the remembrance of our Lord's resurrection.

We were so happy to hear of the engagement of Sis. Jodi Kellenberger (Bro. Orlan and Sis. Mary) to Bro. Calvin Luthi (Bro. Ray and Sis. Marilyn). We wish them God's blessings as they begin their lives together in the Lord.

Our dear Bro. Noah Schlupp was finally able to lay down his cross as the Lord called him home after a long illness. May God comfort his family; and may we all strive to enter heaven, where no parting will ever be known!

Kurt and Mary Jo Marti are the happy parents of a new baby boy, Isaac David, born on Valentine's Day. Isaac's big brother, Kyle, and his grandparents, Bro. Charles and Sis. Alice Marti, and Mr. and Mrs. Jess Searles, welcome him along with the rest of us!

March is the month for Lamar's Silver Lining collection.

We wish each of you a blessed Easter season.

#### MISSOURI, TAYLOR Loida Hodel - Lori Marquart

"Love is the doorway through which the human soul passes from selfishness to service and from solitude to kinship with all mankind."

Anonymous

Our prayers are with our elder brethren as they gather for this mid-year conference in Florida.

Congratulations go to grandparents, Elder Bro. Roy and Sis. Dona Grimm, who have a new grandson, Joshua, born to their daughter and her husband, Bro. Jeff and Sis. Wendy Gutwein (Francesville, IN). Also, grandmother again is Sis. Rose Hoerr at the birth of Robert Raymond to Bro. Bob and Sis. Cindy (Hoerr) DeSigne of the Roanoke, IL, area. Sis. Rose also has two new great-grandchildren. Jessica Lee was born to Doug and Lori (Gramke) Hoerr January 27. Grandparents are Bro. Louis and Sis. Ruthie Hoerr. Also, Steve and Marsha (Bross) Riney are the parents of Zachary Steven, born January 16. Grandparents are Gene and Irene Riney. May God bless these families and direct them to teach their children the way that will bring them to a good and happy ending.

Hospital patients were Clinton Sutter (Bro. Steve and Sis. Deb) and Rick Knochel (Bro. Eric and Sis. Penny). Both are home again and doing well, for which we are thankful.

Visiting ministers this month were Bros. Walt Herrmann (Princeville, IL), Russell Wuthrich (Pulaski, IA) and Carl Wyss (Washington, IL).

Also visiting the weekend of February 11 was Elder Bro. Nathan Steffen (Elgin, IL) who assisted our Elder Bro. Roy Grimm in the testimonies of three converts and their baptisms. Kim Sutter (Bro. James and Sis. Lois), Vonette Leinweber (Dr. and Mrs. Kenneth Leinweber) and Paige Massner (Bro. Allen and Sis. Rosie) are now a part of our beloved brethren.

Our church was overflowing for this happy occasion as we shared with the families in this blessing. We ask God to be with them as they grow in grace and strength.

"Now it is accomplished!  
With heart and with mind  
To Thee, my dear Saviour,

I now am resigned!  
I'll ever be faithful in life  
and in death,  
Abiding in Jesus unto my last breath."

"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God."

Ephesians 2:8-9

#### NEW JERSEY, UNION CITY

##### Sally Dotterer

We gratefully thank the following ministers and their wives for coming to share God's precious Word with our small congregation: Bro. Dan and Sis. Diane Stoller (Rockville, CT), Bro. Ed and Sis. Sally Fritz (Washington, IL), Bro. Kevin and Sis. Cheryl Ryan (Rockville, CT), Bro. Jim and Sis. Jeanne Rinkenberger (Bluffton, IN), Bro. Lee and Sis. Maxine Bahler (Rockville, CT), Bro. Doyle and Sis. Jane Frauhiger (Bluffton North, IN) and Bro. Al and Sis. Gladys Schneider (Rockville, CT). We certainly appreciate the efforts put forth by the ministers and their families to come to visit us each week. Even though our numbers are small, we know that God is still with us.

It saddens us here in Union City to say farewell to our dear Sis. Anna Tschudin who has moved to Rockville, CT, to live in the retirement home next to the church. Sis. Anna lived in the Union City area, supported the church for many years and will truly be missed.

#### COME AGAIN - THE WAY OPEN

For many years a dear sister did abide  
In Union City, New Jersey, with  
the Lord as her guide.  
Anna Tschudin is her name,  
And without her presence, Union  
City church will not be the same.

For those of us just coming into the fray,  
She certainly did show to us the way,  
Never complaining, with always a smile,  
Working through any pain or trial.

On Sunday mornings - always early  
So those who were visiting need  
never worry

About whether or not someone  
would be there  
To greet them with much loving  
care.

She would make sure that the  
coffee was brewed  
For anyone who was in the mood  
For refreshments after travelling  
from afar,  
Whether by plane, bus, subway or  
car.

She kept the books for the church  
and paid every bill  
And also followed our Lord's will.  
And shared with many of the love  
That she has felt from our Father  
above.

Many people she did touch  
With her gifts - knitted scarves,  
letters and such.  
And even when she was troubled by  
pain  
She'd count her blessings and not  
complain.

But now Anna has found in  
Rockville a home,  
Where those who love her pray  
she'll not have far to roam  
To find friends to visit with and  
share a kind word  
And also where God's Word can be  
heard.

And as Anna wished to many a  
friend  
Here's our wish to Anna that will  
not end,  
If you are able, we're surely hopin'  
That you'll come again - the way  
open.

S. K. Dotterer

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

"Take heed therefore unto your-  
selves, and to all the flock, over the  
which the Holy Ghost hath made you  
overseers, to feed the church of God,  
which he hath purchased with his  
own blood.

"For I know this, that after my  
departing shall grievous wolves enter  
in among you, not sparing the  
flock."

Acts 20:28, 29

These words of the Apostle Paul  
are being carried out today by our  
dear elder brothers. Bros. Norbert  
Steiner and Robert Beyer read the  
words of the deliberations from the  
elder conference and meditated upon  
them. We are thankful that we have  
faithful brothers who still heed the  
instructions given in the Holy Word  
and continue to "feed the church of  
God." Our prayers are for the elder  
brothers in the following weeks when  
they travel to attend the mid-winter  
conference in Florida. May each of  
them be protected on the highways  
and in the air and may God richly  
bless their every effort in our behalf.  
May we always heed their warnings  
and concerns for our lives.

Our thoughts and prayers have  
been for Bro. Gerald Grau, who has  
undergone surgery and remains a  
hospital patient, and Sis. Celia Virkler  
(Bro. Lowell) who has been unable to  
assemble with us for several weeks  
following a fall on the ice.

Melvin Farney was called from  
this life February 5. Services were  
held at the Virkler Funeral Home in  
Lowville by Elder Bro. Norbert Steiner  
and Bro. Floyd Graves, Sr. Our sym-  
pathy is extended to his daughters,  
Frances Britton and Bessie Cham-  
pion and their families.

Wayne and Rhonda Farney have  
welcomed little Erica Mae born Feb-  
ruary 8. Her little playmates will be  
her brother, James, and sister,  
Shauna. Grandparents are Bro. Clifton  
and Sis. Bessie Farney and Duane  
and Elaine Brouty. Sis. Betty Herzig  
is their great-grandmother.

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

We laid to rest Sister Rachel Rohr,  
101, February 1. She was my dear  
aunt. In my youth I spent many happy  
days at her home.

Surviving are a son, Roland Geiser  
(Lowville); two grandchildren, great-  
grandchildren and a great-great-  
grandchild.

She was married to Bro. Carl Rohr  
(Naumburg) in 1956. He died in 1978.

Funeral services were held by Elder  
Bro. Robert Beyer and Bro. Leland  
Hirschey.

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

Easter is a time to rejoice! Jesus  
said: "Abraham rejoiced to see my  
day . . ." (John 8:56) . . . the day  
coming that Abraham saw in his spirit  
would be Easter. Abraham believed  
in resurrection, for when he was to  
offer his son, after three days and  
lifting up his eyes, he said they would  
both return: "I and the lad will go  
yonder and worship, and come again  
to you." Genesis 22:5. God gave Abra-  
ham above his expectation, for He  
gave him a substitute to offer instead  
of his son. This took place in the land  
of Moriah, which are the mountains  
of Jerusalem, including Calvary.  
Abraham used the substitute and  
called the name of the place Jehovah  
Jireh, which means, "God sees ahead  
and makes a provision." Abraham  
rejoiced, seeing the day when God  
would provide Jesus for the substi-  
tute seen there at Calvary in the land  
of Mount Moriah, for he said: "In the  
mount of the Lord it shall be seen."  
Genesis 22:14. We rejoice at Easter  
and always that God sees ahead in  
our situations and makes provision  
for each of our needs.

Sis. Janet Graf has open-heart  
surgery. Andy Leidal is home recu-  
perating from a heart attack. We  
pray for each a speedy recovery.

Sis. Janet Graf has capably handled  
the duties for our World Relief sew-  
ing group, fulfilling her term, and  
Sis. Eleanor Pamer has been voted to  
the committee.

Sis. Carolyn Miller and Sis. Erika  
Graf are retiring from teaching in  
Sunday school, having done a good  
work. Sis. Gail Spangler and Sis.  
Sarah Henico will teach the two  
classes.

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

We want to thank the following  
brothers for ministering God's Word  
to us: Bro. Gary Tonner (Bluffton,  
IN), Bro. Gary Maibach (Smithville,  
OH), Bro. Ron Steiner (Rittman, OH)  
and Bro. Eugene Fetter (Toledo, OH).  
May God bless them and their loved  
ones.

We are thankful that Bro. Andy  
Hunyady is home from the hospital.  
May God continue to heal and  
strengthen Bro. Andy.



### OHIO, JUNCTION Laurie Schlatter

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

"For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened."

Matthew 7:7, 8

We welcomed Bro. Jim Ramseyer (Bay City, MI) and Bro. Mike Rinkenberger (Congerville, IL) as they recently ministered unto us. We thank these brothers for their loving service.

Bro. Roger and Sis. Sue Gasser have been blessed with a little daughter. Brad, Greg and Trent are big brothers to Melinda Sue. Her grandparents are Bro. Arthur and Sis. Bertha Gasser (Smithville) and Bro. Eli and Sis. Evelyn Manz.

### OHIO, LATTY Marlene Reinhard Rhonda Stoller

Those special loved ones in our congregation hospitalized this past month were Sis. Helen Schlatter (Bro. Ben), Sis. Nettie Stoller, Lola Laukhuf and Sis. Rosie Laukhuf. Our prayers will continue to be with each of you. We love you very much and ask God to grant strength to your body.

We wish to extend our heartfelt love and prayers to Sis. Vera Laukhuf. Sis. Vera lost her brother, Bro. Robert Maller (Bluffton, IN). Bro. Robert fought the good fight and finished the race; he has received his heavenly crown from God our Father. Our prayers are also with Sis. Vera's family!

Our hearts were saddened over the death of Bro. Bill Eisenmann (Sis. Lillian). God called His child home. Bro. Bill will be missed by all of us, but we feel joy in our hearts to know he is "home," a place we all desire to be some day.

What words can we use to describe the wonderful feeling we experience in our hearts and minds when we realize our sins have been forgiven and God has given us His peace. Three dear souls have recently experienced this peace. They are Tom and Kim Sinn, and Roy Klopfenstein. We are excited to look forward to the

time when we can meet them as our brothers and sister-in-faith.

I'm ashamed to count the many times I have knelt in prayer and asked God to reveal His will -- the what, the when, the where. And when He did, I'd go my way with doubt still in my heart. "I'm still not sure," I'd hear me say and refuse to make a start. But God did not give up on me. You see, He understands. And I am learning when I pray to trust, and hold His hand.

Author Unknown

### OHIO, MANSFIELD Linda Morrison

Elder Bro. Eugene Pamer (Akron) and Elder Bro. Andy Stoller (Smithville) assisted Elder Bro. Ken Sauder in the reading of the memorandum.

"But it is good for me to draw near to God: I have put my trust in the Lord God, that I may declare all thy works."

Psalms 73:28

We were blessed to hear the testimonies and share the joy of the baptism of our new sisters, Sis. Wilma McCutchen and Sis. LaVersa Sabo. We also have a new brother, Bro. Joe Sabo. Bro. Joe gave his testimony and was baptized in the confines of his nursing home room. What a blessing that after a long life, God will give these dear ones time to repent and be baptized. Their joy was contagious and we continue to rejoice with them. Sharing the special occasion with us were: Elder Bro. Chuck Hemmer (Peoria, IL), Elder Bro. Andy Stoller (Smithville), Bro. Lynn Stieglitz (Leo, IN) and Bro. Doug Sabo (Sarasota, FL). We thank these dear brothers for their efforts on our behalf and trust God will richly bless them for their service.

Doug and Karla (Beer) Stricker were blessed with the birth of a daughter, Holly Marie. Heather is happy to have a new playmate. Grandparents are Bro. Al and Sis. Janet Beer. May God bless them with wisdom and courage as they accept the responsibility to direct this innocent little life.

### OHIO, RITTMAN Stephanie Baltic Diane Gasser

Haste and seek your soul's salvation;

Heed the word of God today!  
Haste to flee His condemnation;  
Seek the straight and narrow way.  
Evil are the worldly pleasures,  
Leading to eternal fire;  
Seek the everlasting treasure,  
Ere the day of grace expire.

Zion's Harp #52

We are thankful that two dear souls have sought the straight and narrow way that leads to life eternal at the end of this life's journey. They are Mike Atanasov and Jon Widmer (Bro. Bob and Sis. Joann). May God grant them much grace and may they feel our love and prayerful support.

Believing it is God's will for their lives, the engagement of Bro. Ted Luginbuhl (Bro. Marvin and Sis. Rose, Smithville, OH) and Sis. Stephanie Baltic (Bro. Dan and Sis. Betty) has been made known.

Also engaged are Tony Zollinger (Bro. Rudy and Sis. Brenda) and Julie Wilkinson (Mike and Carol).

May our heavenly Father continue to be near and guide these couples as they make plans to be joined in marriage.

Four new babies have been born into homes in our congregation this past month.

Mike and Helen Zollinger were blessed with the arrival of a little girl, Katherine Marie. Brian is her brother and happy grandparents are Carl and Sis. Martha Zollinger and Mr. and Mrs. Earl Taylor.

Melissa Jean is the new daughter born to Bro. Tom and Sis. Laura Gerber. Her brother is Jeffrey and pleased grandparents are Sis. Mary Ellen Gerber and Bro. Harold and Sis. Carole Widmer.

Welcoming Leah Renae are Bro. Greg and Sis. Sue Ellen Gasser, along with big sister, Laura. Bro. Emmet and Sis. Marie Gasser and Bro. Wilbur and Sis. Marge Schneider (Rockville, CT) are happy for a new granddaughter.

Bro. Eric and Sis. Melanie Stoller have named the new little son they've been blessed with, Jeran Matthew. Jordan will be happy for a little brother

for a playmate. Pleased with their new grandson are Bro. Everett and Sis. Marge Stoller and Bro. Galen and Sis. Cheryl Indermuhle.

May God's blessings rest upon each of these homes and may He guide the parents with their growing families.

Our thoughts and prayers are with those who suffer. This past month Sis. Liz Gasser (Bro. Glenn), Sis. Betty Winkler and Bro. Frank Nussbaum (Marie) have all required surgery. May our heavenly Father restore health and strength as He sees best. May God's nearness and love be felt in their lives at all times.

### OHIO, SARDIS

**Paula Figel**

The weekend of January 22 was a blessed one for the Sardis congregation. Bro. Dave Graf (Akron) ministered God's Word to us. We want to thank Bro. Dave for sharing the Word with us.

We rejoice with Bro. Wayne Klotzle (Sardis) and Sis. Jane Metzger (Lester, IA) who were united in holy matrimony at Lester, IA, January 22. "... and they two shall be one flesh." Ephesians 5:31. May God bless this union. We certainly welcome Sis. Jane to our congregation at Sardis.

Our Lord Jesus wants us each one to be ready to meet Him in eternity. "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." Matthew 4:17. We rejoice with Renee Miller (Sis. Doris and Bro. Denny) who brought her testimony before the church February 11. She shared how God worked in her heart and brought her to repentance. She was baptized the following day. May God give her grace to walk the pathway she has chosen. Elder Bro. Eugene Pamer (Akron) and Elder Bro. Joe Ramsier (Rittman) conducted the services. We rejoice to greet her as our dear sister-in-faith.

### OHIO, SMITHVILLE

**Kim Stoller - Gwen Stoller**

We thank God that He provides faithful brethren to continually preach His Word. We are thankful for visiting ministers Bro. Roy Luginbuhl (Fort Lauderdale, FL) and Bro. Will Schieler (Milford, IN). May the Lord bless them, as well as our home ministers for their labors.

God has safely seen three sisters through surgery: Sis. Lou Riggensbach (Bro. Glenn), Sis. Marilyn Uhler (Dale) and Sis. Janet Indermuhle (Bro. Darrel). Sis. Carolyn Gasser's son, Dave, and his wife, Patrice, are home after spending time in Greece where he underwent treatments. May each one feel God's healing power.

Bro. Ted Luginbuhl (Bro. Marv and Sis. Rose) and Sis. Stephanie Baltic (Bro. Dan and Sis. Betty, Rittman) feel it is God's will that they become husband and wife. We wish them the Lord's blessings as they prepare for marriage.

### OHIO, TOLEDO

**Josephine Rehklaue  
Frances Laidig**

"Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you."

I Peter 5:7

### HE HOLDS THE KEY

He holds the key of all unknown,  
and I am glad;  
If other hands should hold the key,  
Or, if He trusted it to me, I might be sad,  
I might be sad.

I cannot ready His future plans, but  
this I know:  
I have the smiling of His face,  
And all the refuge of His grace, While  
here below,  
While here below.

John Parker

We wish to thank Elder Bro. Andrew Stoller (Smithville, OH) for spending a Sunday with us and bringing an enlightening message from the Lord.

Sis. Katherine Stevens (late Bro. Philip), a faithful member of our church for many years, always willing to do her part, has been called home by the Lord. We will surely miss her as she always attended church if it was at all possible. Our sincere sympathy goes to her daughter, Thelma Bowers (Richard); sons, Edward (Barbara) and Robert (Dorothy); sister, Francis McBride; grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Sis. Karen Breitwieser (Bro. John) is home from the hospital after hav-

ing surgery. We pray that she may have a good recovery.

Benjamin Harmon (Bro. Doug and Sis. Lanna) has been in the hospital and is home. Now we see his smiling face in church again.

At our annual business meeting Bro. Glen Whittaker was elected as our new trustee. Sis. Sharon Rager (Bro. Walter) will continue to be our dinner coordinator; Josephine Rehklaue, our Silver Lining reporter; and Paul Rywalski, our usher.

In the Sunday school, Bro. Ed Beard (Sis. Dee) was elected as our new superintendent and teacher of the Bible class and Sis. Geryl Beard (Bro. David) was re-elected as teacher of the primary class. We wish to extend our appreciation to Bro. Al Weigle for his devoted service in the Sunday school and Bro. Ed Beard for his service as trustee. We all have a duty to support those who are elected in whatever way we can, and pray for guidance from the Lord.

Nancy Stevens (Robert and Dorothy) has announced her engagement to Dr. John Kihm. We wish them God's blessings in planning their wedding and life together.

### OREGON, PORTLAND

**Jane Rocke - Brenda Knobloch**

Christ is the world's dear Paschal  
Lamb  
He is the great "I was, I am"  
Through Calvary's pain and dismal  
gloom,  
He conquered over death and tomb.  
He rose His own to justify,  
And draws all men up to the sky.  
If you have found the Christ, His  
way,  
Then you can keep this Easter day.  
Henry Beer

May we bring to remembrance each day the great price that Christ paid at Calvary for our redemption.

We thank Bros. Art Metz and Ed Knecht for ministering God's Word unto us.

During the first week of February an Arctic cold front brought record-breaking cold temperatures to the Northwest. This resulted in a broken water pipe which flooded the basement with 3" of water. We are thankful the mess has been cleaned up and

that the damage was not greater.

### OREGON, SILVERTON

**Rosa Lee Kuenzi**

The annual business meeting was held Sunday afternoon, January 22. Bro. Todd Zollinger (Sis. Michelle) was chosen to serve for four years in Sunday school. Bro. Matthew Edelman (Bro. Fred and Sis. Joann, Bern, KS) was chosen for a three-year term as a trustee. Bro. Herb Leman (Bro. Jim and Sis. Myra, Roanoke, IL) was elected to serve as an usher for the next two years and Bro. Nick (Sis. Mary) Kuenzi was elected to coordinate the song leading. Completing their terms of service were: Bro. Rich Kuenzi, Bro. Nick Kuenzi and Bro. Jim Dietrich. We appreciate the efforts of these brothers as they labored in our behalf. May God richly bless them and may He guide and direct the newly-elected brothers in their respective duties.

Thanks to volunteer labor and talent, two publications have recently been made available to our congregations. They are the 1989 Church Calendar with birthdays and anniversaries and the updated Church Directory. These hand and attractive publications serve both the Silverton and Portland congregations and are the result of many hours of effort. They will no doubt be greatly appreciated and enjoyed in many homes.

Lawrence Gehring (Alice) has been having a slow and discouraging recovery from a hip replacement surgery. He is very thankful for his visitors and the many cards and prayers in his behalf. He said he was especially thankful for the prayers and feels he certainly could not have come thus far without them. Lawrence will be recovering at Benedictine Nursing Center. The address is: 540 S. Main, Mt. Angel, OR 97362. May God give him much courage and patience in this trying time.

We are always thankful for the safe arrival of our visiting elders, but the hazardous driving conditions and snowy delays of their travels to Oregon made the safe arrival of Elder Bro. Art and Sis. Sandy Nohl (Morris, MN) especially welcome. Perhaps it was this extra effort on their part to get here for Sunday that made the short weekend even more precious to

us all. Sunday evening, after a hearty supper together at church, we heard the reading of the 1988 brotherhood conference memorandum. Elder Bro. Art and Bro. Clarence Dietrich shared the reading and explanations. Such wonderful words of warning and wisdom are ours to hear. Lord, help us to retain in our hearts what our elders are inspired by Thee to speak.

Two days after his mother's birthday, little Kevin John Dietrich picked his own birthday, January 25. The happy parents are Bro. Jim and Sis. Joan and the grandparents are Bro. Gus and Sis. Martha Feucht (Lester, IA) and Bro. Clarence Dietrich. Seven sisters and brothers welcomed little Kevin home: Becky, Lori, Kristi, Brian, Jill, Mark and Rick. May God bless their family in this busy and precious season of their lives.

Just a reminder to the Silverton area Silver Lining subscribers: March is Silver Lining month for Silverton. The rate is still \$7.00 a year. Thank you.

### PENNSYLVANIA, PHILADELPHIA

**Franz Soni**

"For the Lord is a great God, and a great king above all gods."

Psalms 95:3

We rejoice with Sis. Sandra Lanz (Bro. Edwin and Sis. Marilyn) and Bro. Shawn Metzger (Bro. Eldon and Sis. Dorene, Gridley, KS) as their engagement was announced January 22. A church potluck dinner was also held that day, followed by an afternoon of singing and fellowship.

Sis. Kay Lanz (Bro. John) was hospitalized and is now recovering. May she feel God's healing touch.

"Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labour in the word and doctrine."

I Timothy 5:17

We give thanks to our visiting ministers, Elder Bro. Corbin Bahler (Rockville, CT), Elder Bro. Robert Beyer (Naumburg, NY) and their wives. We with them God's blessings for their services.

### Sermon . . .

(Continued from Page 32)

want to sacrifice. It gives us a measure of satisfaction when we do something for the Lord. It is not sacrifice, but obedience. (See I Samuel 15:22). Obedience is better than sacrifice.

Beloved ones, by the grace of God let us understand what the Lord really wants of us. He will probably demand something else from you than He will from me, even though we both are preparing for the same home in heaven.

Perhaps He is going to test us in one way or another or permit Satan to tempt us. God tempts no man (See James 1:13), but testing comes in order that we can be purified and made ready for the kingdom of heaven.

We think of the potter and the clay. How can the potter fashion anything out of clay? When the clay is submissive to him, he can fashion an honorable vessel out of it. God is trying to fashion, mold and make us and He is only able to if we are submissive and pliable.

He can make each and every one of us a vessel for the Master's use. We will then be able to serve the Lord and give Him honor, glory and praise.

"A certain man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came and sought fruit thereon, and found none. Then said he unto the dresser of his vineyard, Behold, these three years I come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and find none;" so he determined, "cut it down; why cumbereth it the ground?" Luke 13:7.

"And he answering said unto him, Lord, let it alone this year . . ." The gardener said to let it alone. ". . . till I shall dig about it, and dung it." Luke 13:8. Who could that possibly have reference to? Our heavenly Father created you and me, but the Lord Jesus Christ, a merciful and loving Saviour is long suffering and compassionate, even though we have not been fruitful. When we recall the days of our youth, the Lord could have become very impatient with us, but how long suffering He has been!

It is only by the grace of God, like the apostle said, "We are what we are." It is only by the grace and mercy of God that we can serve Him and that we were spared. Many unfortunate people in this world simply are



lost, because they are not seeking the Lord with all their hearts, souls and minds.

There is a commandment that stands out vividly in our minds, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbour as thyself." Luke 10:27.

We read, "On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets." Matthew 22:40. The Lord Jesus Christ came into the world to fulfill the law. The Lord Jesus Christ came to be the Supreme Sacrifice. He came to be the slaughtered Lamb of God.

Let's go back to the children of Israel on that fatal night when the death angel went through Egypt. There were certain requirements and one of those requirements was that they would remain in the house. Today we can think of it as remaining in Christ. They had to remain under the blood. We have to remain under the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ. It is only by the shed blood of Christ that we can be washed, sanctified and made ready for the kingdom of heaven.

Once we become doubtful, Satan has won a victory. When we are fearful, we will not be able to hold fast to the end. We read in Revelation that the fearful will have no part in the kingdom of heaven. (See Revelation 21:8).

The apostle was very explicit when he said not to be overly anxious about the things that will come upon the earth. He wanted to remind us that in the last days there will be great deception in the world. When we are totally surrendered to the Lord, then we have a faith that will hold in trying days.

Beloved ones, we believe we are nearing the end when we see all the evil of this world, the crime, the terrorism and all the earthquakes. I don't know the numbers, but certainly earthquakes have multiplied. In the day of the Lord Jesus we read that there were only a few. He told them that in the last days there would be earthquakes, famines and pestilences. Now we read that there is an earthquake every three minutes somewhere in the world.

Isn't it only reasonable to believe that the last days are upon us, that we must lift up our heads and know

that our redemption draweth nigh? (See Luke 21:28).

Looking back at the fig tree, "He answering said unto him, Lord, let it alone this year also, till I shall dig about it, and dung it: And if it bear fruit, well: and if not, then after that thou shalt cut it down." Luke 13:8, 9. Doesn't that sound like the Lord Jesus Christ?

He certainly is patient with us. He wants to carry us, but, beloved ones, we cannot forget that He said, "After that, cut it down." (See verse 9). So there is a possibility that we can be "cut down."

Beloved, it behooves us to remain close to the Lord and always yield to Him as He tries to lead us.

"Behold, there was a woman which had a spirit of infirmity eighteen years, and was bowed together, and could in no wise lift up herself. And when Jesus saw her, he called her to him, and said unto her, Woman, thou art loosed from thine infirmity. And he laid his hands on her: and immediately she was made straight, and glorified God." Luke 13:11 - 13.

The Lord is trying to straighten us all, isn't He? He is trying to heal us so that we will be able to overcome every sin and evil.

He assured us that He would go with us. When we erected a covenant in the waters of baptism, the Lord promised us that He would never leave nor forsake us, and we promised to be true and faithful to Him until life's end.

"When Jesus saw her (this woman), he called her to him, and said unto her, Woman, thou art loosed from thine infirmity. And he laid his hands on her: and immediately she was made straight (whole), and glorified God. And the ruler of the synagogue answered with indignation, because that Jesus had healed on the sabbath day . . ." Luke 13:12-14. He thought no work should be done on the sabbath.

Why could the Lord Jesus Christ work on the sabbath? He taught them the Lord is also Lord of the sabbath. He created the sabbath. (See Mark 2:27, 28).

He certainly did not come here to break the law, but He came to fulfill the law.

"There are six days in which men ought to work: in them therefore come

and be healed, and not on the sabbath day. The Lord then answered him, and said, Thou hypocrite, doth not each one of you on the sabbath loose his ox or his ass from the stall, and lead him away to watering? And ought not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan hath bound, lo, these eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the sabbath day? And when he had said these things, all his adversaries were ashamed: and all the people rejoiced for all the glorious things that were done by him." Mark 13:14-17. It was marvelous, wasn't it?

The Lord Jesus Christ spoke with authority when He was here. That same Lord, beloved ones, is still on the throne. He is still making intercession on our behalf. We still marvel, don't we? We marvel at the mercy and the love of God.

We can go back to the day when the Lord called us to serve Him. He is still tenderly leading, guiding and keeping each and every one of us. Sometimes we think that it is just up to the ministers to minister the Word. Beloved ones, every one of us who have committed our life to the Lord and become converted are all ministers for the Lord.

Our walk of life and our very conduct should speak louder than words. Many times people who observe our walk of life will never go to church. Yet they see us and are moved and marvel. Let's just become more submissive that we can hear the Lord say one day, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant. Enter into the joy of thy Lord."

Isn't this motivation to keep our hearts in order, bold, cleansed and sanctified? If we let something else come in, then we can lose the guidance of the Holy Spirit. The guidance of the Holy Spirit, beloved ones, is something that we cannot fully understand or appreciate. Let us strive to follow Him so that He will be observed by people.

Even though we can't see Him, yet, we will see what He does through us, and the world may see what He does for us. Then we will be a glory and an honor to God, our Father in heaven, and the Lord Jesus can be magnified in our lives. This is certainly our calling.

FEB 02602 LK  
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## SERMON BY BRO. PAUL R. BUTIKOFER OF ELGIN, IA

### Our Lord Jesus Christ Is Marvelous Luke 13:1-24

When the Lord was here upon the earth, He often went to the synagogue and taught the people. In one particular instance that we recall, He opened to the prophet Isaiah and read a description of Himself. We often read it at Easter, the time of the crucifixion. It describes the time when the Lord Jesus Himself was brought as a sheep to the slaughter, yet He opened not His mouth. Many times they marvelled at Him throughout His unjust trial. He didn't even answer them because He simply knew that His time was at hand that the Scriptures might be fulfilled. In many instances the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ is really Scripture that was foretold and being fulfilled. In the very life and death of Jesus Christ, we see that Scripture was fulfilled, wasn't it?

We try to emphasize thinking of our loving Lord and Saviour, Who loved us so much that he gave His life. They did not take His life; He gave His life.

In these words here, we find, "There were present at that season some that told him of the Galileans, whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices." Luke 13:1. We all know Pilate best for having been the judge when Jesus Christ was tried. Pilate, a person who was easily tossed about, yielded the Lord Jesus Christ to the people's wishes and desires. We find Pilate wanted to please everyone.

"And Jesus answering said unto them, Suppose ye that these Galileans were sinners above all the Galileans, because they suffered such things?" Luke 13:2. He taught them, "I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish." Luke

13:3. I don't think that is too hard to understand, is it? We can fully understand that unless we repent, we perish. That probably isn't too popular anymore in this day and age. The word "repentance" is becoming old fashioned, but for those who truly are sincere in their salvation, repentance is a precious word. It is one of the most precious experiences we'll ever go through in this life.

We'll probably never again in this life have quite an experience as when we turned to the Lord Jesus Christ. When we were totally submissive and had wholly surrendered our life, there was nothing to break. We were so submissive and loved the Lord so much. That's why there are many exhortations to never forget nor lose that first love.

"I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish." Luke 13:3. It is not God's will that one soul perish, but it is clear and plain that we certainly must repent.

Further on, he referred to another similar account: "Or those eighteen, upon whom the tower in Siloam fell, and slew them, think ye that they were sinners above all men that dwelt in Jerusalem? I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish." Luke 13:4, 5. Just because we see others go through real trial and tribulations, that does not always mean that God is judging them. Except we repent, unless we walk with the Lord, we will perish.

Then there is the parable of the fig tree. When we think of the fig tree, we probably think of the day the Lord Jesus Christ and His disciples came up to a fig tree and were hungry. He looked for fruit, but there was no fruit

there. So He cursed it. He said that no longer will fruit grow on this tree. The disciples had a definite foreshadow of the time to come. The fig tree, in my understanding, was a type of Israel. It was clear and plain that Israel would reject the Lord Jesus Christ. They would never be fruitful. That is a sad state. Isn't the very purpose that we plant a tree, that it might become fruitful? Isn't that the very purpose we plant anything in a material sense?

In the spiritual sense, when the Lord plants the good seed of the Word of God into our heart, He does it so that with a little nurturing and a little cultivating, it might become fruitful. We have to cultivate our lives. We have to read the Word of God. We have to pray in order that we might grow in grace and become fruitful in the Lord?

Then when we become fruitful, we will bear fruit, not for our own fame and ambitions, but rather to the glory and honor of God. We can always strive to praise the name of the Lord in word, in deed and in thought.

May we never hear the Lord say, "I never knew you. Cast them into outer darkness where there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth." (See Luke 13:27, 28). It is clear and plain that there are those who think they serve the Lord, who at the end of the way will find that they never knew the Lord and the Lord never knew them. (See Proverbs 14:12 and Proverbs 16:25).

Beloved ones, we must humble ourself. What is most pleasing to the Lord? When we stop to consider, the Lord says, "It is not sacrifice." People  
(Continued on Page 30)