



"And they found the stone rolled away from the sepulcher."

Luke 24:2

"And they entered in, and found not the body of the Lord Jesus."

Luke 24:3

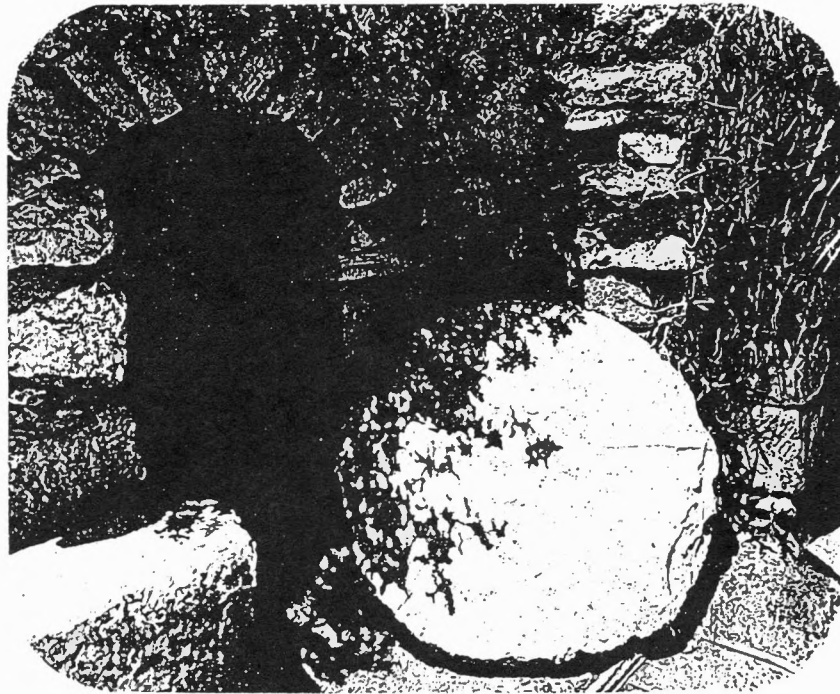
VOLUME 42

APRIL 1992

NUMBER 4

"He is not here; for he is risen, . . ."

Matthew 28:6



THE RESURRECTION

Why come ye at break of morning,
To the Lord's grave in such deep
mourning;
Who'll roll the heavy stone away?
'Tis away; oh, do not murmur!
Ye faithful ones, come now, draw
nearer,
The stone is gone Oh, look there-in!
See angels in the cleft!
Bring joy to you refeit,
Hosanna, hosanna,
Why seek with tears the Master here?
He is not dead, rejoice, He lives!

Songs of praise to Thee are swelling,
From thousand thankful voices
telling;
Oh, holy Hero evermore!
Death is now sweet for believers;
In Jesus we are heaven's heirs;
The sting of death is now no more,
For after the grave's rest,
Jesus shall call His blest,
Child awaken! Child awaken!
He went before thru heaven's door,
And brings us to His Father's house.

Hymns of Zion #45, vs. 1, 3

"And behold, there was a great earthquake: for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it."

MATTHEW 28:2

MISSION -- WORLD RELIEF -- WORKS PROJECTS

A BIG DIFFERENCE

Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle — Shioda, Japan

I have a concern, that as children of God, there is a big difference between what we are supposed to be and what we are. Have you ever had such a concern?

First, let's consider how we are supposed to live. The New Testament and the Ten Commandments offer the guidelines as to how we are supposed to live. We are instructed, "To speak evil of no man," yet we may find ourselves criticizing others in a belittling way, not so much to help them as to make ourselves feel superior. This is one way the devil can deceive us into thinking we really are superior.

The Lord Jesus Christ taught us, "But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses." Matthew 6:15. Satan would have us hold grudges or bitterness in our hearts toward someone else, which is bad for our physical and spiritual health. To forgive does not mean the person who has erred suffers no consequences for his or her wrongdoing but it does mean that we personally have no bitterness toward that person.

I have mentioned two areas in which there may be a big difference between what we are supposed to be and what we are. Another such area is the manner in which

we speak and do to others. We desire others to respect us but do we respect them in our speech and conduct? Our Lord Jesus Christ said, "And as ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them likewise." Luke 6:31.

We have considered the matters of criticism, forgiveness and direct interaction with others. We really must be careful in all three areas, as well as in many other areas of our lives.

How shall we go about striving to be more what we are supposed to be? You may have the best ideas but it seems to me that there is a close relationship between the extent to which we are surrendered to God and the extent to which we succeed in being what we are supposed to be. Let's surrender all over again.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

"Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye ever so to them." Matthew 7:12. The Golden Rule applies today as much as it did that day Jesus taught the people on the mountain. Have you ever wondered what to do and say when you meet

a person who has a disability? Many people have mixed emotions when they meet someone with a disability. For fear of saying the wrong thing, some avoid contact. When meeting a person who has a disability, apply the following considerations and listen and learn from their experiences:

1) A person who has a disability is an individual. People with disabilities laugh, get angry, have preferences and dreams like everyone else.

2) Treat adults as adults.

3) Speak directly to the person rather than through a companion.

4) Explore your mutual interests. The person likely has many interests besides those connected with the disability.

(Continued on Page 4)

THE SILVER LINING

Grabill, Indiana 46741
USPS 496780

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David Bertsch
Lester Stoller

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IN MEMORY -- EDITORS:
HENRY SOUDER
EDWARD SOUDER

OUR CHILDREN NEED "PARENTS" TOO!

We need a married couple to serve on a full-time basis as Alternate Houseparents at Gateway Woods. This brother and sister team would be responsible for houseparenting duties in our group homes when the regular houseparents are off duty, as well as various maintenance and household responsibilities.

This would be an excellent opportunity for a couple to work with a unified team of brothers and sisters in helping troubled young people. We trust that mature individuals will heed God's call to help in our "work of faith."

Please contact one of the brothers listed below for more information regarding qualifications, salaries and benefits.

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219/627-2159, office
219/627-2606, home

Bro. David Bertsch, Elder
11520 Souder Road
Grabill, IN 46741
219/627-2923



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).

SYMBOLS OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH (II)

The symbols of the Christian faith convey deep spiritual truths. They are precious aspects of our faith and are enriching to our lives. The doctrinal symbols of baptism, laying on of hands and Holy Communion were discussed in a previous editorial. There are also important worship and fellowship symbols which portray important precepts of God's plan for His church. They help to provide a unique identity to believers and draw them closer to God and to each other when practiced in sincerity and humility.

Prayer is a sacred experience for the believer in which he draws nigh to God and communicates directly with Him. The name of God is to be held in great esteem and He is to be approached in the highest forms of reverence. When the Lord Jesus taught the disciples how to pray He addressed God by saying "Our Father which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name" (Matt. 6:9). When God spoke to Moses in the burning bush he instructed Moses as follows: "Draw not nigh hither: put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground" (Ex. 3:5).

Reverence for the Lord must come from the heart. This reverence is symbolized and reinforced by certain aspects of form and posture in prayer. The children of Israel portrayed humility and submission to the Lord when they "bowed their heads and worshipped" (Ex. 4:31). Jesus set the example of falling upon one's knees in prayer. After the Lord's Supper He went to the Mount of Olives, "And he was withdrawn from them about a stone's cast, and knelted down, and prayed" (Luke 22:41). Peter and Paul both practiced the kneeling posture in prayer (Acts 9:40; 20:31). The customary folding of hands and closing of eyes symbolize entering a closet and shutting the door to earthly distractions as instructed by the Lord (Matt. 6:6), so

that we might draw close to our Heavenly Father in reverent consecration. The classic language of the King James Version of the Bible and of our traditional hymns (Thee, Thou, Thy and Thine) when used during prayer symbolize the believer's special respect for God by addressing Him differently from any other being.

Through the Apostle Paul the believers were given additional symbols pertaining to prayer and worship which portray the distinction of male and female in God's order of creation as well as submission. When a woman prays or discusses spiritual matters, she is to cover her head with a prayer veil (1 Cor. 11:5). The veil, or other headcovering, worn during prayer or other spiritual activity, is a godly symbol that is striking in its impact, and is in conformity to the Word of God. The woman is also to wear her hair long to provide a natural covering of feminine glory (1 Cor. 11:15). A glory is a praiseworthy attribute, a symbol of honor or distinction—clearly held in high esteem by God. Believers should love the things God loves. It should be understood that hair does not provide a prayer covering. If it did, the presence of any hair on a man's head would make him automatically disobedient to the scriptural directive to men to pray "uncovered" (1 Cor. 11:4). Gender distinction is further enjoined by the strong statement: "Doth not even nature itself teach you, that, if a man have long hair, it is a shame to him?" (1 Cor. 11:14). A man's short hair and well-trimmed demeanor give evidence that he is striving to follow this biblical precept.

The exchange of the holy kiss is a vivid symbol of the love and esteem brethren feel toward one another. "Greet ye one another with an holy kiss" (1 Cor. 16:20) and "greet ye one another with a kiss of charity" (1 Pet. 5:14). This teaching appears five times in the New Testament. As

brothers greet brothers and sisters greet sisters, no better symbol than the holy kiss could portray the kindly affection and respect the children of God feel for each other. This kiss should be given from a heart full of Christ's love, and should not drift into a lifeless habit or form.

There are additional practices associated with a believer's personal appearance that symbolize devotion to upholding godliness in our daily walk of life. Because of the world's deteriorating standards with regard to discretion and modesty in dress, the true believer will thus stand out, and bring glory to God if properly attired. By observing the traditional standards in dress that reflect the appearance of godly men and women, believers symbolize the truth that God, in His perfect order, created a specific role for the man, and a specific role for the woman. Men should look like men, and women like women. "Male and female created he them" (Gen. 5:2).

Biblical teachings concerning outward appearance point to the great value of modesty and restraint (1 Tim. 2:9-10; 1 Pet. 3:3-5). By avoiding sensuous or costly apparel as well as jewelry and cosmetic enhancements, the believer demonstrates a refreshing freedom from the powerful pressures of the world to conform to its fashions and vanities. Rather, there is an emphasis on adornment of the inner man with the graces of humility and godliness which bring honor to our Lord. This is then "the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price" (1 Pet. 3:3-4).

It takes very little effort to follow these various symbolic practices. If we truly appreciate the boundless mercy and love of our Heavenly Father and our Saviour, Christ Jesus, we will gladly do our best to bring the visible symbols of our walk into harmony with the treasures of our heart.

Start with a "hello" and as you begin to know the person with a disability, your feelings of inexperience will melt away. (from Dialogue on Disabilities, A Mennonite Central Committee publication)

Recently one of our friends said, "I thought when I moved to Oakwood they would call us 'people' not residents. Her few words told us a lot about how she wants to be recognized as an individual. We are continually renewed as we see folks diligently at work trying to accomplish new skills ranging from one person proudly putting coins in the soda machine at workshop to another completing the check register in his checkbook, from one putting his toothbrush to his mouth to another taking her new wool skirt to the cleaners, from one pushing a button on his new communication device to say a sentence to another playing the computer chess game "Gorilla" or beating the staff at chess, and from one becoming calm as hymns are played to another leading in prayer at Bible study or resident council.

We thank God for the talents He has given us and pray we can all use them for His glory. "Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the Lord thy God which He hath given thee." Deuteronomy 16:17.

Birthdays for May are: At ACCH - Judy McRoy (2), Sam Grimm (2), Melinda Crouch (3), Terry Stoller (6), Anna Stichling (13), Steve Slagel (13), Ray Virkler (17), Ruth Klopfenstein (19), Marlene Moser (22). At Oakwood -

Herb Stieglitz (11). At CRS - Jackie Barton (26).

**GATEWAY WOODS
Apostolic Christian
Children's Home
Cindy Bauer**

I was recently reading the account in the Bible of Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane, prior to His crucifixion. I tried to imagine Jesus praying there in the garden, powerfully struggling and finally committing Himself completely to the Father's will. Then suddenly His commitment was radically tested — a group of armed soldiers had appeared out of nowhere and were asking for Jesus. I could imagine myself beginning to panic if I had been Jesus . . . and my earlier commitment may have gotten a little shaky. Then Peter, probably aiming for one of the men's heads, sliced off his ear. If I had been Jesus, I could imagine myself being sort of relieved that Peter was helping me out, since I was feeling pretty nervous by now and not too sure how all of this was going to work out okay. I might have started considering what I should be doing to fight back or get away somehow.

But what did Jesus do? Something totally radical . . . He actually walked toward the wounded "enemy," touched his ear and healed him! Jesus was so fully committed to the Father's will that He didn't feel any need to defend himself, to fight the battle in His own strength. He didn't compromise God's standards but continued to

walk in submission to the Father and in love toward others, even in very difficult circumstances.

Here at Gateway Woods, we believe we are doing the Father's will by caring for the needy and "fatherless." How we need to trust Him to supply the grace and strength we need, every step of the way, rather than trying to fight the battles on our own.

We praise God for continuing to provide for our staffing needs! We're excited and thankful that He has called Sis. Marilyn Walder (Champaign, IL) to join our team of houseparent sisters in the All-Girls House. Sis. Andria Mouschon has moved from the All-Girls House to the West House, to fill the assistant houseparent vacancy there. Another welcome addition to our staff is Ruth Reinhard of the Bluffton area, who will be our Foster Care Caseworker.

We're trusting God to meet our other staffing needs as well. Presently we have openings for an educational coordinator (to replace Sis. Sue Grusy as she leaves to be a full-time mom) and an assistant houseparent (to replace Sis. Shay Nelson). In addition, there is a need for a married couple to serve as full-time alternate houseparents. See notices in the front of this issue for more details.

We're relieved to have our annual license review behind us! With the diligent efforts of various staff members, we were well prepared

TOUCHING THE LIVES OF OUR YOUTH

We now have need for a full-time Educational Coordinator in our classroom at Gateway Woods. This brother or sister will tutor our young people with daily homework assignments, school projects and tests. In addition, they will provide a liaison role between the local school system and the Home, maintain the library and coordinate the volunteer program.

Qualifications include a Bachelor's Degree in Education and work experience in the field. We offer competitive salaries, benefits and continuing education opportunities. For further information and a job description, please contact one of the brothers listed below.

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219/627-2606, home

Elder Bro. David Bertsch
11520 Souder Road
Grabill, IN 46741
219/627-2923

GATEWAY WOODS

Apostolic Christian Children's Home

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**1992
CHILDREN'S HOME
AUCTION AND SALE**

**SATURDAY,
AUGUST 8, 1992**

for the review of both our institutional child-care license and our foster program license. We are thankful that our government continues to honor and provide financial support for our programs here, even with our clearly-stated objective of providing a "Christian" environment for our resident children. Let's join in praying that the State can continue to see the effectiveness of our programs here and ex-

tend us the freedom to follow God's Word in caring for the young people here.

We're always thankful for opportunities to communicate to our brothers and sisters about the work here at Gateway Woods. Recently, Bro. Jeff Thames (houseparent) gave a presentation at the World Relief meeting in Elgin, and Bro. Tim Sauder (administrator) spoke to the believers at Lester, IA. In

April, three of our single sisters plan to speak at College Weekend in Francesville.

It's fun to drive onto campus and see license plates from different places! Volunteers who have visited and blessed us recently have been: Bro. Dean Kaisner (Champaign, IL), Sis. Andrea Kaufmann (Tremont, IL), Sis. Sonia Feucht (Washington, IL), Bro. Miklos Bozzay (Chicago, IL), Bro. Brad Leman (Congerville, IL), Bro. Todd Harris (Roanoke, IL) and Bro. David Duckworth (Bradford, IL).

Many thanks for sharing yourselves with us for a few days! We are beginning to plan for our upcoming summer volunteer program -- please contact Sis. Denise Duckworth at the Gateway Woods office (219/627-2159) if you are interested in volunteering and/or would like more information. We generally encourage volunteers to spend at least a week at a time here, to give them a better chance to "learn the ropes."

On campus, Tracy N. has returned to the All-Girls House after being at another placement for several months. Dawn S. is working at a local restaurant, and Bob W. has resumed his work at a local factory. Becky M. has moved from the Transitional Living Program into an apartment with a sister from Bluffton.

Staff members have recently begun a special Bible study for interested residents. Please pray that God will open our childrens' hearts to learning more about the Word and Christ's love for them.

Thanks for all of your on-going support and love! Have a joyous Easter.

ALABAMA, ATHENS
 Pamela Moore

It's almost spring, and we're sure looking forward to it! The weather fluctuates from warm, sunny days, to cold, blustery days. The warmer climate brings many visitors through Athens, on their way to and from Florida, and we appreciate them. We've had visitors from Forrest, Peoria, Princeville, Cissna Park and

-- NOTICE --

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

We're continuing to send used books overseas. Almost daily we receive requests in the mail for Bibles

You may get your books to either of us or Wing or Bluffton World Relief Centers.

Jerry and Arlene Banwart
 Box 132, 307 West First St.
 Congerville, IL 61729

or

Phil and Gloria Grant
 R.R. #2, Box 95A
 Antwerp, OH 45813
 Phone (419) 258-2197

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
- Seventh Year — August 1989 thru July 1990 — 25,501
- Eighth Year — August 1990 thru July 1991 — 32,677

Bibles Distributed — Ninth Year

| | MONTH | TO DATE |
|------------------|-------|---------|
| August 1991 — | 2951 | 2951 |
| September 1991 — | 3318 | 6269 |
| October 1991 — | 3634 | 9903 |
| November 1991 — | 1856 | 11,759 |
| December 1991 — | 4632 | 16,391 |
| January 1992 — | 4207 | 20,598 |
| February 1992 — | 3716 | 24,314 |
| March 1992 — | 3,146 | 27,460 |

*Note — 792 Romanian Bibles and Testaments shipped
 770 Romanian Bibles and Testaments, 2nd shipment
 234 Romanian Bibles and testaments, 3rd shipment

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.

Goodfield, IL, Sabetha, KS, and Junction, OH.

We spent a special weekend with visitors from Tremont, IL. They spent part of their day in Nashville, and then came to Athens for a Saturday evening singing at the fellowship hall and church on Sunday.

We are so thankful for the growth in our Sunday school classes, and after several Sunday school teacher's meetings, have decided to add another class to our Sunday school. We are thankful for God's blessings in this area, for they will be our future church.

Little Kendra Coulter has spent time in the hospital again. We just ask for your continued prayers and support for Kendra and her family. She's home now, and going strong, which we're all very thankful for.

As you make plans for your summer vacations, be sure to make Athens a stop, if you're in our area.

ARIZONA, PHOENIX Ron and Ev Hoerr

"Oh that men would praise the Lord for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men!

"For he satisfieth the longing soul, and filleth the hungry soul with goodness."

Psalms 107:8, 9

We truly were blessed with "wonderful words of life" by visiting ministers Bros. Todd Feller

(LaCrosse, IN), Gary Tonner (Bluffton, IN), Loren Knapp (Tucson, AZ), Vernon Schwab (Wolcott, IN) and Nate Lehman (Tucson, AZ).

We've enjoyed the fellowship of our winter visitors and praise the Lord for your coming to visit.

Bethany Lynn was born March 4 to Bro. Herb Jr. and Sis. Laurie Knochel. She got a loving welcome by Andy, Natalie and Tyler. Happy grandparents are Bro. Herb and Sis. Johanna Knochel and Bro. and Sis. Lyle Zeltwanger.

Bro. Ed and Sis. Shirley Zolliger are happy granddaughter, Abigail Louise Warner arrived March 13. Parents are Bro. Stan and Sis. Suzi (Lester, IA).

We see the power of prayer at all times, and we are thankful, indeed. Bro. Melvin Miller is back after surgery, as is Sis. Doris Kokanovich. Baby Victoria Roth (Bro. Todd and Sis. Jill) is home from the hospital. It is nice to see Bro. Ted Knochel back again. Bro. Manny Zahner has been released from the hospital and soon will be able to return to Rockville.

Our February church fellowship dinner and singing was well attended. It is a real delight to have these times of fellowship.

"Blest be the tie that binds" as Sis. Tracy Pashak and Sis. Lynne Fischer, leave for Michigan and Illinois.

Our sympathy to the Yackley families on the death of Tim Wenninger.

Do you have His "Light" in you?

ARIZONA, TUCSON

Lisa Knapp

After a lengthy hospitalization, our friend Art Krozner passed away. He is survived by his wife, Millie. Our prayers are with Millie in this time of adjustment and mourning. God always grants sufficient grace in time of need. Elder Bro. John Klotzle (Altadena, CA) was here for the funeral.

We had two visiting brothers minister to us this past month. Bro. Vernon Schwab (Wolcott, IN) and his wife, Sis. Arlene, were with us and Bro. Gregg Gramm (Phoenix), Sis. Denise and family visited us also. We are so glad they could visit with us. God's blessings to you.

Spring has settled in Tucson. Our mid-March temperatures are in the 70's and 80's. We were thankful for our abundant rains, but we are so glad to see the sun!

March will also bring the departure of our winter visitors. We want to thank them for their visits. We pray for their safe returns home.

CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA Lisa Steiner

Our hearts go out to the families of several loved ones who have passed away. Eleanor Garrett succumbed to cancer in March, after giving her heart to the Lord in repentance. Bill Opplinger also passed away from cancer early in February. May God grant comfort and reassurance to Sis. Laura. Sis. LaNae Aberle's mother, Sis. Esther Moser (Rockville, CT) died unexpectedly, and we pray for God's comfort for this family also. While these loved ones will be missed, we can rejoice that they have gone to be with the Lord.

Visiting ministers during February and March were Bro. Mike Rieker (Peoria, IL), Bro. Clarence Dietrich (Silverton, OR), Bro. Russell Wuthrich (Pulaski, IA) and Bro. Robert Miller (Portland, OR). We thank God for allowing them to be with us and bring us His Word.

On March 28, we welcomed Debbie Aberle as our new sister-in-Christ after witnessing her testimony and baptism. May God bless

IS GOD CALLING YOU?

Our Sis. Shay Nelson, Assistant Houseparent in the New House, is returning to the Central Illinois area in early May. This creates an immediate opening for an Assistant Houseparent on our staff. Please prayerfully consider this important mission of reaching out to troubled young people. Perhaps God is calling you.

The sister would help the Houseparents with the daily care of our children as well as other various household duties. We provide extensive trainign and continuing educational opportunities. Please contact one of the brothers listed below for more information regarding qualifications, salaries and benefits.

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Sis. Debbie as she continues her walk of faith.

CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO
Marian Petrovic

Saviour, bless us as we part,
Fill our souls with love divine,
Comfort every troubled heart,
May we feel that we are Thine.

If on earth we meet no more,
Let us meet at God's right hand,
Where we shall each other greet,
Mid the glories of that land.

Let us always then be true,
For that blessed home prepare,
Will you promise me that you will
Meet me over there?

That will be a happy time,
When forever free from pain,
In that pure, celestial clime,
All our friends we meet again.

Good-bye, if on earth we meet no
more;
Good-bye, May we meet on
heaven's shore.

Gospel Hymns #774

The Meyer family, Bro. Randy, Sis. LaNae and their children, Kendall, Kevin and Kayla have moved to Illinois and plan to assemble with our Chicago congregation. May God's presence and love be with them as they begin a new life there.

Sis. Ana Jevremov was hospitalized this month with MS. May we continue to uphold her in prayer that she might trust God with all her burdens and cares.

We thank our heavenly Father for so graciously providing for our needs. Our congregation recently approved and opened escrow to purchase a two acre parcel as a potential church site. As we make plans to build sometime in the near future, may all be done to the honor and glory of God, and may He bless our efforts.

Bro. Russell Wuthrich (Pulaski, IA), Bro. Glen Hackenjos (Altadena, CA) and Elder Bro. John Klotzle were our visiting ministers. We thank them and their dear wives

for assembling with us and sharing the Word.

We welcome Sis. Erika Sarok (Budapest, Hungary) to our church family as she will be working in the San Diego area for about one year.

Note: Silver Lining subscription dues should be paid by May. Thank you.

COLORADO, DENVER
Eric and Marcel Huber

"Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: and the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock." St. Matthew 6:24-25. We rejoice that John Elder has chosen to commit his life to God in repentance. We pray his foundation will be built on the Solid Rock.

We thank Bro. Bill Emch (Lamont, KS) for his visit and ministry this month.

CONNECTICUT, ROCKVILLE
Michelle Virkler

"Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you."

Hebrews 13:17

On Sunday, March 1, Elder Bro. Kevin Ryan was ordained and will now shepherd our Rockville congregation. Elders able to assemble with us from far and near are Bros. Joe Ramsier (Rittman, OH), Ed Lanz (Oakville, IA), Art Bahler (Fairbury, IL), Leo Moser (Lester, IA), Ed Aeschleman (Philadelphia, PA) and Gene Paymer (Akron, OH).

It was a blessed weekend and we trust the Lord will guide and direct Bro. Kevin, his wife, Sis. Cheryl, and their dear family.

"My lifetime doth pass away; Hourly to the grave I hasten, And I know each fleeting day, My allotted span will lessen. Think man,

death comes soon or late, Tarry not, it will not wait. (Zion's Harp #253) Sis. Esther (Fehr) Moser suddenly passed away Saturday, March 7. Besides her husband, Bro. John, she leaves a son and daughter-in-law, Bro. Doug and Sis. Carol Moser; a daughter and son-in-law, Sis. Lanae and Bro. Richard Aberle; a brother, Carl Fehr (Roanoke, IL); and four sisters, Elizabeth Fehr and Margaret Hodel (both of Roanoke, IL), Kathryn Farney (Cissna Park, IL) and Sis. Carolyn Hartmann (Rockville); six grandchildren, Rebecca Bailey, Deborah, Benjamin and Sarah Aberle, and Stephane and Justin Moser; and several nieces and nephews. Sis. Esther will be greatly missed.

Amanda Lorraine was born February 12. The anxiously-awaiting parents are Bro. Philip and Sis. Michelle Bahler. Maternal grandparents are Richard and Lorraine Behling; paternal grandparents are Bro. Lee and Sis. Maxine Bahler.

Calvin Jon was born March 10. Besides the proud parents, Kim and Dog Gottier, Nicholas and Lincoln awaited the arrival of their baby brother. Maternal grandparents are David and Nancy Joyce; paternal grandparents are Bro. Art and Sis. Judy Gottier.

Visiting ministers for the month of March were Bro. Richard Aberle (Altadena, CA), Bro. Marvin Leman (Bradford, IL) and Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL).

We rejoice when another soul turns to our Lord and Saviour. Burt Wheeler has made a beginning with Christ, as we trust the Lord will be his Guide throughout all his days. His parents are Burton and Margo Wheeler.

We pray for those dear souls who have been under the care of a physician or been hospitalized: Sis. Ella Marti, Bro. Al Schneider, Sis. Emma Moser and Bro. Manny Zahner. May God bring renewed health and strength.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,
WASHINGTON
Henrietta Meyer

There were snowflakes in the air this morning, but some of the spring flowers are already bloom-

ing. Spring is an ideal time to visit the D.C. area. The flowers and trees are in bloom, the crowds are not as large and the weather is usually nice. We are always glad to have visitors.

We are so thankful for the ministering brothers who serve us. This month our ministers were Bro. Paul Gasser (Akron, OH) and Elder Bro. Dave Weigand (Champaign, IL). Other visitors this month were from Remington and South Bend, IN, Eureka, IL, and Philadelphia, PA.

Services are held the first and third Sundays of each month at Tyson's Westpark Hotel, located on Route 7, about one mile from I-495. Many from the area meet in the hotel dining room for breakfast at 9:00 a.m. Services are at 10:30 and 12:30. For more information, assistance or just to let us know you are in the area, please call Bro. Matthew Aeschleman (301) 863-9624 or Bro. Ed Stoll (703) 494-3955.

FLORIDA, FT. LAUDERDALE Terri Huber

Visiting ministers in February and March included Bros. Ralph Garber (Morton, IL), Ken Hoerr (Peoria, IL) and Lee Bahler (Rockville, CT).

Among our other many and welcomed visitors were Bro. Ernie and Sis. Lucy Isch (Bluffton, IN), who purchased a "vacation" at the Children's Home auction. We gave them quite a tour of South Florida. I hope we left them time to relax and enjoy the weather, too.

The Sunday school activity group has planned a spaghetti dinner fund raiser. It is great to see the youth spending time in church-related activities, and we need to stop and appreciate the time and effort involved by the adults who plan and supervise activities. It is important to me that these wholesome alternatives for spending time will exist when my children reach the peer-influenced and impressionable ages.

Give Your Old and New Address
To Your Reporter

FLORIDA, NORTH FT. MYERS Marvin and Rhea Steffen

As February closed, we fondly bid our brothers, sisters and friends farewell that were returning to their homes away from us here in North Fort Myers. Whether is was immediate family, or our church family, we enjoyed their stay with us very much. Our congregation really changes in size throughout the year from less than 30 during the summer, to as many as 200 during the most visited part of the winter. While we delight in having all of our seasonal visitors, there is also something special about the feeling we get when our whole congregation can go out to a local restaurant at the same time to dine and fellowship.

Among those visiting us were the following ministers: Bros. Ralph Garber (Morton, IL), Paul Gasser (Akron, OH), Ronald Steiner (Rittman, OH), Richard Aberle (Altadena, CA) and Lee Bahler (Rockville, CT). We are thankful for these ministers and their wives traveling the miles to share God's Word with us.

FLORIDA, SARASOTA Gala Gerber - Suellen Ott

Our hearts are filled with thanksgiving and our lips are seasoned with praise as we view the handiwork of God. We rejoice for He has blessed our congregation with two wonderful brothers who are willing to assist Bro. Doug and Bro. Glenn in sharing the "Good News" to us! As God has promised, He does take care of His own! We would like to share our love and support to Bro. Ron Koehl (wife, Sis. Carol) and Bro. Jeff Streitmatter III by sincere prayer to our God for them and their families.

What a joy it was to hear the testimony and view the baptism of Bro. Moses Vonia! One can almost sense the rejoicing in heaven, for our Father tells us that great is the rejoicing in heaven over one sinner that repents. We welcome Bro. Moses with open arms!

Easter is rapidly approaching and Calvary becomes a focal point for many a heart and mind. Doesn't it? I wonder just how well traveled

this Calvary road is and if it is still recognized as the only path that leads home?! — Hymns of Zion #167

May I be willing, Lord, to bear
Daily my cross for Thee;
Even Thy cup of grief to share,
Thou has borne all for me.
Lest I forget Gethsemane;
Lest I forget Thine agony;
Lest I forget Thy love for me,
Lead me to Calvary.

Hymns of Zion #182

Lead us to Calvary, Father.

Thankful for Elder Bro. Edwin Ringger (Gridley, IL), Bro. Ron Steiner (Rittman, OH), Bro. Paul Gasser (Akron, OH) and Bro. Randy Gasser (Detroit, MI) for sharing God's Word with us. We pray that God will bless them today and in the time to come.

Many thanks to our many friends and loved ones across the miles for their concern, their love, prayers, gifts and cards during my surgery. It was sure greatly appreciated.

Love in Him,
Sid & Helen Leman

ILLINOIS, BELVIDERE Carol Steffen

We are thankful that two young men have moved to our area for job opportunities. Jason Kupferschmidt (Eureka, IL) is doing an internship in Rockford. He will be back and forth as he is still in college. Brent Knobloch (Bradford, IL) is employed in Oregon, IL, which is 40 miles from Belvidere. We pray that these friends feel welcome to assemble with us whenever they have opportunity.

We appreciate the ministers who came this month. Elder Bros. Wayne Fehr (West Bend, IA) and Paul Butikofer (Elgin, IA) were traveling home from the elder conference and stopped in to worship with us. Elder Bro. Bob Walder (Congerville, IL) came the first Sunday in March and brought several from their church giving us an extra special blessing of fellowship. Our Elder Bro. Nathan Steffen (Elgin, IL) came on a Wednesday evening to exhort us to prepare for

communion. Once again we are so grateful to Bro. Gary Anliker (Elgin, IL) who so willingly comes to help minister when Bro. Dean needs support.

We are scheduled to sing at a rest home in Belvidere on the fourth Sunday of the month. Singing is a blessing for us all and we welcome anyone who is in our area on that Sunday to support us in this endeavor.

Attendance for the past 4 Sundays has been 52, 65, 46 and 45 people. We thank each one who has made the effort to come worship with us.

**ILLINOIS,
BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL**
Tudy Schmied - Debbie Grieco

"Humility makes a man peaceable among the brethren, fruitful in doing good, joyful in suffering, and constant in holy living. Humility makes us fit for the highest service that we owe to Christ and at the same time is not negligent of the lowliest service to the humblest saint. Humility can be content with the most modest table and yet will enjoy the most precious delicacies as with God, with Christ, and in glory. Humility makes a man willing and ready to bless him who curses him and to pray for him who persecutes him; a humble heart is an abode of God, a disciple of Christ, a companion of angels, a preserving-vessel for grace, and is prepared for glory. Humility is the faithful nurse of our graces and gifts and the mighty impulse to sacred exercises in duty."

"Mirror of the Soul,"
by Samuel H. Froehlich
Marching To Zion, pg. 61

This writing reminds us of the searching of our hearts and minds as we prepare for communion and we make ready for the celebration of the resurrection of our Lord and Savior. What a joyful time of year!

God has again blessed the family of Mike and Liz (Rokey) Robinson with a new baby girl born March 1. Jessica Lynn joins her sister, Danielle.

Grandparents are Bro. Ken and Sis. Phyllis Rokey (Goodfield, IL) and Leonard and Pat Hursch (Heyworth).

Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to the family of Bro. Everett Hari whose mother, Sis. Bena M. Hari, passed away February 27. Although Sis. Bena spent most of her years in Cissna Park, we had the pleasure of knowing and loving Bena as she worshipped with our congregation for a few years prior to her residing in the nursing home. The Hari family wishes to thank everyone for their many expressions of love.

Please keep Dave Brummitt (father of Bro. Dennis) in your prayers as he recovers from surgery.

We are thankful for the visiting ministers who lent themselves to God's service this month. They are Elder Bro. Chuck Hemmer (Peoria, IL), Bro. Ken Weerts (Cissna Park, IL) and Elder Bro. Bob Grimm (Goodfield, IL).

ILLINOIS, BRADFORD
Les and Barb Fehr

Bro. Barry and Sis. Rachel Dietz were blessed with a little boy. Nathan arrived March 13 and his grandparents are Bro. Kenny and Sis. Mardell Dietz and Bro. Keith Kellenberger (Elgin).

On March 8, we witnessed the exchange of wedding vows by Bro. Brad Kupferschmid and Sis. Cheryl Ringger. Their parents are Bro. Bill and Sis. Karen Ringger and Bro. Richard and Sis. Mary Beth Kupferschmid (Eureka).

During the last month our visiting ministers were Bros. Jim Vierling (Eureka), Ron Joos (Pulaski, IA), Mike Rinckenberger (Congerville), Ed Fritz (Washington, IL) and Elder Bro. Joe Stoller (Princeville, IL). May God bless these brothers for their efforts on our behalf.

Our get-well wishes go to Sis. Vonnie Kieser, Sis. Emma Knobloch and LaNae Dietz.

ILLINOIS, CHAMPAIGN
Margie Heintz

"Honor thy father and mother . . . That it may be well with

thee . . ." On February 29, the Parkland College and U. of I. students who attend church here in Champaign prepared a meal for their parents and the friends and members of the Champaign church, as a way of saying "thank you." The Appreciation Dinner was followed by an evening of singing songs of worship and praise to God. Many of the parents stayed overnight and attended services with us on Sunday. It was a weekend of blessings for all, and we as a congregation want to say "thank you" to the students for the kindness and love which they often share with us.

On March 6, Joel Samuel Steffen was born to Bro. Sam and Sis. Pam Furrer. We join them as they rejoice at the birth of their first child.

Our congregation was blessed to have visitors from Morton on the weekend of March 14-15. Brothers, sisters and friends from Oakwood Estates joined us for dinner, singing and fellowship on Saturday evening. Our guests stayed overnight and worshipped with us on Sunday. We appreciated the time that we have spent together and hope they will visit us again soon.

The prayers of our congregation continue for Bro. Brian and Sis. Wendy Waibel as they sorrow at the loss of their infant daughter, Carrie Jo, who died March 15. We pray they (and each of us) can know in the depths of their souls, that: "In God is my salvation and my glory: the rock of my strength, and my refuge, is in God." Psalms 62:7.

The engagement of Bro. Aaron Steffen (son of Bro. Herb and Sis. Georgia, Bloomington) to Sis. Sarah Ricketts (daughter of Bro. Nick and Sis. Jean, Forrest) was announced recently. We pray they will continue to walk close to God as they walk into the future together.

Our visiting ministers in the past month were Bro. Fred Knapp (Congerville) and Bro. Dale Stoller (Fairbury). We appreciate the Words of Life that God brings to us through His ministers.

Have A Great Day!

ILLINOIS, CHICAGO**Kathy Schlatter**

In all of the musical instruments, from the strings of the harp to the head of a drum, the music is made by vibration — air across an opening (flute) or hammers hitting strings (piano). Often the beauty and effectiveness of the sound is most affected by how practiced and dedicated the performer is plus by how in tune he/she is with other instruments, both being necessary to create harmonious, glorious melody. May we remember then that the way in which the Lord draws sound from us is not so important as how much we are willing to sacrifice to reflect His message clearly and how attuned we become to His spiritual body.

Bros. Arnie Gerst (Taylor, MO), Wayne Anliker (Forrest) and Gary Anliker (Elgin, IL) have ministered to us. We are so appreciative of their energy, expended for us to the glory and honor of Christ. “. . . not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord of hosts.” Zechariah 4:6.

We have been joined in our walk of faith by Sis. Erika Furj. We were privileged to know of the work of the Lord in her life through her testimony. Elder Bro. Wayne Anliker helped our Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann in her baptism on Sunday, March 1. We rejoice with Erika and her family and pray for His continued guidance in her life and theirs.

Bro. Wayne also assisted Bro. Dale in the reading and commentary on the report from the annual brotherhood conference. We are grateful for their efforts in our behalf. “. . . they ask of me the ordinances of justice; they take delight in approaching to God.” Isaiah 58:3.

Per Wickstrom (Bay City, MI) has joined our church family. He is working in our area. We welcome him with open hearts and look forward to our times together.

Lea Stefan has been hospitalized. Her physical battles have intensified. We extend our love and prayers to her and to her husband, Joe. May the Lord provide them strength to bear this ordeal.

We extend our sympathies to Bro. Kevin and Sis. Liz Leman on

the death of her grandmother. May they feel our love and prayers as the Lord gives them His support and comfort.

“The integrity of the upright shall guide them: but the perverseness of transgressors shall destroy them.” Proverbs 11:3. A brother introduced this verse to the Sunday school. It made quite an impression on me, especially because of its emphasis on the word “integrity.” My parents have exemplified that word to me. Always who one was and how one acted as a result was more important than any earthly consideration. My father-in-law and both my husband’s late mother and stepmother have also defined this word in their relationships with others. A student whose mother recently died has shared several times that her family members are “no good” — no integrity. When I was discouraged recently, a praying school friend reminded me, “Who you are is more important than what you are trying to accomplish. Real results are often not visible until later.” Integrity is quality when the contract doesn’t specify, caring when the paycheck is the same either way, believing in the right and living it despite the fact that wrong seems to be doing better. Integrity is having the faith of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, knowing that our God is able to save us from the burning fiery furnaces but not presumptuous of His will — still determined not to bow down to the forces of evil. In a sense, integrity is a gift reflected to us through the lives of our Christian fathers and mothers and ancestors. We are fortunate. May we, Lord willing, mirror it to our posterity.

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ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK
Bev Knapp - Cyndee Anderson

“A new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.”

John 13:34-35

In a sermon this month, we were asked this question: Do you love the Lord as much today as you did the night you gave your testimony before the church? The minister then went on to say that if we can say we do, then we must take it one step further and ask ourselves: Do we love our brother and sister as much as we did that night? As Jesus said, it is by this love that men shall know that we are His disciples. One of our visiting ministers was inspired to lay this same thought to our hearts when he told us, “It is the bond of brotherly love, the yielding of ourselves, . . . that reveals that the Spirit of the Lord lives within us; and it’s that brotherly love that is going to be the power that is going to keep and preserve the church.”

We certainly want to thank the ministering brethren who visited our church this month. They were Elder Bros. Jesse Beer (Milford, IN) and Art Bahler (Fairbury), and Bros. Jim Rinkenberger (Bluffton, IN), Jay Rinkenberger (Goodfield), Ken Schneider (Remington, IN), Dale Zeltwanger (Morris, MN), Steve Gutwein (Francesville, IN), Earl Ringger (Gridley) and Dennis Rassi (Fairbury).

We also want to thank Bro. Mike Rinkenberger (Congerville) who visited us on a Wednesday evening and spoke to us on the topic of submission. Perhaps the same principle holds true here, as in our love. Can we really say we are submissive to God, and yet not yield ourselves to the directives of those He has set over us in the church, when they speak through the leading of the Spirit and according to His Word? We appreciated the way he kindly reminded us that we must:

“Obey them that have the rule over you and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy and not with grief, for that is unprofitable for you.” (Hebrews 13:17)

As it so often happens, death came three times to our congregation this month. Our Sis. Anna Wieland passed away February 14 at Fairview Haven Nursing Home at the age of 91. She was the last member of her family here, being

preceded in death by four brothers. We extend our sympathy to her loved ones. Then on February 26 we learned of the passing of our Bro. Harry Bauer at Gibson City Hospital, where he had been a patient for one week. We extend our sympathy to his wife, Sis. Mattie, and also to his two daughters, JoAnn Hartman (Bloomington) and Madalyn Seggebruch (Onarga); and his four sons, William, Cal and Lowell (Cissna Park) and Glen Hodel (Racine, WI). He is also survived by one brother, Arthur (Bloomington).

We also want to extend our sympathy to the family of our Sis. Bena Hari, who passed away February 27 at the Apostolic Christian Home in Eureka, where she had been a resident for ten years. She was preceded in death by her husband, Bro. Walter, October 12, 1973. Left to cherish precious memories are one daughter, Sis. Glenda Meyer (Dale, Bluffton, IN); one son, Bro. Everett Hari (Bloomington); a brother, Bro. Carl Fehr (Roanoke); and five sisters, Sis. Kathryn Farney (Cissna Park), Sis. Carolyn Hartmann (Rockville, CT), Sis. Margaret Hodel (Roanoke), Sis. Esther Moser (Rockville, CT) and Sis. Elizabeth Fehr (Peoria). Sis. Bena and her husband, Bro. Walter, served as caretakers of our church here for many years. This capacity was also filled by our Bro. Harry Bauer for many years. We appreciate the faithful service of these departed loved ones.

Spending time in the hospital this month was Patti Rudin (Greg). Our thoughts and prayers were with her at this time, and we are now happy to announce the safe arrival of a new little daughter to this dear couple. Elizabeth Faith was born March 14, and joins three-year-old Jason in this happy family.

We offer our best wishes to two couples who were married in the Lord this month. Sis. Valerie Kaufman (Bro. Sid and Sis. Sandy) became the wife of Bro. Todd Kaeb (Bro. Elmer and Sis. MaryLou) February 23. She is the oldest of six children, and he the youngest of twelve, uniting two large, loving

families that we appreciate very much.

On March 15, we witnessed the sacred wedding vows of Bro. Walt Laubscher (Sis. Marie and the late Bro. Ben) and Sis. Sylvia Martinez (Octavio and Eulalia, Hoopston). We rejoice with these two couples and pray for them during this time special joy and yet real adjustment.

We want to offer our sympathy to our Sis. Lou Ella Hari (Bro. Arthur) in the loss of her brother, Kenneth Morton (Cissna Park) February 17, and also to our Sis. Lucille Walder and Sis. Anna Hari on the death of their brother, Louis (Duke) Eberhart (Watseka) March 4.

Sunday, February 23, was the last Sunday in Cissna church for our Sis. Clara Vogel before moving to Fairview Haven Rest Home in Fairbury. Sis. Clara suffers the handicap of failing eyesight, and yet is such a good example of how a trial can bring us closer to the Lord. It seems that when her mortal eyesight failed, her spiritual eyesight just became clearer. We wish her the blessing of contentment in her new home.

“. . . though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day . . . while we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal.”

II Corinthians 4:16b and 18

ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE JoAnn Roth - Myra Steffen

“When I survey the wondrous cross,

On which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
And pour contempt on all my
pride . . .

See, from His head, His hands, His feet,

Sorrow and love flow mingled down;
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
Or thorns compose so rich a crown? . . .

. . . Love so amazing, so divine,

Demands my soul, my life, my all.”
Gospel Hymns #709

As we rejoice this Easter season in the hope of His resurrection, may we surrender our all to Him, who gave His all for us.

We were thankful to have the memorandum shared with us this month. Elder Bro. Andy Virkler (Bay City, MI), Bro. Jim Vierling (Eureka) and Bro. Willis Wiegand were visiting ministers who shared God's Word with us. May God's blessings be with them.

This past month our congregation has been blessed with five new babies. Bro. Jake and Sis. Glenna Rinkenberger, along with Isaac, Grant, Alex and Anna, welcomed Charlotte Diane. Grandparents are Bro. Charlie and Sis. Martha Rinkenberger, and Dave and Lois Marquadt (Indiana). Brittani Danielle was born to Frank and Jill Merritt; and Kourtney is delighted to have a baby sister. Grandparents are Bro. Steve and Sis. Gerri Schrock and Frank and Reba Merritt (Eureka). Jacob and Abbey are excited to have Molly Beth as their new sister. Bro. Bob and Sis. Lisa Hartman are Molly's parents. Grandparents are Bro. Gene and Sis. Carrie Lou Hartman and Dayton and Wilma Springer (Eureka).

Bro. Jerry and Sis. Linda Knobloch are the first-time parents of Russell Gene. Orvie and Laretta Knobloch (Lester, IA) and Eldon and Irene Stahl (Princeville) are Russell's grandparents. Mark and Michelle Funk also have a new baby, Courtney Dawn. Grandparents are Bro. Virgil and Sis. Shirley Funk and Mike and Denise Myers (Eureka). May God grant His blessings on each of these precious babies and their families.

Hospitalized this month were Bro. Gene Hartman (Sis. Carrie Lou) and Jesse Knapp (Bro. James and Sis. Lisa). We are thankful for God's healing hand. Our thoughts and prayers are with Sis. Sara Dietrich as she remains homebound. We miss her in our assembly.

The engagement of Sis. Larrisa Schrock (Bro. Byron and Sis. Mary) and Bro. Jeff Kuykendall (Gary and

Ellie, Morton) was made known to us. May God bless them and guide them.

ILLINOIS, ELGIN
Elizabeth Schambach
Betty Bachtold

"And he said unto them, With desire I have desired to eat this passover with you before I suffer:"
 St. Luke 22:15

We gathered Saturday evening, February 22 in anticipation to commemorate our dear Saviour's sufferings and could reach forth in faith to partake of this holy sacrament. We were thankful for dear Elder Bros. Paul Butikofer (Elgin, IA) and Wayne Fehr (West Bend, IA) who assisted Elder Bro. Nathan Steffen.

"To every thing there is a season . . . a time to be born and a time to die; . . ." Ecclesiastes 3:1, 2. Once again this month we are reminded of the beginning and termination of life.

The hearts of Bro. Jerry and Sis. Kay Cargill and family were saddened in the recent passing of her brother, Lawrence Polk (Detroit, MI). May God share his comfort.

As a congregation, we offer our condolences to the family of Tim Wenninger who was recently taken from this earthly life. Again, we beseech God's comfort and love.

Following an extended hospital stay, Amy Grzywa and her husband, Tim, are happy to welcome little Alexandra Marya born prematurely March 6. We trust she will continue to grow and be able to join Anya at home. Grandparents include Bro. Lloyd and Carol Kellenberger and Ted and Mary Grzywa (Burlington, IL).

We also continue to pray for others who submitted to surgery or hospital care including Sis. Sarah Kellenberger, Bro. Delbert Schmidt (Sis. Jeanette), Lindsey Krueger (Jim and Mary Krueger) and Phyllis Kaptain (daughter of Sis. Frances). May God's grace be near to comfort and console body and soul.

This year Elgin hosted the an-

nual Western World Relief meeting. Displays were shown as were slide presentations on Russia, India, Mexico, Gateway Woods of Leo, Fairbury Rest Home and the building project in Bloomington, IL. It was a very enlightening and blessed day. Thanks to all who attended. Next year it will be held in Sabetha, KS.

We are also appreciative for other brothers who faithfully ministered the Word, namely, Elder Bro. Roy Grimm (Taylor, MO), Bros. Tom Lemm (Denver, CO), Jim Hoerr (Peoria, IL), Leroy Messner (Winthrop, MN) and Dean Steffen (Belvidere, IL).

Thank You: The family of Caroline Wieland wishes to thank everyone for their prayers, cars and services offered to them in the sudden passing of their loved one.

Verena Wieland and the Moser family
 Sis. Sarah Kellenberger wishes to thank all who remembered her with prayers, cards, gifts, food and visits while in the hospital and since returning home. It was deeply appreciated. May God bless you richly for all the love shown.

ILLINOIS, EUREKA
Dori Blunier

"But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him: and with his stripes we are healed."

Isaiah 53:5

At this time of year it is always good to remind ourselves by whose stripes we are healed, even our Lord and Saviour.

On March 1, we witnessed the marriage vows of our Sis. Dianne Rocke (Bro. Eldon and Sis. Ida Mae) and Bro. Jim Wettstein (Bro. Art and Sis. Donna). May God continue to bless them as they walk together. The next Sunday, March 8, many of us traveled to Bradford for the wedding of Bro. Brad Kupferschmid (Bro. Rich and Sis. Maribeth, Eureka) and Sis. Cheryl Ringger (Bro. Bill and Sis. Karen, Bradford). We also wish them God's blessing and guidance.

As a church, we certainly have been concerned and have spent much time in prayer for our dear Elder Bro. Walt Anliker who has been in the hospital with heart problems. We pray for God's strength and courage to be with him and his family. Our prayers have also been with Bro. Jesse Getz and Sis. Caroline Lemm who have been in the hospital.

We are always excited to hear of a new little baby born into a Christian home. Bro. Gary and Sis. Gail Getz welcome Jennifer Lane into their home. Grandparents are Bro. Allan and Sis. Nathalia Getz (Eureka) and Bro. Lawrence and Sis. Elaine Wagenbach (Princeville).

We were thankful for our many visiting ministers in this last month. They were Bro. Dan Stoller (Remington, IN), Bro. Wes Knapp and Bro. Willis Wiegand (Goodfield), Elder Bro. Joe Braker (Morton), Bro. Bob Stoller (Lamar, MO), Bro. Mike Rinkenberger (Congerville), Elder Bro. Don Sauder and Bro. Bill Hodel (Roanoke) and Bro. Glenn Dill (of our Tremont congregation).

Sis. Debra Blunier, who is currently living in Baja, Hungary, and teaching high school English, would like to thank everyone who wrote to her at Christmas and also throughout the year. She has appreciated it very much. Her address is: Csonak U.4.I. em. 5, 6500 Baja, Hungary.

ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY
Jean Bachtold - Crystal Fehr

HE LOVES US SO

Why did Jesus have to die
 On the cross: I wonder why?
 Jesus died once long ago,
 Just because He loved us so.

Jesus is alive today,
 He will always with us stay,
 Jesus rose once long ago
 Just because He loves us so.

Let's go back to Calvary, fall down at His feet, look up into His face, and seek to understand His

loving heart. "He is not here!" This is our faith; this is the great hope of Easter morning.

On March 14, we were privileged to assemble with the Forrest brethren and hear the exhortations of the memorandum. We were encouraged to a closer walk with our Lord. Elder Bros. Art Nohl (Morris, MN) and Don Sauder (Roanoke) assisted our elder brothers. We thank them for their willingness to serve the Lord.

Our congregation rejoices with two couples. March 22 was the wedding day for Sis. Jackie Fehr and Bro. Aaron Masters (Bloomington).

Sis. Crystal Broquard and Bro. Jeff Cargill were united in holy matrimony March 29. Parents are Bro. Donald and Sis. Ione Broquard and Bro. Jerry and Sis. Kay Cargill (Elgin, IL). May the Lord bless these couples as they walk hand in hand down the pathway of life.

Hazel Wagler passed away March 8. Our sympathy is extended to her family.

Those who needed hospital care this month were Sis. Carolyn Fehr, Bro. Herb Fehr, Sis. Mary Traub and Kendall Fehr (Bro. James and Sis. Brenda). May the Lord provide for their every need.

Heartfelt sympathy is extended to Bro. Warren and Sis. Delores Zehr in the passing away of their grandchild, Carrie Jo Waibel, three-week-old daughter of Bro. Brian and Sis. Wendy Waibel (Champaign). She is now an angel in the heavenly choir.

We thank Elder Bro. Ed Lanz (Oakville, IA) and Bros. Rick Plattner (Peoria) and Eric Givens (Princeville) for ministering to us the Bread of Life. May God add the increase.

Sis. Ada Hartman has moved from our area to the Eureka Nursing Home. She will be missed in Fairbury, but we pray God will be with her in her new location.

I wish to extend my heartfelt thanks to the loved ones in Fairbury and area for the kind deeds, prayers, gifts and cards I received since I was hospitalized and recuperating at Fairview Haven.

Sis. Cora Scharlach

ILLINOIS, FORREST

Sherri Kelson

Sandra Schneider

We would like to re-enter the following wedding paragraph. The last two sentences were not published in the February issue.

December 31 was the wedding day for Lori Lanz and Rick Patton. Bro. Elmer and Sis. Lavonne Lanz and Kermit and Barb Patton are their parents. We wish them happiness together.

Roger, Sheila and Ashley Steidinger welcome Abby Lyn into their hearts and home. She was born February 27. Abby's grandparents are Bro. Steven and Sis. Bonnie Kaeb (Cissna Park) and Bro. Ivan and Sis. Kathryn Steidinger.

Saturday, March 14, we had a blessed evening as we gathered together with the Fairbury congregation to hear the memorandum. We were exhorted that the family is God's miniature church. May we keep this in mind in all we do for we are all part of a family. We thank Elder Bros. Art Nohl (Morris, MN) and Don Sauder (Roanoke) for helping Elder Bros. Wayne and Art in this work.

We want to express appreciation to the other ministering brothers who visited us this month. May the Lord reward Bros. Doug Grimm (Sabetha, KS), Sid Kauffman (Cissna Park), Tom Schambach (Elgin), Virgil Metzger (Chicago), Jim Plattner (Princeville) and Dan Stoller (Remington, IN).

We extend sympathy to Bro. Eldon and Sis. Marge Waibel and their family in the death of little Carrie Jo Waibel, infant daughter of Bro. Brian and Sis. Wendy Waibel (Champaign).

We also sympathize with Ken and Mary Lehmann in the loss of her father, Donald Leeper.

May these dear ones feel the Lord's strength and nearness in their sorrow.

May we give special thought and prayer to those who have needed to be hospitalized this month. These include Bro. Art Huette, Sis. Alice Lehmann, Joel Brown (Bro. Gary and Sis. Jane), John and Barb Kilgus, and Sis. Leah Honegger.

In the old rugged cross,
Stained with blood so divine,
A wondrous beauty I see;
For 'twas on that old cross
Jesus suffered and died
To pardon and sanctify me.
So I'll cherish the old rugged cross,
Till my trophies at last I lay down;
I will cling to the old rugged cross,
And exchange it some day for a
crown.

Hymns of Zion #168, vs. 3

Let us remember our Lord's suffering and death and cherish all that He has done for us.

ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD

Trish Gerber

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

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

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

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

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

We turned and ran then, from the
tomb.

"He lives! He lives!" we cried.
"Jesus conquered death and the
grave."

This could not be denied.

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

Even though our winter has
been very mild, we look anxiously

for the new growth of springtime and with it the celebration of Christ's death and resurrection. As our congregation takes part in holy communion, it's an extra special time; and a time to renew our relationship with our blessed Father and our beloved brethren. What a privileged people we are!

We were all encouraged and chastised as Elder Bro. Wayne Anliker (Forrest) assisted our Elder Bro. Bob with the reading of the memorandum. We appreciate the constant faith and love of our elder body and pray for continued unity.

Bro. Brian and Sis. Teresa Schieler happily announce the birth of Reid Martin. Reid was born February 18 and welcoming him home are Diana, Kara, Bobby and Royce. Grandparents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Marcie Schieler and Bro. Lewis and Sis. Arletta Martin (Eureka).

Samuel and Jacob Rokey were blessed with a new little brother, William James, who was also born February 18. William's parents are Bro. Ben and Sis. Shelly and his grandparents are Ray and Joanne Hostetler and Bro. Kenny and Sis. Phyllis Rokey.

The high school Sunday school class enjoyed a weekend spent with the Leo, IN, high school students at Leo, and then had them back to Goodfield for another blessed weekend. Our students also spent a Sunday as guests in the Peoria church with their high school class. It is our hope that lasting relationships will be made and some day our children will greet one another as brethren.

We're thankful that Bro. Larry Bauman, Sis. Margaret Newlin and Fred Rokey (Bro. Ken and Sis. Phyllis) are all doing well after their time spent in the hospital.

ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY
Perry Klopfenstein

Our hearts were made glad in mid-March when three souls were brought into the fold, after testimony and baptism. That God is calling souls, even "from the rising of the sun to the going down thereof,"— and that souls are hear-

ing and responding to heaven's plea to repent and live anew in Christ — is a positive affirmation of God's love and mercy.

Our new loved ones who are now "set in the body" as it pleases God (I Corinthians 12:18) are Bro. Ron Schmidgall, Bro. Ron Harris and Bro. Ryan Harris. They are the son, son-in-law and grandson of ministering Bro. Harold Schmidgall of our Gridley congregation. This is especially a great joy for us, and especially for Bro. Harold and Sis. Ethel. A few years ago we all rejoiced over the baptism of their daughter, Sis. Barb Harris (Ron Harris) and Sis. Linda Krug. Elder Bro. Joe Braker was here for the weekend.

Bro. Scott and Sis. Rebecca Ringger are the parents of their second child, a daughter. Her name is Hailey Nicole, who was born March 8. She has an older brother, Keith Allan. Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Larry Ellis and Bro. Fred and Sis. Mary Ringger, all of Gridley.

Jeanne Gramm will be married August 8 to Troy Schnabel (San Antonio, TX). His parents are Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Schnabel (Parker, SD). She is the youngest daughter of Bro. Herb and Sis. Jane Gramm.

Our hospital patients recently were Sis. Gail Kiefer and Mark Kuntz, infant son of Bro. Rollyn and Sis. Brenda.

Visiting ministers were Bro. Ed Alt (Cissna Park), Bro. Marvin Schmidgall (Eureka) and Bro. Wes Knapp (Goodfield).

Sis. Anna Klopfenstein, of the Peoria Home, passed away at 11:30 p.m. March 19. Her obituary will appear in the next issue of the Silver Lining.

ILLINOIS, MORTON

"He is not here: for he is risen, as he said . . ." !!! Matthew 28:6. What triumphant words! As a favorite Easter hymn proclaims:

"Up from the grave He arose,
 With a mighty triumph o'er His
 foes;
 He arose a Victor from the dark
 domain,

And He lives forever with His
 saints to reign.
 He arose! He arose! Hallelujah!
 Christ arose!"

Tabernacle Hymns #205

As we see the world view move further and further away from Godly values and principles, it is good to be reminded that Christ will triumph and that He will have the final victory. "Hallelujah! Christ arose!"

Lydia Weishaupt was called into all eternity. Her funeral was held March 2. May God comfort her sister, Dorothy Aberle; her brother, Phillip Weishaupt; her nieces, nephews and friends.

The engagement was announced of Sis. Sherry Funk (Bro. Wilbert and Sis. Violet) to Bro. Don Smith. We wish them God's continued blessings and guidance.

We rejoice with Fred and Sis. Elaine Sollberger at the birth of their daughter, Madeline Rose. She was born March 2. Her big brothers, Fred and Sam, also welcome her home. Her grandparents are Don and Twyla Schubert and Sis. Edith Zimmerman, all of Morton.

We also rejoice at the engagement announcement of Bro. Jeff Kuykendall (Gary and Ellie, Morton) to Sis. Larissa Schrock (Bro. Byron and Sis. Mary, Congerville). May God guide and direct them during their engagement period.

We wish to thank Bro. Bill Emch (Lamont, KS) and Bro. Greg Rassi (Chicago, IL) for ministering God's Holy Word to us. May God richly bless them and their families for visiting us.

For the comforting words and kind deeds bestowed upon us during the loss of my sister, Caroline, we wish to offer our sincere thanks and appreciation.

Fanny Wieland

ILLINOIS, PEORIA
Jim David

We thank the following ministers for visiting the Peoria church and preach the Word of God: Bro. Elmer Schmidt (Winthrop, MN), Bro. Marshall Heinold (Washing-

ton, IL) and Bro. Eric Givens (Princeville, IL).

Our prayers go out to the family of Sis. Anna Klopfenstein, a resident of the Apostolic Christian Home in Peoria, who passed away last month. We also pray for the recovery of our hospital patients, Sis. Evie Stoller, Sis. Brenda Klein, Lydia Roecker, Mary Thiem, Mary Lou Wieland and Sis. Linda Leathers.

Bro. Luke Heller sends this notice of appreciation: "I want to express my heartfelt thanks to all who remembered my wife during her illness. To all of you dear ones who have sent memorials to our Skyline Nursing Home and to all my friends and neighbors for all your kindness — God bless you all."

SPECTATOR

I'm hot and hungry and bone-tired.
Pebbles and twigs sting my bare feet.

Adults shove me out of the way.
It is hard to keep hold of daddy's hand,

But he said I would enjoy myself,
Seeing a king ride down this dusty road.

But I'm not even sure I like kings.
I've heard they bring death,
starvation . . .

Then why this crowd to greet him?
Their waving palms scratch my cheeks.

Is it possible he has already come?
I did not hear the trumpets blare,
Nor see a white horse and golden chariot.

Such loud Hosannas hurt my ears.
If only I was taller and could see it all.

Daddy understands and lifts me up,

And there I view the strangest sight:

A gentle tired donkey shuffles along,

With a gentle tired man riding up on him.

Is this the King my father spoke about?

Oh, please, please, let it be so!
His eyes are friendly, full of promise.

This ruler I could learn to love.

Marjorie M. Smith

ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE

Martha Jane Siebenthal

We were blessed with two visiting ministers this month. They were Elder Bro. Curt Frank (LaCrosse, IN) and Bro. Pat Zaugg (West Bend, IA). May God bless these brothers for sharing the true Word of Life.

We are very thankful that two more souls have answered the call to repentance. They are Janel Blunier (Bro. Dale and Sis. Joyce) and Brent Graham (Bro. Richard and Sis. Jeanette). May they always look to the one above for their help at this time and always.

"And the Lord God said, It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him an help met for him." Genesis 2:18. January 5 was the wedding day of Sis. Keri Herrmann (Bro. Howard and Sis. Mary Ann) and Bro. Darin Blunier (Bro. Dale and Sis. Joyce). May God abide in their home and may they always feel His presence. Sorry, I missed this last month, Keri and Darin.

Dennis Wagenbach (Bro. Ray and Sis. Betty) and Jennifer Wages are planning a July 11 wedding. May they include the Lord in their wedding plans and look to him for guidance.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the loved ones who have been in the hospital and are now home. Bro. Duane Elsasser (Sis. Doreen) and Bro. Dale Blunier (Sis. Joyce) both heart, Bro. Lavern Berthold (Sis. Joan), Sis. Helen Schick and Sis. Doris Christ (Bro. Walter) who has been down with a blood clot in her leg. May God grant His healing hand and may His grace be sufficient for each day.

As we approach the season in which we commemorate the death of our Lord Jesus on the cross and His arising from the grave, may we ever through His grace, be obedient and faithful to His Holy Word.

IN THE GARDEN OF GETHSEMANE

Before the dawn of Easter
There came Gethsemane . . .
Before the Resurrection
There were hours of agony . . .
For there can be no crown of stars

Without a cross to bear,
And there is no salvation
Without Faith and Love and Prayer.

And when we take our needs to God,

Let us pray as did His Son
That dark night in Gethsemane —
"Thy will, not mine, be done."

Helen Steiner Rice

ILLINOIS, ROANOKE

Cathy Hohulin - Annie Hoffman

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

Love's redeeming work is done,
Fought the fight, the battle done,
Lo! our Sun's eclipse is o'er;
Lo! He sets in blood no more.

Vain the stone, the watch, the seal;
Christ hath burst the gates of hell!
Death in vain forbids his rise;
Christ hath opened Paradise!

Lives again our glorious King;
Where, O Death, is now thy sting?
Once He died, our souls to save;
Where thy victory, O Grave?

Charles Wesley

We want to thank the visiting ministers who so willingly gave of their time to us this month. Elder Bro. Walt Anliker (Eureka) assisted in reading the "letter" from the brotherhood conference. Elder Bro. Bob Grimm (Goodfield) had a timely message for our monthly Bible study on the topic, "Watch and Pray." Other visiting ministers were Bros. Will Schieler (Milford, IN) and Alan Stoller (Bluffton, IN).

The Mortonaires sang at our monthly hymn sing. We thank them for the blessing of song they shared with us.

Jonathon Braker welcomes a new little brother to his home. Jacob Benjamin was born February 21 to Kevin and Janice Braker. Grandparents are Bro. Marvin and Sis. Michaleen Braker and Leon and Nina Rodgers.

Rebekah Ann was born March 1 to Bro. Mike and Sis. Nancy

Hoffman. Rebekah has two older brothers, Andy and Joshua. Grandparents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Helen Hermann (Morton) and Bro. Rudie and Sis. Mary Hoffman.

On March 10, Erin Elizabeth was born to Bro. Tim and Sis. Linda Martin. Erin was welcomed home by her two sisters, Abby and Emily. Grandparents are Sis. Carolee and the late Bro. Melvin Unsicker (Peoria) and Bro. Jim and Sis. Helen Martin.

Hospital patients this month were Doris Aeschleman (Bro. Larry), Sis. Angela Rassi (Bro. Joe), Dale Whitten (Bro. Gene and Carol), Aaron Blakey (Richard and Joan Burton), Sis. Sally Hodel (Bro. Willis and Sis. Margaret) and Mary Jane Steffen (Dan).

Note of thanks: We want to thank everyone for their prayers, cards and gifts (both known and anonymous) and the love and concern expressed during Wilmer's recent hospital stay and since returning home. May God bless you.

Bro. Wilmer and
Sis. Clara Fischer

ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON
Sue Ruppert
Denise Romersberger

DAILY PRAYERS ARE
"HEAVEN'S STAIRS"

The "stairway" rises "heaven
high" —

The "steps" are dark and steep,
In weariness we climb them
As we stumble, fall and weep . . .

And many times we falter
Along the "paths of prayer"
Wondering if you hear us
And if you really care . . .

Oh, give us some assurance,
Restore our faith anew,
So we can keep on climbing
the "stairs of prayer" to You —

For we are weak and wavering
Uncertain and unsure,
And only meeting you in prayer
Can help us to endure.

All life's trials and troubles
Its sickness, pain and sorrow,

And give us strength and courage
To face and meet tomorrow!

Helen Steiner Rice

Daily prayers from down on our knees is our link with God. He has promised "Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things which thou knowest not." Jeremiah 33:3. What more could we ask for? God is our protector, provider and friend. He knows everything about us yet loves us totally. We only need to take everything to God in prayer.

We just had the privilege of having Bro. Tom Hoffman (Roanoke, IL) lead us in a Bible study on the promises of God. It was a precious reminder of how God always keeps His promises.

Guest ministers were in attendance to assist in presenting the memorandum. They were Elder Bros. Dan Koch (Tremont, IL), Joe Stoller (Princeville, IL) and our dear Elder Bro. Don Sauder.

Bro. Carl Wyss spent a short stay in the hospital and is doing very well. We praise God for his recovery.

Bro. Bruce Hohulin (Goodfield, IL) spent the day with us March 14 to share the Word of Life with us. We appreciated his words of encouragement.

INDIANA, BLUFFTON
Jill Frauhiger - Mary Isch

"Rejoice with them that do rejoice, . . ."

Romans 12:15

We were blessed this month with the birth of Erin Michelle, born March 8. She is the daughter of Bro. Stan and Sis. Janice Ringger. Erin joins Anthony, Vince and Jessica at home. Grandparents are Bro. Gary and Rosetta Ringger and Sis. Irene Steffen.

Celebrating 50th anniversaries this month were Bro. Herb and Sis. Lucille Frauhiger and Bro. Ralph and Sis. Leona Schwartz. We wish both couples many more joyful years together.

We also were uplifted to witness the testimonies and baptisms of six dear souls March 21 and 22.

Dawn Dick, Wes Gerber, Heidi Kaehr, Jami Moser, Katie Reinhard and Brandy Girod testified of the love of Christ in their lives. We wish them all God's grace as they begin their walk with Him. We thank Elder Bro. Chuck Hemmer (Peoria, IL) for assisting with the activities.

Bro. Bill Waibel (Bay City, MI) shared God's Word with us this month. We pray that God will bless him richly for his efforts.

Hospitalized this month were Sis. Helen Stoller, Bro. Homer Aschliman (Sis. Minnie), Bro. Joe Isch, Sis. Diann Tonner (Bro. Gary) and Michael Reinhard (Bro. John and Sis. Pam). May the Lord be with each of them as they recover.

Sis. Helen Stoller would like to thank all those who remembered her with cards, gifts and especially prayers while she was in the hospital.

We were saddened to experience the passing away of several dear souls.

Bro. Jacob Graber went to his heavenly home March 6. Bro. Jacob is survived by his children, Bro. Glenn Graber (Sis. Evelyn), Sis. Betty Steffen (Bro. Harry) and Sis. Pauline Kaehr. Sis. Mildred Baumgartner passed away March 2. Mildred is survived by her husband, Bro. Roger and children, Bro. Ralph (Sis. Jeannie), Herb, Sis. Marilyn (Bro. Tom) and Sis. Pauline Gerber (Bro. Jerry D.). Bro. Herman Aschliman passed away February 28. Herman is survived by his wife, Sis. Nina. Sis. Clarabell Baumgartner passed away February 28 also. Surviving is her husband, Milo. Bro. Alvin Honegger went to be with his heavenly Father March 15. Bro. Alvin is survived by his wife, Sis. Alice. Their children are Bro. Keith (Sis. Nancy), Ken (Linda) and Bro. Bob (Sis. Mary). We want to express our love and prayers to each family in their time of loss.

INDIANA, BLUFFTON NORTH
Terri Mueller - Lora Kieser

We would like to express our appreciation to Bro. Al Langhofer (Wichita, KS) for lending himself to share God's Word with us.

We rejoice with Michele Wall (Sis. Pat) as she has heeded, by God's grace, His call to repentance. Our prayers and encouragement are with her at this time.

Grandparents, Bro. Tom and Sis. Jan Moser, had double joy this month as two of their children had new babies added to the family. Troy and Lindy Moser welcomed little Joshua Thomas March 2 and Scott and Karen (Moser) Helt were blessed with a son, Jarred Scott, February 28. May His blessings be with both of these families and their new "bundles of joy."

Bro. Todd and Sis. Michelle Gerber were blessed with another son, Brandon Cole. Brandon was born February 27. Big brother, Chandler, was happy to welcome him home.

We were saddened to hear of the passing of Sis. Mildred Baumgartner. Our sympathy goes out to sister, Sis. Delores Maller (Bro. Eugene) and daughter, Sis. Pauline Gerber (Bro. Jerry). May God be near this family and provide comfort to them.

Our sympathy is also extended to Sis. Alice Honegger on the death of her loving husband, Bro. Alvin. He is also survived by three sons, Bro. Keith (Sis. Nancy), Ken (Linda) and Bro. Bob (Sis. Mary).

On March 15, our congregation held a retirement supper for our dear Bro. Bob Meyer (Sis. Lela). May God richly bless them both for all of the untiring service that was given in the past years. They will surely be missed by us all.

INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE

Bev Huber

We recently had our annual church meeting to fill the various offices. Elected for Sunday school teachers were: Bros. Harv Gutwein, Jeff Neihouser and John Huber; ushers: Bros. Dale Pelsy and Rodney Gutwein; Parkview Haven Board: Bro. Richard Wuethrich; fellowship center trustee: Bro. Jeff Tanner; church trustee: Bro. Dennis Leman; and missionary committee: Bro. John Huber.

Bro. Brent and Sis. Marti Gutwein and Heike welcome a precious addition, Victor James into

their family. Grandparents are Sis. Marion Gutwein and Bro. Herb and Sis. Nancy Stoller (Peoria, IL).

It's always a strength to our faith to read the conference letter and we appreciate Elder Bro. Alfred Bahler (Wolcott, IN) and Bro. Curt Frank (LaCrosse, IN) for sharing the evening with us. Bro. Nelson Beer (Milford, IN) recently visited us with his family and we appreciate his labors of love.

Dean Speece spent some time in the hospital and we're thankful he is getting along well.

WHAT THEN LORD?

When all else fails, will Thou my footsteps guide?

And lead me to the things most blest

And keep me strong and give me rest.

The day is moving on and I feel my soul's great need

To do what you would have me to do

Before I lose this hungering quest
Before I need my final rest
Show me the many paths ahead
Where I can bless someone unfed
With knowledge of your bottomless love.

And as I breathe my final breath
On Heaven's beloved counterpart

Where loved ones must remain behind

Let me their memories lightly bind
And even then

May I impassioned ask -- What now, Lord?

Mary Ellen Miller

INDIANA, LACROSSE

Barb Troxel

As winter lets go of its icy grip, we see spring struggling to break through. God's love is like that in our lives also. We have to let go of our "winters" to see His hope and joy "spring" forth in our lives.

RESURRECTION LIFE

As the glory that is Easter
breaks softly through
the frozen hearts of winter,
faith blooms triumphant
like the crocus of spring,

bringing hope and joy to those
who dwell in darkness
and eternal life to those
who know the Risen Christ.
Kathy Mills

We have been blessed with visitors from far and near. We have received many uplifting messages from the following visiting ministers: Elder Bro. Art Nohl (Morris, MN), Bros. Larry Wenninger (Latty, OH), Steve Sauder (Tremont, IL), Andy Moser (Valparaiso, IN), Neal Widmer (Wolcott, IN), Trent Meiss (Iowa City, IA) and Ron Kipfer (Bluffton, IN). We want to thank them for lending themselves in the Lord's service.

INDIANA, LEO Doug Kellenberger

For the Easter program, our third and fourth grade class was asked to use scriptures and songs that teach about the inheritance we receive from Christ's death and resurrection. The children made a list of things they though described His inheritance: Love, faith, hope, power, payment, charity, peace, care, sharing, joy, teaching, answers, wonderfulness, healing, awesomeness, wisdom, beauty, promises, etc., etc. The list totaled 39.

All of these things we receive with Christ when we receive Him. II Peter says that through knowing Christ, we learn that His divine power has already given us all things that pertain to life and godliness. (II Peter 1:3, 4)

In Psalm 78:9-11, the children of Ephraim were armed with everything they needed, too, but they forgot His works and refused to walk in His ways so they turned back in the day of battle. They didn't believe in His wondrous works, therefore their days were consumed in futility, and their years in trouble and fear (vs. 32-33).

Let's not fail to understand and to use our present inheritance. Don't allow the devil to "pick our pockets." Jesus paid enough for us to have it.

We appreciated our visiting ministers: Bros. Hartzell Kaisner (Detroit, MI) and Sam Schlatter (Junction, OH). We've been having more visitors lately and wish to continue welcoming them.

We have been blessed and strengthened while sharing the conference tapes on "the family." How clearly the elder brothers shared the challenges to and the opportunities for the Christian family and the need to walk closely, humbly and obediently with our Lord and Saviour Jesus.

THE LOVED ONE NO ONE WILL FORGET!

Uriel was a special kind of man.
He had a kind, loving heart.
He was everything I wish I could be.

His personality is like a smooth,
cool wave,
As gentle as a bird flying over the sea.

He loved everyone.
When he greeted people he never missed a single one.
He loved and got love back.
He's one man we will never forget,
Because we all love him.

He was a special sermon.
He was great.
He preached about God and said
all you sinners
Turn your life around before it is
too late.
He preached so good.
My heart rejoiced,
Instead of felt like wood,
That every sinner would have
understood.

Everyone says Heaven is a
wonderful place.
God gave him the wisdom and the
grace.
No one will forget his loving face.
If you could hear him, he would
say,
"I hear the gentle breeze with
angels surrounding me.
They are guiding me Jesus' way."

Dedicated to the Gehring Family
With love always,
Jennifer Fee
Gateway Woods
Children's Home

INDIANA, MILFORD Paula Haab - Gwen Steffen

God is still very actively working miracles in our lives today! This has been especially evident this past month in the life of our dear Sis. Millie Beer (Bro. Phil). There have been numerous times Sis. Millie experienced critical hours prior to and after her surgeries. We praise God for His graciousness and the healing He has thus far given. We continue to lift Sis. Millie up in prayer as she recuperates at home.

This also has been a trying time for many of our friends and family in the surrounding community. Our heart aches for those who have recently experienced accident, spiritual discouragement and physical affliction. We must not forget to pray for them.

A small group from our congregation traveled to North Manchester to spend some time and sing a few songs to the parents of Ray and Rosemary Piper. Rich blessings always follow an evening spent with those confined in a nursing home.

In the past year many have made a special effort to spend a Sunday morning worshipping with those who remain in the nursing home. Our hearts and prayers go out to Bro. Ted and Sis. Helen Baumgartner, Sis. Flossie Hartter, Sis. Emma Haab and Edna Graff.

A job opportunity opened up in the Goshen area which brought Sis. Kathy Price back "home" to family and friends. With open arms we welcome Sis. Kathy. We hope she feels our love.

We're thankful the Lord provided His protection and safety to our ministering Bro. Walt Steffen and 18 other members of a medical team that recently traveled to Mexico to aid our friends. This blending of willing hearts and helping hands brought blessings not only to our Mexican friends but also to the 19 members of that Christian team.

There are friendships that we
cherish
In our daily walk of life
Friends with whom we meet and
labor

In our earthly toil and strife.
Friends among the aged and
youthful,
Friends that live from us apart
Friends of higher rank and station
Find a peace within my heart.

Our congregation enjoyed a wonderful weekend of fellowship and song when the Princeville choir came to visit. Adding to this joy were ministering Bros. Art Baurer and Erik Givens. We want to thank each one for all the time and effort they put forth in making this such a special weekend for us.

Also visiting this month were ministering Bros. Curt Rassi (Tremont, IL) and Denny Rassi (Fairbury, IL) and their families. Meeting them in Milford were Bros. Curt and Denny's parents, Bro. Arnold and Sis. Lydia Rassi (Tremont, IL), and their sister and brother-in-law, Bro. Jim and Sis. Kathy Schlatter (Chicago, IL). We thank them for their labors of love.

One day while studying John 19 I came across this excerpt from Halley's Bible Handbook. "Jesus was already dead when the spear pierced His side, after being on the cross six hours. Some medical authorities have said that in the case of heart rupture, and in that case only, the blood clots in the pericardium, the lining around the wall of the heart, and divides into a sort of bloody clot and watery serum. If this is a fact, then the actual immediate physical cause of Jesus' death was heart rupture. Under intense pain, and the pressure of His wildly raging blood, His heart burst open. It may be that Jesus, literally, died of a heart broken over the sin of the world. It may be that suffering for human sin is more than the human constitution can stand."

Jesus left this world scarred and broken-hearted. We will never know the full extent of that great price Jesus paid at Calvary, but we do know that sin and death were defeated and we can celebrate that victory Easter morning with a renewed hope and love for our Lord. "It is finished the battle is over! It is finished and Jesus is Lord!"

INDIANA, REMINGTON Amelia Schini

"And it was about the sixth hour,
and there was a darkness over all
the earth until the ninth hour."

Luke 23:44

"He is not here but is risen . . ."

Luke 24:6

What a different tone these two verses have. If it were not for those wonderful words "He is risen" I believe we'd be in great darkness in Spirit.

As I write this I realize when you read it, it will be Easter time. May your Easter be a blessing to you, realizing the price Jesus paid that we may experience His blessings.

On February 28, our Elder Bro. Alfred Bahler held a meeting of the married couples from Wolcott and Remington church. His topic was "To increase our appreciation and love for each other." It was an inspiring and blessed evening.

The next morning, being Leap Year Day, our two churches had breakfast together in our fellowship hall. Eighty-some of us gathered for this and had a delightful time.

On Sunday, March 8, Bros. Curt Rassi (Tremont, IL) and Bill Gudeman (Elgin, IL) favored us with a visit. I was impressed with Bro. Curt's reference comparing Satan to the computer virus. The virus wipes out part. Satan will take only part thus destroying the whole. Bro. Bill reminded us that Satan doesn't give any time off or reprieve. "The spirits of the world know our Jesus Christ. They know what's against them." We thank you both for your visit. It is appreciated.

Thought for the day: Waste of time is the most extravagant and costly of all expenses.

INDIANA, SOUTH BEND Renee Mangold

Thanks go to all those who helped make possible the trip our high school students made recently for the Purdue fellowship weekend.

It was a wonderful opportunity for the children.

Bro. Wayne Lehman came through a hip replacement surgery successfully. Sis. Mae Schumaker's surgery on her pancreas went well, also. Our prayers are with both of them for a swift and complete recovery. Sis. Mildred Meister recently had her pacemaker replaced and is doing fine.

We were fortunate to have with us ministering Bro. Mike Thomas (Valparaiso) and his family. We pray for God's blessings on His faithful servants.

We are very grateful to Bro. Ken Wuethrich (Indianapolis) for ministering at the first two services which were held in February and March at I.U.-Bloomington. Bro. Ron Bollier (Indianapolis) will be sharing the ministering duties for the monthly Thursday evening services and we thank him, also. God will surely bless His servants for their willingness to spread His Word to our college-aged children.

Spring is here, the buds are beginning to show, and soon the grass, flowers, trees, all of God's creation will be blooming and growing.

"Let me grow by sun and shower,
Every moment water me;
Make me really hour by hour
More and more conformed to Thee,
That Thy loving eye may trace,
Day by day, my growth in grace.
Let me then be always growing,
Never, never standing still;
Listening, learning, better knowing
Thee and Thy most blessed will.
Till I reach Thy holy place,
Daily let me grow in grace."

Frances Ridley Havergal

INDIANA, VALPARAISO Marie Heinold - Cindy Susdorf

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

Psalms 28:7

February is the month for Valparaiso to host Purdue students. A large group of us joined our ministers that evening and

what a blessing to fellowship with the many young people. Several of us had not seen the new place of worship which is very adequate and easily accessible.

Also in February, we were pleasantly surprised to have ministering Bros. Tom Schambach (Elgin) and John Stoller (Leo) with us when the Schambach family chose Valparaiso as their meeting place.

Our high school students and their teachers appreciated the well planned day of youth fellowship at Purdue. It's a wonderful opportunity for our young people to make lasting friendships.

We also thank Bro. Vernon Wettstein (Congerville, IL) who came to share in the ministry this month.

The Bible is our textbook. Nothing that has happened in our world has altered the fundamental fact that still in his Holy Book is all we need to know about God, about ourselves and about the meaning and purpose of human life.

Brian Westrep

INDIANA, WEST LAFAYETTE PURDUE UNIVERSITY

Tracey Putt

Greetings of love in our Lord Jesus Christ from Purdue! Our fellowship was richly blessed by the effort that the Valparaiso church made in bringing their congregation to Purdue for our midweek services. We cannot express the joy that we felt in knowing that an entire congregation took the time to come and worship with us -- we are so fortunate to have so many congregations across the land where we can go, be joined in the Lord, and have it feel like home. We wish to thank the Valparaiso Apostolic Christian Church for uplifting our spirits through the message, the song, the precious fellowship and the much appreciated refreshments.

This past week we were blessed by a prepared topic on happiness from Bro. Denny Kaufman (Bloomington). Bro. Denny first contrasted the world's happiness to God's happiness by saying that there are three things which make

the world happy: beauty, food and spending (or making) money. Fortunately, for us Christians, God's happiness is an eternal joy that brings us to a level of contentment which the world does not offer. Proverbs 3:13 tells us that "Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, and the man that getteth understanding," and Bro. Denny equated this to when Abraham was confronted with a choice of having his flock of sheep graze in the mountains or on the green plains. Of course we know that he let his nephew, Lot, have the nicer, green pasture and took the less desirable mountain side for himself. It is clear that in making this choice Abraham had the wisdom and knowledge described in Proverbs in his heart; therefore, nothing else mattered to him because the basis for his happiness was in the Lord. We also have an example of happiness in Paul and Silas despite the troubles and trials in the world. These two men were rejected and beaten, but Acts 16:25 tells us that "At midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God." The tribulation that these men had to suffer makes our problems seem so miniature in comparison. Finally, Bro. Denny commented that the happiness the world has obtained through the process of receiving something; whereas, the happiness we have from God is acquired through our giving to others. Luke 6:38 says "give and it shall be given to you," and John 13:17 says "Happy are ye if you do these (giving) things." We must be happy today and not depend on things or people to make us happy tomorrow because with Jesus Christ in our hearts we can bear our own burdens while helping others, and this happiness is guaranteed to lift us up further and longer than any happiness in the whole world: "Happy is that people, whose God is the Lord." Psalms 144:15.

INDIANA, WOLCOTT

Lynell Blume - Lorna Knapp

We express our thanks and appreciation to our visiting ministers who shared God's Holy Word with us. Serving us this month were El-

der Bro. John Klotzle (Altadena, CA), Bro. Gary Anliker (Elgin, IL), Bro. Frederick Knapp (Congerville, IL) and Bro. Don Manz (Junction, OH).

"Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she reverence her husband." Ephesians 5:33. Many husbands and wives from Remington and Wolcott gathered at the fellowship hall Friday evening, February 28 as our Elder Bro. Alfred Bahler conducted a "Couple's Meeting." May we all heed the words of encouragement and strive to be more helpful, compassionate, patient and considerate to our helpmates.

The following Saturday morning, February 29, a potluck breakfast for both churches was enjoyed by all who attended. What a privilege to eat together and share the blessings of Christian fellowship!

Bro. Brian and Sis. Lorna Knapp welcomed Travis Wade into their hearts and home March 11. Jordan, Kyle, Trevor, Krystal, Derek and Wyatt are happy for a new little brother to love and help care for. Grandparents are Bro. Myron and Sis. Dorothy Schulz (Oakville, IA) and Bro. Jerry and Sis. Nancy Knapp (Congerville, IL).

Joshua Furrer (Bro. Troy and Sis. Lisa) had the misfortune of breaking his collarbone. We are thankful for the Lord's healing hand in his recovery.

Note: April is collection month for the Wolcott Silver Lining dues.

IOWA, BURLINGTON

Jana Massner - Carolyn Wulf

We are thankful for Bro. Arnie Gerst (Taylor, MO) as he willingly lent himself in God's service to feed us from the Word of Life. May the Lord richly bless him and his wife for visiting our congregation.

Our appreciation extends forth to Elder Bro. Wayne Anliker (Forrest, IL) who assisted Elder Bro. Ed Lanz in recently reading the memorandum to us. There were many worthwhile teachings to keep each one of us and our families close to God. May we continue to strive in unity to uphold these conclusions from our dear elders.

Our prayers are with Bro. Dave and Sis. Karla Eberhardt in the recent death of their infant twins, Justin and Jessica. It's a comfort to know that these two precious souls are awaiting our coming in heaven. May our sympathy reach out to the dear grandparents, Bro. Jody and Ruby Eberhardt and Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Edith Massner.

SPRINGTIME IN GLORY

There is a happy land of sunshine,
Free from all sorrows, pain and
care;
The blessed land where no
chilling winds of death ever
blow,
Springtime forever there.

Youthful and happy, none will
ever grow old,
Out in that lovely land so fair;
The land where there is no suffer-
ing from hunger or cold,
Springtime forever there.

There is no weeping in that home
of the soul,
No death to bring us despair;
The land where all will be glory
while the ages roll,
It is springtime forever there.

Springtime in Glory,
Where the flowers are blooming
rich and rare;
Where happy angels are singing,
bells of glory are ringing,
It is springtime forever there.

IOWA, ELGIN Gloria Frieden

"... Who shall roll us away the
stone from the door of the sepul-
chre . . .?"

Mark 16:3

What a very human character-
istic these three women shared as
they came to anoint the body of
Jesus, but as we read on in the
following verse, it says "and when
they looked, they saw that the stone
was rolled away already." How of-
ten we worry about some possible
obstacle that lies ahead only to find
that all our worrying was for
naught because the obstacle never

materialized. Let us put our faith and trust in God. If the obstacles do materialize, God is an ever present help in time of need, and that's when we need His help. Not before or after, but, in the time of.

As we read and hear the story of our Savior's cruel death and glorious resurrection may we be given the wisdom to understand how this affects each of us today . . .

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved."

St. John 3:16-17

IOWA, GARDEN GROVE

Dawn Moser

We want to thank all of our visiting ministers and their families for faithfully serving us again this past month. They are Bros. Wayne Miller (Fort Scott, KS), Darrel Stoller (Bern, KS), Dale Frank (Oakville, IA), Myron Knobloch (Lester, IA), Paul Eisenmann (Burlington, IA), Earl Ringger (Gridley, IL) and Elder Bros. Gene Marti (Kansas City, MO) and Sam Huber (Sabetha, KS).

On Sunday, January 26, Elder Bro. Sam Huber was here and we had our communion exhortation. Bro. Sam returned with Elder Bro. Gene Marti March 15 for communion. It is sobering to remember Christ's suffering for our sins. It renews in our hearts and minds the commitment we made to our heavenly Father in the waters of baptism. It is a special time when Bro. Sam says, "Now, let us greet one another before we leave the assembly." Not only have we renewed our bonds with Christ, but also with our spiritual brothers and sisters.

Jim Webber (Bro. Phil and Sis. Jan) was our hospital patient. He had tests and we are thankful that everything is normal and that he has recuperated.

We welcome Sis. Melody Knobloch to our assembly, when

she is not traveling. She has taken a job with the VA Hospital in Knoxville and we are her closest church.

Once again we have sympathy to two of our families. Sis. Eileen Funk (Bro. Tony) has lost a nephew and Don (Sis. Willa) has lost a brother. May they each feel our love and prayers.

IOWA, IOWA CITY

Janette Schulz

Greetings to all! We again extend our heartfelt "thank you!" to all of our visitors this month.

We bid farewell to Bruce Banwart, who has faithfully attended our congregation during his past four years of medical school. We wish him God's protection and blessing as he moves to San Antonio, TX, to begin a pediatric residency there.

Savior, bless us as we part,
Fill our souls with love divine,
Comfort ev'ry troubled heart,
May we feel that we are Thine.

If on earth we meet no more,
Let us meet at God's right hand,
Where we shall each other greet,
'Mid the glories of that land.

Let us always then be true,
For that blessed home prepare,
Will you promise me that you
Will meet me over there?

That will be a happy time,
When forever free from pain,
In that pure, celestial clime
All our friends we meet again.

While eternity rolls on,
And new glories e'er unfold,
We shall greet our loved ones there,
On the streets of shining gold.

Good-bye, good-bye,
If on earth we meet no more;
Good-bye, good-bye,
May we meet on heaven's shore.

Gospel Hymns #774

May we all examine our hearts
that when Jesus returns to take us
home, we can greet Him joyfully.
What a day that will be!

IOWA, LESTER Mary Ellen Knobloch Cindy Leuthold

LET US PRAY AT THIS GLORIOUS EASTER SEASON

What better time or more
beautiful season,
What greater occasion or more
wonderful reason
To kneel down in prayer and
thank God above
For eternal life the Gift of His
Love —
For in sending His Son to be
crucified
He granted Man life because His
Son died —
So at this glad season when there's
joy everywhere
Let us meet Our Redeemer at the
Alter of Prayer.

Helen Steiner Rice

The onset of spring begins with it the promise of new life. Two couples experienced the joy of new babies recently. Bro. Denis and Sis. Jackie Knobloch rejoice with the birth of Wyatt Carson born February 24. He has two older brothers to welcome him home. Grandparents are Bro. Nathan and Sis. Irene Knobloch and Jack and Sis. Janet Wysong. Also Bro. Stan and Sis. Sue Warner are delighted that Abigail Louise was born March 13. She joins an older brother and sister at their home. Grandparents are Bro. Dennis and Sis. Esther Warner and Bro. Ed and Sis. Shirley Zollinger (Phoenix, AZ).

As with joy there is sometimes sorrow in our lives. Loved ones from our congregation who recently experienced the loss of their brother-in-law, John Huttenmeyer, were Andy, Bros. Alvin and Paul Leuthold, Anna Knobloch and Sis. Ella Metzger. Also Sis. Mary Jane (Bro. Don) Metzger was recently saddened by the death of her mother, Mildred Lutes (Boston). We wish to express our sympathy to these loved ones.

It is always a pleasure when visiting ministers gather with us and are willing to share God's Word. Bros. Leroy Messner and Elmer Schmidt (Winthrop, MN) and Dale Zeltwanger (Morris, MN)

assembled with us this past month. We thank them for being with us and hope they will come again soon.

May God's healing powers restore health to those who have been hospitalized recently. They are Sis. Jeanette Feucht, Mary Ter Wee (Jerry) and Larry Peterson (Emily).

On March 1, the announcement of the betrothal of Bro. Neil Knobloch (Bro. Ezra and Sis. Marie) to Sis. June Mogler (Bro. Art and Sis. Eula, West Bend) was made known. Then on March 15, we were happy to hear of the engagement of Bro. Troy Knobloch (Bro. Roger and Sis. Janet) to Sis. Donna Koehl (Bro. Harv and Sis. Wilda, Morris, MN). May God direct and bless these two dear couples in their approaching marriages.

WHY SHOULD HE DIE FOR SUCH AS I

In everything both great and small
We see the Hand of God in all,
And in the miracles of Spring
When everywhere in everything
His handiwork is all around
And every lovely sight and sound
Proclaims the God of earth and sky
I ask myself, "Just Who Am I"
That God should send His only

Son

That my salvation should be even
Upon a cross by a sinless man
To bring fulfillment to God's
plan --

For Jesus suffered, bled and died
That sinners might be sanctified,
And to grant God's children such
as I

Eternal life in that home on high!
Helen Steiner Rice

IOWA, OAKVILLE Debbie Wagenbach Melody Steiner

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

We'll know why clouds instead of
sun
Were over many a cherished plan;

Why song has ceased when scarce
begun;
'Tis there, sometime, we'll
understand.

Why what we long for most of all,
Eludes so oft our eager hand;
Why hopes are crushed and
castles fall,
Up there, sometime, we'll
understand.

Then trust in God thro' all the
days;
Fear not, for He doth hold thy
hand;
Tho' dark thy way, still sing and
praise,
Sometime, sometime, we'll
understand.

Our prayers and sympathy are
with Bro. Dave and Sis. Karla
Eberhardt in the loss of their babies,
Jessica and Justin. They were
born March 5 and then passed away
a few hours later. This is one of
those burdens in life that some-
times it is so hard to understand.
Yet we know God's will for each of
us is perfect. Bro. Dave and Sis.
Karla can find comfort in that
someday they can meet their pre-
cious little angels in heaven. Our
thoughts are with the grandpar-
ents also; Bro. Jody and Sis. Ruby
Eberhardt and Bro. Lloyd and Sis.
Edith Massner (Burlington).

We certainly rejoice with Bro.
Chuck Massner (Sis. Phyllis) as we
recently heard his testimony and
witnessed his baptism. We just
pray he can always strive to stay
close to his heavenly Father and
the salvation he has found.

We want to thank Elder Bro.
Wayne Anliker (Forrest, IL) for as-
sisting Bro. Ed in the reading of
the conference report. We heard
many good guidelines and exhor-
tations to help us in our spiritual
walk. Our other visiting minister
this month was Bro. Andy Moser
(Valparaiso, IN). We thank him for
sharing God's Word through the
Spirit with us.

IOWA, WEST BEND

Lela Banwart - Mary Gerber

We are thankful that we have
been blessed with visiting brothers

this past month. We thank Elder
Bro. John Lehman (Bern, KS) for
sharing with us the many words of
encouragement, as well as admo-
nition, in the reading of the confer-
ence letter. We also want to thank
Elder Bro. Gene Marti (Kansas
City, MO) for sharing his pictures
of the work in India. We must
"count our many blessings," when
we view the destitute lives of oth-
ers. Bro. Roger Aberle (Sabetha,
KS) also shared the Word of God
with us. We thank each one for
letting themselves be used in the
Lord's work.

To everything there is a season,
and a time to every purpose under
heaven. (Ecclesiastes 3:1) . . . A
time to keep silence and a time to
speak. (Ecclesiastes 3:7) Minister-
ing Bro. Clifford Grimm has felt
the time is here that he should lay
down the mantle. We thank him
for his untiring efforts in bringing
us God's Word and wish him and
Sis. Rosene the Lord's blessings in
the days ahead.

We do not ever walk alone!
God's promised He will stay
Beside us as our Friend and Guide
Each step along the way.
When our hand is clasped in His
There is no doubt or fear,
And all the cares that once loomed
large
Suddenly disappear!
How sweet the hours spent at His
side . . .
How blest the miles we've trod;
We do not ever walk alone
When we have faith in God!

Jon Gilbert

Our hospital patients at this
time are Bro. Noah Gerber and Bro.
Nathan Mogler. Sis. Anna Schmidt
is moving to the West Bend Care
Center after several weeks of hos-
pitalization. Our prayers are with
each one and may they feel God's
presence and His healing touch
during this time.

Our best wishes and prayers are
with three dear couples who are
making plans to be married in the
near future. They are Sis. June
Mogler (Bro. Art and Sis. Eula) and
Neil Knobloch (Bro. Ezra and Sis.
Marie, Lester); Sis. Angie Fehr
(Bro. Jim and Sis. Sharon) and Bro.

Neal Schmidt (Bro. Dwaine and Sis. Lucille); and Jill Wickman (Bro. Larry and Sis. Marvella) and Pete Stigman (Rich and Patti, Burnsville, MN). May they look to God for His guidance and blessings as they prepare to establish homes to His praise and honor.

We extend best wishes to parents and grandparents of three precious little bundles from heaven. Jerry and Joy Metzger welcomed Hailey Joy March 4. Tyler, Logan and Paige, and grandparents, Bro. Silas and Sis. Della Metzger and Lois Zimmerman are on hand to shower her with care. Bro. Larry and Sis. Carole Fehr welcome granddaughter, Jennifer Marie, March 1. Parents are Terry and Linda Fehr and big sister is Jessica. Casey Allen is the first child of Dave and Ann Jurgens. First-time grandparents, Paul and Emmy Banwart, welcomed him March 6. May the Lord guide each home who is given the responsibility of raising children.

The Easter season is upon us and as we pause, we reflect on this:

O thou who in the grave didst lay
O scared be to us this day
For on this day our Lord arose
In glory from His death repose.

"Resurrection and Spiritual Life"
Zion's Harp #124

KANSAS, BERN

Donna Edelman - Diane Kaeb

"Out on to Calvary's hill,
Where Jesus died I'll go,
To hear the words He speaks,
To see Him in His woe."
Zion's Harp #89

As the Easter season approaches, and we commemorate the death and resurrection of our dear Lord, may we be grateful to God for this precious gift of salvation.

Several of our loves ones needed to spend time in the hospital recently. Becky Strahm (Bro. Wilford and Sis. Verona), Bro. Paul Grimm (Sis. Katie) both for surgery. Bro. Emil Strahm (Sis. Grace) was also hospitalized while winterizing in Zapata. Sis. Ellen Strahm (Bro. Curtis) medical and Bro. Melvin

Rokey (Sis. Florence) is a surgical patient. May they feel our prayers and ever remember that God has promised to not let more come over us than we can bear.

Children are a blessing of the Lord! On March 2, a daughter, Sheila Rose, joined the family of Bro. Kyle and Sis. Peggy Strahm, Almanzo, Hans and Fritz. Grandparents are Leslie and Leora Baumgartner and Bro. Alpha and Sis. Mamie Strahm.

With friends on earth we meet in
gladness,
While swift the moments fly.
Yet ever comes the tho't of
sadness,
That we must say "Good-bye".

How joyful is the hope that lingers,
When loved ones cross death's sea,
That we, when all earth's toils are
ended,
With them shall ever be!

No parting words shall e'er be
spoken,
In yonder home so fair,
But song of joy, and peace, and
gladness,
We'll sing forever there.
Hymns of Zion #122

Although words cannot express how much we miss our loved ones who go on before us, we still rejoice when we can believe they have reached yonder home so fair.

On February 23, Bro. Glen Luthi was called out of this world to his eternal home. Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to his dear wife, Sis. Lola; their daughter, Laurie Wilson, and her husband, Lee and granddaughter, Whitney. May they feel God's nearness as they experience many moments of loneliness and sorrow and may their memories keep their loved one close to their hearts.

We were thankful to have Bro. Leland Plattner (Zapata, TX) with us for Bro. Glen's memorial services. Also sharing God's Word with us were Bros. Wayne Miller and Charles Sinn (Fort Scott). May God bless and reward each one for being willing servants in His vineyard.

February 29 was the wedding

of Chris Strahm and Tim Moore. Their parents are Clayton and Miriam Strahm and John and Barbara Moore. We wish them God's nearness and blessings as they start their lives together.

On March 14, we enjoyed the slide presentation put together by the World Relief Committee on the structure, work projects and the mission fund. May we always be willing to share with others that what God has so abundantly given to us.

As spring is here and many of us start working in our gardens, may we also plant and cultivate gardens in our hearts.

A GARDEN

First let's have five rows of peas - Preparedness, Politeness, Promptness, Perseverance and Prayer.

Next, let's have three rows of squash - Squash gossip, squash criticism, squash indifference.

Then let's have four rows of lettuce - Let us be faithful, let us be unselfish, let us be loyal and truthful, let us love one another.

No garden is complete without turnips - Turn up for church regularly, turn up with a smile every day, turn up with real determination.

Note: A garden like this could prove very fruitful. Let's plant, cultivate, love, nurture and harvest it.

The family of Glen Luthi wishes to express their thanks to all who remembered them with memorials, prayers, cards and other acts of love. God's blessings to each one.

Sis. Lola Luthi,
Laurie, Lee and Whitney Wilson

KANSAS, FORT SCOTT Janelle Sinn - Tammy Sinn

On Saturday evening, February 8, we were blessed to have Elder Bro. Gene and Sis. Mary Marti (Kansas City, MO) come to show slides of his trip to India. Our hearts were touched to see the sad conditions of the Indian people. We can be very thankful for the bountiful blessings we enjoy in America.

We rejoice with Bro. Dave and Sis. Jolene Sinn as God has blessed their home once again. Joel, Amy and Breona welcome their new baby sister, Carla Ann. Grandparents are Bro. Wayne and Sis. Juanita Sinn (Fort Scott) and Sis. Nova Kipfer (Bluffton, IN).

My whole salvation then is to Thy credit,
To Thee alone, O, Son of God and man;
My ransom is achieved through Thy own merit;
I take as a free gift the purchased crown.

So this must then conclusive be,
That Thou, my slaughtered Lamb,
my all in all shall be.

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

Zion's Harp #184, vs. 7, 8

KANSAS, GRIDLEY
Vola Young - Judy Kraft

"... because I live ye shall live also."

John 14:19

"I am he that liveth and was dead; and behold, I am alive for evermore."

Revelation 1:18

"I am the resurrection and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die."

John 11:25-26

What a blessed hope can be ours through Christ's death and resurrection!

Sis. Edna Somerholder has recently been ill, requiring tests. We pray that whatever is before Sis. Edna, that she can feel Thy peace and sustaining power.

A special "thank you" to our dear children for making it possible for our 50th wedding anniversary to be a very "special day." To our many relatives and friends who joined us with their love and best wishes, the many greeting cards, the beautiful gifts and flowers, and just your presence, we say thanks! These all blended together to make it a beautiful "special day." May God bless you as He has blest us.

Bro. Loren and Sis. Liseten
Strahm

KANSAS,
KANSAS STATE UNIV.
Sheri Braker

Our small congregation has certainly been blessed with visitors. We extend a special thank you to the ministers who are so willing to share of God's greatness. Those ministers are Bro. Darrel Stoller, Bro. Galen Rokey (Bern, KS), Bro. Roger Aberle (Sabetha, KS), Bro. Don Braker (Kansas City, MO), Bro. Tim Zimmerman and Bro. Lloyd Kraft (Gridley, KS). We look forward to the Wednesday night services in the months ahead.

KANSAS, KIOWA
Janice Bahr - Darcy Kisling

I saw One hanging on a tree,
In agony and blood;
He fixed His languid eyes on me,
As near His cross I stood.
Sure never till my latest breath,
Can I forget that look;
It seemed to charge me with His death,

Tho not a word He spoke.
My conscience felt and owned the guilt,
And plunged me in despair;
I saw my sins His blood had spilt
And helped to nail Him there.
Alas! I knew not what I did,
But now my tears are vain:
Where shall my trembling soul be hid?

For I the Lord have slain.
A second look He gave, which said
"I freely all forgive:
This blood is for thy ransom paid,
I die that thou may'st live."
Oh, can it be, upon a tree
The Savior died for me?

My soul is thrilled, my heart is filled,
To think He died for me!
Gospel Hymns #837

All this and more, for now through His resurrection He lives for us and intercedes on the right hand of God. As we celebrate His lowly death and "glorious resurrection" this month, may we humbly bow in praise and adoration for the most precious "gift" we will ever receive!

We have a precious faith, and for each person who gives of his or her time in teaching, preaching and supporting Bible study, Wednesday night and Sunday services, singing, rest home services, and visiting and cheering the sick and shut-ins each month, may God richly bless you each and every one!

What a joyous Lord's Day we enjoyed this month when the Wichita, KS, congregation joined us for Sunday worship and fellowship! We know it took special effort on everyone's part, but the love and Christian fellowship with others of like mind and faith was an inspiration and joy to all of us. Special thanks to Bro. Max Reimschisel for lending himself for the morning service and also to all our dear brethren for support in prayer and Sunday school and the dear sisters and friends for all the good food. God bless you all!

KANSAS, LAMONT
Jane Isch

We extend our sympathy to Bro. Lloyd Luthi and his family in the loss of his brother, Glen Luthi (Bern). May we have a longing to meet our loved ones in heaven where there is no parting or tears.

We were privileged to hear God's Word brought to us by Bro. Darrel Stoller (Bern) and Bro. Steve Sauder (Tremont, IL). May God bless these brothers and their families for their service in our behalf.

Matt Schrader (Bro. Steve and Sis. Dorothy) was hospitalized due to complications from dental surgery.

On March 22, Sis. Sara Gallatin (Wichita) became the wife of Bro.

John Schrader. She is the daughter of Joe and Sis. Kathleen Gallatin (Wichita) and John's parents are Bro. Steve and Sis. Dorothy Schrader. We wish them many years of happiness together.

KANSAS, SABETHA

Mary Kay Wenger
Sharon Strahm

"Seeds of goodness we are sowing
In the hearts of man today.
Bless it, Lord, that it may prosper,
And bear fruit for harvest day."

Hymns of Zion #46

We know that was the desire of our visiting ministers this month. It was our privilege to have Elder Bro. Lavoyd Moore (Athens, AL) here to share God's message when our junior and senior high school students hosted Sunday school students from our Kansas churches. We were also thankful to have Bro. Bob Stoller (Lamar, MO) share the Word with us. We were given Godly instructions for parents. As our children become accountable, the things we would not do as members are not good for our children either as friends. We can respond by saying, "We would prefer you don't go there; but, we'll let you decide this time." In this way they will begin to feel some conviction in their decisions.

Many families in our congregation have had loved ones in the hospital or at home with various afflictions. They are Elder Bro. Sam Huber (Sis. Jeanette), Sis. Mary Aberle, Sis. Marie Hartter (Bro. Virgil), Bro. Henry Plattner (Sis. Loree), Sis. Emma Wenger (LaVon), Kendal Grimm (Bro. Rod and Sis. Arlene) and Opal Steiner. May God grant them the grace to trust in Him.

God has blessed the home of Bro. Kevin and Sis. Nita Grimm with a new baby boy. Loren Lee was born March 2. Ryan, Renee, Jodi and Julie welcome him home. Grandparents are Bro. Nathan and Sis. Lois Grimm and Otto and Eleanor Baer (Edelstein, IL).

The engagement of Tamra Kellenberger (Bro. Jay and Sis. Marilyn) and Jeff Emert (Darryl

and Judy) has been announced. We wish them many joys and blessings as they plan for their August 1 wedding.

We extend our sympathy to Bro. Nathan and Sis. Lois Grimm on the loss of her sister, Laura Oman (Minneapolis, MN). Sis. Lois was thankful she had visited her recently.

A slide presentation was given by Bro. Doug Grimm on the organization and duties of the World Relief, Mission and Work Projects Committees. It was interesting and informative.

Silver Lining dues of \$9.00 are due in April.

KANSAS, WICHITA

Emma Miller

February 28 was the birth date of Shennandoah Lynn Cooper. Her parents are Clyde and Tracy and her paternal great-grandmother is Sis. Gussie Wullschleger.

Sunday, March 15 was a special day of fellowship and worship. Many from the Wichita congregation joined with the Kiowa congregation at their house of worship. We thank you, Kiowa brotherhood, for your invitation and your kind hospitality.

MICHIGAN, ALTO

Denise Oesch - Michelle Oesch

BEGINNING THE DAY

I got up early one morning
and rushed right into the day;
I had so much to accomplish
that I didn't have time to pray.
Problems just tumbled about me,
and heavier came each task.
Why doesn't God help me I
wondered

He answered, "You didn't ask."
I wanted to see joy and beauty,
but the day toiled on, gray and
bleak
I wondered why God didn't show
me

He said, "But you didn't seek."
I tried to come into God's presence
I tried all the keys at the lock.
God gently and lovingly chided
"My child, you didn't knock."

I woke up early this morning
and paused before entering the
day;

I had so much to accomplish
that I had to take time to pray.

This poem is very special because it explains something that happens to most of us, though hopefully not too often. Our lives get so busy and so many times our days start right out at a running pace. We may get half of the way through the day before we realize that we didn't ask for the Lord to bless our efforts and it shows! It feels so good to be able to come to the Lord at any time and know that He will hear us and help us!

Saturday evening, February 22, we had the opportunity to learn of the many efforts being made by our World Relief in areas of Haiti, Jamaica, Romania and the Ukraine. We were inspired and uplifted by the brothers and their wives who came and shared with us what is being done and ways each of us can give of our time to help others in need. We are thankful to Bros. Eli Manz (Junction, OH), Arthur Haab (Milford, IN) and ministering Bro. Hartzell Kaisner (Detroit, MI) and their special wives for giving of themselves in this most important work. It encouraged us all to truly "be not weary in well doing." II Thessalonians 3:13.

We were together recently Saturday evening, March 14, to hear the reading of the memorandum. Its topic and main area of concern was the family and marriage. Both are under such attack in the world today and we need to know how to guard ourselves against the assault of Satan's deception. Elder Bro. Andy Stoller (Smithville, OH) was with us to lend himself in this work and we ask a special blessing for him and his family for coming and sharing the weekend here in Alto.

As our elders met together at the end of February, we can be sure that their hearts were burdened with many concerns for the preserving of our precious faith. May our own hearts be burdened with prayer for each of them as they seek the Lord's guidance in bringing the Word to us.

LET US PRAY AT THIS
GLORIOUS EASTER SEASON

What better time
or more beautiful season,
What greater occasion
or more wonderful reason
To kneel down in prayer
and thank God above
For eternal life
the gift of His love --
For in sending His Son
to be crucified
He granted man life
because His Son died --
So at this glad season
when there's joy everywhere
Let us meet our Redeemer
at the altar of prayer.

Helen Steiner Rice

As Easter approaches and we
daily see signs of the earth's awak-
ening from winter, may our spirits
be renewed to walk ever closer to
our Savior and Lord who gave His
all for us.

MICHIGAN, BAY CITY
Emily Rechsteiner

"To every thing there is a sea-
son, and a time to every purpose
under heaven."

Ecclesiastes 3:1

We were looking forward to
spring as we heard the cardinals
sing and saw the arrival of the first
robins. Our minds were soon
changed when we received eleven
inches of snow and zero weather!

We always appreciate visiting
ministers coming to Bay City. We
thank Bro. Hartzell Kaisner (De-
troit, MI), Bro. Lynn Stieglitz (Leo,
IN) and Bro. Sam Schlatter (Junc-
tion, OH). May God richly bless
them for time and effort.

We sympathize with Sis. Evelyn
Wieland (Bro. Rod) in the loss of
her brother.

Bro. Eli Schlatter (Sis. Ella) has
reached the four score years. We
wish him good health and God's
blessings.

Sis. Eiko Nozawa has returned
to Japan. We enjoy her visits and
hope she can soon visit us again.

MICHIGAN, DETROIT
Marlene Reinhard
Holly Barton

We were pleased to have sev-
eral ministering brothers with us
this past month. We thank Bros.
Lenny Meyer (Chicago, IL), Doyle
Frauhiger (Bluffton North, IN) and
Don Gudeman (LaCrosse, IN) for
their time and efforts.

We are happy for John Alan
Gleichman and Pam Ignatoski, who
were married March 7. Their par-
ents are Bro. John and Sis. Martha
Gleichman and Mr. and Mrs. Joe
Ignatoski. We pray that the Lord
may be invited to be the Head of
this new household.

Welcoming a new baby girl into
their family are Bro. Bob and Sis.
Marcia Feller, Natasha and Aus-
tin. Celise Laine was born March
17, also her sister's birthday. Happy
grandparents are Bro. Lynn and
Sis. Mary Ann Feller (LaCrosse,
IN) and Bro. Vernon and Sis. Jan
Furrer (Wolcott, IN). We wish God's
continued blessings on this family.

The older Sunday school classes
enjoyed a weekend of meeting new
friends when they traveled to Latty,
OH, recently. We thank the Latty
students and teachers for hosting
this event and hope that all those
involved will have fond memories.

Our choir also recently experi-
enced a weekend of wonderful fel-
lowship in Goodfield, IL. We were
so grateful for all the love and kind-
ness shown to us and pray that
God will bless each one who had a
part in making the weekend a
blessed one.

Bro. Joe Szilagyi (Sis. Martha)
was again hospitalized for a time
this month. Sis. Ann Tacher also
has not been feeling well. Our
prayers continue to rise to the Fa-
ther for these dear ones.

We appreciate Bro. Walter
Rager (Toledo, OH) ministering to
the Woodhaven residents this
month. Alto, MI, will host services
Tuesday, May 5, at 7:00 p.m. We
encourage anyone who is interested
to join us for the evening and also
for the annual Woodhaven Benefit
Dinner on Sunday, May 31. The
choir will be hosting the dinner
and presenting a program of songs.

Services will be held in
Kitchener, Ontario, on May 24.

Brethren from Rockville, CT, will
be hosting this and anyone who
would like to visit should contact
Bro. Walter Fortenbacher at (519)
699-4133.

April is the month for collection
of Silver Lining dues. Please pay
\$9.00 for each subscription to one
of your reporters.

A few years ago I came across
one author's interesting account of
the way she prepared for the cele-
bration of our Lord's resurrection,
wanting to make it more meaning-
ful. She asked herself, "What if
Jesus had not come to Earth, had
not gone to the cross, had not risen
from the dead? What would my life
be like?" For several weeks before
Easter she tried to live with the
implications of having no Savior
and found it to be agonizing. How
great was her rejoicing when Eas-
ter finally arrived! The realization
of the truth of all that Christ had
done washed over her and blotted
out those terrible previous weeks
of living without hope. What about
us? What would our lives, our fu-
ture — even one day — be like
without the glorious hope our Sav-
ior brought? Read I Corinthians
15:12-28, then thank the Lord that
we can say, "But now is Christ risen
from the dead"! Let's rejoice!

MINNESOTA, MINNEAPOLIS
Delores Sauder

Our prayers are with Bro. David
and Sis. Diane Steward as they
mourn the passing of Bro. David's
father.

Elder Bro. Gene Marti (Kansas
City, MO) shared with us the slides
of India. It really makes one thank-
ful, for God has truly blest us here
in America.

Our Elder Bro. Wayne Fehr
(West Bend, IA) brought forth God's
Word to us March 15. We appreci-
ate his love and concern for our
small congregation.

Ministering Bro. Don and Sis.
Bernadine Miller and Wade will be
moving to a place that can better
accommodate Sis. Bernadine. Their
new address is 17843 Jubilee Way,
Apt. A, Lakeville, MN 55044, and
phone number is 612-892-0536.

AN EASTER MEDITATION

In the glorious Easter story
 A troubled world can find
 Blessed reassurance
 And enduring peace of mind --
 For though we grow discouraged
 In this world we're living in,
 There is comfort just in knowing
 That God triumphed over sin,
 For our Savior's Resurrection
 Was God's way of telling men
 That in Christ we are eternal
 And in Him we live again --
 And to know life is unending
 And God's love is endless, too,
 Makes our daily task and burdens
 So much easier to do,
 And our earthly trials and
 problems
 Are the guidepost on the way
 To the love and life eternal
 That God promised Easter Day
 Helen Steiner Rice

MINNESOTA, MORRIS

Debra Joos - Christa Sauder

We wish God's blessings upon the newly married and engaged couples. Randy Fehr (Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Diane) and Lori Jipson were married February 28.

Byron Koehl (Bro. Harvey and Sis. Wilda) and Julie Cline (Jerry and Audrey Cline, Alexandria, MN) are engaged. They are planning an April 4 wedding.

Announcement was made of the engagement of Sis. Donna Koehl (Bro. Harvey and Sis. Wilda) and Bro. Troy Knobloch (Bro. Roger and Sis. Janet, Lester, IA).

The home of Terry and Peggy Nohl has been blessed with another precious son. Travis Lee was born February 20. Joshua and Jacob are Travis' big brothers. Grandparents are Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Joyce (Mission, TX) and Marvin and Janet Steffenson.

Our hospital patient this month has been Amanda Fehr (Bro. Gary and Sis. Sandy). Bro. Rick Gramm (Sis. Julie) had the misfortune of breaking his arm while working. We trust the Lord will heal and restore to good health again.

We rejoice with Bro. Ernest and Sis. Gladys Koehl and their family as they celebrated their 40th wed-

ding anniversary. The family honored them with an open house reception March 21. We praise God for His goodness and grace and may He bless them with more years together.

Reminder: Please pay Silver Lining subscriptions to your reporters (\$9.00). Your promptness is appreciated.

MISSOURI, LAMAR

Martin Hohulin
Janel Kellenberger

We were blest with a visiting minister this month. Bro. Everett Hari (Bloomington-Normal, IL) and his family were on vacation. May God bless him for sharing the Word with us.

We tarry in this blest and tranquil union,
 And thus united speak the
 farewell word.

Ye loved ones, now the parting hour
 nearing,
 The farewell greeting sounds in one
 accord.

Our hearts are yet in close
 communion beating;
 In Jesus' name we bid the farewell
 greeting.

Zion's Harp #114

It's sad when one so dear moves away. Sis. Bernice Frieden has moved to the Sabetha Apartments. Her family will miss her, but so will the Lamar congregation. In recent years several of our brothers and sisters have moved there. We miss their presence here, but know it is a wonderful place for them to enjoy their retirement.

MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS

Betsy Schrenk

The weekend of March 7-8 was a busy and memorable one for the St. Louis congregation. A year ago, on the second Sunday of March, we held services for the first time in our new church building. On this anniversary, we were blessed by the visit of our Elder Bro. Roy Grimm and Elder Bro. Joe Braker (Morton, IL). We took communion, held our annual business meeting and heard the memorandum. We

all appreciate the encouragement and support we received from these brothers and their wives.

Our feelings about having a convenient building in which to carry out these events can be best understood by those other congregations who had their beginnings in rented rooms or buildings. We again thank everyone who in any way contributed to make this possible.

Our other recent visiting ministers are Bro. Glenn Dill (Tremont, IL), Bro. Bill Hodel (Roanoke, IL), Bro. Wayne Banwart (Champaign, IL) and Bro. Kevin Knapp (Bloomington, IL). Sizable groups accompanied several of these brothers and their families. We recruit help from the visitors for Sunday school if a lot of children come. A big thank you to all who come to worship with us.

We have noticed a significant increase in numbers of visitors since we are in our new church. It used to be that large numbers were pretty much limited to summertime. This is a real encouragement to us.

Several people have recently mistakenly gone to the Apostolic Christian Church on Howdershell Road in St. Louis instead of our church in St. Charles. I will again repeat directions: Take I-70 to St. Charles, MO. Take Hwy. 94 south for 3 miles to Jung's Station Road and turn left. Go one and one-half miles to Upper Bottom Road and turn left. The church is one-fourth mile on the left. Singing starts at 10:15 a.m. and services begin at 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Sunday school for children through sixth grade is in the morning; junior high and high school students have Bible class in the afternoon.

If you are planning to visit St. Louis, you can get a packet of information, including maps and motel information, by calling the St. Louis Convention and Visitors Commission. Outside Missouri 1-800-325-7962 or (314) 421-1023. You are welcome to call Loren and Betsy Schrenk for information, too. (314) 878-9251.

We do appreciate a phone call with the number of visitors so we can plan appropriately for lunch

on Sunday. We generally plan for a few more than we know about, but we have had to make emergency trips out for more food several times on Sunday mornings.

We generally have a visiting minister three Sundays of the month. You don't have to wait until your church's "turn" to visit us - you are welcome any time!

MISSOURI, TAYLOR
Ruthie Hoerr

We had a relatively mild winter; but now, when we are looking forward to spring, the flowers blooming, and the birds singing and building their nests; here comes the snow. Oh well, we know all things work together for those who love the Lord. This is the season we especially remember the great price Jesus paid for our sins when He died upon the cross. It is so exciting to hear the children tell the old, old story over again. "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16. What beautiful words! What hope! What a wonderful God!

It continues to amaze us, the miracles God can work in hearts; although it shouldn't, because God can do anything. One such miracle seeking the Lord is Jerry Kettler (Quincy, IL) who has been attending church with Bro. Phil Bauer. Doug Hoerr (Bro. Louis and Sis. Ruthie) has also tired of his old life and is seeking the Lord in repentance. We pray the Lord will surround them with guardian angels and provide His divine Spirit to help them along the way.

As we marvel at the miracle of birth of new souls, we also marvel at the miracle of new lives. One such miracle was a precious baby girl, Shelby Lynn, born to Bro. Roger and Sis. Diane Sutter. Happy grandparents are Verene and Scott Clayton (Palmyra, MO) and Sis. Charlene Sutter (Taylor, MO). May God bless them abundantly as they strive to teach her of God's love.

Surgical and medical patients this month were Sis. Ruth Cottrell (Bro. William, surgical) and Sis.

Trish Grimm (Bro. Don). We know there are others not brought to our attention. We pray they all will feel His presence and healing hand.

NEW YORK,
CROGHAN-NAUMBURG
Alice Virkler

ROLLED AWAY

With the early rays of sunrise,
At the dawning of the day,
Came the women to the garden
And the tomb where Jesus lay.
There they found the grave was
empty.

Where He was they could not say,
Yet the tomb's seal had been
broken,
And the stone was rolled away.

Oh, the sorrow of those women!
But an angel sitting near
Said, "Fear not; yet seek Jesus.
Come and see. He is not here."
They saw Jesus near the garden
On that first glad Easter Day,
In His resurrection glory,
For the stone was rolled away.

Mabel F. Hill

We are so thankful that the stone was rolled away as Jesus told His disciples He would rise again on the third day. He is still in heaven with God and the door of grace is still ajar that all who will may serve Him. It is our hope that many will still take advantage of the open door and turn their hearts and lives over to Jesus through the way that has been provided through the death and resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Our thoughts and prayers are for Sis. Loretta Graves (Bro. Floyd Sr.) and Sis. Edna Sturtze (Roy) as they are facing medical problems. Sis. Loretta is slowly improving from a severe attack of arthritis and Sis. Edna fell and is slowly mending after she suffered a compressed vertebrae in her back. Also, Bro. Floyd Graves, Jr. has been unable to work for several weeks as he is having a problem with his back. It is our prayer that God will be with each of these loved ones and that their pain will be over

soon if it is God's will. Also, Ethel Karcher is now a resident at Lewis County Extended Care in Lowville. May she look to God for her strength and guidance in her new surroundings.

Bro. Leland Hirschey and his family would like to express their thankfulness for all prayers, phone calls, cards and other kindness offered for them during Bro. Leland's illness. We are thankful that Bro. Leland shows many signs of improvement at this time and is again able to minister God's Word to us. He asks for continued prayer for further recovery.

OHIO, AKRON
Joyce Gasser

"... I thirst," (John 19:28) is one of the last seven cries of Jesus from the cross, and in this month with Easter, our thoughts are turned more to those last words, and the significance of each. The seven cries are areas Jesus endured and was victorious over so that we can be victorious. When Jesus thirsted, He had the fire and drought inside in our stead, as Lamentations 1:13 states, "From above he sent fire into my bones . . .", and Psalm 32:4 states: "... my moisture was turned into drought." Upon His cry of thirst, they took hyssop with a sponge with vinegar and gall to give Him. In the Holy Land, we were shown the plant hyssop, which is the unusual plant that when dipped in blood, and sprinkled, out comes blood and water. Hyssop was only to have blood put on it, but they put gall and vinegar on it. The natural person gives gall for the mind as it is a sedative, to deaden the feelings of the mind; and vinegar for the flesh, the body. It is not gall and vinegar to set us free. It is the blood of Jesus. Jesus took our thirst and gives us a blessing when we "thirst after righteousness."

Bro. Bob Graf had back surgery and is recuperating at home. Bro. Ernest Graf is home from being hospitalized. Sis. Louise Spangler received a broken ankle and bruises as another car failed to stop at a stop sign and their cars hit.

Bro. Glen and Sis. Joan

Greenbank were blessed with a baby boy they named Steven Jay. This makes three boys. The others are Samuel and Arthur. Grandparents are Bro. and Sis. Gordon Greenbank and Bro. and Sis. Robert Stoller.

We welcome Chuck and Jodie Baker to our community and Akron church. Jodie is the daughter of Sis. Eileen (Yergler) Roberts of Bloomington, and her father has passed away. Chuck has employment with Schneider Trucking out of this area, and Jodie has employment in Christian telephone work.

Elder Bros. Henry Dotterer and Andy Stoller assisted Bro. Gene Pamer in sharing with us the memorandum of the conference.

OHIO, COLUMBUS Julie Grimm

AN EASTER CAROL

Tomb, thou shalt not hold Him
longer;
Death is strong, but life is
stronger;
Stronger than the dark, the light;
Stronger than the wrong, the
right;
Faith and hope triumphant say,
Christ will rise on Easter Day.
Phillips Brooks

May God's blessings be upon those who minister His Word. We were thankful to have Elder Bros. Phil Stettner, Bill Schlatter, Eugene Pamer and Henry Dotterer worship with us this past month.

OHIO, JUNCTION Sandra Manz

With the warming temperatures, budding trees, blooming flowers, and greening grass comes thoughts of spring and with it the blessed Easter season. How important that our young people and some of us older ones, too, are reminded that the beauty and significance of our Lord's resurrection far outweigh the importance that the world places on Easter eggs, rabbits and new spring clothes. How well I remember when my dad had to admonish his three little

girls because they were entirely too proud of their new spring dresses and bonnets. We were firmly instructed to stop and think about the real meaning of Easter or we wouldn't be wearing our new clothes that Sunday morning.

Jason Carnahan (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Pauline) spent several days in the hospital with a stubborn foot infection. It's difficult to keep a teenager down, but with some bedrest, I.V. antibiotics, and the Lord's healing touch, Jason is doing better.

With little news to report this month, we will focus on those in our congregation who have reached four score or more years. Possibly these two brothers and two sisters have old acquaintances in other congregations who would enjoy hearing about them.

Sis. Frances Dotterer ("Aunt Frances" to the majority of the church) finds herself getting around much slower than a few years ago, but only very inclement weather prevents her from coming back to church. She is assisted at home by her daughter, Sis. Ruth and home aids when Ruth leaves for her job at the hospital. In Frances, we often see many fruits of the Spirit, including love, peace, long-suffering and goodness.

Bro. Oliver Spangler has made slow but steady progress from a fractured leg following a fall 15 months ago. He still uses a walker, but is able to go just about anywhere with his wife, Sis. Annabell, and the Bro. Jim Spangler family who have faithfully cared for him during his time of recovery. He always has a warm smile and soft word for all who greet him.

Sis. Anna Manz has been enduring various bodily afflictions for most of the winter. She has been able to stay by herself at home, but appreciates the assistance of the visiting nurses and nieces and nephews. May the Lord grant her patience to endure these trials and help her to look ahead with hope and faith.

Bro. Emmanuel Manz still enjoys good health. In addition to church functions, he enjoys fishing and building small craft items. He and his wife, Sis. Louise, keep busy

traveling between their homes in Paulding, OH, and Cissna Park, IL, as well as other church congregations when time allows. They are always welcomed with open arms to either of their "home" churches at Junction and Cissna Park.

OHIO, LATTY

Rhonda Stoller - Kathy Sinn

We are thankful for having visiting brothers who were willing to exhort us during the past month. These brothers included Elder Bros. Joe Stoller (Princeville, IL) and Bill Schlatter (Junction, OH) and Bros. Ben Manz and Don Manz (Junction, OH). May the Lord's richest blessing come to these brothers and their families.

Vince Schlatter (Gus and Sis. LeAnn) was announced as having peace with God and all men. May the Lord continue to bless Vince with His direction and guidance. "Jesus I will never leave, Who for me Himself has given; Therefore unto Him I'll cleave, Nor from Him be ever driven; Life from Him doth light receive; Jesus I will never leave." (Zion's Harp #228)

On March 7-8, we were blessed through the testimonies and baptisms of Randy and Joni Wenninger (Bro. Don and Sis. Josephine; Lennis and Lula Saylor). "I'm no longer mine; Lord, I will forever and always be Thine, For Thou hast created and purchased me too, Baptized with Thy Spirit, Thou makes me new." (Zion's Harp #209)

During the month, Bro. Loren Stoller (Sis. Esther), Bro. Merrill Laukhuf (Sis. Dolly), Bro. Alvin Klopfenstein (Sis. Ellen) and Bro. Ben Schlatter (Sis. Helen) were hospitalized. May the Lord continue to strengthen these brothers and their families according to His will.

We share our sympathy with Sis. Lola Laukhuf in the passing of her mother during the past month. May the Lord grant His comforting presence during this time.

"Sit and pause awhile, my spirit, This great miracle behold; See the King of highest merit, On the cross, so bare and cold! Out of heaven God has given, His own Son in love untold!" (Zion's Harp #226) May

we sit and pause awhile during this Easter season to remember the great price which was given. This may cause a greater faith within our walk of life.

OHIO, MANSFIELD

Linda Morrison

"And in that day shall ye say, Praise the Lord, call upon his name, declare his doings among the people, make mention that his name is exalted. Sing unto the Lord; for he hath done excellent things; this is known in all the earth." (Isaiah 12:4, 5) What great rejoicing we had when Elder Bro. Ben Maibach (Detroit, MI) and Elder Bro. Eugene Pamer (Akron) joined Elder Bro. Ken Sauder in the testimonies and baptisms of our dear friends, now Sis. Jenny Banks (Bro. Larry and Sis. Nancy), Bro. Bill Sauder (Sis. Becky) and Bro. Dave and Sis. Joy Sauder. Sis. Jenny and Bro. Bill are of the Columbus congregation but were originally from Mansfield, so it was to our joy and delight to share this blessed time with them.

Elder Bro. Ken Sauder (Sis. Sue) had surgery. We are thankful he is again able to assemble and serve our congregation. "Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God." (Isaiah 40:1).

Sis. Martha Mayer was laid to rest; she had spent the past eight years in a nursing home in the Bluffton area. Those of us who loved Sis. Martha will remember her ready smile. We extend our sympathies to Sis. LaVersa Sabo (Bro. Joe) in the death of her uncle. "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints." (Psalms 116:15).

Recently we were talking about lambs and lions in my first grade class at school. It was at the end of a very long week when the children had been inside for all recesses so there had been many opportunities for "fussings and fightings." So in our discussion of lions and lambs, I commented that the Bible says the lion and the lamb shall lie down together. That means we will all get along and there will be peace; we won't fight and fuss with each other. One little girl looks

right up and says; "And if the Bible says it, it's true!" Another child says, "But not if you write it in yourself!" I thought . . . out of the mouths of babes. I thought both comments were such good admonishments for Christians so I wanted to share it in my article, but I thought I should have the scripture reference for the lion and lamb . . . much to my surprise, I couldn't find it in my Bible where the lion and the lamb shall lie down together. So I asked others if it was in the Bible; the answer was always "yes" but I was pointed in various directions: Revelation, Isaiah, Ezekiel, but I still haven't found it. Do we really know what the scripture says or have we accepted some things that have been written in by others? Have you ever received a Christmas card with a wolf and a lamb; that's the closest I've come. Let us beware!

OHIO, RITTMAN

Lois Maibach Charlene Winkler

Visiting ministers this past month that have expounded on God's precious Word were Elder Bro. Kevin Ryan (Rockville, CT) and Bro. Paul Gasser (Akron, OH).

Those that have needed hospital care were Marion Bauman (Sis. Delores), Sis. Vicky Pelfrey, Sis. Jeannie Stoller (Bro. Harlan) and Sis. Ellen Weber (Bro. Ralph).

We extend our deepest sympathy to Bro. Ernie Howell (Sis. Rowene) in the passing of his sister, Christine Lloyd.

OHIO, SARDIS

Renee Miller

At many important times in our lives, we find in the Word of God that His blessings will be upon us. We are thankful to have felt his blessings in the past days.

Sheila Brake (Bro. Bill and Sis. Miriam) has sought to serve the Lord and has been given peace. It is with joy and anticipation we look forward to her baptism day. (Psalms 32:1)

Bro. Andrew Figel and Sis. Cyndi Blough (both of Smithville, OH) have made known their en-

gagement to be married March 29. Bro. John and Sis. Paula Figel (Sardis) are Bro. Andrew's parents. We pray they may continue serving the Lord as one and can follow His direction life long. (Genesis 1:27, 28)

A sincere thanks to Sis. Linda Indermuhle for her service on the kitchen committee in the past and Bro. Robert Indermuhle who has served us as Sunday school superintendent. Those called to fill their positions are Sis. Paula Figel and Bro. Dennis Miller.

Even in the sorrow of death we are comforted by our heavenly Father. (Revelation 14:13) Bro. Delbert Indermuhle, 71, 50026 Baptist Road, Sardis, OH 43946, passed from this life March 12, after a month-long illness. He died at the Ohio State University Hospital during heart surgery. He is survived by his wife of 50 years, Sis. Martha; and five children, Bro. Robert (Sis. Karen), Bro. Kenneth (Sis. Linda) and Allen (Janet) Indermuhle, Sis. Doris Miller (Bro. Dennis) and Sis. Joyce Indermuhle, all of the Sardis congregation. He is also survived by 13 grandchildren and two sisters, Sis. Rosella Figel and Sis. Almeda Brake (John). Bro. Delbert was a minister at Sardis for 40 years and was active in serving the Lord until his final call. The Sunday afternoon funeral filled our new church; about 400 were present. Elder brothers included Eugene Pamer (Akron), Bob Walder (Congerville, IL), Henry Dotterer (Rittman), Loren Stoller (Latty), Joe Ramsier (Rittman) and ministering Bros. Wally Ramsier (Mansfield), Vic Bauman and Gary Maibach (Smithville), Art Ingold (Rittman) and Andy Hunyady (Columbus). The family wishes to extend their appreciation and thanksgiving for the many ways in which they were remembered.

OHIO, SMITHVILLE

Stephanie Luginbuhl Kim Stoller

"Songs of gladness, never sadness, Sing the ransomed ones in heaven;

Anthem swelling ever telling
Of the joy of souls forgiven."
Horatius Bonar

We here on earth can sing with gladness, too, as four souls have experienced God's forgiveness. Angie Blough (Sis. Janette), James Maibach (Bro. Gary and Sis. Mary Ann), Corbin Riggensbach (Bro. Ed and Sis. Anita) and Dennis Indermuhle (Shari, son of Bro. Darrell and Sis. Janet). We welcome them as sister and brothers-in-Christ.

Carlton Schlatter also has experienced forgiveness and has found peace with God and man. He is now awaiting baptism.

We are thankful for the visiting ministers who have come to proclaim the Word of God. We pray that God will bless Elder Bros. Walt Anliker (Eureka, IL) and Henry Dotterer (Rittman, OH) and Bros. Earl Beery (Rittman, OH), Doug Harmon (Toledo, OH), Ken Schneider (Remington, IN), Ken Indermuhle (Sardis, OH) and John Grimm (Columbus, OH).

We rejoice with Bro. Jeff and Sis. Millie Stoller as they welcome their first child. Evelyn Mae was born February 27 and is also welcomed by Bro. Bob and Sis. Eileen Stoller and Bro. Eli and Sis. Evelyn Manz (Junction, OH).

Bro. Steve Maibach (Sis. Dawn) and Sis. Mildred Hartzler were hospitalized for surgery this month. We are thankful that both are home again.

On March 8 we heard of the engagement of Bro. Andrew Figel (Bro. John and Sis. Paula, Sardis, OH) and Sis. Cyndi Blough (Sis. Janette). We wish them God's blessings throughout their life together.

May is the month to renew the Silver Lining subscription for Smithville. The fee is \$9.00.

"Sweetest music ever swelling
Thro' the courts of heaven above;
Ever singing, ever saying,
God is Life, and God is Love!"
Horatius Bonar

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

OHIO, TOLEDO Josephine Rehklau Edie Fetter

"Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me."

Psalms 51:10

We are thankful for the visit of Merrill Laukhuf (Latty), who spoke to us on the New Age Movement. We appreciate his timely warning.

Congratulations to first-time parents, Derrick and Sandy Rawson, on the arrival of their daughter, Hannah Elizabeth. Grandparents are Bro. John and Karen Breitwieser.

Mike and Laurie Jackson were also blessed with the arrival of Andrea Nicole. Carrie and Trent welcome home their sister. Grandparents are Bro. Richard and Sis. Betty Fetter. May God bless these families as they raise their precious little ones.

OREGON, PORTLAND Pearl Miller

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead . . . Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time."

I Peter 1:3, 5

THE LORD IS OUR KING

A long time ago God did promise
to man
Salvation to save him, it was in
His plan
A Saviour would come as an
innocent child
In lowly surroundings and
manner so mild.
A carpenter's son, He could not
much afford
The riches of earth yet they called
Him the Lord.

This man they called Jesus could
walk on the sea
He healed every sickness and let
the blind see

He fed the five thousand and
helped the lame walk
Changed water to wine and told
deaf mutes to talk
With parable stories he taught
everyone
It soon became clear that this
Lord was God's Son.

Upon an old cross now, He was
crucified
"Forgive them, oh Father," He
said ere He died
His tomb was sealed up with a
stone right away,
But nothing could stop Him from
rising that day
On Easter's bright morning He
won Victory
Eternal salvation for you and for
me.

Unknown

As we think of the death and resurrection of our Lord and Saviour, it makes us ever thankful to be a part of His family, experiencing the new birth in Him.

The yearly business meeting was held recently and we thank Bro. Paul Rumbold for his services rendered as trustee as his term has expired. He was nominated as Sunday school superintendent.

Louisa Gallup's mother, Lieda Bernson, has come to visit from Holland for several months. Louisa has become an American citizen February 28.

We thank Bro. Ed Knecht (Silverton, OR) and Sis. Judy for visiting us. Bro. Ed proclaimed the precious Word of God to us.

On March 15, we were encouraged and edified by the reading of the memorandum and its exhortations by our dear Elder Bro. Leo Moser (Lester, IA) and Bro. Clarence Dietrich in the evening at Silverton.

Our dear Sis. Golda Ditch (Medford, OR) was able to come to Portland to share in a blessed weekend.

Due to a mild winter, we are experiencing an unusually early spring with the splendor of beauty portrayed in the various trees, shrubs and flowers that have burst forth in a rainbow of color.

We welcome you to visit Oregon.

OREGON, SILVERTON**Becky Gudeman - Peggy Schulz**

Greetings of love through Christ our Lord to each dear one. The budding trees and blossoming flowers remind us of the beautiful resurrection of this most joyous season. We must never forget the One who died and rose again for us.

Three dear couples and their families have recently moved into new residences this past month: Bro. Todd and Sis. Melissa Kuenzi, Bro. Bill and Sis. Kris Luthi and Bro. Dean and Sis. Heidi Sinn. Bro. Dean and Sis. Heidi and their family were the recipients of a housewarming and singing. We wish them all God's richest blessings in their new homes.

We are pleased that Becky Dietrich (Bro. Jim and Sis. Joan) found the grace to repent and blessed peace with God an man. May God continue to bless her.

We are happy for Monte Kuenzi (Bro. Jim and Sis. Rosalee) and Kellie Hill (Woody and Sherry, Silverton) as they prepare for a summer wedding. May God bless them as they plan for a new life together.

All must be reminded from time to time of the responsibilities and blessings of being a child of God. In the past month, visitors included counseling Elder Bro. Leo Moser (Lester, IA) who, with Bro. Clarence Dietrich, shared the reading of the memorandum with us. Bro. Don Gudeman (Sis. Mary, LaCrosse, IN) also shared the Word with us. Our heartfelt thanks are extended to our dear brothers for being used so selflessly. We greatly appreciate their willingness and trust that the Lord will bless their efforts.

**PENNSYLVANIA,
PHILADELPHIA****Franz Soni**

"That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ."

I John 1:3

We thank those brothers, sisters and friends who visited us this past month. We encourage those in the area to worship with us. Services are Sunday at 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. and Wednesday at 7:30 p.m., for more information, please call Bro. Edward Aeschleman at (302) 478-7846.

**TEXAS, ZAPATA
Viola Perdelwitz**

Our congregation and those of the community that knew him were saddened by the sudden death of Bro. Glen Luthi (Bern, KS). Bro. Glen and his wife, Sis. Lola, have a home in Zapata, and spent time with us each winter. This fall Bro. Glen spent a few days with us, but he and Sis. Lola did not come for the winter because of Sis. Lola's health. Sis. Lola and her family have our sincere sympathy.

Our visiting ministers this month were Bro. Charles Sauder (Tremont, IL) and Bro. Carrol Gerber (Bluffton North, IN). We want to thank Bro. Charles and Bro. Carrol and his wife, Sis. Louise, for their visit.

Sis. Grace and Bro. Emil Strahm wish to express their heartfelt thanks for the cards, prayers and many acts of kindness given them while Bro. Emil was in the hospital. We are thankful that Bro. Emil has regained his health and is able to assemble with us again.

**INDIANA, INDIANAPOLIS
Miriam Gudeman****NO ONE BUT GOD**

One helped Him bear His cross up
Calvary,
And there were those who placed
Him in the tomb,
But when He burst death's bonds
and came forth free
No human hands were in that
narrow room.
No one but God could reach
beyond the rim
Of death's confines and touch the
dark unknown;
Though there were those who
longed to do for Him,

When Jesus rose He did it all
alone.

No one but God? Then truly He
was God!
And is and will be evermore. And
those
Who trust His grace sleep not
beneath the sod:
They are not dead, because the
Saviour rose.
These too shall rise. The tomb is
open wide —
The stone was rolled away by One
inside.

Author Unknown

We, here in Indy, want to wish everyone a blessed Easter as you gather with friends and family to remember the greatest love of all given by a very dear Friend! John 15:13.

We want to thank our visiting ministers this past month. They were Bro. John Bollier (Leo) and Bro. Jim Rinkenberger (Bluffton). A special thank you to our Elder Bro. Alfred Bahler (Wolcott) for sharing with us on Wednesday night the importance of preparing our hearts for communion.

Little Katie Bucher (daughter of Bro. Ardie and Sis. Leann) and Sis. Stephanie Pearson was hospitalized this past month for illnesses. They are recuperating at home. May God grant them rest and a quick recovery with His healing power.

Our dear Sis. Ada Shieler Jones wishes to express her thanks and appreciation for the many cards, prayers, flowers and thoughts of love extended to her during the illness and death of her dear husband, Bill. Your kindness and thoughtfulness was greatly appreciated!

SILVER THREADS**AMID LIFE'S STORMS, SAIL ON**

Sail on, oh ship of faith
upon the sea of life

Amid the tests, the trials,
disappointments and the strife.

No turbulence encountered here
shall ever blur our vision —

Depend on Him; He'll e'ever
provide;
just trust and in Him rely upon.

Reach out and clasp the hand
that He to you does offer

Assured with blessings, manifold
and rich, He'll fill your coffer.

Must view life's pathway now
as through a glass, but darkly;

And yet He says: "trust Me,
My grace, sufficient, I will share
to thee".

No doubts nor fears shall ever
cause my faith to waiver;

Nor ought of world's enticements
e'er cause my footsteps, falter.

Instead, I'll ever onward, upward
strive to reach that wondrous
goal

No eye has seen, nor ear yet
heard —
that blest reward awaiting
faithful soul!

"God has been good", I will say with
a smile
at journey's end, when I've
walked the last mile!
Sis. Clara Nohl
Goodfield, IL

BEYOND THE BEND

Just beyond the bend, the river,
flowing crystal clear and bright;

Angels in white robes, crowns
glittering,
harps in hand, sing with delight.

Nought of earth should ever lure
us
temp'ral things our faith to
sway.

Endless joys to faithful, promised:
"when the mists have rolled
away."

Depression at your door comes
knocking? —
do not list to flimsy whim.

Escape to higher, nobler planes
where tests and trials ne'er shall
dim

Such wonders which no eye hath
seen, nor
ear yet heard: who live for Him.

Commit thy ways to Jesus;
commune as
friend with friend — that when

Amid the storms, our ship of faith
will "weather" stormy gale 'til
end.

Reach out, accept, cling to His
proffered hand —
"O, ye, of little faith";

"Plent'ous grace; sufficient for your
needs
I will supply", He saith.

Endure, dear Child, the
struggles —
(I, too, experienced all the
tests) —

Not always sunny skies, but storm
and rain;
fear not: I always send what's
best!

Travel onward, ever upward 'til
you
reach that Promised Land; and

Rest forever, walk with Jesus;
kept in the hollow of His hand.
In that day that's just beginning,
but
will never have an end.

Eternity! all praise to Thee!
I'm here because you carried me

Through valleys deep, o'er hills so
steep —
My Everlasting Friend!

Sis. Clara Nohl

DEFEAT DEPRESSION

If depression at your door is
knocking
making you feel "down" and
"low" —

Remember anguish He endured
for us
so many years ago!

He never asks we carry
burdens but such as He did
bear,
And when the "going" is bit rough
He's right there His help to
share!

Just pick your cross up daily
with a smile and travel on
Where're His hand does lead
you —
how soon and life is gone!

Forget yourself for others;
yes, put others in the "fore" —
You'll be amazed how quickly
depression will go out the door!
Sis. Clara Nohl

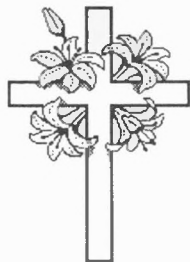
PSALM 23 PERFECT AUTHORSHIP BY A PERFECT LORD!

The Lord is my Shepherd —
perfect security.
I shall not want —
perfect satisfaction.
He maketh me lie down in green
pastures —
perfect rest.
He leadeth me beside still waters —
perfect peace.
He restoreth my soul —
perfect renewal.
He leadeth me in the paths of righ-
teousness —
perfect guidance.
For His Name's sake —
perfect motivation.
I will fear no evil —
perfect confidence.
For Thou art with me —
perfect protection.
Thy rod and Thy staff, they com-
fort me —
perfect assurance.
Thou preparest a table before me
in the presence of my enemies —
perfect provision.



Thou annointest my head with oil –
perfect consecration.
My cup runneth over –
perfect supply.
Surely goodness and mercy shall
follow me all the days of my life –
perfect care.
And I will dwell in the house of the
Lord forever –
perfect destination.

Allegra McBirney
Submitted by Phoenix, AZ



Up from the grave He arose,
With a mighty triumph o'er His
foes;
He arose a Victor from the dark
domain,
And He lives forever with His
saints to reign;
He arose! He arose!
Hallelujah! Christ arose!
Gospel Hymns #323, chorus

Sermon . . .

(Continued from Page 36)
for this, can we? We grow out of
our innocent years and here we
stand as a sinner. Would it be well
for us to strive before our God and
say, "I cannot help it I have be-
come a sinner, unaware, and now
here I am?"

Let us believe upon this Lord
and Saviour that was rejected. Let
us believe that we are sinners. Did
we not add many sins thereunto,
loved ones, when we became old
enough out of our innocent years
when the time and hour came when
we were responsible for what we
had done? Loved ones, we added
many sins to this sin that we have
adopted. Here we stood, separated
from God, without any hope.

How blessed it is, loved ones, if
we accept it in that way and in
that manner, that we were sepa-
rated from God, and that our Lord
and Saviour came that we again,
as we heard in this morning hour,
can be heirs with Him . . . joint

heirs with our Lord and Saviour!
Is not that a wonderful way that
God has established so mankind
can find remission for his sins?

We cannot serve God and the
devil, the Word teaches. We can-
not drink of the cup of the devil
and the cup of the Lord. We cannot
wallow in sin and unrighteousness.
We cannot eat of the Lord's table
and eat of the devil's table. When
we become a separated people by
faith in Jesus Christ, then the Al-
mighty God does this work, loved
ones.

We were reminded in this morn-
ing hour that some would think
that it is a hard way to travel. When
once we have been reborn, we have
a joy in heart and mind that over-
whelms all that "joy" we had in the
world, which was when we enjoyed
ourselves to the greatest extent in
a great multitude of people we
would look down over them and
think, "What will this mean once
in all eternity?" Ever and over
again, the Lord came to our heart
and mind and reminded us that
there was something that had to
take place while we had the oppor-
tunity to live here upon earth.

Now this stone had been re-
jected from our forefathers, but
they did not all reject Him. It says
that those who accepted Him be-
came the sons of God. They be-
came those who carried on this
weighty work of our Lord and Sav-
iour that was brought into this
world and time. Those that went
down to the seashore and received
the Pharisees and those in high
standing could not accept the Lord
and Saviour.

Why? We can believe that that
was something for them to step
down from their high hearts and
come to the Lord's feet to receive
from Him the message from God.
After they were carrying on this
law of God and was doing what, in
their minds, was the will of God,
then comes this Lord and Saviour
and brings a new doctrine, even
which the Apostle Paul could not
understand. He went and destroyed
those and tried to uproot what the
Lord and Saviour had planted. It
was his will, loved ones, to over-
throw all that our Lord and Sav-
iour had grounded and founded.

On his way to Damascus, loved
ones, the Lord shone into His heart
and mind so he could say, "Lord,
Lord, who are Thou?" The Lord
said, "I am Jesus whom thou
persecutest." Acts 9:5. That is the
way we were persecuting our Lord
and Saviour in our walk of life, but
was not as the Apostle Paul.

We know the Apostle Paul, in
himself and in his zeal, thought he
was doing the will of God. We knew
that we were separated from God.
We knew that the Almighty God
had arranged a way so that we
could find salvation. This was
taught unto us from our forefathers
and in our Sunday schools.

How blessed it is, loved ones,
that there is yet today a place
where we can turn.

We have heard of dear friends
when they were not in their home
or country when they wished to
bring forth their confession, it could
not be used. They could not under-
stand it.

But when we are in our home
community where we can go to our
elders and confess and the burden
of sins are buried into the sea of
forgetfulness, do we not know that
there is an Almighty God? We then
can be founded upon such a Rock
that we can stand firm when the
trials and tribulations come which
will confront us while going
through this world and time.

This old man which we carry
here holds that natural world with
us. Yet the new man has a desire
to know Him and live and serve
Him while going through this world
and time which is but a short time.

We have read in this morning
hour and heard how God placed
that nice rainbow in the sky that
He will no more destroy this world.
That is a joy! We look upon it as a
pleasure. He will no more destroy
this world, That is a joy! We look
upon it as a pleasure. He will no
more destroy it with water. But,
He said, the next time He will de-
stroy it with fire and brimstone.

What a manner of man shall we
be? Shall we not also build, like
Noah did, an ark in this acceptable
time . . . an ark of the new cove-
nant . . . an ark of faith? When
this great destruction comes, where
will we hide, loved ones? The Al-

mighty God says in His Word "I have shook the earth, but I will shake the heaven and earth." (See Hebrews 12:26).

Then, if we have built this ark of covenant with our God, He will carry us on over. We can believe that when Noah settled down upon the ground and opened his window and saw the grass becoming green again, there was a great joy that filled his heart that he obeyed the commandment of God.

God gave him the blueprint of his ark of how he should build it. Just as in our time, the Word of God gives us the blueprint of how we shall become a Christian. It is not as hard as the enemy brings it to us. Although we oft times say it does not require so much, but in reality, loved ones, it requires all.

The old man must go into death that he can be buried into the death of Christ. We know what would take place if something was buried that was not dead. It would be a terrible thing, would it not? We would not have power to resist the enemy if we were not dead. When we are buried into the death of Christ, we rise up to a newness of life.

If we have gone through this repentance by the hand of God when He takes us in His hand as the clay in a potter's hand, then we will leave ourselves to be moved about as He wishes to move us. When He says "Go!", we go. When He says "Come!", we come.

Then we can be placed upon this Rock and can stand firm. We can then be led by the hand of God as we have become God's children and joint-heirs of Christ. We are then safe in the arms of Jesus, in part.

We are place upon a dangerous path, loved ones. We have heard this morning that all sins can be forgiven but the blasphemy against the Holy Ghost. (See Matthew 12:31). Before we received the Holy Ghost, it was impossible to blaspheme it. So, while we are without Christ, loved ones, whatever we may commit can be forgiven, to my view of it.

When once we become a child of God, beloved ones, that is when we must be aware of the fact that we are not any more our own and

should listen to the small voice which has been placed in our heart and mind.

We know how it was in the time when Elijah tried to hide himself. He went and hid in a mountain. There was a big storm but the Lord was not in it. When it was quiet, then the Lord came and spoke to him and asked him what he was doing there. (See I Kings 19:11-13)

That is the way it is with us. When we become a child of God, we cannot expect God to speak to us in a great turmoil or when our heart is filled. It must be emptied by the help and grace of God, that he can shower into our hearts and minds that quiet voice that will lead us straight to Zion.

Loved ones, it is of great importance of this in our time. The enemy has many, many devices to again mislead us. But, the enemy is only powerful . . . he is not Almighty! We have become God's children and, as we have heard this morning, if we seek those things that are above, then those things that are needful will be granted unto us.

Why shall we worry, loved ones? Why should we try to lay up gifts, even as we heard in this morning hour, and covet after them? Oh, we as children of God, we must watch, loved ones.

We find that it says in the Word of God that he that tilleth the vineyard shall be the first partaker thereof. We should be watchful that we would not become hoards over the things of this world and time.

When we are in need, we save, loved ones, when God blesses abundantly but when the time and hour comes when we need no more save, then we shall be aware to the fact that we may become stingy. That is in the Word of God a commandment and that will be against us, loved ones.

We shall be aware to the fact that we should walk in this world and time as God wishes us to walk, that we would be a light and a shining light to those that are proud about us that they may say, "That, truly, is a peculiar people," and that they would not have to speak evil of us. That would be displeasing in the sight of God.

We have a Mediator sitting by the right hand of God. When we have such confronting us, loved ones, if we listen to that small voice, He will speak to us to use the Word as a mirror . . . to look there into and guard over our own flesh which is carrying that natural pull towards everlasting rest.

Is that not a poor place for that precious pearl that God granted unto us when He gave us peace . . . in such a mortal body that has a wish and a desire to have its pleasure in this world and time? Loved ones, we find there when God had to lay the curse upon Adam, He said, "From earth thou art and to dust thou must return." (See Genesis 3:19).

The natural body has no gift after this world and time. It must return to the dust upon which it wished to enjoy itself. By grace from God, we have the power to overpower that flesh and blood and walk as a spiritual man here in this dark, sinful world and time.

It is not growing any better, loved ones, according to the Word of God. As the Lord and Saviour said, "We shall look upon the fig tree and when it is bringing forth its buds we know that the summer is nigh." (See Matthew 24:32).

So, the Word teaches us, we should look upon the prophecies of our forefathers and of the Lord and Saviour and our disciples. Then when they are gone into fulfillment, we know the time and hour is coming, when no man can work no more.

We believe that the Almighty God is yet extending the time. We find there that the Almighty God kept this to himself when He is going to make an end to all things. Can we not rejoice in this, loved ones, when we have such that lie nigh to heart and mind that we wish should be gathered in yet?

We can believe that our prayers will be heard and that the Almighty God will extend this time and give them yet an opportunity. If they do not take this opportunity, what will His extension of time avail them? It will be of no avail. This is the time now, loved ones! When you hear His voice, harden not your hearts!

MAR 02709 RP
GORDON GREENBANK
11000 N CAVE CREEK RD
PHOENIX AZ 85020

SERMON BY BRO. ANDREW KOEHL OF FORREST, IL

“God Is The Rock On Which We Stand”
Matthew 21

We well realize, do we not, how that in the beginning of the life of man, when God created man and placed him in the Garden of Eden, how the Almighty God gave them the commandment. Why did the Almighty God give mankind a commandment?

He ever and ever wants mankind to know that He is the Almighty God in whom lies all power. He had power to say, “Light,” and it became light. He created heaven and earth and the sea and all therein is, and mankind and placed them in the Garden of Eden where they could enjoy themselves. This is our Lord and Saviour which we have read of here.

Could He have stayed in His glory by His God if Eve had not taken of the forbidden fruit? We believe someday we will understand why the Almighty God had so arranged it that mankind should be created out of dust and shall again return to the dust, but the spirit shall return from whence it took its beginning.

We do not know how long Adam and Eve were there in the Garden enjoying themselves, but we know that the enemy came and lived among them. He persuaded them to partake of the forbidden fruit. Now this same evil enemy that came into the Garden of Eden is among us in this day, as it was when the people of old gathered themselves together.

It says, “And satan was also

among them.” We have it to do with the same God that Adam and Eve had it to do with and with the same Satan that came and overpowered them when they partook of the forbidden fruit. For this then, our Lord and Saviour had to return to this earth. The time and hour came when they had partaken of the forbidden fruit, as we were reminded in the morning hour.

We were created to the image of God. God loved us so, that He could not leave us out in this world and time without a Redeemer. Therefore, He promised us that He would send us a Redeemer at due time.

Years passed by, one generation after the other, waiting and waiting for this loving Saviour to come as the Mediator and our Saviour Who would pay for our sins. When the time and hour came, we have read here, that the Lord and Saviour asked them who John the Baptist was and they would not answer the Lord and Saviour.

They were afraid if they would tell the truth, they would be stoned from those that were by them. They would not tell the Lord and Saviour. Therefore, He said, “Neither tell I you by what authority I do these things.” Matthew 21:27.

These wonders that our Lord and Saviour worked while He was here upon earth was that mankind shall believe that He was the Son of God. That is why our Lord and Saviour worked such things and wonders. It was a pleasure in that

time to live here on earth because if a man had a disease in his body, he could be healed.

Our Lord and Saviour wished mankind to understand, at that time, that was not His mission for Him to come in this world and time to heal man from natural diseases. He wanted them to understand that He came here to bring life, such a life that shall be in all eternity.

The Lord and Saviour had to work these signs and wonders that mankind would believe that He was the Son of God. Then, yet, they rejected Him, as we have read here. They stoned Him and they threw Him out. Here, at the end it says, “Whosoever shall fall on this stone shall be broken.” Matthew 21:44. Our Lord and Saviour was rejected by the people of God, the chosen people.

We find already in the time of Abraham that God blessed Abraham and said his seed shall be blessed, and through his seed, all nations shall be blessed.

Our Lord and Saviour descended from our forefather and faith of Abraham. Through this Lord and Saviour, all mankind can be blessed if they give Him their heart and mind and believe that they are also partakers of the sin that was performed there in the Garden of Eden.

We automatically, loved ones, become sinners. We cannot help
(Continued on Page 34)