

THE SILVER LINING



Grabill, Indiana

January, 1961

VICTORIOUS POSITION FOR DEFENSE

“And this is his commandment, That we should believe on the name of his Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, as he gave us commandment.

And he that keepeth his commandments dwelleth in him, and he in him. And hereby we know that he abideth

in us, by the Spirit which he hath given us.

Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.”

From I John

YE MUST BE BORN AGAIN

Ben Sommer—Submitted by Noah Schrock

(Continued from last month)

(Correction: The last sentence in the last Silver Lining, under ‘Baptism’ should read: “The bath in water symbolizes the cleansing of the heart, which cleansing, however, is not done with water, but by the atonement in the blood of Christ.)

THE HOLY SPIRIT

Now the heart, being cleansed, is prepared to receive the Holy Ghost as a permanent tenant. He shall be, and is needed as a Comforter, as a guide through life, to guide us into all truth.²⁶ Jesus said, “. . . he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.”²⁷

The anointing of the Holy Ghost is an essential part, without which no converted soul is fully furnished

and equipped for the journey and battle of life. A solemn rite is ordained in the word of God, which, when accepted in obedience and faith, after proper preparation, becomes the means by which this precious gift is received, namely, by the laying on of hands, with prayer, after immersion.

The writer of the epistle to the Hebrews includes this rite, along with repentance and baptism, as among the principles of the doctrine of Christ, when he says, “Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God, Of the doctrine of

²⁶ John 16:13

²⁷ John 14:26

baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment."²⁸

Also, we find that the apostles Peter and John, when they went to Samaria, having heard that Samaria had received the word of God through the preaching of Philip, practiced the laying on of hands for the giving of the Holy Ghost upon those who believed and were baptized. We read: "Then laid they **their** hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost."²⁹

While this rite is ignored or neglected by most denominations of nominal Christianity, it is well established in the Holy Scripture, and should be gladly embraced by all true believers who desire to accept the whole counsel of God.

WHAT A BLESSING

What a wonderful experience, to be led out of darkness into light! . . . To be led by God's goodness to repentance; in repentance, to be led to faith in the Son of God; by Him, to be freed from the power of sin; by Him, to be washed and cleansed of our sins that are past, to receive forgiveness of sins and peace with God; to be clothed with the white garment of justification through Jesus Christ; to receive baptism in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit; by the laying on of hands, to receive the gift of the Holy Spirit; to have the love of God richly poured out into our hearts!

²⁸ Hebrews 6:1,2

²⁹ The Acts 8:17

BASES FOR LEADERSHIP

Willis R. Ehnlé

We can all be followers when it comes to following Christ, but we cannot all be followers in regard to **some** responsibilities in this life. Someone must assume responsibility and see to it that the tasks at hand are accomplished and order maintained. Those of us who are called upon to act as leaders, whether or not ours is a minor or major role, can all find valuable teachings in the Holy Scriptures which will help us in carrying out our duties.

Christ taught us, **You shall love your neighbor as yourself.** We tend to be sympathetic towards ourselves, sometimes too much so. If we have the same love and consideration toward others as we have toward ourselves, we will be better qualified as leaders.

This kind of love may not be understood nor appreciated by the non-believer or the superficial, nominal Christian. The Apostle Paul states, **Love is patient and kind; love is not**

jealous or boastful; it is not arrogant or rude. Love does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrong, but rejoices in the right.

We are emotional human beings, and, in spite of all we say, we get hurt feelings, and hurt other peoples' feelings quite easily. We need to practice the kind of love of which Paul writes.

There is no room for self; it is to be crucified with Christ. ". . . even Christ pleased not himself." (Romans 15:3) Sacrifice and death are not to be shunned if necessary in order to do God's will.

Love is not jealous or boastful. Boastfulness is not to be a characteristic of the leader. His strength is in meekness and humility, coupled with courage and drive, which utilizes the power of God through prayer and meditation on the Holy Scriptures. This meekness does not exclude his

right, on some occasions, to make known to his critics that which has been accomplished under his leadership.

Love is not arrogant or rude. Our manner of conduct is important. Often, it is not so much what we say, as how we say it. Manner of speech, the look of the eyes, the tone of voice, the expression of the face are together a mirror, which often reflects a person's attitude and inner thoughts better than what he says.

Love is not irritable or resentful. This is not always easy. Lack of sleep, personal problems, or ill health may bring on irritableness or resentfulness

which is very difficult to hide from others. This feeling must be controlled and conquered by the grace of God.

We must remember the words of Christ when He told His disciples, **You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great men exercise authority over them. It shall not be so among you: but whoever would be first among you must be your slave; even as the Son of man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.**

We are to serve Christ first of all, and secondly our brethren and fellowmen.

THE GETTYSBURG OF THE CHURCH

Henry Souder Jr.

Out in the night, a lone comet soared through the sky, breaking away from the church. Apparently it appeared to have many of the facial features of fixedness. It was a flight in lone fantasy . . . throbbing on, into the impenetrable blackness of night.

Wandering stars bring to the church the crisis, the clash and cry, the heart's tear-shed of battle.

"Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort **you** that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints."

God has carefully chosen the position of defense, the high ground of truth. At Cemetery Ridge, at Gettysburg, the enemy hurls his warriors into the very ranks of God's children. The single shot sometimes is ominous of a storm of enemy savagery and fury.

Beware of the betrayers!

But also, care for the wounded.

The fatal fatality is one who was

once saved. It is one who once walked into the house of the Lord. But now, there is dagger of death. This one kisses outwardly, and leads the enemy inwardly.

Like one called Judas, this one will wake to its fate when too late. ". . . it had been good for that man if he had not been born."

"Let us therefore fear, lest, a promise being left us of entering into his rest, any of you should seem to come short of it."

Godly respect resolves the conflict courageously.

We are yet in the flesh. There is a conflict between the flesh and the Spirit. The flesh carries a margin of potential error. It fumes and it fails, but all the while, we can be raising that victorious "thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

Time is like the melting snow. It runs out.

But we grasp those eternal substances that endure for ever. We live in the welcome, the goodness, the love of the Father's house. His

memories are more than memories . . . they are enduring parts of God's plan. When that which is perfect is come, they will glow in fullness. This is the beauty of God's house.

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

To some it is given, and to some it is not.

The word “heresy” sounds very much the same in the Greek language, the letters Paul and Peter wrote in divine inspiration. The primary meaning is “choice.” It brought to the hearer the meaning of choice **con-**trary to that **delivered**.

Nestled in the snugness of God's eternity is His home. The principles of the teachings of the gospel, floor a good foundation. The architecture of God raises the church to comely heights. It is a warm home that draws us deeper into its treasures.

God is perfectly choosing. He keeps **only** those who will fit into the joy and gladness, the light and warmth of His eternal home.

The rest sand away . . .

“For there must be also heresies among you, that they which are approved may be made manifest among you.”

So the battle of Cemetery Ridge, the Gettysburg of the church, develops.

We must recognize the glare and glower of the enemy. We must be wary of his treachery. We must hold to the peace, while we repulse the thrust.

But also we are asked in God's word to care for the wounded. Rebuke and punishment are means of love. Repentance means healing.

Minor discords grate on our nerves, yet we should bear. Love bears all things. Perhaps this very one, walking with us yet in the truth, may gem us with a treasure invaluable.

And, where possible for the babes, treat tenderly . . . lovingly . . . patient-

ly . . . trying hard not to deal with rash, harsh, hasty, crack . . .

“But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them and bring upon themselves swift destruction.”

Follow that person's path, and the character concealed is revealed. The “cut off” of the heretic after Scriptural method must be clear and sharp, as the Father commanded.

But for the strength and wisdom of our Commander, the line would be breached. Then the church would make a disorderly retreat.

But cries in the conflict bring courage from the Commander.

The smoke densens. The cannons roar. The enemy lunges and plunges in fierce push. But the line holds fast.

The high water mark of enemy action has been reached. He will try again on other fields. But now he is retreating.

We have effected a real breakthrough to victory! And we are a battle closer **Home**.

HERESY

The heart is sick and in convulsion,
A ranting, raving scream,
And worse than nightmare's madden-
ing warp,
Roars death in dark, black dream.

Sad plunging trail sad-dropped saint's
hearts,
This choice of drift so dark,
And nails once again with calloused
hand,
The Saviour, with sad mark.

Heresy, the sand of sin, choice stark,
Choking with sin's clanked chain,
Roars man on, toward withering
ocean,
Forever flame-seared pain!

Henry Souder, Jr.



NEWS

**AKRON, OHIO****Reporter: Ruth Taylor**

The Ernest Graf family, Juliet Graf and Sadie Brenner spent Sunday, Dec. 11, in Rittman, attending services and baptism there.

December 16, Tom and Rose Frauhiger from Bluffton visited in the Forrest Ritzman home.

Gabriel and Mary Balazs were home, visiting Mary's parents, the Phillip Webbers, over the holidays.

Mary Anna, daughter of Larry and Katherine Ries, and Vernon Mullet were united in marriage December 3. They are making their home at 95 Hamilton Ave. in Akron.

The Nate Gutwein and Arthur Novotny families spent the holiday week end with their parents, the Charles Novotnys.

Edward Dockus visited our congregation Dec. 25, and spent his remaining time with his parents, Pete and Mary Dockus.

The Richard Schlatter family of Junction paid a short visit at the Ernest Graf and Elmer Graf Sr. homes.

The Kenneth Laukhufs spent several days visiting Marjorie's parents, the Elmer Grafts.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Fritz and family spent the Christmas holidays in Florida, attending services with the Ft. Lauderdale congregation.

Arthur Graf was home on furlough over the holidays, and will be returning to service Jan. 11.

The Rudolph Grafts and Marie Ritzman attended the funeral of Fanny Shupbach at New Martinsville, Dec. 31.

January 1, the Ellsworth Graf family visited in Bluffton, stopping in Haviland to visit the Merrill Laukhufs.

John Greenbank and Bob Ritzman were home from college over the

Christmas recess.

December 18, the annual carol singing for the Sunday school groups was held. Refreshments were served in the basement of the church after the singing.

ALTO, MICHIGAN

We have had several snow showers in Michigan, exciting for those who like it at Christmas-time.

Guests from Bay City spent the week end with the Steffens.

The Laukhufs from Ohio visited the Wingeier family. They were also entertained at the Weigles, and supper was at the Feldmans.

The Fred Grawburg family entertained the Sunday School with a pre-Christmas dinner and fine singing. The evening was perfect, and enjoyed by all.

The Chris Weigles and sons visited by air in Detroit and New York.

Bertha Schwarz entertained the young folks.

Bro. Ben Schlatters and children visited at the Phil Wingeiers' and at Derry Schuttet's.

It was a happy day when Brenda Schutte had her cast removed. She now walks with crutches real well. Her father also had work done on an injured heel. He is home again.

Mr. and Mrs. Lymon Feldman and family were guests at Bluffton.

The Steffen brothers and Larry Wingeier were week-end guests at Detroit.

Sis. Bertha Schwarz entertained Phil Wingeier and family.

I trust we all celebrated Christ's birth in worship and family gatherings.

Mr. and Mrs. Lymon Feldman, Margaret and Keith, spent the week with home folks at Fairbury.

Mr. and Mrs. David Wingeier and

family are visiting in Illinois for a week.

Mr. and Mrs. Chris Weigle and son had supper with Philip Wingeier, spending the evening in a pre-Christmas singing.

The Alto church was entertained Thursday evening by the men serving lunch and coffee, and a joyous singing was held also.

Mrs. Hulda Fiechter from Indiana is visiting relatives here.

The Wingeier sisters entertained the family at an evening singing, and a beautiful luncheon, both delicious and attractive, appreciated by all.

The Bro. Richard Schrenk engagement was announced a week ago.

Stan Wingeier was home. He enjoys Texas weather very much.

Pre-Christmas boxes were sent to Tom Schrenk and Stan Wingeier.

The Philip Wingeiers are leaving for a few months in Florida.

Bro. Philip Wingeier and his wife were entertained by the Steffens. Brother Elmer Schrenk, Bro. Lymon Feldman and family, and guests from Grand Rapids and Bay City enjoyed the evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Wittenbach of Belding visited at the Philip Wingeier home. The Wingeier family lost their Aunt Minnie Wittenbach, Aunt Mary Wingeier, and their sister, Louise Wingeier Oesch, in the past few months.

Wishing all a prosperous New Year, in heart and Christian love. May His labor be continued, we pray.

From 7579 Wingeier Avenue
Alto, Michigan

ATHENS, HILLSBORO, LANDERSVILLE, ALABAMA

Reporter: Clara Heiniger

Friday, Dec. 2, the Athens sisters and friends met at the home of Sister Odell Davis, where all enjoyed a blessed afternoon of singing and fellowshiping around God's Word, which Sis. Vera Lott helped to give.

Friday evening, Dec. 2, the Lan-

dersville group met at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Fuller for worship services for young and old. Bro. Junior Hale was in charge of the services.

A son, Clifton Jr., was born Monday, Dec. 5, to Clifton and Sister Jewel Moss. They now have seven girls and three boys.

Dec. 9, a large crowd of the Landersville church met in the evening at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Leman Lou Allen, for Sunday School and Bible study.

The Athens sisters and friends met Friday afternoon, Dec. 16, at the home of Mrs. Leonard Brooks for an afternoon of singing, and a Bible lesson, which was a blessing to all.

Friday evening, Dec. 16, the Landersville group met at the home of Mrs. Ollie Lee Rainey for Sunday School and worship service.

Bro. and Sis. John Wagler and daughters spent a week up North, visiting their parents, and while absent from here, Bro. Junior Hale conducted services in the churches.

Dec. 20, the sisters and friends of the Hillsboro area met at the home of Sis. Clara Heiniger for Christmas dinner, song worship and telling the wonderful story of the birth of the Lord Jesus Christ. We rejoice that one soul, Mrs. Lillian Daniel, turned to the Lord, broken down in repentance, and now has peace with God. We would appreciate prayers for her, also for Mrs. Billy Dutton (formerly Shelby Rainey) of Landersville, who has repented and found peace with God.

Friday evening, Dec. 3, a supper and worship services were held in the home of Coy and Irene Dotson for all the Landersville area.

The young people of the Bible and Jr. Classes from Hillsboro and Landersville met at the church, and all went to the Colonial Rest Home at Trinity, where Ruth Wade has been for some time, and all the patients enjoyed the Christmas singing and the program on the birth of the Lord

Jesus Christ. Later, all the young folks met at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Lemen Lou Allen, where refreshments were served.

Sunday, Dec. 25, the Christmas program was given by all the children in each of the churches, after the worship service.

Bro. and Sis. Remus Nitchell and children of Elkhart, Ind., spent a week visiting their folks, Mr. and Mrs. John Perry of Athens.

Dec. 26, Kenneth, Gene and Marvin Gutwein, Mary and Betty Wuethrich, and Twyla Von Tobel spent a week helping in the work of the churches.

Dec. 28, the Francesville group, the Bro. Wagler family, and Sis. Clara Heiniger enjoyed a supper at the home of Marvin and Sis. Ruby Moss and family at Prospect. In the evening, a worship service was held in the home of Bro. and Sis. George Kelly and family.

Melvin and Arlene Gutwein and children of Thailand spent a few days visiting Bro. John Wagler's family, Sis. Clara Heiniger and other families.

Friday afternoon, Dec. 30, the sisters and friends of the Athens church met at the home of Sis. Vera Lott, for a blessed afternoon of singing and reading of God's Word. A carry-in dinner was enjoyed by all.

Bro. Junior Hale has been very sick, and did not attend services Sunday, Jan. 1.

Saturday evening, Dec. 31, around 70 gathered at the home of Sis. Clara Heiniger for programs and singing, and worship service. A carry-in meal was enjoyed by everyone present. Bro. Ray and Sis. Donna Gutwein and children of Francesville spent the evening and also Sunday morning at Athens with us.

BLUFFTON, INDIANA

Reporter: Frieda Kipfer

Bro. and Sis. Loren Stoller of Latty visited our congregation on Dec. 11.
Bro. and Sis. Harry Bucher of La

Crosse, Bro. and Sis. Ezra Feller of Cissna Park, Bro. and Sis. Henry Wackerle of Bay City and many others visited here on Dec. 18.

In the evening, the Sunday School gave a program of Christmas songs and hymns. Bros. Bucher and Wackerle gave short talks.

Bro. Carl Hackenjoes, who is stationed at Camp Belvoir, Va., has been home on leave.

Sis. Lisetta Beer, who has been in Ft. Wayne for several months, is back in the community, at the home of her daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Bertsch, of R. 4, Decatur.

The adult classes of our Sunday School sang carols for the aged and shut-ins during the Christmas season, and took them baskets of fruits and nuts.

Christmas services were held here on Monday, the 26th.

Bro. George Yergler of La Crosse, Simon Wagenbach of Tremont and many others spent the week end of Jan. 1 in our midst.

Bro. Yergler assisted with the provings of the friends who had been announced, and baptismal services were held on Sunday. Those baptized were Sally Gerber, Phyllis Isch, Nancy Gilliom, Louise Fiechter, Keith Honnegger, John Isch and Charles Shively.

Eleven friends were announced for proving in the near future. They are Maxine Fiechter, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Ervin Gerber; Charles Fiechter, son of Bro. and Sis. Wm. Fiechter; Dorothy Fiechter, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Charles Meyer; Wayne Fiechter, son of Bro. and Sis. Joel Fiechter; Karen and Richard Kaehr, daughter-in-law and son of Bro. and Sis. Ezra Kaehr; Violet Meyer, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Cornelius Baumgartner, and Harold Meyer, son of Bro. and Sis. Jacob Meyer; Sally and Lester Schwartz, daughter-in-law and son of Sis. Sarah and Joel Schwartz of Berne; and Gladys Gerber, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Henry Gerber.

Roberta Ann Holloway, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Holloway of Bluffton, became the bride of Kenneth Steffen, son of the late Bro. and Sis. Tobias L. Steffen on Sunday, Jan. 1. She will accompany him to Texas, where he is serving with the Army at Ft. Sam Houston.

A meeting was held on Jan. 2 to elect new officers to succeed those whose terms have expired. Bro. Joe L. Isch succeeds Bro. Sam Kaehr as Sunday School superintendent; Bro. Laurin Bertsch succeeds Bro. Ray Gerber as church treasurer; Bro. Curtis Tonner succeeds Bro. Jacob Graber as trustee; and Bro. Floyd Gerber succeeds Bro. Harold Isch as appraiser for the Brotherhood Aid.

Bro. and Sis. John Yergler are visiting their son, Bro. and Sis. Bob Yergler and family, in Florida.

Bro. and Sis. Sam Aeschliman spent the week end of the 8th in Francesville.

Bro. and Sis. Carl Kipfer and Bro. and Sis. Ben Kipfer visited the Mansfield church.

A son was born to Edson and Evelyn Ivans on Dec. 13.

BREMEN, INDIANA

Reporter: Lydia Heuberger

Dec. 4—Bro. Otto Norr ministered to us on this date, with a message to render to God what belongs to God, both spiritually and physically. His second message was "Almost persuaded". His son and wife, Bro. and Sis. Herman Norr, accompanied him to Bremen. We thank them for their visit.

Dec. 4—Bro. and Sis. Harry Joe Stoller of Leo congregation visited with us, and were guests, plus other relatives, of Frank and Helen Martin.

Dec. 4—Bro. and Sis. Vernon Schumacher of Morton and Sis. Emma Schumacher of Peoria visited with us on this date.

Bro. Aaron Sauder of Mansfield spent the day with us on Dec. 4.

The following attended the funeral

of Bro. Fred Moser at Peoria: Bro. and Sis. Al Schumacher, Sis. Betty Miller, Bro. and Sis. Ed. Sutter and Bro. and Sis. Al Sutter.

The Christmas program was presented by the Sunday School on Dec. 18, in the evening. It was well attended and nicely presented by all the young folks.

Bro. and Sis. Gene Witzig and family of Morton were guests during the holidays at the home of Sis. Witzig's parents, Bro. and Sis. Carl Zeltwanger.

Sis. Emma Weisser Clayton of Milford attended church services with us several Sundays in the past month. She was doing home nursing for Mrs. Will Miller (mother of Mrs. Elmer Meister) until the time of Mrs. Miller's recent death.

Dec. 23—Funeral services were held for Sis. Anna Germann, age 70, wife of Daniel Germann. Bro. Herman Hueni and Bro. Henry Souder officiated. Sis. Anna was hospitalized in the Bremen Community Hospital one week prior to her death. Her two daughters, Mildred and Florence Stoller, both being nurses, were at the hospital during the time of their mother's illness. The Bremen church will miss Sis. Anna's smile, for she seldom complained, although she suffered severely from arthritis. Our sympathy is extended to the husband and children.

Robert Germann suffered a fracture of two fingers of the right hand, which occurred when his hand got caught in a corn-picker.

Jan. 1, the following members and friends attended church services with us:

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Leman and Lloyd Leman of Eureka and Leonard Meyer of the Chicago congregation. Also Mr. and Mrs. John Weidman, Sally Schlipf of Fairbury and Marie Roll of Cissna Park. They visited their relatives, Mrs. Carl Traub and family, including Fred and Barbara Traub.

Lord, give me faith!—to live from
day to day,
With tranquil heart to do my simple
part,
And, with my hand in thine, just go
Thy way.

Lord, give me faith—to trust, if not
to know;
With quiet mind in all things Thy
will find,
And child-like, go where Thou
wouldst have me go.

Lord, give me faith!—to leave it all
to Thee;
The future is thy gift, I would not lift
The veil Thy love has hung 'twixt it
and me.

BURLINGTON, OKLAHOMA

Reporter: Mrs. Raymond Roth

Sister Elizabeth Otti attended the funeral of her cousin, Sis. Anna Tyler, at Fairbury, Dec. 2.

Bro. John Griener of Sabetha visited here Sunday, Dec. 18.

The Sunday School presented their annual Christmas program, the evening of Dec. 18.

On the evening of December 19, a group sang Christmas carols for the shut-ins and our older people.

Bro. M. A. Kisling, who was hospitalized last month, following a heart attack, is able to be up and out again.

We were happy to have the attendance of a number of visitors, visiting relatives and friends over the holiday season. They included Bro. and Sis. Sol Rassi and family, Goodfield; Bro. and Sis. Raymond Banwart and sons, Ft. Scott; Sis. Arthur Banwart and family, Lamar; Bro. Dale Schurter, Elgin, Ill.; Sis. Eleanor and Rita Terry, Peoria; Sis. Ruth Ann Tanner, Topeka; Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Herd, Kansas City; Mr. and Mrs. Bob Somerhalder, Pharoah, Okla.; Mrs. Lydia Jackson and Sarah Otti, Wichita; Sis. Gene Blue, Lubbock, Texas; Bro. and Sis. Jeff Frieden, Howard, Kansas; Mr. and

Mrs. Dawaine Reeves, Wichita; Diane Farney, Manhattan; Bro. and Sis. Frank Beer, Milford; and Bro. and Sis. Geo. Lambert, Wichita.

Funeral services for Sister Leah Keifer of Wichita, a former Burlington resident, were held here Jan. 3 by Bro. Robert Young of Wichita and Bro. Eli Somerhalder.

Twenty-three members and friends gathered at the church, the evening of Jan. 4, and repainted the Sunday School room, kitchen, and rest rooms.

Sister Bea Diel, who has been ill for some time and in the hospital, is home and improving.

Bro. Huber Farney underwent surgery at the Kiowa Hospital, Jan. 4.

Bro. and Sis. Richard Guthrie and family visited in Phoenix and Mesa over the holidays, and Bro. and Sis. Ronald Allenbach visited in Morton and Taylor.

CISSNA PARK, ILLINOIS

Reporter: Mrs. Jeff Young

First, and above all, we wish to ask the Lord for his blessings for the coming year, for without His blessings, we prosper nothing.

The engagement of Bro. Max Yergler and Sis. Donna Bauers of Tremont was announced on Dec. 4. The engagement of the approaching marriage of Bro. Kenny Weetz and Sis. Myrna Eisenman was announced Jan. 1.

We welcome Bro. and Sis. Harold Beer and family, who moved here from Pulaski recently.

Our Sunday School classes recited their Christmas program on Friday eve., Dec. 23. It was inspiring to hear the children praising God in verse and song, unto you a Saviour is born.

Services were held by our ministers at the Nursing Home and at the Old People's Home at Watseka on Dec. 11.

A son, Wesley James, was born to Bro. and Sis. Walter Kaufman on Dec. 21; a daughter, Ruth, to Bro. and Sis. Wally Yergler on Dec. 21;

and a daughter, Pamela Jo, to Bro. and Sis. Lester Walder.

Our elder, Bro. Josh Broquard, was with us on Jan. 1. Our friend, Betty Beer, was proved and baptized. We wish her God's rich blessings. We enjoyed the visits of many other brethren of various churches this past month.

Bro. Elmer Yergler recently returned from Phoenix, Arizona, leaving his wife and daughter, Barbara, there for an indefinite stay, hoping the climate will ease Barbara's sufferings. Many prayers ascend for little Barbara.

Among those who were hospitalized this past month are, our friend, Joe Swing, and Bro. Pete Hodel. They are some improved at this writing.

A number of our members and friends attended the wedding of Bro. Irvin Hodel of here and Sis. Sharon Weigand of Oakville, on Thur. eve., Dec. 22.

CONGERVILLE, ILLINOIS

Reporter: Donald Schrock

Bro. and Sis. Art and Donna Wettstein have named their new son James Arthur.

Glen Stahl is now in the Army. Glen has been training at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. Glen Wettstein has recently returned home, after serving in the Army.

Bro. and Sis. Joe and Cora Schumacher and their daughter, Sis. Ruth, have been visiting friends and relatives in Phoenix. Sis. Rosemary Marti is also accompanying them.

ELGIN, ILLINOIS

Reporter: Louise Steffen

Bro. Joseph Lauber broke his foot while at work, Dec. 2, and was in the hospital.

The wedding of Bro. John Wahl of Elgin and Sister Emma Brenner of Gridley, was solemnized at Gridley on Dec. 4.

On Dec. 6, Sister Martha Rinkenberger underwent major surgery.

Richard Schock, young son of Bro. Dick and Sister Lyla was struck by a car, and received a broken leg and minor injuries.

The funeral of Carl Diehs was held Dec. 19. He is a brother of Sister Pauline Diehs.

We held our annual Sunday School Christmas program Tues. evening, the 20th of December. We enjoyed listening to the children recite pieces and sing songs.

Bro. Clarence Kachelmuss and family of Forrest, were here Christmas Day. Bro. Clarence had the services.

The funeral of Henry Nesler, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Nesler, was held on Dec. 30.

Jan 1, announcement was made of the coming marriage of Sister Lorna Steffen of Elgin to Bro. Don Schrock of Congerville.

ELGIN, IOWA

Reporter: Mrs. George Butikofer

On Thanksgiving, we enjoyed having with us Bro. Wm. and Sister Phyllis Massner and daughter, Cindy. They live at Wapello.

Bro. Albert Butikofer is in the West Union Hospital. He was forced to submit to a leg amputation, due to a diabetic complication. His condition is as well as can be expected.

Bro. Paul and Sister Mildred Butikofer and son, Timmy, from Taylor, spent the holidays with home folks here in Elgin. We enjoyed having them with us.

Our Sunday School presented their annual Christmas program Dec. 18. It consisted of carols, Scripture verses, Christmas thoughts and a reading of the birth of our Saviour, according to St. Luke.

In the evening, the group went caroling to the aged and shut in. Afterward, refreshments were enjoyed in the church basement by the carolers.

Only a step — one little step,

'Tis all that I can see!
 Just one small step, my gracious
 Lord,
 Uncover now for me.
 Obediently I take it, and
 Another I behold.
 Thus, step by step, the hidden way
 Before me doth unfold.

Sometimes I've sought to pierce the
 gloom
 That shrouds the way ahead,
 Sought to discover what there was
 To covet or to dread,
 If I should walk in flowery vales
 Or weary hills must climb—
 But never yet have I seen more
 Than one step at a time.

God knoweth best; I yield to Him
 The shaping of my way,
 And step by step I'll follow on
 Through life's short, fleeting day.
 I cannot see, but I can trust,
 Knowing the time will come
 When the last step shall be revealed,
 And I shall be at Home.

EUREKA, ILLINOIS

Reporter: Cathryn Wettstein

Bro. Simon Wagonbach of Tremont was our guest on Dec. 11.

After church was dismissed on Dec. 18, the Sunday School teachers and children delivered 12 bushel-baskets of groceries to some needy families in the surrounding area. The groceries were purchased from money taken from the Sunday School Fund. What a blessed time of the year to share and help the poor and needy ones. It is hoped that all who received a basket were very pleased and happy.

Dec. 21, instead of regular services on Wednesday evening, the Christmas program by the Sunday School children was given. A large crowd attended.

Dec. 11, the announcement was made that Sister Betty Frey of Remington and Bro. Lloyd Schumacher of Eureka are engaged to be married

in the near future. May God bless them.

Birth: Bro. Gene and Sister Evelyn (Sutter) Hangartner — a girl—Kay Ellen—Jan. 4.

Jan. 4, Bro. Dave Mangold and Bro. Leroy Huber proved and baptized another soul who recently repented, Rose Wettstein. May many more turn unto Him and be saved before it is too late.

Jan. 4, Bros. Gene Bertschi and Joe Zimmerman of Roanoke were guests, too, this evening.

God's Minute

We have only just a minute,
 Only sixty seconds in it,
 Forced upon us, can't refuse it,
 Didn't seek it, didn't choose it,
 But it's up to us to use it,
 We must suffer if we lose it,
 Give account if we abuse it,
 Just a tiny little minute—
 But **Eternity** is in it.

FAIRBURY, ILLINOIS

Reporter: Joyce Huber

Bro. Philip Gutwein of Francesville conducted the funeral service of Sis. Anna Munz, who passed away Dec. 18.

The group of single sisters packed boxes of fruit, etc., and then delivered them as they went caroling at Christmas time, in an effort to bring cheer to the aged and shut-ins.

We enjoyed having Bro. Ed Ringger of Gridley as a visiting minister, Sun., Dec. 11.

Bro. Merle Kaisner underwent surgery at Peoria, and is now at home recuperating.

Bro. and Sis. Robert Huber and boys of Ft. Lauderdale spent the holidays here, visiting their relatives and friends.

FORREST, ILLINOIS

Reporter: Ken Schneider

Visiting minister was Bro. Silas Leuthold from Princeville, on Decem-

ber 14. We enjoyed his evening visit with us.

Bro. Dave Metz and his mother, Persida, spent Sunday, November 27, in Fort Sam Houston, where Bro. Ben Metz is stationed.

Bro. Ken Schneider spent Sunday, December 4, with the brothers and friends at Fort Sam Houston and also his brother, Duane, who is stationed there.

An announcement on December 11 revealed the engagement of Sister Loretta Beckley, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Herman Beckley of Remington, to Bro. Ken Schneider, son of Bro. and Sis. Oscar Schneider.

On December 18, the Sunday School held its annual Christmas program. We enjoyed it very much.

Bro. and Sis. Joe Kaisner left on December 26 for California, to visit their daughters and son-in-law, who live there.

Due to my engagement, I feel that I have devoted a small share of my time to the Silver Lining and therefore have asked Bro. Christian Metz to accept the duty of reporting. I enjoyed working with it, and hope the Lord will provide for its continuance.

FORT WAYNE, INDIANA

Reporter: Mrs. Albert E. Kipfer

Church Services: Sunday School: 10:00 A.M.; Morning Services: 10:00 A.M.; Afternoon Services: 12:00 P.M.

Our Christmas program was held December 18, with Bro. and Sis. Lee Eisenmann, Sis. Laura Gerber, Philip Pulfer and David Levy sponsoring the program.

Bro. Dan Blume had a cataract operation at the Parkview Hospital, December 6. He is slowly improving at his home at 2625 Thompson.

Announcement was made January 1 of the engagement of Sister Connie Hurt and Brother Stanley Clauss, son of Sis. Mattie and the late Bro. Jephtha Clauss.

Sister Mary Pulfer, wife of Brother

Raymond Pulfer, underwent a varicose-vein operation at the Lutheran Hospital, January 6. She is getting along nicely, but expects to be confined to the hospital for at least a week or ten days.

Our visiting ministers during the past month were: Bros. Will Fiechter and Harry Bucher, Dec. 4; Bros. Emanuel Gudeman and Henry Beer, Dec. 11; Bros. Philip Gutwein and Andrew Dotterer, Dec. 18; Bro. Otto Norr, Dec. 25.

FORT SAM HOUSTON, TEXAS

Reporter: Robert Walder

Brother Fred Pohl of Burlington, Iowa, arrived here for training on the 10th of December.

Our visitors over the Christmas holidays were Brother and Sister George Sinn and daughter, Minnie, and Sister Paula Sinn of Latty; Brother and Sister Raymond Ringger, Janice, Judy, and Alan of Bluffton.

Those spending Christmas leaves at their homes were: Brother Harold Knapp, Goodfield; Dean Leuthold, Peoria; Richard Hodel, Cissna Park; Kenneth Steffen, Bluffton; Fred Winkler, Rittman; and Duane and Juanita Schneider, Forrest.

FORT SCOTT, KANSAS

Reporter: Marie Zaugg

On December 17, several from here witnessed the proving and baptism of Alfred Lee Banwart, son of Oscar and Sister Caroline Banwart of Lamar, and also attended the funeral of Sister Rose Frieden on the 18th at Lamar.

Those visiting here over Christmas were Brother and Sister Charles Koehl and family of Hancock; Bro. and Sister Wayne Schmidgall and family of Morris; and Sister Helen Zaugg and family of West Bend.

Ministering brethren and their wives who visited us on Thursday evening, Dec. 29, were Brothers Carl Hartman of Sabetha; and Ben Banwart and Lester Braker of Lamar.

Other visitors were: Brother and Sister John Schafer and Stevie of Hancock; Brother and Sister Harvey Banwart and Jerry of La Crosse; Brother and Sister Art Banwart and family of Lamar; and Sister Marie Banwart and Pearl Banwart of Lamar.

Brother Samuel Huber and Sister Sarah Buckley are in the hospital at this writing. We wish them God's Blessings for a speedy recovery.

GIRARD, OHIO

Reporter: Jesse Emch

Bro. Harold and Sister Kathryn Emch had the Sunday School children at their home for supper, on Sunday, Dec. 18. Many members and friends came for the evening, as the children had their Christmas program, along with group singing. It was a very enjoyable evening for all of us.

Sister Ruth Bollinger was a welcome guest, over the Christmas holidays, at the home of her daughter, Florence, in Barberton, especially since her daughter, Florence, had twins born to her.

Sister Esther Saylor and her husband visited their daughter, Anna Mae, and family who live near Indianapolis.

Sister Mary Beard has spent several weeks visiting in Mansfield.

Bro. Joe and Sister Alma Emch visited their daughter Loretta and family in Rittman, Christmas Day.

The Gerald W. Emch family of East Greenwich, Rhode Island, spent Monday, following Christmas Day with his parents, the Bro. Jesse Emchs and his sister, Mildred, and family (the Wm. Bells) at Youngstown.

Sister Ethel Hafely is at home, convalescing from her illness. She hopes to be able to attend church services soon.

Quite a few from Girard and surrounding communities attended the funeral of Sister Fannie Schupbach in New Martinsville. Due to illness,

her sister, Lydia Klotzle, of Girard and her brother, Wm. Hafely, of Niles were not able to attend.

GOODFIELD, ILLINOIS

Reporter: Marian Wiegand

Bro. and Sis. Louis Bauman are announcing the engagement of their daughter, Elaine, to Lawrence Wagenbach. He is the son of Bro. and Sis. George Wagenbach of Princeville.

Parents and friends enjoyed the Christmas program by the Sunday School, held Sunday evening, December 18.

The Goodfield Sunday School were guests to the Princeville Sunday School for Youth Fellowship, January 8.

Our dear friends, Ivan and Pearl Nohl, are seeking their salvation through repentance. We wish them God's help and blessing.

GRIDLEY, ILLINOIS

Reporter: Miss Marilyn Schieler

Sister Emma Brenner, whose engagement was announced here some weeks ago, was married to Bro. John Wahl of Elgin on December 11. Bro. Joe Klopfenstein performed the ceremony. A wedding supper was held in the church basement after the wedding.

Bro. Marvin Wiegand of here accompanied Bro. Lenny Meyer and Bro. Keith Oberlander to Alabama over the Thanksgiving week-end. While there, they visited the congregations at Hillsboro and Athens. They reported that they had a very nice time, and enjoyed the hospitality shown them.

Sis. Lorene Stoller, who has been unable to attend church since her car accident last spring, is able to come now. It is good to see her in our midst again.

A group of carolers braved the cold weather on Tuesday evening, Dec. 20, and sang at the homes of several shut-ins. After caroling, they enjoyed

a good lunch at Bro. and Sis. Wilbert Funks.

Announcement was made on Christmas Day of the engagement of Bro. Joe Miller and Sis. Anna Meyer, both of Gridley.

Bro. Ed Hohulin was guest minister in our congregation on Christmas Day.

Bros. Joe Klopfenstein and Elmer Witzig and their wives visited the congregation at Wolcott on Sunday, January 1.

Provings were held on Saturday evening, Jan. 7, for four of our recent converts: Allan and Edith Freed, Dick Stoller and Barb Meiss. Baptism was Sunday afternoon, and we were thankful to have Bro. LeRoy Huber of Eureka here to assist in both the provings and baptism.

GRIDLEY, KANSAS

Reporter: Mrs. Rudy Bahr

The annual Sunday School Christmas program was held Sunday evening, December 18. On Thursday evening, a group from Sunday School caroled at the homes of some of the elderly people. On Friday evening, many from our congregation enjoyed the Christmas program of the Lamont Sunday School. Christmas morning, during the regular Sunday School class-time, the three smallest classes took a winter bouquet, which they purchased with their own donations, to Sis. Ida Esslinger, who has been unable to attend church for some time, and recited their verses and sang the songs which they gave at the program.

Christmas visitors: Ministers, Bro. Jim Bahr, Ft. Scott, and Bro. Pete Fankhauser, Lamont, and their families; Bro. and Sis. Howard Warner and family, Arlington; Bro. and Sis. Dan Sinn and family, Ft. Scott; Mrs. Doris Norman and son, Durango, Colorado; Huston Beyer, Manhattan; Mr. and Mrs. George Mitchell and family, Burlington, Okla.; Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Beyer and family, Bro.

and Sis. George Greiner and son, Wichita; Ungela and Matt Strahm; Mr. and Mrs. Jim Morrison and daughter, Wichita.

Bro. and Sis. John Schaefer and Stevie, Morris, and Bro. and Sis. Carl Hartman, Sabetha, visited in Gridley and Lamont on December 30, en-route home from visiting relatives in Oklahoma, Lamar, and Ft. Scott. Sis. Hazel Kuntz and Leon of Iowa are spending a visit at the home of Bro. John Somerhalder.

The Lord willing, Bro. Dan and Sis. Lizzie Kraft will observe their Golden Wedding Anniversary with an open house, at their home on Jan. 15.

New Year's Day visitors were Mr. and Mrs. Paul Zehr and sons, Flanagan, Ill., and Mrs. Ida Nussbaum, Bloomington, Illinois.

ILLINOIS STATE NORMAL UNIVERSITY

Reporter: Shirley Gudeman

December 1: Brother Joe Schrock had a very inspiring message for us from Ephesians 6. There were twenty-one students and a number of guests present.

December 8: Brother Joe Zimmerman of Roanoke had as his text, Matthew 2—the Christmas story. Even though this is an old, old story, I am sure we all enjoyed hearing it again. Of the forty-four people present, twenty-one were students.

December 15: Our last meeting before Christmas vacation was spent in caroling at Goodfield and Congerville. Afterwards, we were invited to Brother Joe and Sister Esther Schrock's house at Congerville for refreshments. All agreed that it was a wonderful way to end our meetings for 1960.

Guests during the month were from Cissna Park, Congerville, Gridley, Morton, Roanoke, Fairbury, and a few of the brothers and sisters from the University of Illinois at Urbana.

LA CROSSE, INDIANA**Reporter: Bert Bucher**

Bro. Joe Heinold from Phoenix has returned to his home, after spending Christmas and New Years with his children and friends.

Bro. and Sis. Lynn Feller are the parents of a son, born Dec. 8. His name is Joseph E.

We had our Sunday School and Christmas program Sunday afternoon, Dec. 18.

Bro. Harry Bucher has entered the Hins Hospital for surgery. We wish him a speedy recovery.

LATTY, OHIO**Reporter: Roberta Stoller**

Our Sunday School Christmas program was held this year on Wed. evening, Dec. 21. A number of the Junction congregation were with us.

Brother George and Sister Clara Sinn and Minnie and Paula Sinn visited with their son, Brother Walter, in Fort Sam Houston, over the Christmas holiday.

Several from here attended the funeral in Bremen of Sister Anna Germann. Sister Mildred (Louis) Stoller and Sister Florence (William) Stoller of here are her daughters.

We were happy to have Brother Walter Rehkla and his family with us on Christmas. We wish to thank Bro. Walter for the messages he brought to us. Other visitors were: Bro. and Sis. Paul Lanz and daughter of Rockville; Bro. John and Sis. Minnie Fetter, Tillie Laukhuf, Julia Grant, her son and his wife of Toledo, Jerry Fischers of Roanoke, Roy Lemans of Eureka, Myron Hackenjoes, Earl Gerber and Jim Reinhard families of Bluffton, and Harold and Ramona Wenninger of Mansfield, Earl and Anna Lou Grimm of Princeville, Lloyd and Myrna Moser of Fairbury.

On New Years Day we were happy to have two souls baptized and added to the fold. They are Bro. Robert and his wife, Sister Iris Laukhuf. Proving

was held Sat. evening, with Bro. Andrew Dotterer and others of Junction with us. Sister Martha Laukhuf of Paulding, Bro. and Sis. John Oesch and family of Mansfield, and Bro. and Sister Ellsworth Stoller of Eureka were with us also on the 1st.

Brother Gary Stoller and Sister Hilda Wenninger are both with us again, after being hospitalized. Chucky Dunham, son of Bro. and Sis. Charles Dunham, is in the hospital now. We wish him a speedy recovery. Also, many of our children have been ill with mumps, chicken pox and flu.

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

Our Sunday School presented a Christmas program at the church, the Sunday evening before Christmas.

Diane, Rose and Adella Conrad are spending several weeks in Florida.

Sharon Schlatter, Eleanor Stieglitz, and Lynn Klopfenstein, who are going to school at Ball State College, Muncie, Indiana, were home for the holiday season. Also, Carol Winzeler and Leon Stoller, who are at Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana were home.

Lowell Lantz, who is in the Navy at Great Lakes, was also home, and has returned, expecting a transfer very soon.

We were happy to have Phyllis and Rex Burden and their little son, Jeffrey Byron, spend a Sunday in our congregation.

Announcement has been made of the coming marriage of Janice Winzeler, daughter of Raymond and Pearl Winzeler, and Richard Schrenk, son of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Schrenk, Clarksville, Michigan. The wedding is planned for Jan. 29.

Helen and Pete Maxfield are planning to visit Florida for a short while.

Sunday, Jan. 8, services were again held at the Butler Nursing home.

Mamie Schlatter is quite ill at this writing.

LESTER, IOWA

Reporter: Emelie Knobloch

Among the ill: Bro. Martin Knobloch is recovering from surgery. Micheal Feucht had eye surgery, and is getting along nicely. Daniel Moser was hospitalized with serious facial injuries, following an accident.

Our congregation was deeply saddened over the sudden death of Sister Martha Knobloch on Dec. 22. She reached the age of 37 years. She leaves to mourn her husband, Bro. Albert Knobloch and son, Merle Albert; her parents, Bro. and Sister John Mogler; three sisters and four brothers, and many relatives and friends. Many folks from Peoria, Princeville, Chicago, Eureka, Elgin, Morton, Morris, Winthrop, Sabetha and West Bend attended services Dec. 26. (Martha Knobloch is the wife of the brother of our reporter from Lester.)

Bro. and Sister Robert Gerber and family spent the holiday with her family at Sabetha.

Sister Lela Banwart, West Bend, is spending a week with her sisters here.

Bro. and Sister Jacob Metzger and children spent Thanksgiving at Elgin, Ill., with her mother.

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Knobloch and family were at Elgin, Ill., with her folks.

Bro. and Sister Dale Knobloch and family were at Sabetha.

Visitors: Bro. and Sister Gene Schmidt, Winthrop; Bro. and Sister Leonard Wulf and family, Bro. and Sister Ray Luthi and family, Morris; Bro. and Sister Carl Wyss and family, Morton; Bro. and Sister Vernon Strietmatter and Paul of Toulon, Ill.; Bro. and Sister Russell Wuthrich and family, Bro. & Sis. Joel Wuthrich and family of Pulaski; Bro. and Sister Will Metzger and Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Metzger, West Bend; Bro. and Sister

Arnold Metzger and family, Bro. and Sister Silas Metzger and family, West Bend; Bro. and Sister Henry Kellenberger, Elgin, Ill.; Leonard Anliker, Bob Banwart, and Eli Grimm Jr. of West Bend; Don Luthi, Nancy Fehr, Morris; Bro. Paul Banwart, West Bend; Bro. and Sister Silas Leuthold and Sister Clara Marie Gerber, Princeville.

MANSFIELD, OHIO

Reporter: Aaron A. Sauder

Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Sauder spent a week visiting their son, Eugene, and family at Elkhart, Indiana.

Visiting ministers were Robert Stohl of Girard, on Sunday, Dec. 4; Henry Manz of Junction, Dec. 11; Elders Rudolph Graf and Noah Bauman on Sunday, Dec. 18; Carl Kipfer of Bluffton, Sunday, Jan. 8. We enjoyed their visit and services very much, and invite all back again. Other visitors were their wives and families.

On Sunday, Dec. 18, when the elders were here, Caroline Sauder gave her testimony, and was taken into the fold of Jesus. We rejoice with her, and wish her much joy in the Lord.

Sunday evening, Dec. 18, our Sunday School gave their Christmas program, which was enjoyed by all those present. It is wonderful to hear the story of Christ from the mouths of the little children.

We also spent several evenings singing Christmas carols for the aged and sick.

Mr. and Mrs. Bert Kipfer of Ft. Wayne visited us on Dec. 25.

Mr. and Mrs. John Fuhrer left Jan. 3 for Florida, where they will spend the winter. Mr. and Mrs. Amos Steffen of Milford, Mrs. Hulda Dubach and daughter Christine, of Bluffton and Mr. and Mrs. Ben Kipfer of Bluffton were our visitors Jan. 8.

Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Beer will spend

the next several weeks visiting their daughter and family in California.

MAYWOOD, CALIFORNIA

Reporters: Ora and Dora Sauder

Brother Theophil Edmond Schwing, born in Bischwiller, Germany, passed away Dec. 3, 1960. Services were conducted by Brother John Dapper, and interment was in Valhalla Memorial Park.

Recent visitors to Maywood are Sisters Ella Von Berger of Peoria; Sister Isaac Stoller, Eureka; Brother and Sister Leroy Stoller of El Paso; Sister Anna Rassi of Morton; Brother and Sister Mac Hoerr of Peoria; Bro. Levi Messner of Winthrop.

In place of the usual Song Service on the third Sunday of Dec., the Young People's Bible Class and the Sunday School presented a Christmas Program. It was well attended by the Maywood and the Altadena congregations.

Brother and Sister John Kaisner from Forrest are visiting their children. Brother John conducted morning services in Maywood, and afternoon services in Altadena, Jan. 1.

MILFORD, INDIANA

Reporter: Irma Haab

The engagement of Sis. Mary Ann Stieglitz and Bro. Arthur Haab was announced Sunday, December 11. We wish them many blessings and much happiness.

A son, Mark Anthony, was born to Steve and Linda Baumgartner. They have another son, Sam.

Those in and out of the hospital during the past month were Bro. Joe Rassi, Bro. Dan Getz and Bro. Ernest Krauter.

A daughter, Christine Louise, was born to Jack and Edith Brown. They have two other daughters. Edith is the daughter of Bro. Henry and Sis. Alice Beer.

On Dec. 18, the Sunday School went Christmas—caroling, for the aged and shut-ins.

The Christmas program was held Sunday evening, Dec. 18. It was attended by many friends and believers.

MORRIS, MINNESOTA

Reporter: Mrs. Louie Messner

Our mother, Sister Ricka Messner, is a patient in the hospital, since Dec. 9. She was able to be home two days. Joe and Sister Harriet Reber and Bennie of Tacoma, Washington, have spent a week here with her mother and family.

Little LeAnn Wulf and Mark Kellenberger were in the hospital, but are home again. Our minister, Bro. Jake Nohl, is not well at this writing. May the Lord be with them all.

Our Sunday School children had a nice Christmas program, Dec. 18.

Singing the first and third Sunday of each month has been discontinued.

Bro. Harold Gramm is our new minister, since Dec. 11. May the Lord be with him, and add His blessings.

Here over the holiday were: Bro. and Sister Clyde Kuntz and children, Bro. and Sister Robert Gramm and children, Gridley, Ill.; Mr. and Mrs. James Banwart and sons, Bro. and Sister Victor Banwart and children, West Bend; Bro. and Sister Adolph Koehl and Virginia, Peoria; Chuck Kellenberger, Minneapolis; Edward and Sister Kathryn Olson and family, St. Paul; Bro. and Sister Henry Kellenberger, Elgin, Illinois.

Many families from here were gone over Christmas and New Year.

MORTON, ILLINOIS

Reporter: Mrs. B. E. Getz

Announcement was made of the coming marriage of Sis. Marilyn Zimmerman and Bro. Glen Dill of Tremont.

A boy was born to the Wm. Kaufmans on Dec. 18.

A son was born on Christmas Day to Bro. and Sis. Richard Barth.

Our Sunday School program was held Dec. 18. A very large crowd was

present, and the entire Sunday School took part.

The second Missionary Collection for Alabama and Japan was taken Christmas Day by the Sunday School pupils.

Funeral Services for Daniel Gunther, 76, were held Jan. 6. Bro. Joe A. Getz officiated.

Another college students name is added to the Morton list:

Edw Herrmann
212 School St.
Normal, Illinois

NEW MARTINSVILLE, WEST VA.

Reporter: Mrs. Gus Weltz

Mrs. Fanny Schupbach died Dec. 28, at the home of her son, Harry Burton, of 844 Fifth Street.

She was born in Switzerland, Oct. 3, 1869, daughter of the late Jacob and Elizabeth Brunner Hafely, and was preceded in death by her first husband, Foster Burton, in 1918, and by her second husband, J. E. Schupbach in 1950.

A member of the Apostolic Christian Church, she is survived by two sons, Harry of New Martinsville, and Earl of Youngstown; three daughters, Mrs. Walter Lamb of Youngstown, Mrs. Ed Games of Brookfield and Mrs. Norman Headlee of New Martinsville; three brothers, William of Youngstown, Earnest of Girard, and Lewis of Wadsworth; three sisters, Mrs. Emma Berger of New Martinsville, Mrs. Lydia Klotzle and Mrs. Fred Durig of Girard.

Friends were received at the Iams Funeral Home, where services were held on December 31 at 1:30, with Rudolph Graf and Jesse Emch officiating. Burial took place in Northview Cemetery.

Several members from Girard, Akron and Youngstown attended the funeral of Mrs. Fanny Schupbach, namely, Mr. and Mrs. Rudolph Graf, Mrs. Forest Ritzman, Jesse and Carl Emch, Mrs. Fred Durig, Mr. and Mrs.

Lewis Hafely, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Gasser and Earnest Hafely.

Mrs. Emma Berger, who has been confined to her room for several days, is reported to be some improved.

The annual meeting of the Stockholders of the Apostolic Christian Church Cemetery Association was held on January 2, in the home of Mrs. Emma Berger. Several members were present, and plans were made to do some needed repairs in the early spring; also future plans were discussed for the beauty and upkeep of the cemetery and the church building.

The weather here has been very bad, with road and street conditions very dangerous, but, luckily, not many serious accidents occurred, because of the conditions. New Years was welcomed in with a very heavy, wet snow, and at this writing, we still have that snow, plus much of the snow that fell three weeks before.

With peaceful mind thy race of duty
run,
God nothing does, or suffers to be
done,
But what thou wouldst thyself, if
thou couldst see
Through all events of things as well
as he.

OAKVILLE, IOWA

Reporter: John L. Steiner

The funeral services for Sis. Minnie Vierling were held on December 9.

Bro. Joe Schrock of Congerville visited the Burlington congregation on December 11.

Sis. Sharon Wiegand and Bro. Irvin Hodel of Cissna Park were united in marriage on Thursday evening, December 22.

Bro. Uriel and Sis. Judy Gehring of Elgin, Iowa, visited here December 25, and on January 1, Bro. Uriel visited Burlington church.

On December 16 and 17, a group of singers caroled at a number of homes.

PEORIA, ILLINOIS

A large number of relatives and friends attended the proving and baptism of Judy Koehl and Jacob Meier, Sunday, Jan. 1. It was truly a blessed day.

Bro. and Sis. Ray Martin and family spent Sunday, Jan. 1, at Lamar.

Our Sunday School Christmas program was Sunday evening, Dec. 18. The smaller children were given treats.

Bro. Carl Baer passed away, at the age of 81 years. He was a resident of Peoria for the past four years. Funeral services were held Jan. 6. Bro. Rudolph Graf of Akron officiated.

Our monthly Hymn-sing was held on Jan. 8, with a large attendance. The Prairie Choristers sang a few numbers. Also, a male quartet and the girl's choir of Peoria participated.

Bros. Le Roy Hartman and James Hoerr were in Congerville, Sunday, Jan. 8. Bro. Roy Sauder was in Tremont. Their wives accompanied them.

Sis. Irene Baer of Portland came to spend some time with her uncle, Carl Baer. He passed away Jan. 3. She came again for the funeral, then left for Oregon, Jan. 8.

Bro. and Sis. Philip Hoerr, Bro. and Sis. Chris Sauder, Bro. and Sis. Wm. Herbst, Bro. and Sis. Robert Reiman, and Bro. and Sis. Pete Hoerr are spending some time in Florida.

PHOENIX, ARIZONA

Reporter: Alice Heiniger

Those visiting us the month of December were: Betty Beer, Cissna Park; Bro. Morris Zimmerman, Cissna Park; Bro. Melvin and Sis. Walder of Hoopeston, Ill.; Carol Waibel, Forrest, Sis. Mary Reber, Fort Scott; Bro. Richard and Sis. Guthrie, Kiowa; Mr. and Mrs. Sam Rieger, Morton; Bro. Carl and Sis. Katherine Blumevschein of Mansfield; Bro. Joe and Sis. Cora Schumacher, Sis. Ruth Schumacher and Sis. Rosemary Marti of Congerville; Sis. Esther Klaus of Eureka;

Bro. Elmer and Sis. Vera Yergler and daughter, Barbara, Cissna Park. Sis. Vera will remain here in the Valley indefinitely with Barbara, due to her ill health. They need our prayers.

Also visiting were Bro. Dave and Sis. Ann Leman and their daughters, Joanne and Joyce, Eureka; Sis. Sandra Yergler, Cissna Park; and Bro. Ed. and Sis. Myra Herman, Normal, Illinois.

PORTLAND, OREGON

Reporter: Mrs. Robert Miller

Sister Golda Ditch from Medford, Oregon, was able to visit us in Portland church, December 11. We are always thankful when she can be with us, as she doesn't get up to Portland as much as she would like.

December 14, Sister Irene Baer left by plane to visit her uncle and aunt, Bro. and Sis. Carl Baer, at Peoria. Bro. Carl had been quite ill. While there, she visited the Peoria and Princeville churches. She arrived home January 1. January 3, she heard the sad news of Bro. Carl Baer's death. She returned by air, to be present at his funeral.

On December 18, our dear sister, Clara Kaufman, of Silverton suffered a stroke, paralyzing her left side. She is home from the hospital, and has a practical nurse caring for her. She has shown some improvement. If it could be God's will, we'd like to see her fully restored to good health again.

Our dear father, Bro. Guy Miller, had a stroke also on December 19. He was taken to the Portland General Hospital on December 21. An emergency abdominal operation was performed on December 25, as a result of infection. He is slowly improving, and the doctor expects him to be at the hospital about a month. He is greatly missed in our midst, but again we have to say, as God wills. He knows what is best for all of His own.

Sister Lydia Bach of Fairbury has been visiting at Silverton with her

daughter, Sis. Clara Kaufman, and also the church there, as well as in Portland.

PULASKI, IOWA

Reporter: Miss Eloise Wagler

Ministering Bro. John Wagler and family of Alabama were here for several days, during the week of December 18, as guests of his mother, Sis. Ella Wagler.

Our annual Sunday School Christmas program was held at the Bro. Harry Wagler home, on the evening of December 18.

The funeral of Mr. Fred Wuthrich, who passed away at Spokane, Washington, was held here on Friday, December 23. He leaves his brother, Bro. Felix Wuthrich, and two sisters, Sisters Lydia Wuthrich and Minnie Getz.

The Bro. John Gramm family of Gridley Illinois, and Bro. James Sutter and family of Taylor were here on December 25.

Bro. Joel Wuthrich is recovering from an appendectomy.

PRINCEVILLE, ILLINOIS

Reporter: Ruth Ricketts

We had many visitors the week end of December 10 and 11, to witness the provings and baptisms of Mary Lou Joos, Jane and Delores Kieser, Jeanne Seidel, and Elda Martin. Elder Brothers Henry Kilgus of Forrest and LeRoy Huber of Eureka were here to assist our Elder Brother Silas Leuthold. Brother Roy Sauder of Peoria was here Sunday afternoon. A blessed week end was enjoyed by all present, and we welcome our ministering brothers back soon.

Brother Cleo Rinkenberger and family of Pulaski spent Christmas Day with us, and then, too, we had a blessed day with Brother Cleo's messages.

A son, Richard Dean, was born to James and Gisela Stogsdil, December 5, and a son was also born to Brother Richard and Sister Jeanette (Rum-

bold) Graham, Dec. 9. A daughter, Cynthia Dee, was born to Brother William and Sister Gladys Knobloch, on December 18.

We are glad to report our sick folks are improving, and have been able at times to attend church services. Sister Mary Streitmatter is able to be about again, after a long siege of illness. Brother Alvin Farney is recovering from surgery, as is also Sister Edith Stahl, who submitted to surgery again. We admire Sister Edith's courage and patience, and wish her God's grace to bear her cross.

A large number of friends and relatives gathered Sunday evening, Dec. 18, to hear a program presented by the Sunday School children.

Our sympathy is extended to Sister Marie Eberle and her family, whose mother, Sister Eggli, of Tremonton, Utah, passed away. Sister Emma Streitmatter was a sister, and our sympathy is extended to her also. Sister Eggli spent much time reading her Bible, meditating and praying, and, even though she didn't live in a community where there were many fellow believers, she was an inspiration to all those who knew her and a help to all around her.

Our sympathy is also extended to Sister Leah Schaer and family. Leah's sister, Sister Martha Knobloch, of Lester, was also called from this world unexpectedly.

REMINGTON, INDIANA

Reporter: Emily Kilgus

On Sunday, Dec. 11, the engagements of Sister Loretta Beckley and Brother Kenneth Schneider of Forrest and also Sister Betty Frey and Brother Lloyd Schumacher of Eureka were announced.

Our Christmas program was held on Sunday, Dec. 18.

Our older Sunday School children enjoyed an evening of fellowship on New Year's Eve at the Albert Schini home.

We welcome Brother and Sister Dean Bahler and family to our congregation. Brother Dean has accepted a position at Purdue University, and they are residing in Lafayette.

RITTMAN, OHIO

Reporter: Lucille Hartzler

Births: A son, Keith Eric, to Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Wilma Ramsier on Dec. 8; a son, Jonathan Edward, to Bro. Emmet and Sis. Marie Gasser on Dec. 9; a son, Steven Eugene, to Bro. Isaac Jr. and Sis. Verna Rufener on Dec. 21; a son, Kenneth David, to Bro. Donald and Sis. Luzelda Stoller on Dec. 29.

On Sat. evening, Dec. 10, proving was held for Ed and Anita Riggensbach and Dale and Elma Stoller. Baptism was held the following day. Visiting ministers present were Elder Bro. Rudolph and Bro. Ernest Graf of Akron, Bro. Lorentz Emch of Girard, and Bro. Andrew Dotterer of Junction.

On Dec. 18, Alvin Laukhuf was announced for proving, at a later date.

The last day of our Sunday School for the season was Dec. 18. It will be resumed in early spring.

Our Sunday School Christmas song service was held on the evening of Dec. 18.

Those home from the Service for the holidays were: Fred Winkler, who is stationed at Fort Sam Houston; Larry Spangler, who is stationed at Minneapolis; and Bro. Elmer and Sis. Lorene Blough, who are at Syracuse, New York.

Announcement was made on Sun., Jan. 1, of the approaching marriage of Sis. Betty Gerber of Rockville and Bro. Robert Bauman of Rittman.

On Jan. 1, Bro. Alvin Steiner had the misfortune of falling from a haystack. He received serious neck injuries, and will be laid up for some time. He is in Orrville Osteopathic Hospital.

Bro. Fred Widmer is ill in Wadsworth Hospital.

ROANOKE, ILLINOIS

Reporter: Sara Aeschleman

We were glad to have with us Bro. Art Gudeman and family from La-Crosse, Sunday, Dec. 11.

The Christmas program was held Sun. Dec. 18, with all the little children from 4 yrs. old, up to the Bible Class, taking part. After the program, candy and oranges were given to those participating.

Sis. Ann Legel was able to be at home for Christmas, and at the time of this writing is still home. May the Lord bless her with new strength and courage in the future.

Sometimes our troubles are so near

It's hard to see the road,

But if we'll ask, our God will speak,

And take from us the load.

"Give me your heavy load, my child,

You've carried it so long,

While I've been waiting close at hand

To give to you a song.

I would not snatch it from you—

The choice must be your own,

To let me be your friend and guide

Or struggle on alone."

SABETHA, KANSAS

Reporter: Ed. H. Steiner

December 11, Bros. Noah Schrock, Sam Anliker and Paul Banwart were here at the proving and baptism of Roger Aberle and Elton Plattner. Others from a distance who were present were Bro. and Sister Willis Sauder and Bros. Daniel Jr. and Joe Steiner of Tremont; Bro. and Sister Earl Banwart of West Bend; Bro. Robert Mogler of Whittemore, Ia.; Bro. John Steiner and Leon Kurtz, Oakville; Bro. Conrad Gerst, Mediapolis; Bro. and Sister Simon Wiegand, Deer Creek, Ill.; and Bro. and Sister Emil Fritz and three girls and Ed. of Morton.

Bro. Lester Hartter was ordained elder at the Bern church. Bro. Noah

Schrock and Bro. Paul Banwart performed the ordaining, Sunday, Dec. 11.

Bro. Jake Hartter died Dec. 3, and the funeral was held Dec. 7 at the Bern Church. He was 78 years old.

Dec. 25, Bro. and Sister John Shafer of Morris spent Sunday with us.

Bro. Alvin and Sister Phyllis Banwart of Whittemore spent Christmas with Phyllis' parents, other relatives, and members.

Bro. Don and Sister Verda Bruellman of Whittemore spent Christmas with the Kellenbergers, other relatives, and members over Sunday. They returned to their home Saturday, Dec. 31.

Jan. 1, 1961, your reporter is wishing everyone a happy and prosperous New Year, with much grace and protection from Almighty God.

Jan. 4, Bro. Joe Stoller left for Phoenix, to spend a few months for his health. He had three passengers who shared the trip with him, Sister Kate Ott of Sabetha and two others, whose names we did not hear. We hope Bro. Joe will find much improvement for his health, and God's rich blessings.

Bro. John Greiner and Sister Emma Michel of Kiowa will be married Sunday, Jan. 15, at Kiowa by Bro. Noah Schrock, where he will also be present for the baptism of Diane Farney, who recently repented and found peace with God. Diane has been attending church at Sabetha for some time, while going to school at Manhattan. We wish her God's rich grace and blessings.

TAYLOR, MISSOURI

Reporter: Mrs. Eli Sutter

A son, Scott David, was born to Bro. Robert and Sister Emma Hoerr on Nov. 26. This makes their second son.

A daughter, Diane Marie, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Gene Riney on Dec. 15. They now have four girls and one

boy. Mrs. Riney is the former Irene Hoerr. Their daughter, Sally, was in the hospital with pneumonia when her little sister was born. She has returned home and is getting along nicely.

Sister Naomi Heimer was a medical patient in the hospital the past month. She has returned home and is recovering satisfactorily.

The Sunday School pupils and teachers presented their Christmas program on Sunday, Dec. 18. It was enjoyed by everyone.

Our college students spent Christmas vacation at their respective homes. They are Sisters Lauretta, Charlotte, and Bro. Norman Haerr and Sis. Nancy Hodel.

On Wednesday evening, Dec. 21, our Elder Bros. Noah Schrock and Silas Leuthold were with us to confer on Bro. Fred Grimm the office and duties of an elder. Knowing the responsibilities often laid on our elder brothers, we would commit him to the Lord, and pray that He will bless him with wisdom and strength to perform his duties.

Other ministering brothers that were here were Bros. Lowell Stoller and Dave Kieser, Princeville; Bro. Albert Wuthrich, Pulaski; Bro. John Wagenbach and wife, Bro. Harvey Heiniger, Oakville; Bro. Werner Moore, Elgin. Others attending were Bros. Leslie, Chris and Ezra Gerst and their wives, Oakville, and Bro. Ira Farney, Elgin, Iowa, and Bro. Russell Wuthrich, Pulaski.

TREMONT, ILLINOIS

Reporter: Esther Schmid

Sunday, Dec. 18, was the wedding date of Miss Peggy Frank and Jerry Sauder. Miss Frank is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Frank of Morton, and Mr. Sauder is the son of Bro. Elmer and Sister Lena Sauder of Tremont. After their honeymoon to Florida, they will reside at Tremont.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Endress and

two small sons flew to Germany to spend the Christmas holidays at Mrs. Endress' folks.

We miss Bro. Jeff and Sister Ruth Streitmatter, who have moved to Princeville to make their home.

Ed Hermann underwent surgery last month, but has recovered nicely, and is now able to be in his store again.

Bro. Philip Sauder, his wife—Sister Anna, and their daughter — Sister Sharon Sauder, spent the Christmas week end here. We had a blessed day, and enjoyed the inspired message, and hope they will visit us again soon. We always welcome them, as their home was here, before they moved to Cissna Park.

Our Sunday School classes presented a nice Christmas program in remembrance of Christ's birth, by singing songs and speaking pieces, to praise and worship Jesus, our Saviour.

Bro. Reuben and Sister Ella Schweigert have gone to California for several weeks, to visit their sister, Mrs. Geo. Frietschi, and family.

Sunday, Jan. 1, the engagement was announced of Sister Marylin Zimmerman of Morton and Bro. Glenn Dill of Tremont.

TSUTSUJIGA-OKA and SHIODA, JAPAN

Reporter: Yoshito Inoue

Brother Tadao Shinkai and Sister Hamako Nozawa were baptized on Dec. 24 at Shioda. There was communion service on the same day, after baptism and Christmas eve service.

Brethren at Shioda decided to have evening service, as well as morning service on Sunday, and this requires Brother Willis to come from Tsutsujiga oka every Sunday evening, starting next month.

Several members at Shioda attended Christmas service at Tamahata, to which Brother Willis and Brother Takeshita attended.

Brothers Yoshio Yamazaki and

Akito Inoue and Sisters Yoshiko Utsuki and Shizuko Kobayashi were baptized on Dec. 25 at Tsutsujiga oka.

Members at Tsutsujiga oka visited Mr. Inone at the hospital in Tokyo, who is Brothers Yoshito and Akito's father, who has been in bed for a long time, and is expected to be baptized on Jan. 15, if God is willing.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

Reporter: Dale Eisenmann

Brother Henry Grimm of Morton held services on the evening of Dec. 14. A fair number of students, as well as guests from Morton and Goodfield, were present.

Just one day after returning from Christmas vacation on Jan. 4, a number of us were together, with Brother Ed Hohulin of Goodfield in charge. There is always found a great blessing in spending a few hours with those of like faith.

WOLCOTT, INDIANA

Reporter: Arles Kropf

New arrivals this past month have been a son, David Lloyd, born Dec. 5, to Lloyd and Pat Kyburz; a daughter, Suzanne, born Dec. 10 to Bro. and Sis. Vernon Schwab; and a daughter, Nancy Lee, born Dec. 19 to Bro. and Sis. Verne Lehman.

We appreciated the visits of the following ministering brothers and their wives: on Dec. 18, Bro. and Sis. Earl Kilgus of Remington and on Jan. 1, Bro. and Sis. Joe Klopfenstein and Bro. and Sis. Elmer Witzig of Gridley.

Our Sunday School children presented their Christmas program, following afternoon services on Christmas Day. Visitors that day were Bro. and Sis. Ben Habegger and family of Bluffton, Bro. and Sis. Dan Kupferschmidt and family of Cissna Park, Bro. and Sis. Jake Bahler and Lowell and Janice, Bro. and Sis. George Waibel of Remington, and Rose and Emma Viellieber of Elgin.

Bro. and Sis. Warren Hartman of

Fairbury visited us on Dec. 18.

Sis. Emma Furrer and family, Bro. and Sis. Vernon Furrer and family, and Bro. and Sis. Glenn Furrer and family spent Dec. 18 at Bluffton.

Our annual business meeting was held on Dec. 16, and new Sunday School teachers were elected for the coming year.

Duane and Juanita Schneider of Ft. Sam Houston spent a part of their furlough here, with her parents, the Ben Millers.

Visitors on Jan. 1 included Bro. and Sis. Herman Beckley and daughters, Bro. Alva Clauss, Bro. and Sis. Marvin Clauss of Remington, and Bro. and Sis. Sam Steffen of Fairbury.

THE SILVER LINING

There is no subscription rate for the "Silver Lining." Average, the cost for one year, for one address mailed, permit, will be more than \$1.50, but less than \$2.00.

Whatever one desires to give will be accepted, and used with diligence. No wages or monetary profits come to anyone.

We urge that the money entrusted to you be used and invested wisely and carefully.

Investments in heavenly treasures have by far the rosiest future, and yield by far the greatest return.

We would urge you to consider those undertakings that have the kind of people who think as you do, your church brethren, as of investments worth buying up. They are gold-edged.

The editor.

He writes in characters too grand
For our short sight to understand;
We catch but broken strokes, and try
To fathom all the mystery
Of withered hopes, of death, of life,
The endless war, the useless strife,—
But there, with larger, clearer sight,
We shall see this—His way was right.

—John Oxenham

In Memory of

BROTHER WILL FURRER

How sweet are the memories
remaining
Of our brother so loved and so dear;
His life was a true inspiration
To all who have known him here.

Not only to those of his household,
But to neighbor and brethren and
friend

He has shown a true father's de-
votion
And kindness and love to the end.

Long years he has carried Christ's
banner;
He has served his Redeemer and
Lord.

The meek shall inherit earth's
blessings,
And heaven shall be their reward.

How quickly he passed through the
Jordan

To the city in **Scripture foretold.**
Long years he has planned for this
meeting,
His Saviour's blest face to behold.

The cross he had borne in life's
journey
At the dear Saviour's feet he lay
down;
What a joy at the blest coronation
To receive from his Master a crown.

May the words he has spoken in
life-time,
May his prayers and his tears and
each sigh
Be felt by his children more keenly
Since he lives with his Saviour on
high.

For his sake, since his lips are now
silent,
We would speak, as he did, in true
love;
May you seek Him and serve Him and
love Him,
If you would dwell with your Father
above.

—Henry Beer