

The Silver Lining



*But he that received seed into the good ground
is he that heareth the word,
and understandeth it; which also beareth fruit,
and bringeth forth, some an hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.*

Sermon by Bro. Steve Pamer, Akron, OH

I Samuel 20:1-31 and I Corinthians 12

We are all familiar with that chapter that follows here which speaks of the attributes and characteristics of charity (I Corinthians 13). Charity being the love of Jesus. The love of God that is shown to you and to me and to everyone who is willing to come and receive it. We think of that love and we think of God and we know that God is love. God is the source of love.

We read in the fore reading of Jonathan and David. There is evidence there, even in this particular passage that we read, of the love that Jonathan had. A love that he was willing to go there to make an intercession and to try to learn something about his father's demeanor and his attitude toward David.

Then this verse here, it said that, "...Jonathan caused David to swear again, because he loved him: for he loved him as he loved his own soul." I Samuel 20:17. God is the source of love and He has loved you and He has loved me to the point that He would give His only begotten Son. That we who were destined to death might be able to have life. We were all upon that way that led to death.

There may be some here today yet that are walking according to the natural man. We are born here with a sinful nature, beloved. The scripture tells us that. Scripture tells us that all have sinned and come short of the glory of God (Romans 3:23). If we compare our life to the scripture and if we read the scripture, we find that the law reveals to us even those areas in which we have come short and we have sinned. Just to put it very bluntly, we have sinned. Then the question is, what are we going to do about that? Thanks be to God that He made it possible for you and for me a way of being set free. Being set free from the bondage of sin.

It is really Satan that captivated us. It was the serpent in the garden there that tempted our first mother (Genesis 3). He mixed words of truth with lies. Perhaps as we were

born we were born here beloved, each one of us, with an undying soul - we were born with an Adam nature. But in our childhood, in our infancy, we had no sin of our own, other than that sinful nature. But as we grew to that age of accountability, that age where we could recognize the difference between good and evil, it was the mixture of truth with lies that Satan brought that deceived us into thinking that we weren't really so bad after all. That the things that we were doing weren't any worse than anything anyone else was doing.

So we were brought to the truth. As we look into this word, we find that this word judges each and every one of us. Because the word is the light. The word brings life to those who believe it. It is the word that we are going to be judged by one day. The scripture tells us that we are all going to stand before the judgment seat of Christ (II Corinthians 5:10). We know that Christ was the word and He became flesh and dwelt among us. As many as believe this word, beloved, the promise is that He is to give us the power to become the sons of God. Are we believing this word and have we yielded to its truth in our life?

We have here in this act of Jonathan something that reminds me of Jesus Christ. One who would be as an intercessor. One who would intercede for us when we were but a step away from death. That is the condition we found our self in when we looked into God's word, brothers and sisters. We saw the truth and we knew that there was judgment, there was condemnation in our life because we had sinned. Sin. The wages of sin, the result of sin, the consequence of sin is death. A spiritual death, beloved. Because we are all going to die. This flesh is going to pass away. But what about that soul that God has given to each one of us?

We read in the word that there is two destinations for the soul. One destination is to be forever at peace

and joy in that eternal city that God is preparing for the faithful, for the overcomer, for the believer. Where there will be no more tears, no pain, no more sadness (Revelation 21:4). No more darkness. No more confusion. But there will be light forevermore. That is the one possible destination.

The other is as about as far away from that description as we can think. Where it says that there is going to be outer darkness. There is go-

Sermon continued on page 44

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*"The entrance of thy words
giveth light; it giveth under-
standing unto the simple."
(Ps. 119:130)*

Light From The Word



Writings based
on God's Word

May 2005

My Grace is Sufficient for Thee

Nearly everyone who has been a child of God for any length of time has had a problem which seems too heavy for him to carry. After pleading with God to be relieved of the burden, we may have found that the problem was not removed nor was it made lighter. At times such as this we may become concerned that we are not praying properly, that God is not listening to our prayer, that we may have fallen from grace, or that some other spiritual calamity has befallen us.

Satan, of course, does not miss such opportunities to try to weaken our faith. He will try to increase every concern or doubt that we have ever had. He will attempt to magnify the problem in our minds and cause us to believe that God does not really care about us.

The apostle Paul had a thorn in the flesh and he "...besought the Lord..." (II Cor. 12:8) three times that he could be relieved of his problem. Besought does not merely mean asked. It means to petition urgently or pressingly. We certainly can understand that Paul didn't pray in a brief or shallow manner. He pleaded with God for relief. Instead of removing the problem God told Paul "...My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness..." (II Cor. 12:9). God answered Paul's prayer, but not in the manner Paul had wanted.

How did Paul respond to God when he realized that God's answer was not what he wanted? Paul was able to look at it as an opportunity rather than a burden. He knew that it would not be of his own strength that would see him through his ordeal, but rather the power of Christ was resting upon him so he could say "Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong" (II Cor. 12:10).

The grace of God is defined in a number of ways. It is often referred to as the undeserved love and favor of God. It may also be defined as the power that we have from God that enables us to do

for God what we would not be able to do ourselves or simply the strength to endure trials and remain faithful.

How can we obtain the grace of God? What value does it have for us? After we have found the grace of God, how can we keep it as a vital force in our lives? After we have tasted of the grace of God, can we misuse or even lose it?

First of all, we must understand that we cannot earn the grace of God. It is freely given to those who will humble themselves and submit to His will. "...and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble" (I Peter 5:5).

We must also realize that we should never think we have attained perfection where we do not need to allow God's grace to grow within us. We never reach the point where we can believe that we have fully matured and need no more grace. "But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ..." (II Peter 3:18).

The value of grace, of course, is almost beyond our ability to comprehend. Without the grace of God we cannot be saved: "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast" (Eph. 2:8-9). The grace of God gives us faith in the atoning power of the shed blood of Jesus Christ. Without this faith we could not have forgiveness of our sins. "For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins" (Mt. 26:28).

Although physical death is pronounced upon sinful man, by the grace of God eternal death can be avoided. The sacrifice of countless animals provided only a temporary atonement for sins. A perfect sacrifice was required to pay the price of our sins. Christ's blood had to be shed for our sins for "...without shedding of blood there is no remission" (Heb. 9:22). Christ's sacrifice was the fulfillment of the covenant that God made with man that if we allow God to put his "...laws into (our) hearts, and in (our) minds ... (our) sins and iniquities will I remember no more" (Heb. 10:16 & 17).

We can only keep the grace of God in

our hearts and lives if we are desirous of spiritual growth. "But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ..." (2 Pet. 3:18). "As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby" (I Pet. 2:2). "And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue, knowledge; and to knowledge, temperance; and to temperance, patience; and to patience, godliness; and to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, charity. For if these things be in you ... ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful..." (II Pet. 1:5-8).

The grace of God is not for selfish use nor for abuse. We must be "...good stewards of the manifold grace of God" (I Pet. 4:10). If we are not good stewards of God's grace, we will find ourselves in the same position as the steward who was accused of wasting his master's goods and was removed from his stewardship. Numerous scriptural references indicate that we could lose the grace of God.

The Apostle Paul reminded us that we are the servants of those we obey. "...Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? God forbid..." (Ro. 6:1-2). If we are the servants of sin it will bring us spiritual death and if we are obedient to God it will bring us to righteousness and life eternal with God. Paul also wrote "Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace" (Ga. 5:4).

God will provide the grace we need to do His will if our heart is after the will of God. God wants us to feel His grace. He wants us to be able to escape the pollutions of the world and He wants to provide for our spiritual needs. He has a gift for each of us and He wants to give it to us. "But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ" (Ep. 4:7). God has "...no pleasure in the death of the wicked;..." (Ez. 33:11). He would "...have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth" (I Tim. 2:4).



APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN Mission Committee

...The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest. MATTHEW 9:37-38

Being Sent to Mexico Bill and Joan Schick

Our experience of being sent to Magdalena, Mexico goes back to 1984 when the Holy Spirit directed us to do something different with our lives. It was then that we went to help at Gateway Woods where the fulfilling of God's Spirit was evident in this work. Eventually we felt directed back to central Illinois, but never forgot the sense of what it was like to be free to go where the Lord directs.

After a number of years in business, we felt that the Lord was again directing us elsewhere, even though we did not know where. In discussions with our Elder, it became apparent that there was a need for help in a school for the deaf in Rio Bravo, Mexico.

It is our desire to be a support and encouragement to our Church. God could have permitted us to be born anywhere in the world, or in any religion, but He chose for us to be born in the Apostolic Christian Church. Thus we felt that whatever we might do should edify this Church.

While working with the deaf in Mexico, we met with the Mission Committee and shared our desire to serve in one of our Church-sponsored projects. We found the Committee to be very supportive and helpful. After this meeting we were asked by them to consider a couple of other assignments in Mexico.

Casa Vida y Esperanza

After much prayer and searching, we felt peaceful about moving 1,200 miles across Mexico to help with the work at Casa Vida y Esperanza (House of Life and Hope). It was difficult saying goodbye to the deaf

children, their families, neighbors, and others, but we feel that we are where God has sent us, and it is peaceful knowing that our Church has sent us here.



Children at Casa Vida y Esperanza

Our first children came to the orphanage in February of this year. It is encouraging to see the Lord blessing this endeavor. Many work teams have come to help with the project here to build facilities that will enhance the program. There are many opportunities for more work teams and for long-term volunteers to support our staff members and fulfill our mission with the children.

Example of Peter

As we look back on our calling and wonder what the Lord could do with someone like us, we are reminded of the life of the Apostle Peter. Peter was not a great follower. In fact, many things recorded in the Word about Peter, we would never want said about us.

"Get thee behind me, Satan: for thou savourest not the things that be of God, but the things that be of men." MARK 8:33

"Peter followed him afar off ... to see the end." MATTHEW 26:58

"Then began he to curse and swear, saying, I know not the man." MATTHEW 26:74

God later used Peter in a wonderful way to edify the Church. We felt that if He can use a man like Peter, He can use any of us.

Have ye any meat?

Another Scripture that has meant a lot to us is John 21:3-5, where Peter says to the other disciples: "I go a fishing. They say unto him, we also go with thee... and that night they caught nothing. But when the morning was now come, Jesus stood on the shore: but the disciples knew not that it was Jesus. Then Jesus saith unto them, children have ye any meat? They answered him, No."

What did Jesus mean by "Have ye any meat?" We had always thought it meant, Do you have any fish? In John 4:34 Jesus said to them, "My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work." The disciples had already seen Jesus twice since he had risen. "This is now the third time that Jesus shewed himself to his disciples, after he was risen from the dead." (JOHN 21:14)

On further thought, it seems that Jesus was asking them, "Have ye any purpose?" Thus, in John 4:34 Jesus was saying that His purpose was to do the will of Him that sent Him and to finish His work. If that was Jesus' purpose, the Lord has shown us that this ought to be our purpose also.



We are very thankful that the Church has sent us here, and for all of our experiences in Mexico. We look forward to what the Lord has yet to teach us.



APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN
World Relief

As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men,
especially unto them who are of the household of faith. GALATIANS 6:10

A Silent World

This article features a story about a student from Jamaica who has benefited from being in the Apostolic Christian Child Sponsorship Program. Future articles will feature students from Haiti, Mexico, and Guatemala. Through the Sponsorship Program, members and friends of the Apostolic Christian churches may help to make a difference in the lives of children. Our Jamaica students are all hearing impaired and attend schools that are affiliated with the Caribbean Christian Center for the Deaf.

Richard lives in a silent world. As an infant he became deaf because of untreated ear infections. As he grew he saw his sisters and brothers playing, singing and laughing with his father and mother and with each other. How he wanted to join in the fun and feel a part of the family. But since he could not hear, he could not speak. His parents thought him to be simple. They felt he was a burden and since they worked hard to survive and provide for their family, they left Richard on his own much of the time.

Since he did not hear he did not even know his own name. When he was frightened he could not ask for comfort. When he wondered what made the wind or caused the rain, he couldn't ask. When the family put on their best clothes once a week and went to a building to sing and pray and listen to the man with a big black book, he didn't know what it was about.

One day a woman came to talk to his mother. A week later his mother took him to a strange place. There were many children there and it looked like they were talking with their hands. They were running and playing. They looked like they were

having fun. They looked happy. He was shown to a room with several beds and his mother and the kind lady helped him put his few clothes in a drawer. As his mother left the lady took him to a room where children sat at desks. But he didn't know they were called desks because he had no language. The lady made motions to him with her hands. He soon learned that these motions referred to him.

As the days went by he learned more and more. The children were friendly to him and included him in their activities. They all made motions with their hands. He learned that the motions were names of the people and things around him. A whole new world was opened to him. He could communicate with other human beings!

As the years went by he could communicate in sentences. His vocabulary grew with each passing year. In his younger years he learned sign language, reading, writing, arithmetic, and history. As he grew older he learned to work with his hands to develop a trade. His vocational study was woodworking. Fellow students developed computer, plumbing, carpentry or electrical skills. Others in his class learned sewing, cooking and hair dressing. He began to learn about Jesus and was now able to read the Bible.

When he graduated he knew he could go to the Deaf Village to live and work. There he could attend a church where the messages were signed. There would be housing he could afford and a job in the factory manufacturing rocking chairs and other furniture. There would be social events and fellowship that he could take full part in. He began to dream that one day he could be married and have a family.

But best of all, through the years he had learned to know the Word of God. He learned that Jesus had died and shed His blood so that he might be forgiven and have eternal life. He learned to know and love the Lord. He thanked Jesus every night that he had been brought to this school. He also thanked the Lord that he had a faithful sponsor that prayed for him and made it financially possible that he was afforded so blessed a life.

To apply for a student

The cost to support a student is \$21-\$25 per month. To apply for a student to sponsor please fill out the following. A student will be assigned to you and you will be sent further information.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ St _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Please check preference:

Haiti Jamaica Mexico

Guatemala Wherever

If possible I would prefer:

Boy - Age _____

Girl - Age _____

No Preference

Child Sponsorship Office

ACWR Child Sponsorship

PO Box 36

Morton, IL 61550

Phone: 309-266-6080

E-mail: acwr@mtco.com

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

"Fo, lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone; The flowers appear on the earth; the time of the singing of birds is come..."

Song of Solomon 2:11-12

We are enjoying beautiful spring weather! Our residents are able to spend time outdoors experiencing God's awesome creations. Some simply enjoy sitting and listening to the many sounds of nature, while others are busy practicing for the upcoming Special Olympics. They compete in events such as the tennis ball throw, bowling, and various wheelchair races. It is exciting to see all the medals that are brought home!

Spring has also brought changes indoors as several remodeling projects have taken place at Timber Ridge. Most recently, we were able to expand and remodel the south break room and replace the flooring in the north living room. These projects are possible, in part, because of volunteers who so willingly give of themselves. We appreciate them very much.

If summer travel brings you to our area, please feel welcome to contact us to arrange a visit to our Timber Ridge facility. Our residents enjoy sharing their home and giving tours to visitors.

JUNE birthdays at Timber Ridge, 2125 Veterans Road, Morton, IL 61550: Christopher Rogers (6/5), Dale Plattner (6/5), Sara Baker (6/6), Aldine Winger (6/15), Harold Parks (6/18), Karlene Prichard (6/18), Marianne McMenamin (6/19), Janet Wilt (6/21), Kimberly White (6/23), Rebecca Wright (6/24).

At Oakwood Estate, 2213 Veterans Rd., Morton, IL 61550: Quentin

Craig (6/7), Rodney Blaum (6/15).

At Linden Estate, 1000 Linden St., Morton, IL 61550: Carl Johann (6/22).

At 1001 E. Idlewood, Morton, IL 61550: Brandon Graham (6/12).

At 241 S. Minnesota, Morton, IL 61550: Sharilyn Rowell (6/19).

GATEWAY WOODS APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S HOME Bro. Kevin Sauder

"But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ."

Ephesians 4:15

Believers everywhere share a common call to ministry. We are all called to speak (or live out) the truth in love so that those we know and love would become more like Jesus Christ. We all influence people every day of our lives. To help focus our attention on this ministry, we might ask, "Is my personal influence honoring to God and centered on the truth of Christ?"

Whenever we read in God's Word, we expose ourselves to life-changing truth (Jas. 1:22-24). Yet due to the universal effects of original sin (Gen. 3), we all tend to be blind to our own blindness (Heb. 3:12-13) and are susceptible to deception (Eph. 4:14). We become experts at justifying our own thinking and behavior (Prov. 21:2). We need truthful insight that comes from humble and honest relationships with other believers (Heb. 10:24, I Jn. 1:7). We benefit from people around us who love us enough to speak the truth (Eph. 4:16).

Why is it important that we speak the truth in love? First, truth that is not communicated in love contradicts the very nature of God who we

are called to represent (I Jn. 3:17-19, 4:8). How often do our communication motivations or methods oppose the very message of truth we intend to deliver (Lu. 6:45, Jas. 1:20)? Ultimately, the goal of our speaking is that everyone may grow up in all things into Christ-likeness for the glory of God (Eph. 3:21, 4:12).

May God help us all to develop genuine relationships where the influence we give and receive speaks the truth in love for the glory of Christ in our hearts.

News

We are pleased to announce that in April we received the license that will allow us to begin caring for pregnant teens and teen moms with toddlers! Bro. Bruce and Sis. Heather Drayer have been working diligently to prepare their group home for this new population.

As announced in the last Silver Lining and the Spring Gate Post, we are building a 4th group home for our current residential population to continue our growth. We are looking forward to getting started with the design, fund raising and construction. Look for more on these exciting developments soon!

In recent months, the Gateway Woods Adoption Program has helped two church couples through their first adoption experience. Bro. Don and Sis. Suzie Fiechter (Bluffton, IN) adopted two beautiful girls from Ukraine and Bro. Bill and Sis. Brenda Minick (W. Lafayette, IN) adopted here in the states. These couples are at the end of a growing list of Apostolic Christian couples, living in Indiana, who have chosen to adopt. We praise God for their decision!

Recently our adoption caseworkers also helped a young lady place her

infant daughter with an adoptive couple from Gateway Woods. Although this decision was very difficult, the mother feels she did what was best for her child. God has truly been present in this process. (Psalm 68:6)

Finally, with spring in the air, Gateway Woods is gearing up for summer – which means volunteers! The brothers and sisters who serve during the summer are so crucial to our program, children and campus. Accordingly, we have hired Bro. Morgan Langhofer (Phoenix, AZ) as the Summer Volunteer Coordinator. If you are interested in volunteering, please call us at 888-443-4283 or visit our website www.gatewaywoods.org where you can apply on-line to be a volunteer.

Please continue to pray for this Apostolic Christian ministry to troubled children and families. Now more than ever, a hurting world needs the Christ-centered services of Gateway Woods. Thank you for making this possible through your support.

**APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN
PRESCHOOL
Athens, Alabama
Melissa Slagel**

The birds upon the treetops sing
their songs.

The angels chant their chorus all
day long.

The flowers in the garden blend
their hue.

So why shouldn't I, why shouldn't
you, praise Him too?

We have been busy and have had so much fun this month working in the dirt. Our theme was plants so we experienced the miracle of putting a teeny tiny seed into some dirt and watching life come from it. The chil-

dren were so excited to get to plant their own peas, sunflowers and daisies. It hadn't occurred to me that taking care of plants can teach a child so many things — patience, tenderness, love and care. Patience was the first lesson and it came just a few hours after we had planted our seeds. One of our little boys came up to me with this sad, disappointed look on his face and said "my flower isn't growing." I assured him and, yes with patience, he had a lovely plant. It was neat to me too over the month to see how much they cared about what they had planted. They remembered every day to water them and they handled them so gently. It is great to see such joy and excitement in these kids over something so simple and yet so miraculous.

Our preschool board meeting was here on April 16. Thank you to all of our board members for all of your time and effort that you devote to the preschool. It is encouraging to have such support and to feel God's Spirit working among us.

**ALABAMA, ATHENS
Louise Hall**

We have been blessed this month with lots of activity and visitors. We had Communion and our Elder Bro. Andy Stoller (Smithville, OH) and Elder Bro. Bill Schlatter (Junction, OH) were with us. Our preschool board meeting was that weekend as well and Bros. Sam Schlatter (Sis. Linda, Junction, OH) and Tim Gerber (Mansfield, OH) labored with us, too. Thank you to Bro. Duane Reutter (Rockville, CT) who was also here this month and brought the Word to us. Also to those who traveled with him, we enjoyed having you here.

We elected a new trustee this month. Bro. Tim Hall will be serving

his term along with our other two trustees, Bro. JR Hall and Bro. Buddy Lynn.

Bro. Tom and Sis. Joan Schrenk assembled with us for a few Sundays. It was so special to get to see them again.

Our prayers go out to Sis. Eunice Kelly (Bro. Winifred) and Carl Haggemaker who spent some time in the hospital this month.

We are looking forward to our Memorial Day Singing. Please come join us, we would love to have you!!

**ARIZONA, PHOENIX
Ron and Ev Hoerr**

"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."

Romans 8:28

Easter Sunrise Services were held at the home of Bro. Robert and Sis. Christine Baum. Many enjoyed the services and the fellowship breakfast before our regular church services. What a joy seeing so many participate.

Our Sunday School presented a lovely program on March 20. We are most appreciative of our students and teachers. Oh, the beauty of God's love!

Our visiting ministers were: Elder Bro. Steve Gutwein (Francesville), Bro. Curt Rassi (Tremont), Bro. Steve Ringger (Bluffton North), Bro. Randy Kellenberger (Kansas City), and Elder Bro. Tom Klotzle (Altadena). May God bless His faithful servants.

Congratulations to Mike and Suzanne Emch on the birth of their son, Clayton Dean. His sister is McKenzie and grandparents are

Bro. Jerry and Sis. Cathy Emch.

Bro. Clarence Beyer was a surgical patient. Sis. Alice Baumgartner will enjoy an encouraging word at:

Huger Mercy Living Center
2345 W. Orangewood
Phoenix, AZ 85051

Keep giving God's love away — people are looking for some.

ARIZONA, PRESCOTT Jane Hodges

On April 9, a fellowship dinner was held followed by the reading of the Memorandum. On Sunday, following the afternoon services, Communion was served by Elder Bro. Peter Petrovic (San Diego) and our Elder Bro. Jon Kokanovich (Phoenix). May God richly bless them and their families for their service, love, and support.

Our annual corn-on-the-cob picnic is scheduled for Saturday, August 6. We would like anyone visiting Arizona to include this time of fellowship in their plans. This will probably be the last time this type of picnic will be planned, since the farm where we buy the fresh sweet corn is closing by the end of the year. Like many farms in Arizona, the land has been sold to housing and retail developers.

Memorial funds received for George Kornja and Bro. Ray Massner were used for trees and additional landscaping around the church. May God bless all that contributed in their memory.

ARIZONA, TUCSON Lisa Knapp

During the past month we have had a lot of coming and going in Tucson. We had a work team pass

through heading to Mexico. Bros. Steve Ringger and Bob Meyer (Bluffton North, IN) were part of that team and allowed God to work through them as willing instruments on our pulpit. We thank them for their willingness to serve us in the ministry and also for being part of a group who was willing to give their time and talents in Mexico. We know the Lord will add His rich blessing.

We were also served Holy Communion this past month by Elder Bros. Jon Kokanovich (Phoenix) and Tom Klotzle (Altadena, CA) and on the pulpit that same day by Bro. Tom and Bro. Jim Meiss (Phoenix). We sincerely thank them all for their time and love in traveling to Tucson and hope they received the same blessings that we did in Communion and fellowship. May God bless you all.

Our winter visitors are almost all gone now and we are thankful they have all returned safely home to their families. We hope warm weather and sunshine greeted them all. We are experiencing beautiful sunshine and cool mornings and evenings. Our temperatures are in the 80's. We are pretending that this will be permanent but we know somewhere in the back of our minds that summer is definitely coming. For the moment we are enjoying not running our air conditioners and taking a light jacket with us at night. Some of life's simple pleasures.

CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA Robin Moser

"He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay."

Matthew 28:6

On Easter morn, we remembered our Saviour's glorious resurrection with a sunrise service in the mountains, followed by an all-church breakfast. May it be our foremost yearning to be fashioned a new being, sanctified by the risen Lord.

Often in a small coastal church, we seem to be welcoming and saying good-bye. This week, we bade farewell to Bro. Reuben and Sis. Crystal Luthi as they returned to Morris, MN, for the warmer season.

We are thankful Bro. Garth Steffen (Sis. Connie, Portland, OR) and Bro. Bill Waibel (Sis. Carol, Bay City, MI) were willing to come share the Word with us this month. It is always a blessing to have visitors worship with our congregation.

Lydian Luthi (Bro. Jeff and Sis. Shirley) was hospitalized this month for a minor surgery. We are thankful she is recovering at home. Sis. Maria Cser (Bro. Laszlo) suffered a fall this month and we will be praying for her as she might have to undergo further medical treatment.

CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO Peggy Jevremov

Greetings to each of you! We are thankful for the many visitors we had this past month. Among them was ministering Bro. Jeff Grimm (Sis. Ruth, Goodfield, IL). We pray the Lord's blessings upon him for his willingness to be used in our behalf.

We are thankful that Bro. Rory Strahm has been able to assemble with us again. Our thoughts and prayers continue with Bro. Tibor Bozzay who has not been able to come to church for some time. May the Lord continue to provide for the needs of each one.

As our country has set aside a special day to honor our mothers, may we remember to thank them for lov-

ingly instructing us in the ways of truth and for all the sacrifices they made for us.

KITCHENER, ONTARIO CANADA

Johanna Fortenbacher

Holy Communion was held March 19, by Elder Bro. Mark Bahr (Sis. Bev, Detroit, MI) with the help of retired Elder Bro. Nathan Steffen (Sis. Marilyn, Elgin, IL). We also were privileged to have with us ministering Bro. Ben Manz (Junction, OH).

Bro. Peter Pfeiffer wishes to thank all who have remembered him in prayer and visits during his illness. We are glad he is back with us at church again.

“Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.”

John 14:27

COLORADO, DENVER

Ann Gonglach

Our Sunday meeting had to be canceled on April 10, because of a spring blizzard. Some areas in our state received as much as 2 feet of snow. Here in the Denver area the total ranged from about 15-20 inches. However, it warmed up quickly and the following week we were able to enjoy an outdoor picnic after singing at a local nursing home.

Spring may come a little later here at our mile-high elevation than it does in some other parts of the country and, although we've enjoyed a typically sunny and unusually warm winter, it's nice to see the leaves budding on the trees and the grass turning green. The birds' song

reminds one that “all His works in all places of His dominion” bless the Lord (Ps. 103:22).

We recently gathered together to have the Elders' Memorandum read. May God bless those in authority who are looking out for our spiritual well-being. We should be thankful for the reminders that were brought forth in this latest Memorandum.

Jacob Leman, son of Elder Bro. Mike and Sis. Deb, has shared that he has found peace with God and desires baptism. We are looking forward to this blessed event on May 21-22.

CONNECTICUT ROCKVILLE

Amber Reutter Laura Virkler

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

Hymns of Zion, #207

We are humbly reminded of the beauty of God's creation as the trees begin to bud, the flowers begin to sprout, and the birds begin to sing. As the environment around us is enveloped in a renewal of growth, so is our spiritual lives as we daily read from God's Word, and continue in earnest prayer. This is where our true strength lies.

Our convert, Sam Moser (Bro. Ben and Sis. Glenna), has been announced for peace. We pray for Sam as he awaits baptism, and brings forth a testimony of God's mercy in his life.

We have recently been blessed with a Communion exhortation, and have been encouraged to prepare ourselves for the Lord's Supper. We look forward to this solemn, yet spir-

itually uplifting, and strengthening experience.

We welcome Bro. Mick (Sis. Deloris) Hill, from Mansfield, OH, as he resides in our area throughout the weeks for some extended time. May we pray for his family as he fulfills these business obligations.

“Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits...”

Psalms 103:1-2

Sometimes amidst the stresses of life, we tend to forget the benefits that the Lord has given unto us. We are grateful for Bro. James (Sis. Linda) Beyer and Sis. Ellen (Bro. Eugene) Kupferschmid that the Lord has been merciful to them, and provided throughout their recent hospital visits. We pray that the Lord will continue to extend His healing upon them.

May the Lord bless you and provide for you through another month.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA WASHINGTON

Henrietta Meyer

Living in a metropolitan area which keeps growing, I miss seeing farmers working their fields in the spring. Spring came a little late this year. I was gone for ten days and when I got back our first flowers and trees were in bloom. The next several weeks will be beautiful around here as the different trees, bushes and flowers display God's handiwork

Visiting ministers this month were Bro. John Reinhard (Sis. Pam, Bluffton, IN) Bro. Joe Dotterer (Sis. Rose, Smithville, OH) and Bro. Dan Stoller (Sis. Diane, Rockville, CT). Other visitors were Champaign and

Morton, IL, Bluffton, LaCrosse, and Francesville, IN, Smithville and Rittman, OH and Silverton, OR.

Services are usually held the first, third, fourth and fifth Sundays of the month at the Tysons Corner Westpark (Best Western) Hotel, located about one-mile west of the Beltway (I-495) on Route 7. Song service begins at 10:15, worship service at 10:30; afternoon service begins at 12:15.

If you are planning to visit Washington, D.C. for vacation or business, please call Bro. Adam and Sis. Liz Hermann (703) 212-7339 for assistance and to let us know how many to expect for Sunday services. If you would like to get together on Saturday evening, please let us know that as well. We would be happy to have an evening of fellowship and/or singing.

**FLORIDA
FORT LAUDERDALE
Renee Mangold**

We were thankful to have visiting ministers this past month. Visiting were Bro. Chuck Kellenberger (Sis. Debbie, Elgin, IL), Bro. Randy Gasser (Sis. Sue, Detroit, MI), Bro. Tim Funk (Sis. Debra, Peoria, IL), and Bro. Ron Jones (Sis. Liz, Portland, OR).

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

I Timothy: 6:17

We pray for God's blessing on His servants.

Our monthly potluck was, again, a delicious success. Remember, all are welcome to attend whenever you're in Ft. Lauderdale.

A letter from the winter resi-

dents:

Greetings. The winter residents of Ft. Lauderdale want to thank the local brethren for their kind hospitality during this past winter. We always feel welcome into our “second” home. Thank you for all the blessed fellowship and wonderful meals that you shared with us. God willing, we will see you next winter.

Signed,
The Winter Residents

**FLORIDA
NORTH FORT MYERS
Mary Masters**

We've been richly blessed this month with visiting ministers: Bros. Dennis Kaufmann (Sis. Bonnie, Bloomington, IL), Kevin Knapp (Sis. Dixie, Bloomington, IL), and Ron Heiniger (Sis. Kayleen, Bloomington, IL).

Some of the excerpts from sermons this month were found from expounding on Exodus 32. The question was asked, “Have you applied the blood sacrifice of Jesus to the door of your heart?” Also we were reminded of the 3 P's of patience, prayer, and prepared. From the book of James, we were reminded to make our plans in pencil and hand the eraser over to God. I was impressed through one of our visitor's prayers when he acknowledged that we have no type of currency to give to God other than our obedience.

Hospital patients this month were Sis. Naomi Vogel (Bro. Stan), Sis. Bev Gerber (Bro. Ed), and Bro. George Keysor (Sis. Sharon). We pray for each of them that God's hand of healing will be applied to them.

Our Sis. Daniela Todoran will be going out to Prescott for several weeks to help out family members there. She will be sorely missed and we wish her a safe trip there and

back.

We are so glad to have Sis. Jeanette Yergler back assembling with us once again. She reports that she is feeling much better again, thanks to God.

Wednesday evening services will once again be discontinued over the summer. From April 30 - November 1, we do not have Wednesday services at North Fort Myers, due to very low numbers here.

FLORIDA, SARASOTA

Every springtime when our seasonal residents return north, the Sarasota church returns to its smaller assembly. We appreciate as well the special blessing of a small close knit body of believers and friends. The Sarasota brethren shared Communion together and were served and encouraged by Elder Bros. John Lehman (Bern, KS) and Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL).

The work project in Wauchula, FL, has drawn to a close. A total of 352 individuals volunteered their time and expertise. The workers represented 47 churches from 23 states. The fruit of their labor was remembered and the homes were dedicated in a service during which all five families received Bibles and the keys to their homes.

One homeowner told how his family had prayed each morning following the hurricane for God to send help. He expressed his thankfulness to the work team for being that answer to prayer. In addition to the five homes that were built, 15 homes were shingled, numerous homes were extensively remodeled and wheelchair ramps were constructed. Praise God.

We bid a farewell to Bro. Glenn and Sis. Norma Blume as they move north to live closer to family. They

will be returning to their home church of Wolcott, IN. They have been worshipping with our Sarasota congregation for over 20 years and will be greatly missed.

Ministering brothers this past month included Bro. Brad Eisenmann (Chicago, IL), Bro. Clint Schmidt (Winthrop, MN) and Elder Bro. John Lehman (Bern, KS). We appreciate their visiting and willingness to serve.

GEORGIA, ATLANTA
Benjamin Stoller
Kevin Kipfer

My Mother

I wish that I could find some words,
 Some fitting verse or line,
 Or lovely song, endearing, sweet,
 A noble thought in rhyme,
 To show my love and gratitude
 Unto my Mother dear;
 A loving tribute I would bring
 To fill her heart with cheer.
 —Henry Beer

Greetings from Atlanta. We hope to find you all enjoying the Lord's bountiful blessings in this spring season. We were thankful for the brothers which gave of themselves this past month. They were Bro. Brad Eisenmann (Sis. Cindy, Chicago, IL) and Bro. Vernon Wettstein (Sis. Judy, Congerville, IL).

We are happy to hear that Will Olar (son of Jon and Susan Olar, Nazarene Church, Mansfield, OH) has been announced for peace and is looking forward to baptism sometime in September. It is certainly a blessing to have Will worshipping with us while he is attending college.

In the upcoming month we look forward to visiting ministers from Morton, IL (June 5) and Wolcott, IN (June 19).

We would love to continue having visitors fill our sanctuary and encourage us on the straight and narrow way. Please let us know of your plans to help us prepare for Sunday lunch and other activities. We encourage you to set aside time Saturday evening, Sunday evening or during the week for fellowship. We meet on the first, third, and fifth Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm. The church is located off I-85 south of the Atlanta airport at Exit 64 in Fairburn, GA. Once off the exit, go west four miles and the church will be on your left. For more information or to let us know of your plans, please call Bro. Tom Waldbeser 770-463-4788, Bro. Linn Stoller 770-631-4554, or Bro. Keith Kaufman 770-328-3266.

ILLINOIS, BELVIDERE
Sheila McCoy
Doreen Moser

Jesus in the night of His betrayal,
 When His covenant did endow,
 When His blood, in love and grace
 eternal,
 For transgression and for sin did
 flow,
 He established for His church a to-
 ken,
 That His covenant might ne'er be
 broken,
 This His holy Sacrament and feast,
 For His own, from sin and death
 released.

—*Communion Hymn*

We were able to partake of Holy Communion and we are thankful that Elder Bro. Charles Sauder (Tremont, IL) was able to help our Elder Bro. Ron Schambach (Elgin, IL).

Bro. Sam Bachtold did a topical Bible study on the "Formulation of the Bible". We appreciate his time

and effort for the topic.

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*

As we are busy planting our gardens and fields this spring, may we ever remember to sow good seeds and to keep our hearts properly tilled.

ILLINOIS
BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL
Kara Martin
Ann Nussbaum

We appreciated our Sunday School students bringing the Resurrection message to us through their Easter program during the second service on Palm Sunday. The Passion Week observances continued with Good Friday services, an Easter Sunrise service and breakfast, along with regular Easter Services on March 27. Our congregation appreciated Bro. Jon Zeller from Morton, who shared Easter Sunday services with us. We pray we keep the Passion of our Savior in our servant hearts throughout the year.

We were privileged to host the Saturday activities of College Weekend on April 2. We are thankful for the many young people who worship with us during their college years, enriching our church family.

We were privileged to witness two souls unite their hearts in Christ as Sis. Christa Kaeb and Bro. Timothy Wiegand, both of Leo, IN, exchanged wedding vows on April 3. Parents of the couple are Bro. Dave and Sis. Brenda Kaeb of Bloomington and Bro. Roy and Sis. Jan Wiegand of Goodfield. We wish this newly married couple God's blessings.

We were also blessed when Elder Bros. Jim Plattner and Lynn Stieglitz, from the Princeville and Leo, IN, churches, respectively, joined us for the April 3 wedding services. Ministering Bros. Tom Bolliger (Tremont) and Jeff Grimm (Goodfield) also shared the pulpit that day.

Elder Bro. Ron Messner (Washington, IL) and ministering Bro. Matt Steffen (Princeville) joined us April 13 for a presentation about the Home for the Handicapped. What an incredible mission of love and service the Home provides!

Our sympathies and prayers are with Sis. Rose Huette and Sis. Ann (Roy) Maurer, who recently lost their brother, Bro. William Aberle, of Forrest.

ILLINOIS, BRADFORD **Steve Endress**

We appreciated having several visitors this month. Among them was Elder Bro. Dan Kilgus (Remington) to assist Elder Bro. Wayne Anliker with Communion. We felt blessed in being reminded of the Lord's death and suffering. Other ministers with us were Bros. Don Manz (Junction, OH), Walt Herrmann, and Matt Steffen (Princeville, IL).

Our prayers are with Bro. Richard Gillespie (Sis. Paula) as he has recently traveled to Iraq. We pray that the Lord will be his strength and help in time of trouble or hardship.

Bro. Loris Stisser (Sis. Lottie) spent a few days in the hospital. We are thankful that he could quickly recover and assemble again with us. It just reminds us that we never know what a day may bring.

We are thankful and rejoice to report that Renee Baer has made

known her desire to seek the Lord through repentance from her sinful past. Her mother, Sis. Janna Lou, is certainly thankful to see the last of her children turn to the Lord.

On April 14, Kyle Robert was born to Rob and Angie Joos. Kyle is welcomed home by siblings, Anthony and Megan. Grandparents are Bro. Robert and Sis. Becky Joos and Ed and Dianne Hasbrook.

ILLINOIS **CHAMPAIGN-URBANA** **Karla Kieser**

Bro. Allen and Sis. Theresa Miller are thankful parents to a boy, Adam Daniel, born May 11. Adam is also welcomed by big sister, Amelia. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Orlan and Sis. Carol Miller from Gridley, IL, and Dan and Susie Boian from Chenoa, IL.

God's call has been answered by our friend, Michelle Cornell. Michelle has been attending our church for several months with her daughter, Katie. Our prayers are with Michelle as she begins this new glorious journey and we are excited to have another child in Sunday School! Michelle and Katie live in nearby Danville where Michelle works at the community college.

It was forgotten in the past issue that Sis. Tamra Kaeb moved here recently from Bern, KS. She graduated from college in December and took an accounting job in the Cissna Park area. We are glad to have her!

We are thankful for the ministers who served our congregation this past month. They include Bros. Steve Sauder (Tremont), Alan Schambach (Remington), Greg Rassi (Chicago), and Justin Koch (Tremont).

ILLINOIS, CHICAGO **Rachel Meyer**

Greetings of love from Chicago. The last two days have been beautiful, sunny, and breezy. Sometimes when I feel the sun on my face it feels like God's smile. The world is full of much trouble; but also many good things.

We thank Bro. Loren Schrenk of St. Louis and his wife, Sis. Betsy, for visiting us and sharing the Word. May God bless him for being willing to preach the gospel.

Sis. Marge Young is experiencing poor health right now. Her hearing appears to be getting worse, and she asks for prayer. I always appreciate when my brothers, sisters, and friends share concerns and ask for prayer. First, it gives me a chance to love them in a special way, and it also reminds me of the comfort I've felt in the past when I have shared struggles and asked for prayer. As the Bible says, there are times when we help carry someone else's burden, and there are times when they carry ours when we are too weak to do it for ourselves. May we remember Sis. Marge in prayer.

We are especially mindful of Bro. Jim and Sis. Kathy Schlatter and their family, as they mourn the loss of Randy Fessenden, of Leo, IN. Randy was like a son to Jim and Kathy, and lived with them for many years. He was a beloved and familiar face in our Chicago congregation, and we will dearly miss him. His passing was sudden and unexpected and a reminder to us all that each one's lifetime is in God's hands. When I heard of his passing, I tried to remember if I had talked to Randy the last time I had seen him in Chicago. My heart ached to realize that, whether I had or not, the opportunity was now gone. May we all be in-

spired to be thankful for each other, and take the time to meet and greet each other when we can.

We are thankful that we could share Communion recently. It was a blessed evening, and reminded us once again of the price paid to make our salvation possible.

I recently passed a sign that said, "Adversity doesn't build character - it reveals it." I had to smile to myself because I have found that to be true. Perhaps we all have experienced the "good times," and recognize how much easier it is to smile and share a kind word or two, and to be pleasant to our family and friends. What about in the harder times ... the "for worse?" I am sorry to say that in my harder times, suddenly all of my focus has been on myself - and that kind word is not shared and my frustration can be taken out on those I love. But maybe we can look at the hard times as a chance to refine ourselves in all aspects of our lives. Yes, there is no denying that they hurt. Sometimes, they hurt badly. However, in the Bible God speaks of creating beauty from ashes, strength for fear, gladness for mourning, and peace for despair. With the help of God, we can continue to develop a godly character, no matter in what circumstances we find ourselves.

ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK

**Pam Walder
Andrea Walder**

Our Sunday School Easter program was held on March 20 and we thank the children and their teachers for reminding us through their songs and verses of Christ's suffering on our behalf and then of His triumphant resurrection. Then, on March 23, we had the blessed opportunity of partaking of Holy Communion. We thank Elder Bro. Ted

Witzig (Morton, IL) for being here to assist in these labors.

Our new Bro. Norman Maul was baptized on March 18. We are thankful to welcome him into our brotherhood and pray that God will be near to him all the days of his life. We thank Elder Bro. Wayne Banwart (Champaign, IL) for helping with the baptism.

We were privileged to have had several other visiting ministers this past month and we thank Bros. Glenn Dill (Tremont, IL), Art Mueller (Belvidere, IL), Marvin Lemman (Bradford, IL), John Rowell (Burlington, IA), Steve Martin (Eureka, IL), Steve Pamer (Akron, OH) and Brian Waibel (Champaign, IL) for being with us and allowing themselves to be used in God's service.

Our congregation has been affected by several deaths. Our sympathy goes out to Bro. Art and Sis. LouElla Hari in the passing of her brother, Jack Morton. Our Bro. Wayne Hauptli was laid to rest this past month and we extend our sympathy and prayers to his wife, Sis. Nancy, and their children and grandchildren, Tom and Jill Kaeb and family and Duane Hauptli, as well as his sister, Sis. Shirley (Ron) Krumwiede. We also want to remember the family of Martha Reutter in her passing.

Our hospital patients this past month were Jared Wilkening (Mark and Sis. Dinah), Lydia Van Wyhe (Bro. Monty and Sis. Bethany), Bro. Art Hari (Sis. LouElla) and Sis. Lorene Rocke. We pray that God's healing hand might be upon each of them.

We rejoice with Bro. Dale and Sis. Susan Waldbeser as a precious baby girl has been added to their family. Caitlyn Marie was born on April 15 and is welcomed home by her big sisters, Brianna, Jenna and Hannah.

Thankful grandparents are Sis. Wilma and the late Bro. Charles Walder and Bro. John and Sis. Carol Waldbeser.

Note of Thanks:

We were deeply touched by the many deeds of love and kindness in remembering us with cards, gifts and flowers. A special thank you to our dear family and friends for their efforts and love involved in making our 60th wedding anniversary reception so special. May God bless each of you.

Bro. Marvin and Sis. Carolyn Hari

ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE

Rachel Schrock

During the Easter season this year we were reminded of our need to follow Jesus to Calvary before experiencing the joy of the resurrection. Jesus Christ was totally obedient to the cross though He knew the terrible price He would have to pay as shown by His prayer, "Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me; nevertheless, not my will, but thine, be done." (Luke 22:42). In repentance we, too, must crucify our will and give up the ways of the flesh that we may be raised to a newness of life in Christ.

We appreciate the reminders that are brought forth each time we assemble around God's Word and pray that our ministry can feel this gratitude. We especially wish to thank our visiting ministering brothers: Elder Bro. Ervin Knecht (Sis. Sandy, Eureka) and Bros. Greg Lehman (Sis. Mary Beth, Wolcott), Gene Lehman (Sis. Verna, Wolcott), Dale Banwart (Sis. Missy, Wolcott), Don Gudeman (Sis. Mary, LaCrosse), Brad Gudeman (Sis. Teresa, Bradford) and Rick Plattner (Sis. Mary

Ann, Fairbury).

Thankful first-time grandparents in our congregation are Kent and Sis. Beth Steffen. Ryan Adam safely arrived into this world on Good Friday. His loving parents are Bro. Clint and Sis. Kayla Metzger of Eureka. We rejoice with them and pray for God's wisdom to guide them into this new phase of their lives.

ILLINOIS, ELGIN

**Amy Gasser
Miriam Gasser**

With the return of spring and its renewal of life, we see again the keeping of God's promise in Genesis 8:22. "While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease."

In the family of Wayne and Jennifer Sauder, a new little life has begun. Aleah Christine arrived on March 17 and was welcomed by her big brother, Colton, and her sister, Ariana. Aleah's grandmothers are Sis. Gert Sauder and Dolores March.

"I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live forever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world."

John 6:51

Elder Bro. Bruce Hohulin (Goodfield, IL) read and meditated from this chapter during our Communion service on March 19. It was a sacred evening, and we are grateful that he was able to assist Bro. Ron.

After weeks of preparation, our Sunday School students presented their pieces and songs at the Easter program on March 20. May we never tire of hearing the old, old story of Jesus and His love.

On the evenings of April 10 and 17, our congregation hosted an Apostolic Christian Youth Fellowship program. Each night, students from Elgin and nine or ten other Illinois churches sang their respective songs, whose main focus was Christ's death and resurrection.

There are many who lost loved ones in the past month. The Schambach family experienced the passing of Sis. Lois and Bro. Dave Schambach (Rittman, OH), on March 17 and 23. On March 28, Bro. Oliver Weiss (Sabetha, KS) took his last breath. He also has several family members in the Elgin area. Bertha Randels, the grandmother of Patty (Tim) Kilgus, died on April 3 in Rockford. May all who are grieving find comfort in precious memories and in the eternal truths of God's Word.

After working for some time at the Magdalena orphanage in Mexico, Bro. Keith Schambach (Bro. Les and Sis. Alison) has decided to fill a more permanent position there. He asks that we remember him in prayer, as he faces not only the spiritual conflict—common to believers—but also the unique challenges of the orphanage.

Note of Thanks:

We wish to express our deep appreciation for all the cards, gifts, and best wishes on our 80th birthdays. May God bless each of you in His special way.

Bro. Ed and Sis. Jenny Schambach

ILLINOIS, EUREKA

**Cindy Stoller
Lisa Metzger**

We are thankful when we have visiting ministers to share the Word of God with our congregation. This

month we had Elder Bros. Curt Frank (LaCrosse, IN) and John Laukhuf (Latty, OH) and Bros. Bill Dotterer (Lamar, MO), Don Gudeman (LaCrosse, IN), Kent Getz (Elgin, IA) and Floyd Frieden (Elgin, IA). May the Lord provide a rich reward for their many labors on our behalf.

Our prayers are with Sis. Mabel Wittmer who has spent some time in the hospital recently. May she feel our love and the nearness of God during this time.

We were saddened by the death of three sisters from our congregation. Our prayers are with Sis. Dorothy Zimmerman, Sis. Gladys Schmidgall (Bro. Sam), Sis. Evelyn Gudeman (Bro. Don) and Bro. Walter Zimmerman as they grieve the passing of their sister, Sis. Elizabeth Zimmerman. We also extend our sympathy to the families of Sis. Laydene Hinrichsen and Sis. Viola Schweigert. In addition, Bro. Tom Stoller (Sis. Edie) has experienced the loss of his brother, Bob Stoller, of Texas. We pray the Lord will comfort the grieving and give hope to the sorrowing.

First-time parents, Bro. Clint and Sis. Kayla Metzger, are rejoicing at the birth of their son, Ryan Adam. Happy grandparents are Bro. Harlan and Sis. Shirley Metzger and Kent and Sis. Beth Steffen (Congerville, IL). May the Lord be with this couple and grant wisdom to train up their son "in the way he should go."

We've had two joyful weddings this past month. Bro. Mark Dotterer (Bro. John and Sis. Jeanne) and Sis. Kate Frank (Bro. Scott and Sis. Elaine) were united in marriage on April 10. Bro. Tyler Knapp (Bro. Steve and Sis. Lori) and Sis. Tiffany Eastman of Goodfield (Dave and Diane) began their life together on

April 24. We pray the Lord's blessings will be with these couples as they journey on through life as one.

ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY **Anna Schmidgall**

It was uplifting to hear our Sunday School remember Jesus' death and glorious resurrection as they presented to us their Easter Program.

Three dear souls gave their testimony and were baptized the weekend of March 19-20. We welcome Sis. Maggie Huber (Bro. Rich and Sis. Dawn), Sis. Bethany Edelman (Bro. Kevin and Sis. Laurie), and Bro. Jason Edelman (Bro. Walt and Sis. Rosie) to our brotherhood. May they always look to God and His Word for guidance.

Bro. Keith, Sis. Tammy Hinrichsen and family have felt God's direction to relocate to Phoenix, AZ. Though we will greatly miss their support and contribution to our congregation, we wish Sis. Tammy improved health and God's blessings upon their family as they take their place in the Phoenix church.

Bro. Grant and Sis. Amy Hartman welcome their first child, Evan Mark. Thankful grandparents are Sis. Sherrie Schlatter (Forrest, IL) and Bro. John and Sis. Rosemary Hartman.

Sharing God's Word with us were visiting Bros. Al Schambach (Remington, IN), Jerry Wagenbach (Oakville, IA) and Elder Bro. Wayne Anliker (Forrest, IL).

Our prayers for God's continued healing are with Bro. Warren Hartman, Sis. Natasha Knapp, Sis. Arlene Kilgus and Bro. Jim Walter who have spent time in the hospital.

Our Bro. Don Schneider (Sis. Sandy) suffered a serious accident

on April 6. At this time he is still hospitalized. We lift him and his dear family up to God in prayer.

ILLINOIS, FORREST **Jill Wenger** **Lori Leman**

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

1 Cor. 11:24

We were reminded of our Lord's death and suffering and the great price that was paid at Calvary as we partook of Holy Communion. We wish to sincerely thank our Elder Bros. John Laukhuf (Latty, OH) and Art Bahler (Fairbury, IL) for assisting our Bro. Wayne with this important work. May we each day continue to think of Calvary and be deeply thankful for the precious salvation that we share.

May God richly bless our Bro. Tim Mueller and Sis. Myra Steidinger as they were joined as one in the Lord on April 3. Their parents are Bro. Ronnie and Sis. Loida Mueller and Bro. Ray and Sis. Shelly Steidinger. Our Bro. Mark Schneider and Sis. Natalie Kilgus also feel God's leading that they should be one as their engagement was announced to us. Their parents are Bro. Jim and Sis. Sandra Schneider and Bro. Kevin and Sis. Denise Kilgus. May these couples continue to look to God to lead their lives.

Our congregation was blessed with two baby girls this month. Haylee Joe was welcomed into the hearts and lives of Bro. Todd and Sis. Betsy Zimmerman. Grandparents, Bro. Wayne and Sis. Nancy Zimmerman and Bro. Ray and Sis. Gladys Slagel (Fairbury, IL), are

thankful for another granddaughter. Earl and Krista Leman welcome home their first daughter, Molleigh LouAnn. Her big brothers, Collin, Drew and Corbin, are happy for a sister. Her thankful grandparents are Sis. Donna Leman (the late Bro. Robert) and Steve Edwards and Charon Brydon.

We are thankful that God is still calling souls to come in repentance. May God be with Laura Ricketts (Bro. Brian and Sis. Marie) as she makes a beginning in Him. We pray that many souls will answer the call while there is yet time of grace.

We extend our prayers and sympathy to several families in our congregation who have had a loved one pass away. Bro. Bill Aberle (the late Sis. Jean) passed away and leaves his children, Doug (Connie), Bro. Mark (Sis. Laverne), Mary Jo Rieger (Mark) and Sis. Dawn Steidinger (Bro. Randy). Sis. Robin Kupferschmid (Bro. Dean) and Vicki Schaffer (Ron) laid their mother, Anne Carlisi, to rest; and Sharon Hall, the mother of our Bro. Don Hall (Barb), passed away. May God comfort these families and fill the void that is left in their lives.

We've also had several loved ones spend some time in the hospital. We pray that God will grant His healing powers to our Bro. Herb Bachtold (Sis. Jan), Bro. Harvey Ifft (Sis. Velma Jean), Bro. Rich Rieger (the late Sis. Marian), and Sis. Dorothy Bachtold (the late Bro. Alf).

Our other visiting ministers for the month were Bros. Ken Dietz (Bradford, IL), Brian Waibel (Campaign, IL), Dale Stoller and Dennis Rassi (Fairbury, IL), Art Mueller (Belvidere, IL), Roy Koehl (Morris, MN), Mark Schmidgall (Eureka, IL) and Randy Mogler (Washington, IL). May God richly bless these brothers for their labor in His

vineyard.

ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD
Amber Grimm
Rita Bauman

“...and weep with them that weep.”

Romans 12:15

Death is the end, but also the beginning of eternal life. We extend our sympathies to several in our congregation this month. Bro. Loren Zeltwanger (Sis. Rhonda) lost his father, Bro. Kenneth Zeltwanger (Morris, MN). Sis. Corrine Roth (Roy) and Sis. Allene Steffen (Bro. Jerry) lost their brother, Bro. Ervin Marti (Oakville, IA), and Bro. Alfred Kieser (Sis. Marie) lost his sister, Gertrude Kieser. May each one feel God's hand reaching out to comfort you.

April 3 was a special day for Bro. Tim Wiegand and Sis. Christa Kaeb as they were united in marriage. We wish them God's blessings as they walk hand in hand through life. Parents are Bro. Roy and Sis. Jan Wiegand, and Bro. Dave and Sis. Brenda Kaeb, Bloomington, IL.

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

Proverbs 22:6

There is much joy in the home of Bro. Brad and Sis. Karen Wiegand with the addition of a daughter, Courtney Lynn, born on April 10. She is welcomed home by Scott, Zachary, Marisa, Whitney, Braden and Brooke. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Steve and Sis. Mary Ellen Wiegand and Bro. Mel and Sis. Marilyn Blunier.

Little Elijah Jacob filled the arms

of Bro. Dana and Sis. Mari Knapp along with Drew, Rylin and Mikya on April 20. Rejoicing grandparents are Bro. Roy and Sis. Jan Wiegand and Bro. Rick and Sis. Kathy Knapp.

Also, Bro. Branden and Sis. Julie Descarpentrie have adopted Kilyan Wei from China. Happy playmates are big sister, Ashlyn, and big brother, Devon. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Russ and Sis. Jane Descarpentrie and Bro. Ron and Sis. Barb Wiegand.

May God continue to be with you as you raise your families.

We thank the Lord for willing servants who minister the gospel to us. Much appreciation goes to Elder Bro. Ervin Knecht (Sis. Sandy, Eureka, IL), and Bros. Don Manz (Sis. Connie, Junction, OH), Clark Stoller (Sis. Cindy, Gridley, IL), Tim Hohulin (Sis. Cathy, Roanoke, IL), Dave Zehr (Sis. Vicki, Gridley, IL), and Bro. Mark Zimmerman (Sis. Cheryl, Eureka, IL).

“Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.”

Proverbs 3:5-6

Sis. Tiffany Eastman and Bro. Tyler Knapp (Eureka, IL) were united in holy matrimony on April 24. Their parents are Dave and Diane Eastman and Bro. Steve and Sis. Lori Knapp (Eureka, IL). May God direct their paths together in the coming years.

Among those receiving medical attention in the last month were Sis. Kathy Zimmerman (Bro. Morrie), and Sis. Elsie Hohulin. We pray that the Lord will strengthen you daily as you seek His will.

May God bless our high school graduates: Cody Bauman (Ron and

Diane), Sis. Holly Hinrichsen (Bro. Mike and Sis. Gerri), Wendy Hohulin (Bro. Bruce and Sis. Charlene), Sam Rokey (Bro. Ben and Sis. Shelley), Teddi Taufer (Bro. Ted and Sis. Kenda).

We want to thank Sis. Heather Hohulin for her many years writing the Silver Lining. May God bless her for her willingness to serve. Sis. Amber Grimm has accepted the responsibilities to take Sis. Heather's place.

Note of Thanks:

Thank you so much for the many cards, flowers and prayers during my hospitalization and recovery. I am very grateful and thankful. May the Lord bless you all.

Your Least One,
Sis. Minnie Grusy

We would like to thank everyone for all the prayers, cards and visits and expressions of love shown to us during Verla's foot injury and Dan's stroke and consequent therapy. We are truly thankful for all our loved ones, friends and church family. May God bless each one.

Bro. Dan and Sis. Verla Wiegand

ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY
Perry A. Klopfenstein

On Sunday, April 24, the marriage engagement of Bro. Don Stoller to Sis. Maryanne (Leman) Klaus was made known. She is from Morton. Thanks be to God for bringing these souls together, after both had lost their mates.

Several in our congregation are deserving of prayer due to illnesses: Bros. Larry Knapp, Ralph Klopfenstein, and David Wettstein (who awaits heart surgery). Two are recovering from surgery: Sisters Caroline Yoder and RaeJean Kuntz.

Sis. Winifred Schlipf is recovering from treatment. Sis. Bertha Funk is a shut-in.

Our prayers are with Bro. Jerry and Sis. Ada Christensen over the death of his sister, Kay; and with Sis. Katie Martin and family over the loss of her mother, Sis. Irene Aberle, of Sabetha, KS.

We are happy for our spring graduates: 8th Grade - Danny Kaupp, Larissa Kiefer, Amanda Poppen, Sarah Ringger, Kaitlin Schrock, Jacob Schlipf, Cole Stoller, and Preston Klopfenstein. High School - Sis. Amanda Hodel, Jordan Meiss, Bro. David Prevo, Sis. Natalie Stoller, Justin Wiegand, Sis. Bethany Witzig, and Sis. Danielle Wolf. College - Sis. Holly Stoller (ICC), Sis. Candice Dohman (ISU), Sis. Katrina Stoller (U. of I.), Sis. Dianna Vercler (U. of I.), Sis. Tricia Hodel (ISU), and Justin Steffen (ISU).

Cathy Miller is engaged to marry Brandon Jones of Elmwood. Her parents are Bro. Orlan and Sis. Carol Miller. He is the son of Skip and Carol Jones, Emington. They are planning a June 11 wedding.

Justin Steffen plans to marry Danielle Miller of Fairbury on October 1. He is the son of Bro. Mark and Sis. Kanda Steffen. Her parents are Richard and Michelle Miller of Cropsey; and the late Susan Miller..

Dax Dalton Gentes was born on April 5. He is the son of Chris and Heather (Schlipf) Gentes. Grandparents are Bro. Dale and Sis. Vicki Schlipf, Gridley.

A second child was born to Bro. Jon and Sis. Ashley Baner on April 12. She was named Elle Corrine, and has a brother, Graham, age 2. Grandparents are Bro. Steve and Sis. Donnalou Baner and Bro. Ron and Sis. Gail Romersberger, Gridley. Great-grandparents are Bro. Bill and Sis. Lucille

Romersberger, Gridley, Bro. Wes and Sis. Mildred Knapp, Goodfield, Richard and Janet Baner, Eureka, and Betty Hari, Cissna Park. Great-great-grandparents are Charles and Mary Baner, Decatur, Esther Eastman, Eureka, and Sis. Sarah Frank, Morton.

Kelsie Kay Schlipf was born on April 22. Her parents are Bro. Jason and Sis. Jamie Schlipf. Siblings are Kayle, 5, and Kollin, 2. Grandparents are Bro. John M. and Sis. Jill Schlipf and Bro. Rollie and Sis. Carol Rumbold, Roanoke. Great-grandparents are Bro. Ralph and Sis. Winifred Schlipf, Gridley, Sis. Mae Roche, Roanoke, and Sis. Elna Nussbaum, Fairbury.

ILLINOIS, MORTON

Julie Bahr Christie Zeller

We were privileged to have our Memorandum exhortation on March 16. Elder Bro. Wayne Banwart (Sis. Charlen, Champaign, IL) was here to assist Bro. Ted in reading the Memorandum letter from the Elder body.

On Palm Sunday we once again enjoyed our Easter Program of song and worship telling of Christ's death and resurrection. Bro. Greg Rassi (Sis. Carla, Chicago, IL) was here to share the Word with us.

Our Easter Sunrise Service was held at the Fellowship Hall on Easter Sunday. Many had a blessed morning of worship and a delicious breakfast. Later, Bro. Dean Steffen (Sis. Carol, Belvidere, IL) proclaimed the Word at our morning Easter service.

Our Monthly hymn sing was held at the Fellowship Hall on April 2. Psalm 100 (Bluffton, IN) were our guests and we enjoyed much song and fellowship.

We have three dear sisters who were selected to be Sunday School teachers. They are Sis. Wendy Braker (Bro. Todd), Sis. Stephanie Heinold (Bro. Clint), and Sis. Janice Schick (Bro. Keith). May God bless these willing servants as they teach our youth about Christ.

A new baby girl, Naomi Tasha, has blessed the home of our Bro. Tom and Sis. Tasha Steffen. Big brothers, Noah and Oliver, welcome this precious little one home also.

Our Family Worship was held April 9 by our Bro. Ralph Garber. His topic was "I Am the True Vine", from John 15:1-14. Our Christian lives reflect those of plants as long as we use gentle pruning and nurturing in our lives to bring forth much Fruit of the Spirit.

Bro. Merle Getz (Tremont, IL) passed away. He is a brother to our Sis. Bernice (Bro. Jake) Plattner.

Sis. Irene Aberle (Sabetha, KS) passed away. She is the mother to Jane Aberle who worships with us.

Kenneth Trimble (Mackinaw, IL) passed away. He is the father to our Sis. Margie (Bro. Roger) Ackerman.

Sis. Maxine Schmidt passed away April 2. She is the wife of our Bro. Herman Schmidt and a sister to our Sis. Bobbie (Bro. Ed) Roecker.

May God comfort these dear families.

Our Communion service was held April 9. We were privileged to have Elder Bro. Ron Messner (Sis. Pam, Washington, IL) here with us to help. May God bless these dear brothers for all their endless labors of love.

ILLINOIS, PEORIA

Lou and Marjean Lonteen

Jesus said, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and

with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

Matthew 22:37-40

Palm Sunday, March 20, was filled with joy, thankfulness, and peace. Following afternoon services, the brotherhood was served Holy Communion by Elder Bro. Chuck Hemmer and Ordained Deacon, Bro. Ken Hoerr. Our Heavenly Father communed with us. He humbles and blesses us as we sit with Him and then as we walk with Him each new day He shares life with us.

Good Friday services were held on March 25. Easter sunrise services were held at the fellowship hall. Hymns of praise were sung by the choir and the congregation. Bro. Mike Rieker shared in the worship services. God has blessed us all so richly with the gift of salvation due to His life, death, and resurrection. On March 16, Elder Bro. Chuck Hemmer and Elder Bro. Jim Plattner (Princeville) brought the conclusions of the Brotherhood Conference to our congregation. We appreciate your love and care.

On April 3, the Mortonaires came to sing hymns of praise at our hymn sing on Sunday evening. What a blessing to sing and to praise the Lord together. We appreciate your beautiful worship service in song.

On April 6, Bro. Ron Kipfer (Bluffton, IN) spoke at our family night services. We always learn to love the Lord more with His teachings.

On April 7, Holy Communion was held at the Skylines Home. What a blessing for those unable to come to church for these sacred services.

On April 10, Bro. Marc Knepp and Sis. Stacie Rumbold were united in Holy Matrimony. Parents are: Bro. Rich and Sis. Janet Knepp (Roanoke) and Bro. Bob and Sis. Marge Rumbold. Rejoice in the Lord and gives thanks always. We're thankful Bro. Stephen Baner (Gridley) was our guest minister for this occasion.

On April 16, our congregation heard the testimonies of four dear souls who have turned their lives over to the Lord, repented for their sins asking God for His forgiveness, sought peace with God and man, and desired to be sealed with the fullness of His Holy Spirit in their hearts and lives until death. Sis. Alyssa Leuthold (Bro. Steve and Sis. Lois), Sis. Cori Hoerr (Bro. Dan and Sis. Kayla), Sis. Polly Hoerr (Bro. Carl Hoerr II and Sis. Debby), and Sis. Angela Weber (Michael and Sis. Janet) are our new sisters-in-faith. We rejoice with the angels in heaven that they were pulled from the clutches of darkness and have become heirs of the Light. Guest ministers were: Elder Bro. Jim Plattner (Princeville), Bro. Dewayne Dill (Minneapolis, MN), and Bro. Erik Givens (Princeville).

Congratulations to Bro. Brandon and Sis. Cassie (Hoerr) Schock on the birth of their new little son, Scout Walker Schock. Creighton and Saige Rose welcome their new brother with open hearts and arms.

Congratulations to Sig Schubert and Wilma Macklin. They were united in marriage on March 31.

We're rejoicing over dear souls who have come repenting. David Sauder III (Bro. David II and Sis. Rachel), Jenna Rieker (Bro. Jim and Sis. Jane) and Martney Stickling (Harold and Marilyn Stickling). You've made the most important decision of your life. God will lead and

guide you into all truth as you ask continue to ask and seek Him and His will for your lives.

Special healing prayer would be appreciated by: Sis. Karen Dunbar, Bro. Jim Hoerr, Bro. Bob Joos, Sis. Kathleen Klopfenstein, and Bro. Ivan Thomas. God is an ever-present help in time of need. Our congregation remembers you in our prayers. May He be very near to your hearts in your health struggles.

Note of Thanks:

I appreciated all the prayers offered in my behalf when I had back surgery on March 1. Thank you for your love, concern, cards, etc. I love you all.

Emily Tanner

Jesus said, "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

ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE

**Kara Blunier
Vera Baer**

We appreciate the labor of love from our visiting brothers. March 19, Elder Bro. Bob Walder (Congerville, IL) was here to assist our Elder with Communion. Other visiting ministers have been Elder Bro. Mark Streitmatter (Bloomington, IL), Bro. Fred Witzig (Indianapolis, IN) and Bro. Steve Ringger (Bluffton North, IN). May each of them and their families feel a blessing from God.

Crystal Knobloch (Bro. Marvin and Sis. Dianne) was united in marriage to Jason Cresto (Bartonville, IL), son of Jim and Claire Cresto. May God be with them in the build-

ing of their home.

What a miracle from God is a new-born child! Sis. Loretta Rumbold and Richard and Mary McIntire have been blessed with another precious grandson, born to Jeff and Beth Rumbold (Peoria, IL). They named their firstborn child Drew Alan. As they love their son, may they also feel God's love.

Sis. Edith Martin was in the hospital for a short time but is home again. Sis. Mary Lou Streitmatter had outpatient surgery and is with her daughter in Bloomington, IL, for recuperation. May God's healing hand be over each of them.

"In sorrow and pain, thy trust do retain in Jesus the merciful Saviour." (Zion's Harp #46). There were two deaths this month. Kenneth Siebenthal's funeral was April 5. Bro. Eugene (Sis. Kay) Siebenthal and Sis. Martha Jane Siebenthal will miss their brother. His nieces and nephews will also feel a void at his loss. Viola Streitmatter's funeral was April 16. Her sister is Sis. Sadie Streitmatter (Peoria Nursing Home). Likewise, Viola had many nieces and nephews that loved her, helped her and will miss her.

Notes of Thanks:

We would like to thank everyone for the many cards, gifts and well wishes we received for our 60th wedding anniversary. All of our friendships have blessed our lives. May God bless all of you.

Love,

Bro. Nick and Sis. Gladys Knobloch

The family of Kenneth Siebenthal wishes to express their sincere appreciation for the love and sympathy shown to them since the passing of their loved one. Our sincere thanks to each one for the cards,

food, and flowers. May God bless each one as He alone can.

Sis. Martha Jane Siebenthal

Bro. Eugene, Sis. Kay Siebenthal and family

ILLINOIS, ROANOKE

**Doris Fischer
Dee Fehr**

The thief in penitence
Is pardoned ere he dies:
"Today shalt thou yet be,
With Me in Paradise."

Zion's Harp #89

The two crosses alongside Jesus on Calvary represent the two choices we have concerning Christ. We can acknowledge Him as our Saviour as did the thief who came to repentance, or we can reject Him, as did the thief who died in his sins ... The choice is ours. As we gathered together to observe Holy Communion on Palm Sunday, we were encouraged to strengthen our relationships with our brothers and sisters in Christ, and to esteem one another higher than ourselves. Many thanks to Elder Bro. Bruce Hohulin (Goodfield) for so willingly lending of himself to assist in our observance of the Lord's Supper.

"And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity." (I Corinthians 13:13). On March 20, Sis. Katie Hodel (Bro. Steve and Sis. Joyce) and Bro. Tony Mueller (Bro. Jim and Sis. Jan) were united as husband and wife. We are glad that Bro. Jaye Rinkenberger (Goodfield) was able to be with us on this joyous wedding day. April 10 was the wedding date for Bro. Marc Knepp (Bro. Rich and Sis. Janet) and Sis. Stacie Rumbold (Bro. Bob and Sis. Marge) in Peoria. Our prayer for these newly married

couples is that each day anew they will invite Christ into their homes as the Head of their households.

At our April Family Worship, Bro. Justin Koch (Washington) spoke on wrestling with God. Referring to God's promises to Jacob in Genesis 28:14-15, we would do well to remember that we must have faith in God's promises, as He cannot and will not violate the promises He has made to us.

"Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied." (I Peter 1:2). On April 16, four dear souls testified of the redeeming grace of God which they have received and the peace which has been multiplied to them. We welcome Olivia Leman (Bro. Ben and Sis. Janet), Leah Bertschi (Bro. Rich and Sis. Bev), Erin Hodel (Bro. Brad and Sis. Patty) and Nate Hodel (Bro. Brent and Sis. Marge) as new lambs in the flock, and pray they will always remain pliable and tractable in God's hands. We were blessed to have Elder Bro. Wayne Banwart (Champaign) and Bro. Paul Zimmerman (Forrest) with us that weekend.

"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."

On April 3, Bro. Harvey Pfister passed from this finite life into the eternal life spoken of by our Lord in John 11:25-26. He is survived by his daughter, LuAnne (James) Diener, and one brother and seven sisters: Bro. Marvin (Sis. Ila) Pfister, Sis. Irma Luginbuhl, Sis. Mabelle (Bro. Grant) Rauhaus, Sis. Pearl (Bro. Robert) Miller, and Sisters Ann, Lois, Dorothy and Leona Pfister.

After suffering numerous physical infirmities for many years, Al-

bert Prestin laid aside this earthly life on April 2. Many in Roanoke had come to know Al as he faithfully assembled with us each Sunday over the past several years as his health permitted.

March 21 was an eventful day for two families in our congregation. Amanda Grace joined the family of Tom and Sis. Marsha Durand and siblings, Brittany, Brandon, Colton, Rachel, Seth and Eli. Don and Sis. Helen Brown are Amanda's grandparents. Bro. Chad and Sis. Brenda Martin's new son, Brock Andrew, has three big brothers, Austin, Drew and Blake, to welcome him home. Brock's grandparents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Chris Hartter and Bro. Harvey and Sis. Sharon Martin (Washington).

We are mindful of those who have spent time in the hospital recently, including Bro. Dick (Sis. Ann) Hoffman, Sis. Sharon (Bro. Larry) Neukomm and David Stoller (Bro. Ed and Sis. Boni). Let us continue to remember in prayer all those who may be experiencing health problems at this time.

Note of Thanks:

We wish to thank everyone for the prayers, memorials, love and support shown to us during the past months and upon the death of our beloved husband, father, grandfather and great - grandfather. May God's abundant blessings be yours.

The family of Bro. Harlow Blunier

ILLINOIS, TREMONT
Heather Rassi
Teresa Rowell

"The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof..."

Psalm 24:1

Oh, the beautiful signs of spring. Everything is coming up new and bright. It makes me think of how God renews the earth and our hearts. We had the wonderful privilege of taking Communion with the brethren on Palm Sunday weekend. What a blessing it is to drink the cup and break the bread and really remember and be so thankful for what our Lord did for us. We also enjoyed the annual Easter program on Palm Sunday evening. The children were so precious as they sang their praises to God.

We were privileged to have four visiting ministers with us this month. Elder Bro. Tom Stock (Cissna Park, IL), Bros. James Knapp (Congerville, IL), Dennis Rassi (Fairbury, IL) and Trent Meiss (Eureka, IL) preached God's truth in sincerity to us.

Several families have been blessed with new babies. Bro. Jeff and Sis. Carrie Rocke, Christina and Kaia welcome home their first boy, Remington Jay. Bro. Larry and Sis. Barb Reinbeck and Bro. Curt and Sis. Beth Rocke (Eureka, IL) are happy grandparents. Bro. Nathan and Sis. Jennifer Fuller, Alayna and Alli are thankful for the safe arrival of their first boy, Ty Nathan. Excited grandparents are Bro. Fred and Sis. Jeannette Beutel and Dave and Jackie Fuller (Tremont, IL). Bro. Galen and Sis. Betty Rocke welcome Emily Marie into their home. Grandparents to this little one are Sis. Kathy Rocke and Bro. Art and Sis. Eula Mogler (West Bend, IA). Bro. Maurice and Sis. Marge Schaefer are happy grandparents of Julia Ryan. Her parents are Ryan and Cindy Keith (Elmhurst, IL).

There are several couples planning spring and summer weddings. Joni Pflederer (Bro. Steve and Sis.

Barb) will marry Austin Parker. Amanda Reinbeck (Bro. Larry and Sis. Barb) and Mark Nickles are planning a May wedding. Ashleigh Stoecker (Darryl and Sis. Peggy) is marrying Keith Brown. Stephanie Beutel (Bro. Dean and Sis. Karen) and Nathan Ramquist are to be married in June. It is our hope and prayer that these couples are blessed by God throughout their lives.

It is with saddened hearts that we remember those who have lost loved ones. Bro. Merle Getz was laid to rest this past month. He leaves behind his wife, Sis. Iva, and four sisters, Bernice Plattner, Marian Lutz (Stowe, OH), Glenna Pfister (Lexington, NE) and Gail Love (Marquette Heights, IL). Also grieving are the family of Sis. Viola Schweigert (Eureka). She leaves behind Sis. Vera (Walt) Aberle, Sis. Eunice Rowell, Bro. Chris (Ida) Schweigert, and Sis. Til Koch, all of Tremont. We also sympathize with Bro. Jim and Sis. Lee Pflederer, Bro. Chris and Sis. Ruth Pflederer, and Sis. Glenna Pflederer on the death of their brother - in - law, Larry Hild (Tremont).

We had a wonderful weekend, also, as two dear souls gave their testimonies and were baptized. Elder Bro. Art Bahler (Fairbury, IL) was here to help our Elder Bro. Charles Sauder. We welcome Sis. Rebecca Bolliger (Bro. Tom and Sis. Jane) and Sis. Sarah Frank (Bro. Doug and Sis. Cheri) into the fold. May they always feel God's presence as they continue on their journey toward Zion.

Bro. Emil Aberle (Sis. Wilma) spent some time in the hospital and is now home and recovering.

ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON**Barb Banwart****Nancy Knepp**

What glorious April weather we have been having! All of the new growth springing to life reminds us of God's promise of new life through Christ Jesus. As our Sunday School classes presented the Easter account in song and verse, it reminded me of a sister's experience teaching it to the Japanese kindergarten students. They were so grieved when they heard about Jesus' death, because they had not yet heard "the rest of the story". How excited and thrilled they were to learn that Jesus lives! Is He living in your heart today?

Surely, Bro. Ron Kellenberger has been given a "new life". Our congregation is thanking God for answered prayer as Bro. Ron recovers from liver transplant surgery. Even as we rejoice with Bro. Ron and his family, we sorrow with the family of the soul that was taken to the life beyond. We are grateful that Sis. Ann Meiss is recovering nicely from her recent knee surgery.

Our prayers are also with Sis. Sally Fritz (Bro. Ed) and family. She is recovering from surgery for a broken shoulder and ankle, the result of a bad fall.

We also sympathize with Sis. Martha Moser and Bro. Ed Fritz on the loss of their aunt, Sis. Irene Aberle, of Sabetha.

We will miss Bro. Todd and Sis. Nicole Steffen, Adelayde and Amelia. They recently moved to Phoenix, but we hope they come back to visit often!

Bro. Darren Plattner (Sis. Sue, Champaign, IL) was our visiting minister this month for our Wednesday evening topical Bible study.

INDIANA, BLUFFTON**Amber Steffen****Elizabeth Frauhiger**

The month of April has been an eventful one filled with many joyful announcements. We are so thankful to see God working in the lives of so many individuals. Our congregation has been blessed with three new converts, Joel Fiechter (Bro. Mark and Sis. Shelly), Shawn Longenberger (Bro. Terry and Sis. Twila) and Alex Reinhard (Bro. Marvin and Sis. Kim). Our sincere prayers go with them as they face many new and wonderful changes in their lives.

We also have five converts that have announced their preparation for baptism. Amber DeHoff (Scott and Sis. Rita), Bethany Gerber (Bro. Dean and Sis. Jaci), Jordan Stroup (Bro. Joe and Sis. Julie), Danny and Cassie Bertsch (Bro. Mike and Sis. Carmon) have confessed to complete peace with God and man. We joyfully anticipate their testimony of faith and baptism on May 1.

Bro. Doug and Sis. Jill Fiechter announced the engagement of their daughter, Sis. Janel, to Bro. Blare Gerber (Bro. Rex and Sis. Lavon) on April 10. We rejoice with them, realizing that God is working in wonderful ways in their lives. Our sincerest prayers go with this couple as they face a new life together.

Our dear Sis. Marjorie Ringger (Bro. Reuben, dec.) was laid to rest on April 4. We are prayerful for her son, Phil, and his wife, Becky, in their time of loss. Also, Clara Fiechter passed from this life on April 10. She was the widow of Dan and a sister to Sis. Nina Aschliman. During these struggling times, we certainly extend our deepest prayers for the remaining family.

Our church has also petitioned our Heavenly Father for His protection as Bros. Eric Tonner and Les

Gerber travel to Haiti for a ten day mission trip.

April 3 marked another wonderful Easter program at Bluffton. As the children sang about Christ's greatest sacrifice, the message came forth in great clarity. We are so thankful to all those who put forth so much effort to make these programs a great success.

Loving Shepard International, a program created to assist families learning about adoption, had an auction on April 8, which will benefit so many. We are thankful to all those who put forth loving efforts in the many different facets of the auction and also in LSI's other aspects.

On April 3, the congregation welcomed Bro. Jim and Sis. Pam Agler's newly adopted two year old, Nathaniel. Happy grandparents are Bro. Alan and Sis. Sheryl Ringger. Our prayers extend to this loving family and the new adjustments to be made.

Several new additions came to the Bluffton congregation this month. Bro. Grayson and Sis. Tara Reinhard (Toledo) gave birth to little Madalynn Paige on March 22. Her loving grandparents in Bluffton are Bro. Doyle and Sis. Jan Reinhard.

March 23 marked the arrival of Melanie Idalynne, the new daughter of Bro. Ron and Sis. Nichole Aschliman. Her big brother, Trevor, and grandparents, Bro. Ralph and Sis. Rosie Aschliman, also welcomes Melanie.

Marvin and Sis. Brittany Isch welcomed their new daughter, Ivory Dawn, on April 3. Along with her brothers, Braden and Dustin, and sisters, JaNon and Kyra, her grateful grandparents, Bro. Stan and Sis. Genny Isch, and Bro. Ed and Sis. Rhonda Maller, also greet little Ivory.

Ethan Blaine was born to Bro. Blaine and Sis. Tonya Isch on April 10. Little Ethan's loving grandparents are Bro. Les and Sis. Ann Isch, and Bro. Bruce and Sis. Mary Raber.

On April 12, Bro. Krent and Sis. Elizabeth Frauhofer welcomed their first little girl, Riley Ann. Her thankful grandparents are Bro. Dean and Sis. Holly Frauhofer and Bro. Derryll and Sis. Peggy Aschliman. Our warmest congratulations go to all these new parents with our prayers for the future of these precious little souls.

Many thanks come from Bro. Dan Kieser, Dave Clark (Bro. Dick's son), and Bro. Bob and Sis. Louise Reimschisel for the many prayers and notes of encouragement on their behalf during their times of trial.

Finally, April 17 was a blessed day as we were graced with two visiting ministers willing to share the good message with us. Bro. Art Ingold (Sis. Bonnie, Rittman, OH) and Bro. Dan Dubach (Sis. Bethany, Prescott, AZ) have our grateful thanks for their labors of love.

April 17 was also the wedding day of a dear couple, Bro. Quinn and Sis. Sarah Fiechter. Their parents, Bro. Jim and Sis. Jenny Fiechter and Bro. Jon and Sis. Juli Kaehr, are so very thankful for the wonderful blessings that this marriage has brought. Our sincerest prayers go with this new couple and their life together.

As the many changes come to the Bluffton congregation, we look forward to the many blessings they will bring with them. God's grace has certainly been evident in the last month, with several opportunities to be on our knees before the Father.

"Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all

saints."

Ephesians 6:18

**INDIANA
BLUFFTON NORTH
Tiffani Schladenhauffen
Darren Drayer**

We at Bluffton North recently joined the angelic hosts in celebrating the repentance of Cecily Kaehr. She is the daughter of Bro. Doug and Sis. Tami Kaehr.

Besides bringing souls to Him, God has also been calling souls together: Bro. Tyson Campbell (Mike and Sis. Janet Campbell, Leo, IN) and Sis. Rebekah Clough (John and Ruth Clough and the late Sis. Cathy Clough) were engaged this month.

We rejoice with Bro. Bob and Sis. Mary Honegger on the birth of their grandson, Johann Robert. He was born on December 5, 2004, to Rob and Herty Honegger (Columbus, OH).

Bro. Dave and Sis. Cathy Bussel are also jovial grandparents. Their granddaughter, Peri Michelle, was born to Bro. Travis and Sis. Missy Bussel (Leo, IN) on March 28.

Bro. Ed and Sis. Rhonda Maller are another set of happy grandparents. Their granddaughter, Ivory Dawn, was born on April 3 to Marvin and Sis. Brittney Isch (Bluffton).

Bro. Don Isch (Sis. Judy) spent time in the hospital this month.

We sympathize with Bro. Kenny and Sis. Roberta Steffen, Bro. Vernon and Sis. Mary Ann Kaehr, and Sis. Lucille Borrer on the death of their sister, Hilda Robinson. We also extend condolences to Bro. Kenny and Sis. Roberta Steffen in the death of Roberta's father, Howard Holloway.

**INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE
Jessica Murray**

What a blessing it was to gather on Good Friday and hear how Jesus went to the cross and died for our sins, and then to gather again on Sunday, Easter morning and hear how He rose again. Our children shared with us in the afternoon through verse and song what they have been learning about Jesus and how He died for our sins and arose again.

We send our prayers to the loved ones that have lost a dear soul this month and look forward to the day we can meet again in heaven. Cyndi Daniels laid to rest her father, Dewey Rayner. We are seeking God's strength for you during this time. Mary Ann Sanders, sister to the Ward family has also gone on to meet her Maker. May the Lord give you all peace and healing.

Sis. Amelia Schini has spent some time in the hospital this past month and is still battling for more strength daily. We will continue to pray for His healing hand. Our dear friend, Jim Tucker (wife Nadine), has also been in the hospital battling cancer. Our prayers are with you and your loved ones as the Great Physician is the only one in control. We pray for the doctors that they may seek the wisdom of the Lord in their healing practices.

"Humility" was the topic of the Bible Study that Bro. Alan Schambach (Remington, IN) shared with us. Being humble is a challenge we all can struggle with daily and have to pray and seek it in our lives. Thank you, Bro. Alan, and may the Lord greatly bless you and your family.

We had the opportunity to host the Jr. High/High School weekend and were greatly blessed in doing so. Thanks to all who took the time to

pray and prepare for the teachings and lessons they shared with our children. May they take what they learned and share it with others. A special thanks to Bro. Ted Steffen (Sis. Sandra, Alto, MI) for sharing the Word with us on Sunday. May the Lord continue to bless you and your family.

As we come into this busy time of the year for farmers and families, I would like to pass along a poem I came across to keep our children in mind.

To My Child

My hands were busy through the day,
I didn't have much time to play
The little games you asked me to,
I didn't have much time for you.
I'd wash your clothes, I'd sew and cook,
But when you'd bring your picture book
and asked me please to share your fun,
I'd say, "A little later, son."
I'd tuck you in all safe at night
and hear your prayers, turn out the light,
then tiptoe softly to the door...
I wish I'd stayed a minute more.
For life is short, the years rush past...
A little child grows up so fast.
No longer are they at your side,
with precious secrets to confide.
The picture books are put away,
there are no longer games to play,
No goodnight kisses, no prayers to hear,
that all belongs to yesteryear.
My hands once busy, now are still.
The days are long and hard to fill.
I wish I could go back and do
the little things you asked me to!

INDIANA, INDIANAPOLIS

**Sandy Lichtle
Debbie Anliker**

Warm greetings from Indianapolis.

We have been richly blessed and are enjoying beautiful spring days. It happens each spring, and each year it is encouraging to watch the Lord wake the earth from it's winter rest.

On March 19, we had the privilege of sharing Holy Communion. We are thankful our Elder Bro. Wayne Banwart (Sis. Charlen, Champaign) and Elder Bro. Lynn Stieglitz (Sis. Leonda, Leo) traveled to spend this evening with us.

Bro. Greg Lehman (Sis. Mary Beth, Wolcott) was here to share God's Word on Palm Sunday morning. We trust the Lord to bless them for their service to us. That afternoon the Sunday school students brought the Easter message to us in verse and song. Many thanks to the children and teachers for sharing with us.

We are sad to report that Bro. Barry and Sis. Myra Beer are moving from central Indiana to central Texas. We will miss them, but know that they will be warmly welcomed in Texas. May the Lord continue to guide and direct them.

We are happy to report two loved ones, Erica and Rachel Witzig (Bro. Fred and Sis. Nancy), are seeking the Lord in repentance. What a blessing it is to seek the Lord in our youth.

We welcomed Sis. Emily Bollier (Bro. Ron and Sis. Edie) home for a few days. We enjoyed hearing how the Lord has been using her in Magdalena. Our prayers go with her as she returns to Mexico for several more weeks.

"Lead me, O Lord, in thy righ-

teousness ... make thy way straight before my face."

Psalms 5:8

INDIANA, LACROSSE

**Shirley Frank
Cathy Nuest**

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

We had the privilege of having Bro. Mark Masters (Mansfield, OH) share the weekend of March 19-20 with us. He aided Elder Bro. Curt as we partook of Holy Communion. It is such a blessing in the way our churches partake. We come together as one body, in quietness and holiness, and are able to feel and experience that miracle of great love that was given through our Saviour Jesus Christ. It was indeed a special evening shared with our Lord. Sunday, after church services, our Sunday School children read poems, sang songs, and recited their memorized pieces telling us of the great miracle that took place on Easter morn. We give a special thank you to our children for all their hard work. I think sometimes we forget how anxious children can feel when they stand before a large group of people to recite their pieces. They did an excellent job and it certainly touched our hearts.

A new little life has come to the household of Bro. Glen and Sis. Kerri (Goodwin) Gudeman. They have now experienced the joy of bringing their first child, Abrey Mae, home. May they always look to the Lord for the many decisions that they will face as parents. The happy

grandparents are Bro. Don and Sis. Mary Gudeman and Jerry and Chris Goodwin (Wanatah, IN).

We rejoice with Bro. Gene and Sis. Evie Heinold on the engagement of their daughter, Rachel, to Jeremy Westhuif. Jeremy's mother is Ardis Westhuif (Phoenix, AZ). The couple plan to reside in Phoenix and are planning a September wedding. We pray that the Lord will bless their lives together.

We share our sympathy with Sis. Carolyn Levy in the death of her brother, Fred Reber.

There were some who were hospitalized this month and continue to need our prayers. Sis. Erma Moser has been in and out of the hospital. Bro. Bill Frank had some trouble with his hip and had to receive added surgery. He is recovering very nicely. We are thankful for the healing power of the Lord. Sis. Lucille Nuest suffered a fall and had to be taken to the hospital. We are thankful that she had no serious injuries.

Our congregation had the blessed opportunity on a Wednesday evening to come together to see and hear what the Lord has done at a deaf village in Jamaica. There were four students and their principle. Sign language can truly be beautiful when glorifying the Lord. It brought tears to many eyes. All four students had come to know the love and peace of the Lord and were very appreciative for all that had been done for them. There was indeed a common bond of love that we felt with them. We thank them for giving to us and may the Lord continue to bless the efforts done overseas.

We had visiting ministers this month and wish to thank them for their service. These brothers were Bro. Ned Stoller (Alto, MI) and Bro. Jim Butikofer (Iowa City, IA).

Let us all pray for the brethren

that will be in the fields during this planting season. May the Lord keep each one safe and out of harms way. Be careful, brothers, and may the Lord bless your labors.

INDIANA, LEO Ethelyn Schlatter

Our Easter program was March 20. It was a blessed time of sharing and praising the suffering, bleeding and resurrected Saviour.

The following Wednesday evening, Elder Bro. John Laukhuf (Latty, OH) helped Elder Bro. Lynn serve the Lord's Supper. It was an impressive evening and we truly appreciate his willingness to serve.

On Good Friday, we again met for services. At the close we were asked to pray for Randy Fessenden who had surgery that afternoon for a life-threatening situation. Sunday morning we gathered at the Fellowship Center for Sunrise Service. After a few hymns, Elder Bro. Lynn announced he was going to the hospital to be with Randy as he was dying. Our service was very sobering.

Randy Fessenden, 33, died on March 28. His memorial service was April 1 at the Valparaiso Apostolic Christian Church. Bro. Brace Wieland and Elder Bro. Lynn Stieglitz officiated. Our sympathy is extended to Bro. Jerry and Sis. Rachel Fessenden, Dustin and Mandi Donovan, Bro. Jim and Sis. Kathy Schlatter of Chicago, with whom he lived for seven years. He is also survived by his father, Phil Fessenden, another brother, Erik Donovan, and three grandparents, including Nancy Costello whom he often visited. Our hope is in the words of Jesus in Matthew 10:32, "Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven."

Sympathy is extended to Sis. Pat Fischer in the passing of her brother, Robert Stoller.

Our prayers are with Sis. Pat Fischer for a quick recovery from knee surgery.

March 28 was a happy day when Peri Michelle arrived to bless the home of Bro. Travis and Sis. Melissa Bussel. Her brothers are Kaden and Krew. Grandparents are Bro. Jeff and Sis. Debbie Frieden (Lamont-Gridley, KS), Bro. Dave and Sis. Cathy Bussel of Bluffton, IN. Congratulations to all.

On April 14, "Hands of Praise", five deaf children from Jamaica, presented a signing musical for us. May God's blessings be on the CCCD ministry.

Elder Bro. Lynn Stieglitz's message on April 10 was on Eph. 4:1-12, followed by the announcement that Bro. Trent and Sis. Heidi Schrock were chosen to serve in the ministry.

Bro. William Waibel (Sis. Carol, Bay City, MI) and Bro. Trent Schrock shared in the ministry on April 17. We appreciated the Waibel's visit. Bro. Trent read from Ephesians and committed to be a slave for Jesus Christ, challenging us all to join him as a slave for Jesus "For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ." (Eph. 4:12).

We welcome Sis. Christy Wiegand (Goodfield, IL) who is now working at Gateway Woods.

INDIANA, MILFORD Carol Haab Carlton Beer

We had our Easter program on Palm Sunday. In addition to hearing our younger students recite poems and sing hymns, we had several of our college friends take part.

On Easter morning, we had our Sunrise Service at our Fellowship Hall. Several of our sisters joined our Jr. High and High School students to form a special group to sing hymns to us. It was also gratifying to hear our retired Elder Bro. Bud give a short message.

Another highlight of the month was the visiting families of Bro. Ryan Steiner and Sis. Julie Hartzler. We had a supper and a singing shower for Bro. Ryan and Sis. Julie. We wish them many blessings in their new life together. They plan to live in the Rittman, OH, area.

On this same Sunday, Bro. Fred Domka (Mansfield, OH) brought us the Scripture message. He talked about our hope of salvation and the importance of unity in the church.

Our Elder Bro. Bill Schlatter brought us a topical Bible Study on the qualifications of a minister. It was concluded that no brother meets all qualifications, but by the grace of God and the ardent prayers of the congregation, they can be useful vessels in God's service.

In doing research for our 100th anniversary of our Milford Church, it was revealed that we have brothers or sisters from our church that are now worshipping in other of our Apostolic Christian Churches. There were at least 21 churches that are blessed with our former members. In return, we have several brothers and sisters from other congregations worship with us. This came about either through marriage or job transfers. All this keeps our brotherhood united for which we should be very grateful.

INDIANA, REMINGTON **Tammy Waibel** **Beth Virkler**

Over spring break, fifteen of our youth, ages 13-18, along with four sets of parents traveled to Wachula, Florida, to assist in the hurricane rebuilding effort. We sincerely thank all brethren behind the scenes who stepped out in faith to organize the endeavor from the ground up, providing our youth with memories of bringing many smiles to the faces of strangers.

On March 30, Bro. Steve Stieglitz (Sis. Jane, Leo, IN) brought us a topical Bible lesson on "Understanding the Will of God." On April 9, we had a first-time privilege of a combined Communion service with our Wolcott brethren due to their church remodeling project. Elder Bro. Doug Schock (Sis. Clara, Pulaski/Bloomfield, IA) assisted our local Elder Bros. Alfred Bahler and Dan Kilgus in serving us Communion.

Many prayers and hospital visits took place this month towards our loved ones with different physical afflictions. Sis. Amelia Schini, Sis. Helen Waibel and Sis. Emily Kilgus all spent approximately a week in the hospital.

Sis. Emily was moved to Rensselaer Care Nursing Home, Rensselaer, IN 47978. The other two sisters were able to return to their previous homes.

Michael Schini, eight-year old son of Bob and Heather Schini, was diagnosed with Type I diabetes. Two weeks later he was already taking responsibility for his physical needs by giving himself insulin shots and identifying his food choices. We're very thankful for God's grace in helping him practice such maturity.

Alexandria Virkler became a big sister on April 4 to her newborn brother, Dakota Jordan. Parents are Bro. Paul and Sis. Miranda Virkler, along with grandparents: Bro. Bruce and Sis. Kathy Wuethrich (Francesville, IN) and Bro. Stan and Sis. Beth Virkler.

INDIANA, SOUTH BEND **Melissa Gerst** **Stacey Feller**

Our congregation was blessed to celebrate Easter with a morning sunrise service and two visiting ministers, Bro. Wayne Leman (Roanoke) and Bro. Joe Gerst (Iowa City). May the Lord bless them for their labors on our behalf. The Sunday School children also blessed us with an Easter program. A short poem by the nursery class summed up the reason for Easter celebration: E is for Easter, coming soon. A is for angels near the tomb. S is for stone that was rolled away. T is for tomb found empty that day. E is for early morning the women are glad. R is for risen Lord, no reason to be sad.

Bro. Bob and Sis. Sue Beebe welcomed another granddaughter, Laisa Marie Beebe. Laisa is the daughter of David and Jenna Beebe.

INDIANA **VALPARAISO** **Ed Lester**

Greetings of love to all our family of believers around the world.

While traveling around for my job, I find it necessary to refer to a road atlas so I don't get lost. By using a map it also allows me to find the direct route to my destination. How many of us have taken the long route to repentance? Perhaps promising God we would repent if He would relieve us of some anguish? Maybe

some of you don't even own a map. Do you know the way to salvation? Well, God has provided us with a "road map". It is the Bible. His Holy Word of Life gives us a step by step procedure on how to follow His "road map" to life everlasting.

Step 1: You feel God talking to you. You feel His presence in your everyday life.

Step 2: You are feeling convicted of the reality of your personal sinful life.

Step 3: Pray for God to forgive you of your sinful life and to grant you grace sufficient for a sincere repentance.

Step 4: Confession of your sins in front of a church Elder, making restitution with those you have wronged, and becoming a converted believer with a peace which passes all understanding of man.

Step 5: Baptism, where the old man is buried, and you begin a new life in the Lord, with Him as your Provider.

Your life will change for the better with the Lord as your Pilot. You will also be walking with a new purpose. A better purpose!

Are you ready to serve the Lord? Don't wait till it is too late. Look around at all the wonderful things God provides for you each and every day. Remember, this road map to salvation comes directly from the Bible.

Salvation is a wonderful feeling.

We had a bustle of activity this past month at Valparaiso. We had a wonderful Easter program on Palm Sunday. Bro. Dave Zehr (Sis. Vicki, Gridley, IL) shared the wonderful message of Christ's resurrection. Bro. Gary Anliker (Sis. Edith, Elgin, IL) shared God's Word with us this past month. We also want to thank Elder Bro. Dan Kilgus (Sis. Jenna, Remington, IN) and Elder Bro. Ted

Witzig (Sis. Cindy, Morton, IL) for providing God's message during our Communion service.

A baby boy was born to Bro. Lance and Sis. Hope Bucher. Siblings Joshua, Seth, and Anna were excited to add Ethan Jay to their home. Grandparents are Bro. Ken and Sis. Carol Bucher of Valparaiso and Bro. Harold and Sis. Karen Steiner of Princeville, IL. We rejoice with this dear family.

We are praying for a full recovery for Bro. Merle Bucher (Sis. Leona) who is suffering from a back injury.

**INDIANA
WEST LAFAYETTE
Diana Houston
Nettie Haab**

"For as the earth bringeth forth her bud, and as the garden causeth the things that are sown in it to spring forth; so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all the nations."

Isaiah 62:11

It is a wonderful time of year as the weather warms up, the trees bud and plants bloom. We welcome the rebirth and celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Saviour. Our Sunday School children told us the Easter story on Palm Sunday.

Our church spent a special evening together to partake of Communion. Thanks to our Elder Bro. Curt Frank (Sis. Lyla, LaCrosse, IN) and Elder Bro. Tom Stock (Sis. Karol, Cissna Park, IL) for serving us.

Excited and happy first-time parents are Bro. Bill and Sis. Brenda Minick as they have adopted little Eric Lee into their hearts and family. Eric was born March 18.

We are happy for Joel Fiechter from Bluffton who has started re-

penting. Joel is a Purdue student.

We thank our visiting ministers who come and serve us so faithfully. They have been Bro. Fred Eberhardt (Sis. Kathy, Burlington, IA), Bro. Alan Schambach (Sis. Sarah, Remington, IN), Bro. Matthew Rassi (Sis. Bridget, Chicago, IL), Bro. Dan Beer (Sis. Deb, Milford, IN), Bro. Robert Meyer (Sis. Ann, Bluffton North, IN), and Bro. Dennis Kaufmann (Sis. Bonnie, Bloomington, IL).

**INDIANA, WOLCOTT
Elaine Bahler
Lisa Furrer**

Greetings from Wolcott, where we've been blessed with beautiful spring weather.

We want to thank Bro. Steve Stieglitz (Sis. Jane, Leo, IN) for presenting a Bible Study on Understanding God's Will.

We also thank Bro. Neal Widmer (Sis. Kris, West Lafayette, IN) for coming "home" on Easter Sunday and sharing the wonderful story of Christ's resurrection.

Two sisters in our congregation spent some time in the hospital. Sis. Frances Bahler (Elder Bro. Alfred) and Sis. Verna Lehman (Bro. Gene) could use some extra prayers as they both recover.

"The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ? For we being many are one bread, and one body: for we are all partakers of that one bread."

I Cor. 10:16-17

Many thanks to the Remington congregation for inviting us to partake of Communion with them. We also thank Elder Bro. Doug Schock

(Sis. Clara, Pulaski, IA) for coming to assist Elder Bros. Alfred Bahler and Dan Kilgus (Sis. Jenna) and exhorting us with some very thought-provoking and sobering, but encouraging words about our Lord and Savior's sacrifice.

The end is in sight of our remodeling project, although no date yet of completion. We are still meeting at the World Relief Building. Feel free to come and visit us there, or wait a little while longer to worship with us in our "old-new" church.

IOWA, BURLINGTON

Brenda Schulz

Laurie Schulz

We received many good teachings when we joined Oakville for Memorandum. Elder Bro. Wayne Banwart (Champaign, IL) helped Elder Bro. Jon Schmidgall in reading this letter.

We welcome Bro. Kyle Knapp (Bro. Brian and Sis. Lorna) into the fold. It was good for all of us to hear how God is still calling and reflect on when we were brought into the fold. We appreciate Elder Bro. Peter Petrovic (San Diego, CA) coming and assisting Elder Bro. Jon Schmidgall in this work.

Marty and Kim Taeger are first-time parents of a precious daughter, Dilynn Ann. Grandparents, Bro. Dick and Sis. Dorothy Taeger, are thankful for her safe arrival.

Sis. Rosie Obermann (Bro. Bill) recently had surgery on her arm. We pray for a speedy recovery.

We have been blessed with many visiting ministers recently. We thank Elder Bro. Ron Messner (Washington, IL), Bros. Kenny Dietz (Bradford, IL), Randy Mogler (Washington, IL), Scott Wegman (Taylor, MO), Jerry Wagenbach,

Dale Frank and John Steiner (Oakville, IA) for willingly sharing the Word with us. May God be their rich Rewarder.

IOWA, ELGIN

Gloria Frieden
Heidi Butikofer

"And when they had ordained them elders ... they commended them to the Lord on whom they believed."

Acts 14:23

On April 3, many of us were able to attend the ordination of our new Elder Bro. Wayne Grimm in West Bend. Our congregation has appreciated Bro. Wayne's care and concern over this small flock, as a Deacon, here in Elgin and certainly will continue to give him our support and prayers. As Bro. Wayne Fehr now lays down the mantle, we want to also thank him for shepherding us for the past few years, and may God continue to use him in His service and grant him much grace as he continues his earthly pilgrimage.

"The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ?"

I Cor. 10:16

On April 10, we humbly partook of the bread and wine as we remembered the death and shed blood of our Lord and Saviour, for the remission of sins. Our thanks to Elder Bros. Dennis Warner (Sis. Esther, Lester, IA) and Wayne Grimm (Sis. Rose, West Bend, IA) for serving us from God's Word and Holy Communion.

Our high school graduate this

year is Kami Knobloch (Bro. Jim and Sis. Marcy). May God be with her and guide her in the decisions she will be making as her future unfolds.

Alex Callahan (Jeff and Tammy) was recently a hospital patient and we are thankful he is home again and feeling better.

IOWA, GARDEN GROVE

Willa Clark

It is the time of year when young people complete one course of study and advance to another stage of their lives. Although we use the word "commencement" for the end of school, it really means "a beginning" and, yes, the graduates are just taking the first steps into the rest of their lives. Our wish for each one is that their life will be filled with service and obedience to our Lord and Saviour. We have one graduate, Britany Moser, daughter of Bro. Tom and Sis. Dawn Moser. We wish her blessings and wisdom as she pursues her education to be a veterinary tech.

We certainly appreciate the willingness of the ministering brothers who have visited us recently, including Bros. Walt Herrmann (Princeville, IL), Kim Sutter (Taylor, MO), Galen Rokey (Bern, KS), John Rowell (Burlington, IA), and our Elder Bro. Doug Schock (Bloomfield, IA).

IOWA, IOWA CITY

Diana Butikofer

We appreciate the visit of Bro. Ed Strahm (Sis. Ramona, Bern, KS) and his family on Easter Sunday. Also, Elder Bro. Jon and Sis. Julie Schmidgall (Oakville, IA) joined us on a Sunday and Bro. Jon and Bro. Joe Gerst led us in Holy Communion. We thank each one for his will-

ingness to be used in God's Kingdom.

Our special prayers are with Sis. Eunice Feller since the death of her sister, Martha Reutter of Cissna Park, Illinois; and with Bro. Wayne Snodgrass (Sis. Becky) since the death of his grandfather.

IOWA, LESTER
Dawn Knobloch
Dawn Metzger

March 16 was our evening set aside for Communion services. Elder Bro. Dave Graf (Akron, OH) was here to assist our Elder Bro. Dennis Warner. It is difficult to put into words the awe and gratitude that can be felt as we remember our Saviour's death on the cross. We were also glad to have ministering Bro. Mark Steiner (Smithville, OH) with us that weekend. In April, we enjoyed having Bros. Brad Gudeman (Bradford, IL) and Pat Zaugg (West Bend, IA) among us to preach the message of God.

Maria Warner (Bro. Stan and Sis. Sue) feels at peace with God and man. It is a very precious feeling that one should cling to tightly once found.

"Who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father:"

Galatians 1:4

We are thankful to share the news of our new convert, Emma Metzger (Bro. Rodney and Sis. Polly), as she is seeking her soul's salvation.

Curtis Doorneweerd (Bro. Lynn) is engaged to be married to Cathy Striegel. They are making plans for a September 3 wedding and we wish them much happiness as they plan

for that important day.

Ross and Heather Metzger became first-time parents on March 31. They have a healthy baby boy and his name is Brayden James. On April 14, Devan William was welcomed by Bro. Mychal and Sis. Dawn Van Wyhe and siblings, Megan and Jordan. Grandparents are Bro. Pete and Sis. Susan Van Wyhe and Bro. Arnie and Sis. Sharon Koehl (Morris, MN). Bro. Martin and Sis. Martha, Riley, Kary Ann, and Kendon Knobloch were thankful for a healthy baby boy, Kortlin Nicholas, who was born on April 15. Kortlin's grandparents are Bro. Glen and Sis. Joyce Metzger and Bro. Nick and Sis. Mary Kuenzi (Silverton, OR). A baby girl was born to Bro. Mark and Sis. Lee Leuthold on April 19. She has been named Ella Lee and will join an older sister, Jenna, at home. Bro. Bob and Sis. Cindy Leuthold are her grandparents.

Sis. Elgeva Knobloch (Bro. Art) and Taryn Besonen (Brant and Samantha) were hospitalized for surgery. It is good to know they are both able to be at home again. Bro. Al Knobloch (Sis. Lucy) is in Houston, TX, at this time. They are hoping this treatment will help to fight off the cancer that has invaded his body. We remember Bro. Al and his family in our thoughts and prayers.

Note of Thanks:

Thanks you so much for the cards, letters, gifts of money, words of encouragement and prayers during the time of David's surgeries and recovery. We are humbled by, and deeply thankful for, your outpouring of good deeds. May God bless you all.

Bro. Stan and Sis. Sue Warner and family

IOWA, OAKVILLE
Sharla Wiegand
Rosalie Wiegand

"That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life; ... That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you..."

I John 1:1,3

May God's blessings rest upon Bro. Arnold Gerst (Taylor, MO) who ministered the Word unto us.

"But one of the soldiers with a spear pierced His side, and forthwith came there out blood and water."

John 19:34

Thanks be unto God for His unspeakable gift! Elder Bro. Peter Petrovic (San Diego, CA) helped our Elder Bro. Jon Schmidgall in serving us Holy Communion on March 20. The Lord's broken body and shed blood should always be remembered, as it was the perfect sacrifice for our sins.

Thankfully, those who have trusted in the living God, have repented of their sins, and have had their hearts and minds renewed in Him can fall asleep in Jesus, waiting for the resurrection of the just. Sis. Viola Perdelwitz passed on from this life on March 21, leaving behind her dear husband, Bro. John, and children, Robert Perdelwitz and Alice O'Shea.

Bro. Clarence Kuntz went to meet his Maker on April 13. We are thankful that both Bro. Clarence and his wife, the late Sis. Anna Mae Kuntz, were baptized in the later years of their life. Survivors are their two sons, John Kuntz and Tom Kuntz. Earlier, on April 1, a

graveside service was held for Bro. Clarence's brother, Harvey Kuntz.

Our heartfelt sympathy goes to Sis. Ursel Barth on the passing of her beloved husband, Bro. John Barth, on April 15. We know how he longed for his Heavenly Home and we are very thankful the Lord has called him to rest. Their children are Duane Barth, Ronald Barth, David Barth, Dennis Barth, and Rebecca Carpenter.

"And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up."

Deut. 6:7

On April 10, God blessed Bro. Dan and Sis. Amanda Frank with a sweet baby girl named Kayla Elizabeth. May they pass on a good and Godly heritage to little Kayla and big brother Isaac. Their very thankful grandparents are Steve and Barb Mark and Bro. Dale and Sis. Tina Frank.

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".

Hymns of Zion #122

We bid a fond farewell to our dear Sis. Delores Kiefer as she has moved to Illinois to be closer to her family. Her new address is: 23 Shelia Court, Morton, IL 61550.

A quote for Mothers: "Have a heart that never hardens, a temper that never tires, and a touch that never hurts."

IOWA BLOOMFIELD/PULASKI Barbara Schock

This month has gone by so fast!
Where does the time go? This month we were blessed by a visiting minister, Bro. Glen Braker (Sis. Audrey, Princeville). We thank him for the time and effort on his part to come and share the Word with us.

God took...

The fragrance of a flower,
The majesty of a tree,
The gentleness of morning dew,
The calm of a quiet sea,
The beauty of the twilight hour,
The soul of a starry night,
The laughter of a rippling brook,
The grace of a bird in flight,
The tender care of an angel,
The faith of a mustard seed,
The patience of eternity,
The depth of a family's need...
Then God fashioned from these things a creation of no other
And when His masterpiece was through...
He simply called it Mother.

Mother's Day is just around the corner. Let's remember to thank these wonderful women in our lives for all that they have done for us.

Also, graduation is here. This year, graduating from high school are Jodi Wettstein (Bro. Jon and Sis. Rita), Angie Wuthrich (Bro. Roger and Sis. DeAnn), Ruth Teubel (Bro. Paul and Sis. Charlotte), and Sis. Barbara Schock (Elder Bro. Doug and Sis. Clara). May the Lord guide each one as they go out into the world, to higher education, and to the work force.

IOWA, WEST BEND Sue Schneider Lori Skoglund

"Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind;"

1 Peter 5:2

Bro. Wayne Grimm was ordained our Elder in a solemn service on April 3. Many words of instructions, encouragement and wise counsel were shared with Bro. Wayne, his wife, Sis. Rose, and those in attendance on that memorable weekend. We appreciated being blessed with the presence of many Elders: Bro. Curt Frank (Sis. Lyla, LaCrosse, IN), Bro. Wayne Fehr (Sis. Kathy, Portland, OR), Bro. Jon Schmidgall (Sis. Julie, Oakville, IA), Bro. Wayne Banwart (Sis. Charlen, Champaign, IL), Bro. Art Nohl (Sis. Sandra, Morris, MN), Bro. Art Metz (Sis. Elizabeth, Silverton, OR), Bro. Don Braker (Sis. Eileen, Kansas City, MO), Bro. Doug Schock (Sis. Clara, Bloomfield, IA), Bro. Dennis Warner (Sis. Esther, Lester, IA), and Bro. Leroy Messner (Sis. JoAnn, Winthrop, MN). There were also several retired Elders and many other ministers along with a host of loved ones in the congregation.

"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

We trust Bro. Wayne will continue to feel the loving support and prayers of the congregation as he strives to fulfill the duties that have

been laid upon him.

On that Sunday evening we were brought into remembrance of Christ's suffering and death. We then shared the blessing of holy communion together. The bonds of love that unify us were certainly strengthened throughout the entire weekend.

A precious boy has been added to the family of Bro. John and Sis. Wendy Fehr. Garrett Ray was born on April 13. Heather, Michael, Brandon and Crystal have welcomed him home. Grandparents, Bro. Art and Sis. Eula Mogler and Bro. Jim and Sis. Sharon Fehr, were thankful for his safe arrival.

We have welcomed Bro. Dave and Sis. Kay Eisenmann into our congregation. They moved here from Sarasota, FL. At the same time, we sent love and good wishes with Bro. Harlan and Sis. Shirley Metzger as they have relocated to the Eureka, IL, area. Both couples are now closer to their immediate families.

Sis. Lela Banwart has undergone surgery and is recovering well at home. Marie Fisher, Bro. Noah (Sis. Emma) Gerber and Sis. Edna (the late Earl) Banwart have been hospitalized for medical care. The chorus of Hymn #364 can offer encouragement to all.

Each step I take I know that He
will guide me;
To higher ground He ever leads me
on.
Until some day the last step will be
taken,
Each step I take just leads me
closer home.

Sympathy is extended to Joel and Wendy Schmidt and their family at the sudden loss of Wendy's father, Stephen Williams, of Danville, IA.

As Mother's Day approaches, we

often try to think of something that would make our mothers happy as a way of honoring them. The thought comes to mind that nothing can make a mother happier than seeing her children walk in the ways of righteousness.

Though I was often wayward, she
was always kind and good,
So patient, gentle, loving when I
acted rough and rude.
My childhood griefs and trials she
would gladly with me share;
O Saviour tell my mother I'll be
there.
Tell mother I'll be there, in answer
to her pray'r.
This message blessed Saviour to
her bear!
Tell mother I'll be there, heav'n's
joys with her to share;
Yes, tell my darling mother I'll be
there.

Gospel Hymns #801

JAPAN, SHIODA Eiko Nozawa

"He is not here, for he is risen."
Matthew 28:6

Bro. Frank Sauder and his son, Bro. Steven Sauder, were our special guests from Roanoke, IL, on Easter morning. We worshipped the living God together at a tiny peach-blossom-viewing park at the foot of a mountain for the Sunrise service. Bro. Frank read from the scripture and delivered the Easter message. Then, they rode with Sis. Ayako Inoue to attend the regular morning service at Tokyo Church. The visit was short, but the blessing was BIG.

Bro. Keith and Sis. Ida Kellenberger (Elgin, IL) and their daughter, Sis. Kay (presently at Tokyo), blessed us with their visit in March. It was a joy to get to know

them better. Now Sis. Kay came back to Shioda alone on the 3rd weekend of April. She enjoyed the pink ocean of peach blossoms and pheasants taking a walk in the warm spring sun. Peaceful moment in the countryside!

May God richly bless each one of our guests and you brothers and sisters in the Lord.

JAPAN, TOKYO Marie Inoue

Our Easter Sunday was special this year as we welcomed Bro. Frank (Sis. Kathy) Sauder back to Japan for a weekend. As he expounded on the Easter message we were reminded that the two thieves crucified with Jesus represent the sinners of this world. One group calls on the Lord only when it is convenient or when they get themselves in a tight spot with no hope. The other group feels condemnation in their hearts for their sinful life and ask Jesus to remember them. We pray for many to be in the group who feel and confess the conviction of sin in their life and can receive the everlasting promise. The brethren were exhorted not to keep silent when the opportunity arises to testify who the Lord is and what He has done for us. In the afternoon on that day we enjoyed the Easter program of children and adults who proclaimed the Easter story, and why the Bible is important to us in verse and song.

Bro. Steven Sauder returned with his father to their home in Roanoke, IL, after Steven spent a 3 month homestay here with the Klaus family. We were so blessed by Steven's visit and appreciated his youthful example of a soldier for the Lord.

The next event following Easter was the return home of Bro. Keith

and Sis. Ida Kellenberger, (Elgin, IL). They spent 3 weeks here visiting their children and grandchildren who reside here, namely Gary and Yoko, and children Koa and Kia, along with Sis. Kay who teaches kindergarten at an international school where Gary is a computer technician. Bro. Keith put his hobby of woodworking skills to work as he, along with one of our local brothers, repaired slats on our church benches. On the same day, on the second floor of our church, our monthly ladies' meeting was held. At this meeting Sis. Ida shared how the Lord provided for her life. Beginning in nurses' training, to employment, to Gateway Woods, and to the present situation of her role as wife and also mother of 8 grown children when a traffic accident took the life of a mother and grandfather, her guiding verse in the Word was Matt. 6:33. Many times did she have to go back to this verse for strength. The following question and answer period was edifying to us all. We thank Bro. Keith and Sis. Ida for being useful in the vineyard of the Lord.

"It's a boy!" was the e-mail message sent by Bro. Andrew and Sis. Jana Klaus and family on April 9, the birth date of Nathan John. After one boy and 6 girls the siblings were elated. Those sharing in this joy were Caleb, Sarah, Hannah, Rachel, Amy, Elizabeth, and Charity. Grandma (Sis. Shirley) arrived from Princeville to share the joy and be helpful where she can. Our church rejoices with the whole family.

At this writing Bro. Yoshio Yamazaki is confined to a rehabilitation hospital to receive treatment for injuries from a fall. He seems to be getting along pretty well and says he feels some improvement in his body condition which was very painful in the beginning. We know he would

appreciate our prayers.

Other special visitors we had this month were single Bros. Jason Sanders (Eureka, IL) and Akihiro Ito (Tremont, IL). We so appreciated their help and support in our services. In small congregations every visitor and local member and friend play an important part in the countenance of the church. May the Lord be with each one and provide for them is our prayer.

KANSAS, BERN
Sheri Edelman
Rita Menold

This is the month we celebrate Mother's Day! We thank our mothers for all they do for us! If you are a mother, thank God for this opportunity you have been given!

On April 2-3, we enjoyed the blessing of invited guest weekend. We thank everyone who came and especially the ministering brothers and their wives. Bro. Mike Rinkenberger (Sis. Patricia, Congerville, IL), Bro. Bill Dotterer (Sis. Sharon, Lamar, MO), Bro. Roy Koehl (Sis. Janell, Morris, MN) and Bro. Paul Kilgus (Sis. Carmen, Fairbury, IL) came and brought forth God's Word.

On the evening of April 9, our body of believers met and partook of Holy Communion. We thank Elder Bro. Bruce Hohulin (Sis. Charlene, Goodfield, IL) for helping to serve us and then ministering to us on Sunday. May God bless you!

Two of our dear brothers in faith laid down their armor and have gone on to be with the Lord. On March 23, Bro. Emil Strahm was laid to rest. Our prayers are with his son, Bro. Wilfred (Sis. Verona) and their family. Bro. Louis Meyer was laid to rest on March 30. We offer our prayers to his wife, Sis. Mavis, and their chil-

dren and families, Judd and Carol Meyer and David and Marci Reist.

Our sympathy is also offered to Sis. JoAnn Edelman, Sis. Helen Meyer (Bro. Leroy), Sis. Miriam Strahm (Clayton), Sis. Marge Edelman (Bro. Morris), Bro. James Menold (Sis. Louise) and Bro. Don Menold (Sis. Pat) on the death of their stepmother, Loree Menold. May God comfort our brothers and sisters in faith as loved ones leave this earthly life.

Excited grandparents are Bro. Arden and Sis. Dar Stoller on the arrival of Zackery Korbin. Zackery's parents are Bro. Korbin and Sis. Marla Beyer (Sabetha, KS) and his big sister is Samantha!

Requiring hospitalization this month was Sis. Stella Moser (Bro. Reuben) and Bro. Joe Rokey. Surgical patients were Bro. Paul Kaeb (Sis. Joan) and Sis. Janet Meyer (Bro. Robert).

Bro. Brandon Edelman (Bro. Earl and Sis. Donna) is graduating from Washburn University this month. Shana Rokey (Bro. Joe D. and Sis. Kathy) as well as Hans Strahm (Bro. Kyle and Sis. Peggy) are our high school graduates. May God lead them as their path in life continues on.

Note of Thanks:

We want to express our heartfelt thanks for the many prayers, visits, cards and gifts offered for us after Mary & Kerry's accident. We appreciate all the love and support and thank God for His healing power.

God Bless you all.

The Berg Family

KANSAS, FORT SCOTT
Ethel Smith

Our love and greetings in Christ Jesus, our Lord and Redeemer.

On Saturday eve, April 2, we par-

took of Holy Communion with our Elder Bro. John Lehman (Bern, KS) and Elder Bro. Jay Luthi (Lamont-Gridley, KS). It was a very blessed evening when we could greet our brothers and sisters anew in Christ Jesus. This blessed sacrament was also served that afternoon to our dear Bro. Harold and Sis. Wanda Kraft, who are homebound with Bro. Harold's illness. It was a joy to witness their sincere appreciation for this way of remembering our dear Lord's suffering and death. Our sincere thanks and appreciation for Bro. John and Bro. Jay for their dedication in serving us. "Thus united and in concord, let us walk the path of life. Hand in hand, O may love bind us. For each other's welfare strive." (Zion's Harp).

Other visiting ministers this past month were April 3, Elder Bro. John Lehman (Sis. Connie); and April 10, Bro. Rex Frieden (Sis. Vera, Lamar, MO). God bless them for their service to the Ft. Scott church.

We rejoice with Bro. Kent Kellenberger at the announcement of his engagement to Sis. Elise Kaupp, (Gridley, IL) on March 20. Bro. Rick and Sis. Karen are the parents of Bro. Kent and Bro. Timothy and Sis. Betty Kaupp (Gridley, IL) are the parents of Sis. Elise. We are looking forward to their August 7 wedding day.

Kim Byler, daughter of Tom and Janet Byler and Bro. Ryan Kellenberger, son of Bro. Rick and Sis. Karen Kellenberger, are our high school graduates. We pray they will trust in the Lord with all their heart and lean not on their own understanding.

"Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again, I say, Rejoice."

Phil. 4:4

KANSAS, KIOWA

Jenny Stewart

Our annual business meeting was held with many positions re-elected. Thank you to all those who completed their terms.

Our prayers are with those who were elected or re-elected to fulfill their responsibility to the congregation.

"And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it; For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins."

Matthew 26:27-28

Our congregation met to partake of Holy Communion. We were thankful for our visiting ministers for their time and efforts at this special time. They were Elder Bros. John Lehman (Bern, KS) and Ted Witzig (Morton, IL).

We are prayerful for Bro. Joe Frieden. He underwent knee replacement surgery. After a setback he is recovering nice and slowly. Also Sis. Mildred Frieden was hospitalized due to illness. Our prayers are with this couple for a full recovery.

Early spring flowers are blooming, as well as many trees and bushes. It is a sign of spring and new life. It always makes me think of the new life we have in Christ through the shedding of His holy blood.

Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new."

Galatians 10:17

KANSAS LAMONT-GRIDLEY

Eileen Bahr

Easter Sunday we were especially blessed with visiting Bros. Jim Kaeb (Bern, KS) and Brandon Emch (Kansas City, MO) and visiting relatives and friends joining in uplifting and blending voices to praise the Lord.

Grandparents, Bro. Jeff and Debbie Frieden, traveled to Ossian, IN (Leo Church) to meet their new granddaughter, Peri Michelle, born March 28, daughter of Bro. Travis and Sis. Missy Bussel, and also enjoy time with her brothers, Kaden and Krew.

Our appreciation goes to Elder Bro. Andy Stoller (Smithville, OH) for sharing Communion with us Saturday evening and Sunday services concluding with the question: "Do we believe the message of the gospel of Jesus Christ?"

Proverbs 9:9-10 "Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be yet wiser: teach a just man and he will increase in learning. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding."

I am still in the process of learning. Our small church has many church suppers and potlucks and we bring our best tasting (sometimes rich) dishes. Rudy and I are experiencing his recently diagnosed Type 2 diabetes. We visited a small church in Kansas that serves cafeteria style. Later he told me that he felt he had offended the sisters serving lunch because he didn't fill his plate with the delicious looking food he couldn't have. I can relate with the sisters - you want your guests to enjoy the food you have prepared. Now the question is "Do I go to the potlucks and either offend the cooks, or eat and cause problems with my health

in order to enjoy the Christian fellowship or should I stay home?" Since I was unaware of anyone having diabetes in our congregation, I hadn't given it a thought that others may be on special diets – so we are still in the process of increasing our knowledge.

KANSAS, SABETHA

Jeanelle Plattner

Dawn Strahm

We're thankful that Jacob Hartter (Bro. David and Sis. Beth) has found peace with God and man and is looking forward to baptism. We certainly wish him God's richest blessings as he takes this most important step in life.

Congratulations to our new married couple, Bro. Keith and Sis. Andrea Grimm. Parents of the couple are Bro. Doug and Sis. Jeryl Grimm and Bro. Randy and Sis. Shirley Koehl (Morris, MN). May they continue to seek God's guidance as they walk the path of life as husband and wife. We warmly welcome Sis. Andrea to Sabetha as this becomes "home".

God has blessed Bro. Korbin, Sis. Marla, and Samantha Beyer with a special bundle from heaven, Zackery Korbin. Zackery's happy grandparents are Bro. Martin and Sis. Karen Beyer and Bro. Arden and Sis. Darlene (Bern, KS).

Our thoughts and prayers have been with several in our congregation that have lost loved ones in recent days. We extend our sympathy to Sis. Erma Wenger (LaVon) in the passing of her sister, Edith McNary. We also remember Cliff and Sis. Barbara Edelman as his sister, Loree Menold, passed away. The hearts of Sisters Carrie Strahm (Bro. Tom), Rosie Strahm (Bro. Trent), and Dixie Zeltwanger were

saddened to bid their dear Grandpa, Bro. Kenny Zeltwanger (Morris, MN), farewell, but they rejoice that he has won the victory of heaven. Bro. Oliver Weiss has also reached that heavenly reward. We extend our sympathy across the many miles to his wife, Sis. Marie, as well as to his brother, Bro. Cal and Sis. Dena Weiss. Sis. Irene Aberle was also called home in recent days. We're thankful that she can be free from the cares and worries of life. Our thoughts and prayers have been with her family, Bro. Roger and Sis. LaVonne Aberle, grandchildren, Bro. Rick, Sis. Komari, and Mara Aberle, and her sister, Sis. Vi Meyer (Bro. Velmer). May each one be comforted as they look forward to that happy reunion in the skies.

Our prayers are with Sis. Vi Meyer (Bro. Velmer), and Sis. Loree Plattner (Bro. Henry) that the Lord's healing touch might be felt in their lives.

We extend our many thanks to Bro. Ted Witzig, Jr. and his wife, Sis. Donna (Morton, IL) for being with us the weekend of April 16-17. Bro. Ted gave a presentation for married couples on Saturday morning as well as a presentation on Saturday evening for the Bern/Sabetha congregations. May God bless him for all his efforts.

KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

The Lord has once again blessed us with many visitors this semester. We have been privileged to have topical Bible Studies presented by Bro. Corey Metzger (Sis. Jody, Wichita) and most recently by Bro. Ted Witzig Jr. (Sis. Donna, Morton). On April 6, the topic was marriage and our teacher was Bro. Corey Metzger. This topic is increasingly important

in our society. The State of Kansas had just voted to amend our constitution to define marriage between one man and one woman. On a sad note, Connecticut's congress voted the same week to allow same sex civil unions. I, and I suspect many others in the group, do not fully understand the nature of a marriage relationship. This is understandable as most of us are single. What we do understand is the need to protect and promote this God ordained relationship, whether married or not.

On April 15, it was Bro. Ted's turn to be used. Through him we were able to learn in-depth ways in which a Christian should view the world. With so many "worldviews" from so many religions, it was refreshing to be reminded of our cornerstone Jesus Christ. May all of our decisions and outlook in life be based on the infallible message of our Sovereign God.

"As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith."

Galatians 6:10

This in mind, the Topeka portion of our group (Washburn University) has planned a work project for Saturday, April 23. We anticipate the many blessings that come from serving our Lord by serving others in His holy name. Finally, as the semester winds down it is our prayer that we will not be distracted from our spiritual walk while meeting the secondary responsibilities of our education.

KANSAS, WICHITA

Emma Miller

Bro. Ron and Sis. Christy Joos were traveling through Wichita in March. They chose to worship with

us and brought greetings from the Pulaski-Bloomfield, IA, congregation. We hope many more will follow their example and will include Wichita in their travel plans.

Easter Sunday was a beautiful day after a cold, damp Saturday. We started the day with an Easter breakfast followed by a brief Sunday School program. Those seven little boys were not thwarted by their small number and enthusiastically told the Easter story in song. Our worship services started at the regular time.

Bro. Perry and Sis. Carol Klopfenstein from Gridley, IL, were invited to spend the weekend of April 2-3 in Wichita. Bro. Perry shared some of the history of the Apostolic Christian Church with us on Saturday night. Their daughter, Sis. Maria, and husband, Bro. Brandon Emch, from Kansas City accompanied them. Bro. Brandon shared in the ministry on Sunday.

Sunday, April 17, was a big day for Harrison Metzger. He had his third birthday in the week just past and that meant he could go to Sunday School. As the children were dismissed to go to their classes, Harrison looked back and announced "I'm going to Sunday School." What a beautiful attitude. It was also a big day for all of us. The Bowers family was able to bring Bro. Milton to church. We are just amazed at the way he perseveres in the struggle with his health.

KENTUCKY, LEXINGTON **Barb Huber**

Greetings of love in the precious faith of our dear Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ!

"Looking for that blessed hope and the glorious appearing of the

great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto Himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works."

Titus 2:13

What a comfort God's Word is! A visiting minister recently shared this scripture encouraging us, as believers, to keep on keeping on. The allegory was given of the farmer who plants and cultivates corn. The farmer has to look down and then look up to keep his eyes on the goal of having straight rows in a cornfield. So, too, we need to keep our eyes on our heavenly goal, that "blessed hope and glorious appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ".

Again, we want to express our sincere appreciation for all the visiting ministers who have come and faithfully shared the Wonderful Words of Life: Bro. John Bradle (Sis. Jill, Roanoke, IL) and family, Bro. Ken Wuethrich (Sis. Lyn, Indianapolis, IN), Bro. Brian Huber (Sis. Jackie, Francesville, IN) and family, and Bro. John Hartman (Sis. Rosemary, Fairbury, IL). May the Lord bless you richly for all your love and efforts to further His kingdom in the hearts of men. Other visitors worshipping in our assembly were represented from the following churches: Belvidere, IL; Washington, IL; Leo, IN; and Bay City, MI. It's always a blessing to have visitors as we assemble around God's Word.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to all servicemen who are serving our country and even risking their lives so we may continue enjoying freedom here in America. Jonathan Huber (Ben and June) is stationed in Iraq again. We pray the Lord to protect and keep him in His love and care. The following is his address if anyone would care to write him. Jon-

athan would enjoy hearing from you. CPL Jonathan Huber, 1st BN 5th Mar A Co. 2nd Plt., Unit 40325, FPO-AP 96426-0325

Visitors are always welcome here in Lexington. Anyone who may be in our area or traveling through may contact Bro. Doug Germann (859-224-8710), Bro. Lester Huber (859-745-2541), or Bro. Jan Neukomm (859-273-8574).

MEXICO, IXTLAN **Rosario Gonzalez**

"Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city."

Revelation 22:14

On Saturday, April 2, we rejoiced with two souls who gave us their testimony of repentance. They are Rosa Segura (she is Bro. Roberto Sanchez' wife from San Cristobol) and Estela Salcedo (Plaza del Limon). Rosa came at first for her physical sight and now through the passing of time has received spiritual sight. Estela is the firstfruit of her family and also, of that community. She testified of how her life has changed and now she has peace with God and man. They are so happy to have met Jesus Christ as their Saviour. On Sunday, we witnessed them make their promises before God and the church in the waters of baptism to be faithful and follow our Lord's steps all the days of their life.

"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

That same Sunday in the after-

noon, the body of Christ remembered the suffering of Jesus at Calvary for our sins. He took our sins to the cross so that we can have eternal life. We thank our Elder Bro. Tom Hoffman (Roanoke, IL) and Elder Bro. Ron Messner (Washington, IL) for ministering to us in this special occasion for our little congregation.

MICHIGAN, BAY CITY

**Sarah Knochel
Janelle Ramseyer**

On March 30, our congregation took part in Holy Communion. We are thankful that our Elder Bro. Aaron Steffen (Sis. Loretta, Alto, MI) and Elder Bro. Mark Bahr (Sis. Bev, Detroit, MI) were able to be with us for the evening.

On April 9-10 we hosted our annual Invite - A - Friend weekend. We had many visitors from all across the Midwest. We are especially thankful for visiting ministers, Bros. Doyle Frauhiger (Sis. Jane, Bluffton North, IN), Chris Huber (Sis. Sharon, Francesville, IN) and Don Manz (Sis. Connie, Junction, OH) who all shared the Gospel message with us on Sunday.

We are yet thankful that Bro. Steve Stieglitz (Sis. Jane, Leo, IN) and Bro. Ned Stoller (Sis. Heidi, Alto, MI) were able to be with us during the past month.

Thus united and in concord
Let us walk the path of life;
Hand in hand, O may love bind us
For each other's welfare strive.

Zion's Harp #237

We rejoice with Nicole Mosher and Zach Williams as they were joined together in holy matrimony on March 12. Nicole's parents are Bro. Neil Mosher and Ginger

Mosher. May God continue to guide and direct this young couple as they move forward together trusting in Him.

Many from our congregation have spent some time in the hospital this past month. Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with Bro. Fred Munsel (Sis. Delores), Bro. Earl Ramseyer, Bro. Erwin Wieland (Sis. Nina), Sis. Florence Wieland and little Parker Wieland (Joe and Tara). May God continue to provide each of them with a measure of good health.

We can be so thankful that the Lord has provided another springtime and we can see the renewal of the earth coming forth. May we all seek after the beauty and righteousness of Christ in our hearts.

"One thing have I desired of the Lord, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to enquire in his temple."

Psalms 27:4

MICHIGAN, DETROIT

**Tiffany Wieland
Mary Weigele**

Only a few weeks after remembering Christ's crucifixion on Good Friday and His resurrection on Easter morning, our congregation had the privilege of assembling to share Communion. We were again reminded of Christ's suffering and shed blood that were accomplished for us while we were lost in sin - a gift that we did not deserve given out of love by our heavenly Father. We appreciate our retired Elder Bro. Ben Maibach lending himself to assist our Elder Bro. Mark Bahr with the Communion service.

We were blessed with many visi-

tors from the Francesville, IN, congregation this month as their choir came to minister to us in song. We enjoyed the music they shared with us as well as the fellowship that the weekend brought. We can always be thankful for the part music plays in our spiritual heritage. We were further privileged that ministering Bro. Brian Huber (Sis. Jacki) came with the choir and took part in the Sunday services. We appreciate his willingness to give of himself for the church's benefit.

In addition to Bro. Brian, our other visiting minister this month was Bro. Jim Ramseyer (Sis. Marlene) from Bay City. Bro. Jim was here for Good Friday services, and we appreciate his visit and ministry to us.

Tatten Strassheim is a first-time big brother as his parents, Bro. Eric and Sis. Jodi, brought home a new son, Landon. Grandparents of this new baby are Bro. Dale and Sis. Carol Strassheim and Bro. Wes and Sis. Joyce Hohulin. We wish Eric and Jodi God's guidance as they teach little Landon of God and His goodness.

We are thankful little Drew Dawson (Bro. Steve and Sis. Julie) is back home after spending several days in the hospital. We want to remember Sis. Cheryl Maibach in prayer as she recovers from recent surgery. We also want to remember Grey Schrock (Bro. Troy and Sis. Jennifer) as he recovers from a broken arm.

As was mentioned last month, our Detroit congregation is looking forward to hosting the first Michigan-Toledo, OH, singing on Sunday evening, May 15. This will be held from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Woodpointe and all are welcome. Also, the 17th annual Choir Benefit day of worship and fellowship will be held on July,

17, 2005. We encourage all who can to join us in a day of praise and thanksgiving.

**MINNESOTA
MINNEAPOLIS
LaRae Dill**

Note of Thanks:

We would like to extend a sincere thank-you to everyone for the prayers, cards, food and memorials extended to us during the loss of Bernadine's brother. May God richly bless you for your deeds of love and kindness.

Bro. Don and Sis. Bernadine Miller

Sis. Bernadine's brother, Delfert Bussler (Ilene), passed away following a serious illness. Our sympathy is extended to Sis. Bernadine and Bro. Don and their family.

Sis. Ethel Bednarski was once again hospitalized this month. We're all thankful and relieved that she is recovering from an unexpected allergic reaction. We certainly miss Sis. Ethel when she cannot fellowship with us.

Bro. Mark Zimmerman (Sis. Cheryl) and family of Eureka, IL, visited the Twin Cities for a weekend in April. We enjoyed their fellowship and Bro. Mark's ministry that Sunday.

**MINNESOTA, MORRIS
Katie Koehl
Heidi Nohl**

We were blessed to have visiting ministering Bros. Earl Beery (Rittman, OH), Mark Schmidgall (Eureka, IL) and Duane Rocke (Minneapolis, MN). May God bless them for their willing service.

We rejoice with our Bro. Tony and Sis. Nancy Messner on the engage-

ment of their son, Bro. David Messner (Winthrop, MN) to Sis. Bethany Kuenzi (Bro. Terry and Sis. Ann). We wish them God's richest blessings.

Holly Rose was born to Bro. Andrew and Sis. Kara Messner. Welcoming her are her big brother, Cody, and grandparents, Bro. Dave and Sis. Nancy Wulf, and Bro. Tony and Sis. Nancy Messner. Bro. Mitch and Sis. Janelle Koehl were blessed with a son, Clark Ray. His grandparents are Bro. Harv and Sis. Deb Joos and Bro. Randy and Sis. Shirley Koehl. Welcoming Blake Russell was Bro. Tom and Sis. Trisha Koehl. His grandparents are Bro. Russell and Sis. Vera Manz (Junction, OH) and Bro. Karl and Sis. Marilyn Koehl. We wish them all God's richest blessings as they raise their children.

Hospitalized this month was Sis. Pam Schaefer (Bro. Steve) and Sis. Mary Koehl (Bro. Jake). We are thankful they are doing better.

We are thankful that souls are finding peace with God and man. Stephanie Schaefer (Bro. Rodney and Sis. Denise) and Myra Messner (Bro. Sid and Sis. Cheryl) have felt forgiveness. We wish them God's richest blessings as they await baptism.

We would like to welcome Bro. Damon and Sis. Stephanie Knobloch along with their little son, Sawyer, to our congregation. We hope they will feel at home in Morris.

Note of Thanks:

We would like to thank everyone; relatives and friends who remembered us with prayers, words of encouragement, kind deeds, cards, memorials, flowers and food during Kenneth's illness and his passing away. It was all very much appreciated. May God bless each one of you.

Sis. Edna Zeltwanger and family

**MINNESOTA, WINTHROP
Ginny Stoll
Rachel Steiner**

The Sunday School children prepared and served our annual Easter breakfast. We appreciate the efforts of the children and teachers.

The angels rejoice over each and every sinner who answers His call. Amy Bartels (Jay) has answered the call and has found peace. We are so thankful that God is still calling souls and that dear loved ones are willing to answer. Amy is the daughter of Sis. Carol Ann Messner.

The engagement of Sis. Bethany Kuenzi (Bro. Terry and Sis. Ann, Silverton, OR) to Bro. David Messner (Bro. Tony and Sis. Nancy, Morris, MN) was announced. May the peace and love of God reign in their hearts as they take this step of faith in the Lord.

Those loved ones who have been in the hospital or under the care of a doctor this month were Darlene Schmidt (Bro. Darrell), Sis. Geraldine Messner and Malakai Ebling (Adrian and Beckie). We are thankful for God's healing in their lives.

**MISSOURI, KANSAS CITY
Garry and Marty Rokey**

While the quantity of news this month is sparse, the quality of our news is excellent. We rejoice with Ned Kellenberger as he has begun his repentance. His parents are Bro. Randy and Sis. Karen Kellenberger.

Haste and seek your soul's salvation;

Heed the Word of God today!

Haste to flee His condemnation;

Seek the straight and narrow way.

Evil are the worldly pleasures

Leading to eternal fire;
Seek the everlasting treasure,
Ere the day of grace expire.

Zion's Harp #52

MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS Krista Banwart

Visiting ministers this past month were Elder Bro. Tom Stock (Sis Karol, Cissna Park, IL) and Elder Bro. Don Braker (Sis. Eileen, Kansas City, MO). We welcome Harold, Berniece, and Heidi Stuber to our St. Louis congregation. They recently moved to our area from Tremont, IL. We wish them a smooth transition as they settle in here. What a blessing to know that God is with us in every "change" we experience, and no matter where we go as we follow Him... He is already there.

MISSOURI, TAYLOR Sally Haerr

You wouldn't think that I would have to use the Silver Lining (writing) to mark "time", but it seems that is just what I do. Each month it reminds me just how swiftly time marches on. Hopefully, all are "marching upward to Zion, that beautiful city of God." (The Tabernacle Hymns, #204)

Our Easter program took place on March 20. The children are so pure and innocent in their presentation. It reminds us why God's Word tells us to be "as little children". (Matt. 18:3)

On April 6, Bro. Wayne Leman (Sis. Julie, Roanoke, IL) came to present our monthly Topical Bible Study. His topic was "Broken/Unbroken". This is a heart issue, an attitude of the heart. The Bible has many references concerning this situation. Psalms 34:18 is only one of them. A reality check for all of us.

Also on April 6, Elder Bro. Kent

Heimer had knee surgery. He is back assembling with us and seems much improved. Nikki Haerr Miller (Adam) is in the hospital in St. Louis. After a week of treatment, she seems to be gaining strength.

Let's all remember to pray for each other. It is such a privilege and God's Word tells us it does make a difference. (James 5:16)

NEW YORK CROGHAN-NAUMBURG Hope Graves

Our Sunday School Easter program was held on March 27. We were thankful to all of the children that participated and shared with us the true meaning of the Easter season. May they continue to grow and learn more about God's love and Jesus' sacrifice for us as they attend class and are surrounded by His people.

A memorial service for Bro. Dave and Sis. Lois Schamback was held here on Saturday, April 9. We were thankful to have ministering Bro. Warren Zahner (Rockville, CT) with us for the weekend. A dinner was provided by the committee afterward and a singing held that evening. What a blessed time it was to gather together with so many visitors and talk about the "precious memories" we have of our loved ones' past. Our prayers continue to extend to their many family members in the days ahead. May they feel the comfort that only God can give.

OHIO, AKRON Joyce Gasser

Bro. Dave Schamback, 87, passed away two days after his wife's funeral. His wife was Sis. Lois (which was reported last issue). Surviving are sons: Bro. John (Sis. Joyce) of our Akron church, Gary (Karen) of

Florida, David (Carolyn) of Michigan, and Paul (Lisa) of New York; daughters, Sis. Judith (Bro. Arthur) Gottier of Connecticut and Marilyn (Kevin) Koziol of Virginia; 16 grandchildren, and 27 great grandchildren; brothers: Bro. Albert, Bro. Charles, Bro. Edward,

Bro. William and Elder Bro. Ronald, all of Elgin, IL; and sisters, Sis. Gertrude Sauder of Elgin, IL, and Sis. Martha Schneider of Ellington, CT. They had lived in New York before moving to Rittman in 1998. Elder Bro. Duane Farney (Sis. Karen, Croghan-Naumburg, NY) took part in the funeral service.

We had an evening of blessing in having Communion, and Elder Bro. Mike Leman (Sis. Deb, Denver, CO) assisted our Elder Bro. Dave Graf. We were thankful for the occasion. Bro. Mike stayed over for Sunday and the Lord blessed with inspirational sermons.

Bro. Bob Graf and Sis. Diane Jarrett had been hospitalized. We are thankful they were able to return home again.

Sis. Michelle Steidl has returned from a medical team project to Creel Mexico. Matthew and Beth Pamer, and Sis. Christina Steidl have returned from the work project to Rio Bravo, Mexico.

Sis. Elizabeth Steidl and Matthew Pamer will be graduating from high school this spring.

Sis. Elizabeth has completed a dental assistant program. Matthew plans to go to the University of Akron.

OHIO, COLUMBUS Nancy Banks

We are so fortunate to have a new sister assembling with us in our small congregation. We welcome Sis. Lynn Hartzler from Rittman, who

has recently accepted a position with Wright State University and has moved to the Dayton area.

We were thankful for the visiting ministers who helped Bro. John this month on the pulpit. Elder Bro. Mark Masters (Mansfield, OH), Bro. Sam Schlatter (Junction, OH) and Bro. Bill Brake have spent time with us. May the Lord richly bless each one that has made the effort to come and visit our way.

OHIO, JUNCTION Cindy Schlatter

We were blessed by the Word brought forth from several visiting ministers this month. We extend our thanks to Bro. Ted Luginbuhl (Smithville, OH), Bro. Chris Wuethrich (LaCrosse, IN) and Bro. Todd Stoller (Latty, OH). May our Heavenly Father continue to bless each one of you for your labors.

"Peace! peace! wonderful peace coming down from the Father above. . ." (Gospel Hymns #746). Our convert Fred Manz (Bro. Don and Sis. Connie) feels this wonderful peace in his heart. We are looking forward to spending an evening together in the future to hear of the work that the Lord has performed in his heart.

Our hearts were filled with joy when we heard of another soul turning his heart to the Lord. Brian Schlatter (Bro. Ralph and Sis. Sheila) recently answered the call of God. We will continue to pray for you, Brian, and for the many others that we pray will answer the call before it is forever too late.

"Love of all gifts is the greatest which the Spirit does bestow. . ." (Zion's Harp #37). Sis. Rachel Baltic's (Bro. Dan and Sis. Betty of Indianapolis, IN) engagement to Bro. Casey Banks (Bro. Larry and Sis.

Nancy) of Columbus, OH, was announced on March 20. We pray for the Lord's guidance and direction as they make plans for their future lives together.

Elijah Maxwell made Bro. Gus and Sis. Dorothy Dietrich grandparents on March 18. Elijah's parents are Max and Amy Delgado. We pray God will give them much wisdom as they raise their precious little boy.

OHIO, LATTY Bonny Wenninger Amanda Steffen

This past month we were thankful and encouraged to have the Word brought to us by three visiting ministers. May God bless Bros. Jerry Bauman (Rittman, OH), Fred Domka (Mansfield, OH), and Scott Schafer (South Bend, IN).

We are thankful to announce that Jennifer Keysor (Chad) has found peace with God. May she continue to feel His presence and guidance each day.

Recent hospital patients were Sis. Marge Gerber (Bro. Jim), Bro. Roy and Sis. Helen Stoller, and Bro. George Keysor (Sis. Sharon). Our prayers are with them as they continue to heal and regain their strength.

Our dear Sis. Louise Laukhuf was laid to rest on April 5. We extend our sympathy and prayers to Bro. Bob and Sis. Janet Williamson, as well as the rest of their family, in the loss of their mother and grandmother.

Many prayers have been offered for Bro. Jerry and Sis. Cherry Klopfenstein's family, as their little son, Jacob, received serious injuries from a mower accident. Our thoughts and prayers will continue to be with him in the days ahead. May the Great Physician continue

to bless little Jacob with healing and strength.

OHIO, MANSFIELD Esther Baumann

"But Jesus said, Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven."

Matthew 19:14

We are thankful for all the little children in our congregation, including two new arrivals. Jesse Matthew was born on March 21 to Bro. Stephen and Sis. Brenda Domka. His excited siblings are Alora and Daniel; grandparents are Bro. Dan and Sis. Mary Ann Domka and Bro. John and Eszter Orcsik (Detroit, MI).

Bro. Matt and Sis. Tami Domka welcomed their firstborn, Makenna Anne, on April 6. Makenna's thankful grandparents are Bro. Dan and Sis. Mary Ann Domka and Bro. Pete and Sis. Karen Baltic.

On April 9, we had the blessing of being able to share Communion. We thank Elder Bro. Art Bahler (Sis. Suzanne, Fairbury, IL) for assisting our Elder Bro. Mark in this holy work. We also thank Elder Bro. Aaron Steffen (Sis. Loretta, Alto, MI) for his service to us in the ministry this past month.

Please continue to pray for our loved ones who were hospitalized this past month: Scott Gabor (Lori), Bro. John Pfeiffer (Sis. Zuzanna), Nathan Pfeiffer (Bro. John and Sis. Marci), Sis. Kay Rufener (Bro. Ron), Sis. Viola Popp (Bro. Lawrence), and Bro. Richard Bricker.

OHIO, RITTMAN**Anne Widmer**

Rejoice in the Lord always and
again I say rejoice.
Rejoice in the Lord always and
again I say rejoice.
Rejoice! Rejoice! And again I say
rejoice!

With three new converts and four new babies in our congregation, we have great cause to rejoice. God has blessed our ever growing church with so many new blessings. We rejoice with Bro. Rich and Sis. Pat Steiner as their son, Eric, has given his heart to Christ and began his repentance. Alicia Gasser, when returning home from a work team to Rio Bravo, has also given her heart to the Lord. We rejoice with her parents, Bro. Neil and Sis. Donna. We praise the Lord that He continued to call souls and gave Kelly Ramsier the grace to come to Him in repentance also. Her parents, Bro. Tim and Sis. Joni, no doubt rejoice in the Lord every day.

This month Bro. Tim and Sis. Sharon Hartzler welcome home their new little bundle of joy, Gretchen Pauline. Gretchen will be loved by her older siblings, Amos, Megan, Jacob and Jubal. Gretchen's grandparents are Bro. Merle and Sis. Bonnie Hartzler and Bro. Ken and Sis. Jane Hartzler (Smithville, OH). Madalyn Joie came a little earlier than expected and is currently staying at Akron Children's Hospital. She was a tiny bundle of joy for her mother, Stacy Bauman. Madalyn and Stacy both need our prayers at this vital time. Madalyn recently had heart surgery, but is recovering well. Her grandma is Sis. Nancy Bauman. Devin Michael was born to first-time parents, Mike and Rebecca Bowlby, on April 13. He is

the grandchild of Bro. Stan and Sis. Karen Beery and Ken and Ginny Bowlby of Doylestown. We pray that the Lord will bless Mike and Rebecca as they begin the journey of parenthood. Bro. Grayson and Sis. Tara Reinhard (Toledo, OH) also are beginning the adventure of parenthood. Madeline Paige was born on March 22. Her grandparents are Mark and Sis. Deb Steiner and Bro. Doyle and Sis. Jan Reinhard (Bluffton, IN).

This month, Sis. Diane Hartzler and Bro. Ralph Weber were hospitalized. We rejoice that they are on the road to recovery and pray that God will continue to touch them with His all-powerful, healing hands.

We also rejoice that we have the freedom to gather around the Word of God every Sunday and Wednesday night without resistance from our government or outside interference. We rejoice that we have had many visiting ministers this month. We would like to thank Elder Bros. Ken Indermuhle (Sardis, OH) and Duane Farney (Croghan- Naumburg, NY), Bros. Gary Sinn (Latty, OH), Clark Stoller (Gridley, IL), Paul Zimmerman (Forrest, IL), Shawn Metzger (Philadelphia, PA), and Jim Vierling (Eureka, IL). We would also like to thank Elder Bros. Ed Schwartz (Bluffton, IN), Kevin Ryan (Rockville, CT) and Bill Schlatter (Junction, OH) for all that they are doing for our congregation. Thank you for your loving kindness, time and energy that you have put into our congregation.

As the summer is approaching, everything is turning green and the weather is getting warmer, may we rejoice in everything that God has given us and done for us.

OHIO, SARDIS**Jami Hartzler****Terry Zollinger**

In true repentance, die to sin,
In Jesus' name believing!
Baptized into His death with Him,
Full pardon be receiving!
Who dies with Christ will with
Him rise,
A new life's way before him lies,
The road of life with Jesus.
Zion's Harp #106

What a blessing a friend could attend services and see his need for repentance. We are happy for Charles Roddy as he turns his back to the world and strives to do the Lord's will. May God grant Charles grace to find peace and may he feel our prayers and support.

And He walks with me, and He
talks with me,
And He tells me I am His own;
And the joy we share as we tarry
there,
None other has ever known.
Gospel Hymns #809

Our sympathy goes to Sis. Paula Figel (Bro. John) and her family in the loss of her brother - in - law, Robert G. Postlethwait (Joyce). May the Lord comfort them in their time of need.

O Thou who in the grave didst lay
O sacred be to us this day.
For on this day our Lord arose
In glory from His death repose.
Zion's Harp #124

On Easter Sunday, we were blessed to have Elder Bro. Merle Hartzler (Sis. Bonnie, Rittman) with us to share the Holy Word. We are thankful for this family each time they come to visit. May God bless them for their efforts.

Faith of our fathers! Living still
In spite of dungeon, fire, and
sword,
O how our hearts beat high with
joy
Whene'er we hear that glorious
word!
Faith of our fathers! Holy faith!
We will be true to Thee till death!
Hymn of Zion #85

We would like to remind everyone the New Martinsville, WV, memorial services are on the weekend of June 25-26. Saturday evening service at Sardis at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday morning singing service starts at 10:30 a.m. and afternoon service begins at 1:00 p.m. If you would like a place to stay or have any questions, please call Elder Bro. Ken Indermuhle at 740-483-1593, Bro. Bill Brake at 740-483-2353 or Bro. Mark Ramsier at 740-483-1806. All are invited to attend.

OHIO, SMITHVILLE

**Alyssa Miller
Rachel Maibach**

Come then, Lord of life eternal,
Step into our midst, we pray;
Help that we may not be merely
Hearers of Thy Word today.
To our teacher, O, be near;
Bless the children gathered here;
May we thrive in fullest measure,
And Thy heart in us find pleasure!
Zion's Harp #166, vs. 6

We were very blessed with visiting ministering brothers this month. Our Elder Bro. Merle Hartzler (Rittman, OH), and Bros. Larry Wenniger (Latty, OH), Paul Gasser (Akron, OH), Doug Harmon (Toledo, OH), Sam Schlatter (Junction, OH), Mike Rinckenberger (Congerville, IL) and Ron Steiner

(Rittman, OH) all were with us this past month. May He be near as you strive to teach us God's ways!

We were thankful to hear the proving and witness the baptism of our Sis. Holly Stoller (Bro. Ed and Sis. Verla). It was a blessing for our congregation to add one more soul to the fold.

Hospitalized this month was Sis. Betty Dotterer. We are praying for God to be with you!

This month, we laid our Bro. Charles Nieman to rest. Our sympathy is extended to his wife, Sis. Delphine; his children, Bro. Denny (Sis. Kay), Sis. Bonnie, and Boyd (Teri), and his grandchildren. We are thankful for a victory won, though!

Also this month, Shawn Frazier and Jenny Hofacre (Bro. Steve and Sis. Jolene) were married. We pray that God will be near you!

OHIO, TOLEDO Teresa Rywalski Rebecca Beard

"Peace I leave with you, my peace
I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be
troubled, neither let it be afraid."

John 14:27

We were thankful to hear that our convert, Ben Harmon (Bro. Doug and Sis. Lanna), has found peace with himself, man, and God. The following weekend we once again heard the wonderful news that our dear converts, Bob and Dorothy Stevens, have found peace with man and God. We are looking forward to the time that we can hear these dear loved ones' testimonies and witness their new birth in Christ.

Once again we are most thankful for the visiting ministers that have shared the pulpit the last month with our home ministers. They include Bro. Art Ingold (Sis. Bonnie, Rittman, OH) and Bro. Vic Bauman (Sis. Brenda, Smithville, OH).

We spent a quiet evening together as we partook of Holy Communion. Elder Bro. Aaron Steffen (Sis. Loretta, Alto, MI) was here to help our Elder Bro. Bill Schlatter (Sis. Emily, Junction, OH). May we always be thankful for what the Lord has done for us.

We are happy that Bro. Matt and Sis. Deanna Manz are assembling with us since their marriage. May God be the ever Head of their home.

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

Proverbs 22:6

First - time parents, Bro. Grayson and Sis. Tara Reinhard, are rejoicing over the birth of their daughter, Madalynn Paige. Happy grandparents are Bro. Doyle and Sis. Jan Reinhard (Bluffton, IN) and Mark and Deb Steiner (Rittman, OH).

Sis. Frances Laidig was recently put into Northwest Ohio Hospice inpatient unit. May our prayers go out to her and her family.

OREGON, PORTLAND Louisa Gallup

Greetings everyone!

The Sunday before Easter, our eight Sunday School children brought us the story of Jesus' death and His resurrection by reading /scripture, singing hymns and reciting poems. We appreciate them doing this for us and sincerely hope and pray that they will keep close to

their hearts what they hear in Sunday School and some day act on it.

“To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven: A time to be born, and a time to die...”

Ecclesiastes 3:1-2

Our heartfelt sympathy to Sis. Pearl (Pfister) Miller (Bro. Robert) in the loss of her eldest brother, Bro. Harvey Pfister (Wanda, dec.) of Roanoke, IL. Bro. Harvey passed away at the age of 92, on April 3. May the Lord's peace and comfort be with the family.

And so there is joy for Bro. Bob and Sis. Pearl as well, as they became great-grandparents again, this time to Kathryn Elizabeth and Carolyn Marlise Strahm. These precious twin girls were born to first-time parents, Bro. Brent and Sis. Brianna (Miller) Strahm, on April 9. Grandparents are Bro. Richard and Sis. Edie Strahm (and the late Sis. Kathryn Strahm) of Bern, KS, and Tim Miller of Portland and Carol Wilson of Gresham. Please keep these babies in your prayers as they were born prematurely and will probably be in the hospital for some time. Our prayers for healing and strength for Sis. Brianna, as well as God's guidance and direction for both new parents as they assume the responsibility of raising their children to come to love and know the Lord.

We thank, as always, the numerous friends and brethren who worshipped with us this past month. Our gratitude especially to the ministering brethren: Bros. Harvey Kuenzi (Sis. Jennifer) and Ed Knecht (Sis. Judie) from Silverton, OR.

OREGON, SILVERTON

**Melissa Kuenzi
Cindy Metzger**

We are thankful to announce that Evan Sinn (Bro. Mark and Sis. Elsie) and Kristen (Matt) Brockamp have found peace and are awaiting their testimony and baptism.

Bro. Cliff Kuenzi (Violet) was hospitalized this month. We are glad that he has been able to return to the nursing home where he resides.

We welcome two new babies this month. Caleb John was born to Bro. Kevin and Sis. Jill Dettwyler on March 30. Caleb has one sibling, Heidi. His grandparents are Bro. Loren and Sis. Marlene Dettwyler and Bro. Jim and Sis. Joan Dietrich, both from Silverton.

Drew Alan was born on April 2 to Bro. Jeremy and Sis. Kristy Kuenzi. His brother, Micah, welcomes him into the family, along with his grandparents, Bro. Terry and Sis. Ann Kuenzi and Bro. Jim and Sis. Joan Dietrich, both of Silverton.

Sis. Bethany Kuenzi is engaged to be married to Bro. David Messner of Winthrop, MN. Their parents are Bro. Terry and Sis. Ann Kuenzi of Silverton and Bro. Tony and Sis. Nancy Messner of Morris, MN.

We welcome Mark Dietrich home after spending time living in Lester, IA.

We are thankful for both Elder Bro. Wayne Fehr and Bro. Ron Jones of Portland for ministering to us this past month.

TENNESSEE, NASHVILLE

Mike and Monica Fritz

We were privileged this month to share Holy Communion together as a congregation. We appreciate the efforts of Elder Bros. Phil Stettner (Sis. Maureen, Bluffton North, IN)

and Bob Walder (Sis. Gloria, Congerville, IL) who came to serve us.

We have been blessed by the Word shared with us by our visiting ministers: Bros. Steve Pamer (Sis. Arliss, Akron, OH) and Sid Kaufmann (Sis. Sandra, Cissna Park, IL). We also appreciated the fellowship of brethren and friends visiting from Bradford, Chicago, Cissna Park, Congerville, Morton, Princeville, and Roanoke, IL; Bluffton North, IN; and Lester, IA.

If you are traveling in or through the Nashville area, please plan to worship with us. The following churches are scheduled for services in the near future: Bay City, MI (5/22), Chicago, IL (6/5), Leo, IN (6/12), and Roanoke, IL (6/26). We do not have a visiting minister scheduled for Memorial Day weekend (5/29) or Father's Day (6/19). If you are planning to worship with us, please call ahead to confirm our schedule. We also usually meet on Wednesday evenings for a song service and would welcome any mid-week visitors. Contacts are Bro. Don and Sis. Faye Sauder, (615) 373-8928; Bro. Mike and Sis. Monica Fritz, (615) 952-9933; and Sis. Gwen Leuthold, (615) 356-5755.

TEXAS, SAN MARCOS

**Amy Ringger
Serenity Ringger**

We're thankful for Brotherhood support for our local church. One avenue of support is when brethren move here to worship with us. Bro. Barry and Sis. Myra (Isch) Beer recently moved here from Indianapolis, Indiana. Bro. Barry is working in Austin. We welcome them both!

We're also thankful for the support in the ministry this month by Bros. Byron Stoller (Sis. Carol, Gridley), Scott Schafer (Sis. Gigi,

South Bend), Dan Beer (Sis. Deb, Milford), Rick Plattner (Sis. Mary Ann, Fairbury), and Ron Schambach (Sis. Nancy, Elgin, IL). This season seems to be the time of year that we have many visitors regularly, though we enjoy them all year long, too. We also appreciated many visitors from Forrest, Smithville, Mansfield, Alto, and Bluffton.

The following churches are on the minister rotation for June: (5) Tremont; (12) Forrest; (19) La-Crosse; and (26) West Bend.

We extend a warm welcome to anyone who may be in the area to worship with us. Please call ahead to help us plan for serving lunch and other activities. If you are available for fellowship on Saturday evening, Sunday evening, or during the week, we'd be happy to plan something then as well. See the ministers' book for local contact information.

Our congregation continues to meet for services at the Quality Inn in San Marcos, TX. San Marcos is located on IH-35, approximately 20 minutes south of Austin or about 50 minutes north of downtown San Antonio. Take Exit #206; the hotel is on the southbound frontage road.

TEXAS, ZAPATA

Sandy Leman

As Mother's Day approaches, we thank God that He let us be born to mothers who love and fear Him above all else. Where would we be without the guidance of our godly mothers? There is probably no greater influence on the life of a person than that of his or her mother. May God bless each mother and reward her for the sacrifices she has made for her family.

Now that most of our winter brothers and sisters have gone back north, we will be worshipping with the believers in Pharr a couple of times a month. If you are planning to be in the Zapata area, we welcome your visit! Please call first (956/765-5612) to see if services are here or in the Pharr church for the weekend you will be here.

VERMONT, NORWICH

Areli Reutter

"Our soul is escaped as a bird out of the snare of the fowler; the snare is broken, and we are escaped."

Psalm 124:7

Greetings in Christ! This month we were blessed to have Elder Bro. Kevin Ryan and ministering Bro. Everett Gerber (both from

Rockville, CT) to lead us in worship. From April until August, we are looking forward to holding services bimonthly (on the second and fourth Sundays of each month). The following churches will be participating in the minister rotation: Rockville, CT; Akron, OH; Mansfield, OH; Rittman, OH; Smithville, OH; and Tremont, IL. We thank these beloved congregations in advance for being willing to share their servants.

If you have plans to visit Vermont this spring, please worship with us! Give us a call in advance to help us plan for your attendance. Services start promptly at 10:15 in the morning. For more information or directions, please contact Morey Weiss at (802) 295-5981 or Bro. Kirby Reutter at (802) 295-1869. The church is located right off Interstate 91. Simply take exit 13 and proceed to 344 Main Street, Norwich, VT 05055.

In Vermont, we can finally hear the beautiful chirping of the birds as a symbol of new life.

We thank Thee, Lord, we are redeemed!

Our soul they could not capture,
For as a bird from nets released,
We have escaped in rapture.

Zion's Harp, #109



Sermon continued from page 2

ing to be weeping and gnashing of teeth (Matthew 8:12). We read of that eternal fire that is prepared for the devil and his angels (Matthew 25:41). Those whose names are not in the Book of Life and to be cast in there also.

Then we read of Jesus, how He made it possible for you and for me, a way of escape from that latter end. He went to the Father to intercede for you and for me. We know that He bore the sins of man there on Calvary's cross. He bore all of that iniquity that was ours. He rose again. What are we going to do about our life? Are we going to continue in sin?

The Apostle Paul asked that question at one point and he said, God forbid. How should we that have been redeemed live any longer there in that sin? Can't quote that exactly. It is in Romans, I believe, Chapter 6 if you want to look it up. But he said, God forbid. God forbid that any of us who have heard this word would fail to take advantage of that opportunity unto salvation. Or having done so, having experienced the mercy of God, that we would turn away from it.

God offers to you and to me love. He offers to us grace that we can overcome. He offers to us help if we are willing to ask. The promise is that to those that ask, they should receive. To those that knock, He would open unto them. To those that seek, they shall find (Matthew 7:7). Even in the Old Testament scripture, I believe there is a reference that tells us that if we would seek diligently the Lord with our whole heart, that we would be able to find Him (II Chronicles 15:15).

Now Jonathan here, he went willingly to find out just how is it with David. He even asked his father - we didn't read it but if we would have read further - he interceded and pleaded for David (I Samuel 20:32). Jonathan, we know he did not live to take the kingdom. But it was given to David because of Saul's sin.

So Jonathan was not that perfect

Savior, beloved, but Jesus Christ is the perfect One. Jesus was the innocent One. He died for you and for me. He shed His innocent blood and He has a kingdom and He wants you and He wants me to be a part of it. He asks us that we would yield our life unto Him.

Now in this New Testament writing, what a wonderful encouragement to us, beloved brethren. For we would realize that God who redeemed us has not made any one of us greater than others. But He asks of us that we would use what He has given to His praise and to His honor. He says here, "Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I would not have you ignorant." I Corinthians 12:1. These are gifts, beloved. These are things that we haven't earned. These are things that we have not of our own ability or our own strength been able to achieve. Everything that we have has been given to us by God. And the things that we have could be taken from us.

He says I would not have you ignorant. "Ye know that ye were Gentiles, carried away unto these dumb idols, even as ye were led." I Corinthians 12:2. There are many dumb idols in the world today that people are seeking after. Things that rule and govern people's lives. Seeking after prosperity. Seeking after pride and seeking after fame. Seeking after high positions. The entertainments, beloved, of this world become idols to the children of men. Anything that could enter into our mind to cause us to believe a lie is really an idol.

We read of covetousness. Not too long ago we read of covetousness which is idolatry (Colossians 3:5). We are warned against that beloved. Those things we once walked in as Gentiles, carried away even as ye were led.

"Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed: and that no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost." I Corinthians 12:3. It is the Holy Spirit that speaks to your heart and

to mine. And brings us to an understanding that there is only one way unto life. That one way is the way of the cross that Jesus Christ walked upon for you and for me. He asks us to take up our cross and to follow Him. To deny our self. To live a life that is separate from sin.

"Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all. But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal. For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom..." I Corinthians 12:4-8. As we read this together, beloved ones, I was so thankful for these eighth through eleventh verses or so here. Because I greatly fear that some people will take this scripture and misapply it. Will say that, well then, it is acceptable for us as long as we say we believe in God and as long as we say that we believe in Jesus, it doesn't really matter how we live our life. But these eighth through the tenth or eleventh verses seem to clarify for us what the Apostle Paul was meaning here by these diversities.

He says, "For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues: But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will." I Corinthians 12:8-11. The word of God tells us, it lays down certain things that we are required to do if we are going to be able to come out from the world. It starts by telling us that we need to repent. We need to believe. We need to confess those sins. We need to be baptized. The word of God lays that foundation for us, be-

Sermon continued on page 44

Sermon continued from page 43

loved.

There are those today who are trying to change that. Who are trying to make an easier way. They would even use, perhaps, some of the scripture to try to justify themselves. This word lays down clearly for us, beloved, that which God asks for us to do. Lest we have a misunderstanding of what the Apostle Paul means here, he clarifies for us these differences. We don't all necessarily have the same measure of faith. There are some men who have been given much greater faith than I have. Much greater measure. It seems at times my faith is just so weak.

Beloved ones, there are others who have a greater measure of wisdom. Able to take this word and to remember it. Able to quote it in the time of temptation. Or in the time when there is need of comfort or need of direction. Great wisdom given by the Spirit of God.

There are others who have a great deal of knowledge that is given by the Spirit. Able to understand how to apply this word in our daily walk of life.

Others have the gifts of healing. Able to speak a word of encouragement. A word that would renew hope when it would seem that you and I would face situations in life when it seems like Satan has tried and we scarcely know where to turn. A brother or our sister might come to us offering us words of healing by the Spirit of God.

The working of miracles. We read in the Sunday School hour, the words of Jesus this morning. He said, except ye see signs and miracles, ye will not believe (St. John 4:48). Dear friend, I wonder what signs you are waiting for. Or what miracles you expect yet before you will believe this word. Come, for today is the day of salvation. Harden not your heart. Because God has given you today. We don't have a promise for tomorrow. God has given you and I today. A day that we can look into this word and find

wonderful truth and an opportunity unto salvation.

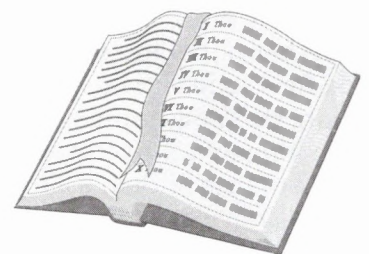
He says here about the divers kinds of tongues. The interpretation of tongues. Beloved ones, we read this Bible. This book that we have here before us is the King James version of the Holy Bible in the English language. There are others who have a greater understanding. Some among us even could know four or five different languages. To be able to read the scripture in all of them. To compare them one to another. Perhaps even have a far greater understanding of the perfect will of God. But for most of us, we have a weak ability to understand. We maybe understand a very small portion of one language. Beloved ones, God has given to us this book and it is sufficient if we will believe it. If we will obey it. We don't need to go to other versions of the Bible. We don't necessarily have to go back and study the Greek or the Hebrew languages in those original tongues, because it is the same Spirit if we are willing to obey it. And if we are willing to believe it and put it to use in our life, it will bring for us the greatest blessing that God has to give to you and to me. Eternal life to those who believe and obey His word.

"But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will." I Corinthians 12:11. So God has given to different ones of us different abilities. Not because we deserved it. Not because we earned it. Not because we were greater than someone else. But He has given to you and to me an ability. Are we using it? Are we working together, together using the abilities that God has given to us collectively, that we could be a praise and an honor to Him?

The latter part of this chapter talks about the unity of the body. We are to be as one body. We are to be joined together, beloved, as believers in Christ. If there is division, it can't work to the praise of God. It can't do that which can benefit us.

"If the whole body were an eye, where were the hearing? If the whole were hearing, where were the smelling? But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him." I Corinthians 12:17,18. As it hath pleased Him. God sees you and God sees me. Each and every one of us whom He has called. He has a place for us in this life. We often question, we might even wonder, what is the purpose? Beloved ones, God has given to you a place and to me a place to hold the faith. To be steadfast. To be faithful unto our God, even as we made vow and promise in the day and time in which we were baptized. We promised to keep ourselves from the world. To be faithful to our God. That still needs to be our purpose and our goal.

Even as he said here in this thirteenth verse, "For by one Spirit are we all baptized into One body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit." I Corinthians 12:13. It doesn't matter where we were born. It doesn't matter what kind of a family we are from. It doesn't matter what our earthly position is. Beloved ones, God has called us to be a part of His body and to be one. One with another. Loving one another. Caring for one another. Even as Jonathan demonstrated such a great love for David. We are asked to love our brother. To love our sister as the Lord loved us.



What Is Covetousness?

submitted by an Elder Brother

In I Corinthians 6, we find covetousness listed along with fornication, adultery and drunkenness, with only a comma between. Men who are guilty of these practices shall not inherit the kingdom of God. In Colossians 3:5, we read that covetousness is idolatry, and in I John 5:21, that children of God should keep themselves from idols.

The dictionary defines covetousness as an unrestrained desire for something that another person has. In the seven woes of the fifth chapter of Isaiah, verse eight, we read, "Woe unto them that join house to house, that lay field to field, until there be no place that they may be placed alone in the midst of the earth." The Scripture warns against emulations in Galatians 5:20. Webster defines emulations as the desire to equal or surpass, or rivalry. "Let us not be desirous of vain glory, provoking one another, envying one another." (*Galatians 5:26*). "The love of money is the root of all evil, which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith and pierced themselves through with many sorrows." (*I Timothy 6:10*).

In the "Sermon on the Mount," (*Matt. 6:24*), Jesus said, "Ye cannot serve God and mammon." Mammon is defined as riches regarded as an object of worship and the greedy pursuit thereof. In Philippians 4:5, we read, "Let your moderation be known unto all men." The dictionary lists moderation as the avoidance of extremes; not being excessive. As a believer in Christ who wishes to have a part in the first resurrec-

tion and who expects to leave this earth, perhaps without a moment's notice, should our lifestyle be one of ostentatious display? "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him." (*I John 2:15*). The rich young ruler who came to Jesus asking what he could do to inherit eternal life went away sorrowful. Though he was of sterling character, he had a covetous heart, and the Scripture does not relate that he ever "sold out", distributed to the poor, and followed Jesus.

The antonym for covetousness is generosity. In Ezekiel 16:49 we read that pride, fullness of bread, and abundance of idleness (*leisure time*) was the beginning of the downfall of the proud city of Sodom; and the prophet also said that Sodom did not strengthen the hand of the poor and needy. In I Timothy 6:17 we are charged that if God blesses the labors of our hands, and if our herds and flocks are multiplied, and if our silver and gold is multiplied (*Deut. 8:13*), we are not to be highminded nor trust in these riches. They are temporary at best (*Psalms 62:10*). We ARE to trust in the living God for it is He that giveth man the power to get wealth (*Deut. 8:18-19*). We ARE to do good and distribute and share with the needy. Psalms 41 lists certain promises to those who remember the poor.

In tithing and charitable giving, we find the only true tax shelter for the believer. In I Timothy 8:19, Paul says we will be laying up in

store for ourselves a good foundation against the time to come, and will lay hold on eternal life. And finally, Jesus Himself tells us in the "Sermon on the Mount", "Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal. For where your treasure is there will your heart be also." (*Matthew 6:19-21*).

If we are truly interested in treasures in heaven, it will not concern us who has the finest car, the largest tractor, the biggest farm, or the most opulent home. We will hardly notice because we will be about our Father's business.

The author of this article is identified as an anonymous Country Parson.

This article was printed in the Silver Lining 20 years ago, and one of our beloved Elder Brothers felt it would be a timely re-print.





INTERESTED IN HOUSEPARENTING?

Houseparenting at Gateway Woods offers an opportunity for a couple, directed of the Lord, to come to work in a full-time on going ministry at Gateway Woods. This position offers competitive wages and benefits and a close relationship with brothers and sisters whose hearts and lives are dedicated to a common mission with an eternal reward. If you feel the call to explore these possibilities, please call one of the brothers listed below.

Ed Graf
Residential Program Director
PO Box 151
Leo, IN 46765
1-888-443-4283
ed.graf@gatewaywoods.org

Lynn Stieglitz
Counseling Elder
15417 Doty Rd.
New Haven, IN 46774
260-657-1033

If anyone is serving in our Armed Forces that would appreciate receiving a printed sermon, please send their name and address or email address to:

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Forrest, IL 61741
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Gateway Woods Auction
August 20, 2005



SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

Gateway Woods offers four \$1,500 scholarships to students enrolled in undergraduate or postgraduate work leading to a degree in a social services field (this unfortunately does not include Nursing). The scholarships are available to any member of the Apostolic Christian Church or friend who attends on a regular basis. A description of the scholarship and application are available by contacting Bro. Joe Gerber at 888-443-4283 or e-mail at

joe.gerber@gatewaywoods.org

or by visiting our website at

www.gatewaywoods.org

and clicking on the Social Services Scholarship link. Applications need to be returned to Gateway Woods by June 1, 2005. We encourage all eligible members or friends to apply.

U.S.A. BOARD WORK PROJECTS

For area work projects, please contact the following Disaster Work Project Committee Representative:

- Kansas:** Paul Kaeb
Phone: 785-284-3261
Cell: 785-547-5269
E-mail: paulkaeb@ksiconveyors.com
- Iowa:** Martin Zaugg
Phone/Fax: 515-379-1693
Cell: 515-320-2404
- Illinois:** Marvin Sauder
Phone: 309-925-4171
Fax: 309-925-2409
Cell: 309-241-8171
E-mail: mmksblf@dpc.net
- Indiana:** Gerry Waibel
Phone/Fax: 219-279-2582
E-mail: glwaibel@hotmail.com
- Ohio:** Ken Zollinger
Phone: 330-925-6370
Fax: 330-927-6370
Cell: 330-466-2247

CARIBBEAN BOARD PROJECTS - 2005

All volunteers should contact the project coordinator. Should you not be able to contact the coordinator, for Haiti direct your inquiry to Bro. Tom Hitz, Ph. 734-454-9229, Fax 1-734-454-9259 or E-mail thitzhome@juno.com. For Jamaica, direct your inquiry to Bro. Kevin Sauder, Ph./Fax 309-263-4036 or E-mail kjs@a5.com.

HAITI					
ORG.	DATE	AREA	COORDINATOR	PROJECT	CAPACITY
JAMAICA					
CCCD	July 2-9, 2005	Deaf Village	Dean Ramsier	Work Place	40

COORDINATOR	PHONE	FAX	E-MAIL
Jon Zeller	309-266-9009		
Ron Palitto	330-336-5373		
Bob Beebe	574-291-2158	574-299-8173	rbeebe@surfpure.com
Tom Hitz	734-454-9229	734-454-9259	thitzhome@juno.com
Phil Isabel	219-261-3541	219-261-2885	
Dean Pashak	989-662-7685	989-662-7685	dwpashak@charter.net
Bill Rager	419-263-2989		
Kevin Sauder	309-263-4036	309-263-4036	kjs@a5.com
Rich Bertschi	309-467-6110		lemangm@mtco.com
Ted Habegger	260-694-6765		th@parlorcity.com
Mike Reinhard	248-477-2287	248-427-0396	mlreinhard@msn.com
Troy Stuber	309-925-2603		tstuber@highstream.net
Rick Wuethrich	219-567-9488	219-567-2542	topnotch@home.ffni.com
Greg (Beth) Herman	309-243-5610		gbherman@juno.com
Warren Kloter	309-208-2785		wkloter@myexcel.com
Roger Stoller	309-747-3228	309-747-2566	rstoller@dtnspeed.net
Dean Ramsier	330-334-2561		ramsier@neo.rr.com

CCCD = Caribbean Christian Center for the Deaf

MEBSH = Missions of Evangelical Baptists of South Haiti

Palm Grove = Mission of Haiti

S.E.E.D. = An Agricultural School & Extension Service

TBA = To Be Announced

Palm Grove = Mission of Haiti

A.W.A. - B. = Apostolic Water Aid/Bluffton

A.W.A. - FRW = Apostolic Water Aid/Francesville, Remington, Wolcott

A.W.A. - T = Apostolic Water Aid/Tremont

(*) = Changes or additions since last issue

(**) = Spring Break Timeframe

Mexico Work Teams 2005

Location	Date	Project	Coordinator	Phone	E-mail
Magdalena	June 4-11, 2005	Construction	Scott Klopfenstein	602-721-7409	scottklop@yahoo.com
Magdalena	June 11-18, 2005	Construction	Andy Bauman	309-965-2174	arbauman@bwsys.net
Magdalena	June 18-25, 2005	Construction	Joe Sprunger	317-770-7351	joes@sullivan-corp.com
Magdalena	June 25-July 2, 2005	Construction	Tim Lehman	765-474-1168	TLehman@ICONTrans.com
Rio Bravo	June 18-25, 2005	Construction	Dean Fiechter	260-565-3439	dafiechter@parlorcity.com
Magdalena	July 16-23, 2005	Construction	Kent Mogler	651-452-8586	kent.mogler@genmills.com
Magdalena	July 23-30, 2005	Construction	Brian Ricketts	815-657-8308	brickett24@hotmail.com
Juarez	September 14-21, 2005	Medical/Dental	Cheryl Herrmann	309-385-1082	cherylh@mtco.com
Magdalena	November 19-26, 2005	Construction	Loren Dettwyler	503-873-5784	lmzettwyler@peoplepc.com

If anyone is interested in teaching health/first aid/medical/fire/EMT/dental skills in Magdalena, Imuris, or Ixtlan, contact Sis. Cheryl Herrmann.

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Gateway Woods has an opening on our administrative team for a brother or sister to manage our office operations. The Office Manager handles the financial and human resource needs of Gateway Woods and is heavily involved in public relations. The Office Manager is a key full-time position that offers responsibility, management, and creativity. If you have training and experience in the areas of accounting and/or finance and possess good analytical, organizational, communication and computer skills, please contact one of the brothers listed below for more information and a job description. A basic understanding of desktop publishing would be a plus.

Jeff Schumacher
Administrator
PO Box 151
Leo, IN 46765
1-888-443-4283
jeff.schumacher@gatewaywoods.org

Lynn Stieglitz
Counseling Elder
15417 Doty Rd.
New Haven, IN 46774
260-657-1033

**Apostolic Christian
Counseling Services**

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309-263-6841 (fax)

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To order, contact,

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Bible Distribution
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Bluffton, IN 46714
Phone and Fax 260/824-5587
E-mail: bibledist@parlorcity.com

Compromise With Sin

submitted by Bro. Gene I. Lehman, Wolcott, IN

The dictionary describes a compromise as an agreement arrived at by mutual concessions. This means that each party gives up something and therefore loses something it believes in.

Compromises usually take time to negotiate, therefore the changes they bring do not come suddenly, and sometimes are hardly noticed as changes. Exactly the same can be said of compromising our spiritual principles which is really compromising with sin.

Jeremiah, chapter two (2), gives seven stages that are involved in compromising sacred principles. It would be helpful to read this chapter before you complete this article.

(1) *Israel had something very precious.*

"I remember thee, the love of thine espousals... Israel was holiness to the Lord." (vs. 2, 3)

When we repented and came into the Church, we valued our relationship with God as most precious in our lives.

(2) *Over a period of time they lost it.*

"What iniquity have your fathers found in me, that they are gone far from me, and have walked after vanity...?" (vs. 5)

Vanity is fruitless desire or endeavor. It took place slowly over a period of years as each generation gave up a few tenets of faith dear to their fathers. Perhaps none of these by themselves would have done harm, but collectively, they took away a vital part of the Faith – and fruit bearing stopped.

(3) *The greatest loss came during times of prosperity.*

"And I brought you into a plentiful country to eat the fruit thereof and the goodness thereof..." (vs. 7)

The past three or four decades have brought our brethren unprecedented prosperity. We need to examine ourselves with utmost care to see whether we have gained or lost spiritually.

(4) *The leadership became weak.*

"...The pastors also transgressed against me..." (vs. 8)

Today we have more elders and ministers than ever before. They meet together often to counsel and promote unity, but they cannot hold the Church together by themselves. They need sincere encouragement, the daily prayers of the Church, and kind admonition from the members if they fail to uphold the Truth. Sermons should have strong emphasis on the Pure Word and follow the Faith and belief of those who have gone before.

We must keep the faith pure and the Word undiluted!

(5) *At any time they returned to Him, God would have accepted them.*

"Wherefore I will yet plead with you saith the Lord and with your children's children will I plead." (vs. 9)

When we feel ourselves slipping into compromise, let us go back to the day we received peace with God and the covenant in the baptismal waters. This is the milestone that marks the beginning of our journey in Faith and the cornerstone on which our spiritual house is built. Remember, God always will keep His side of the covenant.

(6) *They substituted something false for something real and precious.*

"For my people have committed two evils; they have forsaken me and the fountain of living waters, and hewed them out cisterns, broken cisterns that can hold no water." (vs. 13)

Now comes the real effect of compromise, when we substitute worldly things, goals, and ideals in the place of True Spirituality. This is the final stage in which our life, instead of being transformed by the renewing of our minds, becomes conformed to the world. The evidence is found in our walk of life, our choice of companions, how we spend our leisure time, the places we visit, our outward appearance, our obedience and submission to the will of God, our attendance at church, our fellowship with those of like mind, and so forth. Do we establish and practice good habits in reading the Word and in regular prayer? Are we really living a consecrated life of self-denial? Self-examination and evaluation in the light of the Word are absolutely essential in the life of a believer. The Holy Spirit will guide us if we seek in faith to find – if we, as Enoch, are truly walking with God.

(7) *Their own acts convicted them.*

"Thine own wickedness shall corrupt thee, and thy backslidings shall reprove thee." (vs. 19)

Jesus said we shall be known by our fruits. It is vital that we search our individual hearts to see if we have fallen victim to the gradual process of compromise. We will all find areas we need to work on and revert back to the basics of our Faith. If we find that we have indeed experienced some backsliding, this is not fatal. Read Jeremiah 3:12-13. "RETURN thou backsliding Israel, saith the Lord, and I will not cause mine anger to fall upon you: for I am merciful, saith the Lord, and I will not keep anger forever. Only ACKNOWLEDGE thine iniquity..." Our God is so great and merciful that He will receive us with open arms, if we RETURN and ACKNOWLEDGE our errors and become willing to walk with Him once again. We must realize that it is not only for us that we uphold the Faith and resist compromise, but it is also for future generations should the Lord tarry His coming.

"We see dimly in the darkness what is small and what is great,

*Weak of faith how slight a hand may turn
the iron helm of fate,*

But the soul is still oracular amid the market din,

List the ominous stern echo from the delphic caves within,

*They enslave their children's children who
make compromise with sin."*

from *The Present Crisis*
By James Russell Lowell



REMEMBERING

Our Spiritual Heritage

Miscellaneous

Church History Update

An update to the 650-page church history, *Marching To Zion*, has been in progress for almost two years.

This book, published in 1984, is being made more current. Work began in the early fall of 2003. Much has happened in the past 20 years.

Each congregation is sending in new information (data since 1984) regarding new buildings, new fellowship centers and remodeling. Also, data regarding new Elders, and Elder retirements will be included in the new book.

Because of new technologies, the new updated manuscript will need to be entirely re-typeset. When the book is re-written, the topical index in the back of the book will need to be re-done too. All this will result in expanded proofreading requirements.

No date is set for completion of this project. Much work remains to be done.

Belvidere, Illinois

When the brethren at Belvidere bought their first church building, they were in need of additional pews for their assembly room. They had heard that the church at

Lexington, Kentucky, had some extra pews, having received them from the congregation at Milford, Indiana. They had been placed in storage. At Belvidere the need amounted to 13 pews. They called Bro. Lester Huber in Kentucky and asked how many pews he had in storage. His reply? 13 pews. So, God surely opened the way for one congregation to help another, and the need was met in an exact way.

Did You Know That...

...The immigrant train young Nicholas Bach rode in —enroute to the Midwest — was so cold he had to scratch the inside of the windows to get his first glimpse of America. He eventually settled in Fairbury, Illinois.

...Benedict Weyeneth, 29, was the first American Elder.

...Joseph Bella, a Hungarian native, was an early American leader called a "Roving Elder." As a single (unmarried) Elder, he traveled widely in America to help establish several congregations. He is buried in the South Side Cemetery south of Fairbury, Illinois.

...In 1863, the church at Mansfield, Ohio (on East Market Street) cost \$1,500.

...On July 10, 1843, brethren in Switzerland petitioned the government to recognize their church. In this document they resolved they would hold fast to their principles according to the Word of God "*whatever the cost might be.*" This proclamation was made in the face of much persecution.

...Bro. Samuel Froehlich rejected infant baptism. He wrote, "This play with holy things I could no longer carry on, in my conviction."

...In the winter of 1879 in central Illinois, Elder Benedict Weyeneth held meetings nearly every evening but Saturdays. His travels resulted in his baptizing 159 souls. He felt his calling was more as a preacher than a farmer.

By Perry A. Klopfenstein

Next Issue:

The beginning of a new series entitled, "The Ties That Bind", a historical look at the reasons for the closely-knit nature of our brethren as it developed over the generations.

The Light Of Hope

From Across The Ocean

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"A Quiet and Peaceful Life"

Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle, Shioda, Japan

What kind of a life are we living? I Timothy 2:2 reads in part, "That we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty." That sounds wonderful, and we would all like to achieve that, by God's grace. ("Peaceful" is more commonly used in today's English than "peaceable," and the meaning is the same.)

The above scripture was written nearly 2,000 years ago, but even 100 years ago people could say, "If only those scientists would come up with some household conveniences, we would have a better chance of living a quiet and peaceful life." Well, scientists have come up with some household conveniences such as washing machines, refrigerators, central heating and cooling systems, etc., but what happened to the expected quiet and peaceful life? Has it escaped us, and if so, why?

The first answer that comes to my mind is that we are no longer satisfied with the basics for

life, which are, food, clothing and shelter, although the Bible teaches us, "And having food and raiment, let us be therewith content." I Timothy 6:8. No mention is made of shelter, perhaps because the climate is mild in that part of the world.

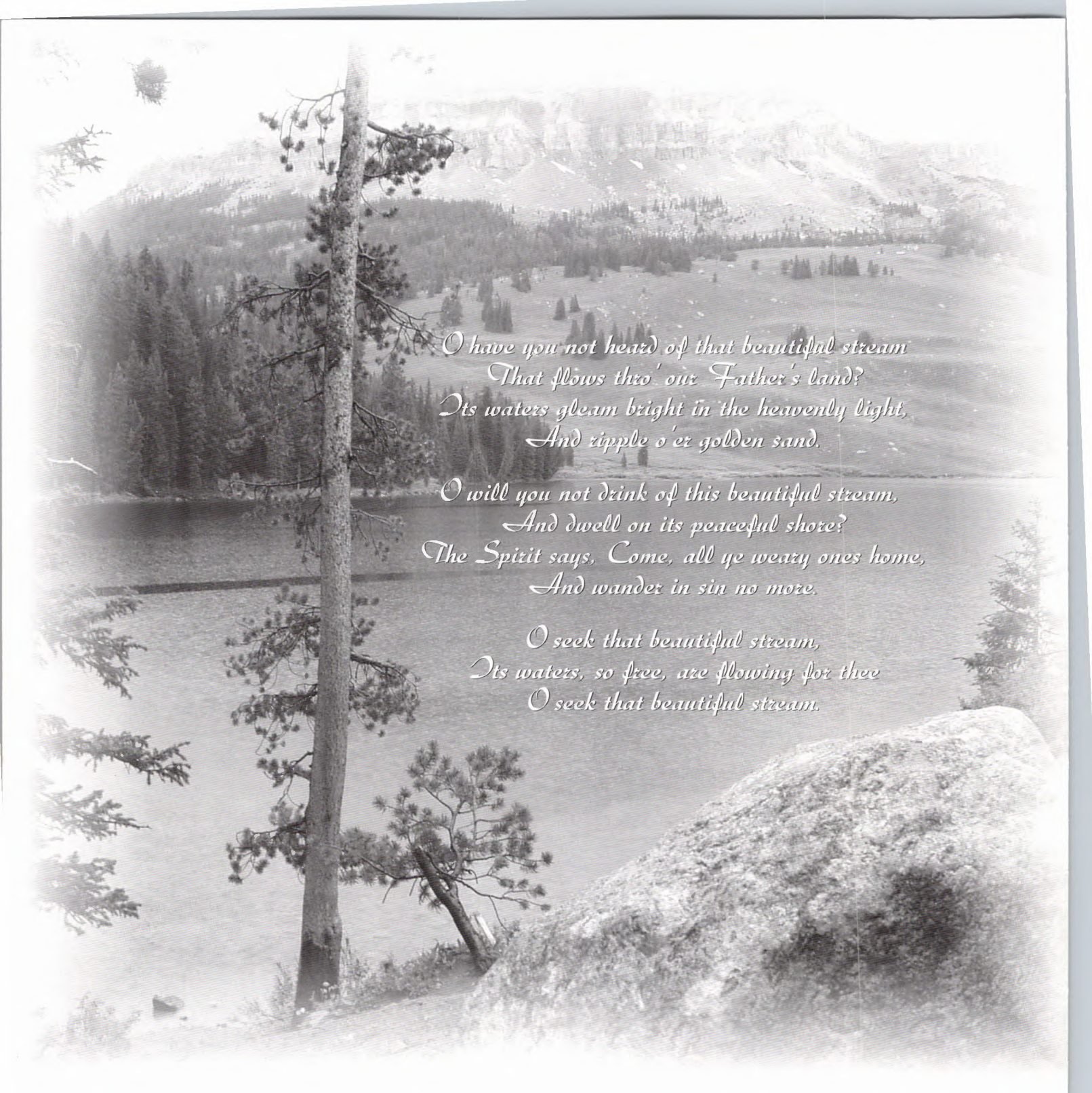
I Thessalonians 4:11 reads, "And that ye study to be quiet, and to do your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you." That's getting pretty strong. Now it is a commandment. Fortunately, we use our own hands when running a computer, but the intention is probably that we should be hard workers but not to get all disgruntled about our work. The above scriptural phrase, "Study to be quiet," is rendered by the Japanese translators as, "That you endeavor to be settled."

I remember when I was a young boy I visited a bus ticket counter in Peoria, Illinois, with my parents. I don't believe we were buying any bus tickets but we were in the area. There was

one agent, a man I believe, who worked in such a calm manner in spite of all the confusion around him, with customers clamoring for his attention, etc., that I remarked later how calm he was in the midst of confusion. I still admire that man and would like to be like him. He may have been boiling inside but he certainly looked calm on the outside. The Bible encourages us to try to be quiet and peaceful, inside and outside.

How can a mother be calm and peaceful when the baby keeps her awake all night and other children and other duties crowd in on her like a tsunami wave, caused by an earthquake? I don't know the answer but we all know that the quiet and peaceful person, in the midst of mass confusion, makes a better impression and gets more done. It's worth trying for. Mothers, you are wonderful. Keep up the good work. Be encouraged. Your work is noble. You, too, please try for the quiet and peaceful life.

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*O have you not heard of that beautiful stream
That flows thro' our Father's land?
Its waters gleam bright in the heavenly light,
And ripple o'er golden sand.*

*O will you not drink of this beautiful stream,
And dwell on its peaceful shore?
The Spirit says, Come, all ye weary ones home,
And wander in sin no more.*

*O seek that beautiful stream,
Its waters, so free, are flowing for thee
O seek that beautiful stream.*

THE SILVER LINING
1389 County Road 1600 N, Roanoke, IL 61561



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