



THE SILVER LINING

Grabill, Indiana

January, 1960

Exploring In God the World To Come

“But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our glory:

Which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.

But as it is written, Eye hath not

seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.

But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.”

I Corinthians 2:7-10

Lettered in Love

QUOTE

From Brother Menno Steiner
Sabetha, Kansas

“Loved Ones In faith. As I am not personally acquainted with the Editor yet your writings are so familiar, that I can believe we are striving for that same Goal. I like to hear of souls, who find themselves in need to seek a Saviour, and as we are of the second generation of our grandparents, and our believing children the third, we would cherish the thought that the future generations could be led to the knowledge of the Truth, that the true Light may be placed upon the candlestick. In February, 1895, I rode in a bobsled

from Tremont, Illinois, to Morton with the Brother Souder of Leo, Indiana. We were our three brothers and three sisters, and Brother Souder had us sing songs, of course in the German. As a young brother in the Lord, I was overtaken with joy to hear the old brother sing with a wonderful bass voice. So now, we are going down the valley One by One—and hope to meet those who have chosen the “Best Part” sometime, may God grant. The Silver Lining is in many ways as a letter, which reminds us of our loved ones we know here and there . . . I think lots of the poem Deliverance will come; it melts my heart.”

My Heavenly Home

Henry Souder Jr.

Home is something you must live in to love. It's love's longing, returning place.

The appeal of the world is momentary, and looks back. The fondness and tender attachments of God's home ever return to the always.

"... whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with him."

One Sunday we were visiting the Bremen church. A little late, we slipped in from the side, near the back.

Ahead of us, near the center aisle, was Brother Sam Gerber. He was yet some six or seven years from the three score and ten.

His love had proved beautiful through the years. He had found endearment in the circle of the family of heavenly love.

The last sentence of meditation had ended. Uncle Sam announced Number 164 from the **Selected Gospel Hymns**.

With his beautiful bass, he heartily joined the melodious strains.

"My heav'nly home is bright and fair,
Nor pain nor death can enter there:
It's glitt'ring tow'rs the sun out-shine;
That heav'nly mansion shall be mine.
I'm going home, I'm going home,
I'm going home to die no more! . . ."

The next Sunday we were back in the Bremen church. This time the lips were silent; he was sleeping in Jesus.

But the spirit had returned unto God who gave it. He had entered over the threshold of welcome.

During life, he had grown into its love-familiar happiness. Now he was joyful in that deep, mellow, beautiful contentment of home.

"Wherefore comfort yourselves to-

gether, and edify one another, even as also ye do."

Scenes of gladsome gaiety forever enrich home.

Do not our hearts nestle in quiet, happy reflection as we return to its treasured tenderness?

Through the mists . . . we travel on. We whiz past the temporal, and trace by faith the eternal.

"Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth."

The delighted dreams of earth disappear. We hold them fondly in our hand-clasp, but, alas, they are no more. Our fondest visible recollections are riddled with the passing of time.

The eternal is real. Before us is home, built of God. We lovingly trace the familiar outlines. We breathe deeply in the light-filled, joy-voiced holiday happiness.

Our fondest hope has secure anchor, for Jesus is in that home, and is our hope.

"For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain."

Where our treasure is, there shall our hearts be.

Learning to live where delights are for ever, we begin to grasp how wonderful and past understanding is this home.

Here on earth we have the clock and the calendar. Their influence has stern effect on us. But the inside of home is timeless. Though we but grasp slowly, God patiently teaches how to live in the for ever.

Again, we are so soon overly affected by what we do, the speakings, the giving. The key to the fire-side of happiness is love. It makes home so delightfully wonderful.

"For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ; which is far better."

This is not the natural view. But a tremendous change becomes evident as God brings us up looking like Him!

God cuts us loose from the temporary. He worketh for our eternal benefit and welfare. Only in the workshop of Calvary can we be counted worthy.

That is why sorrow and pain bleeds its full fruition. That is the why of sickness' withering body . . . and the why of the dusk of the twilight. It is the triumph of Calvary.

Jesus' path illuminates that pathway of the Valley. His hours were human; His sufferings sharp.

But, the end came. His path blazed a trail for His own." It is finished" and "Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit."

The spirit lives on!

"For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory;"

Love is a quiet eve of hope.

Time's lingering influence, as from a fence, casts its fading figure. But we lay our heads back on the sweet restfulness of His forever.

The view of home is free from the last of the tragic. What must it be to have passed that last milestone called death? No dream of splendor can sufficiently show the glory of that home.

But the mind of the eternal One has planned it perfect.

"And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know."

He is the Way, the miles toward Home.

Our life is patterned in His. There are the darkening skies and the loneliness . . . the lash of the cross . . . the tombed stone.

But the face to face joy of happiness comes.

Our limited imagination is kin to boarded and barred earth-sight too often. Jesus gives the solid real of what actually is Home.

HOME!

We have again our darling, humming the happiness of the Father's home. Here is a dear one, a pleasant personality that is never lost, just gone for awhile.

Our hearts are elated and warm with affection. Our hearts are happy in ageless satisfaction. Our hearts are close in the Father's fellowship.

The Father has kindled the fire in our hearts now. What He starts, He surely brings to completion.

"Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen."

Sound Teaching

The wisdom of counsel.

"and in multitude of counsellors there is safety." From Proverbs 24

The Bluffton church provides an example for others to pattern. They have what is called "counsel".

In an important problem, brothers meet in the council. Faces are not always the same. But each is given opportunity to express the heart's feeling.

This is a good way to handle a question wisely.

"For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ." I Corinthians 2:16

The Lord will provide every answer if we ask Him and allow Him.

It is like a beautiful song. Here, one lingering strain takes the lead. All provide support, and in harmony

provide beautiful team-work for the melody. Then, a different strain comes to the fore-ground. Then another. Together, the body is a whole, and cannot be separated.

"Let all things be done decently and in order." I Corinthians 14:40

Ideas, thoughts, propositions, duties are well written in the workshop of counsel. Heedless haste can bring needless hashing. But a good idea, plan or duty finds golden support in added wisdom.

A counsel should calmly consider from many sides. With divine confidence, the needless is skimmed. The Lord makes known His purified essence.

Also, to every purpose there is timing. There is a Hand that beats in rhythm for His purposes. We may sense this wisdom-beat in the hearts

of His own.

". . . the whole body fitly joined together and compacted"—From Ephesians 4:16

One mind is not always a presentable perfect. Often we must lean on another.

A brother brings something that stirs our thinking. Advice is given that completes the counsel of the hour. Not being the poorer for not heeding, we give reception, and find our view-point enriched.

So, in accord and concord we learn the blessed ties of fellowship. We learn more sweetly the meaning of a friend. We learn to find the mind of God in a way He has chosen to reveal it.

Then may we hold the brilliantly shining gems of His wisdom.

—Editor



NEWS



AKRON, OHIO

Reporter: Ruth Taylor

The Beginners' Sunday School class gave a basket of food at Thanksgiving and one at Christmas. Steven Pamer and Kenneth Graf helped deliver the basket at Christmas.

Brother and Sister John and Dorothy Brown and daughter, Millie, from Kiowa, Kansas, visited us over Christmas week end.

Donald Graf, son of Elmer Sr., was home for a week, over the holidays.

Bob and Paul Ritzman, John and Ed Greenbank spent New Year's week end with Theo Beers in Milford, Indiana.

Louise Graf and her children, Ernest Jr., Mary Ann, Rosie, Becky, David, and Roger were in Latty New Year's week end. Roger was able to go, in spite of a broken arm.

Brother Forrest Ritzman held funeral services for Ezra Kauffman January 7. Ezra's brother, Dan, came for the funeral, but returned to

Florida the same week. His sister, Lula C. Lude, of Detroit attended also.

Ethyl Boychi suffered a heart attack on Christmas Day. We are glad to report she is improving right along.

Forrest and Marie Ritzman and sons, Jerry and Eric, visited in Bluffton, Indiana, during the holidays.

ALABAMA

Reporter: Clara Heiniger

Dec. 21, the Landersville Bible and Junior classes spent the evening singing Christmas carols to the aged, sick and afflicted. It was a blessing to the young people to see how much it was appreciated by visiting and bringing cheer and happiness in Word and song. After caroling, all met at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Craig, where refreshments were served.

Monday afternoon, Dec. 21, the Primary Class of 17 pupils took boxes of fruit to many that were afflicted

and sick, also bringing cheer and happiness by singing Christmas carols to them, then met at the Landersville church and served refreshments in the classroom.

Tuesday evening, Dec. 22, the Hillsboro Bible and Junior classes went Christmas caroling in Bro. Junior Hale's milk truck, and visited ten places, bringing fruit, the Word of God, and singing Christmas songs, then met at the home of Sis. Clara Heiniger, where refreshments were served.

Wed. afternoon, Dec. 23, the Primary and Beginner's class of the Hillsboro Church enjoyed singing Christmas carols and speaking pieces in fourteen different places, delivering boxes of fruit and honey to the sick, then met at Sis. Clara Heiniger's for refreshments. The children enjoyed a little Christmas gift exchange.

Dec. 23, Wednesday evening, the Athens Bible and Junior classes met at Bro. John Waglers and went Christmas caroling in the church bus, visiting several homes of shut-ins, bringing God's Word, singing Christmas songs, and bringing fruit to them, then met in the home of Bro. and Sis. Henry Perry, where refreshments were served.

We rejoiced having a large crowd gathered together in all three churches to hear the children's Christmas programs, bringing the gospel message to young and old.

We have enjoyed during the Christmas season the following visitors: Bro. and Sis. Wallace Yergler and family of Cissna Park, Ill.; Bro. and Sis. Lowell Stoller and family, Bro. and Sis. Ben Habegger and family of Princeville, Ill.; Bro. and Sis. James Winzeler and family of New Haven, Ind.; Betty, Karen and Sis. Mary Wuethrich, Sis. Twyla Von Tobel and Bro. Kenneth Gutwein of Francesville, and Bro. Lynn Klopfenstein of Leo, Ind.; Bro. and Sis. Dick Zeltwanger and family of Bremen, Ind.; Bro. and Sis. Jack Steig-

litz of Morton, Ill., and many others stopping off at Athens church for morning worship, enroute to Florida.

New Years Eve, around 100 gathered at the home of Sis. Clara Heiniger, young and old, from the Landersville and Hillsboro community, and from Athens Bro. and Sis. John Wagler and daughters, Sis. Joan and Susan, Sis. Zelmer Young, and Sis. Annis Perry, and spent the evening singing. The children gave a New Year's program, which was enjoyed by all. Then there was a Study of God's Word and prayer. Refreshments were brought in of three freezers of homemade ice-cream, cake, cookies and hot chocolate. All enjoyed a blessed evening of fellowshiping around God's Word with young and old.

New Year's Day, Sis. Clara Heiniger, taking the Leoman LouAllen family of Landersville to the home of Bro. and Sis. George Kelley in Prospect, Tenn., where we enjoyed their family singing hymns and Bro. George reading the Word, and having prayer before we left, then stopped at Bro. and Sis. Waglers for supper, enjoying the blessed fellowship together, and while there we were pleasantly surprised by Bro. and Sis. Mike Weyeneth of Peoria, who spent the week end visiting in all three churches.

Bro. and Sis. John Fuhrer of Mansfield, Ohio, spent Sunday, Jan. 3, with us in all three churches, and, staying all night, left Monday morning for Florida.

BLUFFTON, INDIANA

Reporter: Freida Kipfer

Brother Simon Wagenbach and Brother Albert Aberle of Tremont visited here on Sunday, December 13. We also had a service in the evening.

Brother and Sister Henry Gerber have announced the engagement of their daughter, Susanna, to John Kipfer, son of Brother and Sister Eli Kipfer.

Our Sunday School gave a program of Christmas songs and carols on

Sunday evening, December 20.

Several groups of young folks sang carols for the aged and shut-ins, and the adult classes of the Sunday School presented them with baskets of fruit and nuts.

Communion Service was held here on Sunday, December 27. Elder brothers present were George Yergler, George Sinn and Theo Beer. Brother and Sister Forrest Ritzman were here also, and remained for evening service.

Brother Carl Kipfer has been chosen to be our new minister.

Brother and Sister Sam Aeschli-man and others from here attended New Year's service in Ft. Wayne.

Brother and Sister Emanuel Gudeman of Cissna Park were here on January 3, also others from Cissna Park and Ft. Wayne.

Brother and Sister Sam Aeschli-man spent the same day in Leo, where Communion Service was held.

Announcement has been made of the engagement and approaching marriage of Carolyn Jane Steffen, daughter of Sister Aldula Steffen, and Ben Manz, son of Brother and Sister Henry Manz, of Paulding, Ohio.

Brother and Sister Sam Aeschli-man and Brother and Sister Herman Kipfer spent the week end of January 10 at Ft. Sam Houston, visiting the brethren and friends.

Births: To Brother and Sister William Ringger, a daughter, on December 18; to Brother and Sister Truman Gerber, a son, on December 27; to Brother and Sister Don Reinhard, a daughter, on December 27; to Victor and Julia Pfister Gerber, a daughter, on January 2; to Brother and Sister James Reinhard, a daughter, on January 6; and to Brother and Sister Claren Gehring, a daughter, on January 6.

BURLINGTON, OKLAHOMA

Reporter: Mrs. Raymond Roth

Sister Lydia Hankart, who was seriously burned following an explosion of a gas hot water heater in her home

last July and was hospitalized over four months, is well on the road to recovery.

Sister Bea Diel, who has been ill for some time, is much improved.

The Sunday School presented their annual Christmas program the evening of Dec. 23.

Ruth Ann Tanner, daughter of Bro. and Sister Elmer Tanner, was proved and baptized by Bro. Roy Farney Dec. 27. May Sister Ruth always enjoy God's blessings.

Our deepest sympathy is extended to Bro. and Sister Richard Schupbach and family of Phoenix, Arizona, in the loss of their infant son. The Schupbachs were formerly from here.

Sister Anna Meyer passed away Dec. 31, after a lingering illness. She is survived by her husband, Alf, eight children and fourteen grandchildren. Funeral services were conducted Jan. 3 by Bros. Roy Farney and Elias Somerhalder.

Members from Harper, Kansas, have been assembling with us since the death of their minister, Bro. Paul Allenbach. We welcome them and enjoy their presence and fellowship very much.

Sister Fredericka Schief is still a shut-in, following surgery early this fall. She is making her home with her sister, Sister Lydia Ott, in Kiowa, Kansas. Sister Sarah Schupbach, also of Kiowa, has been a shut-in for several years.

Bro. Sam Farney is spending the winter with relatives in Phoenix and Mesa, Arizona.

We were happy to have the attendance of a number of visitors, visiting relatives and friends here over the holiday season. They included Bro. and Sister Ervin Maurer and family Fairbury, Ill.; Bro. and Sister Raymond Banwart and sons, Ft. Scott, Kansas; Bro. and Sister Sol Rassi and family, Goodfield, Ill.; Bro. and Sister Bill Moser and family, Morris, Minn.; Bro. Felix Wuthrich, Pulaski, Iowa; Bro. Dale Schurter, Elgin, Ill.; Bro. and Sister Glenn Moser, Roa-

noke, Ill.; Bros. Fred Pohl and Leon Kuntz, Oakville, Iowa; and Bros. Harold and Louis Somerhalder, Gridley, Kansas.

CALIFORNIA

Reporters: Ora and Dora Sauder

It hardly seems possible that Christmas is over, and the new year so well started. Many of our church members enjoyed visits from family and friends over the holiday.

The Sunday School and Young Folks Bible Class presented a Christmas program, the small ones speaking "pieces" and the older ones singing the beautiful Christmas songs that are so well loved. The time and effort of those in charge to make it a lovely evening was appreciated by all.

Mr. and Mrs. Martin Fuhrer and children, from Ohio, flew to California to spend Christmas with his mother, Sister Eva Fuhrer.

Bro. Ronnie Metzger of San Francisco visited in Maywood.

Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Turner and children from Lincoln, Neb., visited her parents, Brother and Sister Andy Locker, over Christmas.

Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Kaisner and family of Fairbury, Ill., visited Brother and Sister Albert Kaisner.

Sister Esther Kiefer of Fairbury, Ill., is spending the winter here in California. It seems so nice to once more have her here with us.

Harold Stieglitz of Grabill, Ind., visited friends in Maywood.

Brother and Sister Carl Gutwein and son, Philip, of Francesville, Ind., visited Maywood.

Brother and Sister Alvin Farney and daughter of Princeville and Brother and Sister Sam Kieser and daughter visited in California.

Brother and Sister Henry Sabo and daughter, Sister Dorothy Sabo, with Sister Clara Steffen are visiting Altadena and Maywood. We are enjoying services that Brother Henry conducts; seems like old days, when we lived in Ohio.

Marcelle and Ernest Dapper are the parents of a son, born Jan. 3.

We are planning to move to Anahiem in the next few weeks; we will still attend the Maywood Church, God willing.

Elizabeth Schwing, wife of Brother Theophel Schwing, passed away Jan. 9. Brother Theophil is in poor health.

CISSNA PARK, ILLINOIS

Reporter: Dale Eisenman

The Sunday School presented their Christmas program on the evening of December 20.

A daughter, Judith Kay, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Earl Bauer on December 21.

We welcome Brother Wally and Sister Evelyn Yergler back to our congregation. They moved to Cissna from Marengo, Illinois, on December 30.

Funeral services were conducted for Friend Harry Swing of Crescent City on December 31.

Friends Bob and Astrid Kellerhals became the parents of their first child on December 31. She has been named Sandra Kay.

Friend Gerald Rudin is home for a month's leave, before leaving for duty in Korea. Brother John Waldbeser and Friends Roger Knapp and Dennis Hari, who are also in the Service, spent Christmas at home.

ELGIN, ILLINOIS

Reporter: Louise Steffen

Dec. 17, a baby girl, Amy Jo, was born to Bro. and Sister Dick Klopfenstein. She is the former Judy Steffen.

Dec. 20, we had our annual Christmas program at 7:00 o'clock p.m. Our steady attendance is over 140.

Dec. 25, two visiting ministers were with us today: Bro. Clarence Kachelmuss of Forrest, Ill., and Bro. Earl Zeltwanger of Bremen, Ind.

EUREKA, ILLINOIS

Reporter: Cathryn Wettstein

Visiting ministers have been as follows. Dec. 13—Bro. Edward Kloter

of Fairbury; Dec. 27—Bro. Cleo Rinkenberger from Pulaski, Iowa, Bro. George Wagonbach of Princeville, Bro. Frank Woertz and Bro. Simon Wiegand of Goodfield.

The evening of December 23, the Sunday School children presented their Christmas program. It was enjoyed by all.

Sunday, the 27th, Charlene Wiegand was proved and baptized.

Births: Bro. and Sister Nelson Martin, a boy, Dec. 22, Craig Timothy; Bro. and Sister Elmer Ginzel, a girl, Dec. 24, Marcia Gaye; Bro. and Sister Gene Hangartner, a girl, Jan. 6, Annette Lynn; and Bro. and Sister Robert Wettstein, a girl, Jan. 6, Marilyn Kay.

FAIRBURY, ILLINOIS

Reporter: Joyce Huber

Our Sunday School Christmas program, held Sun. evening, Dec. 20, was quite inspiring, with all the classes taking part in bringing their songs and praises before a large congregation of parents, relatives and friends.

A group of single sisters packed many boxes and, along with some gifts, presented them to the shut-ins, in their efforts to bring cheer to them.

The engagement of Sis. Corinne Roth, Fairbury, and Bro. Bill Zbinden, Cissna Park, was announced.

Bro. Phil Wingeier of Alto, Mich., brought us an inspiring sermon Sun., Dec. 13.

Sis. Laura Gerber passed away, and funeral services were held by Bro. Josh Broquard on Sun., Jan. 3.

FORREST, ILLINOIS

Reporter: Ken Schneider

On December 16, evening services were held by Bro. Phil Wingeier of Alto, Michigan. We enjoyed his visit.

Three groups of carolers went caroling on three different evenings. They were December 18, 20 and 21.

The Sunday School had their

Christmas program on December 13. We wish all the Sunday Schools and their teachers God's blessings for this wonderful work.

FT. LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA

Reporter: Delores Stoller

As this is our first correspondence with our brothers and sisters through the Silver Lining, we would like to give you a little background of our congregation.

We have seventeen families attending our services, with forty-one children in our Sunday School.

Our ministering brother is Brother Matt Wackerle; his wife, Aldine; of Bay City, Mich.

Our Sunday School teachers are: Bro. Harry and Florence Sutter of Peoria, Ill. and Sis. Dorothy Bactold, Sis. Aldine Wackerle and Bro. Wendell Gerber.

Our families are:

Bro. Carl and Sis. Dorothy Bactold, Bro. Robert and Sis. Doris Huber, Bro. George and Sis. Elsie Bolliger all of Fairbury and Forrest, Ill; Bro. Edward and Sis. Vi Gerber, Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Joyce Troxel, Bro. Bob and Sis. Carolyn Yergler, Bro. Wendell and Sis. Wanda Gerber; Friends: George and Mildred Krill, Don and Rosie Loyd, Patrica and Winfred Guldice, Rodney and Doris Paxson all of Bluffton, Ind; Bro. Andrew and Sis. Louise Betz of Cleveland, Ohio; Bro. Lester and Sis. Edna Meister; Bro. Victor and Sis. Delores Stoller of Ft. Wayne, Ind.; and Friends Darrel and Billie Klopfenstein of Leo, Ind.

A few of the winter residents have arrived, and are now living in Ft. Lauderdale, Bro. Will and Sis. Mamie Erkert of Peoria, Ill., and Bro. Ray Wieland and his wife, Florence, of Bay City, Mich. Sis. Em Moser of Bluffton, Ind. Her Husband, Bro. William Moser, will join her just before Christmas.

Visitors have been: Sis. Mary Moser of Bluffton, Ind., who is visiting her daughters, Sis. Joyce Troxel

and Sis. Wanda Gerber; Bro. Al and Sis. Margaret Fisher of Chicago, Ill.; Bro. and Sis. John Yergler of Bluffton, Ind., who were visiting their son, Bob Yergler; Sis. Mel Isch and Sis. Soph Gerber of Bluffton, Ind.

Bro. Eldon and Sis. Kathryn Beer of Milford, Ind., were here for a few days and spent Sunday with us. After services, they were at the home of Bro. and Sis. Lester Meister for Lunch. We are always happy to see friends and families and everyone is welcome to visit us.

Our services are held at: 421 S. E. 21st Street, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, Sunday Morn. 10:00 A.M., Sunday Eve. 7:30 P.M.

The following was sent in later:

We have had a great many visitors this last month and have enjoyed meeting and being with them while they were here. As I can't mention them all, I hope no one will be offended if their name is not mentioned.

We are happy to report Bro. Dave Mangold and his wife have arrived to spend the winter with us. Their daughter, Ruth, and her husband, Bob Sherer, are here with them for a few weeks.

Bro. Lowell Stoller and family were here for a few days, too, accompanied by his sister, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Elsasser, all of Princeville, Ill.

Bro. Sam and Sis. Ida Wieland of Bay City, Mich., have arrived for the winter.

The Ed Gerber and George Krill families have returned home from Bluffton, Ind., where they spent the holidays with family and friends.

Bro. Will Erkerts have had their two daughters and families here for several weeks visiting.

Mrs. Bob Yergler; Brother Howard and wife-Joyce Baumgartner, have been here for a visit from Bluffton, Ind.

And the Harry Sutter's have been busy with their company from Peoria, Ill., Harry's brother, Lee, and his wife, Gladys, and also John and Marie

Khrul of Minonck, Ill.

Mrs. Bob Huber's brother, Dean Nussbaum, and his wife, Betty, have spent this last week with them. Bro. Alf and Dorothy Bactold drove with them. All are from Forrest, Ill.

Last week, Wed. night singing was held at Bro. Will Erkerts, and this week it was held at the home of Harry Sutter. From now on, Wed. night singing will be held at the church, starting at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Bro. and Sis. Andrew Rapp of Milford, Ind., have arrived to spend the winter here in the sunny South. New Year's day, Bro. Rapps had dinner in the home of Bro. Matt Wackerle's. Also as their dinner guest's were Bro. Dave Mangold's, Bro. Bob Sherers and Bro. Will Erkert's.

FORT SAM HOUSTON, TEXAS

Reporters: Edwin and Carol Baurer

Elder Brother Noah Bauman and his wife, Bertha, from Rittman, Ohio, were with us on the week end of December 13. Bro. Joe Rufener from Rittman and Bro. Paul Gerber from Bluffton, Indiana, were along with the Baumans. We enjoyed their stay with us very much.

Homer Reineck, a ministering brother from Toledo, O., & his wife & children were here visiting with us over Christmas week end. Also with us during that time were Brother and Sister Clarence Knobloch and three of their children, from Princeville, Illinois.

A majority of the brothers and friends stationed here were absent from Ft. Sam over the holidays. Each was enjoying Christmas at their respective home.

Brother Fred Pohl from Burlington, Iowa, and Bro. Leon Kuntz from Oakville, Iowa, stopped in on December 29 and spent a few days with us at Ft. Sam.

FRANCESVILLE, INDIANA

Our J.O.Y. Circle met at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Willis Wuethrich

for the annual Christmas gathering on Dec. 17, with 44 ladies present. Ten boxes, consisting of home-made cookies, fruits, nuts and groceries were packed for needy families. The following Sunday evening, the boxes were delivered by the carolers.

On Saturday afternoon of December 19, the younger Sunday School classes gathered at the church to practice the Christmas program. Christmas cookies and hot chocolate were served.

Sunday afternoon, the program was presented by 134 children. We are thankful our children know the "true" meaning of Christmas.

Mrs. Andre Neihouser was honored with a pink and blue shower on Jan. 7 at the Willis Wuethrich home. Several relatives and friends were present.

On Saturday evening, Jan. 9, she presented Andre with a baby boy, Bradley Jay.

The M.Y.F. meeting was held at Betty Wuethrich's home on Dec. 7. All 22 teen-age girls were present, and they each brought a useful gift, which was sent to Sis. Clara Heiniger, for her to open "one each day."

We hope that the New Year will hold many rich blessings for God's people.

GIRARD, OHIO

Reporter: Jesse Emch

The David Emch family from Rittman were our guests Sunday, Dec. 6.

On Sunday, Dec. 13, our elder, Bro. Rudolph Graf, and Bro. Phillip Weber of Akron, Ohio, were with us. We enjoyed the message brought us by Bro. Rudolph Graf; also the review of the Brother Meeting held at Gridley, Ill.

Bro. Lorentz and Sister Caroline Emch were guests at the Rittman Church on Sunday, Nov. 22.

Bro. Carl and Sister Frieda Gasser visited his sister in Wheeling, W. Va., who has been ill for some time.

The Ray Riehl family spent the

week end of Dec. 27 in Rittman.

Sister Elizabeth Games is vacationing with her daughter in Sarasota, Florida. She left home by plane Dec. 12.

Sister Louise Lance is visiting her son in St. Louis, Mo.

Sister Ethel Hafely is convalescing at home, after being hospitalized for several weeks with a heart attack. Her daughters, Esther from Indiana and Shirley from Texas, were home during her illness. We are thankful that Sister Ethel is recovering.

A baby boy, Stephen Douglas, was born to the Leslie Lance's of New Castle, Pa., on Nov. 25. Leslie is the son of Sister Louise Lance.

Bro. Joe and Sister Alma Emch are the grandparents of a baby girl, Bonnie Sue, born on Dec. 14 to Mr. and Mrs. Jess Binion of Rittman.

A son, Robert Jeffrey, was born Dec. 16 to Mr. and Mrs. Gerald W. Emch of East Greenwich, Rhode Island. Gerald is the son of Bro. and Sis. Jess Emch.

Our Sunday School Bible Class is now using the new Sunday School book, *God's Plan of Salvation*. On Sun., Dec. 20, we gathered for our Christmas program.

GOODFIELD, ILLINOIS

Reporter: Marian Wiegand

Our ministering Brother, Simon Wiegand, and his wife, Rosa, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. Close relatives and a few friends called to extend their congratulations on Sunday, December 13.

The funeral services of Sister Lizzie Rinkenberger were held December 15. She had reached the age of 89 years. Recently she had made her home with her daughter, Mrs. Elmer Moss, of Washington, where she became ill and was taken to the Eureka Hospital as a patient for 8 weeks. She was preceded in death by her husband, Dan, in 1943. Surviving are the following children: Nettie Knapf, Goodfield; Mary Moser, Danvers;

Lydia Sauder, Eureka; Hannah Hunziker and Rose Moss of Washington.

Christmas caroling was enjoyed by a number of couples December 21. They also delivered grocery packages to several shut-ins.

Frank Woertz, Jr., spent the Christmas holidays with his parents, Frank and Esther Woertz and his wife, Joan. He is stationed at Ft. Leonard Wood, Missouri, at present.

After Basic Training at Ft. Leonard Wood, Missouri, Gary Wiegand spent the Christmas holidays with his parents, Henry and Persida Wiegand. After his leave, he reported to Ft. Sam Houston, Texas, for further training.

The annual Sunday School Christmas program was held December 20, at 7:00 p.m. All classes participated in telling the Glad Tidings of Christ's birth.

Jim Hohulin, son of Ed and Elsie Hohulin, is seeking the Lord by repentance. We wish him the Lord's grace.

Mr. and Mrs. Adolph Tanner are the grandparents of a girl, born to Verna and Robert Wettstein of Eureka. Marilyn Kay arrived January 6.

By giving their testimonies and by baptism, three friends were added to the fold on January 10. They are: Larry Bauman, Harold Knapp and Rita Siebenthal. We had many visitors for the occasion, and we welcome them back for another visit.

Brother Sam Hohulin left January 9 for service at Ft. Leonard Wood, Missouri.

GRIDLEY, KANSAS

Reporter: Mrs. Rudy Bahr

Everyone enjoyed our annual Christmas Sunday School program, held on Sunday evening, December 20. Many of the Lamont congregation attended and joined in with the carols. Bro. and Sis. Wayne Miller and family and Bro. and Sis. James Bahr and daughters of Ft. Scott also were present.

Joint Christmas eve services were held at Lamont, and we enjoyed their Sunday School program preceding the services.

Sister Edna Somerhalder underwent major surgery on December 13 and is steadily improving at the home. Their oldest daughter, Sarah, entered the hospital December 26 with pneumonia, and we are happy to report is home again. All wish them a speedy recovery.

Brother Rudy Bahr underwent surgery on his elbow on December 16, to repair an injury received last spring from a fall off a ladder. He is now able to do most of his work again.

Bro. and Sis. George Greiner and Franklin of Wichita and Bro. and Sis. Godfrey Miller and Chris of Eldorado spent December 27 with their mother, Sister Lydia Bahr, and other relatives and friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Mentha and daughters of Wichita visited on December 27 with her parents, Bro. and Sis. Dan Kraft, and others. Sis. Liz returned home with them for a few days visit.

Bro. and Sis. Howard Warner and family of Arlington, Kansas, visited on January 3 with her parents, Bro. and Sis. Andrew Young. Sister Lydia has been confined several weeks to the home, with a blood clot on her leg. We hope she will soon be back with us in church.

LA CROSSE, INDIANA

Reporter: Bert Bucher

Visiting ministers were Maurice Frank from Chicago, Ill., Dec. 13; Conrad Gutwein and Lester Huber from Francesville, Jan. 3, 1960.

Bro. and Sister Lynn Feller are the parents of a baby girl, LuAnn, born Dec. 13, 1959.

We had our Sunday School Christmas program Sunday afternoon, Dec. 20.

Arthur Heiniger and family, also Dan Heiniger, spent Christmas with their mother at Valparaiso.

LATTY, OHIO**Reporter: Roberta Stoller**

On December 13, a pot-luck supper was held for our folk who will be attending the new church in Fort Wayne. A singing was held in the evening.

We had a large attendance Sunday evening, Dec. 20, for our annual Sunday School program. This was enjoyed very much by all.

On Dec. 27, the wedding of Bro. Harold Wenninger of Latty and Sister Ramona Yackley of Phoenix took place. Those attending the wedding from here were Bro. Harold's parents, Bro. and Sister Rudolph and Hilda Wenninger, and Bro. and Sister Jesse and Mary Gerber.

Services were held Jan. 1 at our church in Fort Wayne. Bro. Sam Aeschliman of Bluffton and Bro. Emanuel Gudeman of Cissna Park had services. Regular Sunday services will not be held yet for a few weeks. We will surely miss the group that will be leaving our congregation, when the church there will be ready.

We were very happy to have Bros. Theo. and Henry Beer with us Saturday evening, Jan. 2, for the proving of Harold Glass. There were also several others with them from Milford and from Bluffton. Baptism was held after services Sunday afternoon.

Sister Katie Gerber fell and broke her ankle recently. Mrs. Ralph Stoller was in the hospital, but is home again.

(Editor's Note: Brother Alfred Buehler, aged 79, departed this life on Sunday, January 10, at Paulding County Memorial Hospital.)

Sister Mary Stoller and Louise Laukhuf are again with us, after being laid up for some time.

Sister Anna Stoller and her daughter, Sister Anna Lou, recently returned from a trip to Washington and Portland, Oregon, where they visited with Bro. Earl Grimm over the holiday.

A group of young folks from here

spent the week end of Jan. 10 in Fairbury.

Births: To Bro. Jim and Sister Marge Gerber, a boy, named Larry James.

A daughter, Lynette Marie, born Dec. 22 to Bro. Loren and Sister Esther Stoller. She was welcomed home by her five sisters.

A daughter, Charlotte Ann, to Bro. Don and Sister Josephine Wenninger, born Jan. 6. She has three brothers and one sister.

LEO, INDIANA**Reporter: Mrs. Elias Souder**

Maurice Frank and family from Chicago, Ill., spent Christmas Day with relatives. He conducted church services on Christmas Day.

On the evening of December 20, a Sunday School program was enjoyed, given by the classes of the Sunday School.

Church services on New Year's eve were well attended here. Quite a number from the Leo church attended the Ft. Wayne church service on New Year's Day.

Sunday, January 3, Brother George Yergler from La Crosse, Indiana, and Brother Samuel Aeschliman from Bluffton, Indiana, conducted Communion Services here. A blessed Sunday was spent. Sister Aeschliman accompanied Brother Sam, and Brother Samuel Heiniger accompanied Brother George. After church Communion Services, the brothers and some others visited with Brother William Klopfenstein, who has been too ill to attend church services. Communion was also served to him.

We are happy to report Sister Cora Levy, who has been ill, is better and able to assist in getting out the **Silver Lining**.

Brother Henry Brenkman was suddenly stricken very ill, and is at the Parkview Memorial Hospital. Brother Henry has reached his 90th birthday.

MANSFIELD, OHIO**Reporter: Aaron A. Sauder**

Our Sunday School presented a very inspiring program Sunday evening, December 20. Each class had a part, and told of the Saviour's birth and what the same means for all mankind. How we hope and pray that the messages may take root in each heart and bring fruit to the praise and honor of God and the salvation of their soul. We had a very good attendance.

On the evenings of December 19 and 23, a group went to sing Christmas carols for the shut-ins and widows, also for our older people.

December 25, Brother and Sister Eugene Sauder and little daughter of near Elkhart, Indiana, visited their parents and brothers and sisters. Eugene is the son of Aaron and Katherine Sauder.

December 27, the Alvin Riggenbach family visited in Wayne County; the John Oesch family in Latty; the Charles Sauder family in Milford.

December 28, Brother and Sister Henry Sabo and daughter, Dorothy, and Sister Clara Steffen of Fairbury, Illinois, left for an extended visit in California and Arizona.

Brother and Sister William Sauder spent the New Year holidays with their daughter and family, Eli Manz at Paulding, Ohio.

Elder Rudolph Graf and Bro. Ernest Graf of Akron were in our midst January 1 for services and our annual meeting.

Brother and Sister John Fuhrer left January 2 for an extended stay in Florida.

Mr. and Mrs. John Gilliom are the parents of a son, born December 27.

We wish to all God's grace and blessings for the new year.

MILFORD, INDIANA**Reporter: Irma Haab**

Bro. Lowell and Sis. Mary Ann Rassi became the parents of a baby boy Jan. 1. The baby was named Douglas Allen. Douglas has a brother Clark, and a sister, Josie.

Bro. Victor and Sis. Dorothy Beer became the parents of a girl Dec. 24. The baby was named Debra Arlene and has two brothers, Bruce and Brian, and two sisters, Vickie and Brenda.

Bro. Ray Haab left Monday, January 4, to begin his tour of duty in the Army. He is presently stationed at Fort Leonard, Mo.

The engagement of friend Emily Beer to Warren Fisher was made known by her parents, Bro. Frank and Sis. Ruth Beer.

The marriage of friend Earl Kammerer to Bonnie Byer took place Dec. 26. He was home on leave from Fort Sam, Texas.

We welcome Sis. Emma Clayton back in our congregation after a stay in Peoria, Ill.

MORRIS, MINNESOTA

Bro. and Sister Noah Gerber and children of West Bend, Iowa, were in our midst Christmas Day. We enjoyed their visit very much.

The Sunday School put on a very nice program Sunday evening, Dec. 20, which was enjoyed by all.

The Bible Class sang Christmas carols for the various shut-ins.

The Carl Joos family, also Ben Greiners, spent Christmas in Elgin, Ill.; Ephraim Koehls and Wayne Schmidgalls in Ft. Scott, Kansas; John and Lyle Zeltwangers and Reuben Luthis in West Bend, Iowa; Kenneth Zeltwangers and Howard Greiners in Cissna Park, Ill.

Sunday, Dec. 27, Bro. and Sister Henry Schmidgall and daughter, Estella, Bro. and Sister Edwin Koehl and our elder, Bro. Henry Koehl, spent the day at Winthrop, Minnesota. Bro. John Schmidgall and family and Bro. and Sister Eddie Lanz also accompanied them.

MORTON, ILLINOIS**Reporter: Mrs. B. E. Getz**

The Sunday School Bible Class joined with a group to sing Christmas carols for the shut-ins on Dec. 21.

Bro. and Sis. Philip Wingeier of Alto, Mich., spent the evening of Dec. 17 with Morton friends.

Funeral services for Wm. Schmidgall, 45, were held Dec. 21.

Bro. and Sister Uriel Gehring of Lester, Ia., and a number of others spent Sunday, Dec. 27, with us.

Our Bible Class will join with the singing group at Forrest, Sunday, Jan. 10.

A daughter was born to Bro and Sis. Herman Menold, Dec. 15; a daughter to Bro. and Sis. Willis Knapp, Dec. 20; and a daughter to Bro. and Sis. Dale Domnick, Dec. 27.

The **Mortonaires**, Morton's men's singing group, has five records available at \$2.00 each from Home Oil Co., Morton, Ill. Two of the records, one a record with Christmas songs, have been made this past year.

OAKVILLE, IOWA

Reporter: John L. Steiner

Brothers and Sisters who visited us over the Christmas week end were: Ralph and Lillian Ramseyer of Bay City, Mich.; Ivan and Evelyn Schmidt of West Bend, Ia.; Chris and Ruth Pflederer of Tremont, Ill.; Art and Leona Messner of Morris, Minn.; Charles Grimm of Wichita, Ks.; Jim and Marilyn Zimmerman of Morton, Ill.; and Glenn and Josephine Martin of Pulaski, Ia.

Sisters Helen Gerst and Sharon Wiegand of here arrived home Christmas Day from Chicago, after spending six months in training at Cook County Hospital in connection with their Nurse's Training at Burlington, Iowa. Sister Lois Heiniger left the following week to spend six months in Chicago, also.

Over the week end of December 3, Brother Uriel and Sister Judy Gehring of Elgin, Iowa, were with us. We also enjoyed the visit of Brother Edwin and Sister Lois Bahler and children of Remington, Ind.

On December 23, a girl, Laura Ann, was born to Brother Robert and Sister Emma Jean (Wagenbach) Lanz.

On December 29, a girl, Rebecca Sue, was born to Brother Robert and Sister Joyce (Sutter) Pohl of Burlington.

PEORIA, ILLINOIS

Brother Cleo Rinkenberger of Pulaski, Iowa, was a visiting minister the past month.

Brother Arthur Moser and family and Brother Robert Hoerr and family of Milford, Indiana, spent Christmas Day with the Dave Hoerrs and John Hoerrs here.

Quite a number spent Sunday evening at the Apostolic Christian Home. Lunch was brought in. The evening was spent in singing hymns. It was to bring a little sunshine to the shut-ins. Brother Frank Woertz and his wife were guests from out-of-town.

During the Christmas season, a group visited at the homes of Sister Mary Wyss and Sister Louise Steidinger and sang German hymns. Sister Louise is a shut-in for many years. Also, Sister Louise Genzel and Sister Lydia Pfister were visited. They also are shut-ins for a long time.

Sister Lena Rapp is a patient at the Methodist Hospital.

A large crowd attended our monthly hymn-sing Sunday, January 3.

Sister Anna Bittner, who has lived here for many years, has moved to Eureka, Illinois. We were sorry to see her leave. Brother and Sister Ernest Elsasser entertained for her, before she left, with a supper and singing on December 15.

A singing was held at the home of Brother Robert Weyeneth on December 29, in honor of Brother and Sister Art Moser of Milford, Indiana, and Brother and Sister Earl Knobloch of Lester, Iowa.

Brother and Mrs. Michael Weyeneth left for Alabama Wednesday, December 30, to spend some time with the John Waglers.

Brother Silas Leuthold and his wife, Mary, spent Sunday, January 3, with the Peoria church.

PRINCEVILLE, ILLINOIS**Reporter: Ruth Ricketts**

A blessed day was enjoyed by us all December 20, when Brother Henry Kilgus of Forrest, Illinois, and Brother Phil Wingeier of Alto, Michigan, visited us. The messages they proclaimed were inspiring to everyone and (we) welcome them back.

A large number of relatives and friends gathered the evening of December 20, when the Sunday School children presented their Christmas program.

Services were held Christmas morning and New Year's morning, instead of the regular Wednesday evening services.

The engagement of Sister Arlene Streitmatter, daughter of Brother Harold and Sister Anna Streitmatter, and Brother Robert Scholl, son of Sister Mary Scholl, was made known Christmas Morning.

We are thankful for the safe return of the several families who vacationed over the holidays. The Lowell Stoller family, the Wm. Elsasser Jr. family and the Dan Endress family were in Florida. The Stollers and Endresses also were at the Alabama churches. The Alvin Farney family and Sam Kiesers were in California and Arizona. Brother Clarence Knobloch, Sister Emma and three of their children spent Christmas at San Antonio, Texas, with their son-in-law and daughter, Brother Edwin and Sister Carol Baurer.

Brother Floran Streitmatter, Earl Feucht and Richard Guingrich enjoyed the holidays at home. They have all returned to their duties at Fort Sam Houston, Texas.

Brother Clifford and Sister Rosene Grimm and family, Arlo and Marilyn Grimm and family of West Bend, Iowa, spent the Christmas holiday with relatives. Sister Rosene and Marilyn are daughters of Brother George and Sister Julia Miller.

The Bible Class Singing Group enjoyed the evening of January 10 in

Forrest with the other young folks who sang there.

REMINGTON, INDIANA**Reporter: Emily Kilgus**

On Sunday, Dec. 27, our brother and sister, Gus and Eunice Knochel observed their 50th wedding anniversary. Many relatives and friends were present at the Open House held in the afternoon.

On Sunday, Dec. 27, we had many visitors from various places, and we enjoyed having Bro. Robert Heuni as our guest minister.

Our friends, Clarence and Geraldine Peters, and their children have been enjoying a Florida vacation.

Our aged sister, Regina Schini, has been in failing health and unable to attend church for some time.

Bro. Alva Clauss has returned from a trip to Phoenix, Ariz.

Some of the Sunday School children and also members spent an evening of fellowship at the home of Mabel Bahler on New Year's eve.

RITTMAN, OHIO**Reporter: Mrs. Dale Hartzler**

We are glad to have Brother Ben Hartzler back with us again, after a spell of back trouble.

December 20 was our last day of Sunday School 'til Spring, and we had our annual Christmas Singing on that evening, with all Sunday School classes participating. Refreshments were served afterwards in the church basement.

The engagement of Brother Elmer Blough, son of Bro. and Sister Willard Blough, to Sister Lorene Hartzler, daughter of Bro. and Sister Ben Hartzler, was announced on Sunday, Dec. 27.

A daughter, Patty Lynn, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Bill Gasser on January 1.

ROANOKE, ILLINOIS**Reporter: Sara Aeschleman**

Baptisms: Our dear friends, Karen Leman, Mary Jane Schumacher and

Hulda Beer were added to the fold Dec. 20, with Bro. Dave Mangold and Bro. LeRoy Huber of Eureka officiating. We are so glad and happy for them and wish them the Lord's richest blessings.

Births: Bro. Bill and Sis. Betty Zimmerman are the parents of their first child, Dorene Sue, born Dec. 30.

Sis. Ann Legel, wife of Bro. Art Legel, is recovering from an appendicitis operation. We wish her a speedy recovery.

Bro. Dave and Sis. Anna Mangold went to Florida to spend the winter months there for Bro. Dave's health. May they have a safe journey.

Until I learned to trust,

I never learned to pray.

Nor did I learn to fully trust

Till sorrows came my way.

Until I felt my weakness,

His strength I never knew,

Nor dreamed till I was stricken

That He could see me through.

Who deepest drinks of sorrow,

Drinks deepest too of grace;

He sends the storm so He Himself

Can be our hiding place.

His heart, that seeks our highest good,

Knows well when things annoy;

We would not long for heaven

If earth held only joy!

SABETHA, KANSAS

Reporter: Ed. H. Steiner

December 12, Brother Joe Stoller entered the hospital for an operation. He was dismissed a week later and has been convalescing at his home, but has not been able to return to church as yet. We hope he will make a satisfactory recovery and soon be with us again.

December 21—Brother Cornelius Giesel died early this morning with heart failure. Funeral was held December 23. He was 86 years old, and attended church regularly, although failing in health some. He was there (Sunday) the day before his death

and remarked how much he enjoyed the service and the program given by the Sunday School classes. Services were conducted by Brothers Carl Hartman, Gene Marti and Joe Aberle.

December 25, Brother Joe Benninger and wife of West Bend, Iowa, spent Christmas with the Marti relation and members. They also brought home Evaline's mother, Sister Elizabetha Marti, after a visit with her daughters and the Banwart families at West Bend.

December 25, Brother Leon Waible and his wife, Reva, of Wolcott, Indiana, spent Christmas with her parents, Brother Dave Strahm and wife, and other relatives and members around Sabetha.

Gene Hartman, son of Brother Carl and Sister Louise Hartman, spent Christmas with his parents and friends during his leave from his service from the Navy. He is training somewhere in Mississippi.

The Sabetha and Country Church worshiped together in the Country Church on Christmas Day. It is always inspiring to meet and worship together from time to time, especially on special occasions.

The Sunday School children of Sabetha gave a very nice program Sunday, Dec. 20, which was enjoyed by all.

We had for visitors over the holidays the following: Brother and Sister Dale Knobloch of Lester, Iowa; Brother Alvin Banwart and Sister Phylis, his wife; Brother Don Bruellman and his wife, Verda, all from West Bend, Iowa; Brother Fred Siebenthal and his wife, Ellen, of Roanoke, Illinois. Also friends George and Ed Bauman of Manzanola, Colorado, visited the Leuthold families around Bern and the Steiners and other relatives around Sabetha.

January 3, Brother Willis Sauder and his wife of Tremont, Illinois, spent Sunday with the members at Sabetha. They took their son, Charles, down to Manhattan, where he is attending school. We were glad

to hear that while he was at home over Christmas vacation, he, with a number of others, found grace to repent. We wish them all God's rich grace and blessing, that all may lay a strong foundation to build a house not built by hands, but of God, who can make a vessel of them to God's honor and glory.

Brother Lewis Bahr spent a part of his holidays in the hospital with a start of pneumonia, but is at home again; we hope he will make a complete recovery and soon be with us again.

The Adult Bible Class was entertained with a supper and Sing-fest at the home of Brother and Sister Joe Aberle, Dec. 20. They all enjoyed the occasion very much.

SHIODA, JAPAN

Reporter: Willis R. Ehle

Services were held on Christmas Eve and on New Year's Day. Members and friends gathered at the church in the evening on Christmas Day for a Christmas meal together.

On December 20, the day of the Christmas program for the Sunday School, about 18 inches of snow fell. However, it nearly all melted by Christmas.

Application is being made to the local authorities for the setting aside of part of the church ground for use as a cemetery. It will be a small plot at first, only 30 by 36 feet.

TAYLOR, MISSOURI

Reporter: Mrs. Eli Sutter

On Sunday, Dec. 20, the Sunday School presented their Christmas program, which was enjoyed by everyone.

Visiting ministers the past month were Bro. Homer and Sis. Josephine Reineck and family of Toledo, Ohio, on Dec. 20 and Bro. Michael and Sis. Weyeneth of Peoria on Jan. 10. They were on their way home from visiting the Alabama churches.

Bro. Gerald and Sis. Marjorie Sutter and family returned home, after

spending three weeks with Marjorie's family at Sacramento and Santa Rosa, California. They also visited Mr. and Mrs. Edward Hodel and family at Lodi, California.

A son, Curtis Blaine, was born to Bro. Bill and Sis. Naomi Heimer on Dec. 29, and on the same day a daughter, Rebecca Susan, was born to Bro. Bob and Sis. Joyce Pohl of Burlington, Ia. The mothers are sisters, the daughters of Bro. Eli and Sis. Elizabeth Sutter.

Sis. Ruth Hoerr is recovering satisfactorily after a recent operation.

TOLEDO, OHIO

Reporter: Emily Frautschi

Dec. 12, a number of the Toledo folks attended the funeral of Sister Hannah Kaehr at Bluffton, Ind. We are going to miss her. We always enjoyed her visits in Toledo when she stayed with her daughter, Mrs. Ben Schlatter.

Dec. 20, the Sunday School gave its annual Christmas Program. The group went caroling to the shut-ins and aged on Dec. 22.

Bro. Homer Reineck and family went to San Antonio, Texas, over the holidays. They visited Homer's brother, Capt. Ray Reineck, and family and his folks, who were there from Bluffton. Ray is in the Air Force. They visited the churches at Taylor, Mo.; Fort Sam Houston, Texas; and Gridley, Ill.

Bro. Godfrey Schlatter and his housekeeper, Sister Clara Klopfenstein, have gone to Florida for the winter. We miss them and wish them God's blessings and protection during their stay in Florida.

TSUTSUJIGA-OKA, JAPAN

Reporter: Willis R. Ehle

The Sunday School put on a Christmas pageant on Sunday, December 20. Some members of the Sunday School read portions of the Christmas story from the Scriptures, while the other children were portraying the

story. Christmas carols were sung at the appropriate time. A sack of goodies, a small hymn book and a Christmas card were later given to each child.

Services were held on Christmas Eve and at 10:30 A.M. on New Years Day.

We haven't had any snow in the Tokyo area, and there have been many mild, sunshiny days. The temperature drops below freezing at night, but warms up in the daytime.

Brother Takeshita is expected to come in from the Shioda Church for services on January 10. He comes once a month, and usually comes the day before and stays over-night.

Sister Atsumi Satoyoshi visited here from our Shioda Church for several days the first part of the new year. It was the first time for her to see the new church.

Brother Akira Utsuki will teach a newly-formed Sunday School class for the more advanced children beginning January 10.

WICHITA, KANSAS

Reporter: Ann Greiner

Brother and Sister Jake Pfister, Brother and Sister Gus Sinn and Sister Danny Sinn of Ft. Scott were visitors here Sunday, December 20.

The short Christmas program presented by the Sunday School children the evening of Dec. 20 was enjoyed by all the parents and members.

Brother and Sister Charles Gleichman, Harper, Kansas, and their daughter and family, Brother and Sister Bill Moser of Morris, Minn., attended services here Dec. 27. They also visited their son, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Gleichman, of Wichita.

Brother and Sister Harry Aeschlieman and Brother and Sister George Lambert attended the funeral service of Sister Anna Meyer of Kiowa on Sunday, Jan. 3.

Brother and Sister Wayne Miller and Brother and Sister Jim Bahr and family of Ft. Scott visited here Jan.

3. We are grateful for the sincere messages brought by Bro. Miller and Bro. Bahr.

WOLCOTT, INDIANA

Reporter: Arles Kropf

Our Sunday School children presented their Christmas program after services on Sunday, December 20.

New Year's morning services were held at Wolcott, with Bro. Art Gude-man of LaCrosse being our visiting minister. The Remington congregation also gathered with us.

Bro. and Sis. Wayne Stoller and family of Latty spent several days here with their parents, the Will Furrers, over the holidays.

'TIS THE BLESSED HOUR OF PRAYER

'Tis the blessed hour of prayer,
when our hearts lowly bend,
And we gather to Jesus,
our Saviour and Friend;
If we come to Him in faith,
His protection to share;
What a balm for the weary!
O how sweet to be there!

'Tis the blessed hour of prayer,
when the tempted and tried
To the Saviour who loves them
their sorrow confide;
With a sympathizing heart
He removes ev'ry care;
What a balm for the weary!
O how sweet to be there!

I've found a Friend; oh, such a
Friend!
All power to Him is given;
To guard me on my onward course,
And bring me safe to heaven.
Th' eternal glories gleam afar,
To nerve my faint endeavor;
So now to watch, to work, to war,
And then to rest forever.

If you haven't done so, send us your changed address if you are moving or have moved.