

# THE SILVER LINING

VOLUME 13

JANUARY, 1963

NUMBER 4

## TRUE REPENTANCE

Brother George Sinn—The elder from our Latty Church

The most important step that we have to do while we live here upon the earth is to repent. Unless it is a true repentance, it has no value, for the Bible teaches we all are sinners; but it also offers us all the opportunity to turn from our sinful life. It is not God's will that anyone should perish, but that all should have eternal life with Him in heaven.

Repentance can not take place until we grow to the age that we know good from evil. This knowledge comes through Christian teaching in the home and the church. By the knowledge of God's word, we become aware of our lost condition. Then, when the soul feels convicted and lost, it realizes the need of regeneration, by acknowledgement, confession, and faith in the shed blood of Christ.

Now confession is made privately to the servant of God, who never reveals it. All sins must be confessed, such as lying, stealing, offense, slander—all which burden the soul. Man cannot forgive sins, but by bringing the sins to light, it takes the power from the evil one, which relieves the burdened heart. This, then, proves the honesty of the heart, the desires to be united with the body of Christ. Restitution must be made to all who have been offended.

When we have done all this, and

earnestly and humbly sought our God in prayer for forgiveness, God is then willing to forgive all unrighteousness, and to fill the heart with comfort and peace. This peace is the most precious thing that a believer has.

When a soul finds remission of sins, then grace is given from God, so that we are able to overcome all

---

### SUMMARY OF SIGHT AND SOUND OF THE SENSES

"And whatsoever mine eyes desired I kept not from them, I withheld not my heart from any joy; for my heart rejoiced in all my labour: and this was my portion of all my labour.

Then I looked on all the works that my hands had wrought, and on the labour that I had laboured to do: and, behold, all was vanity and vexation of spirit, and there was no profit under the sun."

From Ecclesiastes 2

---

sinful inclination. After having peace with God and man, for a period of time it is required that we prove it out, that we are able to maintain our peace and prove faithful.

Then, we desire to be baptized. We are announced before the brothers and sisters, the church, for membership.

The next step is proving before the members. Each one comes in separately before the church, that is, the brothers and sisters, and gives a testimony of his or her Christian experience. If the brothers and sisters have a good feeling and can be satisfied in heart, then we also feel God is satisfied.

Then the soul is ready for baptism, through repentance; we also make a covenant with God out of a clear conscience. Baptism represents a grave into which the old man of sin is buried by immersion, and a new man arises out of the grave, to a new life as a disciple of Jesus Christ.

After baptism, through prayer and laying on of hands by the elder, the Holy Spirit is poured into the purified heart. He leads and guides the soul into all truth and righteousness.

We are taught in God's word, which is our true guide, to come out from the world and touch not the unclean things, which are the things that the world enjoys and has pleasure in, such as movies, smoking, drinking, the evil programs over TV, and radio's sports of all kinds.

If we become a child of God after a true repentance, and would again entertain and entangle ourselves with these things, we could not expect our Saviour to accept us as a brother or sister when He again returns . . . or if we would be called out of this life. We would not have a promise of eternal life.

## ALL

Brother Henry Beer

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

Romans 8:28.

How often we ponder over the events of our pilgrim life, and we are inclined to question how the changing scenes of life can work together for good. How can sorrow, trials and temptations serve for good? What good can come of adversity, when we have hopefully looked for blessing and success?

Often, obstacles and hindrances lay in our pathway. We desire health, and must endure bodily affliction and distress. Happiness alternates with sorrow. Loved ones are taken from our midst, and the family circle is broken. Ofttimes we are not understood. Seemingly our prayers, though heard, are not answered. Faith is tried, and the flames of love burn low. Yes, these and many other problems confront us on life's pathway.

But unto him who loves God, things and incidents do not merely happen, as some would say, but each incident or series of incidents

are part of God's great plan to bring His children through this troublous life, as heirs of salvation. Often, single or collective incidents will be used by Him who first loved us, to shape and prepare us to fit into the heavenly mansion. When our pathway is seemingly obstructed, we are more apt to reflect upon ourselves, and with David say, "Who can understand his errors? cleanse thou me from secret faults."

As the ingredients of a cake are drab and rather tasteless, and not until they are all worked together and properly baked can we enjoy the completed delicacy, so, likewise certain incidents of our life seem cold and disheartening. We often fail to see the end in view. As time goes on, our Heavenly Father can use a trial, together with other experiences, to His glory, and to our humbling and purification.

This consoling scripture passage is for the soul who loves the Lord. Though God loves all people (but He is grieved at the smallest sin), all men do not love God. We can only call God our heavenly Father through the born-again experience and through the indwelling Holy Spirit.

God looks at us from the top or bright side of a cloud, but we see only the underside. The pattern of cloth or fabric would be uninteresting if there were no dark threads along with the light ones to make up the complete pattern. The Scripture says "... no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby." Hebrews 12:11.

However, the Christian's life is not only made up of trials and troubles, lest we would faint by the way, but His ways are ways of pleasantness, and all His paths are peace. "He will not always chide: neither will he keep his anger for ever." Psalm 103:9 How consoling to know and feel, "Like as a father pitieth his children, so the Lord pitieth them that fear him." Psalm 103:13.

So let us take heart and believe that each trial, temptation, heartache, discouragement and obstacle, linked together with our joys, blessings and successes, will be used by God to fit us for service on earth, and then to serve Him forever in eternity.

## THE SILVER LINING

Grabill, Indiana

## Editor:

Henry Souder Jr.

Published Monthly By the Apostolic Christian Church of America

## Counselling Elders:

Sam Aeschliman

Theo Beer

Bluffton

Milford

## News Correspondent:

Ed Souder

Send all correspondence to The Silver Lining, Grabill, Indiana.

Second class postage paid at Grabill, Indiana.

## THE TV

... my spiritual growth shall want. It makes me sit down and do nothing for the cause of Christ, because it requires all my spare time. It keeps me from doing my duty as a Christian, because it presents so many programs that I desire to see. It restores my knowledge of the things of the world. It keeps me from studying God's word. It leads me in the paths of failure. ... Shall I keep on viewing my TV as

long as it will work? ... My TV is my close companion ... its sound and picture ... presents entertainment before me, and keeps me from doing important things with my family. It fills my head with ideas which differ from those set forth in the word of God ... my TV offers me no time to do the will of God ... and there is danger I will dwell in spiritual poverty ... forever.

## CHANGE OF ADDRESS?

Write us, or tell one of the reporters, if so.

# DOST THOU LOVE ME?

Henry Souder Jr.

There's an old-fashioned love that's nice.

It has the happiest and warmest feeling. It feels of true friendship. It has the peace that passes all understanding.

Good memories are nice to look back to.

"I thank my God upon every remembrance of you . . ."

We go swiftly by the days on the calendar, one by one. There is one day our calendar runs out. Then those friends will be so dear, who have helped us.

We have deep feelings in the soul. To build these great, we need deep friends . . . we need friends who care about those things that matter **most**, when we stand alone before God.

So very, very important are the links of true friendship, "Even as it is meet for me to think this of you all, because I have you in my heart;"

If we pay attention to each little detail, then we build the great.

Just think how that love is in Scripture. If we build block by block, life will be like that, one delicious spiritual experience.

When the Scripture shines on us, it lights up what holds us back. That's what we should want. We can't do something till we know where we are and what we are going to do.

Love thinks with thoughts that never end, "That ye may approve things that are excellent; that ye may be sincere and without offence till the day of Christ;"

If every dream of days would die and we still hold love, we would have everything. If we gain the world and lose love, we have nothing.

That's why it's so important to sort out of our life things that get in the way. We know that some don't . . . and unless they change, they walk toward a dark eternity.

God does not want us to love the world. We should worry when we spend an afternoon and His voice makes us uneasy. Our conscience should hurt if we get attentive to pleasures put on by the world.

With whom does thy heart crowd?

If we throw off His gentle hand, then we are not listening to our dear Lord. When we keep away from the world, that means He will bring "Being filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by Jesus Christ, unto the glory and praise of God."

Grandfather was a sweet brother. In the wee years, grandpa went home. Up there beyond the skies, His love is still smiling.

His love towered in greatness. It lingered in deliciousness, and fired the heart with great warmth.

He loved God's word. He lived it. His emotions were centered in its way. But there was the cost of the cross.

Grandpa has no more worries. How happy He is that He lived the best way, "For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain."

Peace is good. Remember when you received it? Remember when you were willing to suffer? We died to the world at Calvary.

But now . . . will a little chance . . . a few moments . . . risk so great a love? Dost thou love me? Will it all be in vain for you?

"I die daily", Paul said. That's the answer and the only answer for assurance. Away with the world and its stench. We'll stretch our hands out in His . . . We'll groan on the cross, that we might hold the hope of glory.

"For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ; which is far better: Nevertheless to abide in the flesh is more needful for you."

The needful to stay goes side by side with the desire to depart.

Suddenly, something marvellous breaks. The beat goes down, and every look is geared to glory so wonderful our words cannot tell. The sighs are past. The talents are used . . . and, where we are, heaven is here!

It only could happen to the believer. It is real to the last detail . . . **far better.**

**FOR THAT, WHEN YOUR WORK IS DONE, LOSE NOT YOUR SOUL.**

## GOD'S CARE

It's snowing again,  
And over the country,  
    descending  
    softly,  
    beautifully,  
the snow we can see . . .

It's snowing again.  
It covers the landscape,  
    the dark spots,  
    ugly,  
    where uneven . . .  
snow cover'd dull drape.

It's snowing again . . .  
The inside's more lovely,  
    with God's love,  
    and peace,  
    so wonderful,  
This is scriptur'ly.

Love is like snow, dear,  
Where it helps the heart most,  
    covering  
    softly,  
    beautifully,  
mid fire, warm as toast.

Love can help you, dear . . .  
If you gazed at things wrong,  
    saw world's love,  
    its pride,  
    perishing play . . .  
you to God belong.

Love can help you, dear,  
If heart has entered where  
    shouted lungs,  
    tense gaze,  
    partakes of game . . .  
Love covers spots bare.

Love comes from heaven,  
Is so lovely a sight,  
    bringing joy,  
    and peace,  
    on, on and on . . .  
so happy in white.

Henry Souder Jr.

## NOTICE

In the February issue we will have a family feature of Bro. Geo. and Sis. Ida Yergler, together with some early history of the LaCrosse Church, a report on Bro. Sam Aeschliman, and there could be some more.

The Editor



# NEWS

## AKRON, OHIO

**Reporters: Ruth Taylor  
and Alice Graf**

Ruth Taylor is spending the month of January with her parents, the Dan Kaufmans, in Florida.

The Harold Fritz family started to Florida, planning to spend the Christmas vacation there. On the way, they had an accident, which could have been very serious, but we are all thankful they were not injured. They did not go on to Florida, but came back home.

The evening of Dec. 18, a group of young people went to the homes of our elderly and shut-in people, to sing carols at their doors. The singers gathered at the Gene Pamer home for refreshments after the caroling.

Our Sunday School classes met with us at the church, the Sunday evening before Christmas, to sing carols and hear the Christmas message. Refreshments were served in the dining room, following the service.

Our friend, Harry Stauffer, died suddenly, Saturday, Dec. 28. He was driving his car, when he was stricken with a cerebral hemorrhage. Services were held Jan. 2 at Austintown, Forrest Ritzman officiating. He is survived by his wife, Elma Metzger Stauffer.

We were thankful for the visit of Elder Theo Beer, Sunday evening, Dec. 29. He led our service; which was attended by many from Rittman and Girard, also.

It was announced Jan. 20 that Paul Gangel will give his testimony. He has repented, sought and found peace, for which we are all happy. Paul is the husband of Sis. Elizabeth Gangel.

Sis. Mary Ammann has been taken to the hospital. Her condition is reported critical.

Bro. Pete Dockus is also in the hospital. He is scheduled to undergo surgery Jan. 9.

## ALTADENA, CALIFORNIA

**Reporter: Doris Graf**

Visiting this month were: Bro. and Sis. Alphie Fisher, Phoenix; Sisters Anna and Louise Stoller, Morton; Bro. and Sis. Earl Sanders and Billy, Sis. Marilyn Dotterer,

Phoenix; Bro. and Sis. Elmer Tanner, Burlington, Okla.; Bro. Louis and Bro. Harold Somerhalder, Gridley, Kansas; Sis. Lydia Farney, Burlington, Okla.; Bro. and Sis. Jeff Streitmatter, Princeville; Sis. Elsie Yaggie, Francesville; Bro. and Sis. Dick Schlatter, Latty; and Bro. and Sis. Oscar Hoerr and JoAnne, Peoria.

Bro. and Sis. Daryle Wieland and children were here also, visiting Edie's parent's, Bro. and Sis. Joe Klotzle. Sis. Anna Novakow has returned to Peoria, after a several months' stay here. We certainly enjoyed her visit.

Many of the above visitors spent Christmas and New Year's Day with us. Our Sunday School Christmas program was held on Sunday, Dec. 23, with some of the Maywood congregation spending a blessed afternoon with us.

A baby girl was born to Bro. and Sis. John Klotzle on Dec. 19. They named her Mary Beth. Her brothers and sisters are Tommy, Kathy, Heidi and Joey.

Virgil Graf was home over Christmas, but had to return to Ft. Sam Houston before the first of the year. He is permanently stationed there as an instructor.

## ATHENS, ALABAMA

**Reporter: Clara Heiniger**

Worship service was held in the home of Bro. and Sis. Marvin Moss for friends and neighbors in the Prospect, Tenn., area, Wednesday evening, Dec. 12.

Dec. 13, Thursday evening worship service was held in the home of Bro. and Sis. Frank Haggenmaker and family.

Bro. Melvin Huber of Francesville visited many loved ones in the Athens area, and attended the worship service at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Barnett, the parents of Sis. Doris Moore.

All the children giving a Christmas program, Sun., Dec. 23, was enjoyed by the parents and friends of the children.

Dec. 25, Bro. LaVoyd Moore held a meeting at the home of Bro. and Sis. George Kelly, where all enjoyed a blessed evening of singing and reading of God's Word.

Bro. John Wagler, minister at Athens, Alabama, writes that the Alabama churches use the older edition of **Songs And Hymns of Zion**. The physical condition of these books show their great use. Several were discarded. Here is an opportunity. If there are churches or individuals who now use the new edition **Hymns of Zion**, and no longer use the older ones, they would appreciate them.

the editor

## BAY CITY, MICHIGAN

**Reporter: Faye Wackerle**

On the week end of Dec. 30, Bro. and Sis. Maurice and Lucile Frank and their three daughters, Sis. Maureen, Norma and Pamela, from Chicago visited with us. It was a pleasure to have them in our midst again. They lived here seven years, and I'm sure all who knew this family came to love them. Our loss was Chicago's gain.

Little Tamara Sue was welcomed into this world on Dec. 18 by her parents, Bro. and Sis. Dean and Connie Pashak. She is their first child.

On Dec. 17, Sis. Lydia (Schubach) Rechsteiner passed away. She had been in failing health for about 12 years.

Bro. George Eisenman wishes to thank all those who remembered him in his illness, with the many get-well cards and words of encouragement.

## BERN, KANSAS

**Reporter: Mrs. Lester Hartter**

One of our Sunday School teachers, Sis. Stella Moser, and myself found we both have the following poem in our collection, and thought it might be a help to others, too. I believe it was used a time or two for Youth Fellowship.

### IF JESUS CAME TODAY?

If Jesus came to your house, to spend a day or two,  
If He came unexpectedly, I wonder what you'd do?  
When you saw Him coming, would you meet Him at the door  
With arms outstretched in welcome to your heavenly Visitor?

Or would you have to change your clothes, before you let Him in?  
Or hide some magazines and put the Bible where they'd been?  
Would you turn off the radio or TV . . . hope He hadn't heard,  
And wish you hadn't uttered that last loud, hasty word?

Would you hide your worldly music, and place some hymn books out?  
Could you let Jesus walk right in, or would rush about?  
And I wonder—if the Saviour spent a day or two with you,  
Would you go right on doing the things you always do?

Would you go right on saying the things you always say . . .  
Would life for you continue as it does from day to day?  
Would your family conversation keep up its usual pace?  
And would you find it hard each meal to say table grace?

Would you sing the songs you always sing and read the books you read,  
And let Him know the things on which your mind and spirit feed?  
Would you take Jesus with you, everywhere you've planned to go?  
Or would you maybe change your plans for just a day or so?

Would you be glad for Him to stay forever, on and on,  
Or would you sigh with great relief when He at last was gone?  
It might be interesting to know the things that you would do,  
If Jesus came in person to spend some time with you . . .

On one Sunday this month, Bro. Lester Hartter spoke on "Faith"; for the second sermon, Bro. Alpha Strahm told of obedience in Bible times of old. We heard that even with the weakness of man, there is a service for each of us in His work. In the middle of the month, very moving messages were brought on God's divine grace.

Sis. Pearl Meyer's daughter, K'Lynne, was united in marriage to Steven Gugelman, Bern. He is presently stationed at Stewart Air Base, New York.

The flu has been making the rounds in this community.

A Hymn Singinspiration at the home of Bro. Emil and Sis. Grace Strahm was enjoyed. The occasion was in observance of their silver wedding anniversary. Refreshments were brought, to surprise them. For many years, Sis. Grace has cleaned the church each week. Bro. Emil is custodian, and we wish to thank this family for keeping the lawns and cemetery mowed, and for the many hours in waiting, to close the church after services, also the graves that have been dug in all kinds of weather, and the heating of the church when roads were bad, etc.

This brief item: A few brothers helped at the A. C. Home, in an annual clean-up job.

Emma Wissler, Bern, is a new cook at the home, and Sis. Leah Bauman is recuperating there, after fracturing her leg.

Here at Bern, we were lucky to have a beautiful covering of pure, white snow for Christmas Day. It obliterated all the ugly and dark . . . Really a good spiritual lesson, we think.

Traditional caroling was enjoyed at the rest homes and for shut-ins. The Bible Class and other classes were entertained for goodies at the Bro. Alvin Strahm home. Ronald Strahm, their son with the Marines, has been home for the holidays. He left on Jan. 5 for San Diego, California where he is stationed.

#### BLUFFTON, INDIANA Reporter: Frieda Kipfer

The marriage of Theodore Kipfer and Theresa Haiflich took place on Saturday evening, Dec. 15. Betty Reinhard and Carl Macklin were united in marriage by Bro. John Yergler, on Sun., Dec. 16.

Christmas was a happy time for our aged and shut-ins. They were visited by many carollers, and received many cards and gifts.

We enjoyed the Sunday School's program of Christmas songs on Dec. 16, also the talk by Bro. Loren Stoller of Latty.

Max Reimschisel and Emanuel Gerber were home on leave in December. Emanuel's address is Pvt. Emanuel L. Gerber U. S. 55748218, Co D 3rd Bn USAMTC Class 7B, Ft. Sam Houston, Texas.

Seven converts have been announced for proving on Jan. 12 (six were announced last month). They

are Betsy and Mavis Schaefer, Sharon and Phil Stettner, Donald Isch, Duane Gerber and Gary Tonner.

Four engagements were announced recently:

Rose Marie Gerber, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Edward Gerber, and Richard Kipfer, son of Bro. and Sis. William Kipfer.

Marilyn Baumgartner, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Roger Baumgartner, and Thomas Baumgartner, son of Bro. and Sis. Samuel Baumgartner.

Sis. Rose Mary Gerber, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Henry Gerber, and Bro. Gary Eisenman, son of Bro. William Eisenman, of Latty.

Sis. Margaret Meyer and Bro. Amos Bertsch, both of Bluffton.

Sis. Lena Liebig, 79, passed away on Jan. 4 at the Wells County Hospital, where she had been a patient four days. She was a daughter of Carl and Christene Gramm Liebig. Surviving are three sister, Sis. Ida Liebig of Toledo and Sis. Elizabeth and Katherine Liebig of Bluffton. Two sisters and a brother preceded her in death. Bro. Aeschliman officiated at the church, and Bro. Walter Rehklau of Toledo at the cemetery. Relatives and friends in attendance were from Elgin, Gridley, Latty, Toledo and Ft. Wayne.

In the hospital last month were Sis. Leah Rauch, Bros. Jacob Kaehr and William Aschliman, and Sarah Kehr.

Births: to Bro. and Sis. Larry Gerber, a daughter, on Dec. 22, and to Bro. and Sis. Ben Habegger, a son, on Dec. 24.

#### BREMEN, INDIANA Reporter: Lydia Heuberger

On Dec. 2, baptismal services were held for Tom Steffen, teenage son of Bro. and Sis. Manny Steffen. Elder Bro. Theo. Beer conducted the services. We all rejoice with Bro. Tom, and wish him much grace from our Heavenly Father, as he walks his pathway of life.

On Dec. 15, Bro. Robert Klopfenstein fell and injured his back, plus his already injured knee, and has been hospitalized since that date. We pray that Bro. Bob will soon be well enough to join his wife and two children at home. One son is in the Service.

The annual Christmas program by the Sunday School was held on

Dec. 16. The congregation appreciates the effort put forth by the teachers and students to retell the Christmas story and remind us of the true spirit of Christmas.

**BURLINGTON, IOWA**  
Reporter: Uriel Gehring

On Dec. 16, Mr. and Mrs. Don Launs of Bradgate, Ia., visited our church. Mrs. Lanus is a niece of Bro. Ernie Anliker.

A daughter, Tonya, was born to Bro. Dick and Sis. Dorothy Taeger on Dec. 20, at the Burlington Hospital. The little miss has another sister, 2-year-old Mindy.

Our Sunday School presented a short Christmas program on Dec. 23, immediately following the afternoon service. We all enjoyed seeing our youth give praise to the Christ Child. We hope as they grow older and accountable to God, they will not forget the child-like faith of their youth. On the evening of Dec. 23, a group of friends and members (35 in all, ages 6 to 60) went Christmas caroling for shut-ins and older people in Burlington. After the caroling, a chili supper was served to about 55 persons. It was a brisk evening, and the warm refreshment was welcomed by all.

We had a nice attendance at our Christmas services that were held at 10 in the morning on Christmas Day.

On Jan. 2, Bro. and Sis. Ben Wagler left for Los Angeles to visit Esther's sister, Elsie Crowder. They plan to stop at Phoenix, en route. They plan to be gone about a month.

On Jan. 4, Bro. and Sis. Ernie Anliker left for Florida, where they plan to vacation and visit our churches at Sarasota and Ft. Lauderdale. They plan to spend Jan. 6 with Bro. John Wagler and family and fellowship with the brethren and sisters at the Athens church. We wish both couples a blessed vacation and pray that they will return safely to us.

There are quite a few of the children and adults from the congregation afflicted with the flu, colds, and coughs that always seem to accompany the winter months.

Our dear friend, John Kuntz, has been hospitalized for a long while and had to submit to surgery, but at this writing he is back home,

and we hope will have a quick recovery.

With the advent of a new year upon us, and so much talk about New Year's resolutions, it is well for us all to take stock of our failures and shortcomings, and ask God for grace to overcome them, as none of us has yet reached perfection, even though through the Spirit of adoption we have become children of God. We all fall short of completely fulfilling the command of our Saviour, "Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect." We have not yet attained perfection, because we carry flesh and blood, and the flesh is weak and subject to human failures. We sometimes fall prey to our own thinking, rather than being in complete subjection to the will of God. That is why we must needs be chastised and warned by His Spirit to "die daily", and pray for continued grace. **If we continue in the faith grounded and settled and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel, some day Christ will present us holy and unblameable and unreprouvable in God's sight.** This should be our constant striving.

If we but review the past year in retrospect, we must admit that God has been good to us, especially in the nation we are privileged to live in. Let us not take this for granted, but thank God daily for it. I fear that sometimes our freedom and prosperity have been a hindrance, rather than a help to our faith, as Satan would like for us to think that by the workings of our own hands these things have come to be ours. Once we think that by ourselves we have accomplished things, we stand in great jeopardy concerning the continued grace of God, which we all must have to remain faithful to Him. Let us think of the faithful souls that have been called home in the past year, and how that they have won the battle of life, having defeated even the last enemy which is death itself. The eternal gain in the past year was made sure not for the number of souls who started the heavenly journey, but those who faithfully completed it. The soldier of the Lord is given this advice in Ephesians, chapter 6, verses 13 thru 18 "Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to

withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; and your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;"

**BURLINGTON, OKLAHOMA**  
Reporter: Mrs. Raymond Roth

On the evening of December 22, the youth choir sang Christmas carols for the shut-ins and our older people at Kiowa, Kansas, and Burlington. Later, refreshments were served to the group in the home of Bro. and Sis. Claud Springer.

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

Funeral services for Alf Meyer, formerly of the Burlington community, were held Dec. 24 by Bro. Eli Somerhalder, assisted by Bro. Ronald Nelson. Mr. Meyer, age 79, passed away at the Kiowa Hospital, following a stroke, Dec. 21.

We were happy to have with us on Sunday, Jan. 6, Bro. and Sis. Phil Sauder of Cissna Park and Bro. and Sis. John Sauder of Tremont. We wish to thank Bro. Phil for the inspiring messages he brought us during the day and again in the evening. A covered dish supper was held in the church dining room. A wonderful fellowship was enjoyed by all present.

Bro. Ed Kircher has been a patient in the Kiowa Hospital the past two weeks.

Our friend, Lena Stiager, is seriously ill in a hospital in Wichita.

Bro. Ed Farney was admitted to the Wesley Hospital, Wichita, and underwent more surgery on his neck, Jan. 9.

We are happy to have Sis. Eli Frieden assemble with us again, after being a shut-in for some time, following a stroke.

A special thanks to our sister, Mrs. John Somerhalder, for acting as substitute reporter the past two



months, while my husband and I were in Illinois.

### CISSNA PARK, ILLINOIS

Reporter: Mrs. Jeff Young

Communion services were held on December 16. Bros. Joe Getz, Silas Leuthold and Fred Grimm officiated. It indeed was a blessed day.

Our annual meeting was held Dec. 30. New officers elected were Bros. Melvin Walder, Ben Laubacher, Harry Hoffman and Harry Bauer.

Our Sunday School presented their annual Christmas program, the evening of Dec. 23, with a large attendance.

As Christmas and New Year services were held, the mid-week services were cancelled those two weeks.

Russel and Sis. Margaret Mott and family will be missed in our congregation, as they are planning to move to California. Margaret is the daughter of Bro. and Sis. Clarence Knapp.

Sis. Bertha Sinn is now at the Fairview Haven at Fairbury. We wish her much happiness and contentment in her new home.

Bro. Francis Knapp met with a car accident this past month, which resulted in the necessity of removing his right eye. He is now home and doing quite well.

Bro. Ed. Feller was hospitalized a few days, due to ulcers. Bro. Christ Sinn is in the hospital at this writing, but much improved.

Sis. Lily Kellerhals is getting along quite well, after being in the hospital a few days.

There are many more loved ones confined at their homes. Special prayers go out for all the sick.

A daughter, Kathy Ann, was born to Bro. and Sis. Richard Ehman, Jan. 3.

Our friend, Kenneth Hofer, had a hard asthma attack, and had to spend a week in the hospital.

### CONGERVILLE, ILLINOIS

Reporter: Ruth Schumacher

The Christmas program was held on Wednesday evening, December 19, in the church assembly room. The theme of the program was "The J-O-Y of Christmas"—J for "Jesus"—O for "others"—Y for "Your Part". We enjoyed the program, and appreciate the efforts of everyone who took

part.

Bro. Jake Miller, who is recovering from a serious back injury, asked us to convey this message for him, and we are happy to do it:

"We wish to thank the many friends and members for their many prayers and gifts through this period of trial and suffering. I sincerely believe that it has helped very much to speed my recovery, which I believe has been a speedy recovery, compared to most people with this condition. May the Lord bless and reward each one that has helped us in any way."

A new daughter has arrived to bless the home of Bro. Keith and Sis. Pauline Roth. They have named her Kay. She is welcomed by her brother and two sisters. Kay was born the day after Christmas.

Also the happy parents of a new daughter are our friends, Donald and Carolyn Ott. Suellen Kay was born December 30. She has one brother and one sister.

Bro. Ervan Rokey has been in the Eureka Hospital for about a week, but we are glad to hear that he is much improved and has returned home. His daughter, Janet (Mrs. Terry Klaus), also spent some time in the hospital at Champaign, Illinois, but she is improved and home again, too.

The Congerville or "Dells" Church is not at all hard to find. It is located on Route 150, between Goodfield and Congerville—about 2 miles west of Congerville, and about 2 miles east of Goodfield.

The church is located in the Mackinaw River Valley and is surrounded by wooded bluffs, which provides a pleasant setting. In the fall—especially when you approach from the east—the hillside is really very colorful.

In 1958 and 1959, the building was remodeled. A new assembly room was added on the main floor, with new Sunday School rooms below it. What had been the assembly room was made into a new dining room. We feel that it has worked out very well, & was accomplished with much help from God, love and co-operation. Visitors are welcome.

### CROGHAN-NAUMBURG, N. Y.

Reporter: Mrs. Clayton Virkler

The New Year came into our section with a real cold blast. Tem-

peratures were below zero—from 10 to 20 degrees below—and we had lots of snow. However, our hearts were still warmed from the love and fellowship we enjoyed with the Elder Bros. Sam Aeschliman, Rudolph Graf, and John Bahler, who braved the snow and cold to be with us the week end of December 16. Services were held at Croghan during the day, and in the afternoon, Bro. John Widrick of the Croghan church was ordained elder. For the majority of the members, it was the first ordination they had ever witnessed. There were a number of visiting brethren with us for this event. The ordination service was certainly an inspiration and a challenge to each of us. At night, services were held at Naumburg, and at that time, the conference report was summarized.

Hospital patients for the month are: Linda Virkler (daughter of Bro. Lowell and Sis. Celia Virkler), Sis. Pearl Lehman, Sis. Peral Virkler, and Bro. John Merz. Rose Farney is recovering from a heart spell and is at present with her brother, Ernest Farney, at Lowville.

We are very happy to announce that Edna Sturtze of the Naumburg congregation has found peace with her Lord, and has been announced for proving.

We had union services at Naumburg, December 23, and enjoyed the exercises of the Sunday School, after afternoon services. Croghan held their exercises that same evening, and a fair-sized group braved very stormy conditions to come & hear them. Both churches made Christmas packages for the shut-ins, and caroled for them. The Sunday after Christmas, a group sang at two nursing homes in Wattertown. The patients seemed so very thankful for it . . . seems as though no regular services are held there.

The following is an address change:

A 2C Wayne L Virkler

A F 12625758

C 8456

Lowry Air Force Base 30, Colorado

### ELGIN, ILLINOIS

Reporter: Louise Steffen

On Dec. 11, Sis. Minnie Spohr went back with her sister, Sis. Rica Messner of Hancock, where she is

staying indefinitely.

The proving of Helen Banwart and Rose Viellieber was held on Saturday evening, Dec. 15. The baptisms were held on Sunday afternoon, Dec. 16. The explanation of baptism was given, not to the washing away of sins, which should already be forgiven, but to the burying of them in the death of Christ, also the laying on of hands by the presbytery (elders), after baptism. I Timothy 4:14.

On Dec. 21, a group of young folks went caroling to some of our older members; also, our Sunday School choir went on Dec. 22. Our Christmas program was held on Dec. 23, Sunday evening. We all enjoyed the efforts put forth by the children, in saying pieces and singing. Visitors the 23rd were Bro. and Sis. Robert and Carol Haas and family, Bro. and Sis. Noah and Shirley Nohl and family, Bro. and Sis. Carl and Helen Jose and family, all of Morris, Bro. and Sis. Leon and Martha Schneider and family of Rockville, and Sis. Liebig of Toledo.

On the 22nd of December, a son was born to Bro. Gerald and Sis. Marilyn Kellenberger. His name is Gregory Russell.

The funeral of Alma Huber, sister-in-law of Sisters Lizzy, Nina and Mary, was held at Stout's Funeral Home on Dec. 24, 10:00 A.M. Bro. Herman Kellenberger had the service.

Sis. Lizzy Huber left Dec. 28 by train to visit her brother and his wife at Tombstone, Ariz., and also to visit her niece, Corine, at Phoenix.

Sis. Emma Moser and daughter, Sis. Marie, left by plane on Dec. 28 for Phoenix. Sis. Marie came back on Jan. 6, while her mother is staying for the winter months, with some of the time in California also.

The memorandum was read by our elder brothers on the 30th of December.

Bonnie Wiess, age 7, daughter of Bro. Morrie and Sis. Jan, had her tonsils out Monday, Dec. 31. Sis. Lydia Kellenberger fell, broke some ribs & was in the hospital, but has returned home again. Both Sis. Helen Banwart and her husband, Leo, are hospitalized. We wish them all the grace and help of the Lord.

On Jan. 17, Sis. Rosa Preiss and daughters, Janet and Diane, plan

on leaving for Escondido, California, where they will stay six months. A daughter, Cynthia, lives there. We pray the Lord's blessing upon them.

Due to an error, this did not get in the Silver Lining as it should have: Sis. Lydia Schock, age 58, passed away at her home on Oct. 13, due to a lingering illness. The funeral was held on Monday, Oct. 15, 2:00 o'clock, at the church. Services were held by Bro. Joe A. Getz of Morton, and Bro. William Stettner.

The age of our elders: LeRoy Huber, 44; Lester Hartter, 46; Carl Kinsinger, 48; Roy Farney, 51; Irvin Lehman, 53; Fred Grimm, 53; Samuel Anliker, 57; Rudolph Graf, 60; Paul Banwart, 72; George Sinn, 62; John Bahler, 61; Joshua Broguard, 63; Theo Beer, 64; Herman Kellenberger, 62; Noah Bauman, 65; Frank Woertz, 69; Silas Leuthold, 69; Joseph Klopfenstein, 65; David Mangold, 70; Henry Kilgus, 70; Noah Schrock, 70; Samuel Aeschliman, 71; Joseph Getz, 73; Joseph Waibel, 73; Joseph Wittmer, 75; George Yergler, 75; Otto Ramseyer, 74; Henry Koehl, 80; Philemon Aeschliman, 82; and William Stettner, 83.

### ELGIN, IOWA

**Reporter: Mrs. George Butikofer**

For this part of the world, we are having unusually mild temperatures; today, the mercury is at 45 degrees above zero. There are scatterings of snow in the fields and along the highways, but by and large, the blanketing of snow is nil. Last year by this time, we beheld many inches of ice and snow.

### New Year

The New Year's like a package  
large,  
Eecurely wrapped and tied;  
No use in trying hard to guess  
Whatever is inside.

Some days will be bright and gay,  
And some not quite so good;  
No New Year's package ever holds  
What we may think it should.

So let us from our Father take  
The days just one by one;  
And trust Him for His love and  
care,  
Until the year is done.

We have a death and a baptism to report.

Bro. Dan Butikofer, aged 82, passed away Dec. 30. Funeral services were held by Bro. Fred Grimm from Quincy, Illinois. Surviving are his wife, Sis. Celia; 5 daughters and 4 sons; and 22 grandchildren. We will certainly miss Dan in our congregation. He and his wife celebrated their golden wedding anniversary in October, '62. Some of the folks of like faith attending the funeral from a distance were Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Butikofer, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Cottrell, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Grimm, from Quincy; Mr. and Mrs. Eli Sutter, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Heimer, Taylor; Mr. and Mrs. Paul Gerst, Mrs. John Shrock, Mrs. Mark Grimm, Mr. and Mrs. John Wagenbach, Mrs. Robert Frank, Oakville; Mr. and Mrs. Fred Marti, Ben Banwart, Clara Marti, Lamar.

God continues to give grace for repentance to those who seek Him. On Jan. 6, we witnessed the baptismal services for Mary Ann Metzger, who gave her testimony of repentance and of peace with God. She is the daughter of Bro. Ervin and Sis. Ruth Metzger. Elder Paul Banwart of West Bend officiated, assisted by Bro. Leo Moser of Lester. We hope that many more will be awakened to the love, that our Saviour is so ready to give to every soul that longs for Him as a Redeemer.

### EUREKA, ILLINOIS

**Reporter: Cathryn Wettstein**

It was mentioned in the last Silver Lining about the plans to have the three friends, Wilma Lehman, Nelma Eastman and Curtis Rocke, to give their testimonies Dec. 8. This was done on Saturday evening, and they were baptized the next day, Sunday, Dec. 9. This was accomplished by Bros. George Yergler (from La Crosse), Dave Mangold and Leroy Huber. Also that day Bro. Art Gudeman from La Crosse and Bro. Edward Kloter from Fairbury were guests. It was a blessed day for everyone. The three happy souls are thankful that God has helped them to find this new pathway in their life. May God be ever with them and us all.

Dec. 12, Wednesday evening, the Roanoke congregation gathered with us to hear the report from



the recent conference which was held in Francesville. Bros. Joe Getz, Frank Woertz, Dave Mangold and Leroy Huber shared this with us. May the results of this help us to be more obedient to God's way and will.

Dec. 19, Wednesday evening, the Sunday School children presented the Christmas program. It was very interesting. They brought out the facts, in words and songs, how dark this world would be had Jesus not been born. The Prairie Choristers sang, before and after the program, several songs that fit in with the program. A Christmas program is always very impressive, with all the children, large and small, taking part in it.

On Christmas Day, Bro. George Wagonbach from Princeville was our guest speaker. On New Years Day, Bro. Leroy had the services.

Sis. Christina Unziker remains a patient at the Eureka Hospital.

Douglas Leman, son of Bro. and Sis. Sam and Aldine Leman, is repenting.

A son, Edward, was born to Bro. Gerald and Sis. Velma (Miller) Leman, Jan. 4.

### FAIRBURY, ILLINOIS

Reporter: Joyce Huber

Sis. Barbara Armbruster passed away, and funeral services were held Dec. 20.

The Sunday School classes presented the Christmas story in a program Sunday evening, Dec. 23.

A baby boy, Quinn Delane, was born to Bro. and Sis. Warren Zehr on Jan. 9. Also welcoming him home is his sister, LaRae.

Bro. Melvin and Sis. Kathrine Huber visited Fairbury Jan. 11 and 12 for the last time before their departure back to South America. Also, some members from out-of-town came to Fairbury to bestow their blessings.

Enclosed is a poem which the Reuben Bachs wanted me to send to you . . .

### A Soldier Kit

Composed by Sis. Sarah Zehr,  
now deceased

A kit, two needles and some thread,  
Brown, gray, black and white,  
A thimble, now use your head,  
And 'twill fit your finger just right.

Some buttons and pins, too,  
And a pair of scissors you'll need  
To cut the threads to help you through,

To be a soldier prepared and neat.

Now, Harry, let's make a story of this . . .

The kit is the Bible, holding your need,

Showing you heaven, comfort and bliss,

But not till you work will you succeed.

The needles are God's word that sticks through your heart;

The thread is the love the needles draw in;

The scissors is the grace to cut evil apart.

Good deeds and signs are the buttons and pins.

The thimble is the courage that pushes the way,

For God's word the needle that sticks your heart,

So use them all, dear Harry, I pray;

T'will heal all the pieces torn apart!

### FORREST, ILLINOIS

Reporter: Nancy Honegger

Our Christmas program was held December 16. We enjoyed the beautiful singing and hearing the smaller children joyfully telling the story of Christ's birth.

Sis. Miriam Bachtold has underwent ear surgery and is recovering nicely.

On December 23, we enjoyed hearing the testimony & witnessing the baptism of our friend, Janice Honegger.

Born to Bro. Glen and Sis. Mildred Zimmerman, Dec. 28 is a boy, Jeffrey Lee.

Born to Bro. Leroy and Sis. Juanita Koehl, Dec. 30, a girl, Dawn Renee.

Sis. Miriam Wenger, who had been hospitalized with a throat infection, is now convalescing at home.

Bro. Henry Kilgus is slowly improving, but is still confined to his home.

### FT. LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA

Reporter: Florence Sutter

Bro. Dave and Sis. Anna Mangold have arrived for the winter months and are living in Ft. Lauderdale.

Our winter guests are quite

numerous, and will increase in the next few months.

Bro. Al Fisher and Sis. Margaret spent 3 weeks with us here. Dave and Sis. Martha Kaufman of Akron are living in their winter home at Lakeworth.

I will also mention a few of our recent visitors: Bro. Stan Hodel and family, Bro. Bob Scherer and family, Bro. Dick Bowald and family, Bro. Curt Sauder and family, all of Roanoke.

Bro. Elmer Roth and family of Fairbury, Bro. Les Plattner and family of Goodfield. Bro. Ed Schupach and family of Tremont, Bro. John Leuthold and family, Bro. Kieser and family of Princeville, also Robert Kaufman of Akron.

### FORT SAM HOUSTON, TEXAS

Reporter: Norman L. Haerr

The month of December has been one filled with much happiness for the ones here at Ft. Sam. Why? Home for Christmas! Yes, for many of us it meant that, at least for a short time, we could visit with, enjoy and be near our Moms, Dads, brothers or sisters or whoever it might be. It meant that for a short time we could forget about shining our brass, shining our shoes and the wearing of our uniform. It meant that we could go home to our mom's cooking and forget about the chow hall. It meant that we could sleep in our old familiar beds again and not the army bunk. But above all of this, it meant that we could go home to our own churches and worship the "Babe" who did eventually grow into manhood and did love us enough that He did die for us. Yes, this is why the month of December was a happy one for us.

Also along with this we were happy for the visitors that journeyed to San Antonio. They consisted of Bro. and Sis. Bob Wagenbach, Marvin, Diane, and Elaine, and Bro. and Sis. Herman Laidig of Tremont; Bro. and Sis. Kenneth Furrer, Julie and Sammy, of Wolcott, and Sis. Clara Zehr of Fairbury, who came with them. Also here were Bro. and Sis. Tod Feller of Kouts, Indiana, and Bro. and Sis. Ezra Feller of Cissna Park. Bro. Ezra spent several weeks with us, and we truly appreciate his ministering of the Word unto us.

The following are the address changes since the last writing:

Pvt Donald L Furrer 55713308  
Btry A 3rd Msl Bn (NH)  
43rd Arty  
Clementon, New Jersey

Pvt Harvey R Kaisner 56355047  
690th Med Co (Amb)  
Ft Benning, Georgia

Pvt Max E Reimschisel 55478617  
Co C 2nd Bn USAMTC Class 47A  
Ft Sam Houston, Texas

Pvt Ronald Barth 55755635  
Co C 2nd Bn USAMTC Class 48A  
Ft Sam Houston, Texas

Pvt Dale A Feller 55746620  
Co C 2nd Bn USAMTC Class 48A  
Ft Sam Houston, Texas

The following is the schedule of visiting ministers: Feb. 10, Francesville; Feb. 24, Maywood; March 10, Tremont.

Every now and then, a boy will arrive here at Ft. Sam for training, and we don't know he is here. We don't know how to get in touch with him, and he doesn't know how to get in touch with us. In order to prevent this, we are asking that, when someone is coming down, we could know of this fact. We don't have to know what company he is coming to or anything. All we need to know is when he is leaving home, and we can watch for his arrival here. I can speak from experience, that when I arrived here at Ft. Sam, there was nothing that made me happier than when I heard a certain person say, "Hi, Norm; Greetings, Brother". Let us give this same experience to someone else.

### **FORT SCOTT, KANSAS**

**Reporter: Marie Zaugg**

Those who came home for Christmas were Bro. and Sis. Lester Kaiser and family of Morton; Bro. and Sis. Robert Hoerr and family, Bro. and Sis. Louis Hoerr and Rachelle of Taylor; Bro. and Sis. Harvey Smith and family of Wichita; Bro. and Sis. Sam Huber and family, Burlington, Kansas; and Ronald Sinn, son of Bro. and Sis. Gus Sinn. His address is P.O. Box 5246, 2910 Herbert St., Alexandria, Louisiana.

George Sinn had surgery Dec. 28. He is now home and getting along pretty good.

The Sunday School presented

their Christmas program December 19. The children did real well. May the real meaning of Christmas enter each heart.

Beth Ann and Caroline Rose Sinn, daughters of Lester and Shirley Sinn, are in the hospital with bronchial pneumonia. They are improving, at this writing.

### **Elizabeth Christena Sinn**

On Sunday, Dec. 16, we laid away our aged sister, Elizabeth Christena Sinn. She was the daughter of Fred and Christena Greiner. She was almost 82 years of age, being the oldest member of our congregation. She had served the Lord 62 years.

She was born at Ekartsweiler, Germany, on Jan. 24, 1881. She came to America with her mother at the age of fourteen. Her father had been here several years. She settled in Vernon County, Missouri, with her parents, just two miles from where she spent the rest of her life.

She was united in marriage to George John Sinn, at Fort Scott, in April, 1899, by the probate judge. They were married 55 years in April, 1954, prior to the death of Bro. Sinn in December, 1954.

She was confirmed in the Lutheran Church, before coming to America. She and her husband answered the call of the Lord together, in 1900, when their first child was a baby. At that time there was no church here, and they gathered in the houses. That was also before we all had automobiles and all-weather roads. They were taken to Fort Scott by horse and buggy, then boarded a train to Burlington. They were again met by horse and buggy and taken to Gridley, Kansas, to be proved and baptized by our Elder Bro. Joseph Huber.

Eleven children were born to this union, of whom nine survive. Two sons are deceased. The surviving are Fred, Joseph, George, August (Gus), and Charles of Fort Scott; Mrs. John (Tena) Schwind of Peoria; Mrs. Edward (Louise) Graf of Elgin, Ill.; Ida and Mike of home. She also leaves 25 grandchildren and 29 great-grandchildren.

She was the last of a family of seven children, one sister being buried in Germany. She had been in failing health for almost 10

years and bedfast the past year, having suffered a stroke the day after Christmas, 1961. She was cared for at her home by her children, and passed away on Dec. 13. Bros. Sam Anliker and Jacob Pfister held the services at the church. She was laid to rest beside her husband.

### **FORT WAYNE, INDIANA** **Reporter: Mrs. Albert E. Kipfer**

Bro. and Sis. Myron Hackenjoss are the happy parents of a baby girl, born December 23. She has been named Annette Lorine. Congratulations to you.

Also, Bro. and Sis. Hackenjoss moved to a new location in September, which was not reported. The new address is: 5412 Archwood Lane, Ft. Wayne.

Sis. Elizabeth (Reinick) Blume, wife of Bro. Daniel Blume, passed away Friday, Dec. 28, at 1:20 P.M., at the Lutheran Hospital, where she had been a patient three days. She had reached the age of 77 years. Sis. Elizabeth has been in failing health the last year and has been unable to attend church regularly. She was a native of Junction, but has resided here since 1929.

Survivors include her husband, Dan, and three stepsons, Jessie, Decatur; Arthur J., Fort Wayne, and Melvin R., of Wauconda, Ill.; three step-daughters, Mrs. Ray M. Grote, Fort Wayne; Sis. Levi Pfister, Gibbon, Minn.; and Mrs. John Hathaway, Chicago; a brother, Eli Reinick, Bluffton; two sisters, Mrs. John Kaehr and Mrs. Mary Dotterer both of Bluffton; 35 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Monday, Dec. 31, at 1:00 P.M., at the D. O. McComb and Sons Funeral Home, and at 1:30 at the Church. Bro. Philip Gutwein officiated at this rite, with Bros. Sam Aeschliman and Norman Stoller assisting. Burial was in the Apostolic church cemetery at Bluffton.

Sis. Elizabeth will be missed, and we extend our sympathy to the family.

Bro. Norman Stoller read the following poem at the close of the services, as a final tribute to our Sis. Elizabeth:

Thou art gone to the grave,  
But we will not deplore thee,

Tho' sorry and darkness encompassed the tomb;  
The Saviour has passed thro' its portals before thee,  
And the lamp of His love is thy guide thro' the gloom.

Thou art gone to the grave;  
We no longer behold thee,  
Nor tread the rough path of the world by thy side,  
But the wide arms of mercy are spread to enfold thee,  
And sinners may hope, since the Sinless has died.

Thou art gone to the grave,  
But 'twere wrong to deplore thee,  
For God was thy ransom, thy guardian, and guide;  
He gave thee; He took thee,  
And he will restore thee,  
And death has no sting,  
Since the Saviour has died.

We are happy to announce that friend Janice Pfister, wife of Robert Pfister, has repented and found peace with God. Janice was proved and baptized Sunday, Jan. 6, by Bro. Sam Aeschliman. We wish her God's richest blessings in her new walk of life. Sis. Janice is the daughter of Bro. Jake and Sis. Emma Bahler of Remington. Quite a number of relatives and friends attended the ceremony.

The ministers who have assisted in serving us in the past four weeks are Bro. Henry Beer, Dec. 16; Bro. Carl Kipfer, Dec. 23; Bro. John Bollier, Dec. 30; and Brothers Sam Aeschliman, Henry Sabo, Ben Stavenik, and Alfred Bahler, Jan. 6.

#### FRANCESVILLE, INDIANA

Reporter: Mrs. Elmer Bucher

May we fill the year of 1963 with love for one another, and always be willing to lend a helping hand to one in need.

We rejoice that our friend, Don Erb, has turned to the Lord in repentance. May God give him much grace in his new life.

Bro. Perry Neihouser has undergone surgery on his eye. Sis. Mary Wuethrich has been quite ill at her home. Let us remember our loved ones in prayer.

On Sunday, Jan. 6, a pot-luck supper was held at the church in honor of Bro. and Sis. Melvin Huber and family. After having been in our midst for one year,

they now plan to return to Brazil. We of the Francesville church have been deeply impressed by the love, humility and fervent zeal which they have displayed during their short stay with us. We thank God for the privilege of having had their fellowship.

Freddie Gutwein, son of Harvey and Madeliene Gutwein, and Madeliene Smith were married December 30.

#### GIRARD, OHIO

Reporter: Jesse C. Emch

Sunday evening, Dec. 23, our Sunday School children presented a short program, and following, we had our regular Christmas service. It is always very touching to observe the very sincerity and innocence.

We were privileged to have with us on Dec. 26, Bro. Melvin and Sis. Kathryn Huber.

On Sunday, Dec. 30, we had a very blessed day. We had two precious souls added to our brotherhood. We could witness the proving and baptism of Karen Stoll and Dianne Emch, and then welcome them as sisters in the Lord. Elder Bros. Theo Beer & Rudolph Graf, & Bro. Forest Ritzman, with their wives, also many others from Rittman, Akron, and Milford were present.

At this writing, Bro. Ernest Hafely is in the hospital. During the last few weeks, he has suffered two slight strokes. If it is the Lord's will, we would be glad to see him home soon. Sis. Louise Lance and her son, George, with his children who live in Iowa City, Ia., were home with us for several days at Christmas time.

#### A Guide For The New Year

And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year,  
"Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown!"

And he replied:

"Go out into the darkness  
and put thine hand into  
the Hand of God.

That shall be to thee better  
than that light, and safer than  
a known way."

#### GOODFIELD, ILLINOIS

Reporter: Marian Wiegand

The annual Christmas program

was given by the Sunday School classes on December 16. It is always heart-warming to see the children speak of Christ and his birth at this precious time of the year.

Sis. Edith Tanner has been a patient at the Eureka Hospital.

#### Review Of 1962

Another year — 52 weeks, or 365 days — has passed, and all so quickly. Here is a review of changes, new beginnings and endings in the past year:

Completion of the new auditorium and dining room: Dedication services held June 17.

Births: Harold and Carol Hohulin, a boy; Willis and Betty Wiegand, a boy; Robert and Elna Grimm, a boy; Clyde and Charlene Knobloch, a boy; Hans and Arlene Hinrichsen, a girl; Richard and Janet Knecht, a boy—Six sweet, new blossoms in God's garden.

Baptisms: Lou Funk, Richard Franks, Harold Hohulin, Carol Hohulin—Reborn children to work for their Master.

Deaths: Emma Funk, Simon Wiegand, Emma Helderle. We think of death as ending; let us rather think of it as a glorious beginning of life.

This gives our church six additional children. We have four new members and lost three, or a gain of one.

Time is precious, short and uncertain, and for which we must be accountable.

#### GRIDLEY, ILLINOIS

Reporter: Mary Alyce Witzig

Bro. John and Sis. Carolyn Schlipf are the parents of a third daughter, Nancy Lou, born December 14. Nancy's sisters are Ann and Susan.

Edwin and Sis. Barbara Ann Meiss are the parents of Trent Ray, who arrived on December 14. Trent has two brothers, Tim and Ty.

Gregg Richard is the new son of Bro. Earl and Sis. Edith Meiss. Gregg, who was born December 28, has two sisters, Sharon and Jane, and three brothers, Steve, Robert and Mark.

A group of about 55 members and friends went Christmas Caroling to shut-ins on December 18. All those visited seemed to enjoy it very much, and I'm sure all who went along also received a blessing.



On Saturday afternoon, December 22, another group went caroling, and conducted short services for our shut-ins.

The holidays brought many people "home" for a visit. Among these were the children and grandchildren of Roy and Sis. Matilda Alt, who were all together for the first time in 15 years. Adeline lives in Alhambra, California; Gladys in Phoenix; and Gene in St. Louis, Missouri.

Our friends, Marvin and Annette Kaupp, were home for several days. Marvin is in the service, stationed at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. Their address there is P.O. Box 475, Waynesville, Missouri.

Our friends, Harold and Virginia Kaupp, who are stationed at Indianapolis, Indiana, were also home for a few days. Their address is 5875 Sunnyside Road, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Friend Perry Klopfenstein returned to Fort Carson, Colorado, after a three-week visit here. His address is Perry Klopfenstein U.S. 55723509, Hq & Co A 5th Med Bn, Fort Carson, Colorado.

Sisters Eunice and Lydia Kammerer had the misfortune of an automobile accident on December 20, and are both in the Methodist Hospital in Peoria. Both are improving slowly and will be in the hospital for some time yet. Sis. Emma Grusy fell, on her way home from church Christmas morning, breaking her wrist and pelvis. She is in the Brokaw Hospital, Normal, Illinois. I'm sure these three sisters would enjoy your cards and letters.

Our friend, Bruce Witzig, son of Bro. Alph and Sis. Lillian, submitted to an emergency appendectomy, January 4, at the Menonite Hospital, Bloomington, and is satisfactorily improving.

The Sunday School Christmas program was held December 23, with all Sunday School classes participating. Surely all those present could enjoy a blessing from the songs and recitations.

Bro. John Wagler, his wife, Sis. Ann, and daughter, Sis. Susan, of Athens, visited us Thursday evening, December 27. He delivered a very inspiring message, based on Isaiah 53. He pointed out, that not many believed on Christ even when He walked on this earth,

even as today so few believe, as He stands at the heart's door and knocks.

Bro. Harold Gramm and family of Morris spent several days here, visiting relatives and friends. We enjoyed many blessings from the word of God, spoken to us by Bro. Harold.

Our old friend, Aaron Funk, who made his home in Gridley until recently, was given the opportunity to give testimony of his faith and be baptized on January 6. Bro. Aaron certainly seems to enjoy the beginning of this new life. May God ever bless and keep him.

Bro. Joe Zimmerman of Roanoke was here Sunday afternoon, January 6. We thank him very much for his message. We enjoyed his visit very much.

#### GRIDLEY, KANSAS

Reporter: Mrs. Rudy Bahr

Some of the Sunday School children went caroling to shut-ins and elderly folks on Dec. 21.

We are very thankful to Bro. Roy Wernli for the messages he brought us on December 30, while our ministers were ill.

The small classes of Sisters Bertha Beyer, Eileen Bahr, and Ella Raaf gave their part of the Christmas program for Sis. Ida Esslinger, who is in a wheel chair and unable to attend church, on Sunday morning, Dec. 30.

Our Sunday School Christmas program was held Sunday evening, Dec. 23. The Sunday evening before, they had a program practice, and enjoyed a treat of popcorn afterwards.

Bro. Loren Strahm was in the hospital for about ten days. Ruth their youngest daughter, also entered the hospital and was there several days. We are happy to report, they were both released Sunday, Jan. 6.

Ministering Bros. Wayne Miller and Jim Bahr and families visited with us Sunday, Jan. 6. We appreciate their coming, and hope they return again soon.

As I write this on the 10th, the wind has switched to the north and promises us a return to winter—we had mild, sunshiny weather, in the 60's, the past two days . . . we've had considerable damp and cloudy weather, receiving more rain. The mud is thick, and so is the virus, flu, and colds.

#### HILLSBORO, ALABAMA

Reporter: Clara Heiniger

Sis. Julia Hale of Paulding has been visiting her parents, Elmer and Sis. Martha Evans. Elmer has been bedfast for several weeks.

Monday evening, Dec. 10, Bro. Junior Hale held services at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Riley Terry of Courtland, Alabama. They are the parents of Don Hale's wife. We praise God for the great interest in His Word, and the singing among all the people.

Dec. 17, the Bible class of teenage children enjoyed an evening of caroling among the many sick folks, with Bro. Junior Hale directing them. Later, refreshments were served at the church.

The Primary children enjoyed an afternoon of caroling for a dear lady, Mrs. Meyers, unable to walk, and their hearts were touched as she spoke with tears, thanking them for remembering them with songs, the Christmas story, and little gifts.

Sun., Dec. 23, the children gave the Christmas program for the congregation, which was enjoyed by all.

Bro. Junior Hale and family are having worship service Sunday mornings at the home of Bro. and Sis. H. L. Ivey, for friends and neighbors in the Madison, Ala., area.

#### ILLINOIS STATE NORMAL UNIVERSITY

Reporter: Joyce Kaufmann

" . . . Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature". (St. Mark 16:15).

What a wonderful thought to begin a new year.

On January 10, we were indeed pleased to have the Mortonnaires present a program of hymn singing, following the scriptural reading and message delivered by Bro. Henry Grimm from Morton. The lesson was taken from Acts 16. Correlated were the securing of Paul and Silas in the prison with the securing of Christ in the tomb. As we are well aware, we, too, can be liberated from our "prison" of sin, just as Paul and Silas were liberated from prison.

Again we praise God that students who attend our Bible study, Lillie Moore from Fairbury, Gloria Hodel from Cissna Park, Doug Le-man from Eureka, and Gene

Strunk from Morton, have accepted the call of Christ, and seek Him as their personal Saviour.

### JUNCTION, OHIO

**Reporter: Mrs. Alvin H. Manz**

We are pleased to announce the birth of a new baby girl to Bro. Ben and Sis. Carolyn Manz. This, their first child, has been named Judith Sue. Bro. Ben is a son of Bro. Henry and Sis. Lena Manz, and Sis. Carolyn is a daughter of Sis. Aldula Steffen of Bluffton. Sis. Aldula spent a few weeks caring for her new granddaughter.

Our ministering Bro. Andrew Dotterer was removed to his home New Year's Day from the Paulding Memorial Hospital, and is some improved, but still should not have many visitors. Their daughter, Sis. Marilyn Fetter of Toledo, is helping at home.

Sis. Lena Manz is still confined to her home, after suffering a fall, December 16, just as she was preparing to leave for church (after a few weeks' absence).

Many have been down with colds this past month — spring is surely the most anxiously awaited season of the year, I believe.

On New Year's Day, our Elder Bro. George Sinn came to us and read the memorandum of the Brother Meeting. We are thankful for our elders and their loving care shown to us in the memorandum. Let us make their task easier, by listening carefully to their message and obeying, as God commands us.

We also elected Sunday School teachers to serve for the next two years, and added a new class to our growing number of children. We now have four classes, the teachers being as follows, beginning with the smallest children: 1st class — Sis. Francis Dotterer; 2nd class — Sis. Ruth Manz; 3rd class — Bro. Emanuel Manz; and 4th class — Bro. Elias Manz.

### LA CROSSE, INDIANA

**Reporter: Mrs. Chas. Rinkenberger**

We enjoyed having Bro. and Sis. Samuel Kilgus of Remington and Bro. and Sis. Vernon Schwab of Wolcott, on Dec. 9.

Bro. Phil Heinold, Keith Heinold and Dennis Bucher were home from the service a few days. It is a joy to have them with us.

We had such an inspiring mes-

sage by Bro. Ezra Feller of Cissna Park, on New Year's Day.

Keith and Lana Nuest have a baby boy.

Sis. Melva Bucher had surgery today. We hope and pray she will soon be feeling fine.

### LAMAR, MISSOURI

**Reporter: Marie Marti**

We rejoice again to have a sister added to our congregation. Sis. Joan Banwart gave her testimony and was baptized on December 9. Elder Bro. Sam Anliker and Bro. Carl Hartman brought inspiring messages to us on that day. They were accompanied by Bro. Dan Kraft and Sis. Louise Hartman. There were many welcome visitors from Burlington, Wichita, and Ft. Scott to fellowship with us on that day and to share in the rich blessings.

Bro. Dale Marti, Sis. Alice Marti and Sis. Arlene Marti were recently chosen to teach in our Sunday School. We pray that God will guide them, as they instill truths in the young and tender hearts of our children.

Many from distant points came here for the holiday season, to be with their loved ones. Bros. and Sisters John Schrock, Bob Franks, Harvey Banwart, Lester Nuest, Alvin Neust, Roy Schrock, Ray Martin, Jerry Steffen, Raymond Banwart and families; Sis. Rosemary Marti, Sis. Clara Marti, Bro. Phil Heinold, Billy Dean Schlupp, and Don and Eileen Braker were among those who spent Christmas here.

### LAMONT, KANSAS

**Reporter: Mrs. Bernie Emch**

Bro. Roy and Sis. Betty Wernli are the parents of a baby girl, Nancy Kay, born Dec. 17. Sis. Betty's mother, Sis. Esther Knapp of Forrest, spent three weeks with them, helping in the home.

Our Sunday School went to Emporia, Wed. evening, Dec. 17, and sang Christmas carols and presented fruit boxes to our shut-ins, Bro. Sam Ott at the Meadows Nursing Home. . . . Bro. G. Gruber and Sis. Mary Emch, and the Newman Hospital.

On Christmas eve, Gridley assembled with us for church services. Our Sunday School presented their Christmas program before the service, and Bro. Loren Strahm

ministered unto us.

Sis. Kathryn Anliker, wife of Elder Samuel Anliker, entered Newman Hospital, Jan. 7 for tests and observation, and now is awaiting surgery.

As we again enter another year, our Elder Bro. Samuel Anliker mentioned in his sermon, that at this time of year, how we all take an inventory of our material possessions, balance our books, and pay what is required of us. Therefore, we should also be mindful of the Book of Life and an inventory of our standing with God, as He has given us so many benefits, and we are in debt with Him. So let us get our record in order, and not waste this precious time He has allotted each soul to prepare itself. After our life is over, the Book will be closed and no altering can be done. It will then be too late.

### LANDERSVILLE, ALABAMA

**Reporter: Clara Heiniger**

Friday evening, Dec. 7, worship service was held in the home of Bro. Carl and Mavis Naylor.

Worship service was held in the home of Washi Frost, Friday evening, Dec. 14. He is the brother of Richard Frost.

Dec. 18, the primary children caroled at the home of Mrs. Sherrill, for her and her sister, Mrs. Smith, and daughter, Lorine. They enjoyed the blessing of the little children's singing and the Christmas story, and gave little gifts to them.

Sunday evening, Dec. 23, a Christmas program was given by the children, and was enjoyed by the congregation.

Dec. 28, worship service was held in the home of Billy and Shelby (Rainey) Dutton. A blessed evening was enjoyed by all.

### LEO, INDIANA

**Reporter: Mrs. Elias Souder**

Our Sunday School children gave the Christmas program at the Fellowship Center, Sunday evening, Dec. 23. John and Mary Baumgartner from Bluffton and Herman and Lauretta Wuethich from Francesville were our guests.

Edward Hall spent several weeks at the hospital after suffering a heart attack. He is at home now, convalescing.

Louise Schlatter underwent surgery at the Parkview Hospital,

Dec. 31, and is now home again, getting better. Her sister, Mamie, who has been ill, is also at home improving.

Two groups from our church visited two Butler Rest Homes on Sunday, Jan. 6.

Mrs. Lowell Lantz and her little son are at home with Mary and David Lantz. Lowell is in the Navy.

### Early History Of The John Conrad Farm

About 1830, Jacob Conrad, father of John Conrad, left Alsace Lorraine, France, for religious reasons and came to America. He resided in Stark county, Ohio, for some years.

He must have been a real pioneer, for in 1853, he loaded his family and all possessions he had into a covered wagon, and with two oxen, he made the long trek to Indiana, coming through Ft. Wayne, passing the site of the old Indian fort. As a guide, he followed the St. Joe River to Leo—(called Hamilton at that time). He had to ford the St. Joe River where the Leo bridge now stands.

He bought up the entire parcel of land in this swampy river bottom where wild hogs and deer roamed the forests. This contained the John Conrad farm, the J. J. Conrad farm and the Elias Conrad farm, later known as the Joseph and Laura Schlatter farm. A few miles from here, a parcel of land was purchased for the oldest son, Jacob Conrad.

Their first home here was a log house. Here John Conrad was born, in 1858.

In 1880, Jacob and Elizabeth Conrad, father and mother of John Conrad, deeded  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre of their land where the Apostolic Christian Church now stands for the consideration of \$1.00, for a little church. This was the first church house of our denomination in this part of the country. Many changes have been made, and a new church has replaced the old.

When John Conrad was 18 years old, he spent one winter in Illinois, going to German school taught by Father Hohulin. He had many fond memories of that winter.

In June, 1879, he married Mary Schlatter of Leo. They continued to live in this log house, where 10 children were born.

In the winter of 1892, in zero weather, the 14-inch-thick ice was cut out of the St. Joe River, and he was baptized by Brother Bella. Mary his wife was baptized some years later.

He built the first cheese factory on this farm. Swiss cheese was made here for many years. Also, in later years he built the first brickyard in this section.

In 1912, he built the brick house, which still stands across the highway from the present church. He enjoyed people, especially receiving all visiting members with gladness. They were always welcome, and Mother Conrad was always ready and capable to take care of the many visiting members.

John Conrad lived his entire life on this farm. He died in 1938, at the age of 80 years. Mary his wife preceded him 8 years.

Five children are still living today: Mrs. Emma Frautschi, Toledo; Herman Conrad of near Leo; Rose, Diana and Adele Conrad of Ft. Wayne.

### A Tribute to Father

By Bro. Henry Beer  
(In memory of John Conrad)

Preceding the harvest of ripe golden grain,  
The seed must be planted—with sunshine and rain.  
The husbandman waiteth for grain to come forth,  
Through the glow of the sunshine, and winds of the north.

'Tis not in the blade, which is vividly green,  
Nor the half-ripened harvest, where beauty is seen,  
But 'tis in the grain so beautiful, fair,  
All golden and bright as it waves in the air.

How blest, when the toil of the day is complete,  
To turn from our labors, our loved ones to meet.  
How golden the sun often sets in the west,  
The shadows grow long—there's an inner request.  
To meet with the Lord of the harvest again,  
Who gives His reward to the children of men.

My brethren, beloved, so dear in the Lord,

A tribute of love we would gladly record.

Our memory will linger and stay with us here,

Of him, fellow pilgrim and brother so dear.

A father, whose life was example in deed,

Who cared for his own and supplied every need.

What wonder that parting brings heartache and pain!

Though his days were complete, and ripened the grain,

Example of faith and of trust and of love;

Though living on earth, yet his heart was above.

Advice for the erring, and zeal for the truth,

He loved his dear brethren in age and in youth.

His heart was a storehouse of gems pure and rare,

Which, with the worn pilgrim, he gladly would share.

Return, thou dear child, to the Father's sweet rest;

Deserving thou art of thy home with the blest.

### LESTER, IOWA

Reporter: Emelie Knobloch

Among the ill: Emil Feucht had the misfortune of a hand injury, which required surgery; Leo Wulf had major surgery; Larry Leuthold had an appendectomy; Sis. Pauline Feucht remains about the same.

Births: to Bro. and Sis. Fredrick Metzger, a daughter, Diane Kay, December 15; to Ernst and Sis. Martha Feucht, a son, Lynn Carl, December 16.

Blessings of our Christmas season were revealed through the readings & songs in the Sunday School program, December 23. We were happy to see the many folks who attended.

Donald Metzger, son of Bro. and Sis. Ernst Metzger, has been discharged from his tour of duty, of which he spent mostly in France.

Many families enjoyed the visits of loved ones during the holidays.

At our Annual Business Meeting, January 3, the following were selected to fill the respective offices; Bro. Alvin Leuthold; trustee; Bro. Nathan Knobloch; Building Aid; Bro. Howard Mogler; Hail



Aid; Bros. Lawrence Wulf and Arthur Knobloch, ushers.

May the blessings of the Lord rest upon them, to help them carry out their duties.

### MANSFIELD, OHIO

Reporter: Aaron A. Sauder

Glory to God in the Highest—Mark 2:14. This was the desire of our choir, as we spent several days singing songs and carols of the birth of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus, to the sick, aged and shut-ins, at Christmas-time. We also had an evening of singing at Prospect Park Pavilion, December 21, where everyone was invited. We had a very blessed evening of fellowship.

Our Sunday School program was postponed from Sunday, December 23, to December 30 because of bad weather. It was a blessed evening to hear the dear children, as Jesus said out of the mouth of babes He has prepared praise.

Our visitors since the last issue were Bro. and Sis. Amos Steffen of Milford, Bro. and Sister Bert Kipfer and Bro. Amos Pulfer of Ft. Wayne and Elder Brother Noah Bauman and family of Rittman, and Sis. Yackley of Phoenix.

Bro. Noah Bauman ministered to us on Sunday, December 30. We enjoyed his messages very much.

Bro. and Sis. Lewis Sauder from Bluffton visited us Sunday, January 6.

Bro. Ezra Sauder, who suffered a stroke on December 11, was removed from the Ashland Hospital to the Woodlawn Nursing Home in Mansfield.

### MAYWOOD, CALIFORNIA

Reporter: Christine Locher

Bro. Ernest and Sis. Marcelle Dapper were blessed with the arrival of a baby daughter, Patti Sandra, on Dec. 15. She has two brothers, Craig and Brian, to welcome her.

Our Sunday School and Adult Bible Class presented their Christmas program to the church, after our third Sunday-of-the-month dinner, Dec. 16, in place of our usual hymn worship. Many from the Altadena congregation joined us. Most of our Sunday School children are very young in age, and it was touching to hear them recite their parts. The program was enjoyed by all.

Visitors for the month were Bro. Bert and Sis. Anna Gudeman, Cis-sna Park; Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Kaisner, Barry and Connie, Forrest; Sisters Louise and Anna Stoller, Morton; Bro. Clarence and Sis. Vera Yackley, Phoenix. Bro. Clarence ministered unto us at our mid-week service, January 2.

The following poem was submitted by Sis. Eva Fuhrer. It was given to her when she was ill by Sis. Hermine Gottas, who has since passed away. She found this poem very comforting.

My life is but a weaving  
Between my Lord and me.  
I cannot see the color;  
He worketh steadily.

Full oft He weaveth sorrow,  
And I in foolish price  
Forget He sees the upper,  
And I the lower side.

Not until the loom is silent  
And the shuttles cease to fly  
Shall God unroll the canvas  
And explain the reason why.

The dark threads are as needful  
In the weaver's skillful hand  
As the threads of gold and  
silver,  
In the pattern He has planned.

### MILFORD, INDIANA

Reporter: Arthur Haab

The Charity-ettes and Silver Thimble groups went caroling and distributed Christmas gifts to the aged, sick, and needy.

Our Christmas program was held on Dec. 16, with most of the Sunday School classes taking part. The Sunday School choir sang carols at the community Christmas display.

We were very pleasantly surprised when the engagement of Bro. Ernest Krauter to Sis. Emma Clayton was announced. They were married on Jan. 6 by Elder Theo Beer. We hope and pray that the good Lord will grant them many happy years together.

Our member and business meeting will be held on Wed. night, Jan. 9.

### MORRIS, MINNESOTA

Reporter: Mrs. Louie Messner

Bro. and Sis. Jake Koehl have a son, Joseph, born Dec. 9.

Hospitalized, but home again,

are Sis. Lizzie Schmidgall and Mrs. George Luthi and Bro. Bud Nohl. Little Connie Zeltwanger fell and broke her arm. Marilyn Moser had a tonsilectomy and our son, Roy, 18 months old, has been sick a month with nephritis. Many had the mumps, and now measles are around.

Bro. and Sis. George Koehl and children moved to Peoria, Jan. 4. We wish them well.

Our three service boys, Robert Nohl, Kenny Koehl, and Donald Joos, were able to be home for the holiday.

Bro. Leo Moser of Lester had our Sunday services Dec. 16. There was no evening service as it was our Sunday School Christmas program. We heard how one takes inventory at the end of the year, & we should take inventory of our heart. How happy we are to add more to ours in church since Christmas Eve. We wish them God's blessings and guidance.

Jesus is standing at the door knocking, but you must open the door. As our last couple said—they didn't know it was so easy and, most of all, so wonderful!!

Bros. Noah Schrock and Silas Leuthold were with us the Jan. 13 week end. We also had evening services. We always welcome ministers.

Our best wishes to Bro. and Sis. George Koehl, who have a baby girl, born Jan. 8.

### MORTON, ILLINOIS

Reporter: Mrs. B. E. Getz

Our Sunday School Christmas program was given December 16 and largely attended.

Bro. Cleo Rinkenberger of Pulas-ki had a very inspiring sermon on John, who came to bear witness of the Light, that all men through Him might believe.

Several weeks ago, announcement was made of the coming marriage of Bro. Edward Teubel, son of John and Rose Teubel, and Sis. Louise Huette, daughter of Fred and Nettie Huette. They plan to be married January 20.

Sis. Clara Welk, who became very ill on her arrival home from Florida and Alabama, is convalescing at home, after being hospitalized for a week or more.

Bro. Wm. Welk is a patient at the Methodist hospital.

Bro. Frank Bauman suffered a

light stroke.

Sis. Anna Krantz is confined to her home, having had a heart attack.

Irvin and Lucille Schmidgall have repented, and will bring their testimony before the congregation January 9.

### Family History

John Teubel was born in Schweinfurt, Germany, June 26, 1901. His father's name was Fred Teubel, and mother's name was Anna Hunsinger.

There were ten children in our family, eight sons and two daughters. One son and one daughter (twins) died at the age of 3 months. We immigrated to America, and landed in Morton, Oct. 12, 1910. I went to school in Germany three years, then went five years in American schools, and received my grade school diploma.

My parents bought a 100-acre farm one mile northeast of Allentown. There we boys worked as farm hands. The older boys farmed.

At the age of 15, I worked for Bro. Dan Pflederer, where I had a call to repent. Our parents always taught us in our early youth, that unless we repent, confess our sins, and be baptized, we will not be saved. On January 28, 1916, I was proved and baptized by Bro. Barthol Rapp. I was the youngest member at that time in the Morton congregation.

I worked as a farm hand for five years, and then worked for my father for five years. At the age of 25, I started farming on our home place. My father passed away Oct. 5, 1927. My mother then kept house for me.

On February 2, 1930, I was married, in Princeville, to Sis. Rose Schambach. She was born in Finsternt, Germany, which was during the first World War, and went through the terrible inflation. October 2, 1927, she came to America and landed in Lester, where she repented and was taken into the church. Her teaching was Lutheran in Germany.

We have lived in the Morton community for over fifty years.

To our union there were six children blessed unto us, but two died in infancy. Living, there are four, Richard of Deer Creek, Illinois; Edward, who is engaged to

Sis. Louise Huette; and the twins, David is in the Armed Forces at Ft. Sam Houston and Doris Christ of Hannah City. All six children where born in December.

We have farmed all our lives. A great joy in life is vegetable raising, the organic way. My hobby is writing letters and traveling and visiting, as I like to get acquainted with brothers and sisters of our faith.

On New Year's morning, January 1, 1957, my wife and I left Peoria, traveling by train to the west coast, Oregon, California, Arizona, Texas, and Kansas. We visited six churches and traveled forty-six hundred miles round trip in twenty-three days. We had a blessed and safe trip. Both my wife and I enjoy the true fellowship of the saints, and enjoy being with our brotherhood.

We are very thankful that all our children are believers in the Lord; the Lord has blessed us.

### NEW MARTINSVILLE, W. VA.

Reporter: Mrs. Gus Weltz

The annual stockholders' meeting of the Apostolic Cemetery Association was held in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Berger in Rolling Acres, New Martinsville, on Monday evening, January 7. Those attending were Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Froelich, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Durig, Delbert Indermuhle, Edward Berger, Mrs. C. O. Wade, Mrs. Gus Weltz and Mr. and Mrs. Berger. The officers were held over for another year with plans for repairing the church and premises, also to have and promote a system for the marking of all graves.

Mr. and Mrs. Herb Barth were seriously injured on December 30, on their way to Florida for the winter months. They collided with a truck near Pulaski, Virginia. Mrs. Barth was seriously injured; he was treated at a hospital and released. Mrs. Barth was flown by air ambulance to Orlando, Florida, where it required 48 stitches to close the cuts in her face, and on January 6, she underwent knee and ankle surgery. Her condition is reported to be satisfactory. He is the son of the late Levi and Lyda Riggenbach Barth and a brother of Roy Barth, who passed away on November 30.

A. E. Riggenbach suffered a heart condition on December 17, and was a patient in the local hospital from that time until January 1. He was returned to his home and, while he must be very quiet, he is doing very nicely.

Ray Witschey of Pittsburgh and Robert Witschey and family of Charleston, W. Va., were recent visitors with their father, D. S. Witschey, and family.

Bonnie Riggenbach, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Riggenbach, has been quite ill for several months, and is a patient in the local hospital at this time.

Miss Elizabeth McGuier of Washington, Pa., was recent guest of her aunt, Miss Della Witschey, and others relatives.

Mrs. J. G. Burgess spent the holidays with her daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. John Partlow, in Monroe Heights, Pa.

C. O. Wade is under a doctor's care at the present time, and hopes to get back to work by mid-January. He was sent home from work with extremely high blood pressure.

At this writing, we have no snow, and the sun and wind make us feel that spring can be closer than we think. We have had a very hard, cold winter, a lot of snow and ice.

### OAKVILLE, IOWA

Reporter: Mrs. Ezra Gerst

Bro. John and Sis. Carol Steiner and Bro. Ronald Barth were home from Fort Sam Houston for the holidays.

Our son, Dwight Strassheim, has completed his six months' active service duty at Fort Leonardwood, Mo., in National Guard.

The Bible class and their teacher, Bro. Earl, and Sis. Ione Stoller and the Sunday School song leader, Bro. Edwin, and Sis. Ada Banwart went Christmas caroling and brought baskets of fruit to several homes. It is always nice to see the young folks help bring cheer to those who need it.

Dec. 30 was a happy and blessed day, as the five converts, LuAnn Gerst, Annette Rocke, Elaine and Martha Steiner and Doris Cordell were baptized and taken into the fold. They gave their testimonies on Saturday evening. Bro. Silas Leuthold and Bro. Fred Grimm

assisted our elder, Bro. Noah Schrock. We rejoice with them and pray they will grow in grace, and that many more will be drawn to the Saviour, while there is yet time and grace. Other ministers here for the day were Bros. Henry Grimm, Wm. Cottrell, Simon and George Wagenbach. Their wives accompanied them. We thank them for coming.

On Thursday evening, Jan. 3, Bros. Fred Marti and Ben Banwart ministered to us. They were on their way home from the funeral of Dan Butikofer. May God bless their efforts.

Sis. Louise Rowell has her cast off, and her ankle is gradually improving. Also, Sis. Wilma Stoller and Bro. Emil Vierling are better again, and they are all able to come to church again. Sis. Rose Heiniger is in failing health and is very weak. May God give her strength and grace in this trying time.

### PEORIA, ILLINOIS

Reporter: Mrs. Michael Weyeneth

The Lord, who is our Shepherd true, has led us through another year. In the past year, he has called many out of our midst to his eternal home. We miss each and everyone. This true Shepherd never forsakes his own. Some day, we too will be called. May we be found worthy and Christlike, having peace and love toward all.

Bro. Sam Stoller, age 95 years, passed away Tuesday, Dec. 18. He was sick only a few weeks. He was a staunch member of the church 81 years. We will miss him; he always attended church so regularly. Surviving are his wife, Esther; one daughter, Nathalia Messer; two grandsons and one grandchild of California. His funeral was held Thursday, Dec. 20. Many relatives and friends attended. Bros. Roy Sauder and Silas Leuthold officiated.

On Sunday, Dec. 23, our Sunday School had their Christmas program. Many children took part. Treats were given to the smaller children. The Sunday School has a separate fund, given by the children and grown-ups during the year. It was announced the good that is done with this fund. It truly is more blessed to give than receive.

A son, Gary Grant, was born Dec. 6 to Bro. and Sis. Grant Rathaus, and on Dec. 24, a daughter was born to Bro. and Sis. Wilbur Triplett. Her name is Nancy Joan.

We sympathize with the Sieben-thal family. Their brother, Andrew, passed away suddenly, Tuesday, Dec. 4. Surviving are his wife; three sisters, Emma, Lydia and Ollie; and two brothers, Herman and Joe. His funeral was held from the mortuary; Bro. Roy Sauder officiated.

Our large singing group, conducted by Bro. Arthur Moser, sang for the aged at the Proctor Home, Wednesday evening, Dec. 19. It was much appreciated.

Many different groups did Christmas caroling for the shut-ins and the aged. There were also many baskets fixed for the lonely and needy of our church and others. God bless every act of kindness and love shown during this Christmas season.

The Hohulin sisters, Leah and Lillie, who have charge of the A. C. Home, had as their guests for Christmas dinner on Dec. 9, Bros. and Sisters Conrad Woerner, Michael Weyeneth, Roy Sauder, Reuben Herman, Ray Martin, Bro. Wm. Yackley and Sis. Fredda Christ. It was a nice evening together with shut-ins. Songs were sung around the table. The Hohulin sisters make this a real home with their hospitality, love, and a kind word for everybody.

Bro. Cleo Rinkenberger of Pulas-ki was our guest speaker Christmas morning. We enjoyed his message. His wife accompanied him. They were guests of her mother and father, Sis. Mollie and Wm. Perdelwitz.

Bro. John Wagler of Alabama spent part of Wednesday, Dec. 26, at the Bro. Michael Weyeneth home.

Mr. and Mrs. Ronnie Blumen-shine, who are stationed at Ft. Sam Houston, were here over the holidays. Mrs. Blumenshine is Janet Wagenbach, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Lester Wagenbach. Janet has repented and is awaiting baptism. Bro. and Sis. Robert Miller of Ft. Leonard Wood were also here over Christmas.

On Monday, New Year's Eve, Bro. Roy Sauder performed the marriage of Bro. Emil Bessler and

Sis. Stella Zimmerman. The Besslers will live here in Peoria.

### PHOENIX, ARIZONA

Reporter: Mrs. Roy Stevig

At this particular season of the year, many business organizations "take inventory." It might be profitable to us if we, too, take inventory of ourselves. We are "in business" . . . God's business. What are our assets? What do we have on hand?

And as the New Year dawns, we pause and look ahead to twelve portentous months, the Lord willing we live. What do we need to help us find a way to peace, to understanding humanhood? Courage we must have, and faith in Someone silent and unseen; patience, a forgiving heart, and most of all, wisdom, that we may see our greatest need is God!

The Christmas program was certainly enjoyed by all. Our entire Sunday School participated, thirty-four children in all.

Again, we see many familiar faces visiting in our congregation. We who live so far from our neighboring churches enjoy the fellowship of those who travel to our valley to spend sometime in our warm winter sunshine.

Servicemen who visited us and their families here during the Holidays were Bro. Conrad and Sis. Rolleta Gerst, Fort Sam Houston, and Bro. Joe and Sis. Connie Beer, San Francisco.

### PORTLAND, OREGON

Reporting this month  
Mrs. Paul N. Rumbold

The Sunday School program was held on December 23, with a good attendance. We enjoy hearing little children express themselves.

Sis. Rose Miller is able to assemble with us regularly, and is slowly regaining her strength.

Sis. Connie Steffen has been very ill, and in the hospital this past week for observation & tests. We wish her a speedy recovery.

Edward and Judie Knecht and daughter, Sandra, have returned from a three-week vacation to Illinois, visiting relatives and friends. Accompanying them was Ervin Knecht, who is going on to California to school.



**PRINCEVILLE, ILLINOIS****Reporter: Ruth Ricketts**

Bro. LeRoy Hartman and family of Peoria spent Sunday, December 30, in our congregation. In his meditation, he said how important it is to remain with the old Scriptural teachings, even though it is not an easy way in these fast-moving times. At the end of our journey, we can see how rewarding it is to remain close to the word.

Bro. Noah Schrock of Oakville ministered to us the morning of January 6. In the afternoon, he and his wife and Bro. Silas Leuthold and his wife went to Peoria. In the evening, the Princeville members went to Peoria for the reading and meditation of the memorandum of the recent conference.

A number of shut-ins had a few pleasant minutes, when carolers went to sing for them. How very pleased they were to be remembered, and what a joy to all those who took part.

We had our first snow of the season on Christmas morning, and how beautiful it looked all around. Many gathered for services Christmas morning, before having their family gatherings. A large number also gathered for services on New Year's Eve. It was mentioned that twelve were added to the fold in 1962, and three dear souls were laid to rest. There are more souls awaiting baptism in this new year, for which we are truly thankful. May the Lord's blessings continue to rest on us in the coming year.

Russell and Roma Rumbold are the parents of their first child, a daughter, born December 11. She has been named Marsha Kay. Bro. Arthur and Sis. Joy Baurer also have a new daughter, Deonne Marie, born December 16. Brad and Clark were happy to welcome home a little sister. Bro. David and Sis. Shirley Kieser had their fourth daughter, born to them December 21. She has been named Charlene Jane.

Sis. Lucy Woertz was shut in for several weeks, suffering from pneumonia. We are thankful she is able to be out again. Our friend, Rudy Scheurer, is in the hospital in Kirkwood, Missouri, recovering from a recent operation. He is getting along as well as possible, and we hope it won't be too long

until he can come home. He makes his home with Will and Sis. Frieda Streitmatter. Lizzie Stahl has also recently had an operation on her wrist, and is at home and getting along real well. Sis. Emma Streitmatter is in the hospital, suffering from pneumonia. Quite a number of others are sick, but not so serious, and it is the hope that all will be well soon.

Correction: The parents of Sis. Frances Gerber, whose engagement to Bro. Eddie Knobloch was made known, are Eli and Pearl Gerber.

**PULASKI, IOWA****Reporter: Mrs. Ray Martin**

Our friends, Caroline Banwart of Peoria, Janet Elsasser of Princeville and Joyce Rumbold of Princeville, visited here on the 9th.

Friend Billy Wuthrich, who is stationed at Fort Benning, Georgia, was home on leave about 2 weeks, around Christmas.

Bro. and Sis. Albert Wuthrich observed their 40th wedding anniversary on December 30. All of their children were home for the occasion. Also, friends and relatives were here from West Bend, Burlington, Oakville, and Taylor for the occasion.

Bro. and Sis. Chris Rinkenberger visited with the Bro. and Sis. Cleo Rinkenberger family this month.

**REMINGTON, INDIANA****Reporter: Emily Kilgus**

On Dec. 8, the home of Bro. Odell and Sis. Marjorie Pitman was heavily damaged by fire. They saved most of their furniture, although there was some water damage. They started rebuilding immediately and are progressing nicely. At present, they, with their two children, are living in a house trailer.

On Dec. 16, the Sunday School children presented their Christmas program. It was well attended, and enjoyed by all.

On Dec. 23, the children of Reuben and Sis. Louise Scharlach honored their parents with an open house for their fiftieth wedding anniversary.

Our Sunday School children had several opportunities to go caroling, one of which was to visit the nursing homes in Lafayette. Each

patient was presented with a small gift. Bro. and Sis. Al and Evelyn Knochel opened their home for refreshments, after the caroling.

Bro. Harold Waibel has undergone surgery, and we are thankful that he has been dismissed from the hospital.

I asked my father, Bro. Sam Kilgus, to give us a spiritual thought for the new year, which is as follows: As the holiday season is past, we all have been renewed in the spirit of the great love that God had toward all mankind, by sending His son into this world as a Saviour and Redeemer. As the old year is past, we review it as a time of joy and sorrow, with many blessings to be thankful for. Many people resolve and make resolutions for the new year, and they are often kept only a short time. May we as God's children be inspired to remain in the footsteps of our Saviour and walk in them. We oftentimes compare our spiritual walk of life to our footsteps. We realize it is not easy, but requires effort to step and walk in the steps and tracks of someone else. It cannot be done without effort. If we wish to have our footsteps directed in the right direction, we should search the scriptures and have our feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace (Ephesians 6:15). Therefore, let us walk carefully and prayerfully.

**RITTMAN, OHIO****Reporter: Elverna Beery**

Elaine Hartzler and John McCreary were married December 22, by Bro. Noah Bauman. Elaine is the daughter of Sis. Ella and Bro. John Hartzler.

Our congregation was saddened by the death of our dear sister, Ida Ingold. She was born in Monroe County, Ohio, and moved here in 1931. Surviving are two daughters, Sisters Ruth Ingold and Clara Hartzler; also a brother, Bro. Charles Marty. Funeral services were held Wednesday, January 2.

"Make haste and come while the time and opportunity is yet at hand." This message, inspired by God, was delivered recently by our Elder Bro. Noah Bauman. We are ever thankful when our friends and loved ones heed the call of the Lord.

Jane and Vincent Hartzler have repented, and were baptized on December 23. Jane's parents are Bro. and Sis. George Riggenbach and Vincent is the son of Bro. and Sis. Reuben Hartzler.

Carol and Donald Gasser are repenting. We wish them the Lord's richest blessings. Donald is the son of Bro. and Sis. Arthur Gasser.

Recently, we learned that Carol and Carl Steiner are also repenting. Carol is the daughter of Bro. and Sis. George Riggenbach, and Carl is the son of Sis. Marian and Willard Steiner.

### ROCKVILLE, CONNECTICUT

Reporter: Carlton J. Lanz

Bro. Albert Ludwig, a little past 79, died Sunday morning, Dec. 16. Death came in Rockville City Hospital, into which he had been moved only a few days earlier. Until the past few months, he, apparently, had enjoyed good health, only to be stricken later, becoming totally blind, from which he never recovered. He was a son of one of the Founding Fathers of our church here in Rockville. His father, Bro. Frank Ludwig, in 1887 organized our Sunday School here. The German was then the language being used. Those of his family surviving him are Sis. Lena (Hoffman), his wife; a son, Bro. Gerald; and Sis. Ruth, his daughter. Ruth flew here to her father's funeral, later returning to Altadena, where she is employed. Officiating at the services was Bro. John Bahler. Interment took place in the family plot in Ellington Center Cemetery.

Bro. Douglas Moser was on visit to his home here for the holidays. With him were Bros. Earl Gude-man, Will Gerst and Leonard Meyer, all from Illinois. We enjoyed their brief stay. Words alone cannot justly define what we enjoy in our fellowship. Only by a true conversion, with the Love of God in our hearts towards one another can this be realized.

On Sunday afternoon, Dec. 23, the Christmas program for the Sunday School children, which included verse recitings, singing of carols and gift distributions, was well arranged and conducted by the teachers. We thus become somewhat indebted to the teaching personnel, for the efforts and good work done in inculcating the im-

portance of our Saviour's mission to these children. This event is filled with interest, and nearly always draws a large attendance.

In the preparing of Christmas baskets, which were distributed to homes of the confined and limited—all participating, we believe we felt privileged to contribute to this annual custom. Moreover, despite a chill winter cold, a sizeable number joyously joined in caroling at homes, where it was thought a little cheer was needed.

With the conclusion of these, and at Bro. Alvin and Sis. Anna's home, where an abundance of refreshments were served, our Christmas festivities for 1962 thus became memories of the past.

### SABETHA, KANSAS

Reporter: Mrs. Theodore Locher

The engagement of Sis. Janice Aberle, daughter of Bro. Ben and Sis. Liseten Aberle, and Bro. Ben Wysong, son of Bro. Roy and Sis. Evelyn Wysong, has been announced.

Bro. Eldon Metzger and his new bride, Sis. Dorene (Strahm) of Gridley, are back from their wedding trip. We welcome Sis. Dorene into our congregation, and wish them God's richest blessings through life together. Bro. Eldon is the owner and operator of the Metzger Cafe here at Sabetha. They will make their home at 110 South 6th St.

Bro. Ben Wysong, from Ft. Hood, Texas, spent the Christmas holidays with his parents, Bro. Roy and Sis. Evelyn, and relatives, and enjoyed fellowship with us.

On Sunday, Dec. 23, our congregation, both old and young alike, were truly blessed by the Christmas program, which was presented by your Sunday School & church. The Story of Jesus' birth was told by recitations and songs by the younger children. We owe thanks to the teachers for their untiring efforts. May we all be blessed with a full measure of love and peace in the coming year.

It is always a pleasure to meet and greet those of like faith. Our visiting minister this past month was Bro. Jake Pfister from Fort Scott. It inspires one to see a brother as handicapped as Bro. Jake (he walks with the aid of a cane) put forth such efforts to

proclaim the word of God in all sincerity. We were richly blessed by his inspiring message.

To be a true Christian, one must take up the cross daily, and follow the Lord where ere he leads.

Bro. Phillip Metzger is spending a few days in the Sabetha Hospital; he submitted to surgery. We pray he will have a speedy recovery.

Sis. Hannah Meyer, who passed away at her home here in Sabetha Jan. 7, at the age of 79, will be greatly missed in our congregation. Often, while visiting with Sis. Hannah, she would express her thankfulness that the Lord granted her strength to be able to worship with us for the day.

In Jesus I will trust always;  
In him I live and pass away.

Our Sabetha congregation extends an open invitation to members and friends of other congregations to come worship with us whenever possible.

We have discontinued the Sunday evening singing hour, and now hold mid-week church services, beginning Wednesday, Jan. 9, at 7:30 P.M. Sabetha church alternates every other week with the Bern church in holding these services.

#### Births:

On Dec. 6, little Sharon Sue was born to Sis. Mildred and Bro. Walter Strahm. She has two sisters and a brother to welcome her.

On Dec. 12, a daughter, Mary Della, came to make her home with our friends Lester and Dorothy Meyer. Little Mary has a brother, Alan, to welcome her. The paternal grandparents were the late Bro. Joel and Sis. Mary Meyer of Sabetha, and the maternal grandparents, the late Bro. Joe Heiniger and Sis. Della of Sabetha.

### SARASOTA, FLORIDA

Reporter: Velta Laukhuf

Services have again started here for the winter season, in the Women's Club Building, at the corner of Park and Palm Avenue. The visitors and those staying here were from the following churches: Morris, Croghan, Castorland, Eureka, Princeville, Youngstown, Akron, Mansfield, Latty, and Alto.

Our minister, Bro. Phil Wingeier, again extends a hearty invitation to all ministers to visit Sara-

sota and worship with us.

Remember the time, 1 P.M.

### TAYLOR, MISSOURI

Reporter: Mrs. Eli Sutter

We all enjoyed the very nice Christmas program presented by the teachers and pupils, on Sunday, Dec. 23. We also had church services on Christmas morning.

We are happy to report that Dorothy, daughter of Bro. Perry and Sis. Clara Yackley, has turned to the Lord in repentance, and has found peace in Him.

Bro. Edwin Bahler of Remington ministered to us on Wednesday evening, Dec 26. He was accompanied by his wife and children.

We had our annual business meeting and election on Friday evening, Jan. 4. The three Sunday School teachers that have finished their two-year terms are Bros. Don Feller and Roy Grimm and Sis. Charlene Sutter. The newly-elected teachers are Bro. James Sutter, Sis. Elizabeth Sutter, and Sis. Dona Grimm. We have six teachers, each serving two years, electing three new ones each year. Bro. John Hoerr's term as trustee has expired, and Bro. Robert Hoerr has been elected to take his place.

We had services on New Year's morning as we usually do, knowing there is no better place to begin the new year than at the house of God. The year 1962, with its joys, sorrows and regrets, is past, and we have a new year before us, so let us do as was quoted to us by Bro. Fred Grimm from Philippians 3:13, "forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before."

### History

(By Fred Grimm)

In the year 1918, Bro. Andrew Yackley and his family moved from Hancock to a farm south and east of Taylor. This was the beginning of the Taylor church, for soon, several other families moved here from Oakville, Peoria and Morton, including Bros. Otto Gerst, Ben and Joe Wiegand, Charlie Koelling and families, several of the Hoerr brothers and Ezra and Les Gerst.

By 1926, five families of members and a few families of friends were here. They met in homes on

Sunday, to have Sunday School and also for hymn singing. Sometimes, copies of sermons preached by our brothers in other churches were read. About once a month, ministering brothers from Oakville and other neighboring churches came to hold services. Usually these services were conducted in homes, but sometimes in a country school.

Early in 1926, the Taylor members, desiring to have a local minister, invited Bro. Edward Grimm of Elgin, Iowa, to move to the Taylor vicinity. On Feb. 1, 1926, he and his family, Bro. Will Butikof and family, and Eli Sutter and family moved here. Regular Sunday services were then held in homes, until about May, 1926, when a small tract of land with a small 4-room house was purchased by the members and friends. The house was remodeled into a church. Bro. Ed Grimm made the pulpit & pews, some of which are still in use in the present Sunday School.

On July 4, 1926, the first services were held in the church. This building was to suffice for two or three years, until a new building could be built on the same portion of land. There were now seven families that served lunch, and a total of fifteen members. The location of the church is right by the Fabius River levee, the river called "Fabby".

The church was blessed with a few new converts, even this first year, and other families moved here, including Bro. Fred Frieden and family from Elgin, Iowa, in 1927, and the Rudy Hoerr Sr. family from Morton in 1928 (John, Dan, Rudie and George were already here).

The church grew slowly with the addition of new converts. In 1930, fourteen repented and were added to the fold. Bro. Elias Winzeler of Tremont and Bro. Emil Schubert of Peoria were the elders. There were now 35 members, and 15 families serving lunch.

But now the depression came, and some families were forced to move away. The building of a new church also had to be postponed. About the year 1935, Bro. Otto Gerst was elected to help Bro. Ed Grimm in the ministry, but in a short time he moved to Oakville. In the fall of 1937, Bro. Ben Wie-

gand was put into the ministry.

On Nov. 29, 1937, Bro. Ed Grimm died of a heart attack, leaving Bro. Wiegand alone in the ministry. By now, several families had moved away, leaving the church with only about ten families.

In June of 1938, Bro. Fred Grimm was elected to help in the ministry. In the spring of 1947, Bro. Ben Wiegand and family moved to Forrest. Then in March, 1948, Bro. William Cottrell was elected to serve in the ministry.

By 1949, even though the group was quite small, there were a number of children and young folks, so it was suggested by several members that a new church should be built. In Aug., 1950, our present church was dedicated. When plans were being made for the new church, we had eight families serving lunch and there were 22 members. Bro. Noah Schrock of Oakville was the elder at the time and served until Dec., 1961.

In July 1955, Bro. Gerald Sutter was elected to the ministry, which gave us three ministers.

Bro. Fred Grimm was ordained elder in Dec., 1961.

We now have 22 families that serve lunch, 57 members, and about 40 Sunday School students. Our regular attendance is about 110 persons.

The following poem was written by Bro. Ed Grimm in the early days of the church, in 1926. When there were only seven families, he would always go to church early to build the fire, then wait for the people to come. While waiting for their arrival one Sunday morning, this poem was written. It is sung to the melody of "The Little Brown Church In The Vale". The members and friends, including the little children, enjoy singing it.

### The Little White Church On The Levee

There's a church on the levee by  
the Fabby,

No lovelier spot far around,  
Where the children of God love  
to gather,

In communion with Him to be  
found.

It is there in that church on the  
levee

That I often find peace for my  
soul,



When trials and sorrows would  
crush me.  
And the billows of fate o'er me  
roll.

It is there in that church on the  
levee  
That I hope to be found when  
He calls;  
In His service, I pray He will find  
me,  
When the curtain of life for me  
falls.

It is there near that church in the  
levee,  
That my loved ones are resting  
in peace;  
And 'tis near them I hope they  
will lay me  
When my labors of love here  
shall cease.

#### Chorus

Oh, come, come, come, come, come  
to the  
(come, come, come,)  
church on the levee, Oh! come to  
the church  
(come, come, come, come, come,  
come, come,)  
on the knoll: No spot is so dear to  
my memory,  
(come, come,)  
As the little white church on the  
knoll.

#### ROANOKE, ILLINOIS

Reporter: Irene Hodel

On Sunday, December 9, Bro. Noah Schrock of Oakville was with us for the day. We enjoyed his services very much. Bro. Leroy Huber was with us also. As our elder, Dave Mangold, plans to leave us for several months, it was decided we should have a Co-Elder to help take his place while he is gone. Bro. Eugene Bertschi was chosen for this duty. We pray the dear Lord will help him in this important work. We all have a duty to do our part in supporting our elders.

Sunday evening, we had our Sunday School Christmas program, with all our young folks taking part. It was very interesting and encouraging to see how well they can do. We owe the faithful teachers a lot of credit.

Bro. and Sis. Raymond Roth of Kiowa, Kansas, have been here several weeks with their daughter and family, Bro. and Sis. Glen Moser and daughter.

Sis. Annabelle Blunier has returned home from the hospital and is doing very well.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Sullivan and family of Little Rock, Arkansas, have been staying with her sisters, Emma and Anna Legel, over the holidays, visiting their relatives and friends.

Bro. and Sis. Ernest Diggelman have announced the engagement of their daughter, Janet, to Mike Ellis of Jonesboro. Their son, Robert, is also engaged to Carol Jean Backer of Bensen. They are planning a summer wedding.

Dec. 31, Bro. and Sis. Emil Fisher (Esther Anliker) observed their 40th wedding anniversary. They were originally from West Bend. They have three children, Sis. Edith Stoller of Latty, Sis. Blanche Steffen of Cissna Park, and Eli of Eureka.

Joe Foerter, 77, formerly of here, who has been at the Washington Nursing Home the past eight years, passed away Dec. 31. His wife (Anna Bechtel) passed away Sept., 1958. Bro. Joe Zimmerman had the services. Surviving are two daughters, Mrs. Louise Scherer of Logan, Utah, and Mrs. Pauline Wilts of East Peoria; two sisters, Louise Foerter and Sis. Mary Aeschleman of here; and five grandchildren.

Sunday, Jan. 6, we were very happy to hear the testimony of our dear friend, Mary Jane Schlipf, and witness the baptism. She is the daughter of Bro. and Sis. Ezra Schlipf. We pray more of our friends could see the need of our dear Saviour.

We hear Bro. Dave Mangold is feeling much better and is enjoying the beautiful weather in Florida. His address is: 680 N. E. 59th Court, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida.

Who created a flower to bloom;  
Who designed a prayer;  
Who dreamed up the joy of love?  
— — Only the God we share.

#### TOLEDO, OHIO

Reporter: Emily Frautschi

Our Sunday School had their annual Christmas program on Sunday evening, December 23. They also got together another evening to go carolling to the shut-ins and the aged. This was enjoyed by the young folks, as well as the shut-ins.

We welcome Frank and Mary Wright, with their children, Mike and Virginia, back to Toledo. They lived in Essexville, Michigan, the past five years.

#### TREMONT, ILLINOIS

Reporter: Esther Schmid

As we have come to the threshold of a new year, may we all truly live by faith from day to day, trusting the Lord for His blessings. May we realize that without the blessings from above, all our spiritual and earthly labor would be in vain. Every good and perfect gift cometh from above.

A son, Gregory Scott, was born Dec. 1 to Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Koch. The grandmother is Sis. Mary Koch.

Sis. Anna Musselman and Sis. Lena Burk, who had been quite sick, are able to assemble with us again, for which we are truly thankful. Bro. Adam Maurer, who had been in the hospital, is also with us again. Little Marvin Sauder, seven-year-old son of Bro. Earl and Sis. Glenna Sauder, had to spend Christmas in the hospital. He had pneumonia, but is now home.

Sunday, Dec. 9, our Elder Bro. Joe A. Getz visited us, to read and explain the Memorandum. Bro. Francis Rother of Morton accompanied him, and had nice services. On this day, Francis recalled it was nine years ago that he was ordained to the ministry, and twenty-one years ago that his grandfather (Chris Woerner) was buried. He told us of his many precious memories as a boy, when he sat on the second bench from the front with his grandfather, here in this church.

Several groups, young and old, went caroling during Christmas week, which was enjoyed by all — the ones visited and the carolers. The Sunday School Bible class sang carols at the Tazewell County Nursing home.

Our Sunday School Christmas program was enjoyed by a large attendance on Sun., Dec. 16. At the close of the program, we were reminded that Jesus said: "... Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven." (Matt. 19:14) — a precious promise. Surely the songs of worship and praise sung by the children of

His birth please our Lord.

Dec. 23, Bro. Philip Sauder from Cissna Park ministered to us. His wife, Sis. Anna, and daughters, Sis. Sharon accompanied him. We hope they visit again real soon.

On Christmas day, we heard the wonderful news that three young friends in our midst are seeking the Lord. They are Ernest Herman, Maurice Schaefer, and Harold Steiner . . . On New Year's Day, we heard of one more precious soul, David Koch.

Bro. Herman Laidig and Bro. Chris Woerner were selected as new trustees, and Bro. Chris Woerner will be our new treasurer. Other trustees are Bros. Harlan Bolliger, David Beutel, John Sauder, and Orval Rocke.

Our Elder Bro. Joe A. Getz ministered to us Dec. 30. Our eighty-five-year-old Bro. Carl Sinn was reunited with the fold. He has always been deaf, and says he has never heard a sermon preached but he reads his Bible faithfully. It was very impressive, as he understands by lip reading. We welcome him back.

Funeral services were Jan. 4 for six-month old Sandra Marie Rocke, daughter of Bro. Orval and Sis. Doris (Streitmatter) Rocke.

#### UNION CITY, NEW JERSEY

Reporter: August Mueller

Today we had our teacher, Jesus Christ, with us. He is the head over all the teachers. The poet tells us that we are going to the highest school, where Jesus, upon the teacher's chair, teaches us how to live, how to walk and talk here on earth. We are thankful for the spiritual food we receive of him from time to time. So let us learn and labor and do what we can in the name of the Lord. Praise his holy name always, that when that most important day comes, we may obtain a good report.

Dec. 16: I'm very happy to report that we had with us today Bro. and Sis. Ed. Aeschliman and children. They were absent for about six weeks, due to illness in the family.

Sun., Dec. 30, our visitors were from Rockville, Sis. Emma Marty, Sis. Elsie Diggelman and her daughter, Sis. Norma, also John Rumpf and his wife. Today we assembled the last time around the word of God for this year. We

heard two very important sermons. The Lord blessed us in rich measure. When we look back over this year, I believe all the members will agree with me, that we can not find enough words to praise the Lord for all his blessings which he bestowed on us in the year now going toward the end.

But we could also see how the Scripture is being fulfilled. We heard of wars and rumors of war, of hunger and pestilence. Nation rose against Nation. We had up- roars and revolutions. We had earthquakes, disasters in the air, in coal mines and unrest among labor. These are signs of the time. The Lord said that when ye hear these things, mark that the end is nigh at hand. Many tears were shed during the year, tears of joy for those that found peace with God and were rescued from death and destruction, but tears of grief and sadness for those that lost a loved one, where the family circle was broken.

Many of God's children were called home, some suddenly, some after pain and suffering. They laid down their cross and entered into eternal rest. I believe that in almost every congregation, one or more is missing. We lost one beloved sister, Sis. Dorothea Kroszner. We still miss her.

It grieves me that I could not even report one soul that repented, of the many friends we have, but we keep on hoping and praying that in the new year, some may be added to the fold.

I would like to add, that tears of sympathy are also shed for the sick, the afflicted, the widows and orphans, for all those that are in trials and tribulations, for those in hospitals and homes.

The hours are gone, and gain there is none, if they were not spent, in trusting in Jesus, who to us was sent.

#### VALPARAISO, INDIANA

Reporter: Donna Bucher

The Senior and Junior classes in Sunday School and several adults went Christmas caroling. A luncheon was then served at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Dillar Ames.

John Heinold was in the hospital for surgery last month. He is home now and doing fine.

On December 23, a Christmas program was given by the Sunday

School classes. It was a well-rounded program, consisting of songs, duets, poems, and readings, presented around the theme, "Love Was Born In Bethlehem". It was thoroughly enjoyed by all present.

#### Know Each Other Better

Bro. Harry Bucher has been somewhat reluctant in giving even a partial biography of him & his family, for in so far as his life is concerned, he feels there was nothing unique. He grew up much the same as any other boy would grow into manhood, anxiously waiting for his 21st birthday. He enjoyed his parents and family, even though he didn't always see eye to eye with them. He feels father and mother meant well and their instructions were good. Time passed on too soon for them. Harry hopes when he has passed on, his sons and daughter will think as well of him.

He was the second child of a family of eight, born to Gustave and Mary Rich Bucher, on a farm near Gridley, Illinois.

Harry was called to repentance October 6, 1917, and was baptized December 9 of the same year. He enjoyed his young Christian life in the fellowship of the brethren.

In June of 1918, he was inducted into the service of our country. He had a colorful army life. He had many tests and trials because of the faith. As Harry reviews his past experiences, he regards them as special testing grounds. These experiences he will never forget were a means of strengthening his faith in his Lord. He is ever grateful and thankful to God for His wonderful help and support. It was perhaps a blessing in disguise.

In March of 1920, he moved to Kouts, Indiana, on a farm. He was united in marriage to Magdalen E. Stortz, a daughter of Abraham and Sophia Stortz of Gridley, Illinois, on November 28, 1920. To this union were born 5 children—4 sons and 1 daughter. Their names are Lowell of Valparaiso; Wallace of Francesville; Bernadine of Cissna Park; Harry Jr. of Gary, Indiana; and Delos, of Kouts. All of them are married and have families of their own. Grandpa Bucher often speaks of his 19 grandchildren, and is hoping and praying that they all will some day contribute their share in making this

a better world in which to live, to the honor of God and our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Bro. Harry was chosen to the ministry in 1924, in the LaCrosse church. He lived in that vicinity until October of 1947, moving to Valparaiso. He has resided there since that time. In 1962, the Lord opened the way for a church in Valparaiso, of which he is now serving.

"Our church, like any other church, has its ups and downs, its successes and failures, its joys and sorrows. Through sunshine and rain are the fruits made ripe. We are to find recourse in God's word: Cast all your cares upon Him; for He careth for you. (I Peter 5:7). And again, Lo: I am with you always, even to the end of the world. (Matthew 28:20). His promises are sure."

Onward Christian soldiers,  
marching as to war,  
With the cross of Jesus  
going on before . . .  
Like a mighty army  
moves the church of God;  
Brothers, we are treading  
where the saints have trod . . .  
We are not divided;  
all one body we,  
One in hope and doctrine,  
one in charity.

In conclusion, Harry and Lena have lived a full life in the service of the Lord. They heartily invite and welcome all who wish to visit them and our little church.

#### WEST BEND, IOWA

Reporter: Anna Schmidt

Bro. Silas Banwart had surgery on December 12 at Iowa City, and was there 11 days. He is now home, getting along real well.

Sis. Mary Fehr still is in the Mercy Hospital in Fort Dodge, and has improved so that she is able to be up, part of the time.

Sis. Ella Schneider has entered the hospital at Emmetsburg, Iowa, for observation.

Several of our Sunday School classes went Christmas caroling for the sick and shut-ins.

On December 23, we had our Sunday School program. It is always inspiring to hear from our youth.

A reception was held in honor of Bro. and Sis. Joel and Sonia Banwart on December 30, in the Nathan Banwart home.

A son, Donald Lee, was born to Rodger and Judy Fehr on December 27. They now have three sons.

Eli Grimm Jr. was home from the service a few days, over the holidays.

Lyle and Marilyn Zeltwanger and two daughters and Lloyd and Diane Fehr spent the week-end of January 6 with us.

#### Joseph A. Banwart

Perhaps one of the few ministers of our congregation who is remembered by many, and yet who pioneered in this community, was Jos. A. Banwart.

He came to West Bend from Elgin, Iowa, with his parents, at the age of six years. They travelled by covered wagon, drawn by horses. They also brought a yoke of oxen, which were often used to pull the wagon free, when it was hopelessly mired in mud. These strong beasts were also used to break the new prairie land for cultivation.

His chore as a boy was mostly watching the cattle as they grazed the long prairie grass. There were no fences to keep them in bounds, and it was necessary for the boys to herd the cattle on horseback. He used to tell of being able to stretch the prairie grass above his head, when on horseback.

Their new home was a sod-hut, with dirt floor and an open fireplace which furnished warmth and in which they did their cooking. There were no trees except along rivers and creeks, so it took some time until they could build even a log cabin.

Indians were numerous, but did not disturb the white people, so long as they were allowed to roam as they pleased and help themselves to grain.

There were no doctors near, so the pioneers were dependent upon each other to minister to the sick, and always kept some simple drugs and remedies on hand. Joe, as he was called, often ministered to the sick, and even helped prepare bodies for burial. We surely cannot grasp the strength and fortitude these people needed. The entire dependence upon God must have given them this strength.

It seems interesting that in his days, this one man saw the transition from travelling by plodding

beasts of burden to the faster modes of travel by railroad, then by car, then by air.

He and his wife, the former Mary Mathys, also of Elgin and West Bend, had a family of six sons and four daughters, all of whom survived their parents.

He began his ministry on his 30th birthday, having been asked to preach a funeral in the absence of the residing ministers, who were on a trip. His preaching was "not with enticing words of man's wisdom", as he had very little formal education, but his experience and love for his fellow man gave him the education most necessary.

In his later years, he once made the remark that the two best things in life are peace and health, which are worthwhile for all of us.

#### WICHITA, KANSAS

Reporter: Dave Hangartner

Becky Yackley, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Roy Yackley, was united in marriage to Kent Cooper, on the Eve of Dec. 28.

A boy was born Dec. 21 to Bro. and Sis. Milton Bowers. They named him Michael David.

We miss Sis. Lydia Schrock, who is at home now, after a lengthy stay in the hospital with a broken hip. It has been a long time since she has been able to assemble with us. The Lord's richest blessings are wished for her.

#### WINTHROP, MINNESOTA

Reporter: Marguerite Messner

Bro. Henry and Sis. Pauline Mogler of Lester spent the week-end of Dec. 16 here with their daughter, Sis. Melva Messner, and family. He ministered to us on Sunday. Everyone enjoyed his sermon.

Bro. Gene and Sis. Ella Mae are the parents of a baby girl, Marcella Mae, born Dec. 17. Her parents, Bro. and Sis. Jake Knobloch, of Lester, visited with them Dec. 20 and 21.

Dec. 16, Bro. Earl and Sis. Edna Banwart, Bro. Richard and Sis. Betty Schmidt and Bro. Elmer Banwart, all of West Bend, attended the church in Minneapolis. Bro. Earl ministered to them. All enjoyed his inspiring message.

Arlen Messerli has the cast off his hand and is improving at this writing.



Lloyd & Myrna Moser,  
Strawn .  
Illinois.

Faye Messner, daughter of Bro. Mike and Joyce Messner, was admitted to the hospital Dec. 31 for minor surgery, and returned home the next day.

Dick Schmidt and Tommy Miller have been released from service. They are glad to be home.

Wayne Miller, son of Bro. and Sis. Noah Miller, and Ruby Bern were united in marriage Dec. 21, at the home of the bride by Elder Bro. Paul Banwart of West Bend. Bro. Earl Banwart accompanied him here. We wish them much happiness in their new life together.

Mr. and Mrs. Eli Schmidt and son and Mr. and Mrs. Merle Schmidt and family visited with their mother, Sis. Emma Schmidt, of Lafayette, Minn., over Christmas.

Bro. Jim and Sis. Julia Messner and family and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Messner, visited with Walter's son, M/Sgt Robert and Mrs. Messner and family. They left Dec. 26. We expect them home Jan. 5.

Larry Miller, son of Richard and Beatrice Miller, is home on leave. He will be returning to school. I do not have his address, but will send it in.

#### WOLCOTT, INDIANA

Reporter: Arles Kropf

On Saturday evening, Dec. 15, we heard the testimony of Karla Bahler, and on Sunday she was baptized by Elder Bro. Irvin Lehman. In her proving, Karla told us that in coming to our church, she found among the members a love and friendship that she had not found in any other church. May we appreciate more and more what we have, and hold fast to it.

Twin sons, Louis Ray and Lorin Jay, were born on Dec. 12 to LeRoy and Frances Farney. Bro. and Sis. Aaron Farney are the paternal grandparents.

Our Sunday School children presented their Christmas program on Friday evening, Dec. 21.

Announcement was made on Dec. 23 of the engagement of Sis. Emma

Blume and Bro. Joe Stoller. We wish them God's rich blessings.

Services on Christmas morning were held here, with the Remington church assembling with us.

Donald Furrer, son of Sis. Emma Furrer, who is stationed in New Jersey, spent Christmas here with his family.

#### LATTY, OHIO

Reporter: Mrs. Ray Sinn

Those that have been in the hospital this past month were Bro. Dan C. Stoller, Bro. Irvin Stoller, Bro. Raymond Klopfenstein, Sis. Hilda Wenninger and Robert Price. We are happy to report that all are again dismissed from the hospital, and we hope they will all be able to gather with us soon.

On Saturday evening, Dec. 15, we all rejoiced to hear the testimonies of our four dear friends who have received grace from God to repent. They are Colleen Gerber, daughter of Bro. Jesse and Sis. Mary Gerber; Margaret Kupferschmidt, wife of Louis Kupferschmidt; and Melvin and Millard Stoller, sons of Bro. Emil and Sis. Annie Stoller. We are so thankful for these new brothers and sisters. We trust that God will continue to draw and call many more dear souls. Visitors here to attend the provings were Bro. Earl and Sis. Anna Lou Grimm, from Princeville, Allen and Nathalia Getz from Eureka, Bro. Myron and Sis. Lorine Hackenjoes from Fort Wayne.

Our Sunday School Christmas program was held on Wednesday evening, December 19.

On New Year's Day, we gathered in the afternoon to hear the Memorandum read to us by our Elder Brother George Sinn. We

are always thankful to be reminded of our duties as God's children and be warned of the many evils and dangers that confront God's people. Also on New Year's Day, we held our election. Bro. Elmer Lantz was selected as trustee, Sis. Mary Ella Klopfenstein and Bro. Ray Sinn as Sunday School teachers.

Ministering unto us on Friday evening, Jan. 4, were Bro. George Gramm from Gridley (Ill.) and Bro. Harold Gramm from Morris. Their wives, Sis. Louise and Sis. Ila, accompanied them. We are thankful for the many blessings we received from their visit.

On Jan. 6, the engagement of Bro. Gary Eisenmann to Sis. Rosemary Gerber from Bluffton was announced. We wish them God's blessing together.

Home on furlough over the holidays from the armed services were: Bro. Wm. and Sis. Janice Laukhuf and their twin daughters, Treva and Trenna. (He is stationed at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri.); Douglas Stoller, son of Bro. Eugene and Sis. Mineva Stoller. (Douglas is stationed at Camp Garden.); G. Wayne and Lydia Ann Miller. (He has been stationed at Fort Jackson, South Carolina, and has been transferred to Fort Sam Houston. Their new address is:

C Wayne Miller  
205 Queen Anne's Court  
Apartment No 2  
San Antonio 9, Texas

Jan. 12 marked 50 years of married life for Bro. Otto and Sis. Lydia Schlatter. We know that they are thankful unto God for this blessing, and we trust that He will be with them farther on.

## MOVING? OR HAVE MOVED?

Let us know, or tell a reporter. When the postal department gives the information you have moved, the cost to the Silver Lining is 10 cents, for each form.

Let us know both your old address (as it was printed on the paper) and the **complete** new one.

Little things help.