



"Praise ye the Lord:  
Praise ye the Lord from the  
heavens: praise him in the  
heights."

Psalms 148:1

"Praise the Lord . . . snow  
and vapor . . . beasts and all  
cattle . . . his glory is above  
the earth and heaven."

Psalms 148:7, 8, 10, 13

VOLUME 40

FEBRUARY 1990

NUMBER 2



*"Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord. Praise ye the Lord."*

Psalms 150:6

## MISSION -- WORLD RELIEF -- WORKS PROJECTS

### HEFT AND HUNGARIAN TAPES

Recent changes in Eastern Europe have changed the political scene completely. With borders being opened, it is much easier to send aid into these countries. Our brethren there need our continued support as the economic systems are in great disarray. The proceeds from the sales of the Heft and Hungarian cassettes still go to help our needy loved ones in these countries. Even though small, the assistance we offer must be a great source of encouragement to them.

Bro. Joseph 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.

Volume I includes songs 1-11, 13-18; Volume II includes songs 12, 19-31; Volume III includes songs 33-48.

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.

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 \$7.00 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.

Make checks for Hungarian tapes payable to the person you order from -- Dennis Feucht, Don Schrock or Al Betz.

Heft (Long Book) Tapes and Hungarian Tapes may be ordered from:

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

or

Don and 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. 21  
Mansfield, OH 44907  
(419) 756-2756

### WORK PROJECTS COMMITTEE

*"As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men . . ."*  
Galatians 6:10

### SPECIAL BULLETIN

**Hurricane Hugo Work Team Project - Awendaw, SC**

Work teams will be needed through  
(Continued on Page 4)

## TRANSITIONAL LIVING COORDINATOR

### AT GATEWAY WOODS

There is an immediate opening at Gateway Woods (Apostolic Christian Children's Home) for a sister to serve full-time as Coordinator of the Transitional Living Program. This recently developed program attempts to meet the numerous needs of young people who are moving from the Children's Home to independent living.

The Coordinator will live in an off-campus house (in Fort Wayne) with 2 - 4 young women (ages 17 - 19) and provide guidance and training with independent living skills, as well as emotional support. In addition, the Coordinator will work with youth still at the Children's Home main campus, to help prepare them for independent living.

If you have experience working with teens, please pray about applying for this position. It's an exciting and challenging opportunity to work with teens and Christian staff members.

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

Bro. Tim Sauder  
P. O. 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

### THE SILVER LINING

Grabill, Indiana 46741  
USPS 496780

#### EDITORIAL STAFF:

David Bertsch  
Uriel Gehring  
Lester Stoller

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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Counselors: Theo Beer, Loren Stoller,  
David Bertsch, Phillip Stettner

#### SEND CORRESPONDENCE TO:

The Silver Lining  
c/o David Bertsch  
11520 Grabill Road  
Grabill, IN 46741

Second class postage paid at Grabill, IN 46741. The subscription rate is \$7.00 per year. Send zip number with address. Remember to send changes of address. Send both old and new addresses (with both zips).

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).

## CHOOSING A CAREER

Although God promised to care and provide for His children (Matt. 6:25-34), He expects us to work and earn our living (1 Thes. 4:11, 2 Thes. 3:11-12). Giving sincere thought to career planning has thus been an important matter for believers. Today with over 22,000 career options available, 75% of which require post-secondary school training, the issue has become even more complex.

While career preparation is generally considered a school-related decision made by young adults, it should actually begin at home at an early age. The first step in such planning is the establishment of values that are essential in all careers. A recent study in a midwestern state revealed the top reasons for being fired from a job: (1) absence, (2) attitude, (3) poor performance, (4) failure to get along with others, (5) lack of skills, and (6) no interest. Of these six reasons, only one (lack of skills) is school-related; the rest are scripturally based, home-taught values. Jesus gave us the example of the proper set of work values when He spoke of Himself being a Shepherd rather than an hireling (John 10). A shepherd fosters a caring, responsible attitude toward his work rather than the self-centered attitude of an hireling.

As children grow into adolescence, they begin to become more aware of the working world about them, of their own interests and abilities, and of the various role models they observe. At this stage, it may be helpful to acquaint young people with general career clusters (rather than trying to focus on one or two careers among the thousands). One example of career grouping is to classify careers according to (1) mechanical, (2) social, (3) artistic, (4) scientific, and (5) clerical skills. In this way, adolescents can begin to formulate ideas based on their own interests and abilities. Regardless of how the grouping is done, it is important that youth are aware that a wide

range of occupations are valuable and important provided that they honor God and are performed honestly with a Christ-like attitude. David used both his lowly shepherd position and his exalted kingly position to glorify God.

This does not mean that every occupation is becoming to a Christian or in accord with teachings of the New Testament. Law enforcement usually requires readiness to use arms to accomplish its goals, violating scriptural principles which teach us to love even our enemies (Matt. 5:44), and "*Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good*" (Rom. 12:21).

Another important consideration in job selection is close proximity to one of our churches—either an established one, or a developing assembly. The opportunity to maintain proper priorities for family and church is of great significance. Some careers demand such a high degree of commitment that it is extremely difficult to devote adequate time and energy to those things which have eternal value. Jesus taught, "*Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also*" (Matt. 6:21).

If a particular career requires higher education, the selection of an institution should take into account accessibility to the brotherhood. Enrolling near home for at least the first two years can be very beneficial. When this is not feasible, every effort should be made to select a school which is near one of our churches or where services are held on campus. It cannot be emphasized enough that exposure to powerful influences of the world must be offset by the sustaining truths of God's Word. The Apostle Paul taught, "*Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ*" (2 Cor. 10:5).

Values become more important as an adolescent matures into adulthood and the job search narrows to a

specific career. The decision-making process becomes crucial. The standard steps of (1) selecting possibilities, (2) determining job values, (3) exploring possibilities, and (4) developing a plan, are helpful but only truly accomplished if done under the prayerful direction of the Holy Spirit (John 16:13). The primary motive of the decision-making process should be seeking the will of God. He expects His people to be diligent (Prov. 22:29), trustworthy (1 Cor. 4:2), honest (Prov. 11:1), fair (Lev. 19:35-36), obedient (Eph. 6:5), and respectful (1 Tim. 6:1) workers. Any job selection that would compromise these scriptural principles is not God-honoring. Values which the world emphasizes in job selection are wages and prestige. We must realize that God's rewards and His honor are much more valuable than that which the world would offer. In fact, being "*keepers at home*" (Tit. 2:5) constitutes one of life's noblest careers.

Government publications, libraries and related classes can provide helpful information for job selection. Talking to or working with individuals (especially brethren) involved in a specific career can provide excellent experience. Established godly values, an understanding of what God expects of us in a career, and knowledge about a particular career of interest are of great help. In our rapidly changing world, career planning may be a life-long process requiring much thought, prayer, and direction from the Holy Spirit for both young people and older adults.

Finally, we must remember that God's measure of success does not focus on the rewards of a career, but on obedience to His Word and love for one another—characteristics that may be displayed in a wide variety of careers (Josh. 1:8). Whatever our calling in life may be, we should fulfill it "*... heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men*" (Col. 3:23), waiting on the Lord for his blessings.

the winter months, due to the destruction of Hurricane Hugo. Many families will not be able to occupy their home this winter because of storm and flood damage caused by Hurricane Hugo.

All building skills are needed to repair and renovate these damaged homes. Due to the distances involved, it is recommended that plans be made to spend 4 1/2 to 5 working days minimum at the job site, if possible.

To maximize the effectiveness of the work teams, they will be scheduled so the number of workers will approximate 10 as a minimum, to 20 as a maximum. Please contact Bro. Arnold Gerst, (217) 223-8424, to obtain time schedule availability when organizing your Work Teams.

The local people and those involved at the project level have expressed their appreciation for the Apostolic Christian Work Projects involvement. It has given some a different perspective of life and Christian charity.

### California Earthquake Work Team Project - Watsonville, CA

Preliminary planning is being accomplished for Work Team participation in the repair of earthquake damage. Because of the necessity of obtaining necessary rebuilding permits, there will not be any scheduled before January 1, 1990.

A coordinator for this project has not been chosen at this time. Until a coordinator is named, please address

your questions to Bro. Arnold Gerst, (217) 223-8424.

May charity overflow your hearts and may the love of God be reflected in your daily lives.

Least in His Vineyard,  
Arnold Gerst  
Secretary/Treasurer

### Approved Projects - 1990

The following work projects have been approved for 1990 by the Work Projects Committee. Any members or friends interested in volunteering for these or future projects should contact the committee secretary and/or

NOTE: Need a minister to accompany teams -- Call Elder Bro. David Bertsch, (219) 627-2923.

TEAMS	DATES	CHURCH/AREAS	PROJECT LEADER
5	2/2 - 2/10	#1, #2 & #3 Connecticut, Eastern Ohio, Alabama, Georgia & Florida	Leonard Dolce (419) 589-6285 Craig Emch (216) 939-4591
6	2/9 - 2/17	Kansas, Missouri, Minnesota, Iowa, Texas & Canada	Richard Schmidgall (612) 392-5241
7	2/16 - 2/24	#7 Eastern Illinois	Jim Walter (815) 635-3158

### Apostolic Water Aid Water Wells

This is a waterwell drilling project in Haiti, with equipment owned by Apostolics. Volunteers welcome. Those with rotary drill operating experience would be most appreciated.

### Vocational Schools

Work Projects has funded several Vocational Schools to help instruct the Haitian nationals in the building trades. Current plans are to send two volunteers in the early part of September to help instruct the students the use of hand tools.

(Contact your local elder and/or Bro. Bob Sutter (219) 334-5552.)

### Veterinarian Assistance Project

Bro. Bob Beebe, the coordinator for the Veterinarian Assistance Project is scheduling field teams for the 1989-90 season, in Haiti, in cooperation with the Christian Vet Mission, headquartered in Seattle, WA. Any interested party should contact Bro. Bob Beebe, (219) 291-2158.

### Juarez Project

In 1987-89, the Christian charitable organization, AMMAR, was the recipient of material and labor assistance from the Work Projects, which provided a building for them. The community center at Granjas do Cha-

submit a volunteer information form available from their local elder. The completed form should be sent to: Apostolic Christian Works Projects, Arnold Gerst, Committee Secretary, 1107 Madonna Dr., Quincy, IL 62301, or phone (217) 223-8424.

### FOREIGN WORK PROJECTS Haiti Work Teams (Building Projects)

(To be staffed by volunteers grouped by World Relief Geographical Areas [see map on back cover of World Relief Policy Booklet].)

pultepec is now completed, with a free medical clinic, space for feeding the children of the area, and room for holding Bible classes and Sunday School.

Phase 1 of the building project, Kilometro #20, the 2nd project has been approved and funds have been allocated. Construction began the 3rd week in August.

Anyone interested should contact Bro. Gerald Fiechter, (219) 565-3487.

### DOMESTIC WORK PROJECTS

#### Church Addition - Junction, OH.

The exterior work is nearly completed. Finishing skills are now required for the interior of the structure and remodeling the old sanctuary.

Please contact: Bro. Elias Manz, Route 1, Box 489, Paulding, OH 45879, (419) 399-5848, for details.

#### Church Addition - Tucson, AZ.

The exterior work is complete. The new dining and Sunday school facilities are now being used. Volunteers are needed to help remodel the toilet facilities, baby room area, ministers' room, and sanctuary. Contact Bro. Jay Knapp, 8812 East Palisade Terrace, Tucson, AZ 85749, (602) 749-8509, home phone: 790-5413, business phone.

## GATEWAY WOODS

*Apostolic Christian Childrens Home*

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

1990  
CHILDREN'S HOME  
AUCTION AND SALE

SATURDAY,  
AUGUST 18, 1990

**Habitat For Humanity - Tucson, AZ** - This is an opportunity to work with a Habitat for Humanity Affiliate in Tucson. There are five homes being constructed through March, 1990.

Contact Bro. Curtis Kaufman, 3211 S. Palm Springs Drive, Tucson, AZ 85710, (602) 298-8450.

**Respite Care Project - Lexington, KY** - A long term project to provide "respite" care for the handicapped, near the church in Lexington, KY. This will give a couple or two sisters the opportunity to serve, and also help the brethren in the Lexington congregation.

Contact Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman, Route 1, Box 4, Francesville, IN 47946, (219) 567-2798.

**Gateway Woods, Apostolic Christian Children's Home, Leo, IN**

There is a continuing need for couples for the Houseparents' Staff. If there are any that feel led to con-

sider this opportunity to work in the Lord's vineyard, please contact your local elder and Bro. Tim Sauder, Home Administrator. (219) 627-2159.

Additional volunteers are needed for maintenance projects throughout the year at the home. The following tasks are over and above that which is possible for the children to accomplish.

#### SPECIAL ON-GOING WORK PROJECTS

**European Relief Food Packages, Bluffton Distribution Center**

Activated in December, 1985. Ongoing. Individuals or groups. Currently on hold as the Romanian Government will not permit the importation of the food parcels. (Contact Bro. Gerald Fiechter 219/597-7494.

**Assisting Smaller Congregations To Grow**

To aid and encourage internal,

external and migratory growth of smaller Apostolic Christian Congregations. On-going. (Contact your elder for details.)

#### FUTURE WORK PROJECTS - IN PLANNING STAGES

**Fellowship Center Project -**

Lafayette, IN

**Church Building Project -**

Silverton, OR

St. Louis, MO

San Diego, CA

**Remodeling Project -**

Kitchner, Ontario

**Mexican Children's Home**

**Hospital Aide Project - Haiti**

**Apostolic Christian Habitat**

#### APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN WORK PROJECTS

##### COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman, Elder Bro. Nathan Stefan (\*), Elgin, IL; Vice Chairman, Elder Bro. David Bertsch (#), Leo, IN; Secretary/Treasurer, Bro. Arnold Gerst, Taylor, MO; Members: Elder Bro. John Klotzle (\*), Altadena, CA; Elder Bro. Jesse Beer (#), Milford, IN; Elder Bro. Perry Zimmerman (#), Forrest, IL; Elder Bro. Ed Schwartz (\*), Bluffton, IN; Bro. Leon Graf (\*), Akron, OH; Bro. James Hoerr (\*), Peoria, IL; Bro. Robert Meyer, Bluffton, IN.

(\* = Member of World Relief Committee

(#) = Member of Mission Committee

#### NEWS FROM EASTERN EUROPE Andy Hunyady

"Behold, all they that were incensed against thee shall be ashamed and confounded; they shall be as nothing; and they that strive with thee shall perish."

Isaiah 41:11

Greetings Beloved!

The long awaited change finally came to the people of Romania. The terrorist reign of Nicolaie Ceausescu came to an abrupt end. "The anti-christ was slain on Christmas Day" reported a jubilant announcer over the Romanian national radio network, according to media reports.

Unconfirmed reports from Buch-

## KINDERGARTEN TEACHER NEEDED IN JAPAN

Our church in Japan has a kindergarten where Sis. Renee Baurer and Sis. Terri Gramm are now teaching. There will be a need for a sister to teach for two years, through March of 1992. A sister who has the faith and conviction to apply for this position should speak to 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 sister is asked to give two or more years of 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.

There may be a former teaching brother or sister who had served in Japan and was acquainted with the language, or a retired teacher who would be willing to give of himself or herself. A brother or sister without a teaching certificate would be considered. Even one year would be appreciated. Anyone touched in heart should most prayerfully commit it to our gracious God, talk to his or her family and then to their local shepherd. May God provide for our need and may His will be done.

Anyone interested should contact his or her local elder, any of the brothers on the mission committee, including myself, or former teachers to Japan, including Bro. Willis Ehnle. Please note my new address and phone number are: 34050 Ramble Hills Drive, Farmington Hills, MI 48331; phone 313/478-3771; or Bro. Willis Ehnle, 692-2 Shioda, Ichinomiya-Cho, Higashi Yatsushiro-Gun, Yamanashi-Ken, Japan.

Your needy servant,  
Ben Maibach, Jr.

arest, capital of Romania, estimated the number of those killed at above 60 thousand people. It all began in the city of Temesvar (Timisoara) after a Hungarian Protestant pastor openly criticized the "securitate" for the inhuman treatment of ethnic minorities. While seeking refuge in his church with his pregnant wife, the security agents broke down the doors to get

him. A large crowd of people gathered to protest the security's actions. The number of protestors increased to such extent that the army was ordered out to disperse the crowd. The peaceful demonstration turned into violence as the soldiers were ordered to shoot. Soon it turned into a blood-bath and thousands of bystanders, women and children, lost

their lives. Seeing the piles of dead bodies, the soldiers and army officers quickly changed sides and joined the protestors. The news of this horror spread like wild fire and within a matter of hours, similar fightings erupted in other cities, including Bucharest, the capital, where the army turned against the better trained and equipped security forces, which were protecting the leader and his staff.

As the army began to gain the upper hand in the battle, Ceausescu and his wife attempted to escape, but were unsuccessful. Having been arrested, they were charged as criminals, were tried and quickly executed by firing squad.

During the struggle between the army and the security forces, fear and uncertainty gripped the whole nation. Borders were sealed, communications were cut, and no contact with the outside was possible, except for the news media.

Because of close ties with families and brethren living in Romania, we had some very anxious hours and kept a close watch on the fast changing events, with great concern for the safety and well-being of our loved ones. We kept our faith and hopes high, trusting in God, believing that after the great struggle some good will come about!

Though the bloody fighting is over, the political situation is very unsettled. The new provisional government, called "the Council of National Salvation" is made up of reformist communists, who are trying to form a new democratic form of government. General elections for multiparty representatives are set for May 20.

## --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  
Sixth Year -- August 1988 thru July 1989 -- 25,509

#### Bibles Distributed -- Seventh Year

	MONTH	TO DATE
August 1989 --	2210	2210
September 1989 --	1627	3837
October 1989 --	2102	5939
November 1989 --	2338	8277
December 1989 --	3095	11,372
January 1990 --	1212	12,584

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.

### PROGRAM COORDINATOR

#### Pre-School, Athens, AL

Sis. Julie Bauer, who is currently serving as program coordinator and teacher, is engaged to be married and will be leaving about March 1, 1990. If you have a B. A. Degree in Child Development, Elementary Education or related field, and have an interest in this position, please call or write to Elder Bro. Lavoyd Moore, Route 5, Box 75A, Athens, AL 35611, phone 205-232-2035 or 205-233-0591.

In the second week of January, a group of brethren from Hungary entered Romania in six automobiles, loaded with food and medical supplies. After their return, they reported that all went well. At the border crossing they were welcomed by smiling Romanian border guards. People everywhere are relieved and happy to see the change. They are free to travel without reporting to the police, free to attend church, etc. The only problem, and a very critical one, is the food and medical supplies. A high ranking government official admitted to the press that the country has only about 7 - 10 days supply to feed the entire population.

In order to encourage outside help, the new government eliminated all import duties on food, fuel and medicines. Most of the western countries, including the U.S.A. and the Switzerland-based International Red Cross, began to send food as soon as it was considered safe after the shooting. The Hungarian government, in order to prevent local shortages and escalating prices, had placed new restrictions on the amount of certain food items taken out of the country, such as sunflower oil, meat and some dairy products.

With the new changes come new opportunities for us to render needed help, not only in the line of food, medicine and clothing, but the Holy Scriptures and hymnals. These are urgently needed also as they were forbidden, even though some were being smuggled in by brave individuals.

With God's help, the brothers on the World Relief Committee, took steps

to take advantage of the newly opened opportunity, and found a way to order a truckload of food parcels ready for delivery within a few days and at a very reasonable price. Just as this report is being typed, January 24, a phone call from an elder brother in Bucharest, Hungary, informed me that the shipment of food was delivered and unloaded at the home of an elder in the city of Arad. It contained 1200 packages, each weighing 15 kg. (33 lb.), with distribution to our beneficiaries to be made by the local brethren under the supervision of the local elders and their co-workers.

On January 17, early in the morning, another call came from Hungary. This time our well known Elder Bro. Albert Szabo, who had just come from Romania to visit his ailing sister, brought some very good news that we were waiting for. He said that before he left Romania, he consulted with the other elders, and according to their knowledge, none of our brethren or family members were harmed during the revolution. All are well but in need of food. When told that a load of supplies is on the way from Holland, he was deeply moved and said, "Surely the good Lord must have heard the many prayers of His people." In the name of the brethren in Romania he sends hearty greetings and heartfelt thanks to everyone who so kindly and graciously reached out to help them in this very critical hour.

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 Address Changed . . .  
 Give Your Old and New Address  
 To Your Reporter

## GATEWAY WOODS APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S HOME

Cindy Baurer

Our weekly staff meetings are a special time, and include prayer, inspirational thoughts, and sometimes even a song or two. Recently, we each shared something meaningful about the year just ended. It was a time of real encouragement as people told of the mighty works God has done in their lives. Each expressed real thankfulness for being a part of the Gateway Woods "family" and for the rich experiences it has brought. God is abundantly answering your prayers in blessing us with a dynamite staff team, united in their love for God and a commitment to serving Him.

We warmly welcome Bro. Jeff Schumacher, who has recently joined our staff as a counselor. He and his wife, Sis. Tina, are transplants from Chicago, IL. Jeff will join Sis. Judy Luginbuhl (our other counselor) in providing professional counseling for each of our resident children and some of their families, along with training and support for our child care staff.

With mixed emotions, we said goodbye to Robin B., who has returned to her own family. We'll miss her friendly smile and pray God's blessing in her transition home.

New horizons are ahead for Mike K., who is moving from the West House to a foster home. Mike's foster parents (no strangers to him) are Bro. Tim (our administrator) and Sis. Jenny Sauder, who welcome him to their family along with their two daughters, Erica (3) and Kirsten (1).

When returning to their own home is not the best option, we often seek a foster home for our kids. Do you have room in your home and heart for one of these youth? We now have authority from the State of Indiana to license foster homes and would be happy to answer any questions you might have. Or, if you are interested in being a "big brother" or "big sister" to one of our kids, let us know.

The board of directors recently approved a pension plan for our staff. Also, we're thankful to God for extra energy to prepare for our annual State license review which we passed with flying colors!

Recent volunteers have included

## ON-GOING NEED FOR HOUSEPARENTS AT GATEWAY WOODS

At Gateway Woods - Apostolic Christian Children's Home, we periodically have openings for couples to serve as houseparents for troubled children. Often when these openings occur, we maintain for extended periods understaffed as we wait and pray for couples to respond to the Spirit and to the needs of these kids. It is our hope that a list of qualified couples could be developed in order that these positions could be filled quickly with minimum disruption to children's lives.

Houseparenting is challenging, rewarding, spiritually stimulating, and reasonably compensated with salary and benefits. If you or someone you know is interested in the residential child care field, we encourage you to explore the possibilities further by contacting Bro. Tim Sauder at P. O. Box 151, Leo, IN 46765, (219) 627-2159 or 627-2606, or Elder Bro. David Bertsch (219) 627-2923.

Bros. Lee Nuest and Bob Zimmerman, and Sisters Mary and Rosemary Gerber, who have done maintenance and redecorating work at the Home. We're often touched by the generosity of many, many people, who unselfishly give to us in so many ways.

We continue to have an opening for a single or married sister as our Transitional Living Coordinator. Please see the notice in this issue and pray God will lead someone to this important decision.

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### **APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED**

1990! How time flies -- just a few years ago the year 1990 seemed so far away -- and here it is! One thousand nine hundred ninety years since the birth of our kind, loving Savior! And today, we can still benefit from His teachings, His love, and His shed blood for the redemption of all mankind.

Each year brings new challenges. Here in the office we have had our share. Setting up our financial records on the computer, plus the addition of Oakwood Estate and now a residential home has exercised all the brain cells with which the good Lord blessed us. But I am happy to report that all is in control. On January 16, Janet Schweigert from Peoria became our 102nd resident. Janet is a niece of Arnold Rassi, who is one of our board members.

The Nursing Department will soon be sending in their pharmacy orders by a Fax Machine -- thus simplifying ordering of the residents' pharmacy needs.

"The Free Spirit" Special Olympics Basketball Team traveled to Quincy, IL, to participate in a tournament. They all had a very nice weekend.

Birthdays in March at the Home for the Handicapped are: Bill Unsicker (2), Judy Grimm (6), Maretta Rokey (6), Sheila Steffen (9), Margo Ebert (12), Jeff Zimmerman (17), Edna Haynes (23), Jon Wilhelm (26), Nancy Meister (31), and at Oakwood Estate: Mike Bodtke (4), Ann Eberhard (15), and Frank Kyburz (27).

As 1990 unfolds, we ask that you remember the staff and residents in

your prayers. The prayers of the righteous availeth much.

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### **APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL OF ATHENS, AL Julie Bauer**

We're back at school again after a two-week vacation and ready to face the new year with all of its opportunities and challenges. As the year progresses, little familiar faces will be replaced with new faces, whom we will learn to love also. It's an ever changing world. The one thing that never changes, though, is the need these little ones have to know about God.

One day this month we visited a local nursing home and presented a small program to the residents there. We gave them cards we had made and enjoyed sharing a little of God's love with them. Another day this month we had "clown day" and all the kids got their noses and cheeks painted red. The children always face each new activity with such enthusiasm. If only we could learn from their example and face each new day with such optimism and energy! We could get a lot of work done for the Lord.

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### **ALABAMA, ATHENS Pamela Moore**

In the past month, our weather in Alabama has gone from extreme cold to unusually warm -- from 30 below windchill to 65 sunny degrees! We appreciate the unusually warm weather that we are now experiencing. However, along with it come many types of flues and illnesses. In our spiritual lives, we sometimes allow ourselves to experience extremes in behavior and the Lord reminds us to "Let your moderation be known to all men. The Lord is at hand." We find this to be the healthiest way to walk in a spiritual manner also.

The beginning of the new year brought visitors from Akron, OH, and Goodfield, IL. We enjoyed sharing time and fellowship with them. We also had visitors from Cissna Park, IL, later in the month.

January 21 was the day for our monthly all church potluck lunch. With so much illness, we have had smaller attendance in the past month. We look forward to an increasing

attendance once again as everyone recuperates.

Plans are now being made to begin a rotating potluck in our Athens church. We look forward to this being a tool to bring us all closer together as a church family.

Izora Cooley and Sis. Amanda Glass have spent time in the hospital this month. We pray that they may recuperate and return to good health soon.

As the new year has begun, and we set new goals and resolutions for the year ahead, let's make it our number one goal to serve the Lord and draw closer to Him in all we do.

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

It is always refreshing to hear God's Word! Years ago, Vater Hoerr told us there is something "special" in the Apostolic Christian Church. How true that is. During the holiday season, we had seven visiting ministers plus our own four. Each of them had the same message: "There is one thing in life that is important, Jesus Christ, our Saviour."

Our visiting ministers and their families were Bros. Jim Leman (Roanoke, IL), Charles Sinn (Fort Scott, KS), Chris Huber (Francesville, IN), Curtis Kaufman (Tucson), Nathan Leman (Tucson), Len Meyer (Chicago, IL), Marvin Leman (Bradford, IL) and Jim Vierling (Eureka, IL).

We offer prayer and request prayer on behalf of the following: Herb Mohrman (heart surgery), Bro. Harry Roth (eye surgery), Bro. Dick Beery (wrist surgery), Sis. Mildred Stickling (foot surgery), Sis. Marjorie (Bob) Rebbec (medical reasons) and Sis. Marie Marti (hospitalized for car accident injuries). Loved ones who also need God's healing touch are Bro. Earl and Sis. Emma Sanders, Sis. Geraldine Beyer, Rachel Roth, Bro. Manny Stetzler, Ed Kilgus and Ed Harmon.

"The twins arrived safely, Praise the Lord." January 9, Jay and Robin Schmidgall became first-time parents and were blessed with a boy and a girl. Ryan Michael and Kayla Christine are the first twins in our church for over 20 years. Grandparents are Bro. Ken and Sis. Mary Jo Schmidgall and Robert and Gail Sylvia (Louisiana).



We trust Jay and Robin will lean heavily on the Lord to bring up their dear wee ones.

Our sympathy is extended to Herbert and Sis. Shirley Mohrman on the death January 9 of Herb's mother, Sis. Louise Mohrman. Due to physical concerns they were unable to go to Morris, MN, for the funeral. Herb is scheduled for surgery at any phone call.

The accidental death of Jeremy Heyer (Bro. Gary and Sis. Jean) January 14, makes us aware once again how quickly death can come. Young Jeremy is Sis. Nancy and Bro. Leon Baumgartner's nephew. Sis. Nancy's mother, Sis. Iola Knoblock, was here from Iowa, visiting. The three flew back Monday morning to be with their families.

Lovely feathered friends fly by for visits every day, enjoying our pleasant weather. The bright iridescent hummingbirds, cheerful red finches and the distinctive, handsome mockingbirds, that gray-white gymnast that likes to hang upside down on a branch and tweets before flying off, rejoice in knowing God has created their world. The pretty Gila Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker plus the Inca doves and others are a daily reminder to rejoice and know God is good. To think He brings all this beauty and joy.

Go out and make someone aware of God today!

## ARIZONA, TUCSON

### Lisa Knapp

We were recently visited by Bro. Marvin Leman and his wife, Sis. Jane (Bradford, IL). Bro. Marvin shared the Word with us on New Year's Eve and we so appreciated meeting new brethren as a way of closing out 1989. We wish to thank Bro. Marvin for his service to us. A few weeks later Bro. Dwight Stoller and his wife, Sis. Lori (Latty, OH), spent a Sunday with us. We thank Bro. Dwight for his ministry also.

We are now welcoming our "winter family" back to Tucson as the weather in the Midwest gets colder. Our high temperature today was a balmy 75' and was accompanied by a lot of sunshine!

We are excited to have our new

facility in use as our numbers grow with the arrival of each "snowbird". We should soon be enjoying our newly remodeled bathroom/baby room area and will be nearing completion of the final phase of our project, our sanctuary work. We need your prayers and support as we can see the end in sight. We are truly grateful to have come this far safely and uneventfully, with the help of our heavenly Father and our loving brethren.

We were very happy to hear the announcement that our friend, Andy Lehman, has found peace with the Lord and is looking forward to baptism soon. This is such a special time for Andy and his parents, Bro. Nate and Sis. Yvonne.

## CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

### Nella Varga

"Joy to the world" the children sang. Loud and strong, without a doubt, our Savior reigns -- even yet today! How glorious! The Sunday school class put on a Christmas program telling us of the wondrous birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. Even though we hear the story time after time, it becomes a regenerating, restrengthening story every time we hear it. Why? Because the Savior was born we are now given the grace to be reborn.

Commemorative services for Maywood, CA, church was held December 10, 1989. Though it's sad to see a church close its doors, may it make us that much more zealous for the Lord, to spread His message, the Word, the Gospel to everyone we meet. The time is at hand, brothers and sisters. We are living in the winter of God's season plan for the earth.

"Preach the Word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long-suffering and doctrine."

II Timothy 4:2

I have a question for you -- What are your ministry fantasies? What is it that you dream about doing for God in His service? What is it that you really want to do and accomplish for God, who is worthy? Another question: Why aren't you chasing that dream?

"... But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: . . ."

Galatians 5:22, 23

Goodness: n. the state of quality of being good; virtue, kindness, etc.

Bro. Rod and Sis. Cindy Schmitt, along with daughter, Kristie, have made San Diego their new home, moving from Denver, CO. We welcome them with open arms and hearts. We are very glad that God has made the way for them to relocate in our area. It is a blessing to see our church grow.

What is this world coming to, anyway? Revolutionaries in central Europe crying peace, the Romanian dictator, Ceausecsu and his wife, executed after a very quick trial, rumors of Gorbachev resigning from office. (Have you purchased your piece of the Berlin Wall -- only \$19.99!?) What is this world coming to? . . . maybe . . . the end.

. . . Are you ready?

"... But the fruit of the spirit is love, joy, peace, long suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance . . ."

Galatians 5:22, 23

Faith: n. unquestioning belief, specif. in God, religion, etc.

## COLORADO, DENVER

### Marlene Leman

"To everything there is a season . . ." Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 and I suppose for our little church here we might add "a time to come and a time to go." We've bid farewell to Sis. Carol Schrenk and children, Maggie and Joshua, as they have moved back to Alabama.

We appreciated the visit of Bro. Kent Heimer and others from the Taylor, MO, church. May God bless Bro. Kent and give him the courage to continue to speak the Word in truth.

This is the time of the year when cattlemen from all over this nation gather here in Denver for the National Western Stock Show. Many hours are spent laboriously and meticulously grooming the cattle for the judging. Even the smallest im-

perfections are eliminated so that the judge will look favorably upon them and they will be judged the best. Doesn't it seem prudent, when we consider the Great Judgment that we will face, for us to be even more diligent in eliminating the imperfections of this flesh and allow the Holy Spirit to groom us and prepare us for that judging that we are all going to face? May God grant us the grace to let His Holy Spirit work in us and bring us to perfection.

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**CONNECTICUT, ROCKVILLE**  
**Martha Hany**

Over the Christmas season, ministering Bros. Roy Luginbuhl and Brian Webb (Fort Lauderdale, FL) were here visiting loved ones. We thank them for allowing themselves to be used by the Lord as an instrument through which He could once again reveal His will.

"Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity."

Psalms 133:1

Our annual business meeting was held the evening of January 7 at which time brethren were elected to assume various duties for the physical welfare of our church, namely: Trustee, Bro. Joe Koch; Kitchen Committee, Sis. Judy Gottier; World Relief, Sis. Betty Gottier; Trustee - Longview Village, Bro. Mannie Schneider and Song Leader, Bro. John Virkler. We encourage them and appreciate their willingness to serve in this capacity and thank those whose terms have expired.

In addition to much sickness due to the flu, loved ones who had to be hospitalized during the month were Sisters Anna Tschudin, Sandy Schneider, Barb Reutter, Clara Zahner, Lydia Luginbuhl and Bro. John Bahler. Also, Ben Lanz (Bro. Sherman and Sis. Joanne) is recuperating with a broken arm. We pray for their well-being and for others who are under a physician's care seeking relief.

"O sing unto the Lord a new song: for he hath done marvelous things: his right hand, and his holy arm, hath gotten him the victory."

Psalms 98:1

We rejoice with Bro. Wayne Schneider and Sis. Maxine Bahler who, by their faith, became husband and wife January 7. As they are now joined together as one to help one another through the complexities of life, may they continue to seek God's guidance and direction. The engagement of Bro. Jeff Gerber and Sis. Carole Bahler was announced January 7. We are happy that, by their faith, the Lord has brought them together. Parents are Bro. Everett and Sis. Phyllis Gerber and Bro. Ken and Sis. Aline Bahler.

The faith of Sis. Huldah (Lanz) Luginbuhl, 95, became a reality when she passed into eternity January 17. Sis. Huldah leaves two sons, Bros. Ervin and Lenny, and two daughters, Sisters Gladys Schneider and Joyce Hunt. Also surviving are one brother, Bro. Alvin, and five sisters, Sisters Olga, Clara, Edna, Gertrude and Evelyn. Our sympathy is with the family as I am sure they have many fond memories of their mother and sister.

On Sunday evening, January 14, Elder Bro. Corbin Bahler and Bro. Al Schneider read the memorandum to us. Our shepherds reminded us of the need in this latter time of supporting our elders, church unity and the seriousness of being single-minded if ever we hope to attain eternal life. Surely, it is not written in vain: "Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it." (Matthew 7:14).

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**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,**  
**WASHINGTON**  
**Catherine Klopfenstein**

Visiting ministers in January were Bro. Ron Palitto (Akron, OH) and Bro. Nelson Beer (Milford, IN). Bro. Ron was accompanied by his wife, Sis. Lynell, and two sons, Bro. Mark and Bro. Mike. Bro. Nelson was accompanied by his wife, Sis. Shelby, and Bro. Richard and Sis. Cathy Schlipf. Other visitors were from Tremont, IL, and Smithville, OH. We are, without exception, richly blessed and strengthened in the spirit each time we assemble. May the Lord richly bless and reward the ministering brothers for their efforts as well as all

our visitors who bring so much love to our fellowship.

The Klopfensteins and Henrietta Meyer visited the Philadelphia church January 14.

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. Highway 7, about one mile west of I-495. For information or assistance, please call Ralph Klopfenstein at 703-979-3476. Visitors are always welcome.

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**FLORIDA, FT. LAUDERDALE**  
**Terri K. Huber**

It is a glorious new year. We'd like to start out by welcoming Bro. Eric and Sis. Elaine Olson, who have moved to Fort Lauderdale from Fort Wayne, IN. Eric has started an internship in Miami. We are just delighted to extend the hand of fellowship and share our beautiful weather with this couple!

Our winter crowds have finally arrived, and with them, a wonderful "selection" of visiting ministers. On New Year's Day, we were inspired by the Word of God spoken through Bro. Marvin Stieglitz (Leo, IN). The following weekend we were blessed when the elder committee on education convened in Fort Lauderdale, bringing Elder Bros. David Bertsch (Leo, IN), Andy Stoller (Smithville, OH), Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL) and Joe Braker (Morton, IL). We also enjoyed a visit by Bro. Al Schneider (Rockville, CT) on Wednesday night. Bro. Dan Stoller (Remington, IN) presented God's Word Sunday, January 21. On that same day, we were enlightened by a slide presentation on one of the mission projects in Mexico. We are thankful for the ministers and their wives and for all our visitors.

Bro. Roger Sauder gave the local treasury report for 1989.

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**FLORIDA, NORTH FT. MYERS**  
**Dorothy Beer - Jeanette Yergler**

With the start of a blessed new year, let us strive to serve our heavenly Father more sincerely this year. Remember, He keeps His promise to us, so let us always strive more fully to serve Him.

We are thankful for the visiting ministers of the last few weeks. Those serving us were Elder Bro. Joe Stoller (Princeville, IL), Bros. Dave Wiegand (Champaign, IL), Doug Sabo (Sarasota), Marvin Stieglitz (Leo, IN) and Jim Hoerr (Peoria, IL).

Our congregation extends our sympathy to Bill and Louise Heckel in the passing of his sister, Helen Puraty (Colorado).

Those who remain on the sick list and not able to assemble with us are Sis. Goldie Kipfer (Bro. Art) and Bro. Ezra Kaehr (Sis. Tillie).

Bro. Roland Keller (Sis. Viola) is recovering from surgery.

Chip Stoller (Bro. Ivan and Sis. Maxine Stoller) has started college and we wish him God's strength.

We had our annual meeting and wish to thank each one for their support.

#### FLORIDA, SARASOTA

##### Suellen Ott

Winter season brings many visitors to our church from the north. We are especially grateful for the ministers who visited us in the past month. They were Bros. Ed Alt, Marvin Stieglitz, Harold Schmidgall, Jim Hoerr, Rick Plattner, Carroll Gerber and Dean Messner. We are thankful for the ministering brothers who so willingly share God's Word with us.

The death angel has visited several families in our church. It brings us to the throne of prayer in their behalf. We remember Bro. Lyman and Sis. Vivian Feldman in the loss of his mother and Bro. John and Sis. Lucille Heiniger in the loss of John's sister-in-law.

Our congregation in Sarasota has felt the loss of a dear brother and friend in the passing of Ben Aberle (Sabetha, KS). Bro. Ben has been ill for the past month and we rejoice in knowing he will not suffer any more pain or sorrow and that he has won the victory. We want to pray for his dear wife, Sis. Anna Lou, and the Aberle family.

Jesus knows thy sorrow,

Knows thine every care;

Knows thy deep contrition,

Hears thy feeblest prayers;

Do not fear to trust Him,

Tell Him all thy grief;

Cast on Him thy burden,  
He will bring relief.

Hymns of Zion #74

We rejoice with Sis. Sue Eisenmann in her recent graduation from L.P.N. school. May God be near her and direct her in the ministry of caring for the sick.

We have had several from our church family in the hospital and others shut-in for some time. It is good to have our friend, Marie Heller, back as well as Bro. Dan Knochel. May all enjoy reasonable health and strength in the coming days.

#### GEORGIA, ATLANTA

##### Peggy Camp

We are thankful that Elder Bro. Lavoyd Moore (Athens, AL) and Bro. Nathan Stoller (Bradford, IL) were with us this past month. We appreciate the time they took to come and share the Word with us.

Steve Bodjanac has moved back to Akron, OH. We will certainly miss his presence at our gatherings.

Our small congregation is always grateful for visitors who stop in Atlanta and worship with us. We meet every Sunday at the Ramada Renaissance, which is located off I-85 at Riverdale Road. Please contact Bro. Linn Stoller (404-631-4554) or Bro. John Brewer (404-254-9692) for more information.

#### ILLINOIS, BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL

##### De Anderson - Marcia Bauer

We welcomed two precious baby girls into our church family this past month. Katie Elisabeth Nussbaum was born December 23 to Bro. Brent and Sis. Cheryl. Completing the family circle is her big brother, Brendon.

Kyrie, second child of David and Sis. Lisa Doran, arrived January 13. Welcoming her home is her brother, Seth.

January 14 was the wedding date chosen by Sis. Joan Schrock (Bro. Steve and Sis. Gerri, Congerville, IL) and Bro. John Yoder (Devon and Sis. Laveille, Gridley, IL). Elder Bro. Edwin Ringger (Gridley, IL) and Elder Bro. Dan Koch (Tremont, IL) assisted in the service.

We wish to express our thanks to Bro. Jim Plattner (Princeville, IL) for being with us December 24.

We continue to pray for God-given strength and courage for Sis. Karen Brummitt (Dave) as her illness no longer permits her to gather with us as she would wish . . .

No matter what may be the test,  
God will take care of you.  
Lean, weary one, upon His breast,  
God will take care of you.

Hymns of Zion #138

#### ILLINOIS, BRADFORD

##### Karen Ringger

Bros. Don Manz (Junction, OH), Kenny Knapp (Taylor, MO) and Ron Joos (Pulaski, IA) were our visiting ministers. We thank them for preaching the Word.

Feeling God's guidance in their lives, Bro. Jeff Kieser (Bro. Loris and Sis. Mart) and Sis. Jane Nelson (Bro. Harry and Sis. Helen Schmidgall, Morton) have announced their engagement for marriage. May God bless and direct Bro. Jeff and Sis. Jane as they make plans for a March 25 wedding.

We also heard of the engagement of Robert Kieser (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Wilma) and Kelly Geary (Mr. and Mrs. Charles Geary, Wyoming). May God be with them as they plan their wedding for June 23.

Daniel Jacob Klumpp was born to Bro. David and Sis. Barbara January 17. Daniel's big brothers are Bryan, Kevin and Andrew, and his thankful grandparents are Bro. Raymond Klumpp and Sis. Ann Hartter (Morton).

On a recent Wednesday evening, our Elder Bro. Joe Stoller was with us to conduct our annual meeting. Our new trustee is Bro. Loris Stissor and our new ushers are Bros. Dennis Endress and Alan Knobloch. Bro. Don Duckworth will be our new World Relief correspondent. May God bless the dear brothers whose term expired and may He guide the newly elected brothers so we can abide with God's Word that says, "Let all things be done decently and in order." I Corinthians 14:40.

Sis. Margaret Tanner wants to thank everyone for the prayers, cards and visits received while she was in

the hospital and since returning home. May God bless each one for their thoughtfulness.

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

Jeff and Janice McDonald are parents of a new son, Tyler James. Tyler was born December 13 and has been warmly welcomed by his grandparents, Bro. Roland and Sis. Mary Ann Young (Cissna Park, IL) and Jean McDonald (Sidney, IL).

We have missed Sis. Verna Roth as she was a hospital patient and spent several weeks recovering at the home of her daughter in Bluffton, IN. We look forward to Sis. Verna's return to Champaign.

A number of men from our congregation have spent time this winter working on a local World Relief Project. Empty Tomb, Inc., a local outreach program assisting families and individuals in need of food, clothing, home repairs, etc., is building a new facility. Their Adopt-A-Room program enables churches to provide the building materials, manpower, and carpentry skills required to complete one room in the new building. The combined efforts have been fruitful in helping to complete the building and providing opportunity for Christians to meet and work together.

Bro. Dan and Sis. Sandy Guingrich believe the Lord has led them to move to Indianapolis, IN. Bro. Dan graduated from the University of Illinois and is employed by Eli Lilly Pharmaceuticals, Inc. The fellowship of this family will be missed by all in our church, and our Sunday school will miss the participation of Bryce, Traevor and Blake. We pray God's blessing will be with the Guingrich's.

Bro. Bob Zimmerman has accepted employment in the Galesburg, IL, area. Bob began his spiritual life while a student at the University of Illinois and continued to worship with us while working in Danville. We will miss his fellowship.

Elder Bro. Bob Walder (Congerville, IL) and Bro. Virg Metzger (Chicago, IL) visited our congregation. We thank them for serving us.

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Give Your Address Changes  
To Your Reporter

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

"Dare to be a Daniel, Dare to stand alone, Dare to have a purpose firm, Dare to make it known." (Tabernacle Hymns #333). As we read Daniel 6:9-17, we see him stand steadfast, despite the persecution from others. He was able, with God's help, not to hide his beliefs nor to be kept from victory. May we keep his example in mind, for we, too, face lions daily. Maybe each of us has a bit different group. I have at least three that are labelled "Being Too Busy" in each of several parts of my life. One (or more) is titled "Fear" -- of failure in the eyes of others, of mocking laughter. Another of mine must be tagged "Laziness." There are several for various societal values that deny the truth of God's Word. I pray for the Lord to close their mouths so that they do not touch me. This He promises if I do my part. Truly our Triune God is alone the God of Love.

We are glad in this new year for those things which remain the same. We were privileged to be taught by the Spirit through Bros. Kevin Ryan (Rockville, CT) and Roger Aberle (Sabetha, KS) in this past month. May the Lord bless them eternally for their willingness to use their talents for Him and for us.

The Lord has led them "two by two" to consider His will for their lives. Bro. Todd Stoller (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Barb, Morton, IL), who is in dental school here, and Sis. Mary Feucht (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Beth, Morton, IL) are engaged, as of Christmas Day. The engagement of Sis. Gloria Streitmatter of Chicago (Bro. Jeff and Sis. Ruth, Sarasota, FL) and Bro. Jeff Fischer (Bro. Lyle and Sis. Lillian, Fort Scott, KS) has also been announced. They look forward to an April wedding. We wish both couples the Lord's blessings and grace and look forward to having them in our area.

We welcome Bro. Kent Rager (Toledo, OH). He is living with several brothers northwest of the city and working at Motorola as an electrical engineer. May he feel our warmth and love so that his adjustment to our area is "easy and light."

In this month we have lost 8 persons from our congregation, an adjustment for our congregation as well as for them. Yet the Lord has called them to other congregations, and we

can see at least some of His plan and some of His reasons. Thus we submit prayerfully. Bro. Jeff and Sis. Tina Schumacher have moved to Leo, IN. Bro. Jeff has taken the position as counselor at Gateway Woods. We know how much they will be loved and taken care of, how useful and inspirational they will be. But, they were part of us and we miss them. Bro. Dean and Sis. Karen Beutel, Stephanie, Greg, Sheila and Tim are moving back to Tremont, IL. He will be working at Caterpillar in Peoria once again. We want to thank Bro. Dean for his support as song leader and trustee and the whole family for everything, especially their efforts on Wednesday evenings. We are grateful for the five and a half years they rejoiced and wept and sang with us. Words cannot express our thankfulness for their time with us, nor how deeply the parting hurts. May these our loved ones all know they are welcome to come back any time. We pray for them and their families as they adjust and find peace in the Lord's will.

Our love and prayers are with Howard Houk and his wife, Bernice, as he recovers from open heart surgery. May the Lord give them His healing balm for body and soul.

Sis. Mancika died January 16, 1990. That parting was also hard -- for us. But our dear Sis. Mancika, who has known the peace of our Savior just in the past year, was much more ready to go than to stay. We are tearfully grateful the Lord called her home, for her pain here was so great. Sis. Margaret Jankovich was born in 1902 in Debrecen, Hungary. She and her husband emigrated to the United States in 1963. She has been widowed many years, living in Chicago with her son, Sandor; his wife, Rosa; and until recent years, her grandson, Alex, who survive her. She loved them so, and so do we. We are thankful for their love and patience and understanding always. In their grief, may the Lord grant them all comfort and peace as only He can give.

We were reminded Wednesday evening: "For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall much be required . . ." Luke 12:48. After we were reminded of that which we have been given spiritually, temporally,

and talentwise, we were given the requirements: walking in truth, laying up treasure in heaven, being servants of God, and bearing a spiritual harvest. For all these we are accountable. "Therefore to him that knoweth to do good and doeth it not, to him it is sin." James 4:17. Lastly, we were told how to perform as the Lord would have us. As Nehemiah and the people rebuilt the wall of Jerusalem, we also must work. "... every one with one of his hands wrought in the work, and with the other hand held a weapon." Nehemiah 4:17b. May the Lord grant us His strength and wisdom always to use our working talents diligently and to wield our spiritual shield and sword to build up the wall of faith.

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**ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK**  
**Mary Knapp - Karol Stock**

Several families in our congregation are rejoicing over the arrival of new babies this past month. Bro. Roland and Sis. Mary Anne Young welcomed their first grandchild, Tyler James, born December 13 to Jeff and Janice McDonald (Urbana, IL).

Bro. Tim, Sis. Karol and Mindy Stock welcomed another baby girl, Bonnie Jo, born December 19. Grandparents are Bro. Les and Sis. Arlene Stock (Cissna Park) and Bro. Bill and Sis. Marj Rinkenberger (Rankin, IL).

Bro. Steve and Sis. Bonnie Kaeb welcomed their first grandchild, a baby girl, Ashley Renee, born December 22 to Bro. Roger and Sis. Sheila Steidinger (Forrest, IL).

Bro. Elmer and Sis. Mary Lou Kaeb also have a new granddaughter, Kristin Mary, born December 31 to Bro. Harvey and Sis. Judy Kaeb (Forrest, IL).

Mark and Sherri Sauder (Watseka, IL) welcomed a baby boy, Nicholas Alan, born January 12. Grandparents are Bro. Curt and Sis. Elaine Sauder (Cissna Park) and Ed and Michele Bush (Watseka, IL).

Ecclesiastes 3:1 and 2 reminds us, "To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven: A time to be born, and a time to die..." Even as we marvel at the miracle of new life, our congregation has also been saddened by the loss of our Bro. William Beer, 78. He passed away December 19 at Iroquois Me-

morial Hospital (Watseka, IL). Funeral services were held December 23. Surviving are his wife, Sis. Twylla; four sons, Gerald (Washington, D.C.), Ronald (Stillwater, OK), Joe (Phoenix, AZ) and Scott (Milford, IL); three daughters, Betty Wilson (Champaign, IL), Sonia Zbinden (Morton, IL) and Shelly Combs (Horseshoe Bend, AK); two sisters, Sis. Mattie Bauer (Cissna Park) and Sis. Lucille Zimmerman (Morton, IL); 15 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. We extend our sympathy to this family and pray that God will be their comfort.

Hospital patients this month were Jesse Zbinden and Sis. Kathryn Farney (medical) and Bro. Ralph Knapp (Sis. Verena), surgical. May God bless each one with renewed health and strength.

We are thankful for our visiting ministers, Bro. Dennis Kaufmann (Bloomington, IL) and Bro. Robert Beebe (South Bend, IN).

Our annual business meeting was held January 3. Our new Sunday school teachers are Sis. Velma Rinkenberger, Sis. Joann Maul, Sis. Joan Rudin, Bro. Hartzell Kaeb and Bro. Steve Walder. Bro. Roland Young is our new trustee. We are thankful for all who are willing to serve in these capacities as well as the many various committees. We trust that each one will receive a special blessing for their labors.

A reminder to our Cissna Park congregation that Silver Lining dues are payable to your reporters during the month of February.

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**ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE**  
**Deb Dietrich - Becky Ott**

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

Proverbs 22:6

Two families have been given this responsibility to bring up their children in a Christian home. Welcoming Kali Joy are Bro. Mike and Sis. Susie Zobrist and Caleb. Grandparents are Bro. Rusty and Sis. Joyce Zobrist and Bro. Fred and Sis. Marge Knapp.

Bro. Alan and Sis. JoAnn Roth, David and Lisa open hearts and home to Jonathan Alan. Grandparents are

Bro. Keith and Sis. Pauline Roth and Bro. Hans and Sis. Arlene Hinrichsen (Goodfield).

When death comes and takes our loved ones, it leaves a sorrow that only can be comforted by thoughts of meeting them someday in heaven. We will miss Ida Eglin and Sis. Liz Zobrist in our congregation. May God's comforting hand be with their families.

We were privileged to have many visiting ministers this month. Included were Bros. Dale Zeltwanger (Morris, MN), Tom Zimmerman (Gridley, KS), Kenny Knapp (Taylor, MO), Curt Rassi (Tremont) and Gene Lehman (Wolcott, IN).

It is again time for collection of Silver Lining dues in Congerville. The amount due is \$7.00.

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**ILLINOIS, ELGIN**  
**Elizabeth Schambach**  
**Betty Bachtold**

As we assembled the first Sunday of the New Year, God's faithfulness was evident through His Word and Spirit. We were reminded it was 59 years ago that the first sermon was preached in our church building. Can't we rejoice in His mercy and goodness to all mankind? As faithful brethren have prayed down through the decades, may we also remain steadfast and continue to follow in the steps of our dear Lord. "God's people yet shall take possession of that sweet land of rest so bright..." Zion's Harp #211. As always, we appreciate and are thankful for visiting ministers including Bros. Dale Frank (Oakville, IA), Kevin Ryan (Rockville, CT), Doug Schock (Pulaski, IA) and Clarence Kachelmuss (Forrest, IL).

Stacey Martin, daughter of John and Ella, has heeded the loving call of the Saviour and has begun this pilgrim way. May God share His grace to her and all who seek this "noblest part."

On December 27, Jillian Kay was born to Bro. Ken and Sis. Vicki Kellenberger. Little Jillian has two sisters, Jaclyn and Stephanie, who happily welcome her home, as well as grandparents, Sis. Marilyn Kellenberger, Marion Conro and Wilbur Schmidgall, all of Elgin.

Sis. Mary Gasser (Bro. Walt) has spent time in the hospital recently

and we pray for God's nearness and her complete recovery.

We share sympathy with Sis. Sarah Kellenberger and Bros. Art and Delbert Schmidt and families in the passing of their loved one, Sis. Louise Mohrman (Morris, MN).

"And now, Israel, what doth the Lord thy God require of thee, but to fear the Lord thy God, to walk in all his ways, and to love him, and to serve the Lord thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul," Deuteronomy 10:12. May God share needed grace and willing hearts to those who were selected to labor in the functions of our church building and rest home. Among those chosen were Bro. Don Stettner, trustee; Bro. Dave Jepson, secretary; Bro. Les Schambach, board member of Resthaven; and Bro. Tom Schifferer, land committee. May God bless those whose terms have expired. These include Bros. John Steffen, Richard Kilgus, Mel Schrock and Kenneth Lindoerfer.

Just a reminder: February is collection month for Silver Lining dues in Elgin.

### ILLINOIS, EUREKA

#### Kathy Leman

"... I was sick and ye visited me:" St. Matthew 25:36. We have many dear ones who have been in the hospital this past month. Our prayers go out to Bros. Bob Wettstein (Sis. Verna), David Leman (Sis. Ann), Ben Wettstein (Sis. Anna), Virgil Rocke (Sis. Pauline) and Sisters Sarah Blunier (Bro. Lee), Aldine Leman (Bro. Sam), Claribel Anliker (Elder Bro. Walter) and Karen Martin (Bro. Doug). May God be near each one and their families as they go through this trial of the flesh.

"This union of our hearts shall stand through grace in Jesus." Zion's Harp #79. December 31 was the date chosen by Sis. Gail Wagenbach (Bro. Lawrence and Sis. Elaine, Princeville), and Bro. Gary Getz (Bro. Allan and Sis. Nathalia) to become husband and wife in the Lord.

Sis. Heidi Knapp (Bro. George and Sis. Fern, Goodfield) and Bro. Daniel Schumacher (Bro. Bob and Sis. Charlene) were united in marriage January 14. We wish God's blessings on these two dear couples and welcome

Sis. Gail and Sis. Heidi to our congregation.

The family of Sis. Lydia Rocke wishes to express our heartfelt thanks to all of you who have helped us through this year of 1989. We could feel the prayers that were offered in our behalf. We have this confidence that you will all be blessed for your prayers, cards, calls, gifts of love, expressions of sympathy and labors of love during the last days of our sorrows.

### SAFELY HOME

I am home in Heaven, dear ones;  
Oh, so happy and so bright!  
There is perfect joy and beauty  
In this everlasting light.

All the pain and grief is over,  
Every restless tossing passed;  
I am now at peace forever,  
Safely home in Heaven at last.

Did you wonder I so calmly  
Trod the valley of the shade?  
Oh! but Jesus' love illumined  
Every darkened fearful glade.

And He came himself to meet me  
In that way so hard to tread;  
And with Jesus' arm to lean on,  
Could I have one doubt or dread?

Then you must not grieve so sorely,  
For I love you dearly still;  
Try to look beyond earth's shadows,  
Pray to trust our Father's Will.

There is work still waiting for you,  
So you must not idly stand;  
Do it now, while life remaineth --  
You shall rest in Jesus' land.

When that work is all completed,  
He will gently call you Home;  
Oh, the rapture of that meeting,  
Oh, the joy to see you come!  
Author Unknown

### ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY

#### Jean Bachtold - Crystal Fehr

### GATHERING HOME

We read in the Bible the promise  
He made,  
"I go to prepare you a home,"

When we must cross over that river  
of night,  
We won't have to cross it alone.

The leaves may be withered that  
fall to the ground,  
To cover a seed from the eye,  
But the hand that awakens its  
heart-beat in spring,  
Will awaken God's child in the sky.

We'll have a reunion and walk  
down the street  
Where faces will never know tears.  
We'll sit on the curb-stone with  
friends we have known and visit for  
hundreds of years.

### Chorus

Gathering Home.  
They're Gathering Home.  
Gone from this world with a spirit  
reborn.  
Gathering Home --  
They're Gathering Home --  
God's little children are Gathering  
Home.

Stuart Hamblen

Recently two dear souls were called "home" to meet the Saviour face to face. Sis. Anna Steffen passed away January 6 at the Apostolic Christian Home in Peoria. Surviving are one brother, Bro. Ben Steffen, and one sister, Sis. Kathryn Steffen (Peoria).

Sis. Lydia Lois Beckley passed into eternity January 10. May the Lord bless Sisters Ruth and Roberta Meyer who so faithfully cared for her.

Also, sympathy is extended to Bro. Norman and Sis. Lola Young in the loss of her father, Fred Ifft, Sr. May the families be comforted in their time of sorrow.

Those who have spent time in the hospital were Bethann Kafer and Bro. Anthony Fehr. Our prayers are still with Bro. Duane Kilgus as he remains in the hospital. May the healing hand of God restore according to His will.

This past month we held our semi-annual business meeting to fill necessary positions in our church. We thank those brothers who have willingly served their term and wish grace and guidance to those who assume new duties.

Bro. Randy Steidinger was elected as a Sunday school teacher to replace Bro. Dennis Rassi. May the precious

seed be sown in the tender hearts of our children.

We appreciate God's Holy Word brought forth by our visiting ministers, Bros. Earl Gerber (Forrest), Jay Luthi (Lamont, KS) and Paul Gasser (Akron, OH). We thank them for their willingness to minister to us.

### ILLINOIS, FORREST

**Sherri Kelson  
Sandra Schneider**

Bro. Roger and Sis. Sheila Steidinger became first-time parents when Ashley Renee was born. Happy grandparents are Bro. Steve and Sis. Bonnie Kaeb (Cissna Park) and Bro. Ivan and Sis. Kathryn Steidinger.

On December 31, Bro. Harvey and Sis. Judy Kaeb were blest with a little daughter, Kristin Mary. Also at home to love her is her sister, Melissa. Bro. Donald and Sis. Rozella Gramm (Gridley) and Bro. Elmer and Sis. Mary Lou Kaeb (Cissna Park) are her grandparents.

Sis. Marlene Steidinger (Bro. James) was a hospital patient this month. Our prayers are with her for a quick recovery.

We express our thanks and appreciation to Bros. Virgil Metzger (Chicago), Paul Gasser (Akron, OH) and Gary Anliker (Elgin, IL). May our Father in heaven reward them for ministering to us.

In the year of 1989, we were blest with 16 new babies, 8 boys and 8 girls. We had 4 deaths in our church family and 6 couples were united in marriage. We rejoice that 11 souls could be added to our flock.

### ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD

**Trish Gerber**

Our congregation was blessed as we heard the marriage vows of Bro. Dan Schumaker (Bro. Bob and Sis. Charlene, Eureka) and Sis. Heidi Knapp (Bro. George and Sis. Fern). We wish God's richest blessings for their new lives together in Him.

Visiting ministers this month were Elder Bro. Walt Anliker (Eureka, IL), Bro. Vernon Wettstein (Congerville, IL) and Bro. John Steiner (Oakville, IA).

Hospital patients were Babe Knapp, Clara Dreyer and Sis. Ruth Hohulin.

### ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY

**Perry A. Klopfenstein**

Our congregation rejoiced over the sacrament of marriage as two weddings were solemnized recently. On December 31, Sis. Peggy Ringger was married to Bro. Mike Stoller. Her parents are Bro. Earl and Sis. Dixie Ringger and his parents are Bro. Don and Sis. Vyra Stoller, all of our Gridley congregation.

On January 14, Sis. Joan Schrock (Bloomington) was wed to Bro. John Yoder (Gridley). She is the daughter of Bro. Steve and Sis. Gerry Schrock (Congerville). His parents are Devon and Sis. Laveille Yoder (Gridley).

Little Trent Curtis Witzig (Bro. Curtis and Sis. Norma Witzig) who was born November 21, 1989, was recently hospitalized but has since returned home.

As the new year of 1990 has dawned and is progressing ahead, we, as believers, find our lives marked by hectic schedules and much activity. We will profit spiritually if our energies are spent in service to God, rather than in material pursuits. It behooves us, as we strive along Godly pathways, to look often to the Lamb of God for guidance, solace and comfort. He hears and answers our prayers and is attentive to the trust and focus we extend to His father heart. In connection with our daily longing for God, there is a gorgeous song on page six of the Hymns of Zion hymnal entitled, "There's A Wideness In God's Mercy":

There's a wideness in God's mercy  
Like the wideness of the sea;  
There's a kindness in His justice,  
Which is more than liberty.

For the love of God is broader  
Than the measure of man's mind,  
And the heart of the eternal  
Is most wonderfully kind.

If our love were but more simple,  
We should take him at His word;  
And our lives would be all sunshine  
In the sweetness of our Lord.

### ILLINOIS, MORTON

**Phyllis Farney - Cheryl  
Wuthrich**

Many persons in the world consciously or unconsciously run to and fro looking for love. But, they do not

find it because they do not know God. "He that loveth not knoweth not God: for God is love." I John 4:8. In Christ we have the ultimate example and complete source of love. May the Lord help each of us to follow His example and truly love and show love to our fellow men, that He may be glorified.

We could certainly feel God's love flowing from heart to heart December 17 as Sis. Cindy Witzig (Bro. Harold and Sis. Dorothy) and Bro. Luis Gomez (Enrique Gomez) were united in holy matrimony. Bro. Luis made his home for a period of time with Bro. Marshall and Sis. Janice Heinold (Washington, IL). We wish them God's richest blessings as they make Chicago, IL, their home church.

Further evidence of God's rich love was shown with the engagement announcements of two dear couples. Sis. Jane Nelson (Bro. Harry and Sis. Helen Schmidgall) and Bro. Jeff Keiser (Bro. Lores and Sis. Martha, Bradford, IL) are engaged to be married. Also to be joined as one are Sis. Marcy Feucht (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Beth) and Bro. Todd Stoller (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Barbara), all of Morton.

We are happy to report the birth of several babies and rejoice to add them to our church family. Double blessings were received by Bro. Gary and Sis. Debbie, Joshua, Aaron, Sarah and Heather Rassi, when twin girls, Amber Dawn and Jennifer Lynn, were born December 16. Their grandparents are Ray and Cleda Rinkenberger (Tremont, IL) and Bro. Eli and Sis. Pearl (Morton). Steve, LeAnn and Tyler Aberle welcome Anna Lea into their hearts and home. She was born December 17. Her grandparents are Joe and Connie Schmidgall and Bro. Melvin and Sis. Lois Aberle. First-time parents, Bro. David and Sis. Krista Ploussard, welcome McKenzie Laurel, born January 4. Her grandparents are Sis. Aldine Witzig (Morton, IL) and Gene and Mary Ploussard (Decatur, IL). Allison Marie was born January 12 to Tracy and Melissa Grimm. Her happy grandparents are William and Karen Klopp and Shirley Byler and Bro. Henry and Sis. Mary Lou Grimm. May all of these parents continue to seek the Lord's guidance as they rear their children.

Our Sis. Nancy Heiniger passed away after a lengthy illness. Her funeral was January 10. May our

heavenly Father comfort and bless her daughter, Delores Stephens; her foster son, Ronald Smith; her two sisters, Sis. Katherine Moser and Sis. Verena (Bro. Arthur) Heiniger; her brother, Bro. Ben Moser; her five grandchildren; three great-grandchildren and her many other relatives and friends.

Sis. Hazel (Schrock) Ferguson and Sis. Ida Welk both celebrated their 90th birthdays recently. They wish to thank everyone for their love expressed through prayers, gifts and cards. Sis. Hazel also wishes to thank all those who remembered her at Christmas time.

It is always a gift of love and we receive it with thankfulness when visiting brothers come to minister to us. Our visitors this month were Bros. Loren Schrenk (St. Louis, MO), Greg Rassi (Chicago, IL), Bill Schlatter (Junction, OH), Marshall Heinold (Washington, IL), Paul Gasser (Akron, OH), Ed Fritz (Washington, IL) and Ken Hoerr (Peoria, IL).

Our congregation bids farewell to Bro. Rick and Sis. Marla, Amy, Allison, Erica and Lindsay Ringger as they move to Indiana and make Leo their home church. We thank them for the many ways they served us while here. We wish them God's continued blessings and guidance.

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

He giveth more grace when the  
 burdens grow greater,  
 He sendeth more strength when  
 the labors increase;  
 To added affliction He addeth His  
 mercy,  
 To multiplied trials, His multiplied  
 peace.  
 His love has no limit, His grace has  
 no measure,  
 His power has no boundary known  
 unto men;  
 For out of His infinite riches in  
 Jesus  
 He giveth and giveth and giveth  
 again.

Annie Johnson Flint

A son was born to Bro. Scott and Sis. Jan Stickling December 16. Brandon Lee is welcomed home by his sister, Holly, and brother, Jeremy.

Grandparents are Bro. Ben Stickling and Bro. Don and Sis. Velma Hoerr.

On December 12 our home was blessed with a little one, Colton Joseph Robert. Grandparents are Bro. Joe and Lucille Herman (Washington) and Bro. Bob and Sis. Louise Reimschisel (Bluffton, IN).

"Enclothed in all Thy righteousness and innocence I'd be, that I might stand before my God, from sin made pure and free."

Zion's Harp #163

On November 26 Bro. Win Stoller (Bro. Herbert and Sis. Nancy) was added to the fold. May God bless him and keep him close.

We were blessed by the teachings we heard from visiting ministers, Elder Bro. Don Sauder (Roanoke), Elder Bro. Ed Lanz (Oakville, IA), Bro. Floyd Schmidgall (Morris, MN) and Bro. Noah Herman (Tucson, AZ). We are thankful for those brothers who give so willingly of themselves to bring forth God's Holy Word.

May the Lord comfort those who have spent time in the hospital: Bro. Roy Sauder, Sis. Clara Huber, Bro. Al Domnick, Bro. Walter Knepp and Marie Heller.

Sis. Andrea Hodel (Bro. Irvin and Sis. Sharon) and Bro. Dean Hoerr (Bro. David and Sis. Harriet) were united in holy matrimony January 21. We wish them God's richest blessings in their new life together.

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

"When these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh."

Luke 21:28

Once again we thank our visiting ministers this past month for bringing us the Word of Truth and Life. They were Elder Bro. Chuck Hemmer (Peoria), Bro. Steve Martin (Eureka), Bro. Marvin Schmidgall (Eureka), Bro. Nate Stoller (Bradford) and Bro. Willis Wiegand (Goodfield). May God's blessing go with them.

"No good thing will He withhold from them that walk uprightly." Psalms 84:11. On December 31, we

witnessed the joining of Sis. Gail Wagenbach to Bro. Gary Getz (Eureka) in holy matrimony. Parents are Bro. Lawrence and Sis. Elaine Wagenbach and Bro. Allan and Sis. Nathalia Getz (Eureka). May they walk with their hands in the Lord's hands that He may guide them each step of the way.

On January 7, we witnessed the joining of Sis. Mary Beth Gray to Bro. Brian Elsasser in holy matrimony. Bro. Brian is the son of Bro. John and Sis. Lil Elsasser. We wish God's richest blessings to Bro. Brian, Sis. Mary Beth, and their children, Jeremy and Jamie. May they find God's leading and guiding hand outstretched before them.

"Call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify Me."

Psalms 50:15

On December 31, two converts were announced to our congregation. They are Lori Martin and Tricia Steiner. Parents are Bro. Dale and Sis. Teresa Martin and Bro. Harold and Sis. Karen Steiner.

On January 13 and 14, we heard their testimony-of-faith and witnessed their baptisms. May they ever trust the Lord all through their lives and may they seek His will and His way, that their lives may be abundantly filled with His blessings, love and grace.

We hope little Nathan Braker will find his broken arm heals real good. His parents are Bro. Glen and Sis. Audrey Braker.

On December 31, we heard the engagement announcement of our Sis. Deanna Herrmann (Bro. Howard and Sis. Mary Ann Herrmann) to Bro. Matthew Steffen (Bro. Aaron and Sis. Loretta Steffen, Alto, MI). We wish them God's blessings as they make their plans and look forward to the day they walk hand in hand together. May they feel God's leading and guiding hand at this time and all through their lives.

Our annual business meeting was held Wednesday evening, January 3. New assignments were given and old assignments were completed. The changes are as follows: Trustee, Bro. Kurt Ehnle replaces Bro. Rolland Joos; Usher, Bro. Alan Streitmatter replaces



Bro. Fred Christ; Fellowship Hall Trustee, Bro. Ken Gehrig replaces Bro. Jordan Feucht; Treasurer, Bro. Floren Streitmatter replaces Bro. Ed Baurer; World Relief Representative, Bro. Mike Menold replaces Bro. Richard Graham; Bible Distribution Committee, Bro. Ron Rumbold replaces Bro. Nick Knobloch; Eureka Home Representative, Bro. Don Streitmatter replaces Bro. Ray Wagenbach; Hail Aid Committee, Bro. Dennis Aupperle replaces Bro. Jordan Feucht; and Silver Lining Reporter, Sis. Martha Jane Siebenthal replaces Sis. Marjean Lehman. As we complete an assignment, we hope it was done in a suitable manner and those who take up the new assignments can find assurance that the Lord will direct and bless as they ask for His help.

#### ILLINOIS, ROANOKE

##### Cathy Hohulin - Sandy Leman

We rejoice that two young souls have turned to the Lord in repentance and committed their lives to Him. They are John Bradle (Bro. Bob and Sis. Mary) and Dawn Harris (Bro. Mike and Sis. Linda). May God direct them as they make a new beginning.

We were glad to hear from visiting ministers, Bro. Frederick Knapp (Congerville) and Bro. Art Baurer (Princeville) this past month. We appreciate their willingness to serve us by preaching the Word. May God bless their efforts and add the increase.

Timothy John Schwind was the first baby born in the Roanoke congregation in this decade. His parents are Bro. Dennis and Sis. Rita. Grandparents are Bro. Walt and Sis. Mary Schwind and Bro. Marvin and Sis. Ila Pfister. Timothy has an older sister, Laura.

Our annual business meeting was held Wednesday, January 10. We thank those brothers whose terms of duty are over and pray for God's guidance for those who are beginning to serve in new responsibilities.

Bro. Jerry Fischer was in the hospital for a few days this month. Bro. Gene Bertschi, who has been at Zapata, TX, for the winter, is at this time in the hospital in San Antonio, TX. Our prayers are for continued recovery for them.

A reminder to our Roanoke con-

gregation: February is collection month for the Silver Lining.

#### ILLINOIS, TREMONT

##### Carolyn Bolliger - Marsha Koch

Our sincere thanks goes to Bros. Ed Fritz (Washington) and John Steiner (Oakville, IA) for ministering the Word to us.

Deepest sympathy goes to Sisters Marie Schmid, Helen Laidig, Esther Schmid, Sophie Sauder, Kerrie Bolliger and Bro. Bill Schmid on the passing of their brother and sister, John and Sis. Lillian Schmid. May each one feel God's closeness and comfort.

Hospital patients this month include Sisters Dorothy Wagenbach (Bro. Bob), Kerrie Bolliger, Wilma Aberle (Bro. Emil), Wilmina Woerner (Bro. Chris) and Bro. Dan Steiner, Sr. We are thankful each one is improving and recuperating and hope they can assemble with us soon. It has been awhile since Sis. Rose Knapp has assembled with us. We hope to have her back with us shortly.

#### ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON

##### Carol Schick

"And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labour among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you; And to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake."

I Thessalonians 5:12, 13

Our sincere sympathy is extended to Bro. Chris Ledford (Sis. Stacy) in the death of his father, Bob Ledford (Winamac, IN). We pray Bro. Chris and his family will be comforted by the Almighty Comforter in the coming months.

We have had many visiting ministers over the holidays and we wish to express our thanks to them for giving of themselves so willingly on the pulpit. May God bless Elder Bros. Joe Stoller (Princeville), Don Sauder (Roanoke), Bros. Steve Sauder (Tremont), Doug Wagenbach (San Diego, CA) and Randy Kellenberger (Kansas City, MO) for ministering to us.

The new year is well underway and we are all settling into our routines. May this year be one of spiri-

tual growth for each of us and for each of our congregations.

#### INDIANA, BLUFFTON

##### Shari Fiechter - Gwen Kipfer

To Begin, God give me courage to begin.

Fill me with your spirit, let me feel you deep within.

Give me dash and daring, confidence and heart,

To take that first small step, God, To make a humble start.

Helen Steiner Rice

This message, along with many other prayers goes out to our two new converts, Tonya Schwartz and Elizabeth Ginzel. We rejoice with every soul that turns their heart to Christ.

Also making a new beginning is Amber Nicole, born December 27 to Bro. Scott and Sis. Rita DeHoff. Amber is very fortunate to join an older sister, Brooke, and two big brothers, Michael and Jeffery. Proud grandparents are Bro. Harry T. and Sis. Lois Gerber (Bluffton North) and Bill and Sonea DeHoff.

Bro. Steve and Sis. Renee Reinhard are filled with joy with the arrival January 11 of Abby Lynn, who joins sisters, Katie, Stephanie and Annie, and brother, Chad, in the family circle. Grandparents are Bro. Glen and Sis. Leota Reinhard and Bro. Claire and Sis. Mary Jane Yergler.

Dan and Jenny Brink welcome their first child, a little girl, Page Danielle, born January 8. We rejoice with Bro. Phil and Sis. Gloria Kaehr and Larry and Mary Jo Brink.

Bro. Von Ringger and Sis. Janelle Metzger began their lives together January 7 as they were united in marriage. Parents are Bro. George and Sis. Evelyn Ringger and Bro. Galen and Sis. Mary Jo Metzger (Oakville, IA). A reception was held January 20 at the Bluffton fellowship hall for those who were unable to attend the wedding in Iowa.

We give a special thanks to visiting ministers, Bro. Lynn Stieglitz (Leo), Bro. Max Reimschisel (Wichita, KS) and Bro. Wendell Gerber (Bluffton North). We appreciate their efforts and ask God to bless them for their service.

Sis. Clarabell Baumgartner (Bro.

Milo) was hospitalized this month. Our continued prayers for her would be appreciated.

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**INDIANA, BLUFFTON NORTH**  
**Lois Drayer - Deb Aeschliman**

When we awoke on New Year's Day, we anticipated going to church that morning to hear the first sermon of the new year. Upon arriving at church, there was a surprise awaiting us, no electricity in the church building. As a result, there were no lights, no heat and no microphone. We huddled together in our coats near the front of the assembly room and sang, while waiting to see what would happen. There were a few murmurs as we sat together in the cold and dark, as to whether or not church would have to be cancelled. Just as it was nearing time for the ministers to go on the pulpit, we were singing "God Is Our Refuge." As we sang the second verse, "Safe in His tender loving care, We have no fear of what shall be," the lights suddenly came on and we could hear the heat kick in. Our hearts were deeply warmed and touched with the assurance that God is watching over us and we are all in His tender loving care. Elder Bro. Phil Stettner expressed the feelings of all our hearts when he said, "What a wonderful way to start the new year." God truly revealed to us that He will supply all our needs.

We thank Bro. Max Reimschisel (Wichita, KS) and his family for spending Christmas Day with us. We hope they had a joyous holiday season. On January 13, Elder Bro. Ed Schwartz (Bluffton) was with us as we assembled together for the reading of the conference report. We hope we can take these teachings to heart and do what is pleasing in God's sight.

We rejoice with our new convert, Todd Baller (Bro. Steve and Sue) as he has made his decision to begin his walk with Christ. We wish him an abundance of grace.

Congratulations are extended to grandparents, Bro. Keith and Sis. Nancy Honegger, in the birth of their new little granddaughter, Katie Elisabeth, born December 23 to Bro. Brent and Sis. Cheryl Nussbaum (Bloomington-Normal, IL). We also wish to congratulate Bro. Harry and

Sis. Lois Gerber as they became grandparents once again with the birth of Amber Nicole, born to Bro. Scott and Sis. Rita DeHoff (Bluffton) December 27. Another new little arrival in our congregation is Grant Aaron, born to Bro. Trent and Sis. Kelli Bucher January 10. Big brother, Eric, along with grandparents, Bro. Nile and Sis. Phyllis Bucher and Bro. Dwight and Sis. Pat Moser, welcomes him.

Our prayers are with several from our congregation who have had recent hospital stays. Included are Bro. Ted Kipfer (Sis. Theresa), Sis. Emma Levy, Sis. Mayme Getz, Kenny Weaver (foster son of Bro. Steve and Sis. Joyce Fischer), Ryan Gerber (Bro. Duane and Sis. Betsy), Bro. James Geisel (Sis. Dorothy) and Sis. Wanda Gerber (Bro. Wendell). May the Lord give them all plenty of strength in times of sickness.

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**INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE**  
**Lynne Wuethrich**

With another New Year's Eve upon us, Francesville once again enjoyed a blessed program. That evening, we were privileged to have with us three visiting ministers, Bro. Neil Widmer (Wolcott), Bro. Lester Huber (Lexington, KY) and Bro. Doyle Frauhiger (Bluffton North).

The happiness that the holiday season brings just seemed to linger on as the following weekend, January 6 and 7, we heard the testimonies of four dear souls and witnessed their baptisms. Bro. Jason Huber (Bro. John and Sis. Bev), Bro. Chris Nuest (Bro. Larry and Sis. Jane), Sis. Helen Metz (Bro. Ben and Sis. Miriam) and Bro. Benjie Masten (Bro. Virgil and Sis. Viola Von Tobel) all made a covenant to be true and faithful all the days of their life. Visiting ministers that weekend were Elder Bro. Alfred Bahler (Wolcott), Bro. Glenn Price (Sarasota, FL), Bro. Earl Gerber (Forrest, IL), Bro. Marvin Leman (Bradford, IL), Bro. Fred Knapp (Congerville, IL) and Bro. Gene Lehman (Wolcott). We are always grateful for visiting ministers.

Our congregation rejoices with Bro. Dave and Sis. Julie Westfall as they are blessed with a son. Brant Michael was born December 28 and was welcomed by his sister, Catrina, and his

brother, Ryan. Brant's happy grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Larry Brooks (Rensselaer) and Bro. Karl and the late Sis. Mary Westfall (Francesville).

Mike Linback (Bro. Larry and Sis. Connie Linback, Francesville) was united in marriage to Tammy Pavey (Don and Joanne Pavey, Buffalo, IN) December 23. We pray for God's richest blessings upon this dear couple as they begin a whole new relationship. Mike and Tammy are living in Lafayette and their address is 3306 - E Pebble Court, Lafayette, IN 47905.

Our dear Sis. Lois Yaggie (Bro. Irwin) was hospitalized but is home now recovering and is grateful for her good health.

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**INDIANA, INDIANAPOLIS**  
**Miriam Gudeman**

We want to wish everyone a blessed New Year! It is a time for new beginnings, a chance to start anew in striving to do better to please the Lord in all that we do. Let's make His will number one on our list of resolutions for this year.

**EACH DAY BRINGS**  
**A CHANCE TO DO BETTER**

How often we wish for another chance to make a fresh beginning,

A chance to blot out our mistakes and change failure into winning --

And it does not take a special time to make a brand-new start, It only takes the deep desire to try with all our heart

To live a little better and to always be forgiving

And to add a little "SONshine" to the world in which we're living --

So never give up in despair and think that you are through, For there's always a tomorrow and a chance to start anew.

Helen Steiner Rice

As we speak of new beginnings, we want to announce the engagement of our dear friend, Jane Bradford (daughter of Bro. Bill and Sis. Gail) to Todd Geyer (son of June Geyer, Nappanee). They are both students at I.U.P.U. - Indy. We want to wish

them God's blessings as they plan their lives together.

We want to extend a warm welcome to the family of Bro. Gordon and Sis. Kathy Gerber (Lafayette) as they join our congregation here in Indy. We have always treasured their fellowship when they were visiting, and now it is such a blessing to have them with us. We are also glad to see Sis. Sally Dotterer (Kathy's sister) here often in Indy as she is now working in Lafayette.

Our Christmas program was held December 17 and we enjoyed the fellowship of friends and family who joined us that afternoon. Then, on December 31, we had evening services to welcome in the new year.

We are glad to have those who traveled to Haiti safely back with us. May God richly bless them for their willingness to give of themselves during this holiday season.

Our loving thanks goes to Elder Bro. Alfred Bahler (Wolcott) and Bro. John Reinhard (Bluffton) for being with us this past month and sharing the Word. We are thankful for our visiting ministers and appreciate their time and effort.

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**INDIANA, LACROSSE**  
Mary Lynn Massner

"... first be reconciled to thy brother ..."

Matthew 5:24

"As lacy valentines turn up in stores, thoughts turn to those you love. But what about those folks who are difficult to love, the ones on the outskirts of your life? Think of the person with whom you've exchanged harsh words, someone who rubs you the wrong way, the one you've shunned because of past hurts. This month, work at reconciling the distance between you. Build a bridge with a friendly note, a warm smile or the words, "Let's start over."

"Building a bridge from your heart to another makes a way for love to flow, not just out, but back in."

Daily Guideposts, 1990, p. 37

As Christians, we need to strive for pure love, and to keep peace between each other at all times.

"Oh that our love were as pure and white  
As beautiful snowflakes reflecting the light.  
Diamonds of glory, you soon depart,  
But you've brought a treasure to my happy heart.

Adlai A. Esteb

Children are a gift from God and Bro. Calvin, Sis. Jeannie and big sister, Lindsey Schneider, welcomed their gift, little Reid Matthew, into their lives January 3. Proud grandparents are Bro. Gene and Sis. Norma Nuest (LaCrosse, IN) and Bro. Ken and Sis. Loretta Schneider (Remington, IN).

Bro. Art Gudeman was hospitalized this past month and is now home and doing well. Elder Bro. Ed Frank and Bro. Virgil Heinold are home and recuperating from surgery. Bro. Ernie Pfeifer was moved from the hospital to a nursing home in Knox, IN, where he continues with his physical therapy. Paul and Karen Heiniger's son, Jacob, spent a few days in the hospital and is once again at home with his family. Our prayers continue to be with all our loved ones who are striving to regain good health.

We want to extend special thanks to Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman (Francesville, IN) and ministering Bro. Marshall Heinold (Washington, IL) for their services this past month.

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**INDIANA, LEO**

**Doug Kellenberger**

"If you're thankful, you're worthy. If you're not thankful, you're not worthy," recited Bro. Wendell Gudeman at the recent wedding of Sis. Elaine Norr to Bro. Willis Stoller. They were happily and wonderfully united in marriage January 14. Assisting with the services were Elder Bro. Loren Stoller and our Elder Bro. David Bertsch. The words, prayers and entire assembly were anointed with God's enlivening Spirit. We thank Bro. Sam Schlatter for ministering to us in the morning.

Along with marriage joy, Bro. Willis had another one. His daughter, Marlise, turned her heart to the Lord. The new Stoller family is "new" indeed, and rejoicing. We are too!

That is true, isn't it? We are worthy only when we're thankful. Being

thankful for salvation gives credit to someone else for giving it. It's only Jesus' goodness that makes us good. And we can't get it by doing anything -- only believing. If we believed we lived good enough to become worthy for heaven, we'd never feel the need to thank anyone else for it.

We are thankful for Bro. Jeff and Sis. Tina Schumacher, who moved from Chicago, IL, to Leo. We welcome them heartily.

Kara Hersey was announced to give her testimony. She is the daughter of Bro. Bill and Sis. Cheri Blunier. We are so happy to have her with us.

We extend sympathy to the family of Sis. Mattie Clauss (South Bend), formerly of Leo, who passed away recently at her home in Bremen.

Sis. Lillian Levy wishes to thank everyone for the nice cards that were sent to her. She appreciated them very much!

Our first New Year's Eve service was well received. A number of people attended -- young and old. A lot of reminiscing was done. Different people volunteered to share readings, thoughts and songs. A number of people expressed their thankfulness to be together.

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**INDIANA, MILFORD**

**Sue Schieler**

**Marguerite Hoerr**

At the January business meeting of the Milford church, the following members were elected to these duties: Bro. Lee Beer, teacher for the S. S. Bible Class; Bro. Phil Price and Bro. Ray Haab, teachers for the S. S. elementary classes; Bro. John Hurd, trustee; Sis. Kathy Schlipf, teacher for the S. S. primary classes; Sis. Kathryn Emch, World Relief sewing; and Sis. Paula Haab and Sis. Gwen Steffen, Silver Lining reporters.

Our congregation suffered the loss of two loved ones this past month. Our friend, Walter Wuthrich, 84, left his earthly home and family December 26. He was a kind, loving father and husband, and a dear friend to all of us. Our sympathy is lovingly extended to his wife, Martha, and to their daughter, Mrs. Elizabeth Jean Gudeman (Stan, Phoenix, AZ); and sons, Virgil (Stanford, FL), Bro. Alan (Warsaw) and Bro. Stan (Milford); and their sixteen grandchildren and

six great-grandchildren. "Wally" was a lifelong member of our community and was loved and respected by all who knew him.

Our Sis. Magdalene Zimmerman, 86, passed away at her home January 10. She was a lifelong member of our community and a quiet, loving member in our church. Her husband, Bro. Mike, went to be with the Lord nine years ago. Our deepest sympathy is extended to her daughter, Mrs. Mary Gerber (Jack, Paulding, OH) and to her sons, Melvin, Virgil and Michael (Milford), and Ray (Parkersburg, WV). A son, George, preceded her in death. She had 21 grandchildren and 19 great-grandchildren. Surviving also is a sister, Florence (Milford), and a half-sister, Mrs. Mary Ann Haab (Arthur).

Bro. Bill and Sis. Judy Longcor are happy first-time parents as they welcome a dear little daughter who has been named Blessing Lynn. She was born January 7. Rejoicing also are paternal grandparents, Coalter and Katherine Longcor (Goshen) and maternal grandparents, Bro. Fred and Sis. Esther Schafer (Princeville). We ask God's blessings on this happy family.

Bro. John and Sis. Dorothy Martin were recently privileged to celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary. We share in the joy with them and their family that all could observe this happy occasion.

Visiting ministers this past month were Bro. Earl Beery (Rittman) and Bro. Ray Sinn (Latty, OH). Our gratitude is expressed to them for sharing God's Word with us.

Sis. Sue Schieler and I have enjoyed reporting the Milford news to the Silver Lining these past three years. We lovingly turn our duties over to Sis. Paula Haab and Sis. Gwen Steffen, who will, I'm sure, experience like blessings in reporting the happening of our church home in Milford.

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#### INDIANA, REMINGTON

##### Amelia Schini

"Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it." Proverbs 22:6 is a proverb Sis. Beth Virkler has much faith in. Because she wants to spend more valuable time with her little

children, she has decided to discontinue writing for the Silver Lining. I will try to carry on in her place, trusting my own congregation will help support me.

The last Sunday of 1989 our congregation sang a farewell for Sis. Jane Hilton and her son, Jeremy. She has decided to move to the Roanoke, IL, area where a number of her family and parents, Bro. Ben and Sis. Clara Braker, live. We realize she made a good decision but we will miss her. We wish her God's blessings in this move and hope she visits us often.

We were highly favored when Bro. Merle Kaisner (Fairbury, IL) and his wife visited us January 14. Their daughter, Mrs. Leon Kaeb, lives here. We thank Bro. Merle for letting God use him to bring such a loving and serious invitation to our dear friends whom we long to see saved.

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#### INDIANA, SOUTH BEND

##### Anna Marie Stoller

The new year and new decade cause us to reflect upon the past and the future. Some must yet repent for the past, some must lay aside hurts and forgive, and some have comforts and joys to spur them on. The future holds hope for better things to come. Let us not forget the now times of our lives. Now is the time given to remember the past, anticipate the future, but most important, to serve each current minute to the honor of God.

Josh Mangold, a young man from our Bible class, has been searching and seeking for truth. Listing the pros and cons of serving God brought him to the crossroad of life where he realized there is only one way: to repent and serve God. He is giving himself to that wonderful quest for peace, looking for the highest station of life: being a lamb of Jesus. Sis. Renee and Mike Mangold rejoice that this, their son, was lost, and has found the way.

Bro. Al and Sis. Judy Langhofer (Wichita, KS) spent several days with their son, Marty, and family, to celebrate Christmas and a special birthday. Ministering to our congregation, besides Bro. Al, has been our Elder Bro. Jesse Beer (Milford).

The Wednesday evening church schedule has been changed for February. We will assemble the 14th and 28th only. Weekly Wednesday evening services will resume in March.

Sis. Mattie Clauss spent years seeking a home in which to retire and find contentment. She found what her heart desired on a quiet street in Bremen, IN, living near old and dear friends. Six short months later, Mattie was suddenly called to her eternal home. Her children, Stanley, Bro. Ken, Bro. Doug and Connie, mourn the loss of a dear mother. Services were held January 12, and she was buried in the Leo area with graveside services being conducted there. "This world is not my home, I'm just passing through . . ." (author unknown)

Two families have recently made South Bend their new church home. Bro. Tom, Sis. Carolyn Frank, Celise, Clay, Micah and Shana feel the Lord has led them to assemble with our congregation. They come to us from LaCrosse.

Keith and Ruth Elcock, Shaya, Ryan and Ashley have moved to the South Bend area from Akron, OH. Keith has found employment near here. We welcome all of them to our small congregation and trust God will bless them as they take their place among us.

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#### INDIANA, VALPARAISO

##### Beth Heinold - Anjie Heinold

We rejoice with Janet Miller, her husband, Bro. Jeff, and their family as she has decided to commit her life to the Lord. We also rejoice with Karen Susdorf and her parents, Bro. Ken and Sis. Cindy. She, too, has made that very important step to walk with the Lord. It is such an inspiration to all of us to know that the Lord is still calling souls to follow Him.

Our prayers and sympathy are extended to Bro. Roy and Sis. Aldene Frieden as they have suffered the loss of their dear grandson, Jeff Biddle. May the love of the Lord be a comfort to them at this difficult time.

Special thanks go to Bro. Nile Bucher (Bluffton North, IN) for visiting our congregation and sharing God's Word with us.

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**INDIANA, WOLCOTT****Lorna Knapp - Lynell Blume**

On December 20 our children reminded us of the true meaning of Christmas at our church program. May these seeds planted in tender hearts bring forth fruit in due time.

We thank Bro. Doug Harmon (Toledo, OH) for being used Christmas Day and Bro. Frederick Knapp (Congerville, IL) for bringing us the Word January 7. May God richly bless them. We also thank the Remington congregation for hosting us for New Year's Day services.

We held our business meeting January 8. May God grant grace for each one elected to fulfill their respective positions to His honor and glory.

We are thankful that Leroy Farny was able to return home from a short hospital stay.

We are pleased to have two new babies this month. On December 18, David and Shellie Kyburz were blessed with a second daughter, Shelaine Kianne. She was welcomed home by Chris and grandparents, Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Pat Kyburz and Lawrence and Nancy Meier. On January 18 Bro. Troy and Sis. Lisa Furrer were entrusted with Joshua William. Bro. Don and Sis. Rita Furrer and Richard and Lola Ponto are thankful for this precious new grandson to love. May these, and all parents, ever look to God for the grace needed to be good stewards of the souls of the children He entrusts to us for a season.

**IOWA, BURLINGTON****Deyona Massner - Carolyn Wulf**

Now it is accomplished! I'm no longer mine;  
Lord I will forever and always be thine,  
For thou has created and purchased me too,  
Baptized with thy Spirit thou makest me new.

Now it is accomplished! With heart and with mind  
To thee, my dear Savior, I now am resigned!  
I'll ever be faithful in life and in death,

Abiding in Jesus unto my last breath.

Zion's Harp #209

It was truly a day of rejoicing as we witnessed the baptism of Maye Heiniger, December 31. We are thankful there are still souls willing to answer God's call and obey His kind commandments.

We are thankful for our dear ministering brothers who are willing to be spent for God's service in bringing the Word of Life to us. Elder Bro. Ed Lanz (Oakville) and Bro. Bill Gerst (Alto, MI) brought us the old, old story of Jesus and His love this past month.

We held our annual business meeting January 14. We thank our brothers and sisters who were willing to take part in our church business. May those who received new duties be diligent in doing all to the glory of God.

February is collection month for Burlington.

**IOWA, ELGIN  
Gloria Frieden**

How the angels in heaven must be rejoicing for another sheep that was lost is now found. We also rejoice with our new sister-in-faith, Adeline Lehman, who even in her later years, has felt the need and found the grace to repent and be baptized.

As we rejoice with those who rejoice we also weep with those who weep. Our sympathy is extended to Sis. Eleanor Butikofer in the death of her son, James; to Mildred Schupbach and Bro. Lawrence Butikofer in the death of their brother, John; and to Bro. Jim Knobloch and his family in the death of his grandfather, Bro. Emil Knobloch (Lester).

**UP YONDER**

Safe upon the heav'nly shore  
Done with pain forever more,  
Weariness and weakness o'er --  
Up Yonder

Oh the calm and quiet rest  
On the loving Savior's breast  
It is better than earth's best --  
Up Yonder.

M. Fraser

**IOWA, GARDEN GROVE****Dawn Moser**

On Sunday, December 17, we had our monthly potluck supper and afterward, the Sunday school children presented their Christmas program. Thanksgiving should reign in our hearts because the Christ Child who came to earth nearly 2,000 years ago is our hope and joy today.

Sis. Verle Funk spent a couple nights in the hospital this past month. We are thankful she is back at home. Our prayers continue to be said on her behalf to our heavenly Father.

We want to thank Bros. Jon Schmidgall (Oakville, IA), Doug Schock (Pulaski, IA) and Ben Wysong (Sabetha, KS) for being willing to share God's Word with us. We thank them for bringing their families and for their fellowship.

Bro. Tony and Sis. Eileen Funk have a foster child living with them now. Brenda, 16, is a sophomore at our local high school. She adds a lot of spirit and life to us and the younger children really enjoy her. We pray that during the time she is with us, the seed of God's Word can be sown within her soul and that it will bring forth fruit.

**IOWA, IOWA CITY  
Janette Schulz**

Glory be to God in heaven,  
Praise to Christ, our Saviour great!  
By the power of Thy Spirit  
A new man Thou didst create.  
Angels see in joyous rapture  
God's own Word in deed fulfilled;  
And amid our glad embraces  
Is this child of God revealed.

Zion's Harp #34, vs. 1

With great joy, our congregation witnessed the baptism of our new sister, Wendy Eland. Her being the first convert baptized in our church made the day even more special. Among the many visitors who attended this blessed event were ministering Bros. Gary Anliker (Elgin, IL), Dale Frank (Oakville, IA) and Dale Moore (Elgin, IA) and Elder Bros. Raymond Banwart (Fort Scott, KS) and Paul Butikofer (Elgin, IA). May the Lord bless all who made the effort to share this special occasion with us.

While we rejoice with Sis. Wendy,

we hope the weekend served to others' benefit as well. To the other members, it was a time of uplifting and an opportunity to renew our own vows; to our other converts, we trust it was encouragement and proof there is power sufficient through Jesus to overcome sin if one truly repents and is obedient to His teachings. To our friends, may it have created a deepening desire to forsake the world for the joy and peace found in serving God and for the children, we trust a precious seed was planted in their hearts that we pray will spring to life as they mature, and lead them eventually to the Cross.

This new being now arises,  
Having died with Christ before;  
What in Adam's fall had perished  
Christ the Saviour did restore.  
Dearest child, we bid thee welcome  
In our blessed brotherhood;  
From the wild tree thou art grated  
On this holy tree and root.

Out of water and of Spirit  
Thou, O child, art born today;  
You've escaped the old oppressor,  
In God's covenant you'll stay.  
Of one vine we all are branches;  
Of Christ's body members we;  
And for Satan's gall so bitter,  
Streams of life our drink shall be.

So sincere is our affection,  
Being but one body here,  
And our hopes are so united  
That all envies disappear.  
All is common to the brethren,  
Yet each one of us is free;  
Unconstrained we all do offer  
Love, without hypocrisy.

Gladly we relieve thy suffering;  
At thy welfare we rejoice;  
And, while for the Lord we battle,  
We are joined in heart and voice.  
This our unity exceedeth  
All the bounds of time and space,  
And what here has been provided  
Shall eternity embrace.

Zion's Harp #34, vs. 2-5

#### IOWA, LESTER

##### Kathy Metzger - Mary Knobloch

Our hearts rejoice whenever we hear that another loved one has turned their heart to the Lord. May God grant much grace to Charlotte Nester

(Bro. Gene and Sis. Shirley) as she works out the salvation of her soul.

We were again privileged to hear the testimony and witness the baptism of a dear soul. Our new brother-in-faith is Dwight Mogler of Minneapolis, MN. He is the son of Bro. Howard and Sis. Lolly Mogler of our congregation. We give thanks to our Almighty God for allowing the door of grace to remain open so many can repent, confess their sins, be forgiven, and live in peace with God and man. The same evening, Elder Bros. Leo Moser, Dennis Warner and Wayne Fehr (West Bend) read the memorandum to us. We were once again encouraged by the conference conclusions and their importance in upholding our precious faith.

Throughout the Christmas and New Year's season, God filled our spiritual needs by sending ministering brethren. Those in our midst were Bro. Doug Schock (Pulaski), Bro. Jon Schmidgall (Oakville), Bro. Kent Mogler (Minneapolis, MN), Bro. Roger Aberle (Sabetha, KS), Bro. Jim Knobloch (Elgin, IA), Bro. Dale Zeltwanger (Morris, MN), Bro. Dean Messner (Winthrop, MN) and Bro. Rex Frieden (Lamar, MO). We pray that God will continue to inspire these brethren as they are led by God to bring forth His Word.

God has once again relieved a soul from earthly suffering and brought him to eternal victory. Those mourning the passing of Bro. Emil Knobloch are his dear wife, Sis. Frieda; sons, Bro. Alfred, Gilbert, Bro. Silas, Bro. Melvin, Bro. Clyde (Mackinaw, IL), Bro. William; and daughters, Libbie Den Hartog (Shelley, ID), Sis. Naomi, and Sis. Esther Warner. May God comfort the many loved ones as they bid farewell to one whose life portrayed a complete and devoted love for our Lord Jesus Christ.

God has directed two dear sisters to leave our community. Sis. Jeanette Feucht (Bro. Raymond and Sis. Marge) and Sis. Paulette Feucht (Bro. Alfred and Sis. Marie) have joined the Traveling Nurses Association and will take up residence for now in San Diego, CA. Wherever they may go we pray that God will be their staff as they continue to serve Him.

A bundle from heaven, Alice Lynn, was born January 14 to Bro. Mike and Sis. Mavis Schmidt. May they

ever look to God for direction in rearing their dear little daughter. Grandparents are Bro. Jake and Sis. Alice Wulf and Bro. Ivan and Sis. Evelyn Schmidt (West Bend).

Sis. Diane Stickling (Bro. Dale) has undergone surgery. We submit her to God praying He will make her suffering bearable and bring healing. May we never tire of giving to all who are in physical and spiritual need!

#### IOWA, OAKVILLE Debbie Wagenbach Melody Steiner

Another year is dawning,  
Dear Master, let it be,  
In working or in waiting,  
Another year with Thee.

Another year of mercies,  
Of faithfulness and grace,  
Another year of gladness  
In the shining of Thy face.

Another year of progress,  
Another year of praise,  
Another year of proving  
Thy presence all the days.

Another year of service,  
Of witness for Thy love;  
Another year of training  
For holier work above.

Another year is dawning,  
Dear Master, let it be,  
On earth, or else in Heaven  
Another year for Thee. Amen.

Frances R. Havergal

As we see the new year break over the horizon, may we ever strive to walk closer each day to our dear Lord. We don't know what 1990 holds in store for each one of us. If we only trust in the Lord, He'll lead us safely through each trial and storm we meet along life's way.

January 7 was the wedding of Sis. Janelle Metzger (Bro. Galen and Sis. Mary Jo), and Bro. Von Ringger (Bro. George and Sis. Evelyn, Bluffton, IN). We surely wish them the Lord's richest blessings as they establish their new home with the Detroit, MI, congregation.

We are always thankful for visiting ministering brothers. Our visitors this month were Bro. Dan Stoller

(Rockville, CT), Bro. Bill Gerst (Alto, MI), Elder Bro. Roy Grimm (Taylor, MO) and Bro. Duane Metzger (West Bend, IA). May the Lord richly bless them and their families for their many labors.

Our congregation is rejoicing with Sis. Tricia Pflum (Bro. Lyle and Sis. Marian) and Bro. Don Grimm (Elder Bro. Roy and Sis. Donna, Taylor, MO) as their engagement was announced January 14. May the Lord ever guide them as they make plans for their wedding.

At our annual business meeting we elected various new members to serve on our church committees. Elected to the sisters' committee were Sisters Teresa Marti and Doris Kuntz; fellowship center trustee, Bro. Herbert Gerst; cemetery committee, Bro. Monte Lanz; church trustee, Bro. Robert Lanz. We truly give all of them our support and prayers as they tend to the physical needs of our church.

Also, Sis. Elva Gerst has asked to be relieved of her duties for World Relief. Sis. Elva has faithfully taken care of this for fifteen years, and we surely are thankful and grateful to her for all she has done for World Relief. To take over these duties we have elected a committee of three sisters, including: Sisters Lorraine Whipple, Mary Jo Metzger and Edith Schrock. We surely wish them much support as they take over these responsibilities.

Our outgoing committee members are Sisters Dorothy Schulz and Lois Wiegand; and Bros. Roy Rauhaus, Keith Kuntz and Sam Wegman. We surely want to thank them all for their time and effort, and we know God will reward them for this.

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

Bro. Paul and Sis. Charlotte Teubel have been blessed with a precious baby girl, Rachel Elizabeth, born December 7. Her brother and sisters are Sara, Jonathon and Ruth Ann. Bro. Richard and Sis. Wilma Teubel and Gene and Marvel Christy are Rachel's grandparents.

Sis. Leah Schaer (Bro. Bernard) has undergone a third surgery. We pray that God may restore her to

health and strength, according to His will. She has not been able to assemble in church with us for about four months now and we do miss her presence.

As we are entering another year, many are once again making New Year's resolutions. One ministering brother said that probably the most popular New Year's resolution is to go on a diet and lose weight. He said that we should all likewise strive to lay aside the "weight" of sin.

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**IOWA, WEST BEND**

**Phyliss Banwart - Mary Gerber**

We appreciate so much the efforts and messages brought to us by our recent visiting ministers who were Elder Bros. Gene Marti (Kansas City, MO), Harold Messner (Winthrop, MN), Bros. Dale Moore (Elgin, IA), Joe Gerst (Iowa City), Wayne Banwart (Champaign, IL), Dean Messner (Winthrop, MN) and Gary Anliker (Elgin, IL). May they be blessed for their services.

We extend our sympathy to the family of Elmer Anliker (75) whose funeral service was held December 30. He is survived by his wife, Agnes; four daughters, Carol Hjelmeland (John, Algona), Doris Anliker (Omaha, NE), Arlene Cooperider (George, Omaha, NE) and Mary Melick (Mike, Burt); and four grandchildren, as well as his brother, Reuben (Louisa, West Bend); and sisters, Esther Rolfson (West Bend) and Sis. Edna Anliker (Eureka, IL). Agnes and her family appreciate all the love, help and concern shown them during this difficult time.

Several have been ill and in the hospital the past month. Sis. Pat Banwart and Bro. Fahye Gress are again able to assemble with us after a hospital stay. Two-month-old Tyle Olson (Troy and Julie) submitted to surgery. We are thankful he is gaining again. Sis. Louisa Zaugg fell and broke her hip. She will be hospitalized until she is able to have surgery. We wish God's healing hand on all those who have had health problems.

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**JAPAN, SHIODA**  
**Renee Baurer**

The new year in Japan came in with the sound of bells ringing 108

times at the temple near our church. In Buddhism, the teaching is that the human being has 108 evil desires. It is tradition to ring the bells 108 times to get rid of each evil desire for the new year.

Even though temple bells cannot erase sin or give us a holy life, hearing these bells ring can remind us to be thankful for Christ's shed blood and forgiveness of sin. It also challenges us to ask God for strength to live a more pure and holy life in this coming year.

We're thankful Frank, Kathy, Jonathon and Steven Sauder arrived here safely from their visit to America. We appreciate having them fellowship with us once again.

Many of us traveled to the Tokyo church January 15 for our annual church conference. It was a special blessing to have most of the believers from our churches together for worship and fellowship.

In the morning, Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle spoke on John 14:23-24. He emphasized the questions, "Do we love Christ?" and "If we do love Christ, are we keeping His commandments?". We should love Christ because He is God's Son, and because He died for us. Therefore, we need to ask ourselves, Are we keeping Christ's commandments? If we are not keeping them, we are saying by our actions that we don't love Christ.

In the afternoon we discussed how we can be more friendly to those who have come to our church for the first time. We also talked about ways we can reach people who do not know Christ.

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

On Sunday, December 24, our congregation had the opportunity again this year to sit and listen as the Sunday school students, four years of age to older high school students, stood before us and sang several of our favorite and familiar Christmas songs, telling us the story of the humble birth of the Christ Child. We need to remember this story, not only at Christmas, but every day, as well as Christ's suffering and dying for each of us.

Here, at Bern, we have two sets of delighted first-time grandparents. Bro.

Eldon and Sis. Waneta Plattner have little Jacob Dean to hold, cherish and tell about God's love. Jacob is the son of Bro. David and Sis. Beth Hartter (Sabetha). Bro. Fred and Sis. Joanne Edelman also have this opportunity to show love and a Christian example to Quentin Jon, born to Dwight and Vicki Edelman. We wish God's blessings on these new young families and the happy grandparents.

Our annual business meeting was held Thursday, January 11. We offer thanks to each brother and sister who gave of their time and God-given talent to serve in some position. As each newly or re-elected member assumes duties for another year or term, may God provide that all be done in serving Him to His honor, praise and glory, while blessing each one for their efforts.

#### KANSAS, FORT SCOTT

**Karen Sinn**

We are thankful to have had several visiting ministers with us over the holidays. Elder Bro. John Lehman (Bern, KS) and Bro. Dean Steffen (Elgin, IL) brought God's Word to us Sunday, December 24. That evening Bro. Bob Stoller (Lamar, MO) told us the Christmas story. May God bless these brothers and their families for their labors of love.

We rejoice with Bro. Jeff Fischer and Sis. Gloria Streitmatter (Chicago, IL) as their engagement was announced December 31. Parents are Bro. Lyle and Sis. Lillian Fischer and Bro. Jeff and Sis. Ruth Streitmatter (Sarasota, FL). May God bless and guide them as they plan a spring wedding.

Our annual business meeting was held January 10. Those newly elected are as follows: Bro. Charles Sinn, Sunday school teacher; Bro. Wayne Sinn, trustee; Bro. John Sinn, usher; Sis. Maria Bahr, food committee; and Sis. Teresa Bahr, Silver Lining reporter. We thank those whose terms have expired for so willingly giving of themselves in God's service.

#### KANSAS, GRIDLEY

**Vola Young - Judy Kraft**

The Lord has blest Mark and Mary Kraft with the precious gift of new life. Samantha Nicole is the name

given to their first born. Grandparents are Bro. Roy and Sis. Betty Wernli and Sam and Carol Kraft.

Bro. Sam Anliker had retired from eldership duties a while back but had continued to minister. Recently he also retired from the ministry. We want to express our gratitude and appreciation for his many years of dedicated, faithful service.

Elder Bros. Art Bahler, Leo Moser and Eugene Marti shared a weekend with the Gridley and Lamont churches.

#### KANSAS, KANSAS STATE UNIV.

School is back in session for us K-Staters and we are once again enjoying a rich fellowship as children of the King.

We have been blessed with several visiting ministers since the last writing. We pray for God's blessings upon Bros. Bill Emch, Sam Anliker and Jay Luthi from Lamont, Bros. Lloyd Kraft and Tim Zimmerman from Gridley, and Bro. Max Reimschisel from Wichita, along with their wives who also worshipped with us.

Because of the increase in the number of brothers, sisters, converts and friends that were able to join us in spreading the good news of Christ's birth through the singing of Christmas carols, we were thankful to be able to hold our chili supper in the Girl Scout facilities. The evening went smoothly and we trust the hymns were as much of a blessing to the sick and elderly to whom we sang as they were to us.

#### KANSAS, KIOWA Janice Bahr - Kent Kisling

God keep thee in the busy day,  
And in night's lonely hour;  
Though storms may gather 'round  
thy way,

Trust His protecting power.  
God guide Thee! May His wisdom  
shine

Unclouded o'er thy soul,  
And lead thee by its light divine  
To the eternal goal.

Author Unknown

This is our prayer for all of our loved ones who are facing illness,

accident, trials and suffering one way or another. The list is long, and I will name mainly hospital patients, but those at home and suffering are in our thoughts and our prayers also. We pray for God's healing hand on all: Sis. Dorothy Brown, Sis. Helen Murrow, Sharon Johnson, Vanda Domnick (whom we are so pleased to have in our midst again), Bro. Vern and Sis. Marie Schurter, Bro. Raymond and Sis. Laverne Roth. We miss them and love them all!

A new little blessing from God was sent to the home of Amy and Ted Schoneboom this month. His name is Jared Michael and maternal grandparents are Bro. Ronald and Sis. Lois Allenbach. Great-grandparents are Bro. Richard and Sis. Florence Guthrie and Alice Allenbach. May little Jared be reared to know and love His precious Lord.

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

Psalms 119:105

In our congregation here in Kiowa, we have indeed been richly blessed that God has seen fit to give us ministering brethren who have lent themselves tirelessly to the Lord's ministry of His Holy Word. Elder Bro. Ronald Nelson and ministering Bro. Ronald Allenbach have loved, cherished, and guided this flock faithfully for a number of years. Recently, two brothers were chosen to share in the ministry here. They are Bro. Kent Kisling and Bro. Jeff Bahr. They both feel unworthy of this calling, but are willing to lend themselves to God's will. Our fervent prayer for them is that God's Word will be a lamp unto their feet and a light unto their path, and that the Holy Spirit may freely use them as He sees fit to the glory and honor of God's Holy name.

Silver Lining dues in Kiowa are due in February.

#### KANSAS, LAMONT Mary Isch

January 6 our congregation assembled at Gridley to hear the memorandum read by visiting Elder Bro. Leo Moser (Lester, IA) and Elder Bro. Art Bahler (Forrest, IL). May God bless each heart to be more dedicated in His service.



On January 7 the Gridley congregation assembled with us for afternoon services. Bro. Gene Marti (Kansas City, MO) lent himself to bring us God's Word. After services, Bro. Sam Anliker a minister for 45 years, made it known he was retiring from these duties. We thank him for his labors of love and trust God will bless according to His great love and mercy.

Bro. Bob Stoller (Lamar, MO) was a visiting minister this month. We thank him and his family for their visit and labor of love.

"Do ye look on things after the outward appearance? If any man trust to himself that he is Christ's, let him of himself think this again, that, as he is Christ's, even so are we Christ's."

II Corinthians 10:7

### KANSAS, SABETHA

#### Beth Hartter - Sharon Strahm

Once again we had the blessing of visiting ministers Bro. Mark Bahr (Detroit, MI), Elder Bro. Gene Marti and Bro. Randy Kellenberger (Kansas City, MO) and Bro. Harvey Grimm (Bern). We are thankful for their efforts to bring us the true Word of God and may they always feel our prayers on their behalf.

Lord willing, in several weeks we will be hearing the testimonies of some of our dear friends who have experienced conversion and found peace with God and man.

Another blessing has been the miracle of creation. Many families have welcomed a precious new baby into their hearts and homes. We rejoice with Bro. David and Sis. Beth Hartter on the birth of their first child, a son, Jacob Dean, born December 26. Grandparents are Bro. Eldon and Sis. Waneta Plattner (Bern) and Bro. Virgil and Sis. Marie Hartter and great-grandparents are Bro. John and Sis. Marie Plattner and Bro. Charles Sinn, all of Sabetha. Randy and Cindy Edelman, Emily and Elizabeth welcome Christina Rae as a New Year's Day baby. Grandparents to these little girls are Cliff and Sis. Barbara Edelman and great-grandparents are Bro. Phil and Sis. Bertha Metzger. Lauren Elise, born January 7, is the new baby of Bro. De Vere and Sis. Michelle Meyer and sister to

Allison. Her grandparents are Bro. Harlan and Sis. Florence Meyer and great-grandparents are Bro. Joe and Sis. Clara Steiner. Also welcoming a little girl are Tim and Margaret Edelman and Kyle. Brittany Dawn arrived January 14. Her grandparents are Clemens and Sis. Marge Edelman. May God bless them all.

We were saddened at the death of our Bro. Will Wenger December 21 at the age of 93. His wife, Sis. Lena, is a resident of the Apostolic Christian Home. We extend our sympathy to her and his son, Bro. Harvey Wenger, Sis. Arleta, their children and to his brother, Bro. Louis Wenger.

Sympathy is also extended to Sis. Marian Kellenberger, Bro. Gene and their family on the death of her father, Verne Couch, age 84, December 26. He had been in failing health several months.

Bro. Joe Steiner and Bro. Joe Menold continue to be on our sick list. Bro. Ben Aberle is still in serious condition in a Sarasota Hospital. Sis. Marie Kellenberger had cataract surgery and Bro. George Lambert had outpatient surgery. May we remember each one in prayer and those suffering any affliction. May each feel God's nearness in the trials of life as well as in the joys of life.

Editor's note: Bro. Ben Aberle passed away Saturday, January 20.

### KANSAS, WICHITA

#### Emma Miller

Bro. Milton and Sis. Lillian Bowers have been blessed with another grandchild. Austin James was born December 13 to their daughter, Julie, and Larry Beck.

The Lord's mercy and healing power was on Bro. Virgil Barth as he recuperated from knee surgery. We are happy to see him able to ascend the stairs again.

We have resumed Wednesday night Bible study after the holiday recess. Our present ten-week study is on the books of Thessalonians. As was pointed out to us, a letter is one of the most personal forms of communication. In these two letters, we can feel Paul's joy in the Lord and his concern lest the Thessalonians miss the joy which God would share with them.

### MICHIGAN, ALTO

#### Denise Oesch - Michelle Oesch

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound,  
That sav'd a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found,  
Was blind but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart  
to fear,  
And grace my fears reliev'd;  
How precious did that grace appear  
The hour I first believ'd.

Thro' many dangers, toils and  
snares,  
I have already come;  
'Tis grace hath bro't me safe thus  
far,  
And grace will lead me home.  
John Newton, 1779

As we sang this together in the Lord's house recently, my heart was deeply touched by the humility of it. ". . . that saved a wretch like me!" Like me, I thought, through His precious grace, I, too, have a hope of life eternal! That is more than this world can ever offer. The many pleasures of this world tempt us with their promise of happiness, but it's an empty feeling these pleasure leave behind. Many are disillusioned by them. If only everyone could know the peace that comes by walking in His grace!

"Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favour of the Lord."

Proverbs 18:22

Our hearts rejoice at the engagement announcement of Bro. Matthew Steffen (Bro. Aaron and Sis. Loretta) to Sis. Deanna Herrmann (Bro. Howard and Sis. MaryAnn, Princeville, IL). Our prayers are with them as they plan their wedding. As they start their walk side by side, may the Lord bless and guide them.

"A woman when she is in travail hath sorrow, because her hour is come: but as soon as she is delivered of the child, she remembereth no more the anguish, for joy that a man is born into the world."

St. John 16:21

We rejoiced at the birth of another

precious little boy to Bro. Kurt and Sis. Sue Heimer. Casey Blane joins older brothers, Seth and Levi. We are so thankful for their new little blessing and our prayer is that the Lord will be with them in caring for their little family.

"And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain."  
Revelation 21:4

A dear older sister has gone to be with Jesus. Sis. Miriam Feldman was in a nursing home these past few years and her health has not been very good. We know that she now has a new body in heaven and our prayers are with her son, Bro. Lyman, his wife, Sis. Vivian, and family. May God grant them comfort. Our prayers, too, are with the family of Sis. Anna Weigele. She and her husband, Chris, assembled for many years with our flock in Alto. They moved a few years ago to Toledo to be near their family. She is remembered by many here and will be missed.

Peny Oesch (Sis. Denise) was in the hospital recently for a short time with injuries from an accident. We are thankful for the Lord's protection over him.

Thought for the month: The family that prays together, stays together.  
Author Unknown

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**MICHIGAN, BAY CITY**  
**Peggy Waibel**

"Stand up, stand up for Jesus, The trumpet call obey; forth to the mighty conflict, in this His glorious day, Ye that are men now serve Him, Against unnumbered foes; let courage rise with danger, and strength to strength oppose."

G. Duffield

With the coming of the new year, our challenge has been set before us, "Stand Up For Jesus." Will you accept His call to action, His gentle pleadings of love?

We were so happy to accept Jim and Kay Knochel (Bro. Norm and Sis. Eleanor Knochel) into the faith when they answered the call of the Master

to repent. We are rejoicing with them as they experience the joys of following Jesus Christ.

God calls each one of us to His purpose and to His glory.

"... And called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purposes and grace..." (II Timothy 1:9) Three more souls were called to God's purpose. Bro. Rod Wieland received the position of superintendent of our Sunday schools at the past annual business meeting. We really appreciate Bro. Rod, and pray that God will give him the wisdom to oversee the young lives that his efforts will touch.

Sis. Joanne Stange will be giving of her time to feed our physical needs. She has accepted the position of cook and, with her willingness to serve, has also blessed and touched our lives.

Bro. Floyd Knochel also heeded his Savior's call with a smile and a humbled heart. We pray God will be with him and reward him for his service.

This past month a group from Bay City had the privilege to spend a blessed weekend in Kitchener, Ontario, with the Fortenbacher family. Our meeting was richly blessed and especially joyful, in having the privilege to announce the engagement of Sis. Rosie Fortenbacher to Bro. Daniel Graf (Bro. Art and Sis. Audrey Graf, Akron, OH). May God bless them richly in their new life together.

"Let thy fountain be blessed: and rejoice with the wife of thy youth."  
Proverbs 5:18

Once again God has richly blessed us and has seen us through both a new month and the beginning of a new year.

"Praise ye the Lord, all ye people, laud ye Him, all ye nations! His truth, His grace and His mercy endureth in all eternity! Hallelujah."

Hymns of Zion #227

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**MICHIGAN, DETROIT**  
**Sue Gasser**

January 7 was the wedding day of Bro. Von Ringger (Bro. George and Sis. Evelyn, Bluffton, IN) and Sis. Janelle Metzger (Taylor, MO). Jan-

elle's parents are Bro. Galen and Sis. Mary Jo (Oakville, IA). We welcome Sis. Janelle to our Detroit congregation.

We are happy to announce the engagement of Bro. Daniel Graf (Bro. Art and Sis. Audrey, Akron, OH) and Sis. Rosanne Fortenbacher (Bro. Walter and Sis. Margaret Fortenbacher, Kitchener, Ontario). They are planning an April 29 wedding in Kitchener. We wish them both God's blessings.

Along with joyful beginnings, there also comes ends of days. God sends both in their due time. We've had three deaths in our Detroit congregation this month. We extend our sincere sympathy to the families involved.

Sis. Mary Pentek passed away in the hospital the end of December and is survived by a son and his wife, John and Goldie Pentek.

Millie Wieland passed away in the hospital and was laid to rest December 30. She is survived by a son, Ken Kemp. She will be missed at Woodhaven where she resided the past two years. She was an aunt to Bro. Floyd Wieland.

Bill Shaw passed away January 10 at St. Mary Hospital. Surviving are his wife, Sis. Helene; a daughter, Sis. Linda; two sons, Tom and John; and their families.

We also want to extend our sympathy to Bro. Ernie and Sis. Mary Weigele in the passing of Bro. Ernie's mother, Sis. Anna Weigele (Toledo, OH).

The second annual Woodhaven Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon has been scheduled for Saturday, April 21, at Woodhaven at 1:30 p.m. Anyone who has volunteered during the past year is welcome to come. Please RSVP to your local Executive Committee Representative by March 15 if you plan to attend.

The Livonia Choir has scheduled their second annual benefit dinner for Woodhaven May 20. All are welcome.

We want to welcome Steve and Mary Hohulin, Dustin and Lindsey to our congregation from Champaign, IL. We're glad they're here with us.

We want to thank Bro. Bill Waibel (Bay City, MI) and Bro. Walt Rager (Toledo, OH) for coming to have services at Woodhaven in December and January. Alto, MI, will host services

at Woodhaven Tuesday, March 6, at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome.

We had our annual business meeting and are always appreciative of those who have served us and those who are willing to serve. Bro. Keith Gudeman and Bro. Jim Barton will join Bros. Doug Maibach, Ernie Weigele, Ron Knapp and Pat Allen as ushers. Bro. Jim Barton will continue as representative for the Home for the Handicapped with Bro. Walt Bauer as alternate. Bro. Dan Knochel will continue as representative for the Children's Home with Bro. John Gleichman as alternate. Sis. Dorine Kurkowski will assist Sis. Marcia Feller on the kitchen committee with Sis. Donna Hartzler as alternate. Bros. Walt Bauer, Frank Denes, Doug Maibach and Keith Gudeman will continue to run our speaker systems. Bros. Ben Belsley, Ernie Weigele and Jim Barton will continue as parking lot attendants. Our World Relief Committee consists of Bros. Hartzel Kaisner, Joe Szilagyi and Dan Knochel and Sisters Donna Hartzler, Arlene Belsley and Suzanne Sabados.

Toledo, OH, will host services in Kitchener, Ontario, March 18. For directions or additional information, please call Bro. Walter Fortenbacher at (519) 699-4133.

#### MINNESOTA, MINNEAPOLIS Carol Strassheim

Do you look for ways to acknowledge Jesus and share time with Him every single day? The Lord can meet us in the middle of our schedules if we will let Him. He met Peter on a boat and Zacchaeus in a tree. Maybe he could talk with you while you're folding clothes, peeling potatoes, cleaning house or even at your job or driving to and fro.

We are into the exciting study of Romans in our monthly Bible study. Thus, we're trusting God to direct our hearts and minds to share in His Word.

We rejoice with Sis. Gail Schmidgall as her engagement to Bro. Dick Metzger was announced January 7. We wish them God's richest blessings and trust they will always seek His will in their life together.

Deepest appreciation is extended as God's Word has been ministered to

us by visiting ministers, Bro. Pat Zaugg, Bro. Wayne Grimm and Elder Bro. Wayne Fehr (all of West Bend, IA).

Sis. Bernadine Miller has been hospitalized since she injured her hip and had surgery. We pray God's healing touch for her as she draws near to Him for comfort and strength.

Sis. Vera Schmidt wishes to thank everyone for the many prayers, cards, gifts, visits and deeds of kindness done for her during her long convalescence at home after surgery. May God be your rich rewarder.

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

We give thanks again to our visiting ministers, Bro. Ken Wuethrich (Indianapolis, IN) and Bro. Kent Mogler (Minneapolis). We appreciate their willingness to share the inspired Word of God with us that we may press toward the mark of our high calling.

The engagement of Sis. Gail Schmidgall (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Ruby) to Bro. Dick Metzger (Minneapolis) was announced. We wish them God's blessings.

Lowell and Karen Moser are first-time parents of little Travis Lowell who arrived January 12. His grandparents are Bro. Bill and Sis. Joyce Moser and Myles and Irene Thorstad.

On January 16, Harmony Sue was born to Bro. Verle and Sis. Christa Sauder. She has two sisters, Heidi and Heather to welcome her home. Grandparents are Virgil and Mildred Sauder and Bro. Jesse and Sis. Donna Huber (Fairbury, IL).

It is humbling to know God will not forsake us during times of illness. Ray Watson was a surgical patient. Sis. Tillie Kellenberger (Ernest) was a medical patient. We are thankful to report that they are both home and recuperating. Bro. Ernest and Sis. Tillie were here visiting at the time of her illness. They have now gone back to their home in Sabetha, KS. May God ever be near them.

We will miss our sweet, dear Sis. Louise Mohrman, who passed away from this life January 9, at the age of 95 years. Louise was the mother of twelve children: Herbert, Edward, Lloyd, Harold, Arnold, Margaret (Mrs.

Floyd Kingren), Virginia (Mrs. George Seitzer), Irene (Mrs. Don Alexander), Louise (Mrs. Marvin Kyle), Irma (Mrs. Duane Nelson), Evelyn (Mrs. Norman Zimmer) and Marion (Mrs. Jerry Johnson); 48 grandchildren, 73 great-grandchildren; one sister, Sis. Sarah Kellenberger (Elgin, IL); and one brother, Bro. George Messner (Winthrop). We extend our sympathy to her family. May they be comforted knowing their mother had made preparation for this time and longed for her heavenly home.

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

A precious baby boy, Wade Wayne, was born to Colleen and Wayne Waugh. Big sister, Ember, helped welcome him home. Grandparents are Bro. and Sis. Roy Howk.

We were so thankful to have ministering Bro. Don Miller (Minneapolis) and family with us this past month.

The flu bug has taken its toll from local school attendance for a week or two. We are thankful it is getting better. It can be a reminder to us to be thankful for our health and to pray for those we do not have theirs.

We spent an evening of singing and a short service was held New Year's Eve in the fellowship center. It was enjoyed by all.

As February approaches, we are reminded of our founding presidents. We are so thankful for all the good things they did for our country. Let this also remind us of our rulers of today and the grave responsibilities they have and our need to remember them in prayer.

We want to extend our sympathy to Bro. George Messner in the loss of his sister, Sis. Louise Mohrman, and to Sis. Florence Messner as she was her sister-in-law.

#### MISSOURI, KANSAS CITY Carole Kellenberger

Many from our congregation traveled various places to be with family over the holiday season. The visit of ministering Bro. Ron Joos and family (Pulaski, IA) was especially appreciated December 24. We also thank Bro. Wayne Miller (Fort Scott, KS)

for the message from God's Word the following Sunday.

Sis. Eileen Braker flew to Phoenix, AZ, just before Christmas to be with her aunt, Sis. Marie Marti, who was seriously injured in an automobile accident while visiting there. We pray that God's healing hand will be upon Sis. Marie and that she can soon return to her home in Lamar, MO. We're very thankful that Sis. Sophie Delph is getting around better. She injured her knee in a fall at her home. Jonathan Wales (Bro. Don and Sis. Carol) is also recovering nicely from his surgery. How thankful we can be for the prayers of all our loved ones.

"For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith." I John 5:4. May we all strive together in love to be overcomers in this new year and decade.

### MISSOURI, LAMAR

Janel Kellenberger  
Becky Marti

"Ring the bells of Heaven! There is joy today, for a soul returning from the wild . . ." ("Ring The Bells of Heaven" - Wm. O. Cushing). We rejoice to greet Sis. Kristi Luthi (Bro. Ray and Sis. Marilyn) as our new sister-in-faith after hearing her testimony and witnessing her baptism January 1. We appreciate Elder Bros. Gene Marti (Kansas City, MO), Raymond Banwart (Fort Scott, KS) and Bro. Dale Wulf (Lester, IA) for lending themselves in His service for the weekend.

Bro. Dale Marti has been chosen as our new trustee and Bro. Calvin Luthi and Sis. Mary Kellenberger as Sunday school teachers. May they be guided by the Holy Spirit in their new duties and may we each one remember our privilege and duty to be a true brother or sister.

Garrett Frieden (Tim and Brenda) was recently hospitalized with pneumonia. We are thankful he has now recovered.

March will be the month for Silver Lining Collection for the Lamar congregation.

### MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS

Kathy Knapp

We are thankful for the visiting ministers who came to share with us

recently. They were Bros. John Zeller (Morton, IL), Wayne Laubscher (Cissna Park, IL), Bruce Leman (Roanoke, IL), Kenneth Dietz (Bradford, IL), Charles Sauder (Tremont, IL) and Wayne Banwart (Champaign, IL). May God bless them.

We are happy to welcome Bro. Jeff and Sis. Robyn Steffen and their son, Clayton, to St. Louis. They have recently moved here from Indianapolis, IN. We are thankful for this addition to our small congregation and pray our church will continue to grow.

### MISSOURI, TAYLOR

Loida Hodel - Lori Marquart  
Happy New Year!

### WALK NOT IN FEAR

"Today you do not walk alone, so do not walk in fear  
The Lord, your God, is everywhere, in fact He's very near;  
Altho' you walk a path today, You've never walked before,  
Walk on in faith, the Lord is near, and shall be evermore.  
Altho' a door should open now, presenting to your view --  
A scene unknown to human eyes,  
Know this, God walks with you.  
Let faith fill every waking breath -- To God each child is dear;  
Today you do not walk alone -- So do not walk in fear."

P. Michael

Our summary of 1989 is five babies; three weddings; three baptisms and two deaths.

We thank our visiting ministers and families, Bro. Rod Huber (Valparaiso, IN) and Bro. Russell Wuthrich (Pulaski, IA) for sharing God's Word with us.

We are happy to welcome Bro. Rod and Sis. Naomi (Heimer) Moser, formerly of Oakville, IA, to our church family. This is coming back home for Naomi and we trust God will bless both Rod and Naomi as they make Taylor their home.

The 1990 business meeting was conducted January 3 by Elder Bro. Roy. New officers were named and we support them, as well as thank those who have served and whose

terms will expire. New officers are Bro. Mike Knapp, trustee; Sisters Louanne Gramm and Peggy Haerr and Bros. Shon Haerr and Eric Knochel, Sunday school; Sis. Naomi Moser, World Relief; Cheryl Stratton, food committee; and Louanne Gramm, Silver Lining. Afternoon song service will now begin at 12:15 and worship services at 12:30.

We welcome Bro. Phil Baurer (Bro. Ed and Sis. Carol), Princeville, IL, who has accepted permanent employment in Quincy.

Elder Bro. Roy Grimm will be leaving the middle of January, along with several other brethren, for a three week journey to India. May God watch over them and us while we are apart one from another.

Last but not least, we rejoice with our Bro. Don Grimm (Elder Bro. Roy and Sis. Dona) whose engagement to Sis. Tricia Pflum (Bro. Lyle and Sis. Marian, Oakville, IA) was announced Sunday, January 14. This will mean a "new family" in our church as they will establish their home in Quincy following their spring wedding. "As hand in hand you enter a life that's bright and new, May God look down from Heaven and bless the two of you; May He give you understanding enough to make you kind, so you may judge each other with your heart and not your mind; May He teach you to be patient as you learn to live together, Forgiving little "human rifts" that arise in "stormy weather" -- And may your love be big enough to withstand the strongest sea so you may dwell forever in love's rich tranquility."

Helen Steiner Rice

"Ye are blessed of the Lord which made heaven and earth." Psalm 115:15

Silver Lining subscriptions are due in February.

### NEW YORK, CROGHAN/NAUMBURG

"And when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me.

"After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped,

saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me."

I Corinthians 11:24, 25

The instructions in these verses were given by Jesus on the night when he had been betrayed as He took bread, broke it and drank of the cup. We are instructed to partake of the Lord's Supper as a reminder of His life and death here upon earth. On Sunday, January 14, we were privileged to partake of this feast together. May it serve to strengthen us each day of our lives and may it encourage us to walk closer to God and each other in the days ahead. We thank our Elder Bro. Robert Beyer and Bro. Duane Farney for serving us at this special occasion and may God continue to grant them necessary grace to carry out their duties.

On December 12, Bro. Seth and Sis. Olivia Schulz celebrated their 62nd wedding anniversary. God has blessed them in their many years together, although they are unable to assemble with us every Sunday. We enjoy their presence when they are in our assembly and look forward to warmer weather when they can again get out more often. Bro. Seth will be 91 years old March 15 and Sis. Olivia was 88 years old September 21. They have six children, ten grandchildren and twelve great-grandchildren. May God continue to bless them with a measure of good health and many days together.

We are happy to have Bro. Floyd Graves back on the pulpit and in our assembly. We thank God that he has been restored to a measure of health and ask for God's healing hand to be upon him in the days ahead. Sis. Lena Virkler broke a small bone in her leg and has not been able to assemble with us for several Sundays. Sis. Lena is 96 years old and until this time has been able to assemble with us each Sunday. We miss her smile and pray that she will soon be able to be out again.

Bro. Robert and Sis. Lucille Beyer are great-grandparents to little Vanessa Louise Sugrue who was born January 9 to Wally and Kerrie (Beyer) Sugrue. Vanessa's grandparents are Philip and Louise Beyer and Walton Sugrue and Beverly Seymour.

On Tuesday evening, January 16,

we gathered together for a covered dish meal and evening of fellowship.

### OHIO, AKRON

Joyce Gasser

"... A merchant man, seeking goodly pearls; who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had, and bought it." Matthew 13:45, 46

A merchant man is one who leaves one place to go to another seeking the best, and the one in this parable is a connoisseur of pearls. In much the same way, Jesus left heaven to come to earth seeking us, and the price to buy us, the pearl, to redeem us back to the Father, was all that He had. He became poor that we might be rich; He was beaten with stripes that we might be healed; He emptied Himself of divinity to become a man; He gave His life, His blood for our redemption.

The pearl is the only jewel made out of a living organism. Peter said we are "living stones". Other jewels are of rock, but a pearl comes from an oyster. A tiny piece of sand gets inside an oyster, irritating him, and slowly he covers it with layers of nacre until the milky substance hardens to a pearl. One interpretation of this parable could say that we are represented by the pearl, and the great price Jesus paid to buy us, to redeem us, was all He had. We want to serve Him that we be one of His pearls, as He says: "They shall be mine... in that day when I make up my jewels..." Malachi 3:17.

Bro. Daniel Graf (Bro. Art and Sis. Audrey Graf) is engaged to Sis. Rosanne Fortenbacher (Bro. Walter and Sis. Margaret of Kitchener, Ontario). May they continue to be directed by the Lord in all their plans.

Bro. Paul and Sis. Margaret (Dockus) Gangel will be observing their silver wedding anniversary, as they were married February 11, 1965.

Sis. Edith Graf was in a fatal accident on her way home from a family Christmas when another car failed to stop at a stop sign. She would have been 74 two days later. Surviving are brothers, Bro. Rudy, Bro. Ernest and Walter, and many nieces and nephews.

Sis. Janet Graf was in the coro-

nary care unit and Bro. Carl Gasser had a knee replacement. We pray for each to have a speedy recovery.

Thanks for jobs well done go to Sis. Esther Zsoldos on the kitchen committee and Bro. Richard Baumgartner as usher. Replacements are Sis. Joyce Schamback and Bro. Todd Graf.

Bro. Leon Graf will continue as the treasurer on the World Relief Committee, but his terms as area and local representatives are expired. Bro. Ned Spangler will be the local representative, and an area representative will be chosen.

Bro. John Schamback will continue as representative to Gateway Woods at Leo.

We appreciated visiting ministers Bro. Ken Schneider, Bro. Merrill Laukhuf, Bro. Gary Maibach and Bro. Glenn Riggenschach.

### OHIO, COLUMBUS

John Grimm

We were blessed to have Bro. Earl Beery (Rittman, OH) minister to us. May God bless him and his family.

The wedding of Sis. Julie Sauder and Bro. John Grimm is planned for March 4 in Mansfield. Because the Columbus church will be invited to the wedding, services will be cancelled in Columbus that day.

### OHIO, JUNCTION

Laurie Schlatter

"The Lord is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower."

Psalms 18:2

Sis. Evelyn Manz (Bro. Eli) was slightly injured recently in an auto accident. We are thankful her injuries were not more serious and that she is healing well.

### OHIO, LATTY

Rhonda Stoller - Kathy Sinn

Bro. Dan Stoller (Remington, IN) ministered the Word to us during the past month. Many others were home for the holiday season.

The Sunday school students pro-

claimed the Christmas story to us December 20.

We met for our annual business meeting during which we voted to fill our offices for the 1990 year. The following brothers and sisters were elected to fill our vacant offices: Sunday school, Bro. Stan Sinn (Sis. JaNahn); Sunday school, Sis. JoAnne Klopfenstein (Bro. Keith) and Sis. Carol Stoller (Bro. Ray); Church trustee, Bro. Bruce Laukhuf (Sis. Vicki); fellowship hall trustee, Bro. Tom Sinn (Sis. Kim); song leader, Bro. Rodney Stoller (Sis. LeAnn); and kitchen committee, Sis. Eileen Whitman (Bro. Richard).

Our congregation rejoices with the angels as Heidi Hackenjos (Bro. Myron and Sis. Lorine) and Marlise Stoller (Bro. Willis and Sis. Elaine) have turned their lives to the Lord in repentance.

We pray for God's healing hand for Sis. Sadie Riggerbach, Bro. Millard Stoller (Sis. Irma), Bro. Glenn Stoller (Sis. Ede) and Scott Laukhuf.

We ask for God's guidance for Susie Gerber (Bro. James and Sis. Marge) and Mike Davis who have announced their engagement.

On January 14, Bro. Willis Stoller and Sis. Elaine Norr were united in marriage in Leo. We welcome Sis. Elaine to the Latty congregation.

Sis. Marsha Stoller (Bro. Darl and Sis. Iva) graduated from Defiance College. May the Lord guide her future as He has her past.

### OHIO, MANSFIELD

#### Linda Morrison

"Wait on the Lord: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the Lord." (Psalms 27:14) Sis. Katie Bocka, Sis. Francelia Beer and Sis. Nellie Groh continue to wait for God's perfect will for their lives and we support them in prayer during their times of illness.

We also prayerfully support their family members who lovingly care for them.

Bro. Harry and Sis. Mary Mae Bocka had an auto accident. They were not seriously injured and we thank God for His loving kindness. "... for I am with you, saith the Lord of hosts". (Haggai 2:4)

"Words fail to express my deepest thanks to all of you for your expressions of love: for the many, many

cards; flowers; gifts; food; visits and prayers each of you shared with me on my 87th birthday. Your great love will always be remembered as long as I have memory. May our dear heavenly Father bless and reward each of you in His own perfect way. Thank you so much."

Humbly, Sis. Nellie Groh

### OHIO, RITTMAN

#### Diane Gasser - Lois Stoller

Two ways, O man, are there for thee; There are two destinations.

Upon the path to heav'n we bear The cross and tribulations.

The other path with joy abounds, And yet no inward peace is found; It leads thee to destruction.

Zion's Harp #106

We are always so thankful to hear of souls who are turning to the Lord in repentance. Mark and Jill Gasser have begun to walk this path that leads to heaven. We wish them much grace and many blessings from our heavenly Father.

It is good to have visiting ministers among us. We are thankful to Bros. Bill Brake (Sardis, OH), Randy Gasser (Detroit, MI), Fred Domka (Mansfield, OH) and Ron Palitto (Akron, OH) for their labors of love.

Hospitalized this past month were Bro. Frank Nussbaum (Marie) and Trudi Hartzler (Bro. Tom and Sis. Diane). Our thoughts and prayers are with those who suffer.

We extend our sympathy to Randy and Sis. Bev Moore and their family in the death of Randy's father, Carlen Moore. May God comfort all those who grieve.

We are thankful to Elder Bros. Eugene Pamer (Akron, OH), Andy Stoller (Smithville, OH) and Ken Sauder (Mansfield, OH) who came to assist Elder Bro. Henry Dotterer in the reading and exhortation of the memorandum. May we all strive to walk a closer and more obedient walk of life with our Lord and Saviour.

At our annual election of officers, these positions were filled: trustee - Bro. Fred Gasser; kitchen help - Sis. Lucy Gasser; nursing home director - Bro. Reinhart Keiper; usher - Bro. Dan Hartzler. We give them our support and ask God's blessings on

them as they strive to carry out their new duties in love and with diligence.

### OHIO, SARDIS

#### Paula Figel

In this month of the year we think of our sweethearts or loved ones near and dear to us in special ways, giving flowers, sweets or cards that express our inward thoughts. The test of love is loyalty. God expressed His inward thoughts and love to us through His precious Word, the Bible. God's love for us is a permanent love as should our love be towards all mankind -- not only on Valentine's Day, but all year through. The Bible puts love at the head of the list of virtues.

Sis. Almeda Brake (John) has been a patient at the Ohio Valley Hospital in Wheeling, WV. She has been diagnosed as having a tumor at the base of her brain. At this writing she is awaiting an evaluation from a team of doctors in Pittsburgh, PA, who will most likely do the surgery. Our thoughts and prayers are certainly with her and the family. May we put our trust and confidence in our Lord for there is no greater power on earth.

### OHIO, SMITHVILLE

#### Stephanie Luginbuhl

#### Kim Stoller

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

Zion's Harp #112

We pray that God will bless those ministers who "call aloud" the gospel of salvation. Our visiting ministers this month were Bro. Mark Ramsier (Sardis, OH) and Bro. Ken Schneider (Remington, IN).

We were also privileged to hear the watchmen's cry as we listened to the reading of the memorandum at Rittman. Elder Bros. Gene Pamer (Akron, OH) and Ken Sauder (Mansfield, OH) were on the pulpit for the occasion with our Elder Bros. Henry Dotterer and Andy Stoller.

We are happy for those who have answered the watchmen's call and have turned to the Lord in repentance. We wish Jeff and Deb Gasser

much grace as they begin this path-way of life.

Sis. Dorothy Ramsier (Bro. Jim) has undergone surgery this month and we pray that God will continue to heal and restore her.

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**OHIO, TOLEDO**  
**Frances Laidig**  
**Josephine Rehkla**

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

Proverbs 31:10

This is a portion of the scripture which was read by Elder Bro. Aaron Steffen (Alto, MI).

Our dear Sis. Anna Weigele has gone to be with the Lord where there will be no more bodily afflictions. We miss Sis. Anna as she was always so willing to be of service to others. We extend our sincere sympathy to her two sons, Bros. Ernest (Sis. Mary) and Al (Mary Ann). Also surviving are four grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Bro. Tom Schrenk, his wife, Sis. Joan, and family spent the last Sunday in 1989 with us. We thank Bro. Tom for bringing words of encouragement to labor on in our work with the Lord -- a good thought to take with us as we enter the new year.

**WALK NOT IN FEAR**

Today you do not walk alone  
 So do not walk in fear;  
 The Lord, your God, is everywhere,  
 In fact He's very near.

Although you walk a path today  
 You've never walked before,  
 Walk on in faith, the Lord is near  
 And shall be evermore.

Although a door should open now  
 Presenting to your view  
 A scene unknown to human eyes,  
 Know this, God walks with you.

Let faith fill every waking breath --  
 To God each child is dear;  
 Today you do not walk alone  
 So do not walk in fear.

Phyllis C. Michael

Gayle Harmon (Bro. Howard and  
 Sis. Collette) and Nathan Hebert

(Peter and Davidia) have announced their engagement. May God bless them as they begin planning their future together.

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**OREGON, PORTLAND**  
**Connie Steffen**

In the Pacific Northwest, we are privileged to see Bald Eagles from time to time. There are various references in the Bible of eagles, and always they remind us of the strength yet gentleness of the Lord. Deuteronomy 32:11 tells us, "as an eagle stirreth up her nest, fluttereth over her young, spreadeth abroad her wings, taketh them, beareth them on her wings" . . .; and later in the same chapter, "The Eternal God is thy refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms." vs. 27. In Isaiah we can read, "but they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles . . ." (40:31) Sometimes we get discouraged, and we may wonder what the year will bring, then we can take courage that the Eternal God is our refuge and He never changes.

Bro. Melvin and Sis. Doris Knapp (Cissna Park) were with us recently, and we really enjoyed their visit.

Sis. Anna Cooper (Bro. Ray, Sr.) went to be with the Lord December 22. I feel this loss very keenly because she was my mother, but more than that, she was a Christian mother. She touched many lives with love and patience. She was not privileged to be raised in a Christian home, so was very grateful that the Lord had called her, and her dear husband and their two children to Himself, thirty-six years ago. Bro. Ray and Sis. Anna were married 62 1/2 years, had worked together to provide a secure home for their family, and not only theirs, but any who needed help. I remember more than a few times when we would "cut back" in order to help someone in need. Bro. Ed Knecht (Silverton) read from Proverbs 31 of the virtuous woman. Mom used that as her "yardstick" in her Christian life. We will miss her, but can rejoice to know the circle in heaven is growing larger even though ours grows smaller down here.

We are looking forward to having the World Relief committee families in Oregon. We hope all will plan to

stay long enough to visit both churches. We look forward to these times of fellowship.

The family of Sis. Anna Cooper wishes to thank all who held us up in arms of prayer and love, during the illness and passing of our wife, mother, and grandmother.

Bro. Ray Cooper, Sr.  
 Ann and Gerald Day

Bro. Ray and Sis. Virginia Cooper  
 Sis. Connie and Bro. Garth Steffen

We wish to thank the many brethren and friends for their gifts of love, prayers, and much help given during the time of my surgery and the following months.

Sis. Connie and Bro. Garth Steffen

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

Our World Relief Sewing Group is again meeting Monday nights at the home of Sis. Esther Dettwyler. They are currently sewing flannel pajamas for children at the Oregon State Deaf School in Salem. Other projects this winter will probably be lap robes and bibs for area nursing homes.

Sign Language classes are being offered on Tuesday nights for beginners or for brush-up for people who have taken the class in previous years. Another project in its early planning stages is a newsletter for people interested in sign language within any of our church communities. If you are interested in participating or being on the mailing list, please contact Sis. Rosa Lee Kuenzi, 10570 Sunnyview Road NE, Salem, OR 97301 or Bro. Lewis Kuenzi, 4730 Auburn Road NE, Salem, OR 97301.

Our annual business meeting was held the third Sunday in January in accordance with our by-laws. Only two offices were up for re-election. Bro. Rich Kuenzi was elected for a three-year term as trustee and Bro. Mike Leman was chosen for a three-year term as usher. Bro. Jack Kuenzi and Bro. Ben Bolliger have fulfilled their respective terms of office and their efforts are greatly appreciated. The church has chosen and will support Bro. Rich and Bro. Mike in their new duties and we trust they will look to the Lord to guide and direct them in this important service to the body of Christ, the Church.

Just a short reminder to the Silverton congregation: March is collection month for Silver Lining dues for Silverton.

In looking at 1989 at a glance, our congregation reported three births, six baptisms, no funerals, one marriage and several move-ins and move-outs. May each one of us pray that we may grow in grace and love as we grow in number.

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**PENNSYLVANIA,  
PHILADELPHIA**  
Franz Soni

"Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord; and the fruit of the womb is his rewards."

Psalms 127:3

In December, the Sunday school children blessed us with a Christmas program. It's a blessing to see how our children grow from year to year. We are thankful to have such willing students and Sunday school teachers to teach them. The church dinner that followed was a time when everyone enjoyed being together.

On January 2, Christopher John was born to Bro. John and Sis. Kay Lanz. Brothers, Tyler and Travis, and sisters, Emily and Breanna, welcome their baby brother. Grandparents are Bro. Edwin and Sis. Marilyn Lanz and Bro. Wilbur and Sis. Marjorie Schneider (Rockville, CT).

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**TEXAS, ZAPATA**  
Viola Perdelwitz

We enjoyed the visit this month of visiting minister, Bro. Clarence Dietrich and his wife, Sis. Betty, (Silverton, OR).

Andrew Plattner (Bro. Leland and Sis. Mary) graduated from Tarkio College, Tarkio, MO. We extend our heartfelt congratulations to Andy.

Bro. Eugene Bertschi is a hospital patient at San Antonio, TX. Our prayers are with Bro. Eugene and Sis. Dorothy.

To speak of life's beauty as thought would dictate;

To work and help others as love would relate;

To cherish our friendships - Some tried and some true;  
To manifest God, in the things that we do.

To lend hearts in service; Ah that is the core  
Of what God has created each one of us for.

Roxie Lusk Smith

We are thankful for our many visitors. If you plan to travel south, visit us.

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**SILVER THREADS**

**WORKS AND DEEDS**

Our works and deeds  
Like fallen leaves beneath a tree  
Leave there a trace of history  
Of who we are, of what we did  
This troubled world, its wrongs to rid.

If we could by just one deed  
Remove from earth a single weed  
And plant a flower in its place  
That would be a crown of grace.

So let us journey bravely on  
Across life's troubled sea  
Leaving plainly, in our wake  
A glorious trail of history.

W. L. Cordill, Author  
January 12, 1990

*Thoughts on Valentine's Day*

**IT WAS YOU, GOD,  
WHO ORDERED ROSES  
FOR THE WORLD!**

To survive  
I must want to survive.  
It is beauty that leads me  
To desire to continue infinitely.

The beauty of a rose  
Is exciting in and of itself,  
But when the rose  
Has been given  
As an experience of love,  
Its beauty is irresistible.

It incorporates  
The beauty of a human being  
As well as its own beauty.  
It was You, God,  
Who ordered roses for the world!

They are an expression  
Of Your love.  
Realizing this,  
The beauty of a rose  
Never fails to lift my heart,  
Set it racing,  
Awaken my desire  
For infinite beauty.  
The beauty of God Himself  
Flashes forth in each rose.  
Yet how many years  
Did I look on roses before  
Discovering this beauty?

Dr. Leo M. Jones

**DAILY VALENTINES**

How sweet to get a valentine  
Of plain or fancy art,  
A rose so pink and violets, too,  
Or satin-covered heart.

But more than beauty or design,  
We prize the words that say  
The sender's love comes with the gift  
In quite the warmest way.

We like to know that someone cares,  
That someone wants to do  
The kindly deed that makes us feel  
Well loved and happy, too.

So why not give expression then,  
To love for friends so dear,  
Not only on one certain day  
But many times a year?

Our valentines may be a smile,  
A cheerful word or two,  
A helping hand, a tender glance  
That signals, "I love you."

And if we often take the time  
To give these friendly signs,  
The world will soon be brightened  
by  
Our daily valentines.

Cleo King

**A VALENTINE'S WISH**

A valentine of hearts and lace  
Came just for me today,  
Complete with the inscription,  
"Dad, you're great in every way."



I smiled to see the signature,  
My son's name written bold,  
For he was such a little boy,  
Just barely three months old.

My wife had spoken from her heart  
The wishes sent to me  
And loaned them to my infant son  
With all sincerity.

They served to thrill me deep  
within  
And make me vow to be  
The kind of dad who fills the words  
The greeting gave to me.

The deepest wish that I will hold  
Is that I'll hear him say  
In ten or fifteen years from now,  
"You're great in every way."

Craig E. Sathoff

#### WITH A LITTLE PINCH OF LOVE

Would you add just one thing more  
To a recipe of yours  
Before you give the oven door a  
shove?  
It will make the whole thing  
lighter,  
And your task will be the brighter  
With a little, just a little, pinch of  
love.

In your cooking and your baking,  
There is pleasure for the taking  
If you first will ask a blessing from  
above.  
Keep ingredients to the letter,  
And your recipe is better  
With a little, just a little, pinch of  
love.

Minnie Klemme

#### YOU AND I

Many years have had their passing  
Since we told each other, dear,  
We would share life's joys and  
sorrows  
Close together year by year.

We have traveled love's good  
highway  
Over hills and through the dales  
Finding sunshine on the pathway,  
Smiling bravely through the gales;

Still we're walking on together,  
Partners in the game of life,  
Hand in hand and heart to heart,  
dear,  
Friends and lovers, man and wife.

Life could hold no richer blessings,  
As the years pass swiftly by,  
Than to find us still good comrades,  
Sweethearts, partners -- you and I.

E. M. Brainerd

#### OLD SWEETHEARTS

Night after night in the evenings  
There by the fire they sit,  
Quiet and still in their mem'ries  
While lights are dimly lit,  
Dreaming of yesterday's gladness  
Fond of the hopes they've shared,  
Finding the peace of contentment  
Proud that they both have cared.

Words are not needed between  
them  
Only a smile and a kiss,  
Their love is sure as tomorrow  
Filled with a wedded bliss,  
Kindness and real understanding  
Never a doubt or a fear,  
All that they need is each other  
All that they hold most dear.

Night after night you will find them  
Right in the same old place,  
He, with his gentle expression,  
She, with her smiling face,  
The oldest and dearest of  
sweethearts  
Going through life hand in hand,  
Reaping a beautiful harvest  
From dreams that they carefully  
planned.

Garnett Ann Schultz

#### LOVE IS A GIFT OF GOD

Love is a gift of God. It is far more  
precious than any material thing one  
could ever hope to possess. It can't be  
purchased, for along with all of the  
best things in life, it is free. Its magic  
can change a dreary world into a  
heaven on earth. Its radiance is be-  
yond human power of description. It  
is not restricted by race, creed or pub-  
lic opinion and has nothing to do with  
physical appearance, for "beauty is in

the eye of the beholder." There is no  
fault or shortcoming that love cannot  
overcome with charity and under-  
standing. It does not imprison, but  
rather, in loving, one is set free. There  
is no limit to what love can accom-  
plish, for its depth finds qualities that  
would otherwise remain undiscover-  
ed. It is the most beautiful, the  
most absorbing, and the most reward-  
ing thing in life and by far the most  
important. For love is truly a gift of  
God.

Dorothy Bettencourt Elfstrom

#### Sermon . . .

(Continued from Page 36)  
without the love of God that is spread  
abroad to mankind through His Son,  
Jesus?

He tells us here that, "Open re-  
buke is better than secret love." Prov-  
erbs 27:5. How many times, beloved  
hearers, it would be so good if we  
could help each other, rebuke each  
other and even try to help each other  
to overcome these weaknesses that  
men have?

It tells us here, too, how often a  
person could pat himself on his back  
and think, "I've got a real good job  
and it looks like I have really accom-  
plished something." Beloved ones, it  
tells us how much better it would be  
to, "Let another man praise thee, and  
not thine own mouth; a stranger, and  
not thine own lips." Proverbs 27:2. It  
says, I believe, that self praise stink-  
eth. Let us know this, beloved ones,  
how easy we can "turn off" if we start  
to praise ourself or brag upon what  
we have done. It is so much better if  
someone else would do it.

Oh, there are so many things in  
this beautiful Word of Life. We could  
spend hours upon it. It tells us here,  
"As a bird that wandereth from her  
nest, so is a man that wandereth from  
his place." Proverbs 27:8. Beloved  
hearers, this is another thing that  
the enemy of our soul uses to destroy  
mankind in the generation that we  
are living in. Men wander to and fro,  
their eyes wander from one place to  
another, and they can even be de-  
stroyed in their own lusts. So let us be  
careful.

It says, "My son, be wise, and  
make my heart glad, that I may an-  
swer him that reproacheth me. A  
prudent man forseeth the evil, and  
hideth himself; but the simple pass

on, and are punished." Proverbs 27:11, 12. So many times, beloved ones, there is a warning sign in our life. There is a caution sign and so many times, we unfortunately plunge right through it . . . plunge head long, and, beloved ones, we are punished. Let us always be careful when we are warned by something that seems to be a caution sign. We should be careful that we would not pass on and be punished.

"He that blesseth his friend with a loud voice, rising early in the morning, it shall be counted a curse to him." Proverbs 27:14. Oh, we wonder sometimes, why would that be? Maybe it is because it wasn't a true blessing. Maybe it wasn't something that he had in his heart for his friend. But sometimes there are verses in the Bible that we consider and wonder about; and sometimes they even confuse us because we can't see into the depth of it.

The depths and fullness of God: "His ways (are) past finding out!" Romans 11:33.

For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts." Isaiah 55:9.

Here it tells us, "Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend." Proverbs 27:17. I have found this so many times in my life in the experiences that we have. One experience is just brothers getting into a car and traveling many miles like we do every time we go to a brother meeting. Beloved ones, when we go, we sit, visit and talk things over and I tell you, beloved hearers, sometimes these trips are really a blessing to us.

It says here, "Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend." Proverbs 27:17. We may not know it, and maybe our brother doesn't know what he has done for us or what we have done for him. What a blessing these times are! Just coming together and fellowshiping with each other are times of blessings where we can shine up and sharpen each other, by being together and considering, speaking and visiting. What a blessing it is.

God has wonderful ways of expressing Himself. What a blessing it is! He is by our side at all times. He is the One who will guide us, direct us and chastise us. He will bless us, but

we need each other. We need each other's hands.

This reminds me of a little story I read not too long ago. A mother and father put their little child to bed and as they went out of the room, he said, "Please stay by me." They said, "God will be by your side. God is by you. An angel will be with you. Jesus is here by you." Then the child said, "Ah, yes, but I want Jesus with skin on."

Beloved ones, this is what we have in you and me. We have each other to fellowship one with the other. You and I can have each other. We have God . . . yes! But God gives you and me to each other. How much we need fellowship one with another!

We are reminded so often about hell and destruction. Beloved ones, we speak of heaven . . . we speak of that beautiful place that God has prepared for all those that love and fear Him. But there is hell and destruction on the other hand. We are reminded that there are two ways. "Two ways, O man, are there for thee to choose from." It is for you and me to choose whether we will seek the Lord, call on Him, give our life to Him, or, whether we will go the other way.

"Hell and destruction are never full; so the eyes of man are never satisfied." Proverbs 27:20. Sometimes it probably would be better to be blind, when we consider all the temptations and the things that men are led astray with by their eye. They are deceived, confused and misled by the blessing of seeing.

Can you imagine this wonderful, wonderful gift of God that He has given to us? We can go on and see the beauties of God's creation and see each other. It is a blessing, beloved ones, don't get me wrong. I do not desire to be blind, but how many times it would be better if someone would have been blind. They were misled by their seeing, by their eye. They were misled by lusting, by evil thoughts running through their mind. We are not exempt . . . we are human beings. We are here among the living and all these things are cast before our eyes by the enemy of our souls. He wants you and me to be deceived and to be misled. It is dangerous, but let it be a blessing to us.

May we consider the beautiful Word of Life. We can go through it by ourselves and consider the words that

Solomon wrote. He told us of many wonderful things and many times we read them through fast, and didn't stop to consider the beautiful verses. Sometimes, I believe, one verse could become a whole sermon. Let us always appreciate this.

We know that many times we were foolish in our lives and we caused our parents' hearts to ache. Now it is our chance for our hearts to ache, beloved ones, and many times we would wish that we could be spared this. How beautiful it could be, beloved ones, if we were always wise, and if the sons could consider the beauty of the Word of God.

Here Solomon was speaking as a father speaking to a son. He said, "My son, be wise, and make my heart glad . . ." Proverbs 27:11. How many times children have made their parents' hearts glad! How many times when they were wise, ". . . that I may answer him that reproacheth me." Proverbs 27:11.

It is just a real blessing to be able to look into the book of Proverbs . . . to read the beautiful thoughts that inspired Solomon of old to put them down in this beautiful Word of Life. Oh, we can't thank God enough. It wasn't Solomon. Solomon by the wonderful grace of God, wrote those wonderful Words of Life. On through the ages, we're thankful God inspired men of old, who, by the direction of God, put together this beautiful Word of Life.

Is there anyone in our audience today that has the feeling in their heart that they could have done it better? I hope not, beloved ones. Because this seems to be the most beautiful, the most perfect volume that has ever been written. We have so many beautiful Words of Life that there is a whole day's consideration right before us. Have we got time for it? Oh, what a blessing it is that we have this Book at home to look into and consider.

We are reminded . . . "Blessed are ye that hunger now; for ye shall be filled." Luke 6:21. My soul was hungry this morning and I am being filled by these beautiful Words of Life.

I have to think "To me is given boundless mercy." Many times as we consider it, we say, "I'm not worthy of it." This is a real good thought; but let us not stop there. We know that we

are not worthy of anything that God has given to us.

But the song writer wrote it so beautifully, and he answered it for me, beloved ones. He said: "To me is given boundless mercy, A gift that I did not deserve; Such wonderful love, It is so marvelous, That such for me should be reserved." If we were feeling that we were worthy, we probably wouldn't be worthy.

If the song writer would have stopped there, it would have been a sad plight. But, he said: "But since I know, I will rejoice, And praise thy mercy with my voice."

Oh, what a blessing, beloved ones! We know we are not worthy, but . . . since we know . . . since we can feel it in our hearts . . . since we know God . . . since we have tasted of His love . . . since we know these beautiful words are from God, we will praise His mercy with our voices!

Oh, let's not stop it, beloved ones! Let us go to our dying days praising, honoring and worshipping God with our voice, mind, thoughts and with our walk of life. May it be seen that we are happy in the Lord, and that we are praising His mercy with our voice! Oh, what a blessing!

The song writer had such a beautiful inspiration. I read a little article not too long ago that said the reason the authors are not listed with these songs was because many of these songs were written in times of persecution and dire need, beloved ones. At a time when men were searching for those people who were true and faithful in God, they did not dare to put their name to the songs. Someone could have picked up a book, gone down the list, persecuted these men and destroyed them. This answered my question when I was wondering why and where are the authors of these beautiful hymns.

So, beloved hearers, let us appreciate these beautiful songs and this beautiful Word of Life! God put it all together so that you and I can have it so conveniently. We can pick up a volume of praise, honor and blessing in this beautiful Word of Life.

We are so fortunate a people and do we appreciate it? Dear friends of the truth, do we appreciate it enough? Do we believe that these words are true? Do we believe that God is coming again? Do we believe that He is

going to come and claim His own? Do we believe that this may be our last day? Do we believe that on that last day we will be ready to meet our God?

If we don't believe it, beloved ones, if we don't know if we are ready or not, let us look into the Word of Life. Let us fall upon our knees. Let us cry unto our Creator that created this beautiful universe for you and me.

David, the Psalmist, said, "What is man, that thou art mindful of him: and the son of man, that thou visitest him: For thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honour." Psalms 8:4, 5. Beloved ones, this is the God that we have learned to know. Friends of the truth, He can be for you too. Come and taste and see.

"Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you." Matthew 7:7. If you are hungry, you shall be filled.

It says, "Blessed are ye that hunger now: for ye shall be filled. Blessed are ye that weep now: for ye shall laugh." Luke 6:21.

Sometimes we are ashamed to cry. There is a time to cry. There is a time to laugh. There is a time to be born. There is a time to die.

We can weep with those that weep, and we can even weep for those things that we have done wrong. There will be a time, beloved ones, when we will rejoice, be happy and be able to laugh. So let us appreciate this.

"Blessed are ye, when men shall hate you . . ." Luke 6:22. Oh, we hate to be hated. But there are times when we are hated and sometimes, maybe, it is even a blessing.

"Rejoice ye in that day, and leap for joy: for, behold, your reward is great in heaven: for in the like manner did their fathers unto the prophets. But woe unto you that are rich! for ye have received your consolation." Luke 6:23, 24. Woe unto you even as the scribes and Pharisees. Woe unto those who needed no doctrine. Woe unto those who just felt that they were saved. Woe unto those who don't need a God. Woe unto those who don't need the Word of Life. Woe unto those who don't need to ask God for guidance.

Beloved ones, we're not talking about dollars and cents, but about those who think they are so good and

so rich that they don't need to repent, and come forward, weeping and begging God for His forgiveness. Woe unto them, beloved ones!

"Woe unto you that laugh now!" Luke 6:25. Sometimes there are those who make fun and laugh. As a little boy, I can remember one time back in Gridley, there was a baptism outside on the sidewalk. They had the tub outside and they were baptizing. Somebody went by on a motorcycle and said, "Dunk 'em deep." They laughed and made fun, beloved ones, and how the hearts of men ached to see those who were laughing and making fun.

I dare say, beloved ones, those who laughed then are weeping today, dying without a hope, without a Saviour, and without admitting their need of God. There is a time and a place for everything.

God tells us in His beautiful Word of Life that there is "A time to be born, and a time to die." Ecclesiastes 3:2. We were born, beloved ones. Are we ready for that day when we will die?

He tells us to, "Love your enemies, do good to them which hate you. Bless them that curse you, and pray for them which despitefully use you. And unto him that smiteth thee on the one cheek offer also the other: and him that taketh away thy cloak forbid not to take thy coat also." Matthew 6:27, 28, 29.

We could spend hours talking on this, but the clock goes on. How many times do we discover that we can only absorb so much?

. . . May God help us to be appreciative.

. . . May God help us to consider.

. . . May God help us to love our enemies.

. . . May God help us to give unto him that takes something from us and say, "Take this too."

. . . May we turn our other cheek, beloved ones, if one would smite us.

. . . May we, plainly and above all build our house upon that Rock, which is Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Give Him our all. Dig deep. Go way down and pick up all that has been done wrong. Uncover it, beloved ones. Expose it and bring it out.

May God help us that when the time of storm may come, that we may not fall, but stand even as a pillar in the sight of the Lord.

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## SERMON BY BRO. HAROLD C. GRAMM OF MORRIS, MN

**Text: Proverbs 27 and Luke 6:20-49**

This chapter is one of the beautiful, familiar chapters that we have read, studied and considered as our parents read to us and as we studied it in Sunday school. Now as we read it again this morning after many years of looking into the beautiful Word of Life, it is still beautiful and wholesome. It's edifying and it filled our hearts with joy to overflowing.

As the Psalmist said here, "The full soul loatheth an honeycomb; but to the hungry soul every bitter thing is sweet." Proverbs 27:7. Beloved ones, if we were full and not hungry, this beautiful Word of Life probably would not be a blessing to us.

It reminds me of when we were privileged to take a basket of food to a family that was destitute. The dad was in the hospital and they were real poor people. We gave them the basket of food and when we left, we said, "We hope you enjoy it." They said, "Well, anything tastes good when you are hungry." They were appreciative, if anything. To a hungry soul, anything tastes good.

Maybe I was hungry this morning. As we came into the assembly, it seemed like every song we sang was so beautiful; and now we read this beautiful Word of Life. I had considered something else this morning and planned to look for it. But when this beautiful book of the Proverbs opened up, it just didn't seem necessary to page or look into the beautiful Word.

We are so thankful for the wonderful Word of Life and the beautiful fellowship that we have. We're thankful for the songs we can sing together, for the Words that we read and the love that God had when He gave us this wonderful hope of eternal life!

He gives us a hungry heart that has a desire for Him. Even as the song writer says, "As a hart for water panteth, So my soul cries, Lord, to Thee!" Beloved ones, we know how a thirsty hart or a young deer would be looking for water. How thankful it would be, after it had run through many miles of dry land, over meadows, hills and plains, to come to a spring of water. Beloved ones, that is how you and I can be this morning if we are hungry and thirsty for this beautiful Word of Life. It can be for your heart and mine, like a cool spring of flowing water is for a hart or a young deer.

We are reminded, beloved hearers, of the fact that we should not look forward too far. We are reminded many times that we should, "Live every day as it were our last, but build our work as it would last forever."

As we go through life, we can consider our life and what we are doing. As we consider, let us consider that maybe this is the last chance we have. Maybe we'll never have another chance to do it again.

Even Solomon reminded men that they should not be too concerned about tomorrow, because tomorrow will take care of itself.

But think about today, beloved ones. Today, now, we are in the house of worship and have taken out time to come together and to worship our loving God and our merciful Savior. God was so loving and so merciful, He sent His Son to this world after poor fallen men had fallen into sin.

God sent His Son into this world to redeem us from sin, beloved ones. Now we can come together and con-

sider the wonderful Word of Life, even with Joy in our hearts. We can consider it food for our hungry souls.

We know that many times there is much confusion and utterance in this world. It reminds us of this here in the book of Proverbs. I believe this is often the root of the whole matter, beloved ones. It says, "Wrath is cruel, and anger is outrageous, but who is able to stand before envy?" Proverbs 27:4. I believe this one verse sums it all up, beloved ones, and tells us where all the trouble lies and where all the trouble stems from.

In our day and time, possibly every war that was begun, any family that was ever broken up, every man or woman who have ever become at odds with each other, have roots of wrath, anger and envy. If they could have controlled wrath, anger and envy, I believe that would have solved the whole problem.

So let us remember this, beloved ones, that these are tools of the enemy. Every one of us is exposed to it and every one of us has a certain amount of this within us. It is human nature and we are born with it. Let us not use as an excuse, "I'm full of wrath," "I'm full of envy and I can't help it," "I'm angry; I get mad real easy." Beloved ones, that is not an excuse. It is something the enemy can use against us. If we don't have the grace of God, we can be the downfall to our undying soul. So let us be careful and let us know that wrath, anger and envy, are dangerous things that the human race is confronted with.

Oh, beloved ones, what would we do without love? What would we do

(Continued on Page 33)