

The Silver Lining



*O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom
and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are
his judgments, and his ways past finding out!*

April 2010

Sermon by Bro. John Wiegand, Silverton, Oregon

Psalm 118 and Acts 2:1-35

We read of the coming of the Holy Spirit and then of Peter's sermon to the people to explain what had happened. He alluded to several of the instructions of David that had occurred in David's life and in the Psalms. So let's look back briefly in the Psalms first where David was looking ahead to Jesus and saying how things are going to be. Then we'll tie that together with what we learned in Acts.

Let's look at just a few verses here. We read of God's enduring love, that we can be thankful to Him in all things whatever may come. There will be difficulties here. David expressed that the Lord is on his side, what can man do? We sometimes change what we do because of the pressures or the things around us. We talk about peer pressure, but it's the wrong reaction because what can man do? What can those around us do to us when we're on the Lord's side? We are not going to put our confidence in men. We wouldn't do that when we have One who's all powerful. One who wants to take care of us and provide for us if we'll trust in Him. He will be our strength and He is the source of our salvation. That's where we need to be.

There's an acknowledgment about the way things were foreshadowed to happen. It says, "The stone which the builders refused is become the head stone of the corner. This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes." (Psalm 118: 22-23) Even then before Jesus came there was an acknowledgment. A perfect way was made, a way of salvation. Yet, the reaction that man has by nature is to turn our back on the perfect way that's made possible. There's a cornerstone for us to build on, and the natural reaction of man is to go build on something that we did ourselves and to try to do our own thing.

Sometimes we observe how bad bad things are. Other times we observe how good things are. But the way of life is the way of life. As men, and that's who we are, we tend to trust in ourselves to think we can figure things out when there is a perfect way handed to us. There's a perfect way handed to us and a perfect day given to us, if we will come in the name of the Lord and we will fall on that perfect stone. We fall, we give our life as a complete offering to Him, and He will provide for us.

We need to overcome self, our self desires, our intents of self, and our own way of looking at things. We need to put that behind us. We cannot put that behind us of ourselves. So, let's remember that this chief cornerstone that's been made available to us is Jesus Christ. He's there that, if we will acknowledge our need, we can lean on Him. Not on our own understanding, but we can lean on Him and He'll take care of us. He'll provide for us in that thing that we cannot do, we cannot save ourselves, He can do. He will do it for us.

What did He do? What did Jesus make possible for us so we can go from this way of lost sinfulness, being in conflict with our self, those who are around us and with our God? That's our state of being. But then a new way is possible because Jesus was the perfect sacrifice. He shed His blood that there's a way of reconciliation. His Spirit, part of God, is sent to be with us. We read about that as well. He promised when He was with His disciples at the last supper that He was going to send a Comforter so we would not be alone. Part of Him to be with us. The Comforter He promised to send will live in the heart of a true believer. That Comforter is there to lift us up and to keep us on the path

Sermon continued on page 41

Cover Verses

Front: Romans 11:33

Back: Isaiah 35:3-6,8

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The Silver Lining
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"Who is a wise man and endued with knowledge among you?"
(James 3:13)

Light From The Word



Writings based
on God's Word

April 2010

Godly Wisdom

"Who is a wise man and endued with knowledge among you?" (Jam. 3:13). This question involves much more than simply asking us if we are wise. It and the following verses exhort us to examine our own hearts humbly on the topic of wisdom, because we have a tendency to think of our knowledge in a prideful way (1 Cor. 8:1). *"(God) has created all things, and for (His) pleasure they are and were created"* (Rev. 4:11). This includes all knowledge. When man distorts and misuses knowledge, it becomes the *"wisdom of this world"* which Paul contrasted with the *"wisdom of God"* (1 Cor. 1:20-21; 2:6-7). The difference is so great that Paul says the wisdom of this world is actually foolishness with God and will come to naught. The wisdom of God is hidden, but if we find it, it will bring us glory.

In James 3:13-17 we have a similar comparison between earthly wisdom and the *"wisdom that is from above."* In this passage we can distinguish between the two kinds of wisdom, and can see the fruit of each. So then what is this godly wisdom? And how do we attain unto it?

The word "wisdom" is generally defined as the ability to judge correctly and to follow the best course of action based on knowledge and understanding. However, wisdom sought only through man's intellect and with selfish motives produces envy, strife, confusion and deception. (Jam. 3:14-16)

A truly wise man may have much knowledge, but he will not exalt himself, because he recognizes that this is a gift from God. James' first exhortation on this subject is that a wise man should show his works through a good conversation (meaning both words and conduct) and with meekness. If we are wise, it should be evident through the goodness of our conduct—not through harshness or pride or intimidation of others. Our words and actions will not only inform, but they will be conveyed with grace and with respect for others and in the spirit of meekness that Jesus demonstrated (Matt. 11:29; Eph. 4:15; Col. 4:6). Surely the believer will have nothing to boast about regarding his wisdom, if his heart is in the right condition. *"Keep thy*

heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life" (Prov. 4:23). A spiritually healthy heart will bring forth love and peace and humility.

Just as we demonstrate our faith through our works (Jam. 2:26), we should likewise portray godly wisdom in all that we do. True wisdom is not simply some good and useful thoughts, but it entails the application of those thoughts in the spirit of meekness and temperance. This is in stark contrast to the man without wisdom described in Proverbs 14:16: *"The fool rageth, and is confident. He that is soon angry dealeth foolishly."* True wisdom will temper our anger, and will cause us to be patient in hearing others out. When we are gentle and calm we are best able to reason together and communicate in an edifying manner. (Prov. 15:1; Eph. 4:29)

James defines so beautifully the characteristics of godly wisdom. *"But the wisdom which is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy"* (Jam. 3:17). Let us consider each facet of this essential attribute and examine our hearts for those areas which need improvement. God is faithful in providing grace to help us *"...be renewed in the spirit of your mind..."* (Eph. 4:23).

First of all, wisdom is pure. It is not very difficult to see purity in others' words and actions. *"Even a child is known by his doings, whether his work be pure"* (Prov. 20:11). Godly wisdom is free from all hidden motives, self-exaltation and dishonesty. Secondly, godly wisdom is peaceable. *"(Wisdom's) ways are ways of pleasantness, and all her paths are peace"* (Prov. 3:17). We have the example of the wisdom of Isaac, who deliberately chose not to follow strife, but instead sacrificed his rights in order to make peace. (Gen. 26:17-22) Jesus taught: *"Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God"* (Matt. 5:9). Such wisdom may seem like foolishness to the world, but those who follow it will obtain the blessings of the Lord. True wisdom is also gentle and meek. It is not rude, harsh, nor overbearing. It doesn't demand its own way, but is easily entreated. David says in Psalm 25:9, *"The meek will (the Lord) guide in judgment: and the meek will*

he teach his way." By putting on meekness, we allow God to instruct us in His wisdom. Mercy and compassion are also reflected in wisdom that is from above. If we are merciful, we will receive mercy and will *"find favour and good understanding in the sight of God and man"* (Prov. 3:3-4; Matt. 5:7). In making judgments, man's wisdom tends to say, "I know the facts, here is my rationale, this is my conclusion." God's wisdom extends grace, forbearance and mercy and is quick to forgive. Finally, true wisdom is without partiality and without hypocrisy. It does not pre-judge situations or people (Prov. 18:13), nor does it allow favoritism, but it acknowledges the universally applicable truths of God and the worthiness of all men of our love, our encouragement and our patience (1 Thess. 5:14). It is not hypocritical, but sincere, open and consistent. True wisdom applies the grace of God in its behavior toward all men (2 Cor. 1:12).

The books of Job, Psalms, Proverbs, and Ecclesiastes contain a wealth of teachings on the topic of wisdom. In both Psalm 111:10 and Proverbs 9:10 we are taught that *"the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom."* In order for us to attain unto this true godly wisdom, we must humble ourselves before God in reverence and obedience. It does not come naturally and without any effort on our part. By seeking and attaining godly wisdom (Jam. 1:5), we learn discretion; it becomes an ornament of grace about our necks; our ways will be preserved; we will be better able to resist temptation; and God can better direct our paths. Thus Solomon pleads with us in Proverbs 4:7, *"Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting, get understanding."* As we grow in godly wisdom and understanding, by the grace of God, we become better prepared for discernment of the many complex issues of daily life in our rapidly changing culture and times. We will not be tossed about by ungodly influences, but will be able to remain on the good path which leads to Heaven. *"Then shalt thou understand righteousness, and judgment, and equity; yea every good path"* (Prov. 2:9).

An editorial committee of elder brothers is preparing articles for this section of the Silver Lining to address some of the special needs of our times.

Suggestions for subjects are welcome and can be sent to:

Silver Lining Editorials, 1377 County Rd 1600 N, Roanoke, IL 61561 or by e-mail to cleman@mtco.com



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

Opportunities in Smaller Churches

The Small Church Support Committee (SCSC) works under the Mission Committee to help find ways the Apostolic Christian Church can support its smaller congregations. This report will review the efforts being made to provide assistance and foster growth within these churches. The committee requests the prayers of the entire brotherhood for this work.

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

Minister rotations

A centralized minister rotation program is being utilized for 2010. Click on *Minister Rotation* on the MC website: www.acmission.org. It can be sorted by date or congregation. Ideas for improvement are welcomed. In August, there will be opportunity for all congregations to provide input for 2011. A preliminary schedule will be published in October before the final rotation schedule for 2011 is published in November 2010. Bro. Matthew Rassi is currently coordinating these rotations. He can be contacted at acscc@comcast.net.

Encouraging church adoptions

The committee has designated Bro. Loren Schrenk as an adoption coordinator to facilitate the process of developing mutual support between two congregations. The intent is to provide assistance by pairing a smaller and a larger congregation, allowing them to learn from one another. The adoption coordinator

can help to smooth the initial exploration of a relationship between two churches. The intended purpose of adoption is to support each church body to fulfill the four pillars of its mission:

- Presentation of the gospel
- Support of the believer
- Unity of the faith through the preservation of true doctrine
- Provide loving deeds of service.

Bro. Loren may be contacted at seeclear@swbell.net.

Opportunity to serve

One of the means of supporting those seeking to serve is with local employment. In order to facilitate local employment opportunities, the SCSC has set up a "Church Services Opportunities" web page within our Apostolic Christian Mission Committee website. Opportunities are submitted by appointed Opportunity Coordinators at individual smaller churches. The committee appreciates the willingness of these brethren to serve. To date, twenty-nine congregations are participating with consideration being given to others who have expressed an interest and need.

Job opportunities

For those in smaller churches: We need your help to identify employment opportunities for those interested in supporting small churches. Please communicate these possibilities to your local minister or Opportunity Coordinator. They will be submitted to the Mission Committee "Church Service Opportunities" posting.

Specific employment opportunities will be posted on the website. Each listing should include a brief job description, contact informa-

tion, and meet one of the following criteria:

- From members/friends who are owners of their own businesses.
- From members/friends who have direct control over the position (it reports to them).
- A local employment opportunity with an employer believed to have sound ethics and practices, but not under the management of a member/friend.

The "Church Service Opportunities" web page includes the list of all Opportunity Coordinators by each participating church. Some churches have links with additional information about specific job opportunities. You can view the "Church Service Opportunities" from the home page of the Mission Committee website or at the following URL: www.acmission.org/church-service-opportunities/

For those in larger-churches:

Before reaching out to the listed employer, please feel free to contact Opportunity Coordinators if you have questions about the small church area or a specific listing. If you have any questions regarding the above Mission Committee resource, please contact Bro. Justin Moser at jscottmoser@juno.com.

Concluding thoughts for support

But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him....that the members should have the same care one for another (1 Cor 12:18 & 25). It is the SCSC's desire to help facilitate care one for another; larger congregations with smaller congregations and employers with employees, so each member can fulfill their role within the body of Christ.



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

Haiti Medical Teams

The day starts with morning devotions in a small building next to the hospital. One of the nurses enthusiastically leads hymn singing in Creole, then the pastor reads from the Bible and shares a message. Today he speaks of helping the poor, as donations are being requested from the Haitian hospital staff for local needs. We pray together, then head up the ramp to the hospital to start morning rounds with two of the local physicians.

They take us to see several new patients who have arrived overnight, one with a fever and probable malaria, one with vomiting from a stomach infection, and another with a life-threatening bacterial infection. We confirm his findings, discuss the treatment plan, and write orders for labs, IV fluids, and antibiotics. After rounds the team heads over to the clinic to start seeing the large number of outpatients who have come for care.

Centre Sante Lumiere (Clinic of Health and Light) is located in the village of Simone, on the outskirts of the city of Les Cayes in Southern Haiti. The facility is owned by the MEBSh Church, a Bible believing Haitian denomination with nearly 500 congregations. Five full time Haitian physicians and a large staff of nurses and other providers provide around the clock care.

The hospital typically has room for 50 inpatients, although after the recent earthquake they had over 80 patients, overflowing every available space. The adjacent clinic has 6 exam rooms and the providers usually see about 100-125 patients per day. The laboratory can perform basic blood and urine tests, arrange blood transfusions, and test for

malaria, HIV, and tuberculosis. An x-ray machine and ultrasound are available. A pharmacy is on-site to dispense medications. Two operating rooms are used for surgeries ranging from hernia repairs to hysterectomies.



Laboratory at Centre Sante Lumiere

Apostolic Christian World Relief has supported Centre Sante Lumiere for many years, along with two other hospitals in Haiti, Hospital Lumiere in Bonne Fin and King's Hospital in Port-au-Prince. After the recent earthquake, World Relief provided 6 medical teams to work at these hospitals, with four more planned in the next two months.

Because World Relief provides regular support to these facilities, we had immediate locations to assign medical professionals to serve those with significant injuries from the earthquake. The teams treated hundreds of patients over the last two months. Treatments ranged from minor wound care to major surgeries to repair broken limbs and amputations. We have been touched by the dedication of the staff working under difficult circumstances.

Most of the care is delivered with

much less technology than we rely on here. When equipment fails, skilled repair technicians are often not available. Materials for processing x-rays and lab specimens can be hard to procure. Essential medications are difficult to find and often too expensive. Despite many limitations, patients receive good care, and experience the love of God through the care provided by these believers. We often witness staff from the hospital sharing their faith and praying with patients.

Our goal in working with Centre Sante Lumiere is to support their work, rather than trying to come and do everything ourselves. Long after we leave, patients will still be coming for care, and the most lasting benefits will not be from the care we provide, but from the education, financial support, equipment and encouragement that we leave behind. We also find that we learn as much as we teach, sometimes about medical diseases that we were not previously familiar with, and sometimes about how to do more with less. Always we are reminded of God's presence and power, and how He can provide far beyond what we imagine is possible.

The Christian medical facilities we partner with perform a tremendous service to the people of Haiti. They often express a deep appreciation for the support of the Apostolic Christian Church, and are especially encouraged when our brethren come to work and to visit. Your past contributions and participation on teams have been very much appreciated. We have the ongoing opportunity to share our blessings and show the love of Christ to the people of Haiti through the medical programs there.

**APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN
HOME FOR THE
HANDICAPPED
www.achh.org**

"Henceforth I call you not servants ... but I have called you friends..."

John 15:15

Because Jesus Christ is our Lord and Master, He should call us slaves, but instead He calls us friends! Almost daily as we interact and observe interactions between others, we are reminded of how Jesus is the author of love and friendship.

I wanted to share a few examples of some "friendship" moments I have experienced in the past few weeks ... visiting a CILA home and noticing the turn-taking and respect housemates showed each other, being amazed watching Oakwood and Linden residents welcome new housemates and help each one adjust and learn new things, and shedding tears with a man from Timber Ridge as he sobbed at his housemate's casket.

Friendships make you smile when you hear someone give a delighted shout of a favorite staff member's name, see one guy willing to go to the barbershop because he can go with his friend, feel proud when one person helps another with less ability open her cereal box, share joy with a family member when he hears about a friendship his sister has formed, and sense the deep gratitude as a mother gives thanks for the opportunity for her son to experience a more normal life in his new CILA home.

Then there were times witnessing a staff willing to work an extra shift to enable another person to help a family member, listening to a young resident pray for her staff friend to be safe driving to work, and hearing about a profoundly challenged woman keeping vigil at the doorway of the room where her roommate of many years

was surrounded by caregivers supporting her through her last hours on earth.

"Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his FRIENDS."

John 15:13

We are thankful this Easter season for the Man who laid down His life for us and taught us how to love each other.

**GATEWAY WOODS
APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN
CHILDREN'S HOME**

Bruce Drayer

As I write this article, I think of the upcoming Easter holiday. It is wonderful that we have a series of days that are set aside to remember Christ's burden that He carried for us - Good Friday, Easter, and Ascension Day. The entire account is a beautiful story that brings hope to all of us. Our tendency is to forget things and these days give us yearly reminders to remember and share the Easter message with others. Holidays are a great way to pass on knowledge from one generation to the next. I'm thankful that I have been taught the meaning of these days from my youth. Now, I enjoy teaching my own children the story of Easter and I enjoy seeing the enthusiasm a child has toward the Word.

Sadly, we all see our culture forgetting the significance of holidays. We see Christmas and Easter commercialized. Do people remember why Good Friday is good? How many have even heard of Ascension Day? Our president has stated, "Whatever we once were, we are no longer just a Christian nation; we are also a Jewish nation, a Muslim nation, a Buddhist nation, a Hindu nation, and a nation of nonbelievers."

As a Houseparent at Gateway

Woods, I have the opportunity to share Easter with some who haven't heard the message before. What a blessing! Yet we all have opportunities to share the message, perhaps even with someone who has never heard it before.

I thank you for your support of our ministry at Gateway Woods. I wish you blessing in your ministry, too. Have a joyful and blessed Easter!

"Then saith he unto his disciples, The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few;"

Matthew 9:37

NEWS:

- We rejoiced with Bro. Jeremy and Sis. Kristi Reinhard (Secretary) as they adopted a baby girl last month. Adilynn Grey Reinhard was born on Saturday, March 6, at 7:27 a.m. in Hollywood, Florida. She weighed 4 lbs. 14 ounces and was 18 inches long. We are very appreciative of Sis. Kristi's efforts as our Secretary and she will be missed as her time will now be devoted in caring for Adilynn. Praise God for the Reinhard's desire to adopt and make a difference in the life of a child in need!

- Summer is quickly approaching and with that comes our many summer volunteers! As mentioned the other month, Bro. Joel Stickling (Peoria) will be serving as our Summer Volunteer Coordinator. If you are over 18 years old and have a desire to serve with other believers, please visit the volunteer page on our website at: www.gatewaywoods.org/supporters/volunteer where you can electronically submit a volunteer application and obtain a volunteer reference form. Thank you in advance for your willingness to serve!

- We are thankful that God continues to provide us with the right Staff. We currently have four career positions open at Gateway Woods: Alternate Houseparents, Teacher's Aide,

Math Teacher, and IL Adoption Manager. Please see the notices in this month's edition of *The Silver Lining* for more information. We trust that God will continue to provide us with qualified, mature Brothers and Sisters who will be able to serve Him in a ministry that is 'Turning Lives Around'. Perhaps this includes you!

- You are an important advocate to help us spread the word about God's work at Gateway Woods. Please continue to lift us up in prayer, check our website www.gatewaywoods.org often for updates, and make sure that you're on our mailing list. In an effort to be as efficient as possible we are gathering as many email addresses as we can for our E-Post. Please send a message to mail@gatewaywoods.org.

- Please mark your calendar for our 2010 Annual Benefit Auction on Saturday, August 7.

**APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN
PRESCHOOL
Athens, AL
Sarah Hodel**

The sun is shining, the kids are outside enjoying that sunshine, and I have a serious case of writer's block. Seems we haven't had a very exciting month. Aside from a couple birthday parties, we've had very regular and very routine lives the past few weeks. Not that there's anything wrong with that, it just makes for a very regular and routine Silver Lining post!

Now that I think about it, we did have a fun day for our oldest class. March 2 is Dr. Seuss's birthday and they got to celebrate by going to our local college for green eggs and ham. They also got to meet the Cat in the Hat!

Boring month or exciting month, we still can see God's hand in our lives. We are always thankful for His protection over us and our kids. Sometimes when we think about the things that really could happen while

they are climbing across the monkey bars, swinging as high as possible or racing around on their bikes, we know that He is always there, watching over us.

A few kid quotes: One of our little two year olds who is just learning to count, wanted to show off what she knew. Excited about her newly acquired skills, she went up to someone and said, "Let's count to one!"

When the kids are asked "What preschool do you go to?", some of them have a hard time pronouncing the "Apostolic" part. Some of what we have heard includes, Aften Prettyschool, Aftenstolic, Aposour, Acapaca and Ashapostic. At least they try!

We are in need of a new preschool teacher. Please consider taking this opportunity. It is more than a blessing! For more information you can contact Bro. Mike Moore at (256)729-0620, (256)777-3390 or ALM38@aol.com.

**ALABAMA, ATHENS
Louise Hall**

We've had a bit of a slow month here in Athens, but sometimes slow is good. It causes us to just sit and rest in God's presence rather than getting caught up in all of our activities.

We are grateful for those who are willing to come and share the Word with us each month. Recently we've had Bro. Lenny Meyer (Sis. Charlotte, Chicago) and Elder Bro. Lawrence Luthi (Sis. Becky, Lamar). Also we had our preschool board meeting the last weekend of March which brought several visiting ministers. Thank you to Elder Bros. Andy Stoller (Smithville), Mark Masters (Mansfield), and Ted Witzig (Morton). Also thank you to Bros. Duane Reutter (Rockville) and Tim Gerber (Mansfield). We greatly appreciate all your efforts.

Our thoughts and prayers con-

tinue to go to those in the military and their families left at home. Especially those who are close to us. Eric Coulter (Bro. David and Sis. Barbara) is stationed in Ft. Hood, Texas. Anyone wanting to send him a note of encouragement can mail it to:

Bldg 91220 Clark Rd.
Room 122
509 FSC
Fort Hood, TX 76544

**ARIZONA, PHOENIX
Heather Hinrichsen**

Bro. Neil Ramseyer (Bay City) and Bro. Bill Waibel (Bay City) ministered to us from God's Word and we appreciated their willingness and their visit to our congregation.

What a day that will be when my Jesus I shall see,
And I look upon His face,
The One who saved me by His grace;
When He takes me by the hand
And leads me through the Promised Land,
What a day, glorious day that will be.
Gospel Hymns #831

Sis. Katherine Laukauf entered into eternal rest on March 8 after a long period of illness. She is survived by her son, Bro. Jim; daughter, Linda Gabriel; six siblings and many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband, Bro. Alvin, and one sister. Her quiet, gentle spirit will be greatly missed in our congregation.

Audrey Elizabeth was born to Kory and Rachel Langhofer on March 2. Big brother Owen was there to welcome her home along with her grandparents, Bro. Erik and Sis. Cindy Langhofer and Rick and Debra Flessner of Roberts, IL.

ARIZONA, PRESCOTT Denise Steidinger

We are so thankful for the willingness of ministering brothers to come share God's Word with our small congregation. This past month, we were visited by Bro. Paul Schmidgall (Sis. Shawn, Morris), Bro. Paul Gasser (Sis. Joyce, Akron), Bro. John Lehman (Sis. Ruth Ann, Wolcott), Bro. Jerry Meeks (Sis. Christine, Sabetha), Bro. Keith Hinrichsen (Sis. Tammy, Phoenix) and Retired Bro. Ralph Garber (Sis. Lynn, Morton).

Our congregation had the privilege of hosting a group from Bluffton for a weekend consisting of 20 high school kids and 18 parents. We enjoyed a supper and singing on Saturday evening and a hike and picnic at a park on Sunday. It was a wonderful time of fellowship and a blessing to see the Bluffton youth spend time to be good examples to the Prescott young children (all our children are ages 11 and under). The following week, the group from Bluffton and several of us from Prescott traveled to New Mexico to do some work at an Indian reservation that our World Relief works with. The men doubled the size of one family's house, re-roofed another house, ran the water line to the church, installed the cabinets and sinks at the church, visited the sick and elderly, and the ladies spread the Word of Jesus to about 100 cute little Navajo children and distributed food and clothing to many Navajo families. Our team leader said "Our primary purpose was to glorify God...and this did occur. I saw it on your faces and in your hearts. Praise God!"

ARIZONA, TUCSON Lisa Knapp

We had a busy month in our little church. Elder Bros. Jon Kokanovich (Phoenix) and Mark Masters (Mansfield, OH) served us and our winter visitors Holy Communion. We

thank them for being with us for this special occasion.

We also had several work teams pass through Tucson providing us with visiting ministers and lots of fellowship. Ministering Bros. Brian Huber (Francesville, IN) and Kerwin Edelman (Athens, AL) were on their way to Mexico and were willing to share the Word with us on Sunday, March 14. May God bless their service of love.

Ministering Bro. Ron Allenbach (Kiowa, KS) spent some time in Tucson this winter visiting family and we thank him for being willing to be part of our minister rotation while he was here.

We have had an abundance of rain (and that's putting it mildly) this winter, just ask our "snowbirds". I hope they dry out before they head home! Today is sunny and our high should be around 80 degrees as we enter the middle of March. Our spring should be very green and colorful due to all those much needed rains.

We anticipate (Lord willing) yet another work team this coming Sunday, March 21. The forecast is for sunshine and a temperature in the high 70's.

CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA Daniel Luthi

Bro. Paul Gasser (Akron, OH) and Bro. Doug Wagenbach (San Diego, CA) were our visiting ministers this month. We appreciate their efforts to travel here, and for bringing forth God's Holy Word to us from the pulpit.

I failed to mention last month that Sis. Marilyn Graf's sister, Sis. Carolyn Hoerr (Bro. Mark, Eureka IL), passed away after a lengthy illness. Our prayers continue to be with the family as time goes forward.

We continue to pray for Bro. Bob Crockett, and Sis. Maria Cser (Bro. Lazlo) during their recent illnesses

and hospitalizations. How thankful we can be to be able to put our trust in the Lord and pray for His healing and strength during difficult times.

Our congregation held our annual business meeting this month. We reviewed our financial report and held two elections. Bro. Dave Klotzle was elected to serve as trustee, and Sis. Lynn Buckheister was elected to serve as assistant kitchen coordinator. We appreciate both their willingness to serve and the time and commitment that they will put into their new responsibilities.

CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO Yasmin Koehl

We have been blessed with an abundance of visitors! We were especially thankful for visiting ministering Bros. Chris Wuethrich (St. Louis, MO), Paul Gasser (Akron, OH) and Dale Stoller (Fairbury, IL), along with their families who accompanied them. May the Lord richly bless them for allowing the Holy Spirit to guide and direct them as they delivered the Gospel to our congregation. It is our continual prayer that the Spirit and not the man would always be the deliverer of the Word of God throughout our pulpits across the land. We also pray that each heart plows deep within and is ready for the Word when it is sowed, so that good fruit may be harvested.

"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 were grateful for the Godly wisdom and direction of visiting Elder Bro. Wayne Grimm (West Bend, IA) and our dear Elder Bro. Peter Petrovic, as they delivered the Memo-

random to our congregation. A ministering brother once said, "When a body of believers is truly converted, our Elder brothers' jobs are much easier." Let us keep our hearts and mind in Christ Jesus. With His grace we can abstain from being like-minded with the world, but rather be saints, unspotted from sin and holy, ready to stand before the Lord and man and ready to give an answer for the faith that lies within us. For "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 22:16)

KITCHENER, ONTARIO CANADA

Johanna Fortenbacher

I'm sitting here looking out at the gorgeous day that God has given us. There is so much to be thankful for, we wouldn't even be able to stop counting.

"For what shall it profit a man if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?"

Mark 8:36

Our church divided into small groups for the Crown Financial Bible study. It has been a blessing and we really enjoy it. Our group has said many times over how wonderful and helpful this course has been and we'd encourage others to do the same.

We are getting a greater variety of churches coming to serve in the ministry here and we really appreciate this. This month we had ministers from Sardis, Bro. Dana and Sis. Joy Indermuhle; from Rockville, Bro. Dan and Sis. Diane Stoller; and from Elgin, IL, Bro. Gary and Sis. Edith Anliker.

It was noticed by a visiting child that we had the wrong kind of flag on the pole close to our church. Yes, our country flag is completely different

BUT we really have the same 'flag of Christ' within us. Please consider coming to visit. (This is just a last minute inspiration but how about considering in prayer, moving to Canada?)

COLORADO, DENVER

Ann Gonglach

Tucker Huber (Bro. Eric and Sis. Marcel) and Brianna Huber (Bro. Gordon and Sis. Sharlyn, Sabetha, KS) have found peace and are looking forward to giving their testimonies and being baptized on Easter weekend. May they be blessed as they experience new life in Christ. "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold all things are become new." (II Cor. 5:17)

Sis. Tara Huber (Bro. Eric and Sis. Marcel) has received her degree in elementary education. May the Lord continue to guide Sis. Tara as she looks for a teaching job.

CONNECTICUT, ROCKVILLE

Laura Virkler

Bonnie Bahler

"For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground"

Isaiah 53:2

Springtime is finally on its way, and it is such a pleasure to see crocuses popping and green buds on the trees! It is a reminder of what this time of year means to the believer, the birth of a new covenant with the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus. May each be renewed in spirit and body during this springtime season.

Two new babies were welcomed by expectant families this month. Harvey Walter was born to Bro. Jon and Sis. Amy Zahner, who joins big sister Maya Mae. Grandparents are

Bro. Warren and Sis. Bonnie Zahner and Bro. Wally and Sis. Judy Carlson. Bro. Doug and Sis. Leah Luginbuhl were blessed with their first child, little Alex Douglas. Grandparents are Bro. Robert and Sis. Lynette Goric, and Bro. Rick and Sis. Sue Luginbuhl. May God bless these families as they go through this busy but joyful time of life.

Sorrow is often just as much a part of life as rejoicing, as some have experienced recently. Bro. Dan Stoller's father, Bro. Floyd Rowell of Iowa, went to his rest in the past few days, and we want to extend our prayerful support to him and Sis. Diane. Bro. Gene Kupferschmid's sister, June Scotti of Florida, passed away this month, and he and Sis. Ellen will also remain in our thoughts and prayers. Our sympathy also extends to Sis. Elsa Champ for the recent passing of her brother, Henry Buser. May each family circle feel the love and support of the brethren in their time of heartache.

For those who have been recently hospitalized or ill, including Sis. Elsa Champ, we pray that God will be a Comforter and provide timely healing.

"And the Lord shall guide thee continually, and satisfy thy soul in drought, and make fat thy bones: and thou shalt be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters fail not."

Isaiah 58:11

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA WASHINGTON

Henrietta Meyer

Our caretakers for March were Bro. Dan and Sis. Carol Heinold from Washington, IL. We have an unexpected opening for a caretaker couple or family for the month of June, 2010. We also have openings for November and December, 2010. There is good availability so far for 2011. If inter-

ested in serving as caretaker of our church and house, please contact Doreen Steffen at bdsteff@yahoo.com or 302-540-6574.

Visiting ministers this month were Bro. Les Kaeb (Sis. Christine, Francesville, IN), Bro. Don Manz (Sis. Connie, Junction, OH), Bro. Phil Stettner (Sis. Maureen, Bluffton North, IN) and Bro. Shawn Metzger (Sis. Sandy, Philadelphia, PA).

Bro. Don and Sis. Connie were in our area to welcome their new granddaughter, Annabelle Grace, born to their daughter Cheryl and Nathan Ametewee. Big brother London was happy to have his grandmother here for a week.

Other visitors this month were from Champaign and Roanoke, IL, and Rittman and Junction, OH.

We are trying to develop a more up-to-date list of those in the greater Washington, DC area (Baltimore, MD to Richmond, VA) with a tie to the Apostolic Christian Church. You can let us know by contacting those listed below, the contact in the ministers' book or our Elder, Bro. Ben Wiegand.

If you are planning to visit Washington, D.C. area for vacation or business, please contact Bro. Joe and Sis. Holly Bohart at jbohart@gmail.com or Sis. Henrietta Meyer at (703) 904-8301 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 blessed to have several visiting ministers this past month. Visiting were Bro. Chuck Kellenberger (Sis. Debbie, Elgin, IL), Bro. Dale Zeltwanger (Sis. Rachel, Morris, MN), Bro. Art Mueller (Sis.

Marlene, Belvidere, IL), Elder Bro. Kevin Ryan (Sis. Cheryl, Rockville, CT) and Elder Bro. Wayne Banwart (Sis. Charlen, Champaign, IL). We pray for a blessing on those who share His Word and do His works so willingly.

Congratulations to Sis. Tara Hohulin (Bro. Mike and Sis. Faye) and Bro. David Prevo (Bro. Mike and Sis. Barb) on their marriage. We pray that God will be with them throughout their marriage and that they will always keep Him as the cornerstone of their marriage. Bro. David and Sis. Tara were married at the Bloomington church in Normal, IL.

We are enjoying our winter visitors and welcome all who would come and join us in worship in our little Ft. Lauderdale church.

**FLORIDA
NORTH FORT MYERS
Victor Beer**

Our visits from our northern brethren make our winter season very special. These last few days, however, brought a special note of sorrow to all who knew Bro. Albert Hunziker. Soon after he arrived in Florida with his sister, Sis. Ardith Herrmann, his health gave way, and he was taken to the local hospital. In just a few days his condition worsened, and the Lord took Bro. Albert home to his blessed reward. We all had so much fellowship with him in past years, and he leaves a real void in our hearts.

We were all blessed by the ministry of visiting Brothers this month. Of them were Bro. Gary Maibach (Sis. Mary Ann), Bro. Kevin Knapp (Sis. Dixie), Bro. Doyle Frauhiger (Sis. Jane), our Elder Bro. Ed Schwartz (Sis. Jeni) who blessed us greatly in the Communion service, assisted by Bro. Robert Meyer (Sis. Lela), Bro. Gary Tonner (Sis. Diann), Elder Bro. Jim Plattner (Sis. Marlene), Bro. Leonard Meyer (Sis. Charlotte), Bro.

Robert Pflederer (Sis. Eleanor), and Bro. Chris Huber (Sis. Sharon). We are truly thankful to all of these brothers and their wives for their visit to our church.

As we approach the Easter Holiday, we are planning special worship emphasis on the death, burial and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. To our surprise, we found Ascension Day on the calendar on May 13. We have been urged to set that special day aside in reverence to our Lord for the great debt He paid for us, and encouragement He gave as He ascended to go to the Father in Heaven. Let us rejoice in the hope we have now, because of it all.

**FLORIDA, SARASOTA
DiAnne Brown**

“In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.”

Gen. 1:1

Sunny Springtime Greetings! There is so much to enjoy about this time of year, especially longer days, warmer evenings and rebirth all around. The giant live oak in our front yard is bursting with budding leaves, chirping chicks and the chatter of baby squirrels. Yesterday a large hawk came to our tree seeking a meal. We thought it cruel, but understood it as nature's way. Nature has no conscience, and doesn't teach right from wrong. Nature teaches “eat or be eaten” and “survival of the fittest”. It seems more common in recent times for some to deem nature and the heavens proper subjects of worship and praise, confusing the creation with the Creator. Fortunately for believers, God prioritized it for us in Genesis.

Hospital patients this month included Bro. Jim (Sis. Sara, Roanoke, IL) Byrd, Bro. Glenn (Sis. Sandee) Price and Bro. Schuyler Brown (Bro.

Larry and Sis. DiAnne), who had an emergency appendectomy and is enjoying a speedy return to health and strength. Thank you for your prayers for healing and recovery for each of these dear brothers.

A blessed Communion service was held on March 27, with Elder Bros. Jon Kokanovich (Phoenix, AZ), Mark Bahr (Sis. Bev, Detroit, MI) and Dale Eisenmann (Sis. Judy) leading the service. Following Communion, these brothers gave an exhortation to the congregation regarding the selection of an Elder. We felt the inspiration and power of the Holy Spirit throughout this special weekend.

Our dear Sis. Maria Bartoni will be moving to Bradenton Oaks Assisted Care Facility this month. Your notes of care and encouragement would be so welcome and you can send them to:

Maria Bartoni
c/o Bradenton Oaks
1015 7th Avenue East
Bradenton FL 34208

Sarasota continued to be blessed by visiting ministers this past month including Elder Bro. Dave Graf (Sis. Barbara, Akron, OH), and Bros. Lenny Meyer (Sis. Charlotte, Chicago, IL), Phil Stettner (Sis. Maureen, Bluffton North, IN) and Tom Leman (Sis. Marlene, Denver, CO). Some of these brethren were in Sarasota for the Eastern European Board meeting which we were privileged to host in early March. A very informative evening presentation of this important work was shared with our congregation. May God continue to bless these efforts on behalf of our loved ones in Eastern Europe.

GEORGIA, ATLANTA

Emmett Dean Lindberg made his entrance into the world on March 9. He is a beautiful miracle of life! His thankful parents are Bro. Matthew

and Sis. Renae Lindberg. Excited grandparents are Chris and Sis. Teresa Bahler (Wolcott) and Bro. Rich and Sis. Julie Lindberg. Thrilled aunts and uncles include: Bro. Mark and Sis. Laura and cousin Zoie (Chicago), Bro. Joshua and Sis. Bethany and cousin Kara (Roanoke), Jacob, Caleb, Bro. Benjamin, Sis. Lydia, Hannah, Joel and Rachel Lindberg. Great-grandparents are Sis. Jane Schumacher, Jeanette Lindberg, retired Elder Bro. Alfred and Sis. Francis Bahler, and Wally and Beverly Lank.

Our prayers have been with Sis. Sylvia Knapp this month as she has been hospitalized. We pray she will feel the Lord's strength and comfort through this difficult time.

We were blessed to have Bro. Brad Metz and his wife, Sis. Karen (Bloomington-Normal, IL), minister to us this month.

On Saturday, the 20th of March, quite a few from our church family were given an opportunity to build a wheelchair ramp for an elderly woman. It is always a blessing to work together as we praise the name of the Lord! "From the rising of the sun unto the going down of the same the LORD's name is to be praised." (Psalm 113:3)

ILLINOIS, BELVIDERE

**Doreen Moser
Jenn Johnson**

"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."

Matthew 23:37-39

Our Elder Bro. Ron Schambach expounded upon these couple of verses for our recent Communion exhortation. How simple life would be if

we followed these commandments as we would not need all the laws, rules, commandments in the church or in the world.

Serving the Lord with all their heart, soul and mind

Elder Bro. Ron Schambach (Elgin, IL), Elder Bro. Ben Walder (Congerville, IL), Bro. Tom Leman, Elder Bro. Mike Leman (Denver, CO) and Bro. Dan Moser (Elgin, IL) were with us this month to serve Communion and to assist with baptisms. The love of our ministers is a great blessing. Thank you for traveling to Belvidere and bringing your families.

Serving the Lord with all their heart, soul and mind

We welcome a new sister, Aubrey Schock (Bro. Ted and Sis. Heidi), and a new brother, Karl Braun (Mitzi), into the church family. What a joy to have new brothers and sisters striving to serve the Lord with ALL their being.

Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself

We once again spent an hour singing at the local nursing home. We hope our love for our neighbor shows through our singing, smiles and visiting.

May we strive to follow these two commandments with ALL, not just part but ALL our heart, soul and mind and strive to love everyone. If we do not love our brothers and sisters, how can we love Christ?

ILLINOIS BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL

**Heidi Rinkenberger
Jacki Masters**

I feel myself a pilgrim here;
The Lord, alone, to me is dear;
Far dearer than all earthly things,
In love to Him my soul still clings.

Hymns of Zion #79

As much as we are anticipating the coming of spring, so we should also be eagerly anticipating the coming of our

dear Savior.

Elder Bro. Jim Plattner (Sis. Marlene, Princeville) along with Elder Bro. Mark Streitmatter shared the Memorandum with us this month. We were given much instruction and encouragement to prepare for our Savior's return.

Our congregation was thankful to witness testimonies and baptisms of two young converts, Bro. Bryce Wegman (Bro. Dave and Sis. Karen) and Sis. Allison Metz (Bro. Brad and Sis. Karen). Elder Bro. Ron Messner (Sis. Pam, Washington) helped Elder Bro. Mark Streitmatter with the testimonies. It was such a blessing listening to the converts share their testimonies and to hear the gentle instructions and words of encouragement from our ministers. We were also thankful that Bro. Scott Wegman (Taylor, MO) shared in the morning services and Bro. Daren Metz (Gridley) in the afternoon services with us the day of the baptisms.

We extend our sincere sympathy to Sis. Jean and Bro. Doug Greiner in the passing of Sis. Jean's father, Bro. Al Hunziker (Morton).

ILLINOIS, BRADFORD
Philip and Donna Nenadov

"But Jesus beheld, and said unto them, with men this impossible: but with God all things are possible."

Matthew 19:26

We are thankful that the wells of salvation never run dry. God's grace is plenteous and abounding. This evidence is evident in the life of our dear convert, Stacy Wagenbach (Bro. Kevin and Sis. Sara). We wish her much patience and support during this time of regeneration in her life.

The church was able to reflect on the death and sacrifice of our Lord Jesus through the avenue of Holy Communion. Our Elder Bro. Bruce was

assisted by Elder Bro. Gerry Hertzell (Sis. Ellen, Sabetha) in bringing to remembrance the agony He suffered for us and the life He gave to us through this event.

The same Lord and Saviour is to be glorified for being the best match maker anyone could ever have. This was witnessed by many people who were present at the wedding of Bro. Adam Endress and Sis. Brittany Streitmatter. Parents of the couple are Bro. Larry and Sis. Becky Endress and Bro. David and Sis. Crystal Streitmatter (Princeville). May they experience the blessings of the Lord as they settle in the community as a new family.

God's perfect timing sometimes amazes us and yet we trust that He will lead us if we let Him. We are pleased to hear of the engagement of our dear Sis. Joy Nenadov (Bro. Paul and Sis. Marilyn) to Bro. Art Kellenberger (Bro. Gene and Sis. Marian) of Sabetha, KS. We offer our prayers and love to this couple as they make preparation for a wedding in the near future.

"The Lord is good unto them that wait for him, to the soul that seeketh him."

Lamentations 3:25

God be with you 'til we meet again.

ILLINOIS, CHAMPAIGN
Jackie Eisenmann

Greetings from Champaign-Urbana! We would like to thank our visiting ministers who came to Champaign this month. We were blessed Wednesday, March 3, to have retired Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle (Peoria, IL) with us. After his service, he also took some time to tell how God had led him to Japan many years ago and how God provided for the Gospel to be shared there. It was an encouraging evening! The next Wednesday,

March 10, Bro. Tom Bolliger (Tremont, IL) presented a topical Bible Study to us on "Keeping God's Commandments". It was great to be reminded:

"Jesus said unto him, 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 neighbour as thyself."

Matthew 22:37-40

Sunday, March 7, we had an all church Hymn Sing followed by our local men's group, "Sovereign Praise" who took time to sing for us. We want to thank Sovereign Praise for sharing their God-given talents with us! Afterwards we shared a church dinner together. It was a blessed day and we thank God for it!

Sunday, March 14, a house warming and singing was held at Bro. David and Sis. Jackie Eisenmann's home. This is a tradition that our Champaign congregation has done for many years and once again, it was a blessing for all.

"Who was Jesus?" was the question asked to us, and then answered by our Sunday school children on Sunday, March 28, as they presented to the church their annual Easter program. Once again we were blessed by their beautiful voices and their pieces that they so carefully memorized. We thank all of the students and their teachers!

ILLINOIS, CHICAGO
Rachel Meyer

Greetings from Chicago. God blessed our congregation with three visiting Elder Brothers and we thank them for being with us. They are: Elder Bros. Curt Frank (LaCrosse, IN), Wayne Banwart (Champaign, IL), and Ron Messner (Washington, IL).

Our dear Bro. Paul Leman was in the hospital for some tests regarding his heart. We are thankful he is home and able to assemble with us again.

Our Sis. Marlene Lau (Bro. Steve) lost her mother, Sis. Mary Ann Metz Plattner (Forrest, IL). May God comfort this beloved family during this transition.

Bro. John Schrenk (Sis. Pauline) passed away in Elgin, IL. Our prayers are with Sis. Pauline and their family. Bro. John was Chicago's oldest brother and attended Chicago church for over 65 years. Victory in Jesus.

We have enjoyed Mallory and Jay Nicholas assembling with us and were saddened to hear of the death of Mallory's grandfather, Everett K. King (Bluffton, IN). We extend our sincere sympathy.

Our ministering Bro. Virg and Sis. Mary Metzger joyfully welcomed their new grandson, Cade Allan Bergman. Little Cade lives in Mason City, IA, with his sister Kylie and parents, Renae and Bruce Bergman. Proud uncle, Bro. Darin Metzger, is also enjoying his new nephew.

Bro. Dave and Sis. Julie Westfall have a new granddaughter. Laney Ann Westfall was born to Ryan and Tanya Westfall of Rensselaer, IN. We extend congratulations to this dear family.

Our Chicago baby room is humming along as sweet Titus John Plattner joins our congregation. First-time parents are Bro. Aaron and Sis. Bekah Plattner. We wish this family much joy. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Dennis and Sis. Bonnie Kaufmann (Bloomington, IL) and Bro. Howard and Sis. Kristen Plattner (Alto, MI).

We heard the Conference Report on February 20 and we thank the dear Brothers for continuing this Biblical instruction and encouragement for us as a global church. May God bless you, Brothers.

We gave a fond farewell to Diana

Wagenbach as she will start a new job in Quincy, IL. We enjoyed our short time together and hope she will visit often.

On February 27 we enjoyed our Sunday School Benefit Dinner. The evening was enjoyed by many and we thank everyone involved in making it a success. May God especially bless our Sunday School students and teachers.

Our Bro. Scott Wettstein is in Italy for a four-month work assignment. We lift him up in prayer and hope his time there is fruitful and enjoyable. And of course we look forward to his safe return.

Saturday, March 6, we held World Relief activities. It was a joy to be together working in Christian love. There are so many people on the wide face of this earth who live in poverty—dear children and adults alike.

I wish to thank my sister-in-Christ, Julie Eisenmann, for writing the Silver Lining articles while I was in Asia. May God bless your willing attitude and commitment, dear Sister.

I also cannot put into words my appreciation to my Chicago church family and all of you who remembered me in prayer during the past six months. My time in Asia presented many challenges and opportunities that continue as I settle back into life in the USA. Every day we awake we are presented with hopes, fears, doubts, etc. That does not change when one is on the opposite side of the world. But not one day did I awake in Asia and doubt that I had a praying church family behind me, along with my personal family. Thank you, in the name of Jesus.

ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK

Vickie Maul

Marilyn Maul

Our thoughts and prayers are with two dear families this past month with the loss of their loved ones. Our

prayers go to Ron and Sis. Shirley Krumwiede at the passing of his mother, Frieda Krumwiede. It was also with sadness in our hearts that we bid farewell to our Sis. Marguerite Bauer. We extend our sympathy to her children, Bro. John and Sis. Jayne Conrad and family and Bro. Les and Sis. Joyce (Bauer) Stock and family. Assisting with her funeral were Elder Bro. Rick Plattner (Fairbury) and Bro. Clark Stoller (Gridley). May our Comforter be near these families in their time of sorrow.

Our prayers continue for our loved ones who have spent time in the hospital. We want to remember Sis. Kathy (Bro. Gib) Stock since her hospital stay. Our hearts also go out to them with the recent illness and hospitalization of their daughter, Danell (Jim) Moberly. We also want to extend our prayers to Sis. Elaine (Bro. Curt) Sauder since her hospitalization. We trust God's healing touch upon them.

We were privileged to gather together on March 13 to hear the reading of the Memorandum. Elder Bro. Ben Walder (Congerville) assisted our Elder Bro. Tom Stock.

We thank Bro. Jeff Bahler (Wolcott) and Bro. Dennis Kaufmann (Bloomington) each for having a Topical Bible Presentation. Their topics were the prophet Jonah and Worship. We also appreciated having Bro. Mark Wettstein (Lacrosse) with us on the pulpit this month. May each one feel God's blessing for their labors of love.

Bro. Greg and Sis. Heidi Maul have been blessed with a precious little boy, Daniel Wayne. He is welcomed home by big sisters, Bethany and Natalie, along with grandparents, Mike and Sis. Kathy Maul.

As we enter the Easter season, may we stay focused on Christ and the cross as we strive to draw closer to Him.

ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE
Holly Zobrist

"...How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!"

Romans 10:15

We were thankful to have Bro. Roger Aberle (Sis. LaVonne) with us this past month. May God richly bless them.

We were also to thankful to hear that Carmen Wettstein (Bro. Denny and Sis. Emily) has made the decision to start repenting. It is always encouraging to hear of another soul who has decided to live for the Lord.

ILLINOIS, ELGIN
Amy Gasser
Miriam Gasser

It was a blessing to have many visitors the weekend of February 20-21, two of whom were ministering Bros. John Reinhard (Bluffton, IN) and Jeff Waibel (Leo, IN). Elder Bro. Curt Frank (LaCrosse, IN) came the following Saturday to help Elder Bro. Ron and Bro. Dave serve Communion. We thank all these brothers for being willing laborers in the Lord's vineyard.

On March 12, Clint and Lori Schambach of Ballwin, MO, welcomed a little boy into their hearts and home. Andon Clint's paternal grandparents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Jeanne. Garrett and Nicole Johnson are pleased to be new parents also and named their son Adrian Loaine, born March 17. His grandparents are Bro. Daryle and Sonia Kellenberger and Rick and Kim Johnson.

Our Sunday School students presented the Easter program on the evening of March 14. We were gently but profoundly reminded of Jesus' passion, death, and resurrection through

the recitation of pieces and singing of Easter songs and hymns.

Two souls reached the end of life's journey and were recently called home. Bro. John Schrenk died peacefully March 10 at Resthaven. He was the husband of Sis. Pauline and father of Sis. Nancy Schambach (Bro. Ron). On March 11, the brother of Rose Gerth (Mark) passed away at Timber Ridge in Morton, IL. Frank Fischer had been hospitalized with pneumonia and needed assistance with breathing. May the Lord comfort the family members of Bro. John and Frank with precious memories and the presence of the Holy Spirit.

ILLINOIS, EUREKA
Dee Baer
Jodi Blunier

It has been an encouragement to the church to have converts as Kurt Cottrell (Bro. Brent and Sis. Darla), Kristen Edelman (Bro. Keith and Sis. Nadine) and Abbie Wettstein (Bro. Bill and Sis. Heidi) began their repentance. God favors a humble heart with grace.

There is a new birth in the home of Bro. Ben and Sis. Laurel Wyss as Abigail Arlene joined brothers Lemuel and Gideon. Grandparents are Bro. Mark and Sis. Cheryl Zimmerman and Bro. Bruce and Sis. Donna Wyss.

Bro. Doug Banwart (Bro. Jeff and Sis. Lisa) and Sis. Tricia Hodel (Bro. Daryl and Sis. Deb, Gridley) made vows of faithfulness in marriage. May God's love bind them in unity.

Our friend Wilma McCanless took her last breath after a lengthy illness. Left to mourn are her faithful husband, Phil; a stepson, Kent of Peoria; and a sister, Clara Knapp of Morton. Sis. Lisa Banwart (Bro. Jeff) said a sad farewell to her dad, Bro. Don Bruellman (Sis. Verda) of West Bend.

We've had many who have experienced illnesses and physical setbacks. Our prayers have included Sis.

Evelyn Gudeman (Bro. Don), Bro. Brent Blunier (Sis. Trudy), Bro. Eldon Rocke (Sis. Ida Mae), Sis. Dorothy Schmidgall (Bro. Marvin), Sis. Barb Meiss (Ed), Sis. Clara Huber and Bro. Harold Schmidtgall (Sis. Ethel).

We were privileged to partake of Holy Communion in remembrance of our Lord's suffering and death. We appreciated Elder Bro. Gerry Hertzell for his labors in support of the Word. "Anew, Lord, we are bound to Thee..."

Bro. Kyle Feuchtenberger has moved to our area for employment and is assembling in Eureka. We welcome him.

Notes of Thanks:

Thank you to all who remembered me with cards, gifts and visits at the time of my surgery. God bless you.

Bro. Allan Getz

Thank you and God bless all who so lovingly sent prayers, cards and gifts for my 95th birthday. I had a blessed one. God bless you and thanks again.

Sis. Frieda Gerber

ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY
Angela Herr
Anna Schmidgall

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, vs. 1

Many of us witnessed the marriage vows of our Bro. Denver Rassi and Sis. Sharon Kaeb on February 28 in Forrest. Parents of this dear couple are Bro. Dennis and Sis. Diane Rassi (Austin, TX) and Morris and Brenda Kaeb (Forrest, IL). We wish them God's richest blessings as they begin their life together and we welcome Sis. Sharon to our congregation.

We also rejoice with Sis. Leann

Steidinger and Bro. Troy Brown of Forrest as they were joined in Holy Matrimony on March 7. Bro. Martin and Sis. Trish Steidinger and Bro. Gary and Sis. Jane Brown (Forrest, IL) are their parents. May God bless and guide them as they journey life's pathway together.

My lifetime doth pass away;
hourly to the grave I hasten,
and I know each fleeting day
my allotted span will lessen.
Think, man, death comes soon or late.
Tarry not, it will not wait!

Zion's Harp #253, vs. 1

Sis. Marguerite Bauer resided at our Fairview Haven Nursing Home for several years and passed away on February 28. We extend our sympathy to her family in Cissna Park.

Our prayers are with Karen Denick (Bro. Gene) and Sis. Dawn Huber (Bro. Rich) in the loss of their mother, Bernice Ellis, who passed away on March 12.

We also extend our deepest sympathy to Sis. Marguerite Lorch (Bro. Ben) in the death of her brother, Ronald Kilgus, of Deer Creek on March 16.

We appreciate each visiting minister who recently served us, including Bro. Pat Zaugg (West Bend, IA), Bro. Arlen Leman (Forrest, IL), Bro. Gary Brown (Forrest, IL), Bro. Matt Steffen (Princeville, IL), and Bro. Brad Gudeman (Bradford, IL). We thank these brothers for sharing God's Word with us and pray that He will richly bless them.

Sis. Betty Bittner and Bro. Marvin Bender have recently spent time in the hospital. May God heal and provide for them as they return home.

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, vs. 1

On Palm Sunday evening, March 28, we were able to sit and pause awhile remembering Jesus Christ's death on the cross at Calvary and His glorious resurrection as our Sunday School presented the Easter Program. It's always uplifting to hear the children tell the Easter story, reminding us of God's deep love for us.

ILLINOIS, FORREST

Lisa Aberle

Lynn Dotterer

Bro. Denver Rassi (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Diane, Austin, TX) and Sis. Sharon Kaeb (Morris and Brenda) exchanged wedding vows on February 28. We will miss Sis. Sharon as they will be assembling with the Fairbury congregation. The wedding day of Bro. Troy Brown (Bro. Gary and Sis. Jane) and Sis. Leann Steidinger (Bro. Martin and Sis. Trish Steidinger, Fairbury, IL) was March 7. We welcome Sis. Leann to our congregation! Rochelle Gerber (Bro. Alan and Sis. Marcia) and Ryan Rich (Mr. and Mrs. James White, Mahomet; Mr. and Mrs. Charles Rich, Mattoon) were married on March 20. On March 28, Bro. Sean Zimmerman (Bro. Rod and Sis. Micki) and Sis. Ashley Steidinger (Bro. Roger and Sis. Sheila) exchanged wedding vows. We wish all of these couples God's richest blessings, and pray they will always look to Him for guidance and direction.

Ministering Bros. Curt Rassi (Tremont, IL), John Rassi (Tremont, IL), Greg Rassi (Chicago, IL), Dennis Rassi (Austin, TX), John Hartman (Fairbury, IL), Dale Stoller (Fairbury, IL) and Bob Beebe (South Bend, IN) visited us this month. We are thankful for each one who is willing to teach us. May God be your rich Rewarder!

Several from our congregation have suffered illness. Our prayers are

with Sis. Pauline Wiegand, Sis. Jodi Slagel (Bro. Kevin), Grace Eisenmann (Bro. Dan and Sis. Abby), Bro. Rod Zimmerman (Sis. Micki), Bro. Ed Wenger (Sis. Renee), and Sis. Viola Metz (Bro. Chris), who have been hospitalized.

Our prayers continue to be with Bro. Brian and Sis. Marie Ricketts and their children. May they feel our love, prayers, and continued support as they face many decisions concerning Bro. Brian's cancer.

ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD

Donna Wyss

Rita Bauman

Our annual business meeting was held on March 3. We are thankful for the talents and spiritual gifts given to many members in our congregation. God was able to use many brothers and sisters in various tasks throughout the year. Our teachers with terms expiring in June are: Sis. Marge Bauman (Bro. Ben), Sis. Trish Gerber (Bro. Roger), Sis. Becky Roberts (Bro. Roger), Sis. Lori Wiegand (Bro. Larry), Bro. Mike Grimm (Sis. Amber), Bro. Kurt Plattner (Sis. Joan), Bro. Jeff Wiegand (Sis. Janel), Bro. Nate Wiegand (Sis. Laura), and Bro. Nate Zeltwanger (Sis. Brittany). Taking their place in Sunday School will be Sis. Karen Wiegand (Bro. Brad), Sis. Holly Bauman (Bro. Dan), Sis. Megan Knapp, Sis. Jill Wagner (Bro. Greg), Bro. Luke Rocke (Sis. Jill), Bro. Randy Blunier (Sis. Roxy), Bro. Ross Herrmann (Sis. Kitty), Bro. Jared Schieber (Sis. Angie), and Bro. Adam Rocke (Sis. Maribeth). Our prayers are with these brothers and sisters as God uses them to teach our children.

We also thank Bro. Dave Kuntz (Sis. Pat) for his service as trustee. Taking his place will be Bro. Brian Schieler (Sis. Teresa). Bro. Denny Blunier (Sis. Eddis) agreed to extend his term on the Eureka Home Board. Connie Rocke will replace Sis. Lynda

Hinrichsen on the Food Committee. We thank each one for your efforts put forth during your term. May God bless you.

“But the word of the Lord endureth forever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you.”

I Peter 1:25

Words of encouragement were brought to us from the Word through Bro. Loren Schrenk (Sis. Betsy, St. Louis, MO) and Bro. Sid Kaufmann (Sis. Sandy, Cissna Park, IL). May they be blessed for bringing us the Word of Life.

“...in the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.”

John 16:33

Prayer and encouragement is important for our hospital patients this month. Barbara (BJ) Hinrichsen (Bro. Charlie and Sis. Brenda) spent several days in the hospital due to a car accident. We are thankful she is at home recuperating. Bro. Wilbur Heinold (Sis. Mildred) fell and broke his hip and required surgery.

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

Genesis 2:18

With peaceful hearts and confidence that God has brought their lives together, Bro. Ron Wiegand and Sis. Kary Streitmatter would like to announce their engagement. Bro. Ron is the son of Bro. Dan and Sis. Verla and the husband of the late Sis. Barb. Sis. Kary is from Washington, IL, and is the daughter of Sis. Pearline and the late Bro. Vernie Streitmatter. May God bless them as they make wedding preparations.

March 10 brought one of life's mir-

acles into the home of Alex and Cassie Knepp. Dierks Michael is their new son. May the Word of Life be their guide as they begin parenting. Thankful for his arrival are grandparents, Bro. Roger and Sis. Trish Gerber and Bro. Rich and Sis. Janet Knepp (Roanoke, IL).

On March 14 the Bible Class hosted Gridley for a day of worship and activities. We were thankful to have visiting ministering Bros. Ed Sauder (Sis. Bonnie, Roanoke, IL) and Matt Kaufmann (Sis. Rebekah, Bloomington, IL) share God's Word with us. May God bless these dear Brothers for their labors of love.

“Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Matthew 3:2

We are thankful that our friend Joni Zacha (Jeremy) has made it known to man that she has decided to forsake the world and all its vanity and follow Jesus. Our prayerful support and God's nearness be with you.

With Easter upon us, it is good for each one to spend some time in quiet thinking about our Savior's death upon the cross. We then need to let our daily walk of life display our humble appreciation for the great suffering He willingly endured for each one. Always remembering that because He died for us, we can have a hope of life eternal.

“'Tis not the manger, but the cross, that sets the spirit free.”

(Hymns of Zion #36)

ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY Perry A. Klopfenstein

“In everything give thanks for this is the will of Christ Jesus concerning you.” Often in our daily life, it is difficult to clearly discern God's will, but for sure, as this Scripture says, giving thanks in all things is God's will.

Bro. Clark Stoller (and wife Sis.

Cindy) returned from a trip to Europe. They spent Sunday, March 14, at the church in Briedenbach, Germany with brethren. I asked him if they have the same faith as we do, and he replied they do! He preached there — partly in the German language, and the balance was in English with a translator.

A son, Mitchell Dennis, was born on January 16 to Bro. Ryan and Sis. Hope Stoller. His siblings are Braeden, 5, and Kiera, 2. Grandparents are Bro. Randy and Sis. Ronda Stoller and Bro. Dennis and Sis. Jane Steidinger, Fairbury. Great-grandparents are Bro. Duane and Sis. Arlene Kilgus, Fairbury, and Bro. Elmer and Sis. Rosetta Stoller, Forrest.

Bro. Jeremy and Sis. Rachel Schlipf became the parents of their second child on March 11. She was named Addison Lea, and has a brother, Levi, 1. Grandparents are Bro. Arthur and Sis. Twyla Schlipf, Gridley, and Bro. Randy and Sis. Carol Feucht, Roanoke. Great-grandparents are Sis. Oleda Menold, Morton, Bro. Morris and Sis. Ida Mae Barth, Roanoke, and Bro. Walter Feucht, Peoria.

Sis. Linda Krug had surgery. Bro. Paul Zehr remains gravely ill as of this writing. Sis. Mary Stoller is recovering from a fall.

Bro. Don and Sis. Rosie Gramm observed their 50th wedding anniversary, having married on March 6, 1960. They were married at Bluffton, IN, at her parent's home.

We had a blessed evening on Wednesday, March 3, when Holy Communion was served. Elder Bro. Marvin Dotterer (Forrest) was here to help with this service, and we surely thank him. This rite is surely a blessing. A closeness to God is magnified as the quietness and sober quality of remembering enshrouds the sanctuary. And the words of the Zion's Harp Hymnal couldn't be more ap-

propriate and inspiring.

Sis. Maggie Schrenk left on March 4 to serve on Mercy Ship in Africa for five months. The needs of the poor are ever present, and poverty is dire among many!

ILLINOIS, MORTON
Annette Tanner
Julie Bahr

This article will be published in the month following Easter, but after reading this I couldn't help but be in awe and wonder of our Awesome God! I am going to share with you "THE PINE TREES KNOW WHEN IT'S EASTER." The pine trees start their new growth in the weeks before Easter. If you look at the tops of the pines 2 weeks before, you will see little yellow shoots. As the days get closer to Easter Sunday, the tallest little yellow shoots will branch off and form a cross. By the time Easter Sunday comes around, you will see that most of the pine trees will have small yellow crosses on all the tallest shoots. They appear to be stretching toward Heaven and shine in the sunlight like rows of tiny golden crosses!! Awesome isn't it?! OH LORD MY GOD, HOW GREAT THOU ART!

March 3, Bro. Jon Zeller (Sis. Christie) gave our Wednesday Evening Family Worship topic, "The Truth, The Whole Truth, and Nothing But The Truth." We love and appreciate each time our beloved ministers share these special topics with us, pointing us in God's perfect ways.

Our Morton Church experienced more sadness again this month as two more of our brethren went on to win their Heavenly crowns. March 3, Bro. Robert "Bob" Joos passed away. Surviving are his wife, Peggy; and children, Robert Jr. (Maranda), Daniel (Sara), David, Missy (Frank) Ross, and Tricia. Bro Bob currently worked in the Maintenance Department (and

had for many years) at our Apostolic Christian Restmor Facility.

March 12, Bro. Albert Hunziker (late Sis. Virginia) also passed away suddenly leaving his four children, Janet (John) Schini, Sis. Jean (Bro. Doug) Greiner, Sis. Peggy (Bro. Shon) Hoerr, and Jeffery. Bro. Al was one of the beginning members and also a current member of the men's acappella singing group, "The Mortonaires". Our love and prayers are surely shared with these dear families.

Many of our Morton brothers and sisters covet your prayers as they travel with work teams to provide relief for the Haitian people. Pray for them to be able to help them in their process of healing while also being able to "Share Jesus without Fear"!

Bro. Jeff Neihouser was given the duty of our new Morton minister. We praise God for His incredible goodness! Our love and support goes with him and his wife, Sis. Sue, along with their dear family.

NOTE: The Morton Church now has sermons available online both through live streaming and online archives of past sermons. The link to get to the sermons is available at the Morton Church website:

www.mortonacchurch.org

ILLINOIS, PEORIA
Pam Fritzenmeier

The engagement of Sis. Rachel Streitmatter to Bro. Jimmy Sutter (Taylor, MO) was made known Sunday, February 21. Their parents are Bro. Doug and Sis. Cindy Streitmatter and Bro. Jim and Sis. Kris Sutter, Taylor. We pray God's blessings for this dear young couple.

Our young people have done a lot of traveling this past month. The Bible Class was in Bloomington for ACYF on February 14. The Young

Group was invited to Bluffton on February 20-21. The sixth, seventh, and eighth graders went to Bloomington the weekend of March 6-7. May God bless their hosts for providing special memories for them.

Our monthly Family Hymn Sing was held Sunday, March 7. Our third, fourth, and fifth grade Sunday School classes and the Prairie Choristers from Roanoke were special guests. It's always a joy to sing praises to our heavenly Father.

Several in our congregation would appreciate prayers as they suffer various health issues. They include Bro. Bob Joos, Bro. Harry Eisenmann, Sis. Mary Swadley, Kathy Rampy, and Sis. Maria Graham.

Also keep the earthquake victims and relief workers in your prayers. Bro. Tim and Sis. Joan Reinhard and family (Haiti) report that the already poor lives of the Haitians have now become destitute.

We extend our sympathy to the family of Bro. Al Hunziker (Morton) who passed away suddenly March 12. Bro. Willis (Sis. Gloria) Hunziker, Sis. Mardell (Bro. Melvin) Plattner, and Sis. Ardith Herrmann are his siblings from our Peoria church.

ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE
Linda Joos
Connie Christ

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

Sis. Brittany Streitmatter and Bro. Adam Endress of Bradford, IL, were united in holy matrimony on March 7. Parents are Bro. David and Sis. Crystal Streitmatter and Bro. Larry and Sis. Becky Endress of Bradford, IL. May God's love ever bind them as they walk this path of life together. We were blessed with many

visiting ministers on this day, including Elder Bro. Bruce Endress (Bradford, IL), Bros. John Steiner (Oakville, IA), Brad Eisenmann (Chicago, IL), Jim Vierling (Eureka, IL), Paul Eisenmann (Burlington, IA), Greg Lehman (Wolcott, IN), John Lehman (Wolcott, IN), Ken Dietz (Bradford, IL), and Brad Gudeman (Bradford, IL). Other visiting ministers this month included Bros. John Hartman (Fairbury, IL), John Bradle (Roanoke, IL) and Greg Stoller (Forest, IL). Also, Bro. Jeff Thames (Washington, IL) was a willing servant for our Bible Study on February 26.

There are always those of our congregation in need of our prayers as they suffer the physical afflictions of this earthly body. This month we have remembered to pray for Sis. Esther Martin (Bro. Nate), Bro. Harry Herrmann (Sis. Bertha Jean), Bro. Alf Streitmatter (Sis. Ginny), Sis. Phyllis Knobloch, and Torence Kieser (Bro. Tim and Sis. Denise).

Marvin and Sharon Eberle are rejoicing as they welcomed a precious grandson, Chase Carl Eberle, into their family circle on February 9. Happy first-time parents are Scott and Jennifer Eberle.

We are thankful for God's blessings for two couples in our congregation as they recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversaries. May God continue to be the faithful Shepherd and guide for Bro. Bob and Sis. Arlene Scholl and Bro. Earl and Sis. Anna Lou Grimm.

ILLINOIS, ROANOKE

**Jamie Hodel
Judy Sauder**

Galatians 6:7: "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap." We were thankful to have Bro. Dale Stoller (Fairbury) share the topic "you reap what you sow" for our fam-

ily worship held on Wednesday evening, February 24.

Our all church potluck and singing was held on Sunday evening, February 21. We appreciate Bro. Mike Hoffman sharing a presentation on the Midwest Food Bank.

Our prayers are with Bro. Duane Schroeder in the passing of his brother-in-law, Glen (Louise) Baker of Benson, on February 28.

Strive aright when God in mercy,
His compassion turns to you,
that your soul so long o'erburdened,
freed from sin might live anew.

Zion's Harp #47

We rejoice with Seth Hodel (Bro. Brad and Sis. Patty) as he has begun seeking the Lord in repentance. We pray Seth will feel God's presence as he begins his walk.

Psalms 92:4: "For thou, Lord, hast made me glad through thy work: I will triumph in the works of thy hands." We rejoice with many families in our congregation who have been blessed with the birth of a new child. Bro. Gary and Sis. Elna Wettstein became grandparents again on January 26 with the birth of Hank Arthur. Hank was born to Ed and Stephanie Wettstein of Secor. Hank is also being welcomed home by older sister Lydia, and maternal grandparents, Kent and Cindy Kamp of Eureka. On March 1, Levi Austin was welcomed into the home of Bro. Brock and Sis. Jodi Gerber. Also welcoming Levi home is older sister Reagan, and grandparents, Bro. Bob and Sis. Ann Knepp and Bro. Roger and Sis. Trish Gerber (Goodfield). We rejoice with Bro. Rich and Sis. Janet Knepp in the birth of their new grandson, Dierks Michael, born on March 10 to Alex and Cassie Knepp of Goodfield. Dierks' maternal grandparents are Bro. Roger and Sis. Trish Gerber (Goodfield.)

Psalms 68:4: "Sing unto God, sing

praises to his name..." Our family hymn sing was held on Sunday, March 14. We were blessed to hear Sis. Lydia and Sis. Leah Bertschi, and Sis. Nicole Wiegand (Gridley) share their hearts in song with us.

On Wednesday evening, March 17, we heard a program from our scripture memory class. What a blessing to be able to hear these children share God's Word in song.

If a single fervent pray'r
of a soul prevailing,
on the tender heart of God,
brings its fruit unfailing,
how much more is in store,
when whole congregations,
bring their supplications.

Zion's Harp #174

Our congregation continues to lift up Bro. Jim (Sis. Sara) Byrd, Bro. Marvin (Sis. Michaleen) Braker, Bro. Rich (Sis. Janet) Knepp, and Bro. Tim (Sis. Linda) Martin. We pray each of these Brothers can feel our prayers and find courage in the promises of the Lord.

Note of Thanks:

I wish to thank everyone for the beautiful cards, flowers, gifts, visits, and all who in any way made my 90th birthday so happy. I love all of you. May God bless you.

Sis. Carol Schwab

ILLINOIS, TREMONT

**Teresa Rowell
Janice Sauder**

We have many visiting ministering brothers to thank this month: Bros. David Zehr (Gridley, IL) and Scott Wegman (Taylor, MO) joined us for special Family Night services; Bros. Dan Moser (Elgin, IL), Jeff Thames and Justin Koch (Washington, IL) and Elder Bro. Tom Stock (Cissna Park, IL) were here for a baptism weekend; Elder Bros. Ervin Knecht (Eureka, IL), Ted Witzig

(Morton, IL) and Jim Plattner (Princeville, IL) participated in the special ordination service; and Elder Bro. Curt Frank (LaCrosse, IN) came to help deliver the Memorandum to our congregation. God bless each one for his part in the Lord's work!

We welcome Bro. Jesse Kaiser (Bro. Tim and Sis. Ruth) and Bro. Ben Sauder (Bro. Gregg and Sis. Cindy) as brothers in Christ. What a high standing in life, to become children of God!

Bro. Pete and Sis. Debbie Aberle are happy to announce the birth of Brooklyn Nicole. Parents, Randy and Darla Aberle, and big sister Natalie welcome her home. Bro. Todd and Sis. Beth Stuber also have another grandchild, Wyatt Eldon David. His parents, Travis and Elizabeth Stuber, and big brother Warren welcome him home. Timothy Todd has joined the family of Bro. Todd and Sis. Val Steiner. Sis. Victoria, Trent, Corbin, Philip, Thad, Faith, Joshua, Lydia, and Emma are learning to know this little baby brother, along with grandparents, Bro. Joe and Sis. Marcella Steiner. May God bless these three families with His presence.

As a congregation, we continue to pray for our dear ones who are undergoing testing for, enduring ongoing treatments for, and continue with rehab for different struggles with ill health. May God grant healing where it is His will, and give comfort and peace when healing is not to be here on earth.

We extend our sympathy to Bro. Glenn and Sis. Marilyn Dill at the passing of their sister-in-law, Sis. Jan Zimmerman of Morton, IL. We also extend sympathy to Mark and Rose Gerth, at the passing of their brother, Frank Fisher. Frank was born in Elgin, IL, but lived at Timber Ridge in Morton, IL, for several years. Health permitting, Frank attended church in Tremont with Mark and Rose each Sunday morning. We were blessed to

have him be part of our congregation!

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

Sunday evening, February 28, with thankful hearts, we attended the ordination service of our new Elder, Bro. Steve (Sis. Mary) Sauder. We pray for God to continue to grant Bro. Steve wisdom and love, and also to Sis. Mary as she supports him, in fulfilling his responsibilities as the "Under-Shepherd" of our flock here in Tremont.

At this time, we also want to thank Bro. Charles Sauder for his many years of devoted service to our congregation in the ministry, as an ordained deacon, and finally his years as Elder. We did not get to thank dear Sis. Miriam, but we have many precious memories of her life, as she supported Bro. Chuck in his work. We realize that we'll never know how much our Elder brothers and their wives really give for our congregations, but we are thankful for their willingness to serve the Lord in this way. God be their rich rewarder!

ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON

**Linda Folkerts
Nancy Leman**

This is that great thing I know;
this delights and stirs me so;
Faith in Him who died to save,
Him who triumphed o'er the grave,
Jesus, God of majesty!
Zion's Harp #225

As winter ends and we welcome the new life and beauty of Spring, we also anticipate the wonderful privilege of sharing Holy Communion, and commemorating Jesus' death and His resurrection as Easter approaches.

With thankful hearts and enjoying the blessing of God's will being car-

ried out in their lives, the engagement of Sis. Kary Streitmatter and Bro. Ron Wiegand (Goodfield) was announced on March 7. Their parents are Sis. Pearline Streitmatter (the late Bro. Vernon) and Bro. Dan and Sis. Verla Wiegand (Goodfield). We wish this dear couple God's blessings as they plan for their wedding.

On February 24, we appreciated Elder Bro. Dan Kilgus (Sis. Jenna, Remington) coming to share in the reading of the Memorandum to our congregation. Other visiting ministers who have served us this past month are Bro. Alan Schambach (Sis. Sarah, Remington) for our Invite-a-Guest Sunday and Bro. Craig Stickling (Sis. Jacki, Peoria) for our monthly Bible Study on James Chapter 2. May God bless these brothers for their labors of love.

On March 14, we enjoyed the blessings of loved ones visiting from near and far for our Invite-a-Guest Sunday. We also appreciated the loving generosity of our congregation and many others at the benefit dinner/labor auction for the Bible Class in support of their upcoming mission trip to Magdalena in June.

We are thankful that Clayton Leman (Bro. Herb and Sis. Lori) is mending well after a snowboarding accident where he ruptured his spleen. May God be praised for His healing hand of love.

INDIANA, BLUFFTON

**Grace Gerber
Kim Meyer**

"And Jesus entered and passed through Jericho. And, behold, there was a man named Zacchaeus, which was the chief among the publicans, and he was rich. And he sought to see Jesus who he was; and could not for the press, because he was little of stature. And he ran before, and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see him: for

he was to pass that way. And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up, and saw him, and said unto him, Zacchaeus, make haste, and come down; for to day I must abide at thy house. And he made haste, and came down, and received him joyfully. And when they saw it, they all murmured, saying, that he was gone to be guest with a man that is a sinner. And Zacchaeus stood, and said unto the Lord; Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have taken any thing from any man by false accusation, I restore him fourfold. And Jesus said unto him, This day is salvation come to this house, forsomuch as he also is a son of Abraham. For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost."

Luke 19:1-10

Here we are again, and I am excited to tell you that the Spirit is live and living! Of course, you're thinking, "We already know that!" Yes, we know this as well; however, the Lord showed himself strong a couple of Sundays ago with the story of Zacchaeus. Luke 19 was opened both in the morning and afternoon. Bro. Ed finished the day by saying he listened to a sermon the night before that was given to him two months prior, and yes, it was on Zacchaeus. It wasn't so much the sermons that had us shedding tears at the close of the day, but the opportunity we had as a congregation to watch the Holy Spirit speak through three brothers who were all unaware of the others' messages. Did God get our attention? Absolutely! Do we know what He has in store for us? Absolutely not! That's the great thing about faith "...the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." If we understood it all, what would be so supernatural about our heavenly Father? That's why we seek Him, daily, to discover what He would want to reveal to us like on Sundays when we

hear about the same story three times. God did not give us an outline of what He has in store for us, but He got our attention. I think that's where God wants us to abide; to have our attention and waiting for His direction. "And the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God, and into the patient waiting for Christ."

(2 Thess. 3:5). For myself, I must confess that I don't always give God my full attention. However, I am excited to see what He will reveal to the Bluffton church and to me personally.

God got our attention at the beginning of the month and maybe it was to get us on our knees a little more and a little longer. The prayers requested this past month out-numbered the births, engagements, and converts which doesn't always happen. Is that a bad thing? Absolutely not. When we have opportunities to pray for one another, our love for one another grows. We lift Taylen Kipfer (Bro. Troy and Sis. Brenda) up in prayer as he will be having an intestinal track biopsy. We had two sisters suffer a stroke, Sis. Josephine Schwartz and Sis. Diana Tonner (Bro. Bill), and we pray for their speedy recoveries. Bro. Rich and Sis. Amber Pfister were with us for six weeks due to the earthquake in Haiti. We pray for them yet again as they returned to Haiti and for the country as well.

Sometimes we receive earthly healing; oftentimes, that's what we pray for. However, there are times when God needs to bring His children home in order to heal them. This was the case for Kevin Miller (son-in-law of Bro. Allen and Sis. Arlene Steffen). His recently discovered lung cancer spread to his brain and on February 23, the Lord healed him. Now we continue to lift up in prayer his young wife and two sons as they try to adapt to a home without their husband and father. We also pray for the family of Bro. Ezra Reinhard who passed away this month. Bob Heyerly (brother to

Bro. Von Heyerly) suffered a heart attack and said goodbye to his family as well. Our lives can end so quickly and I don't think we can even comprehend it. That is why we read over and over in the Bible that we must be watching, waiting, and ready.

In the meantime, we can celebrate with Bro. Dan Kaehr (Bro. Sam and Sis. Connie) and Sis. Caitleigh Rinkenberger (Bro. Linc and Sis. Catrina) who announced their engagement.

We also rejoice for another soul saved, Esther Krizan (Bro. Eugene and Sis. Elizabeth). Bluffton was also blessed with four testimonies and baptisms of four young babes in Christ who are seeking Jesus. We embrace Bro. Troy Fiechter (Bro. Lynn and Sis. Ronda), Bro. Matthew Gerber (Bro. Gene and Sis. Becky), Bro. Josh Fiechter (Bro. Brad and Sis. Lynn), and Sis. Alyssa Meyer (Bro. Denny and Sis. Kathy) in Jesus' name. Bro. Doug Harmon (Sis. Lanna) from Toledo also shared in the baptism weekend.

Reflecting back on the story of Zacchaeus, we were reminded that we often do a pretty good job of taking care of ourselves. We were challenged to seek Jesus as Zacchaeus did, whatever the cost, and then follow Him. May we pray for one another that we all would be zealously seeking Jesus and how He would want to use us as His hands and feet in a world that is lost and hurting.

"And the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God, and into the patient waiting for Christ."

II Thessalonians 3:5

**INDIANA
BLUFFTON NORTH
Jessie Longenberger
Amy Moser**

"For though I preach the gospel, I

have nothing to glory of: for necessity is laid upon me; yea, woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel!"

I Cor. 9:16

Bluffton North is happy to announce two new ministers: Bro. Tim (Sis. Gwen) Drayer and Bro. Dan (Sis. Sherry) Pfister. We offer them our full support, love and prayers. We trust that they will be able to feel the prayerful support of their church family and all those who love them.

Shelley Miller, daughter of Bro. Bill and Sis. Carolyn Gerber, had a procedure done in Detroit to remove blockages from her brain. Ongoing prayers are requested for her, Greg, and their boys.

Bro. Tad and Sis. Stephanie Baumgartner rejoice in the arrival of a son. Andy Gale was born February 18 and joins brothers, Samuel and Jude. Grandparents are Bro. Gale and Sis. Joyce Baumgartner.

INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE

**Mildred Clauss
Jacki Huber**

The Empty Tomb has a message for us.

It says to science, "Explain this event."

It says to history, "Repeat this event."

It says to time, "Blot out this event."

It says to faith, "Believe this event."

(Author Unknown)

"He is risen; he is not here; behold the place where they laid him."

Mark 16:6

In the past few weeks numerous ones from our congregation have gone with work teams on mission trips to Haiti and to Magdalena, Mexico. We know God will bless their labors and we are thankful for their safe return. I recently read: "Christians do not become 'sons of God' by their

works, but it is by their works alone that they prove themselves to be 'sons of God'!" And God has work for each of us to do — often right in our own backyard; a visit to the sick and elderly, a word of encouragement to the down-hearted, a loving smile to everyone we meet along the way!

We thank our visiting ministers: Bro. Cal (Sis. Jeanie) Schneider from LaCrosse and Bro. Ken (Sis. Lynn) Wuethrich from Indianapolis. Also, Bro. Jeff (Sis. Heidi) Bahler from Wolcott who gave a Topical Bible Study on the Book of Jonah. There are so many gems in the Scriptures that we find when we search deeply and study carefully! May God especially bless these three brothers for serving us.

Several have been hospitalized: Sis. Priscilla Anliker, Bro. Harold Fritz and Bro. Jim Bogart. Also, Bro. Harvey Gutwein and Sis. Sharon Huber who are presently in Ft. Myers, FL, have spent time in the hospital. Sometimes we take our good health for granted, but it truly is a great blessing. How wonderful that God is still the "Great Healer"!

Bro. Steve and Sis. Linda Gutwein recently returned from Doha, Qatar where they traveled to visit their daughter and her husband, Betsy and Ryan Riley and son.

We recently balloted to fill various positions in the church. The following brothers and sisters were elected: Sunday School Assistant Superintendent - Jeff Tanner; SS teaching Brothers - Luke Gudeman, Jerry Gutwein, Phillip Huber; SS teaching Sisters - Cathy Nuest, Debbie Nuest, Danielle Wuethrich; Church Trustee - Wendell Anliker; Fellowship Center Trustee - Earl Anliker; Ushers - Lance Gutwein, Don Nuest, Larry Nuest; Missionary Committee - Doug Leman; Parkview Haven Board - Roger Ward; World Relief Representative - Rick Wuethrich.

INDIANA INDIANAPOLIS

**Gail Bradford
Penny Schroder**

Our prayers go out to Sis. Edye Mayer and her family. Sis. Edye's sister, Sis. Emily Went (Mansfield, OH), passed away shortly after suffering from a major stroke in February. May God fill the void that this loss brings to Sis. Edye and her family.

We rejoice that Orlyn Fehr has begun his repentance. Orlyn grew up in Fairbury, IL, but has been working in the Indianapolis area for several years. More than a year ago he began to assemble with us. It is so encouraging to see God working in his life. Orlyn's parents are Bro. Wayne and Sis. Norma Fehr from Fairbury, IL.

Sis. Katie Schwab and her father, Bro. Tim Schwab (Wolcott, IN), shared of their experiences in Haiti on Wednesday, February 24. Sis. Katie recently returned from a medical work team in Haiti and Bro. Tim has been involved in the water pump missions our church has in Haiti.

Bro. Clint Blume shared his testimony and was baptized in Wolcott, IN, the weekend of February 27. We are thankful to have him a part of our congregation and pray for his continued growth.

Several of the congregation enjoyed a potluck and singing on March 14. It is always an encouragement to share time together and praise our Lord.

We were also blessed to have Elder Bro. Wayne Banwart (Champaign, IL) with us on two separate Wednesday nights this month. We are grateful for the love he shares with our church.

Within the last several months both Mark and Michael Zeller (Bro. Eric (dec.) and Ginny Zeller) announced their engagements. Mark is engaged to Grace Moulton (Russell

and Deborah Moulton) of Big Sandy, TX. Michael is engaged to Hannah Nesmith (Rick and Sue Nesmith) of Joplin, MO. Their weddings are both planned in May.

Our congregation continues to move forward on our church renovation project. We appreciate the prayers and financial support that so many have shared. A ground breaking service is scheduled for May 2. Anyone who has special memories or ties to the Indianapolis congregation is invited to attend.

Special Note: Due to the planned church renovations, we will be temporarily displaced from our actual church building. After May 15, if you plan to be in the Indianapolis area on a Sunday or Wednesday night, please contact one of our ministers for details on our assembly location. Details will be included in subsequent Silver Lining issues once they have been determined.

INDIANA, LACROSSE
Bethany Johnson
Julie Rocke

Blest be the tie that binds
 Our hearts in Christian love;
 The fellowship of kindred minds
 Is like to that above.
 When we asunder part,
 It gives us inward pain;
 But we shall still be joined in heart,
 And hope to meet again.

Hymns of Zion # 156

Our prayers are with the family of our Sis. Carol (Bro. Ed) Troxel as they mourn the loss of her father, Bro. John (Sis. Pauline) Schrenk of our Elgin, IL, congregation. May God give them the grace and strength that they need to get through this time of grief.

We have undergone the replacement of all of the carpet in our church building because of some problems that could not be fixed. The last few

weeks have been very busy as they have been installing the carpet and needing people to come and help move benches, etc. Then, on Friday and Saturday the 12th and 13th, many from the congregation gathered to help spring clean the church. Many hands make light work and all that participated were appreciated!

We would like to extend a heartfelt "Thank You" to the Valparaiso congregation who once again welcomed many of us so warmly for two Sundays of worship while the carpet project was underway.

The Single Group hosted Parent Appreciation on Saturday the 13th. This is an annual event and it was a blessed evening for those who attended.

Visiting ministers this month were Bro. Don Steidl (Sis. Nan, Akron, OH) and Bro. Dean Messner (Sis. Wanda, Winthrop, MN). It is such a blessing to hear the Word brought forth and to have visitors to share the Word with.

Sis. Sis Zimmerman (Bro. Richard) was hospitalized for a short period of time this month. We are thankful to see her up and about again.

May each of you be blessed as we enter the Springtime of the year and look forward to Easter and remembering the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Praise be to God for His gift of mercy and forgiveness to each of us!

INDIANA, LEO
Elizabeth Schrenk
Abigail Schrenk

"Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God..."

1 John 3:1

Adoption is a beautiful concept to consider. God, in His love, came to

earth and made us HIS children. Through Him, we have the hope of eternal life. It's been the passion of several couples here in Leo to provide a home like this for the orphans and fatherless.

March 6 brought Adilynn Grey into the hearts of Bro. Jeremy and Sis. Kristi Reinhard. Since Adilynn was born in Florida, they hope to finish the paperwork and bring her home soon.

We are also excited with Bro. Jon and Sis. Amy Gerst as they finalize their adoption of twin girls. They hope to travel to Ethiopia sometime in April to meet and take home Jada and Adia.

Joey Kaufman recently left to teach English in Japan. We hope and pray God will work through him to draw those he works with to Christ.

Finally, Bro. Jedd Rocke (Sis. Marsha, Goodfield), among many others, traveled to Leo for Gateway's board meeting. We appreciate his service in sharing the Word with us.

INDIANA, MILFORD
Pam Beer
Paula Haab

It is a joy to go to the house of the Lord each week and hear the Good News of Jesus Christ proclaimed by our faithful ministers. It is added blessings to have visitors. Among them were the Covenant Chamber Choir on February 20 and 21. What beautiful voices our God has given to many of our brothers, sisters, and friends!

On March 13 and 14, Elder Bro. Lynn Fiechter and wife, Sis. Rhonda (Bluffton), came to assist our Elder Bro. Bill Schlatter and wife, Sis. Emily (Junction), in the breaking of bread and sharing the cup with us as we remembered Christ's suffering on that cruel cross and shedding His blood for each and every one. We surely appreciate these brothers' la-

bors of love. Also visiting that weekend was Bro. Daren Metz (Gridley). He was here to be with his wife, Sis. Rita's family. We welcome him back often as well as our other visitors.

We gather yearly in March for a meal and auction to share of our abundance with those less fortunate. It is always a blessed evening with sweet fellowship. Another evening filled with blessings was when we met as a church family to work on World Relief projects.

We need to continue to pray for our Sis. Mayedean Lehman, and Bro. Glenn Price, Sr., as they have been discharged from the hospital to rehab centers.

INDIANA, REMINGTON

**Jenni Honegger
Marcella Tyler**

We recently attended our annual Cheer Circle Auction. Several sisters from both the Remington and Wolcott congregations sponsor this event each year and use the proceeds to fund their various charitable activities. It's always a fun night of fellowship when we come together to bid on all the "goodies" – knowing that many acts of Christian love and kindness are made possible by the attendees' generosity.

We are thankful that our Bible Class was able to attend ACYF at Purdue University this year. We pray that each student will feel the sincere love of the church and can find the grace to respond to our Saviour when He calls them.

Bro. Gene Lehman (Sis. Verna, Wolcott, IN) visited our pulpit one Sunday this month. We are very thankful that Bro. Gene is still willing to minister to us on occasion even though he is retired.

Bro. Dan Reinhard (Sis. Delores) mourns the loss of his brother, Bro. Ezra Reinhard, Jr. from Bluffton, IN. Brothers in this earthly life as well as

Brothers together with Christ – what a special bond! We ask for your prayers that God will comfort Bro. Dan and his family in this time of sorrow.

Our congregation is also in sorrow for the death of our beloved Sis. Arlene Kilgus (Bro. Earl) who went home to see Jesus on March 12. Arlene lived for 85 years, was a humble Sister to Christ for 62 years, and was a devoted helpmate to Bro. Earl for almost 61 years. Surviving is her husband, Bro. Earl; her children, Sis. Brenda (Bro. Ron) Clark, Katherine Jefferson, and Elder Bro. Dan (Sis. Jenna) Kilgus, all of Remington; a sister, Sis. Lorrene Clauss Schieler of Parkview Haven in Francesville; 10 grandchildren, and several great-grandchildren. We pray for the family that they can find comfort in the arms of the Lord during this difficult time. Sis. Arlene was a pillar in our church family and will be sorely missed.

INDIANA, SOUTH BEND

**Rachel Langhofer
Joshua Martinez**

"Because thou hast been my help, therefore in the shadow of thy wings will I rejoice."

Psalms 63:7

We are thankful for the return of Sis. Sharon Flis and her son Ben from Arizona. Sis. Sharon shared the winter months with Ben, who returned home after having worked in Lake Havasu City, AZ, for the last two years as a radiology technician.

We enjoyed the message of love and hope shared by visiting ministering Bro. Lucas Frank (Detroit, MI) this past month. May the Lord bless him, Sis. Crystal, and their family for their joyful service.

On February 19, our church family enjoyed an evening of pizza, fellow-

ship and service as we gathered for an evening of World Relief work making soup mix. Our thoughts and prayers continue with the all those involved in relief efforts in Haiti and across the world in the name of our Lord and Savior.

"For this child I prayed; and the LORD hath given me my petition which I asked of him."

1 Samuel 1:27

The Lord has blessed Bro. Brad and Sis. Becky Langhofer with another heavenly gift. Silas John Langhofer was born on March 4, much to the delight of big brothers, Jesse, Daniel and Elijah, and grandparents, Bro. Marty and Sis. Lavilla Langhofer and Bro. Fred and Sis. Mary Ellen Zimmerman (Congerville, IL).

"For ye shall go out with joy, and be led forth with peace: the mountains and the hills shall break forth before you into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands."

Isaiah 55:12

The Lord blessed Bro. Marty and Sis. Lavilla Langhofer on March 12, when their "adopted" Romanian daughter Ramona Iacob married their son Thomas. We were happy to meet and fellowship with Ramona's parents, Titi and Dorina, and siblings, Chip and Catalina. On March 14, Ramona's family shared with the Apostolic Christian brethren a presentation about the work the Lord is doing in their home village. The Iacob family showed us how even a small sliver of our abundance has had a tremendous ripple effect to improve the daily lives of the people of their community and most importantly paid eternal dividends by opening doors to share the Good News of the gospel of salvation.

May the Lord bless you and your loved ones as we look forward to the yearly renewal of spring. Blessed be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love.

INDIANA VALPARAISO

We have enjoyed several visiting ministers and fellowship with our neighboring church of Lacrosse this month. They were replacing carpet and worshipped with us for a couple of weeks. The ministers for Sundays and Wednesdays included Elder Bro. Curt Frank and Sis. Lyla, Bro. Don Gudeman and Sis. Mary, Bro. Calvin Schneider and Sis. Jeanie, Bro. Tom Troxel and Sis. Luann.

Last weekend our Sunday School Bible class enjoyed going to Purdue University in West Lafayette for ACYF where they were challenged by an excellent lesson by Bro. John Reinhard of Bluffton. A very nice dinner was held in the Purdue Union that even included sundaes for dessert! Our students joined with Lacrosse and Milford to sing two songs in the program, then stopped at Brunos on the way home for pizza. The kids and adults always enjoy this time.

Our Sis. Lois Bucher had surgery and is doing well. We are thankful for her recovery!

Our prayers go out to the family of our dear Elder Bro. Dan Kilgus as his mother, Sis. Arlene, went to be with the Lord last week.

We rejoice as we see the signs of spring which reminds us of our Lord and Savior!

INDIANA WEST LAFAYETTE Katie Widmer Beth Tonner

We are grateful for the visiting

Brothers who traveled to share God's Word with us this month.

Our congratulations to Bro. Nick and Sis. Susanne Gutwein for the blessing of a new granddaughter. Presley Juliet was born to Chet and Dana Gutwein.

We praise God for answered prayers for the safe and successful surgery of Taye Gutwein, son of Bro. Kevin and Sis. Laura Gutwein.

As the construction of our new church building is nearing completion, we look forward to occupying it for Easter Sunday, April 4. Services will return to the normal schedule with the morning song service beginning at 10:00 a.m. Our new facility is located at 6101 N CR 75 E, West Lafayette IN, 47906. Directions in the Church and Minister directory can be followed and you will continue on 600N past the previous church site, turning left on 75 E. The church is the first building on the right hand side. Plans are underway for a dedication service in May. All are welcome to attend.

INDIANA, WOLCOTT Donita Edelman Lynell Blume

A blessed weekend was shared February 27-28 when Ryan Schleman and Clint Blume (Bro. Larry and Sis. Lynell) testified of their conversion made possible by the shed blood of Jesus and His death on the cross. After the baptismal services on Sunday afternoon, we welcomed them as new brothers-in-faith. We wish each one of them the Lord's continued grace and peace as he lives his life as a child of God. We certainly appreciate Elder Bro. Steve Gutwein (Sis. Linda, Francesville, IN) being here to assist our Elder Bro. Dan Kilgus (Sis. Jenna, Remington, IN) with the testimonies and baptisms as instructed in the Bible.

We thank Bro. Jerry Wagenbach

(Sis. Bonnie, Oakville, IA) and Bro. Dale Banwart (Sis. Missy, Congerville, IL) for lending themselves to minister the Word of Life to us. May God bless Elder Bro. Steve, Bro. Jerry and Bro. Dale for their labors of love on our behalf.

We are happy that Sis. Angie Young has felt led to make Wolcott her church home. She is originally from Cissna Park, IL, and is employed in our area. We welcome her and pray that she can feel the love of our assembly as she worships and fellowships among us.

On March 9, Bro. Matthew and Sis. Renae Lindberg (Atlanta, GA) rejoiced in the birth of their first-born son, Emmett Dean. Thankful grandparents, Chris and Sis. Teresa Bahler and Bro. Richard and Sis. Julie Lindberg, are also delighted with this new little bundle to hold and to love!

Our hearts go out in love and sympathy to our Elder Bro. Dan and Sis. Jenna Kilgus and family in the loss of Bro. Dan's mother, Sis. Arlene (Bro. Earl) Kilgus from Remington, IN. Also, our prayer is that Marti Winger (Russell) can feel God's comfort in the loss of her mother, Maxine Foulks.

IOWA, BLOOMFIELD Christy Wiegand

"Everybody ought to love Jesus, Jesus, Jesus, He died on the cross to save us from sin, everybody ought to love Jesus." As I work with my daughter to help her learn her Easter program song and verse, I wonder why is it so easy for little children to love Jesus so much and serve Him with their whole heart and as we become adults we doubt and wonder and sometimes let our first love wane. This Easter may we make sure our first love is Jesus, who died on the cross to save us from sin.

We are rejoicing over the arrival of another baby. Sunday, February 28 is the birthday for little Shadrach Carl

born to Bro. Seth and Sis. Brenda Hartter. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Tim and Sis. Charlene Hartter (Sabetha, KS) and Bro. Gary and Sis. Melody Schulz (Burlington, IA).

We are also rejoicing with Kurt Dotterer (Bro. Joe and Sis. Rose), as he has turned to the Lord in repentance. Our prayers continue for each of our converts as they seek the Lord's direction for their lives.

We welcome Bro. Mark and Sis. Danielle Wiegand along with their two children, Travis and Blake, to our congregation. We pray they will feel welcome and feel the Lord's nearness.

The weekend of March 6-7 was our annual invite a couple weekend. We had a very blessed time with so many visitors. We want to thank the visiting ministers, Bro. Philip Schulz (Sis. Kelli, Burlington), Bro. Mark Schmidgall (Sis. Lisa, Eureka), and Bro. Clint Schmidt (Sis. Magdalena, Winthrop), for sharing the gospel message with us on Sunday.

Congratulations to Darren Wiegand and Amy Nixt on their engagement. We pray they will feel the Lord's blessing as they plan for their August wedding. Parents are Bro. Dave and Sis. Mary Wiegand and Jim and Marlys Nixt.

IOWA, BURLINGTON
Marilyn Anderson
Karla Gerst

We were thankful for visiting ministers the past month. Elder Bro. Jon Schmidgall (Sis. Julie, Oakville) and Elder Bro. Rod Bajema (Sis. Twyla, Lester) read the Memorandum to us. Bro. Tom Lanz (Sis. Mary, Oakville) ministered the Word to us the previous Sunday. May God bless these Brothers for their willingness to stand before us and allow the Holy Spirit to use them.

Our sympathy goes to Bro. John Buster (Sis. Ingrid) and family on the passing of his mother, Evelyn

Werner. May God comfort them at this difficult time.

Bro. Ken Massner (Rose) spent some time in the hospital and currently has residence at the Blair House in Burlington. May we lift him in prayer.

A new grandson, Shadrach Carl, is welcomed by Bro. Gary and Sis. Melody Schulz. Thankful parents are Bro. Seth and Sis. Brenda Hartter (Bloomfield).

IOWA, GARDEN GROVE
Rhoda Plattner

We have had many visitors over the past couple months. We sincerely appreciate each one who took the time to visit our small congregation, and especially ministering brothers who have traveled to assist Bro. Brad. Recent visitors have been from Bloomfield, IA; Denver, CO; Princeville, IL; Morris, MN; Belvidere, IL; Bern, KS; Taylor, MO; and Sabetha, KS.

We are thankful for the safe arrival of Gracyn Augusta to the home of Jason and Katie Newton. Gracyn is welcomed home by siblings, Remington and Aiden.

The annual business meeting was recently held and individuals have been selected to fulfill many important roles within our congregation. In particular, Sisters Dawn Moser, April Parmer and Willa Clark will appreciate prayers as they are given responsibilities in teaching the life-changing truths of God's Word to our Sunday school students.

As we witness the arrival of spring following a long winter, we are reminded of the resurrection of Jesus from the tomb and the promise of new life in Him for those who believe.

IOWA, LESTER
Polly Metzger
Gloria Moser

Taya Louise Metzger was born on February 23 to Craig and Kelly Metzger. Excited siblings are Parker, Kiley and McKenna. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Bill and Sis. Charlotte Metzger.

Awake, Thou soul's first inspiration:
 Let watchmen stand before the temple door!

With constant zeal and firm devotion,
 Against the enemy they do implore.
 Their pealing calls throughout the world resound.

Salvation, Lord, in Thee alone is found.

Zion's Harp #111

We are always thankful to having visiting ministers. They were Elder Bro. Doug Schock (Bloomfield, IA), Elder Bro. Roy Koehl (Morris, MN), Bro. Dean Messner (Winthrop, MN), Bro. Rex Frieden (Lamar, MO), Bro. Cory Metzger (Wichita, KS) and Bro. Duane Metzger (West Bend, IA). We pray for God's blessings upon these servants and that they may continue to be inspired by the Holy Spirit.

"For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and cleave to his wife; and they twain shall be one flesh.... What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder."

Mark 10:7,9

March 7 was the wedding day of Sis. Alice Schmidt (Bro. Mike and Sis. Mavis) and Bro. Alvie Meyer (Bro. Dean and Sis. Linda). May God bless their marriage with many Heavenly blessings.

The betrothal of Bro. Paul Messner (Bro. Henry and Sis. Charlene) and Sis. Stacey DeSmet (Bro. Bob and Sis. Shirley) was announced to the congregation on March 7. We wish them God's guid-

ance and direction as they plan for their wedding.

Hospital patients included Sis. Mariann Metzger (Bro. Elmer), Sis. Becky Ver Beek (Tim) and Bro. Paul Leuthold. May God's Healing Hand be upon them as they all have returned home to recuperate.

Our heartfelt sympathy is once again extended to Bro. Jim and Sis. Betty Leuthold and Jerry and Mary Ter Wee as they mourn the passing of their brother, Jasper Ter Wee. The Ter Wee family has had many sorrows in a short amount of time, but we trust they can feel the prayers and support.

IOWA, OAKVILLE Sharla Wiegand

On February 14, the announcement was made of the engagement of Bro. Ben Lanz (Bro. Keith and Sis. Tonya) and Sis. Kasha Kraft (Bro. Doug and Sis. Judy, Lamont/Gridley, KS). We wish them God's blessings in this new chapter of their lives.

We were encouraged and edified at the reading of the Conference report in Burlington on March 13. Elder Bro. Rod Bajema (Lester, IA) helped with the evening and we thank him for his efforts on our behalf.

IOWA, WEST BEND Janet Fehr Leona Fehr

Bro. Greg and Sis. Gwen Schupbach were blessed with a new daughter, Layna Kathrena, on February 23. Her siblings, Trystian, Leandra, Cortlyn and Tyra, welcomed her home as did her grandparents, Bro. John and Sis. Janet Schubach (Elgin, IA) and Bro. David and Sis. Yvonne Bruellman.

On March 15, another dear son was born to Bro. Quinn and Sis. Ruth Dahlhauser. He was named Grandon James, and big brother, Braxton, is

excited to have a playmate. Happy grandparents are Bro. Martin and Sis. Doris Zaugg and Bro. Ken and Sis. Ellen Dahlhauser.

Many were present to witness the testimonies and baptisms of Darin Banwart (Bro. Kent and Sis. Beth) and Amanda Knobloch (Bro. Cameron and Sis. Tammy) in West Bend on February 27. Ministering brothers in attendance were Elder Bro. Roy Koehl (Sis. Jenell, Morris, MN), Elder Bro. Rod Bajema (Sis. Twyla, Lester, IA), Bro. Wayne Fehr (Sis. Kathy, Portland, OR), Bro. Bruce Frank (Sis. Bonita, Cissna Park, IL) and Bro. Beirne Messner (Sis. Joyce, Morris, MN). We were thankful for each one who made the effort to spend this special weekend with us.

Our appreciation also goes to Bro. Kent Getz (Sis. Betty, Elgin, IA) and Bro. Wayne Fehr (Sis. Kathy, Portland, OR) for sharing the Word with our congregation on March 7.

Bro. Andy Virkler (Sis. Becky) bid farewell to his mother, Sis. Charlotte Virkler (Croghan-Naumburg, NY), on February 16. The loss of a mother, at any age, is deeply felt and we extend our sympathies to this family.

Our prayers extend to those with physical ailments. Little Josie (Mike and Amy) Van Wyhe and her great-grandfather, Bro. Don (Sis. Verda) Bruellman, were in the hospital at the same time. Bob (Sis. Ruth) Sigsbee also has suffered bodily afflictions and was a hospital patient as well.

He giveth more grace when the burdens grow greater;
He sendeth more strength when the labors increase.
To added affliction He addeth His mercy;
To multiplied trials, His multiplied peace.

Gospel Hymns #403

JAPAN, SHIODA Carrie Ito

We enjoyed a visit from Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Martha Moser from Washington, IL, this month. Our small church so appreciates the support from brethren and friends who visit!

JAPAN, TOKYO Jana Klaus

Greetings of love from Tokyo. We have reached the end of another school/work year and are looking forward to the new year beginning in early April. Our school graduates this year were Sarah Klaus from junior high, Chikako Suzurikawa and Rachel Klaus from grade school, and Charity Klaus from kindergarten. We ask for prayers for them as they all start the year at new schools.

We are so thankful to have Bro. Teruo Sanada back worshipping with us after his stay in the hospital! We praise God that Sanada-san has come a long way in recovering from his heart attack, but he still needs prayers for healing as he battles with diabetes.

Last August, I wrote about the passing of our dear friend, Teruko Hashimoto. Her husband, Shizuo, who is in his mid 90's, has continued to come to church around once a month with his son Kei (and sometimes Kei's wife), accompanying him each time. Shizuo-san was still living by himself, but as would be expected, he was lonely. So, his son and his wife announced to us last month that it would be his last Sunday with us as they felt it best to take him to live with them (which is about 2 hours away in Omiya). We could understand the decision, and in spite of the fact that we will miss his presence, we are so thankful he has a kind son with his Christian wife, who will love and care for him. Please continue to pray for the Hashimoto family.

We had two friends in our congre-

gation who recently lost a dear parent: Mrs. Miki (who is part of Sis. Marie's adult English class) lost her father and Mrs. Fuke (whose son recently started English class and Sunday School) lost her mother. Our hearts and prayers go out to them as it is never easy to say good bye to a loved one.

We had to say what we hope is a temporary good bye to our friend, Mrs. Ikeda, and her son Kei, who have been worshipping with us for a number of years. They left in late February to join their husband/father in Vietnam for a few years for his work. Our prayers go with them!

Our congregation was blessed to have many guests from the US worship with us throughout February and March. Bro. Trent and Sis. Mandy Regier (Leo, IN) and Bro. Benj and Sis. Kristen Hodel (Peoria, IL), cousins of the Klaus children, came to experience Japan and be with family. We thank Bros. Trent and Benj for their willingness to share with us in the afternoon Bible study. Bro. Galen and Sis. Nancy Rokey (Bern, KS) were on their way to another Asian country for Galen's business and stopped through Tokyo. We have appreciated Bro. Galen's ministering to us in our Tokyo church a number of times, but this is the first time he could bring his wife along and it was special to meet her! And, Sis. Janet Moser (Bluffton North, IN) and her granddaughter, Brittany Moser (Indianapolis, IN), were on a special trip to visit a former home stay teacher in Osaka that Sis. Jan had hosted back 20 years ago, and stopped through Tokyo on their way. We thank each of our guests for taking the time to worship and fellowship with us!

KANSAS, BERN
Sheri Edelman
Jill Meyer

It has been a privilege to host visit-

ing ministers for our worship services. This month we extend a warm thank you to Bro. Mike Rinkenberger (Sis. Pat, Congerville, IL) and Bro. Brent Kellenberger (Sis. Beth, Kansas City, MO) for teaching us the truth from God's Word!

We enjoyed our annual invited guest weekend in March. It was a blessing to meet and greet those from far and near!

Our church is now in better shape since the cleaning day we had recently. Many hands made light work and we still were able to enjoy one another's company as we labored side by side.

Bro. Morris Rokey (Sis. Arlinda), Bro. Wayne Edelman (Sis. Linda) and Malorie Strahm were the hospital patients this month in our congregation. Our prayers have been with each of you. We're also thankful Dorothy Strahm is now back in her home after a five week hospitalization.

KANSAS, FORT SCOTT
Martin Hohulin Sr.

"Where does the time go?", "How time flies". Many times we have said or heard these phrases. Time is a precious commodity. I have often wondered where time began. Could it have been when God separated the day from the night? We read about when time shall be no more and then eternity. How sobering. I must admit I have wasted too much time in my life. That time cannot be recalled.

After spending seven days in the Lamar Hospital, followed by my wife's (Sis. Edith) five day stay in the Joplin hospital, there was plenty of time to think, pray, and reflect on the more serious things in life. We are thankful for God's healing and the care of the dedicated doctors and nurses. We appreciated the cards, gifts, and food from the Brethren, friends, and neighbors of Lamar and Fort Scott. Thank you and may God

bless all of you.

I don't feel qualified to report Fort Scott's news as we have missed six Sundays due to illness. We appreciated the telephone services from Tremont, IL, and Taylor, MO. The services from Fort Scott were taped for us. We greatly missed the fellowship that is an important part of our worship. With the help of others, I will report the visiting ministers. On February 28, Bro. John Steiner (Sis. Carol, Oakville, IA) was with us. On the weekend of March 6-7, the Taylor choir chartered a bus driven by Bro. Mark Kieser. They sang Saturday night and Sunday after church services. Elder Bro. Kent Heimer (Sis. Jan) and newly installed Bro. Tim Lehman (Sis. Amber) expounded on God's Word. After singing a few songs, they boarded the bus for a historical tour of Fort Scott and a tour of SeKan Printing Co. (co-owned by Bros. Don and Lon Banwart, printers of the recent book 'Footsteps to Zion'). A local historian rode with them to explain points in interest in the town. Fort Scott was established in 1842, nineteen years before Kansas became a state in 1861. After the tour, pizza was served in a shelter house at Gunn Park.

Lester Sinn closed his eyes in death two days after his 84th birthday. He was the son of Bro. Fred and Sis. Elsie (Eberle) Sinn and the brother of recently departed Bro. Wayne Sinn. He left five daughters, one son, one sister, and numerous grandchildren to mourn his passing.

KANSAS, KIOWA
Jenny Stewart
Janice Bahr

We were blessed to have a visiting minister this month. Bro. Greg Stoller from the Forrest, IL, congregation shared with us.

We are now on a minister rotation. We are very thankful for all the broth-

ers who lend their voices to us so we can hear God's teachings. What a wonderful time of year! Not only is spring a time for the beginning of new life, but it also is the time we observe the crucifixion and resurrection of our dear Savior. How much He loved us!

**KANSAS
LAMONT-GRIDLEY
Ester Knobloch**

Our visiting ministers this past month were Bro. Duane Metzger (Sis. Ruth, West Bend), Bro. Jim Vierling (Sis. Linda, Eureka), Bro. Don Gudeman (Sis. Mary, LaCrosse), Bro. Cory Metzger (Sis. Jodi, Wichita) and Elder Bro. Ted Witzig (Sis. Cindy, Morton). We thank them for their labors on our behalf.

The engagement of Sis. Kara Kraft (Bro. Doug and Sis. Judy) and Bro. Thad Sinn (Bro. Todd and Sis. Janet) of Latty, OH, was announced February 28. We rejoice with them as God has led them together, and wish them His richest blessings in the days ahead.

**KANSAS, SABETHA
Carrie Grimm
Sally Strahm**

The weekend of February 20-21 Bro. Darin Hartter (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Beth) and Sis. Abby Kellenberger (Bro. Brad and Sis. Teresa) were brought into the fold. We pray they can continue to look to their Savior for guidance and strength as they walk their pilgrim journey below. Elder Bro. Rod Bajema (Sis. Twyla, Lester, IA) was with us for this special occasion. We also thank Bro. Ron Isch (Sis. Jane, Lamont-Gridley, KS) for being a servant and helping minister the Word on Sunday.

Our invite-a-guest weekend was March 13-14. We are thankful when we can fellowship with those of like

mind and faith. We appreciate those coming and traveling the distance to be with us. Sharing God's Word with us on the pulpit that weekend were Bro. Arlen Leman (Sis. Denise, Forrest, IL), Bro. Larry Bahr (Sis. Julie, Fort Scott, KS) and Bro. Michael Wagenbach (Sis. Erica, Wolcott, IN).

We rejoice when the Lord brings two souls together through faith. The engagement of Bro. Art Kellenberger (Bro. Gene and Sis. Marian) to Sis. Joy Nenadov (Bro. Paul and Sis. Marilyn) of Bradford, IL, was announced on Sunday, March 14.

Our hospital patients this month were Bro. Harvey Wenger (Sis. Arleta), and Bro. Gene Kellenberger (Sis. Mirianne). May God continue to heal and provide for him.

Bro. Tim and Sis. Charleen Hartter rejoice and welcome a grandson, Shadrach Carl, into their family circle. Shadrach's parents are Bro. Seth and Sis. Brenda Hartter of the Bloomfield, IA, congregation.

May we take time and remember our dear Lord and Savior not only at Easter time but through the entire year. We have so much to be thankful for as we remember His suffering and then His resurrection on Easter Sunday.

It is the time of the year when we will discontinue our mid-week Wednesday evening church services and switch over to Sunday evening hymnal singing.

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

Isaiah 53:5

**KANSAS, WICHITA
Emma Miller**

Visitors are welcome at the Wichita church and one of the ways we have visitors is through the small

church mission. Bro. Edwin Strahm, his wife, Sis. Ramona, and their three children filled that role for us this month. Also this month several brothers from out of state were in Wichita on business. Sis. Colleen Leman chose to take part in the Newton workday as she had the time, energy and desire to do so. Yes, she added an opportunity for us to observe anew another way to fellowship.

This flu season has been difficult for our aging congregation. The older brothers seem to have been severely afflicted yet they persevere and make an effort to spend their time under the sound of the Word. Bro. Al Langhofer, Bro. Charley Grimm, and Dwaine Reeves especially are struggling with health issues but they, like Bro. Howard Warner, have the desire to be in church. Howard's wife drives the hour long route to get to church. Perhaps they are using the same philosophy my mother used as she said, "I won't hurt any more in church than I would if I stayed home."

Sis. Sally Funk spent a week with her son, Derek, his wife Emily, and three sons. Derek will be leaving for a six month assignment as a civilian in the war torn lands. At nearly the same time, Pauline and Jerry Carnahan's son has returned from a tour of duty in a land where he did not feel free or appreciated.

Josh Kelly, husband of Glenna (Funk), and father of Hamilton, Samuel and Gramm, was honored by his school for his outstanding ability as a social studies and history teacher for all the students in his building. His administrator cited Josh's outstanding ability to merge history and 21st century technology. We should praise God for teachers like Josh.

**MEXICO, IXTLAN
Matt Gerber**

"I will remember the works of the

LORD: surely I will remember thy wonders of old. I will meditate also of all thy work, and talk of thy doings.”

Ps. 77:11-12

God be praised, this month Nayeli Monserrat Montejano Casillas (age 15) started repenting and wants to surrender her life to Jesus Christ! Please pray for her and the other converts (both young and old) as they grow in their walk with the Lord and face tests and temptations.

We were blessed by a number of visitors, among them retired Elder Bro. Marvin Leman (Princeville). Bro. Marvin was among the first group of Elders who came down to Ixtlan years ago when the Apostolic Christian Church (Nazarean) approached our Elders about taking over responsibility for Ixtlan. The following is an excerpt of Ixtlan's history, taken from the official Apostolic Christian Church Mission Committee website (<http://www.acmission.org/ixtlan>). It's good to remember and talk about how the Lord has worked over the past two decades.

A calling

Some years ago, Bro. Marshall Heinold and his wife, Sis. Jan, felt a calling to provide a boys' ranch for orphans in the impoverished areas of rural Mexico. Bro. Marshall and Sis. Jan made several trips to Mexico to research and learn more about the possibilities for this work. Through these efforts they learned that members of the Apostolic Christian Church (Nazarean) had begun a mission in Ixtlan, Mexico. They held services as often as they could, and there were some converts. However, they experienced difficulties in maintaining and staffing this ministry. In 1989, along with Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman and his wife plus five other brethren, the Heinolds visited Mexico City and then Ixtlan. There they met representatives from the Apostolic Christian (Nazarean) Church and

shared concerns with one another. At that time, they looked at a piece of property for a ranch, but felt the price was too high.

God's guidance continues

The Heinolds became aware of a possibility for a ranch in the state of Puebla. They made a thorough investigation of the feasibility of this project. However, the Mission Committee did not see an open way to pursue it. About the same time the Apostolic Christian Church (Nazarean), with the assistance of some of our brethren, erected a small church building in Ixtlan. After the building was up, the Nazarean Church still found themselves unable to maintain services. They made an appeal that we would consider sending someone there to assume responsibility for the entire project. The Heinolds visited the area and held services on four occasions each year in 1993 and 1994. Late in 1994, approval was given by the Mission Committee as well as the Elder Body for them to move into the facility as permanent residents. The Heinolds left home on January 16, 1995, with a small pickup truck full of essentials. They drove 2,195 miles in 6 days. By God's grace they arrived without incident or accident.

Regular services start

Although the original purpose was to develop a "home" for orphaned and abandoned boys, the spiritual work at Ixtlan presented itself much greater than anticipated and the focus shifted to providing for that need. The Lord has blessed His work in the hearts of the local believers. Much time, prayer, and effort has been given toward nurturing their spiritual growth in the conviction and hope that this small group will be the "first fruit" of many churches throughout Mexico. The first regular service was

a Thursday evening service at 5:00 PM on January 27, 1995. There were six converts in 1996. After much prayer and deliberation, the Mission Committee and the Elder Body decided to ask the ACCN elders to baptize these converts, and this was carried out. This decision was made because they already had two members in Ixtlan, and we needed additional time to consider our future spiritual involvement with the church in Mexico.

Growth

In 1997, the gatherings grew, and the building became very crowded. In November of that year, Elder Brothers Roy Grimm and David Wiegand visited the Ixtlan area and evaluated the status of the entire situation. By mutual agreement of our elders and the ACCN elders, the eight original believers and two recent converts were accepted into our church as members in full standing. During this same visit, for the first time, a Holy Communion service was held.

MEXICO, MAGDALENA Jarrin Rabe

In March we were blessed to have several groups visit us! College groups from ISU and Purdue came, as well as a group from Bluffton. All of the teams worked on a variety of jobs including painting, tiling, working on the new group home, adding a kitchen and living quarters for new house parents, and putting in a new basketball court. All of the teams did an amazing job and our prayer for them is that God can bless them for the giving of their time and skills to help us and help our children.

MICHIGAN, ALTO
Listyn Oesch
Melissa Blough

“And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature..”

Mark 16:15

In aiding the disaster in Haiti, Bro. Howard Plattner and Sis. Becky Baumann graciously volunteered their time and medical gifts for the demonstration of God’s love as they helped in a Haitian hospital. We, as a congregation, gathered as Bro. Howard and Sis. Becky shared their life altering photos accompanied by heart warming stories of their ventures.

We were blessed this month with an encouraging visit from Bro. Mike Baumann (Sis. Florina, Mansfield, OH). We thank them for their labors of love.

Sis. Marguerite Blough recently spent time in the hospital. We are thankful she is now at home. We lift her up in prayer requesting God’s healing and comfort upon her.

“And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body. 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 26:26-28

On March 13, our congregation took part in Holy Communion initiated by Elder Bro. Ted Steffen with the assistance of retired Elder Bro. Aaron Steffen.

Bro. Howard and Sis. Kristen Plattner have been blessed with a grandchild, Titus John. We rejoice with them and the parents, Bro. Aaron and Sis. Rebekah Plattner

(Chicago, IL).

MICHIGAN, BAY CITY
Sarah Knochel
Janelle Ramseyer

Our congregation had a relatively quiet month, but God’s presence has surely been evident around us. We are thankful each time we can go to God’s house and learn more of His ways and will for our lives.

Our continued prayers are with Sis. Marlene Mosher and Patti (Kip) Wackerle as they each spent time in the hospital recently. We trust that the Lord’s healing hand will be with each of these dear ones.

“Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.”

Philippians 4:8

MICHIGAN, DETROIT
Kay Rauhe
Manuela Denes

“And that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again.”

II Corinthians 5:15

As the earth around us awakens from the cold, dark days of winter may we also remember the sacrifice that was made for us by our Lord Jesus Christ during this upcoming Easter season.

We were blessed to have Elder Bro. Ron Messner (Sis. Pam, Washington, IL) share the Conference letter with us this past week. We also appreciated the informative presentation that he shared with us on the Home

for the Handicapped. It was a blessed weekend and we were grateful for the time and efforts that went into it.

What exciting news to receive from Magdalena, Mexico! Bro. Dan and Sis. Tami Coughlin were blessed with the birth of their first child, Kaeb William. His grandparents are Bro. Paul and Sis. Joan Kaeb (Bern, KS) and Mike and Sally Coughlin (Livonia, MI). We are prayerful for them all as they continue in their missionary work there.

We are sorry to have to say goodbye to Bro. John and Sis. Amy Klotzle. They will be leaving us due to work and will be making their new home in Fort Wayne, IN, while attending church in Leo, IN. May the Lord be with them as they make a new home there—we’ll miss them!

Our prayers are with Katie Haines and her family at the passing of her beloved husband Leland. Their family spent a number of years attending our Detroit congregation and many of us have fond memories of their time here. May the Lord grant them His peace as they grieve over their loss.

An invitation is extended to all who would like to join us July 17 for the annual Choir Benefit Weekend. A dinner is planned for 5:00 followed by a 7:00 choir program. Please contact Bro. Phil Bahr for more details and information on accommodations at (248)477-0495 or pdkehr@yahoo.com. We would be blessed to have you with us!

MINNESOTA
MINNEAPOLIS

“What joy I feel, what peace is mine, as I my all to Thee resign!”
 What joy we felt when we heard two more souls, Darrin Schmidt (Jackie) and Sandy Bentz (Craig), turned their lives over to the Lord.

With joy many of us traveled to Latty the weekend of February 28 for

the wedding of Sis. Marti Schlatter (Bro. Tim and Sis. Becky, Latty, OH) and Bro. Matthew Saurer (Bro. Roger and Sis. Sue, Smithville, OH). We will miss Sis. Marti and her willing spirit here in Minneapolis, but we certainly wish them God's richest blessings as they begin their life together in Columbus, OH.

In peace and with thanksgiving, we came together for Communion service to remember Jesus' death and shedding of blood, the sacrifice our Saviour paid such that we can have a life free from bondage of sin. The thought of heaven being the land of "no more" was shared with us—no more pain, no more sorrow, no more tears, no more death. But then added was that heaven is also the land of "so much more!" In this we truly rejoice. We thank Elder Bro. Rick Plattner (Sis. Mary Ann, Fairbury) for being here to help serve. We also thank other visiting brothers this month: Elder Bro. Rod Bajema (Sis. Twyla, Lester) and Bro. Brian Waibel (Sis. Wendy, Champaign) for their service.

With joy we listened to the Sunday school Easter program as the children sang, recited, and read of Jesus' death and resurrection. From the little ones singing of Jesus' love for all the children of the world to the Bible Class asking "Were you there?", each gave their all.

Were you there when He rose up from
the grave?

Were you there when He rose up from
the grave?

Oh, sometimes it causes me to trem-
ble, tremble, tremble,

Were you there when He rose up from
the grave?

Hymns for the Family of God #287

MINNESOTA, MORRIS
Sheila Reuter
Susie Wulf

We are thankful for visiting minis-
ters, Bro. Wayne Fehr (Portland, OR)

and Bro. Darren Fehr (West Bend, IA), as they ministered God's Word unto us. Also visiting this month were counseling Elders: Bro. Bill Schlatter (Junction, OH), Bro. Andy Stoller (Smithville, OH) and Bro. Paul Messner (Winthrop, MN).

First-time parents, Lucas and Tracy Koehl, are exited at the arrival of Landon Lucas. We also want to congratulate Bro. Tyler and Sis. Alexis Scott on the arrival of Hudson Tyler, joining big brother Evan. Elsa Marie was born to Bro. Jon and Sis. Sally Nohl. Welcoming her home are siblings, Devin, Erin, Dustin and Elise. Congratulations to Paul and Sis. Barb Lesmeister on the birth of grandson, Leo Douglas Geleneau. May God bless these parents and grandparents as they seek to raise their children in the fear and nurture of the Lord.

Sorry this is late, but we would like to express our sincere thanks to Bro. Art and Sis. Sandra Nohl. We are indebted to them for their years of service and labors on our behalf. We're thankful they were willing to be used in the Lord's work. May God richly bless and provide for them now and in the time to come.

MINNESOTA
MORRIS NORTH
Wanda Gramm
Lois Schmidgall

"IN THE BEGINNING..."

Genesis 1:1

"IN THE BEGINNING was the
Word, and the Word was with God,
and the Word was God..."

St. John 1:1

February 21, 2010, was the begin-
ning of our new assembly at Morris
North. Through the direction of the
Holy Spirit and the support of our El-
der Body this new congregation was
formed.

Bro. Paul Messner (Winthrop, MN) is our main counseling Elder along with Elder Bros. Bill Schlatter (Junction, OH) and Andy Stoller (Smithville, OH). Approximately 70 brothers, sisters and friends have been worshipping with us these past Sundays of worship.

It is such a blessing to see how much joy there can be in working together for the Lord. We started worshipping at the Morris Armory and now have changed our worship site to the West Central Research and Outreach Center (WROC). Both the Armory and the WROC have been inspiration sites for our spiritual life. We've been encouraged to be Soldiers of the Lord at the Armory, and now at the WROC, to build our life on that Rock which is Jesus Christ. Psalm 31:3 says "for thou art my rock and my fortress; therefore for thy name's sake lead me and guide me". We are certainly praying and ask for your prayers as we are endeavoring to be lead and guided by God.

Among those Blessings are a number of visitors in which we are so thankful. The ministering Brothers who have given of themselves so willingly have been Elder Bros. Paul Messner (Sis. Jan, Winthrop MN), Earl Ringger (Sis. Dixie, Gridley IL), Duane Rocke (Minneapolis, MN) and ministering Bro. Dale Zeltwanger (Sis. Rachel) of Morris. Thank you, Brothers — we have been renewed in spirit, and so appreciate your love. Also visiting us have been Brothers, Sisters and friends from the Fairbury, Elgin, IL, Winthrop, Lester, and Morris churches. We appreciate all of you.

February 20 was the wedding day of Jeremy Schmidgall (Bro. Keith and Sis. Lois) to Hannah Soma (Tim and Deb Soma of Cooperstown, ND). We welcome them and little Tayden into our congregation and pray that God will be with them and bless their life together.

To meet the immediate needs of the new church, we were offered an opportunity to serve, as there are a number of positions to be filled. Bro. Paul Messner held a business meeting with us and those offices were filled. As the Holy Spirit leads, in due time these temporary responsibilities will be filled through a church election.

With the Spring season soon upon us, we are looking forward to the Easter season and the celebration of Christ's resurrection. When we think of everything Christ did for us, doesn't it make those things that appear to be heavy weights seem pretty light? Let's keep our eye on the cross, and the things in this world will seem lighter.

We extend a warm welcome to those who may be planning a trip to Minnesota, and encourage those who are thinking of taking a vacation to consider coming to Minnesota. Our little church would welcome you with open arms and would love to have you come and warm yourself around the Word of God with us.

Our contact persons are:
Bro. Doug Moser— 320-589-3353
Bro. Tim Esterling— 320-589-3602

MINNESOTA, WINTHROP
Julie Schmidt
Lindsay Schmidt

O, let us exalt our dear Lord and proclaim,
In songs of true gratitude, praise to His name!
As songs of the angels in sweetest accord,
Our thanks and our praises shall rise to the Lord.
Hymns of Zion #165

Baby Makenna Rose made her appearance into this world on March 13. Welcoming their first child is Mike and Amber Rose Brudellie. Thankful grandparents are Wayne and Colleen

Waugh and great-grandfather is Bro. Roy Howk. We wish them God's grace and wisdom as they raise their little blessing.

We are grateful Bro. Dewayne Dill (Sis. LaRae, Minneapolis) was willing to lend himself on the pulpit this month. May the Lord be his rich rewarder. As a small church, every visitor is a blessing.

MISSOURI, KANSAS CITY
Brittany Fehr

Our annual business meeting was recently held in Kansas City. Bro. Jeff Webel (Sis. Julie) was elected trustee, and Bro. Galen Kellenberger (Sis. Shannon) was re-elected to teach Sunday School; Sis. Julie Webel (Bro. Jeff) and Sis. Paula Bahr have replaced Sis. Joan Fehr (Bro. Joe) and Sis. Elizabeth Conzo on the cooking committee. May God bless those who have been recently elected and those who have completed their terms for being willing to be used in His service. We also wish God's blessings on the visiting ministers who have recently labored in our midst: Elder Bros. Curt Frank (Sis. Lyla, LaCrosse, IN), Tom Hoffman (Sis. Kathy, Roanoke, IL), Bill Schlatter (Sis. Emily, Junction, OH), Ron Schambach (Sis. Nancy, Elgin, IL), and Ken Indermuhle (Sis. Linda, Sardis, OH), as well as ministering Bro. Bill Schick (Sis. Joan, Magdalena, Mexico). Elder Bros. Ron and Ken were here to assist with Holy Communion and the Memorandum, respectively, each of which was a very blessed evening. We have also been blessed to host the annual western World Relief meeting this month and hope it was a blessing to the speakers and all others who attended.

Bro. Brandon and Sis. Maria Emch have joyfully announced the safe arrival of their daughter, Alice Caroline, into their family! Siblings, Anna, Timon, and Jesse, also welcome their sister home. Alice's grandparents are

Bro. Bill and Sis. Susan Emch (Lamont-Gridley, KS) and Bro. Perry and Sis. Carol Klopfenstein (Gridley, IL). May God bless Bro. Brandon and Sis. Maria as they continue to raise their children in the fear of the Lord.

Note of Thanks:

To my dear Sisters, Brothers, family and friends;

Although the last four months have been very challenging, through it all we have felt God's presence and the prayerful support from all of you. From Bro. Garry's sudden death, October 14, to having to keep our clinic running smoothly, we were beneficiaries of many kindnesses: advice, gifts of food and money, letters, cards, and telephone calls of encouragement, and most importantly, prayers.

This became even more evident when, after undergoing a surgical procedure two days before Thanksgiving, I ended up hospitalized for two months. While my children and their families stayed at the hospital, you spent many hours sitting with them, encouraging them and praying with and for them and for me. Much of this time I really wasn't aware of what was happening around me - but I definitely felt those prayers.

To say "thank you" for all this support doesn't seem adequate but we are very grateful and humbled by all of your thoughtfulness.

In Christ's love, your least Sister,
Sis. Marty Rokey and family

MISSOURI, LAMAR
Rebecca Dotterer
Dana Kellenberger

We have so many things to be thankful for. We have had several visitors this past month. May we be appreciative of the freedom we have to travel and worship together and not take it for granted.

Our thoughts and prayers were

with Bro. David and Sis. Laura Braker this month as their daughter, Alyssa, spent some time in the hospital. We are thankful she has recovered and returned home.

MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS Meagan Wuethrich

“Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him: Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over him. For in that he died, he died unto sin once: but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God. Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.”

Romans 6:8-11

What a time of rejoicing when we come upon the Easter season. A time of thanksgiving as we prepare our hearts for commemorating our Lord's death, giving us the hope of eternal life. In St. Louis we are thankful for our many visitors this past month, including ministering Bro. Tom Bolliger and his wife, Sis. Jane (Tremont, IL). We enjoyed having them and several others, including the wonderful blessing of young children, for our monthly potluck supper and singing at church.

MISSOURI, TAYLOR Kathy Eberhardt

How much are we missing out on if we are not fervently praying? Be challenged to pray more fervently to work harder, to ask God to shape our lives into His divine will. Nothing is insignificant to God. He wants to hear the desires of your heart.

We rejoice with Bro. Jimmy Sutter in his engagement to Sis. Rachel Streitmatter. Parents are Bro. Jim

and Sis. Kris Sutter and Bro. Doug and Sis. Cindy Streitmatter (Peoria, IL). We wish them God's blessing.

We would like to thank Bro. Brad Funk (Sis. Laura, Garden Grove) for sharing a Bible study on, “How can the Lord use me today”. God has a plan for all of us. Bro. Brad shared the scripture reading in Matthew, chapter 1. He shared the message that God had a useful way in His plan for all people in the lineage to Jesus. Thanks so much for traveling the miles on a week-night. May the Lord bless you for your efforts.

We are rejoicing with three converts that were baptized on March 14. We are thankful Elder Bro. John Lehman (Sis. Connie, Bern, KS) could help with the baptisms of Bro. Aaron Adrian (Bro. Rusty and Sis. Amy), Sis. Melissa Reiman (Sis. Jane and the late Lester), and Bro. Josh Eberhardt (Bro. Fred and Sis. Kathy). May God bless these three dear souls.

We would like to express sympathy to Sis. Peg Haerr (Bro. Shon) on the death of her dear father, Bro. Al Hunziker (Morton, IL). May she ever feel our prayers for her family.

May God give His healing power to Sis. Carrie Rocke, Bro. Joe Yackley, Rita Yackley, Bro. Roy Grimm and Bro. Tyler Haerr.

NEW YORK CROGHAN-NAUMBURG Hope Graves

Our hearts were saddened by the sudden death of Mark McGillvray, at the age of 42 on March 2. Our prayers for God's comfort and strength extend to his wife, Sis. Gwen, son Justin, and daughters, Meaghan Bowers and Misty Orton. Our thanks go to the brethren in Rockville, CT, who traveled here to help with the funeral singing.

We gathered together for quilt making two days in February and again in March. Our World Relief pro-

jects continued on Friday evening, March 12, with the packing of school, health and sewing kits and snack bags. These were all blessed times of fellowship and a rewarding time for us to be able to follow Biblical instructions to do for others.

A potluck was held on Saturday, March 20, before the reading of the Memorandum. We thank Elder Bro. Andy Stoller and his wife, Sis. Roberta, for traveling here from Smithville, OH, for the weekend. May the Lord richly bless each who labor for Him and may we each do so willingly.

Note of Thanks:

We wish to express our thanks for the prayers, cards, phone calls, flowers and food sent and to those who traveled the many miles to be with us at the time of our Mother's passing. May God bless each one of you.

The family of Sis. Charlotte Virkler

OHIO, AKRON Erika Gal

“And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.”

Rev. 21:4

Our thoughts and prayers are with those of our brethren who have lost loved ones. Sis. Vera (Bro. Andy) Demrovsky lost her brother, Zarko Delic, from Toronto. Also, Sis. Megan (Bro. Mark) Steidl lost her grandpa, Bro. Ken Rupp, from Rittman.

We are thankful to share in the joy of our Bro. Jacob Rufener and Sis. Bethany Miller from Mansfield. They announced their engagement on March 7. Their parents are Bro. John and Sis. Janice Rufener of Smithville and Bro. Roger and Sis. Dorina Miller

of Mansfield. We are looking forward to having another young couple in church.

We are also thinking of Bethany Gal (Bro. George and Sis. Tina) who broke her arm. We are so thankful for all the young people in our church, and we pray for God's protection over them.

OHIO, COLUMBUS

Esther Saurer

Bro. Tom Schambach along with his wife, Sis. Connie (Elgin, IL), were with us during our Wednesday evening service. We appreciate Tom's willingness to serve us and for the opportunity that the midweek service provides us to worship our Lord together.

We would like to welcome Bro. Nathan Knochel to our congregation. He has recently moved from Austin, TX, to the Columbus area.

We would also like to welcome Sis. Marti Saurer to our church family. Bro. Matt and Sis. Marti (Schlatter) Saurer were married on February 28 in Latty, OH. They are the children of Bro. Roger and Sis. Sue Saurer (Smithville, OH) and Bro. Tim and Sis. Becky Schlatter (Latty, OH). We feel blessed to have them join our congregation here in Columbus.

OHIO, JUNCTION

Vicki Boroff

We would like to thank Bros. Fred Domka (Sis. Connie, Mansfield), Darren Fehr (Sis. Nora, West Bend), and John Grimm (Sis. Julie, Columbus) for bringing the Word to us.

Much love and appreciation also is extended to Elder Bro. John Laukhuf (Sis. Marcia, Latty) who assisted our Elder Bro. Bill Schlatter in Holy Communion. It was truly a blessed evening as Bro. John explained communion beginning in Genesis (chapter 14).

We pray for God's healing hand upon our hospital patients and those that are ailing.

On March 7, Bro. Chet Manz (Bro. Dave and Sis. Kathy) married Sis. Jenny Raifsnider (Sis. Diana, Rittman, and the late Bro. Doug). We wish them God's blessings.

Bro. Paul and Sis. Sandra Manz are thankful grandparents of Graham Isaac, born March 22, to Bro. Matt and Sis. Wendy Miller (Latty). His older sister, Claire, is very excited to have a little brother.

Note of Thanks:

The family of Richard Gerber wish to thank everyone for acts of love and sympathy during his sickness and death.

Eleanor Gerber

OHIO, LATTY

Amanda Wenninger Carmen Eisenmann

"O give thanks unto the Lord, for he is good; for his mercy endureth forever."

Psalm 107:1

Our congregation has experienced many events this past month, and we have much for which to be thankful.

Hannah Stoller (Bro. Todd and Sis. Pam) began her repentance this past month. She is the fourth soul to give her life to the Lord this year. May God grant His grace to each of our converts.

February 28 was the wedding date of Bro. Matt and Sis. Marti Saurer. Their parents are Bro. Roger and Sis. Sue Saurer (Smithville, OH) and Bro. Tim and Sis. Becky Schlatter of Latty. This young couple will reside in Columbus, OH. Also with us that Sunday were many visiting ministers. They were Bro. Art Mueller (Sis. Marlene, Belvidere, IL), Elder Bro. Duane Rocke (Sis. Bonnie, Minneapo-

lis, MN), Bro. Scott Schambach (Sis. Hope, Columbus, OH), Bro. Kent Mogler (Sis. Mary, Minneapolis, MN), Elder Bro. Bill Schlatter (Sis. Emily, Junction, OH), and Bro. Warren Schlatter (Sis. Cindy, Junction, OH). Thank you, brothers, for your efforts on our behalf, and may God continue to grant you all His grace to speak His truth.

Bro. Thad Sinn is engaged to be married to Sis. Kara Kraft (Bro. Doug and Sis. Judy) of Lamont-Gridley, KS. They are planning a May 23 wedding date. May God be with this young couple as it is encouraging to see young souls seek His will for their lives.

Bro. Corbin and Sis. Katie Stoller are the parents of a son born on March 15. Cameron and Tori welcome Josiah Luke at home. Grandparents are Bro. Bill and Sis. Barb Stoller and Bro. Art and Sis. Carol Anliker of Eureka, IL.

Sis. Mildred Stoller went to her heavenly reward on March 10. She leaves behind a son, Bro. Jim (Sis. Tam), a daughter, Dixie Thomas, eight grandchildren, and several great-grandchildren. She will be remembered as possessing a gentle spirit and a kind smile. May God be with her family in this time of loss.

OHIO, MANSFIELD

Tami Griffey

Two sisters hospitalized this month are Sis. Miriam Bird and Sis. Lore Stuenzi. May God grant comfort, peace, and His nearness in their time of need.

Our prayers and sympathy go out to the family and friends of Sis. Emilie Went who passed away on February 21. She is survived by children, Carol (James) Dannemiller, Charles (Karen) Went, Norwegian daughter Lisbet Blomsoy, and siblings, Sis. Edith Mayer, Bro. Elmer Oesch, sister-in-law Sis. Katherine Oesch, and brother-in-law Bro. Wallace Ramsier.

Sis. Emilie will be fondly remembered by our congregation.

Believing in faith that God has brought them together, we rejoice in the engagement of Sis. Bethany Miller (Bro. Roger and Sis. Dorina), and Bro. Jacob Rufener from Akron, OH (Bro. John and Sis. Janice, Smithville, OH). May God bless and guide them as they prepare for their upcoming marriage and life together. Lord willing, their wedding is planned for May 23.

Life is always changing, sometimes bringing times of joy and other times of trials and tribulation. May we remain steadfast in the Lord no matter what we experience in this life knowing that God is in control and He is the author and finisher of our faith.

This Easter season the song Jesus Lives (Zion's Harp #120) brings hope and joy to the believer.

"Jesus lives! O'er all the world
Pow'r supreme to Him is given.
With my Saviour I shall live;
I shall reign with Him in heaven.
Thus in God confiding still;
He His promise will fulfill."

The corrected spelling of Bro. Jared and Sis. Abigail Keever's daughter is AEnon Grace Keever, born on January 5.

OHIO, RITTMAN Heidi Rufener Marge Stoller

"Haste and seek your soul's salvation; Heed the Word of God today!..." (Zion's Harp #52). We rejoice that David Acker (Bro. Brian and Sis. Darlene), Steven Widmer and his wife Lisa (Bro. Harold and Sis. Carole), and Brian Stoller (Bro. Ken and Sis. Lori) have made known their desire to follow the Lord and seek their soul's salvation. May they feel God's abundant grace at this important time in their lives.

Todd and Lori Pelfrey welcomed Madison Nicole into their family on February 14. Lane and Logan are excited for a future playmate. Happy grandparents are Bro. Ron and Sis. Joann Christian. February 18 was the birthday of baby boy Henry Theodore, born to Tim and Danisa Burke. His older brother, Kellan, is glad for a little brother. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Ralph and Sis. Diane Lanz and Pap and Jill Burke. First-time parents, Tony and Rachel Indermuhle, welcomed little Tori Elaine into their lives. Thankful for her safe arrival are her grandparents, Bro. Dwaine and Sis. Joan Indermuhle and Alvin and Vicki Roth. On February 22, Bro. Nathan and Sis. Mary Hoffman (Rockville, CT) became parents of Javen Trace. Siblings, Levi and Kaitlyn, are anxious to help with their new brother. Grandparents, Bro. Matt and Sis. Gail Steiner and Bro. Mike and Luann Hoffman, are happy for a new grandson. May these new parents seek God's guidance as they raise these precious babies.

"To every thing there is a season and a time for every purpose under the heaven."

Eccles. 3:1

February 28 was a day of rejoicing for Bro. Chad Beery (Bro. Walt and Sis. Lynda) and Sis. Katie Ramsier (Bro. Tim and Sis. Jonell) as they were united in marriage. On March 7, Bro. Chet Manz of Toledo, OH (Bro. David and Sis. Kathy, Junction, OH) and Sis. Jennifer Raifsnider (Sis. Diana and the late Doug) made their vows of faithfulness to each other. May God richly bless these two couples as they establish new homes.

March 7 was also a day of sorrow in our Rittman congregation. Our dear Bro. Robert Steiner (Sis. Betty) passed away in the morning. Their children are daughter-in-law, Beth

(the late Dale) Steiner, Sis. Diana (the late Doug) Raifsnider, Dan (Denise) Steiner, Sis. Debra (Bro. Tom) Jenkins and Sis. Darlene (Bro. Brian) Acker. Bro. Robert was Sis. Jennifer Raifsnider's grandfather. Our sympathy and prayers are with this dear family.

Several in our congregation spent time in the hospital recently: Bro. Ron (Sis. Hope) Gasser, Bro. Bob (Sis. Joann) Widmer, Barbara (Boyd) Acker, Sis. Joy (Bro. Jordan) Stoller, Sis. Ruth Ingold, Kathryn (Bro. David and Sis. LeAnn) Rufener, and Gladys (Richard) Bauman. We pray for all those in sickness and suffering.

Sharing God's Word with us this month were Bros. Mark Ramsier (Sis. Alice, Sardis, OH), Steve Pamer (Sis. Arliss, Akron, OH), Warren Schlatter (Sis. Cindy, Junction, OH), Don Manz (Sis. Connie, Junction, OH), Doug Harmon (Sis. Lanna, Toledo, OH), and John Steiner (Sis. Carol, Oakville, IA). May God richly bless them for their labor of love.

OHIO, SARDIS Faith Beard

The Holy Bible gives numerous accounts of men and women who used letters as an effective means of communication over a thousand years ago. Even with all the technology available to us today, the letter is still sometimes the best way to communicate certain information. We recently gathered on a Saturday evening to listen to the Memorandum from our Elders as brought by our Elder Bro. Ken along with Elder Bro. Tom Stock (Sis. Karol, Cissna Park, IL). We appreciate the efforts put into each exhortation, encouragement and thought brought out to us that evening.

But old Adam's sinful members
must be buried in the flood,
And a new man rise, remember,
pure and holy in His stead.

The first dies in true repentance,
this one lives by faith's acceptance.
Sinful service, sinful lust,
are to me forever lost.

If I with the Lord am buried
must in me His life be carried,
And to God's glorification
prove myself a new creation.

Zion's Harp, #162, vs. 4

What a spiritual blessing was received the weekend we heard the testimony and witnessed the baptism of Bro. Jason Brake, son of Bro. Bill and Sis. Miriam Brake. Here to help with this work was Elder Bro. Andy Stoller (Sis. Roberta, Smithville, OH), and also on the pulpit was Bro. Ron Palitto (Sis. Lynell, Akron, OH) and Bro. Matthew Rassi (Sis. Bridgett, Chicago, IL). We continue to pray for Jason as he continues his life within his family, work, and the young group while serving his Saviour.

We rejoiced with our friend, Anthony Amos, as he has expressed his desire to repent and become a member of our brotherhood. Then we were again reminded of God's continuing grace and mercy when our convert Josh Ramsier shared with us that he feels he has completed his repentance and has a peace with God and with man. Lord willing, Josh's baptism is planned for April 24-25.

"Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently: being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever."

I Peter 1:22-23

OHIO, SMITHVILLE
Lydia Stoller
Gina Brake

We neglected to report the wedding of Bro. Doug Feuchtenberger

(Bro. Gerald and Sis. Karen) of Morris, MN, to Sis. Kim Luginbuhl (Bro. Marv and Sis. Rose), who was originally from here, but moved to Morris several years ago. Also, Bro. Matthew Saurer (Bro. Roger and Sis. Sue) and Sis. Marti Schlatter (Bro. Tim and Sis. Becky) were united in marriage on February 27. The engagement of Bro. Jacob Rufener (Bro. John and Sis. Janice) to Sis. Bethany Miller (Bro. Roger and Sis. Doreena) was recently announced to the congregation. May God be with each of these new couples as they strive to follow His will!

Todd Gasser (Bro. Ken and Sis. Sue Ellen Maibach and the late Bro. Greg Gasser) has recently begun his repentance, and we pray that God would, in His time, grant peace to the soul who in humility seeks Him!

Several in our congregation have lost loved ones in the past weeks, and we remember them in their time of mourning. Bro. John Zollinger's sister, Sis. Kathryn Laukauf, passed away. Also, Bro. Aaron and Sis. Becky Bauman's grandfather, Bro. Bob Steiner (Sis. Betty), went to his reward after a lengthy illness.

This past month we were richly blessed, as we had a number of visiting ministers here. Bro. Randy Gasser (Sis. Sue, Detroit, MI) came to visit at the beginning of the month. And then, a couple weeks later we hosted an Invite-A-Couple weekend, which brought lots of guests. Among them were Bros. Shawn Metzger (Sis. Sandy, Philadelphia), Bob Dotterer (Sis. Laura, Sardis), Gary Brown (Sis. Jane, Forrest), and Larry Wenniger (Sis. Joyce, Latty). All of their efforts and labors on our behalf are sincerely appreciated. It was a wonderful weekend, as we were able to fellowship with those from near and far.

OHIO, TOLEDO
Teresa Rywalski
Rebecca Beard

On a recent Sunday many from our congregation traveled to Rittman to witness the wedding of Bro. Chet and Sis. Jennifer Manz. We trust they will continue to look to the Heavenly Father to be the Head of their home.

Joining our ministers on the pulpit this month was Bro. Art Ingold (Sis. Bonnie, Rittman). How blessed we are to have Brothers who are willing to stand before us and teach from the Word of God.

Signs of Spring are all around us. Let's take time from our daily schedules to truly enjoy the beauty of the season.

OREGON, PORTLAND
Renee Angstrom

Our visiting ministers this month from Silverton were Bro. John Wiegand (Sis. Jane) and Bro. Todd Zollinger (Sis. Michele). We are thankful for their continued support.

The Portland congregation gathered with the Silverton congregation for the reading of the Memorandum on February 28. Elder Bro. John Laukhuf (Sis. Marcia, Latty, OH) traveled to Oregon to share in the duties.

Our continued prayers are with Bro. Ray Cooper (Sis. Ginny) as he is still at home recuperating from heart surgery. We look forward to the day he can worship with us again.

OREGON, SILVERTON
Kris Luthi
Deb Roth

"Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you..."

St. John 14:27

We rejoice with Brent Sinn (Bro. Don and Sis. Linda) as he has found the peace that only God can give. May

the Lord continue to call and souls continue to seek Him.

We received the exhortations of the Memorandum and thank Elder Bro. John Laukhuf (Latty, OH) for his efforts in coming and ministering to us. That same evening our Elder Bro. Art Metz announced plans to seek out a new Elder for the Silverton Church. We are grateful for his many years of service to our congregation and wish him the Lord's continued guidance and blessings.

Bro. Fred Leman has completed his flight schooling and has found employment in the Denver area. We enjoyed his time with us and wish him many blessings as he returns to Denver.

We thank Bro. Ron Jones of our Portland congregation for sharing God's Word with us on a recent Wednesday evening.

PENNSYLVANIA PHILADELPHIA

"There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all."

Ephesians 4:4-5

We were thankful to witness the baptism of Joel and Bonnie Isch (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Linda) on March 15. Seeing the change in them over time and then hearing their testimonies was a blessing and encouragement to us all – a reminder of how faithful God is. We are very thankful Elder Bro. Duane Farney and wife, Sis. Karen, were able to come down for the weekend to assist Elder Bro. Ben Wiegand with the services. It was a blessed time.

We are also happy to announce that convert Brittany Lanz has found peace with God and man, and plans on

giving her testimony in May.

TENNESSEE, NASHVILLE Mike and Monica Fritz

Sis. Raelynn Plattner (Bro. Craig) was a recent hospital patient, but we are thankful for her speedy recovery.

We are thankful for the strength we have been given from God's Word, and the visiting ministering brothers who have brought it to us recently: Bros. Todd Stoller (Sis. Pam; Latty, OH), James Knapp (Sis. Lisa; Congerville, IL), Gene Metzger (Sis. Dolores; Lester, IA), Chuck Kellenberger (Sis. Debbie; Elgin, IL), and Dan Stoller (Sis. Deb; Remington, IN). We are also encouraged by the fellowship of brethren and friends visiting from Bradford, Congerville, Elgin, and Fairbury, IL; LaCrosse and Remington, IN; Lester, IA; Taylor, MO; and Latty and Mansfield, OH.

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: Winthrop, MN (4/18); Philadelphia, PA (4/25); Champaign, IL (5/2); Bloomington-Normal, IL (5/9); Eureka, IL (5/16); Morton, IL (5/23); and Minneapolis, MN (5/30). If you are planning to worship with us, please call ahead to confirm our schedule. Often we gather on Saturday evenings for fellowship, and all are heartily welcome. We also usually meet on Wednesday evenings at 7:15 p.m. for singing or Bible study and would welcome any midweek visitors. Contacts are Bro. Don and Sis. Faye Sauder, (615) 373-8928; Bro. Mike and Sis. Monica Fritz, (615) 866-5543; and Sis. Gwen Leuthold, (615) 356-5755.

TEXAS, AUSTIN Serenity and Jasmine Ringger

We are sorry to see Bro. Nathan

Knochel leave here and move to Columbus, OH, for his job, but we also are thankful that he will be closer to church and brethren than he has been the last few years.

Our visiting ministers were Elder Bros. Wayne Banwart (Sis. Charlen, Champaign) and Steve Ringger (Sis. Myra, Bluffton North), and Bros. Wes Moser (Sis. Esther, Lester) and Tom Bolliger (Sis. Jane, Tremont).

The World Relief Bastrop Fire Victims local work project has been extended two weeks into April, so we have been appreciating the many faithful brethren and friends who have been assembling with us.

The following is the minister schedule for May: (2) Goodfield, IL; (9) Fairbury, IL; (16) Bay City, MI; (23) Bloomington-Normal, IL; (30) Croghan/Naumburg, NY. We extend a warm welcome to anyone who may be in the area to worship with us, on Sundays or mid-week. Please call ahead to help us plan for serving lunch. Also, because visitors add much to our local fellowship times, it helps if we know about your visit well in advance, so that we can accommodate you more readily in our weekend gatherings. In addition to the contacts in the minister book, you may also contact our local minister, Bro. Dennis (Sis. Diane) Rassi at 309-275-7775.

Directions to our church are these: from the intersection of Hwy 71 and 21 on the west side of Bastrop, go east on Hwy 71 about 1/2 mile and take the first exit (by the Ford dealership), proceed on the eastbound frontage road about 4/10 mile. The church is on the right. It is located about 18 miles east of the Austin airport. The address is 1025 W. Highway 71, Bastrop, TX 78602. It is a one-story building with a limestone façade, and the church sign in the front. Quite a few people have tried using the GPS system to find the church; but they found out that GPS took them to the

east side of town, rather than west. We advise following the directions herein instead of GPS.

In the church, there are two furnished bedrooms for the ministers to use when coming for services. When you contact someone about coming for services, please let them know if you would like to use the bedrooms during the time you are here.

TEXAS, McALLEN

Aaron Kipfer

Greetings to all in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ. We thank our visiting ministers, Bro. Jeff Bahler (Sis. Heidi, Wolcott, IN) and Bro. Ted Luginbuhl (Sis. Stephanie, Smithville, OH) for taking their time and effort in expounding to us the written Word of the Lord. May God continue to richly bless them. Also we thank our visiting Brethren from Congerville, Fairbury, and Eureka, IL; Rockville, CT; and Zapata, TX.

We would like to encourage those who plan to come south for a Spring vacation to consider the valley for a Sunday of worship and/or making the valley your home while you are in Southern Texas. We are small in number and are happy to have visitors come and spend some time with us.

The following churches are scheduled for services: (April 4 - Goodfield, IL); (April 18 - Silverton, OR); (May 9 - Elgin, IL); (May 23 - Taylor, MO); (June 6 - Francesville, IN); and (June

20 - Lester, IA).

Our address is: Holiday Inn Express, 1921 South 10th Street. Turn 1½ blocks off the Expressway on 10th Street. Services will be held at 10:30 and 12:30. Please see ministers' directory for local contact information.

TEXAS, ZAPATA

Mary Plattner

We have appreciated our winter visitors this season and thankful that several ministers were able to be with us this season. Among those here were Elder Bro. Peter Petrovic (Sis. Marian, San Diego), Bro. Dale Frank (Sis. Christine, Oakville) and Bro. Ron Jones (Sis. Elizabeth, Portland). Communion services were held and the Memorandum read while Bro. Peter was here.

We extend sympathy to the family of Bro. Bob Steiner (Rittman). Bro. Bob and his wife, Sis. Betty, have spent time with us each winter season for many years.

We welcome anyone coming to Zapata this summer, and encourage you to notify us prior to your arrival, as during the summer season we often have schedule changes for church services.

VERMONT

NORTH CLARENDON/NORWICH

Nathan and Miriam Reutter

Greetings dear brethren and

friends from beautiful Vermont. We want to thank all of you who have come to fellowship and serve us in some capacity or another this past month. We have felt God's Spirit and blessings as the following ministers have proclaimed the Word: Bro. Dan Stoller (Sis. Diane), Bro. Dan Goric (Sis. Mary Lou), Bro. Duane Reutter (Sis. Kay), Bro. Tom Bahler (Sis. LaNae) all of Rockville CT, and Bro. Greg Stieglitz (Sis. Lisa) from our Indianapolis, IN, church. We so appreciate the willingness of these dear brothers and their wives for coming to serve us.

If you are interested in fellowshiping with us here in Vermont, and would like information about service locations and dates, please contact Bro. Chad and Sis. Jenny Virkler (802-293-2724). We love to fellowship with believers whether it is during the week or on the weekend. Please let us know if you are planning on being in our area so we can accommodate you. Service times are as follows:

Mid-week services

(Contact local brethren)

Sunday Morning Service

10:10 AM

Sunday Afternoon Service

12:15 PM

Sunday school is held during the morning service.



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

Lynn Stieglitz
Counseling Elder
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New Haven, IN 46774
260-657-1033

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Tim Wiegand
Director of Education
PO Box 151,
Leo, IN 46765
1-888-443-4283

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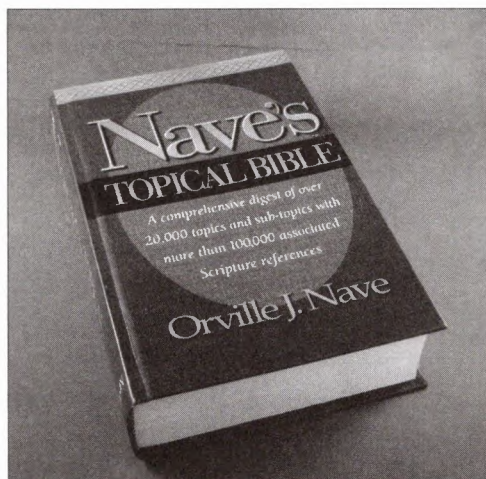
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that's good and right. It's there to warn us when things are going to be difficult or we are at a place we should not be. The Spirit is there to remind us. That's one of the things that we receive, that we can live for Jesus and do what would be impossible with man. By ourselves it would be impossible, but with the Spirit it's not because we're relying on His strength that we can achieve it.

The Comforter was promised and the disciples were waiting for It. They were all together maybe six or seven weeks after Jesus died. And it says here, "...they were all with one accord in one place." We want the Spirit of the Lord to come to us. We need to be receiving Him. We need to be in a place where we're open to His instruction, and they were looking forward to it. They didn't know what was going to happen either. They knew that the Comforter was going to come, but they didn't know how it was going to be. Just try to picture that a little bit ourselves. They had been waiting, and perhaps they thought the Comforter was going to come as He arose or maybe the next day or the next day. However now it had been some time and they asked what is it going to be like?

It says, "And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them." (Acts 2:2-3) They couldn't even see that on their own heads but they could see it on others and it just confirmed what they knew. There were waiting in anticipation. They were ready for the Spirit to come, and now that it came they were filled. They were filled with the Spirit and empty of self. Those other things that they may have had on their mind before then, they were long gone. But the Spirit was fully there, and it manifested Itself

in this particular case.

We talked about how the Spirit can prompt us to say a kind word or to do a specific deed to avoid doing something else. Here the Spirit manifested itself through them by giving them the ability to as they spoke, it was understood by the people as in their native tongue. It's not something that people would ordinarily see. They were amazed that saw it and had a range of reactions.

So lets back up, first to the apostles and then to the peoples' reactions. So the apostles, as we said, were empty of self. They were empty of their previous way of life. The things that used to be interesting to them and they desired in the past were gone. They weren't there anymore, so the past was truly the past. So lets just think about that a moment. When we put the past behind us, it is really gone and should want no part of it any longer. And the analogy that we might draw is that we look at the life of sin as evil or a disease.

We all know, or have known, someone with cancer. We know the treatment goal is to eliminate the disease 100%. We wouldn't say lets try to get rid of 80% and keep 20%, because that wouldn't be helpful to us. The cancer would still be there and we know that cancer is death. That is the way it is with sin. Sin is death. We wouldn't want to say I want to live a life that's 80% good but 20% sinful. We want to be emptied of sin because we know that is the right thing to do. We don't want to have death in us. It is the getting rid of sin part which is of fundamental importance. But then what's the benefit of having death out of our life? We then can be filled with the Spirit. We have great potential. The less we have of self, the more we can have the Spirit and can be of better use for the Master.

That is what the apostles were and they were ready to be used. They didn't know what was going to happen that particular day but

the Spirit came. And all who saw it were amazed and marveled. They said how does this work? These men are Galileans. We know where they're from. They are fishermen. Fishermen aren't going to be able to speak in this whole range of languages. That can't be, but we're hearing it with our own ears. How can it be that way? They noticed that there were people from everywhere. This is an important thing but they said what does this mean? What does this mean to you when we hear of this. Is this just an historical event that we say well that's interesting, I'm wondering how that worked, were twelve or thirteen languages spoken? Are we busy collecting the facts about this and trying to learn and get a better understanding of the back story?

You know maybe Peter had actually heard a few people speaking in another language. Are we curious about that? Are we interested in what happened, or are we trying to see how we can apply this thought to ourselves? What can I do with this? The Holy Spirit is powerful and it's for me. It's for me if I'll be empty of self. That's a good thought. Let's look for what can I do that I can receive the Spirit. And if I have received it, that I can keep it. That I can keep the Spirit in my heart and listen to Him all the time. Always that's what we want.

But it said there were others there that didn't have that thought. There were those that said instead of how can I apply this, they started making up alternate hypotheses. They said maybe these men have been drinking and what they've been drinking didn't settle well with them. And this is just what we're imagining from this. They envisioned something else. Let's not fall into that camp where we either try to make excuses or we try to say its irrelevant. Or we just try to push back because that's a sign that we don't want to hear or

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we don't want to learn from the Master. We have the Master right here with us. He is sitting right beside you. We picture Him knocking at the heart's door, and He wants to come in and help us. Are we busy saying I've no time for that, I've got other things to do? I'm busy with important stuff that maybe doesn't matter but I'm busy none the less. And by the way, I don't want to hear the truth because the truth is going to require me to do something about it. And I'm not up for that right now.

We all use different words. We all use different arguing strategies when we argue with the Lord. But lets not. It's not a good place for us. So that's the setup for Peter now. The little header in my Bible says Peter's first sermon. Think about that. Peter hadn't spoken as a church leader prior to this point. He had been one of the twelve. He had been one of the followers of Jesus. He'd been one of the ones who is known to speak with his tongue and then have his mind fall a little bit behind that and try to catch up with what he said. And then he had to try to reconcile things. But here he was standing up for the Lord. He didn't have a prepared sermon in hand. He needed to rely on the Spirit. Just envision ourselves in the situation that Peter's in. We're so thankful the Spirit was there because he didn't know what to say of himself. He didn't know what people needed to hear. How is he going to say what needs to be said without knowing? That's beyond the scope of what a man can do. That's God's work and that's the reason we want to rely on the Spirit. And we want to rely always on the Spirit because we might be doing something that we think is unimportant but it is still God's work. And He has a reason for it to happen. So we want to be listening to Him always. So Peter said we're not drunk, it's morning. That's not the way it is. But it is the way that

prophets of old have expressed that this is going to happen. That My Spirit is going to be poured on all flesh. Not to just a select few, but all who are willing to receive it.

It talks here about men and women of different ages, those with different expectations. But He is going to provide for them. And through the Spirit then there were going to be those who would see things that they hadn't seen and others who would be able to explain what will transpire and in particular to share of God's promises. There will be signs to seek all these impressive things. And the most impressive of this whole list is that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved. Not only impressive things to see, but impressive things that the heart of man can be changed from a situation of certain death and destruction and conflict to a place where a man can be saved. That's what we want. And that's what we need to listen to and to follow on, and the requirement is that we recognize who is the One who made this possible. That's our Father. And we realize the way that He made, that we have access to Him through His son Jesus Christ and His shed blood. And then we call on Him, acknowledging our unworthiness, and asking for Him to change us. Then living for him we can be saved. You men of Israel, all of us here listen up. Jesus, selected by God, did miracles. It was the way it was supposed to be from the beginning. He made these things. He showed Himself to you. And think about this. The people who are gathered around here had actually seen Jesus in the flesh. They had seen those miracles, many of them had, and now they're hearing a summary of what had transpired over the previous few years. They saw the miracles. They saw how the people both loved Jesus but then rejected Him. In part and then after He gave His life. Gone in the flesh yet His Spirit was re-

turned. And His Spirit is returned. That isn't something that just happened to 2000 years ago. The Spirit of God is in our midst today. It's here today with us. And we can choose to ignore it. We can choose to downplay it. We can choose to fill our minds but God is with us. He's with us here.

God had this plan from the beginning once there was sin that entered into the world. God had this plan because He wanted us. He loves us so much. He wanted to be reconciled with us. So we have that plan that Jesus would come and would give His life and be rejected of men. He knew that would happen. And it needed to happen. That's beyond my understanding that He loved us so much, and He loves us so much that He gave what was His most valuable possession for you and for me. And then just put yourself in this situation. You give someone the thing you consider the most valuable. Take the most valuable thing you have and because you love someone so very much you're willing to give it to them. So you have this very valuable possession and you give it to someone because you love them so very much. And they ignore it. They discard it. They treat it poorly. What if you were the giver of that gift?

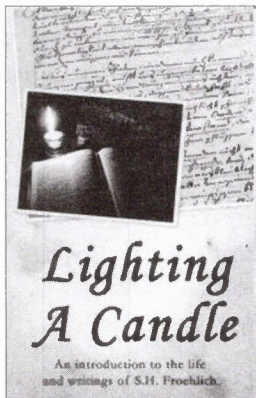
God gave us His son. And then He asks us what will you do with the gift that I have given you? What will you do with this gift? It's precious. And when we realize it's precious we want to hold on to it and use it and apply it. It's valuable to us. That's what He did, that's why He died because He saw the potential in us. He saw the potential in you and He wanted you to be His brother or sister. That's why He did it. And that's why He came. What will you do with that gift?

Now Available in Searchable Database

Samuel H. Froehlich's writings are now available in Adobe Acrobat format for use on a computer. If desired, this PDF document allows the user to search the entire set of writings for a specific topic or phrase. Currently, the contents of the black books published by Apostolic Christian Publications are included:

Hebrews	Ephesians	Baptismal Truth
Two Mysteries	Matrimony	Philippians
Revelation	Meditations on the Epistles of John	
Old Testament Meditations	Evidence Demonstrating Truth of the Word of God	

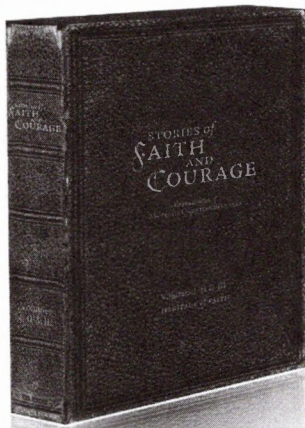
In addition, a letter written by Bro. Froehlich concerning baptism and an article titled "**Introduction and a condensed outline of the life of S.H. Froehlich**" are included in this digitized collection.



The price for the CD is \$10.00 and can be purchased from:
www.melttheheart.com or Heritage Press (phone 309-249-6281)

Also available is a concise, 78 page booklet entitled "**Lighting A Candle.**" It is introduction to the life and writings of Samuel H. Froehlich, and is divided into three sections: the life and conversion of Froehlich, a summary of Froehlich's teachings, and samples of Froehlich's writings.

The price for the booklet is \$5.00 and can be purchased from:
www.melttheheart.com or Heritage Press (phone 309-249-6281)



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Child Placement Manager Opening

As Gateway Woods expands our Christian Adoption Services into Illinois, we are in need of an IL Child Placement Manager. Applicants for this job must:



1. Be a member in good standing of the Apostolic Christian Church with approval of his/her local elder.
2. Have at least a Master's Degree in Social Work from an accredited school and three years work experience in social work administration OR a Master's Degree in a human services field from an accredited school and five years of work experience in human services administration.
3. Have a dedicated interest, love and sensitivity for youth and families.
4. Possess good motivational, organizational, teaching and communications skills.
5. Have ability to establish positive working and interpersonal relationships and use a team approach.
6. Have treatment philosophy compatible with the mission of Gateway Woods - Apostolic Christian Children's Home.
7. Have commitment to ongoing personal and professional growth.

This position offers a competitive salary and generous benefits. For further information and a job description, please contact:

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

Bro. Lynn Stieglitz
 Counseling Elder
 15417 Doty Rd.
 New Haven, IN 46774
 260-657-1033
 lynnstieglitz@lightningnet.net

Apostolic Christian Counseling and Family Services

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Job Burnout

Do you drag yourself to work and find it hard to get interested? Do you experience frequent headaches and/or nausea as you anticipate going to work? Do you find it difficult to find satisfaction in your achievements? Have your sleep habits or appetite changed? Do you experience unexplained head, neck, or back pain? Do you find yourself being more sarcastic, cynical, critical, impatient, or more irritable with coworkers and even with family? Are you self-medicating using food, drugs, or alcohol to feel better or to just not feel at all? Do you feel that you face insurmountable barriers at work? Do you find yourself completely overwhelmed and nearly unable to function? Answering "yes" to any of these questions might be an indication that you are "burning out" in your job. Job burnout is simply the cumulative effect of stress by long-term exposure to demanding work situations. It is manifested in physical, mental, and emotional exhaustion.

Genesis 3:19 "In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread..."

Exodus 23:12 "Six days thou shalt do thy work, and on the seventh day thou shalt rest..."

Ecclesiastes 5:12 "The sleep of a labouring man is sweet, whether he eat little or much..."

1 Timothy 5:8 "But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel."

From these verses and others we find the biblical concept of working for a living and providing for our families. However, we also find that there are some suggested parameters for doing so. Six days is enough time in a week to provide for our own and adequate sleep is certainly important. Are you the type of person who has difficulty sorting out your work and personal life? Do you identify so strongly with your job that you are unable to separate yourself from your work? If so, you may be becoming a slave to your job and you are likely at risk for burnout.

Luke 16:13 "No servant can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other."

Romans 6:16 "Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey..."

Another risk factor for job burnout is when we try to do everything there is to do and to be everything for everybody all the time. We simply cannot be in two places at once nor can we be more than we are. To attempt to do so is to give the indication that the world can scarcely function without us. God has given each of us talents and gifts to use in His service but no one has all gifts or all talents. Sometimes it is difficult to cut back on our activities because we may feel that if we aren't present at a particular function we will be sorely missed. In reality, we may be afraid that everything will be just fine without us and we won't be so missed. We are exhorted in Scripture to not think more highly of our contribution to the life of others than we should.

Galatians 6:3 "For if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself."

Romans 12:3 "For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith."

Is your job monotonous or do you feel that you have little or no control over your work, workplace, and/or fellow employees? Although our work environment can be a risk factor there is also often little we can do to change it. There may be some opportunities to choose a different shift or work with different people but most likely we will have to deal with the work environment as it is if we want to continue in our current job and/or position. Sometimes our workplace struggles are of our own doing because we have desired and accepted upward mobility opportunities which have increased our workload and stress. Often those added burdens are not adequately compensated for and we can be at greater risk for burnout. At other times, we are contributors to our workplace woes by having an inappropriate attitude and demeanor towards others which may come back to haunt us. The Bible instructs us to be both content with our wages and not to strive too hard for greater position, more

authority, or higher salary. Scripture also teaches us to be kind to others regardless of whether that kindness is repaid. That holds true whether we work with brethren or not.

Hebrews 13:5 "Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have..."

Luke 3:14 "...and be content with your wages."

Proverbs 23:4 "Labour not to be rich: cease from thine own wisdom."

Ecclesiastes 6:7 "All the labour of man is for his mouth, and yet the appetite is not filled."

Proverbs 13:11 "Wealth gotten by vanity shall be diminished: but he that gathereth by labour shall increase."

Romans 12:10-11 "Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another; Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord;"

Trying to establish and maintain a proper balance between work and our personal lives can be difficult but is a necessary and positive step toward decreasing the likelihood of experiencing job burnout. Looking for a different shift or job certainly may be an option as well. However, finding a different career is not easy in today's job world but attempting to do so may be necessary when job burnout reaches a critical point. This is when the stresses of a job bring irritability, depression, sickness, and other limiting physical problems. Keeping a modest ambition remembering that our first obligation is to serve God may help us to avoid the crippling effects of job burnout.

Ecclesiastes 2:19-24 "For what hath man of all his labour, and of the vexation of his heart, wherein he hath laboured under the sun? For all his days are sorrows, and his travail grief; yea, his heart taketh not rest in the night. This is also vanity. There is nothing better for a man, than that he should eat and drink, and that he should make his soul enjoy good in his labour. This also I saw, that it was from the hand of God."

Colossians 3:23-24 "And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men; Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ."

Important Notice to Americans Crossing the Canadian Border by Land.

All adults will need just one of the following documents:

1. Regular U.S. Passport
2. U.S. Passport Card
3. **Enhanced** Driver's License
4. any Trusted Traveler Program (*ex Nexus card*)

U.S. citizens under the age of 16, or under the age of 19 if travelling with a school, religious, or other youth group, may present a birth certificate, Consular Report of Birth Abroad, or a naturalization certificate. Birth certificates can be original, photocopy, or certified copy.

Anyone interested in receiving a printed sermon, please send info to:

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After entering the web site, click on the item located in the left hand frame entitled, "Light from the Word Reprints". The entire set of editorials are available in a complete download (*June 1987 through April 2010*).

BIBLE DISTRIBUTION

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*"Where there is no vision,
 the people perish:
 but he that keepeth the law,
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 Proverbs 29:18*

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Contacts:
 Sis. Anne Wagenbach
 (507)993- 6916
 Bro. Jim and Sis Deb Tilbury
 (507)281-2875.

Any that are in the area are welcome and encouraged to worship with us.

Make plans to attend the
2010 Athens/Tennessee Memorial Day Weekend
on May 29-30

Lord willing, the 19th annual Athens/Tennessee Memorial Day Weekend will be held on Saturday, May 29 and Sunday, May 30. Everyone is invited and welcome to attend. The theme for this year will be "Serving Jesus." On Saturday afternoon, the weekend begins at the Tennessee Fellowship Area with an auction followed by evening activities of Bro. Troy Leye (Bluffton, IN) speaking on "The Joy and Reward of Serving Jesus" and singing. On Sunday, church services are scheduled at the Athens, Alabama Apostolic Christian Church. In the afternoon, fellowship and singing resume at the Tennessee Fellowship Area followed by another minister speaking on how we can serve Jesus and others in our communities, nationally and internationally through church sponsored World Relief activities. Below are more specific details about the weekend activities.

Saturday, May 29 — All activities at the Tennessee Fellowship Area located in Pulaski, Tenn.

- 12:00 p.m. — Registration (and donation of auction items)
- 2:00 p.m. — Auction commences with song and prayer
- 6:00 p.m. — Supper
- 7:00 p.m. — Singing
- 7:30 p.m. — Bro. Troy Leye speaks on "The Joy and Reward of Serving Jesus"
- 8:00 p.m. — Singing

Sunday, May 30

- 10:00 a.m. — Church services at Athens Apostolic Christian Church in Athens, Ala.
- 3:30 p.m. — Fellowship begins at Tennessee Fellowship Area
- 4:00 p.m. — Singing
- 5:00 p.m. — Minister speaks on "Serving Others through World Relief Activities"
- 5:30 p.m. — Supper
- 7:00 p.m. — Singing

Bus from Central Illinois: A bus will again be chartered from Morton, Ill. If you are interesting in riding it to the Tennessee Fellowship Area, please contact Ed or Barb Kaiser at (309)263-8944 or e-mail them at ed.kaiser@comcast.net.

Local Motel Accommodations: Fellowship Area in Pulaski, Tenn. Super 8 (800)800-8000 or (931)363-4501 Athens, Alabama Area - Best Western (356)233-4030; Comfort Inn (800)228-5150 or (256)232-2704; Country Hearth Inn & Suites (256)232-1520; Days Inn (800)329-7466 or (256)233-7500; Quality Inn (800)424-6423 or (256)232-0030; Holiday Inn Express (800)465-4329 or (256)232-7931; Sleep Inn (256)232-4700; Super 8 (800)800-8000 or (256)233-1446.

Directions: The Tennessee Fellowship Area is located in Southern Tennessee off of Interstate 65 at Exit 14 (Pulaski). From the North, you will be turning left onto Hwy 64 after exiting and traveling approximately 1/2 mile. Turn left immediately before the bridge onto Old Hwy 64 and you will see the Fellowship Area on the left. If you are traveling from the South, take Exit 14 (Pulaski) and turn right onto Hwy 64. Follow the directions above.

RSVP by May 3: Please RSVP to one of the contacts below if you plan to attend the weekend by Monday, May 3, 2010. Also, look for more communication on weekend details in upcoming issues of The Silver Lining, through your local church and via the AC e-mail list.

Sis. Gwen Leuthold (Tennessee Fellowship Secretary) — 615-356-5755 or leutholdg@aol.com

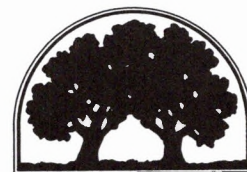
Bro. Don Sauder (Tennessee Fellowship Chairman) — 615-373-8928 or don.sauder@juno.com

Bro. Mike Moore (Tennessee Fellowship Treasurer) — 256-729-0620 or alm38@aol.com

"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." Matthew 5:16

Teaching Position Available

Gateway Woods is excited to announce an opening for a Math teacher at Gateway Woods School. Gateway Woods School is a fully accredited educational facility serving 6th-12th grade students who have difficulty in public school. Qualifications include a Bachelor's Degree in Education and/or an active teacher's license. Special Education Certification and previous teaching experience is especially useful, but not required. If you hold these qualifications and have a heart for children, please ask the Lord if this is the position He has in mind for you. For more information please contact one of the brothers listed below.



Tim Wiegand
 Director of Education
 PO Box 151,
 Leo, IN 46765

Lynn Stieglitz
 Counseling Elder
 15417 Doty Rd.
 New Haven, IN 46774

CARIBBEAN BOARD PROJECTS - 2010

All volunteers should contact the project coordinator. Should you not be able to contact the coordinator, for Haiti direct your inquiry to Bro. Rich Bertschi, Ph. 309-467-6110, E-mail lemangm@mtco.com.

HAITI

Data updated from the Apostolic Christian World Relief web site as of April 8th, 2010 -www.acworldrelief.org/work-teams-caribbean/

Project	Year 2010	Coordinator	Capacity				
Medical ACC 9 Bonne Fin Hospital	Apr 15-25	Janet Bradle 309-444-3302 janetbradle@verizon.net	12 to 14	Les Cayes MEBSH Const/Quake Relief	May 21-28	Rich Bertschi 309-467-2351 lemangm@mtco.com	12
Les Cayes AWA Water Aid	Apr 23-30	Troy Stuber 309-925-2603 troystuber@verizon.net	4	Les Cayes FRW Vocational School	Jun 4-11	Rick Wuethrich 219-567-9488 rick@wuethrichfarms.com	4
Les Cayes MEBSH Medical	May 7-14	Keith Knepp 309-467-3468 kknepp@mchsi.com	8				

JAMAICA

Data updated from the Apostolic Christian World Relief web site as of April 8th, 2010 -www.acworldrelief.org/work-teams-caribbean/

Project	Year 2010	Coordinator	Capacity				
Kingston School CCCD Peoria SS	Jun 5-12	Dean Thomas 309-243-2216 dathomas@mtco.com	Peoria Bible Class Only	Knockpatrick Schl CCCD Mansfield SS	Jun 26 - Jul 3	Peter Webel 419-564-5691 wpw47@aol.com	40
Jamaica Deaf Villg CCCD	Jun 11-19	Ted Hirstein 309-266-8769 hirstein@mtco.com	40				

Haiti and Jamaica Work Team Code Definitions

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

*If anyone is interested in leading a team to Mexico, contact Bro. Mike Fiechter at 260-597-7330 or mfiechter@onlyinternet.net
Data updated from the Apostolic Christian World Relief web site as of April 8th, 2010 -www.acworldrelief.org/work-teams-mexico*

Location	Year 2010	Coordinator			
Magdalena Construction	Jun 5-12	Stan Schick Princeville Sunday School 309-243-9281 schickfam@juno.com	Magdalena Construction	July 24-31	Scott Bahr Detroit Bible Class 248-924-7547 spbahr@yahoo.com
Magdalena Construction	Jun 19-26	Benj Knapp Washington Sunday School 309-467-5274 benjknapp@homewayhomes.com	Reynosa Medical	Oct 6-13	Cheryl Herrmann cherrmann@verizon.net
Magdalena Construction	Jul 17-24	Blake Stahl 630-740-7461 bcstahl@aol.com			

USA World Relief Committee

For area work or disaster projects, please contact the following USA committee member:

* Bro. Kent Heimer	<i>Counseling Elder</i>	Taylor, MO	Cell# 573-248-5701
* Bro. Paul Kaeb	<i>Chairman</i>	Bern, KS	Cell# 785-547-5269
* Bro. Chuck Kellenberger	<i>Sec/Treasurer</i>	Elgin, IL	Cell# 224-629-6531
* Bro. Les Schambach	<i>Administrator</i>	Elgin, IL	Cell# 630-247-5271
* Bro. Bill Leman		Roanoke, IL	Cell# 309-241-0257
* Bro. Tom Neuenschwander		Bluffton, IN	Cell# 260-307-6026
* Bro. Ray Slagel		Fairbury, IL	Cell# 815-848-3714

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And all thy children shall be taught of the Lord; and great shall be the peace of thy children. Isaiah 54:13

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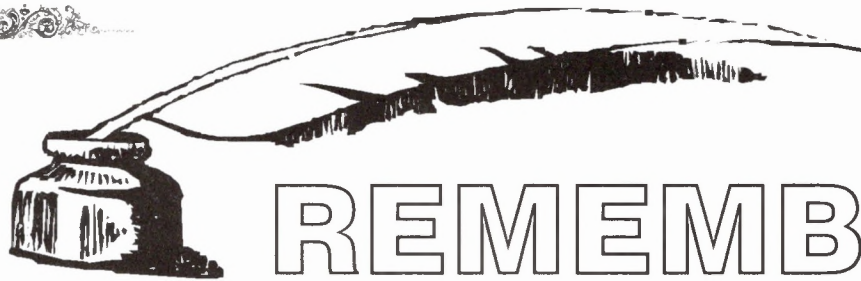
Send to:

ACWR Child Sponsorship
 PO Box 36
 Morton, IL 61550
 Phone: 309-266-6080
 Fax: 309-266-5281
 E-mail: childsponsorship@acwr.org



APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN
World Relief

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REMEMBERING

Our Spiritual Heritage

This is the beginning of a series on the funeral of Elder David Mangold of Roanoke, Illinois. He lived from 1892-1964, and was the son of Elder Bro. Michael and Sis. Lydia Hartman Mangold. The funeral was held at the Eureka congregation on December 8, 1964, because the Roanoke congregation had burned to the ground in June of that year. Excerpts are taken from a printed booklet that commemorates his funeral.

Obituary

David Mangold, 72, passed away at Broward General Hospital in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, on Friday, December 4, 1964, about 5:45 p.m.

He was born April 27, 1892, in Roanoke Township, a son of Michael and Lydia Hartman Mangold. He married Anna Martin on January 14, 1917, in Roanoke.

He is survived by his wife; two sons, Melvin of Roanoke and Charles of Eureka; two daughters, Mrs. Ruth Scherer of Roanoke, and Mrs. Esther Sauder of Eureka; a brother, John of Roanoke; and 13 grandchildren. Two brothers preceded him in death.

He had served as minister of the Roanoke Apostolic Christian Church since 1928, and had been an Elder in the church the last 29 years.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, December 8, at 9:30 a.m. at the Vincent Memorial Home in Roanoke, and at 10:30 at the Eureka Apostolic Christian Church. Interment was in the church cemetery at Roanoke.

Services At The Funeral Home

The hymn, "At Home 'Tis Well" was sung:

*At Home 'tis well! There shall the pilgrim tarry,
When tired and worn by sorrow, grief,
and strife;*

*In heav'n, when the hard race of
earthly life
Is run, the long-borne load no more
he'll carry.
At Home, 'tis well! With God in close
relation.
The soul forgets the sorrow it has
borne,
With pains o'ercome on that bright
golden morn,
Rejoices in our God's sublime salva-
tion.*

A prayer was offered by ministering Brother Eugene Bertschi of the Roanoke congregation.

Services At The Church

Leading the funeral services were Elder Brothers Rudy Graf, Akron, Ohio; Joe A. Getz, Morton, Illinois; John Bahler, Rockville, Connecticut; and Samuel Aeschliman, Bluffton, Indiana. Elder Brother Joseph Waibel, Bay City, Michigan, offered the prayer at the cemetery. Elder Brother John Bahler had the main meditation.

Elder Rudy Graf announced the hymn, "The 23rd Psalm," and offered these introductory comments: "The house being well filled, because we desire the comfort of the Lord, we are here assembled to hear the Word of God and the beautiful inspired hymns. We might with the beloved family, now bereft of their father, husband, even as his brothers in faith, beg the Lord that He will also bless us this day."

Elder Joe A. Getz gave opening comments: "See how quickly this earthly life is over. The golden moments and the stream of life are rushing past us. The angel of death visits us, and we do not know until he is gone.

Now, we are gathered anew, because one of our beloved brothers, co-elders, has laid down his armor in peace, and

has gone to his well-earned rest. Many of us have labored with our beloved brother a long time and have always gotten along very nicely.

Not only his own beloved congregation, but many of our churches will live long on the pleasant memories of his service and labor of love. It will be a comfort to the dear family, to his dear wife, children and grandchildren, and his brother and all — that so many have come long distances to share in their sorrow, and it will be a comfort and a blessing to them.

Glad are we that the time does come when the body is weary and the flesh grows weak, such as it has befallen our beloved Brother David, that he could look forward to the time when he could lay down his armor. It's not pleasant to see the flesh grow weak, but he rejoiced when he saw that he could soon go home to his Father, and be at peace and rest with God.

So beloved, we are pleased to have with us today dear brethren — some who have traveled a long distance, and for the benefit of some who may not be as well acquainted, we are glad to have Brother John Bahler, of Rockville, Connecticut, Brother Samuel Aeschliman, of Bluffton, Indiana, and Brother Rudolph Graf, of Akron, Ohio, who will share in the services. We await the Lord's blessing and a comfort for the beloved family and for all."

Next Issue:

A continuation of the funeral service

Please Notice:

Free copies are available of the funeral of Elder Noah Schrock. Write to: Perry Klopfenstein, P. O. Box 404, Pontiac, Illinois 61764, or call 800-847-6686 during working hours.

The Light Of Hope

“Church Standards”

Retired Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle, formerly of Shioda, Japan

When I repented and put my faith in Christ for salvation, Brother Schupert, my elder, asked me if I knew the rules of the church. I told him that I did. It may be that he used the word “rules” because English was his second language. For whatever reason he used that word, it is easily understood. There are some things you don’t do because they are against the rules of the church, which are based on the Bible. I usually talk about church guidelines but for this article I prefer “standards.”

I might have responded to Bro. Schupert’s question with this statement, “I only want to live for Christ and I’m not interested in rules.” He might have answered, “The world is full of churches that have no rules, no standards, and no guidelines. It’s your choice.” That might be all right for some believers who are very strict with themselves, but for most of us, it’s a bit scary. Our selfish nature might be too involved in making decisions as to what we do and what we don’t do. The situation would be similar to what is recorded in *Judges 21:25*, “In those days there was no king in Israel; Every man did that which was right in his own eyes.” I don’t believe that experience turned out so well.

People want liberty. Patrick Henry said in early American his-

tory, “Give me liberty or give me death.” *Leviticus 25:10* reads, “Proclaim liberty throughout all the land,” and this is written on the huge liberty bell in a museum in Philadelphia. The Apostle Paul also wrote unto the church in *Galatians, 5:13*, “Ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another.”

We must remember that if we want real liberty, we better have rules. Otherwise we may not have even the liberty to step out of our homes without being hit over the head by someone who wants the liberty to help himself to whatever is in our homes. His thinking may be, “You have and I don’t have, so you owe it to me.”

Democracy is an interesting concept. It actually means rule by the people but we can’t all go to Washington or there wouldn’t be anyone to stay at home and work, and make the country produce. Therefore, America is a republic in which we send our representatives to Washington and if they don’t govern the way we like for them to do, we vote them out of office and try somebody else. However, the word democracy is often used to mean a republic. Also, we want all nations to be a democracy, we say, but some countries, I am told, would do better with

a benevolent dictator. Otherwise, order breaks down.

After World War II in Japan, democracy was introduced. The idea was, we are no longer oppressed, we have our liberty. Someone who was a student in Japan at that time, told me that the students decided, that since they now have their liberty according to their new constitution, they would go in and out of the school through the windows, that that was more fun than going in and out through the doors. I believe they actually did that, but I don’t know for how long.

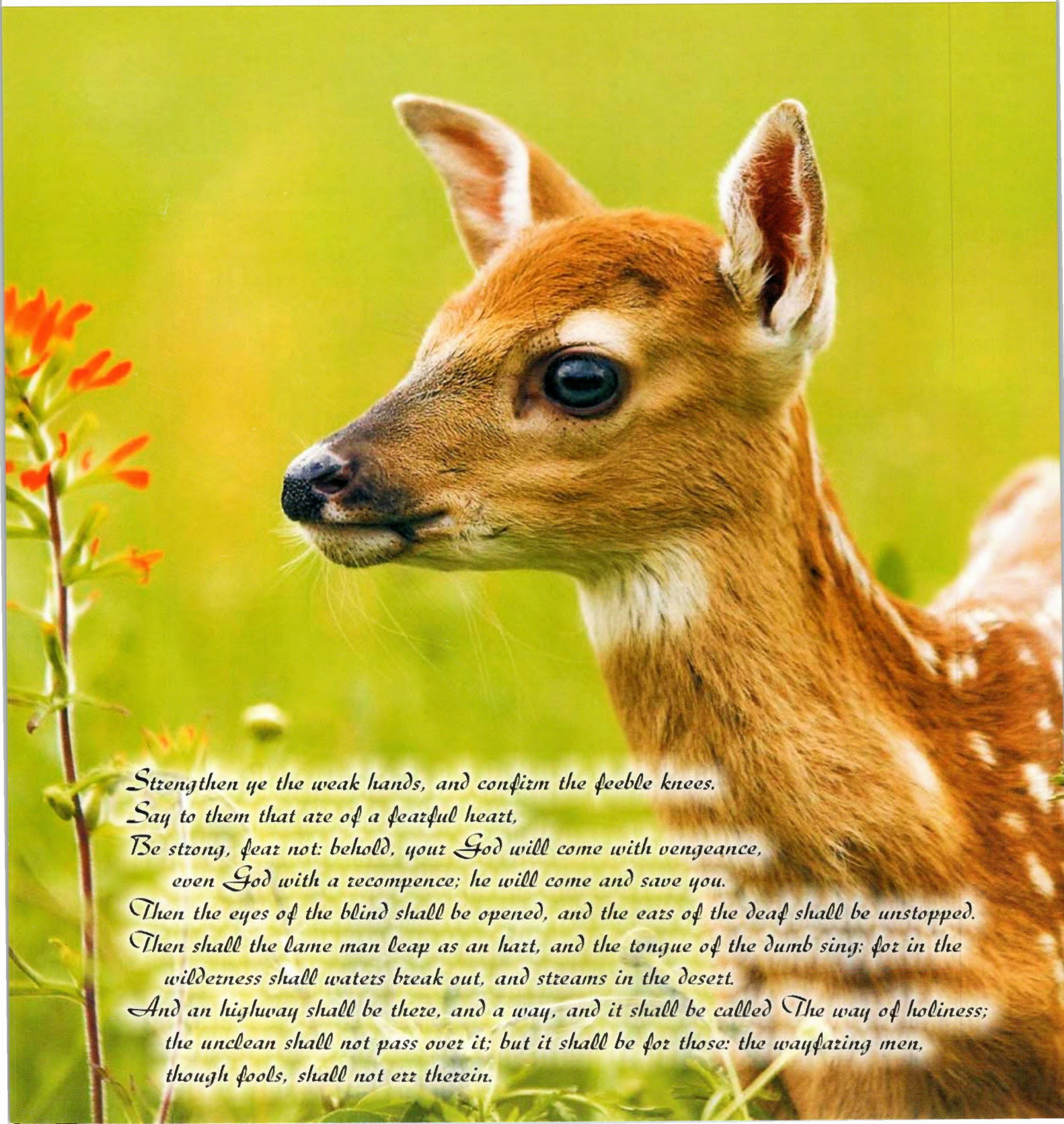
Oppression is not good, it is true, but look out for any institution, company, school, church, government, or home, where there are no rules. We human beings don’t do so well where there is no structure or guidelines. The Lord Jesus Christ said, “Be ye therefore perfect, even as your father which is in heaven is perfect.” *Matthew 5:48*. He also taught us, “Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.” *Matthew 22:37,39*. John also wrote, “Love not the world.” *I John 2:15*. Self discipline and rules are good but they do not earn salvation.

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



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LS SEQ:1448 P2 PK88
NICK KAEB
304 E HICKORY ST
FAIRBURY IL 61739-1233



*Strengthen ye the weak hands, and confirm the feeble knees.
Say to them that are of a fearful heart,
Be strong, fear not: behold, your God will come with vengeance,
even God with a recompence; he will come and save you.
Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped.
Then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing: for in the
wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert.
And an highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called The way of holiness;
the unclean shall not pass over it; but it shall be for those: the wayfaring men,
though fools, shall not err therein.*