

THE SILVER LINING

VOLUME 15

DECEMBER 1964

NUMBER 3

THE TRUE CHRISTMAS

—M. K. Steiner

The true and living Christmas
Is celebrated in love
And peace that passeth understanding,
Which comes only from above.

Spiritual and material wealth,
Two sides of the holiday,
The first is deep and lasting;
The second will pass away.

The peace and love can only reign
Inside a heart that is pure,
But people who are merrymaking
Their salvation cannot make sure.

The worldly lusts and pastimes
leave
No time at all for Christ.
So how can you be happy?
What is Christmas without Christ?

The birth of Christ had to come
first,
Before He could for us die
So we will remember on this day
That glorious reason, why.

Christ came to earth in such a way
And grew to manhood fair,
When He belonged in Heaven's
realms,
But suffered cruelties here.

We will rejoice in spirit
On this glad Christmas Day,
For pleasures of this world are
slight
When we have God's perfect Way.

It saves us all from sin and death,
The wickedness and strife,
For we would be most miserable
Without hope of eternal life.

Remember the true meaning of
Christmas,
And you will be richly blessed.
Remember what God has done for
you
To grant you eternal rest.

LOVE BEGETS LOVE

Bro. Irvin Stoller Latty, Ohio

REJOICE

"And the angel said unto them,
Fear not: for, behold, I bring you
good tidings of great joy, which
shall be to all people.

For unto you is born this day in
the city of David a Saviour, which
is Christ the Lord."

commandments. If we love God, we
want nothing else than to obey. To
disobey or fail in the least brings
remorse. When we are sincere and
honest with ourselves, it cannot be
otherwise.

If we analyze this chapter, name-
ly I Corinthians 13, Paul reminds
us of the following: Love suffereth
long—Patience; and is kind—
Kindness. Love envieth not—Gen-
erosity. Love vaunteth not itself,
is not puffed up—Humility; doth
not behave itself unseemly—cour-
tesy . . . seeketh not her own—Un-
selfishness . . . is not easily pro-
voked—Good Temper . . . thinketh
no evil—Guilelessness . . . Rejoiceth

not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in
the truth—Sincerity.

These nine qualities, traits or
fruits of love, make up the supreme
gift, the stature of the perfect man.
We can observe that all are in re-
lation to men, in relation to life.
We have but one life, passing
through just once. One wonders
why we don't covet more the su-
preme gift.

Christ spoke much of love to-
ward man. When we have love to-
ward men, we make a great peace.
Christ made much peace on earth.
A normal attitude of love is pati-
ence. Love is not in a hurry. Love
is calm, ready to do its work when
the summons comes, meanwhile
wearing the ornament of a meek
and quiet spirit. Love understands
and therefore waits.

Kindness is love in action. One
thing greater than happiness is
holiness. God put holiness in our
power. Holiness is also a part of
whole-some-ness. So happiness is
wholesome, and is largely secured
by being kind to others.

Generosity—Love envieth not.
This is love in competition with

How often we are reminded that
there is nothing so great as love
in all the world. We may contrast
it with eloquence. What a noble
gift. It is the power of playing upon
the soul and will of men, rousing
them to lofty purpose and holy
deeds.

The apostle Paul says, if I speak
with the tongues of men and of
angels and have not love, I am be-
come as sounding brass and a
tinkling cymbal. With our emo-
tions, we have all felt the brazen-
ness and hollowness of words.
When no love lies behind this elo-
quence, it cannot persuade; some-
times this seems unaccountable to
us.

What a lesson concerning love we
can glean out of just one chapter
in the Holy Scriptures, I Corin-
thians 13.

Peter, the apostle, said, Above
all things have fervent love
amongst yourselves. John writes,
"God is love". Therefore, love is the
fulfilling of the law, which is the
mind of God toward the children
of men, for if we love, we uncon-
sciously take into account all the

others. Envy is a feeling of ill-will to those who appear to have a greener pasture. That most despicable of all the unworthy moods which cloud a Christian's soul assuredly waits for us on the threshold of every work, unless we are fortified with the grace of magnanimity. Only one thing truly need the Christian envy, the large generous soul which envieth not.

Humility—If we have been kind and love has stolen our hearts, it is well to seal our lips and forget anything we might have done, for love waives self-satisfaction. Love vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up.

Courtesy, politeness has been defined as love in trifles. Courtesy is said to be love in little things, reminds us of the beautiful hymn, Creation. Each little flow'r that

opens, Each little bird that sings, He made their glowing colors, He made their tiny wings

Unselfishness, . . . love seeketh not her own, let's observe, seeketh not even that which is her own. ". . . seekest thou great things for thyself," said the prophet; "seek them not". Why? Because there is not greatness in things. The only greatness is unselfish love.

Christ beckons, All ye that are weary and heavy laden, come unto me, for my yoke is easy and my burden is light. Christ, the author and finisher of love, knew that there is no happiness in getting, but in giving, so he became willing to give His life for you and me, that we might live and not die.

Good temper. Love is not easily provoked. Ill temper . . . we speak of it as a mere failing, yet right in

the heart of this analysis of love it finds a place. The Bible again and again returns to condemn it as one of the most destructive elements in the human nature.

Guilelessness and Sincerity—Rejoiceth not in unrighteousness, but rejoiceth in the truth. The truth shall make us free.

Look for goodness,
Look for gladness;
You will meet them all the while.
If you bring a smiling visage to
the glass,
You will meet a smile.

Love builds; hate destroys. The contrast is: Love is light; hate is darkness.

The reward of Love is everlasting peace and happiness. The reward of hate is everlasting unrest.

May God give us more love.

A HOME FOR ORPHANS

"Dear Bro. Sam: With warm Greetings in brotherly love, I wish you a rich portion of God's blessings in all your ways. I am enclosing, from Sis. Josephine Kupferschmid of Rankin, a letter . . . Joe A."

. . . I am speaking chiefly of the great spiritual and emotional responsibility when one undertakes to help, even for a short while, a disturbed, confused and often heartbroken child.

During our thirty years in this work, I find that it is something into which one grows by small degrees. First of all, one must have a deep and abiding love and understanding for children, and patience and endurance without end. Unless one is prepared to see these children through to the finish, regardless of the problems and difficulties, it is useless even to begin.

However, I don't wish to discourage anyone. There are many joys in this work. One of the greatest

is the morning devotional period, when large and small gather round for Bible reading, discussion and prayers. Each one, from the youngest to the oldest, takes his turn in thanking the Lord for His bountiful blessings, praying for the safety of loved ones and that they might also learn to love the Lord, for forgiveness of sins and strength for the day. Even though a child stays with us only a few months, he will never forget the love and the seed planted in the little heart from God's word.

Another joy is when once in a great while we have the privilege of placing a child in a Christian home. We placed five small children in the past eighteen months, three of whom have been or are being adopted. Many times we have to cope with sin-sick, confused, spiritually starved parents who see no way out of their dilemmas.

Our home is operated almost en-

tirely on free-will offerings, and no child has ever lacked sufficient, good clothing and ample nourishment. It has been our experience that help always comes from somewhere, if we will only wait on the Lord. Looking over my books for the last year, I find beautiful is the fact that a large portion of our support has come from our local community.

Sunday School teachers, ministers, and many others have been wonderful to our children. We have a three-man committee which serves in an advisory capacity and handles contributions. This committee is set upon a rotating basis, and once a year should have one replacement. We owe this committee a vote of thanks for all the effort they put forth for this project. We have heard from and met many wonderful Christians through this work, which has been a real blessing in itself.

AT CHRISTMAS, PEACE

Henry Souder Jr.

Jesus was born.

"And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will to-

ward men."

God is great. Each thing about Him is so much. It goes beyond all we can think. His peace is perfect. Far beyond the remotest time we can figure or compute, even from

everlasting, He was always. This beautiful peace was always as radiant, full and perfect as now. It will be, too, for ever.

In heaven is peace. It is in life, joy and light. It is His Rest. It is home

to us. After the hard work, the being out, then the Rest. It is beautiful, with radiant hearts who live in peace. His Rest is sweet with peace, at its entrance, and always and always.

"... the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost."

The God of peace make what He loves in peace.

The snow softly descends into white scenes of quiet beauty. The silent sunset glow proclaims of His peace.

He stilled the roaring whitecaps. He kindled a fire along a lake of lovely beauty. Raving, unresting demons fled at His command. With His forgiveness comes His peace of tranquil restfulness.

"Let us therefore follow after the things which make for peace, and things wherewith one may edify another."

We can repeat the glow of the old-time church in our day.

If everyone would let love have full sway, how bright the beam would be! The wind is chill. The night is cold. The storm is growing. His word is a beautiful gathering round the fire.

These presents that make for peace and build are for always.

"Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God."

A little boy treasured the clock built of tinkler toy . . . or the little engine . . . things that could be seen and played with.

A heart mellow in the heart of God's love treasures gifts that last.

Peace among one another is fashioned by the individual. The carpenter cuts the board and planes it for proper place; so does the maker of peace his work.

Sometimes we have to bear, have patience. Sometimes we have to say what we hold dear. The exact instructions are hidden away in the word. The beauty of a given moment is the thing we bring, fashioned in His word. To know is to do!

"Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you."

The old days were not all free from trouble and imperfection. However, those sweet, glowing dreams of memory, where love ruled, attract and treasure in our thoughts. They had a reason.

Don't let go the treasure.

"Those things"! A verse obeyed averts so many teardrops. The inside glowed because the obedience

was lived, keeping the house safe for the children. A foreign yoke will soon make havoc of peace.

The humble ones loved His word and lived it. Commandments, little and large, kindled the fire of fellowship, till the hall was bright with merriment.

"... the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy."

God does not shut away into compartments His wisdom. Like an artist of seasoned years, a genius in talent, His wisdom strikes chords that tell of heaven.

Measured in the matchless will of God! Peace has perfect place. (It is not at any price. We cannot agree with someone who is tearing down, or sowing discord, and call it peace.) Peace guards and keeps. Nevertheless, we can be ready at all times with peace. We can much better meet our situation "And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace."

The eve grows quiet. If we wait in the hush of expectancy, He gives above all we ask or think. Let us treasure the loveliness of His peace.

FROM BRO. ED'S NEWSLETTER

We feel that the **Zion's Harps** are a very important part of our church. We would like to have the Silver Lining promote our church. We feel we can do this a bit at a time. We would like to have you devote a small amount of space to advancing the usefulness of the Zion's Harp in our church. Start in January. We have a specific plan in mind for now. Following are listed eight songs in the Zion's Harp that have new melodies:

No. 30, The Seven Churches; No. 32, Who Shall Abide?; No. 45, Repentance; No. 49, Evening Hymn; No. 67, God's Power Revealed In The Clouds; No. 151, Why Art Thou Grieved?; No. 196, Submission; No. 235, The Blessedness of Prayer.

Perhaps one or more of those is being used in your congregation already. If so, let it be known in your columns. If the Lord leads you, see if you can get cooperation from your song leaders, elders and min-

isters in having your church learn these songs. It takes work to learn. I know—I'm a song leader. Tell the readers of your progress. Blend it in with your news. I believe that God loves it when we praise Him in song, and even just sing to Him. I believe He loves all singing that is spiritual. I feel He appreciates any efforts that we put forth to learn or improve our churches' songs.

We need to practice over, and over, and over. Don't leave the melody rest. "He who gets to the top must climb the steps," and I might add, "one at a time." The **Zion's Harp** hymns, like Christian friends, will grow more precious as we become better acquainted with them. The Zion's Harp has been with us for years, and I'm sure it will be with our church as long as it exists in this world.

BLUFFTON, INDIANA
Carolyn Gerber Delutha Moser

"He shall be great, and shall be

called the Son of the Highest; . . ." Luke 1:32

Visiting ministers were Bros. John Bollier of Leo, Joe Klopfenstein of Gridley, and Theo Beer of Milford, bringing us the living word, the spiritual food.

Shut in brethren were Sisters

THE SILVER LINING

Grabill, Indiana 46741

Editor:

Henry Souder Jr.

Published Monthly By the Apostolic Christian Church of America

Counselling Elders:

Sam Aeschliman Bluffton
Theo Beer Milford

News Correspondent:

Ed Souder

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

Second class postage paid at Grabill, Indiana.

Edith Stultz, Lois (Harry) Gerber, Mrs. Bob Aschliman, Martha Kipfer, Mrs. Earl Stucky, and Bros. Wm. Frauhiger, Ed Ringger and Melvin Maller. Romans 8:18: "For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us."

Funeral services were held on Dec. 1 for Sis. Mrs. (Joel) Elizabeth Gehring, who passed away on Nov. 28. She reached the age of 100 years, on Oct. 25. Bro. Samuel Aeschliman officiated. Surviving are one son, Homer and one daughter, Mrs. John (Mary) Baumgartner.

Births: On Nov. 5, a boy, Keith Ray, to Herman and Sis. Phyllis Fiechter; on Nov. 5, a boy, Phillip, to Friends Harold and Ann Baumgartner; on Nov. 14, a boy, Bradley Kent, to Bro. Dwight and Sis. Lucille Gerber; on Nov. 27, a boy, Kenneth John, to Bro. Tom and Sis. Rose Frauhiger; and on Dec. 8, a boy, to Robert and Bernadine (Steffen) Nahrwold, named Anthony Gary.

In Repentance

Unto the soul that seeks the Lord
Rich promises are given;
The guiding hand of God on earth,
A home with Him in Heaven.

For He who governs all the world
In sympathy remembers
The child who turns to Him for help,
Who life and all surrenders.

O how could He, the Kings of kings,
So filled with deep compassion,
Not hear the pleading of your soul
And grant you full remission?

The angels up in heaven rejoice
When souls for peace are yearning,
Who to the Saviour of their souls
In penitence are turning.

On Calvary's brow the Saviour died,
In depth of pain and anguish;
The shed blood atoned for all,
As on the cross He languished.

O heart oppressed and burdened soul,
He sees your deep contrition;
In mercy for the penitent,
He'll grant you full remission.

The peace with God, O priceless gift,
By faith in Jesus given,
Is but a foretaste of the joy
We shall receive in heaven.

This wish, dear soul, we do extend,
Our prayers in verse expressing,
Oh may you soon receive the gift
Of Jesus' love and blessing.

On Dec. 12, the Lord willing, we will be privileged to hear the testimonies of dear friends who have found peace with their God: Emanuel Gerber, son of Bro. Obed and Leona Gerber; Lynn Aeschliman, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Walter Aeschliman; Carol Ringger, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Sylvan Ringger; Judy and Terry Steffen, daughter and son of Sis. Lucille Steffen; Imogene Steffen, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Wilmer Steffen; Janice Gerber, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Ralph Gerber; Mr. and Mrs. Ken and Judy Kipfer; Janice Maller, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Melvin Maller; Mr. and Mrs. Rudy and Connie Frauhiger; and Jane Kaehr, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Ted (Fred) Kaehr.

The following friends have been granted peace and are waiting to bring their testimonies before the congregation: Mr. and Mrs. Dale and Londa Gerber; Mr. and Mrs. Richard and Rose Kipfer; Kent Ringger, son of Bro. and Sis. Orville Ringger; Phillip Moser, son of Bro. and Sis. Harold Moser; Mr. and Mrs. Jerry and Ann Gerber; Mr. and Mrs. Walter Jr. and Joyce Neuenschwander; Mr. and Mrs. Ted and Sandy Fiechter; and Don Steffen.

The Story That Never Grows Old

Let us pause and take time again
to read
The story so often told,
Of the village obscure, the manger
and child—
The story that never grows old.

The shepherds abiding nearby in
the field,
Keeping watch o'er their flocks,
and then
The angel's appearance, and the
Heavenly Host
Saying, **Peace and good will to men.**

The story of the wise men from
the East,
In their journey from afar

In search of Him, born King of the
Jews,
Saying, **We have seen His star.**

Meditatingly read the old story
In a thoughtful, prayerful way,
And find Bethlehem's child of the
manger
Is the hope of the world today.

Let us go now to Bethlehem
Upon this Christmas Day,
And there within a manger bed
Find strength we need alway.

A faith to conquer every doubt—
Love which is good and true—
Hope that can banish all despair—
Peace to bring joy anew.

And let us there accept the gift
God sent so long ago,
That in our heart on Christmas
Day
Eternal hope can glow.

Submitted by one of our ministering brothers.

ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY Dianne Emch

Among students and local residents, we have had nine converts since the beginning of the fall term. They are Joan Honegger, Marlene Plattner, Gloria Bachtold, and John and Wilma Honegger, all of Forrest; Carol Roth, Fairbury; Louise Hoerr, Peoria; and Sam and Rosemarie Wegman, of Tremont. We share much of their new-found joy with them.

Bro. Henry Kilgus visited us Nov. 5 and read from Colossians 3. After his kindly message, Bro. Joe Schrock closed with prayer. We have been impressed with the size of our group this year, and we are happy for the presence of our visitors.

The following Thursday, Bro. Nathan Steffen of Elgin visited us, and he likened our earthly life to the running of a race, with his scripture being Hebrews 11:33-40 and 12:1-17. Bro. Herman Kellenberger closed our meeting.

Bro. Ben Fehr of Roanoke spoke to us on Ephesians 4:10-32 and 5:1-20, on Nov. 19. Bro. Joe Schrock then added some comments, and Bro. Clarence Kachelmuss closed with a prayer.

Our classes recessed for Thanksgiving vacation Nov. 25.

FT. SAM HOUSTON, TEXAS**Leland Plattner
Pete Baltic**

The ministers who were with us were Bro. Clarence Yackley, Phoenix, Bro. Joe Klotzle, Altadena, and Bro. Elmer Witzig, Gridley, Illinois. We had many other welcome visitors. This is a good season to come to this area for anyone planning a vacation.

We noticed yesterday, Thanksgiving Day, that there were many people having picnics at the park, so you can visualize that there is nice weather here. All of us at Ft. Sam appreciate visitors anytime. Try to let someone know of your coming. My address is: 205 Queen Anne Ct., Apt. 3, San Antonio, Texas 78209. We would also like to know of anyone coming here for duty in the army. Our group now is rather small, but we still get together often and cherish our fellowship.

Mail is another thing that gives us a lift at the end of a day's duty. Since we are all brethren and friends, it shouldn't be hard to write to one who you haven't met personally. "But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased."

PRINCEVILLE, ILLINOIS**Ruth Ricketts**

"At home 'tis well! With God in close relation, The soul forgets the sorrow it has borne, With pain o'ercome on that bright, golden morn, Rejoices in our God's sublime salvation."

So we believe it is with our dear brother, Daniel Streitmatter, who could close his eyes to this weary world on November 6, after a long, hard struggle. Bros. J. A. Getz, Joshua Broquard and Frank Woertz conducted funeral services November 9. He was laid to rest beside his wife, Sis. Mary (Kuntz), in the Streitmatter Cemetery. Two sons, Russell and Lavern, and three daughters, Sis. Edith Martin, Gladys Neal, and Bernadine survive. Two brothers, William and Louis, also survive. Word has just reached us that his only surviving sister, Bertha Albrecht, was called out of this life today, December 3. Another sister, Julia, was laid to rest February 29 of this year.

We were pleasantly surprised Wednesday evening, November 18, to find Bro. Fred Grimm in our

midst. He left us with many things to ponder over, especially warning each one to be careful and not be deceived by the antichrist. Let us help each other, and pray continually, so all can be present when the roll is called up yonder.

Bros. Joshua Broquard and LeRoy Huber came Wednesday evening, November 25, to assist our elder brother, Silas Leuthold, to read and meditate on the conference report. How thankful we can be that we have sincere brothers who so freely give their time to share with us. Doesn't it make us all feel like we want to be more obedient to them and to God's precious word?

Bro. Joshua was with us for Thanksgiving services the following morning. In Psalm 105 he read, "O give thanks unto the LORD; call upon his name: make known his deeds among the people." We truly have many reasons to give thanks, not only on a day set aside for this purpose, but every day anew.

Bro. Dale Martin, who is stationed in Georgia, was able to spend Thanksgiving Day with his folks, returning again early Sunday morning.

We have a few sick people again this past month. Dennis Herrmann, small son of Bro. Harry and Sis. Bertha, had his tonsils removed. He is out again and doing nicely. Sis. Lillian Stahl continues to improve in her home, following an auto accident a number of weeks ago. Sis. Lillian Elsasser is convalescing at home, following major surgery. Sis. Louise Baurer is presently in the hospital receiving treatment for severe nerve spasms in her neck and head. Norman Stahl is recovering from recent surgery. Anna Hager is seriously ill in the hospital. We pray that the dear Lord will be near all the sick and suffering, and give them strength to face each new day bravely and without fear.

Kevin Robert, is the new son born November 29, to Bro. Robert and Sis. Arlene Schol. His brother, Kyle, happily welcomed him home.

One of our Sunday School teachers has written the following about singing.

As the Christmas season again draws near, we look forward with anticipation to hear and sing the beautiful hymns & carols concerning the birth of our loving Saviour.

We believe even the world in general looks forward to this joyful season of the year. However, we should not forget the importance of that day and the purpose of our Saviour's coming into this world. May we not use the Christmas season for worldly gain only, as so many seem to do, but also for spiritual gain.

One way we have experienced many blessings at this season of the year is by getting a small group together and going to the home of the aged or sick, to sing a few hymns or carols. It is uplifting for them, we believe, as well as for us.

Singing is an important part of our worship. We should all exercise the talent that God gives us, to the best of our ability. There are times in our life that we do not feel like singing. However, let us remember that when things looked darkest for our Lord, on the night of His betrayal, that He joined His disciples in singing a hymn, before going to the Mount of Olives.

Singing beautiful hymns can be very uplifting. If we follow the words closely, they are almost a sermon to us. Even the word of God tells us (Colossians 3:16), "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord."

The human voice is not man-made, but given to us by God. To me, there is nothing so beautiful in music as to hear a group of voices blended together in time and harmony to the praise of God in song. Let us appreciate the gift that God has given us and make good use of it here on earth, with the hope that some day we can all join in that song before the great throne.

Another brother has contributed the following words, concerning Christmas caroling.

As we draw near to the season and time of the year in which all the world celebrates the birth of Jesus, our dear Lord and Saviour, we hear and sing many beautiful Christmas carols. How thankful we should be that God has granted unto us the privilege to live throughout another year in a country where we are permitted to worship our God in freedom, without fear, and according to the dictates of our conscience. We cannot visualize or realize how it would be if

we would lose our precious times of fellowship and worship together in unity.

Many times we are reminded of those—of whom there are many—who cannot assemble together or go in and out, as we of good or reasonable health can.

No doubt many lonely Sundays and many long evening hours are spent, perhaps wishing and longing for someone to remember them with a visit. Certainly, we who are more fortunate fail in visiting our many beloved brethren and friends or perhaps in getting together to sing hymns and songs of praise to our dear Lord and Saviour with them. It seems those who are denied this privilege of assembling with God's children, due to illness, age, etc., always enjoy this so much. Certainly we would, if one day God asks of us these trials and tribulations. Therefore, may we all endeavor to attempt to make life more pleasant for those who are less fortunate than we, and especially as we are entering this time and season of Good Will and Glad Tidings.

It appears the swift and rushing times in which we live demand so great an amount of our time that we can hardly find an evening during this sacred season in which a group of brethren and friends can gather together to go Christmas caroling. May we with God's help, and as a duty of every brother and sister, seek and secure time to fulfill this small obligation, rather than later regret we had not.

Surely we can believe God will look upon us in favor and with pleasure, if we somehow can bring a little spark of joy, a small ray of sunshine, or a tiny bit of happiness into the lives and homes of those around us by going—Christmas Caroling.

Teresa and Rose Streitmatter, daughters of Bro. Burton and Sis. Martha; Mary Knobloch, daughter of Bro. Clarence and Sis. Emma; Nancy Kieser, daughter of Bro. George and Sis. Esther; Larry Endress, son of Bro. Levi and Sis. Mildred; and John Guingrich, son of Bro. Ed and Sis. Doris, have professed peace with God and man, after turning their backs to the pleasures of this sinful world. We hope to hear their testimonies in the very near future, and, if possible, baptisms will be held in Brad-

ford.

All of us here in Princeville wish everyone a most blessed holiday season!

WINTHROP, MINNESOTA

Linda and Melva Messner

The prophet, Ezekial, spoke: "If when he seeth the sword come upon the land, he blow the trumpet, and warn the people . . ." Ezekiel 33:3 On Nov. 10 Elder Bros. Noah Schrock, Silas Leuthold, Paul Fehr, Paul Banwart and Leo Moser visited our congregation, to read the memorandum. We are thankful for their labor of love.

Elder Bros. George Gramm, Paul Fehr, and Leo Moser visited our congregation Nov. 29. We witnessed the proving and baptism of Diane Olson. She testified she couldn't feel too young to obey the Saviour's call, when there is so much in the Bible to encourage one to come. We welcome her to the fold.

"I love them that love me; and those that seek me early shall find me." Proverbs 8:17 "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." Matthew 6:33

John Messner, son of Walter and Florence Messner, was home on furlough, after being stationed in Korea for about 16 months. He is now stationed in California.

M/Sgt. Robert Messner, also a son of Walter and Florence Messner, who was stationed at Georgia with his wife and family, visited his parents and relatives here. They then left to go to Germany, where he will be stationed for 3 years. He has completed over 17½ years of service.

A son was born to Bro. James and Sis. Julia Messner on Nov. 7. He was welcomed by five sisters. They named him Richard James.

Our oldest sister and member, Ida Miller, observed her 91st birthday on Nov. 18. Open house was held at her son's home, Noah Miller, from 5:00 until 8:00 p.m. She is still active and attends church every Sunday. We can be so thankful we have no one in our congregation who is bodily afflicted and cannot attend church.

Gladness Out of Affliction

Can gladness come out of affliction?

Can joy out of sorrow be born?
And after a night of bereavement
Can happiness come in the morn?

God's presence is found with affliction;
He's ready to answer the cry,
To banish the fears and the doubtings
With "Be of good cheer; it is I".

God's instrument oft is affliction
For molding and training His own,
But all through the trial and testing
His love and His mercy are shown.

Continue to trust through the trial,
To murmur not nor be dismayed.
The Lord will not leave nor forsake thee;
He comforts with, **Be not afraid.**

Affliction is but for a moment,
But after its purpose is wrought,
The blessing will go on forever,
The fruit that the trial has brought.

Yes, gladness CAN come through affliction,
And joy out of sorrow IS born;
The night may be heavy with weeping,
But happiness comes in the morn.

AKRON, OHIO

Grace Schuckert—Alice Graf

In our present day Christmas celebrations, we could be found with our backs turned on the One whose birth we think we are honoring. This Christmas season, we are happy to report that some Sunday School classes are thinking of others and trying to remember, too, that "It is more blessed to give than to receive." Our primary group usually sends food baskets to lonely and afflicted friends and brethren, or gifts to orphans. An intermediate group is planning to send a gift to the orphans' home, rather than trade gifts with each other.

Arthur, Audrey and Todd Graf have moved into their new home at 3197 Clubside Dr., Barberton, Ohio 44203. They are neighbors to the Forrest Ritzmans.

Sis. Anna Rupp is in the Wadsworth Hospital again. She seems happy to have visitors.

Elizabeth Hieb was with us again Sunday, after being hospitalized for a few days.

Sis. Yoshiko Utsuki left Akron

Wednesday, Nov. 25. We enjoyed having her with us this past month and hope she can visit our congregation again.

Louise and Roland French have a new granddaughter, Tracey Irene Lawrence.

ALTO, MICHIGAN Myrna and Loretta Steffen

On Nov. 8., our elder Bro. George Sinn spoke to us from God's Holy Word. After services, he read the Memorandum of the Brotherhood meeting. We all enjoyed the fellowship and supper in the evening.

Bro. Derry Schutte is recovering from a knee operation and is with us in our assembly again.

Sis. Kathrine Bocka of Mansfield spent three weeks at the home of Bro. and Sis. Aaron Steffen Jr. and attended services with us during that time. We enjoyed her company.

As the year draws to a close, here is a poem that we should share—to ponder and to take to heart.

The Water Mill

Listen to the water mill,
Through the passing day;
How the clanking of its wheel
Wears the hours away!

Autumn winds revive no more
Leaves that once are shed,
And the sickle cannot reap
Corn once gathered.

Flows the ruffled streamlet on,
Tranquil, deep, and still;
Never gliding back again
To the water mill.

Learn to make the most of life;
Lose no happy day.
Time will never bring thee back
Chances swept away!

Work while yet the daylight shines,
You of strength and will!
Never does the streamlet glide
Useless by the mill.

Wait not till tomorrow's sun
Beams upon thy way;
All that thou canst call thine own
Lies in thy "today."

Power, intellect and health
May not always last—
"The mill cannot grind
With the water that is past."

O the wasted hours of life
That have drifted by!
O the good that might have been—
Lost without a sigh!

Love, that we could once have
saved,
By a single word,
Thoughts conceived but never said,
Perishing, unheard.

Leave no tender word unsaid,
Love while love shall last—
"The mill cannot grind
With the water that is past."

CONGERSVILLE, ILLINOIS Ruth Schumacher

Two from our congregation have been in the hospital with vein disorders. We are glad to report that Bro. Harvey Schieber is feeling better and is back to his duties in Sunday School—and we hope that Clarence Schlipf will soon be home and well again.

Bro. and Sis. Alvin and Marie Farney, who have been in our congregation for some time, have moved from their farm near McLean, into Congersville. We're glad that they're now in the community as well as in the congregation.

Congersville ladies gathered at Sis. Tillie Sauder's to fill Christmas boxes for boys in the Service and shut-ins.

Tammy Lin is the new daughter of our friends, Ralph and Linda Knapp. She was born November 30 and is their first child. We hope that Ralph and Linda will be baptized and taken into the fold in the near future.

The Sunday School Christmas Program is to be held Sunday evening, December 20, at 7:30. The theme is "The Wondrous Story."

PEORIA, ILLINOIS Emily Tanner

Mrs. Michael Weyeneth

After being a reporter for the Silver Lining for a number of years, I have asked to be relieved. I want to thank Sis. Emily Tanner for taking my place. I shall be her assistant until she finds someone else. I also wish to thank those who cooperated with me, the ministers, Sunday School teachers, and others. I know Sis. Emily will appreciate your co-operation and support.

Sis. Michael Weyeneth

A song-service was held at the

Fireside Nursing Home for the Aged Friday evening, November 13. The Brothers of Harmony did the singing.

Bro. Art and Sis. Dorothy Sutter spent some time in Europe and have now returned home safely, after a pleasant trip and visit with their daughter Karen, her husband, and two children. Karen's husband is in the Air Force. They live in Seville, Spain.

Sis. Ruth Hartman is now living in Peoria. We welcome her in our assembly.

Carl Meister died suddenly November 14. Our sympathy goes to his wife, Sis. Lavina, and their son, James, and family. Bro. Michael Weyeneth held the funeral services at the Wilton Mortuary.

Mrs. Bertha Albrecht died December 3. She made her home with her son, William, for the past few years. Bro. Roy Sauder is to have the funeral services at the Cumerford-Endsley Memorial Home.

Bro. John Sinn suffered a light stroke, while at church Sunday November 8. He was in the hospital for a while. At this writing, he has improved quite a bit, and is at the Rest-Mor Home in Morton.

Ben Huber, who has been a patient in the hospital, is home again.

Sis. Norma Rieker underwent surgery this past month. She is doing fine and is able to be home with her family again.

Bro. Fred Fuecht was admitted to the hospital recently. We pray that God will give each and everyone the grace and strength to bear their burden.

The marriage engagement of Sis. Mary Jane Aberle from Tremont and Bro. Dean Leuthold was made known to our congregation November 29. We wish them God's rich blessings.

As the joyous Christmas season is approaching, the thought comes to my mind of the beautiful words in a hymn that reads, "Joy here alternates with woe". Truly, we have great reason to be joyful and thankful that God sent His Son to be born of a virgin. In due time, He gave His life and shed His blood for the remission of our sins, was buried and arose again, and now is in heaven with the Father. We all hope to be with Him, too, one day.

Our congregation was saddened by the news of the death of our dear brother, David Mangold. He gave so freely of himself to our

church here in Peoria when he was our elder.

At our monthly hymn-sing, which was held Sunday evening, December 6, we were happy to have a group from Morton join us. We enjoyed hearing a few inspiring selections. A male quartet from the Peoria Bible Class also sang one selection, which was very nice.

The close of another year is soon at hand. Did we live up to the resolutions we made at the beginning of the year? It seems to be human nature to fall a little short. May we all strive to live closer to God, by reading in His Word, the Holy Bible, each day, and seek to do His will!

WOLCOTT, INDIANA Arles Kropf

Bro. Joe Kaisner of Forrest and Bro. Merle Kaisner of Fairbury spent the day with us on Nov. 8. Song-service was enjoyed by a nice group in the evening, at the home of Bro. and Sis. Kenneth Furrer.

Thanksgiving services were held here on Thursday morning, with the Remington congregation gathering with us. We were reminded how we have again been blest with a bountiful harvest and have so much for which to be thankful, not only on Thanksgiving, but every day.

On November 29, our elder, Bro. Irvin Lehman, read to us the memorandum of the conference, and explained to us the many teachings contained in it. May we all strive more each day, to put off those things which our elders see that are not good for our souls and do more of the things that are beneficial and soul-strengthening. As Bro. Irvin stated, our elders are our watchmen, and if a watchman would not sound the warning when there is danger, much harm could befall us.

Our friends, Marceil Furrer, daughter of Sis. Emma Furrer, and Steve Haab, son of Bro. and Sis. Elmer Haab of Milford, were united in marriage on Dec. 6 by Bro. Irvin, at the home of Sis. Emma. May the Lord bless this union and be with them as they travel life's path together.

NEW MARTINSVILLE, W. VA. Minnie B. Weltz

Misses Jean Bittner of Fairbury, Lorene Geyer, Nathalia and Ella Honegger of Forrest and Julia

Honegger of Peoria visited the Monroe church on October 25. They were on vacation over East, including Washington D.C., the Skyline Drive in Virginia and many places of interest, spending this Sunday in West Virginia and Ohio. Come again ladies.

Mr. and Mrs. Lorentz Emch, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Emch of Girard were the guests of the Froelich and Witschey families on November 7, 8, 9.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl McIntire will celebrate their golden wedding anniversary on December 25.

D. S. Witschey and daughters, Margaret and Elizabeth, and Mr. and Mrs. Verda Fankhouser visited with his sons, Robert and John, in Charleston, W. Va., on November 28 and 29.

Joseph Witschey of Wadsworth, O., came back on December 5 for an extended visit here with relatives.

Finley Ruth, son-in-law of Albert Riggerbach, is critically ill and has been a patient in the Ohio Valley Hospital in Wheeling for some time. He will be brought home as soon as he is able to be moved.

For several days, Mrs. Harry Mullett has been ill, caused by infection in one foot.

Mary Ann Brothers has been ill for some time, but is improved at this time.

Dan S. Witschey will be 90 years of age on December 31. Please remember him with a card, if this news reaches you before that time.

The feet of the humblest may walk in the field

Where the feet of the Holiest trod. This, then, is the marvel to mortals revealed

When the silvery trumpets of Christmas have pealed, That mankind may be children of God.

A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all.

BURLINGTON, OKLAHOMA Mrs. Raymond Roth

We were very grateful for the inspiring and soul-stirring messages presented to us the evening of Nov. 10, when Bros. Fred Grimm of Taylor and Lowell Stoller of Princeville visited us. They left no doubt in our minds, a terrible end awaits those who do not repent and live for the Lord.

Hospital patients this past

month were, Mrs. Marcine Diel, Sis. Vern Schurter (who fell and chipped her shoulder), Sis. Isaac Diel, Sis. Bill Schrock, Bro. John Huffman and Bro. Lawrence Keifer (who underwent surgery in a Wichita hospital). Bro. John Brown has been very ill in his home, with pneumonia; Sis. Brown's mother, Sis. Lydia Bahr of Gridley, came to help care for Bro. John.

A number from our congregation visited the Kiowa Rest Home one evening this past month, having services and singing hymns for the residents there.

We wish to commend the three elders, Bros. Noah Schrock of Oakville, Leo Moser of Lester, and Lester Hartter of Bern, for braving the cold, snowy weather and assembling with us Dec. 6.

The elders read and discussed the memorandum. We are very thankful for our elders sincere love and great concern shown. We should appreciate being reminded of our duty to walk the straight and narrow path of life, be warned against the temptations of this world and the lust thereof, that our church and humble way of life might be preserved.

The closing song, "Unity", given by Bro. Schrock at the close of the meeting, made a very impressive end to the meeting.

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

May this Christmas season be filled with peace and joyous moments for everyone.

SABETHA, KANSAS Mrs. Theodore Locher Leona Aeschliman

Bro. Sam Anliker read the Brotherhood Conference memorandum, Saturday evening, November 14. Bro. Sam remained with us, conducting the Sunday morning service. We heard again how important it is to adhere to the simple teachings of our Lord and Saviour.

Bro. Charles Griggs, son of Walter and Mary Griggs, was born in Kansas City, Missouri, July 14, 1881. He died at the home of his son, Gene, near Onaga, Kansas, having attained the age of 83 years. He leaves to mourn his passing his wife, Sis. Irene of Topeka; two

sons, Gene of Onaga and Wyman of Topeka; three grandchildren and two great grandchildren. Funeral services were held November 15 at 1:00 p.m., conducted by Bros. Carl Hartman and Joseph Aberle. Interment was in the Sabetha Cemetery.

Bro. Lewis Bahr was confined to the St. Anthony Hospital for some time. He suffered a heart attack. He is now convalescing at home. We pray his health will be restored soon.

Announcement was made of our friends, Marion and Gene Kellenberger, turning to the Lord in repentance. We are joyful, as always, over one soul who repents.

Gary and Charlene Sawyer of Salina, Kansas, are parents of a son, named Thomas Lynn. The grandparents are Oscar and Lena Strahm and the Neal Sawyers. His great-grandparents are Bro. John and Sis. Marie Strahm, Bro. Louis Sr., and Sis. Sarah Meyer.

Bro. Reo Strahm met with a painful accident on Friday, November 27, while using a combine, shelling corn. He has been confined to the hospital and is fortunate, inasmuch as only one of his toes needed to be amputated.

The Crop Hail Aid Meeting was held at Oakville, December 1. Bros. Willard Bahr, Ben Aberle, Eli Meyer Jr., and Alpha Aberle attended.

The engagement of Bro. Richard Aberle to Sis. LaNae Moser of Rockville was announced on November 26. We wish them God's blessings.

What Is Christmas

For nearly two thousand years, man has been trying to portray with words the true meaning of Christmas.

Just what is Christmas?

Christmas, of course, originated in the little village of Bethlehem. The lowly shepherds were the first to find Christ. It was easy for them to find him, because they had nothing to hinder them. They were out on the lonely Judaeen hillsides, away from the world in general, and they didn't have far to go to find the Christ child.

On the other hand, wise men of great wealth had to travel many miles to find the babe. They, too, found Christ, but they needed much faith and it took great effort

on their part. They were far removed from Him, and no doubt were entangled with the problems of the world. Yet it is important to note that they did find Christ. It was, however, necessary for them to "return another way" and not travel again upon the road on which they had come.

Surely these two extreme incidents show us the real meaning of Christmas. Christmas meant so much to the few who were led to the manger in Bethlehem. We should celebrate Christmas today because we are thankful for the gift which Christ gave to all—the gift of life eternal. It was given to everyone far and near, from kings to shepherds, rich and poor alike.

Yes, Christmas is in our heart. It is simply the joy of finding Christ.

E.M.

UNION CITY, NEW JERSEY August Mueller

Nov. 3, this country elected a President. It is indeed a great honor to be president of such a great country, but it is also a great responsibility. We are instructed by Paul, the apostle, to pray for our government, so we can live in peace and give God the honor and the glory, which we at all times are indebted unto Him—He rules the world with might and power in His hands, lays peace and war; we have to trust in Him. It is our prayer that He would give our rulers wise and understanding hearts, that they may look to Him for help, and not depend upon their own strength.

Let us survey or compare our own life. We were called to much higher standing than president. All the honor, all the wealth in this world can not be compared with the peace of God, which passeth all understanding. The honor of short duration in this world does not mean anything. Only he is honoreth whom the Lord honoreth. To that end, may the Lord grant grace. Amen.

Only the other day, I read about a king that depended on his own strength, but was put to shame. His name was Sennacherib. He had a mighty army; he had chariots, horses and men. This king made up his mind to send messengers to King Hezekiah, to tell him to prepare for war, that he would come to Jerusalem. Hezekiah was in trouble; his country was small, his

army was small, so he called Isaiah, the prophet, and asked him to pray for him, if the Lord would help him. The Lord heard their prayers and told Hezekiah that he should be of good cheer, that He, the Lord, will send help. He did not say how He would help. The next day, many dead bodies was found. They did not have to fight; the Lord fought for him. King Sennacherib returned to Nineveh, defeated and disappointed. He was assassinated by his own sons.

Thus saith the LORD, The heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool. . . . How fortunate are we that we can fall upon our knees and bring thanks and praise unto our Lord and Saviour, upon this footstool. The day will surely come when the Lord will move from His mercy seat to His judgment seat, to render every man according to his deeds, be they good or bad. The dead will come out of their graves. The sea will give up the dead. The righteous judge will have a righteous judgment. There is no one forgotten or left out. As thou sowest, so thou shalt reap.

The other night, Nov. 17, we had a surprise visitor. It was Bro. Glen Martin from Oakville. He works on long distance trailer trucks that travel from coast to coast. He had a layover in the Jersey City terminal, so he called me on the phone. I invited him to visit us, and he did. He spent about two hours with us; it was a pleasure to have him. I wish I would get more of these calls; I would be glad to answer them.

Sunday, the 22. We were happy to have Sis. Ida Knecht in our midst.

When a man is born again as Jesus told Nicodemus, "Ye must be born again," he loves what he once hated, and hates what he once loved.

For the children of God, every-day is Thanksgiving day. He is the giver of all good and perfect gifts. If He would close his hand, we could take nothing, and give nothing. All honor and glory is due unto him, now and forever more. Amen.

Sunday the 29 . . . Bro. Bob Stoller (Girard) served us with the word of God, morning and afternoon. We were blessed in rich measure. It is always a blessing when members come from other congregations who are of like heart

and mind; they are always welcome.

Yesterday, my wife and I had the privilege to celebrate our fiftieth anniversary. We received a number of gifts and many, many cards of congratulatory, for which we are very thankful. Among them was one from the president, Mr. and Mrs. Johnson. It made us very happy. I thank God, who keeps us and carries us in His arms of longsuffering from one day to another and has blessed us in rich measure. It was indeed a good deed on the part of our children who took care of this celebration. God bless them.

Sun., Dec. 6 . . . This is the last month of the year. It is also the month for us to remember what God has done for us, how He sent His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, upon this earth to save mankind from eternal destruction. Only those that believe and follow in his footsteps are saved. Without faith, it is impossible to please God. We are thankful to God that souls are yet awakened from the slumber of sin and can be brought into the ark of safety.

And now, by the time this writing reaches the reader, it will be the end of the year. My wife and I wish one and all a Merry Christmas and a very happy New Year. God bless you all in the coming year.

Faith and hope and love adorn
Heart and life of all true
Christians.

With these must each child of God
Be endowed in full submission.
All who wish to serve God truly
Must show forth these virtues
fully.

WEST BEND, IOWA

Anna Schmidt
Marilyn Schneider

Visiting ministers for the month of November were Bro. Albert Aberle from Tremont and Bro. Uriel Gehring from Burlington. Each gave a very inspiring message. Bros. Leo Moser and Paul Fehr were here to assist Bro. Paul Banwart in reading and explaining the memorandum. We are thankful that we still have elder brethren who are willing to assist our elder brother in this duty. May we take to heart the warnings and the teachings that were given to us.

On Nov. 15, Bro. Paul Banwart solemnized the wedding of Sis. Mar-

cella Gerber, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Noah Gerber, & Bro. Joe Steiner; son of Bro. and Sis. Dan Steiner, from Tremont. They will be living in Manhattan, Kansas, until Bro. Joe is discharged from the service, then they will make their home at Tremont. We wish them God's blessing in this important step in life.

A son, Jeffery Jon, was born to Richard and Dorothy Zaugg on Nov. 19. Ellen Jane and Tommy welcomed him home.

This past week we selected new Sunday School teachers. They are as follows: Bro. Verner Wirtz to replace Bro. Walter Banwart, and Sis. Carolyn Gerber to replace Sis. Clara Banwart. May God bless them on their new duties.

Bro. George Bruellman was selected to represent our song leaders.

Friend Duane Metzger, son of Bro. and Sis. Arnold Metzger, was announced to give his testimony, when the time is convenient. Duane is in the service at Fort Knox.

Sis. Lydia Benninger has been in and out of the hospital several times in the past few weeks. She has been in failing health for quite some time.

The Divine Purpose

A Heavenly Child was born one
day,
And placed in a manger . . .
And shepherds were praying,
adoring Him there,
All of them loving this
Child so fair.
But Jesus the Saviour —
Oh, mankind! Awake!
And into your hearts
This loving one take;
You loved Jesus the Babe,
But Jesus the man
Still offers redemption
As no other one can.

FORT BENNING, GEORGIA

Dale Martin

Most of us here have just returned from a field exercise in the Carolinas. We were there for two months. Over these autumn months, we could really see the beautiful creation of God. While we were there, we received two publications of **The Writings of Bro. Froehlich**. We want to thank you all for them; they sure help make the time pass. We also want to thank the people who have been

keeping us supplied with tape recordings.

We welcome Vernon Schraf from Forrest.

Our visitors this month consisted of Bro. Joe and Sis. Marcella Steiner from Ft. Riley, Kansas, and Bro. Eugene and Sis. Kay Seibenthal from Hammond, Indiana. (Editor's note: Bros. Joe and Eugene are in the Service). We certainly enjoy visitors and want to welcome more.

Winter is here, and we hope that more will stop by on their way to Florida. Ft. Benning is located on Route 27, near Columbus, Georgia. If anyone plans on stopping here, we would appreciate it if they would let us know as soon as possible, so we can make reservations. We have weekly services at 7:30 Thursday nights and 1:00 Sunday afternoons, but we can get together most any night of the week. Please contact

Pfc Dale Martin
Hq Co 2nd Bn 38 inf
Ft Benning Georgia
Phone 544-2731

Pfc Charles Sauder
1st Bn 72nd armor 2nd Inf Div
Ft Benning Georgia
Phone 544-7545

Pfc Daune Gerber
Hq Co 127 Eng Bn
11 air assault Division
Ft Benning Georgia
Phone 545-6062

or any one whom you may know here.

CHAMPAIGN-URBANA, ILL.

Ben Blunier

Bros. Al Fisher from Chicago and Joe Schrock from Congerville were our guest ministers at our last two services, which are held the first and third Sundays of each month. We thank them for visiting us and for their inspiring messages.

As Bro. Al brought us the "Living Water" from the Word on November 15, God also blessed us with rainfall that ended the worst drought on record in this area. It was truly a refreshing day.

Bro. Joe advised us to cling to that first love that we felt, when we arose from baptism unto new life for Him. We had given Him our whole heart that day; we need to strive to do so every day.

Dan Plattner, whose home is at

Goodfield, has answered the call to repentance. May God bless him. Dan expects to graduate soon from the University. How nice now that he can let the Lord lead him, as he seeks his vocation. With God we cannot fail—without Him we cannot succeed.

Thanks, too, to Bros. Walter Anliker from Eureka and Ed Hohulin, who taught us at one of the alternate Wednesday Bible classes. At the other meeting, all who attended enjoyed an evening of singing and fellowship, as bad weather did not permit a minister to be here.

A new year is soon here. We marvel that they come so often, and as we get older it seems they even pick up speed. Our lifetime is only a moment in the aeon of eternity, but so important, since it determines our eternal destiny. Throughout this new year, let us renew our efforts to let God's will be our will.

CROGHAN-NAUMBURG, N. Y.

Mrs. Lawrence Farney
Mrs. David Schamback

Sis. Dorothy Herzig is recuperating at her home, after hospitalization for injuries she received in a fall in her home.

Hospitalized at present is our young brother, Henry Virkler, son of Bro. Clayton and Sis. Lillian Virkler. He is recovering from major surgery.

Floyd Graves Jr. left on December 2 for induction into the service of our country.

On November 28, we met in the Naumburg church to hear the testimonies of Mae Graves, and Arthur and Mary Jane Hirschey, and the next day witnessed their baptisms there. We rejoice with the angels that there are still precious souls turning to their Lord. Sis. Mae is the daughter of Bro. Floyd and Sis. Loretta Graves. Elder Widrick was assisted by Elders Bauman and Bahler, to whom we owe a deep debt of gratitude for their kind ministrations.

The young people of both churches are rehearsing for Christmas programs, which they expect to present on Sunday afternoon and evening, December 20.

"Til All Have Heard!

At Christmas time we honor
Christ,
Extol his lowly birth;

We sing his praise,
And pray for days
When we'll have peace on earth.

We feel within our hearts the joy
This Holy Child did bring;
His story told
By young and old
With happiness does ring!

This baby, Jesus, who was born
So many years ago,
Did not stay small;
To save us all,
God gave him power to grow!

That we may grow, we have God's
Word

To help us to mature;
Our souls must feed;
Christ fills each need.
With him, we can be sure!

With faith, we'll follow His
command

To study and to pray;
To spread the Word
Till all have heard
The wonder of his way!

FORT SCOTT, KANSAS

Annabelle Bahr

With Thanksgiving season just past and Christmas approaching, let us give thanks now and every day, for all we've had, may yet have and even that which is withheld. Sometimes it is not good for us to have all we desire.

Bro. Will Sinn was in a Topeka Hospital a few days for minor surgery. He has recovered and is thankful to be as well as he is.

Bro. Sam Huber, Burlington, and Bro. Earl Banwart, West Bend, were our guest ministers this past month. Bro. Earl asked, in his sermon, **De we appreciate that God's word is not bound among us, but that it is freely given to all who desire it?**

The twenty-fifth wedding anniversary of Bro. and Sis. Dan Sinn was observed Nov. 15, by a family dinner. A number of the brethren and relatives went to their home and surprised them with a hymn-singing.

Our children are learning their songs and pieces for their Sunday School Christmas program. It is our prayer that, as they grow older, they will accept the precious gift from Heaven.

FRANCESVILLE, INDIANA

Mrs. Herman (Chris) Wuethrich

"How are you?" is the usual

question we ask, in meeting each other on Sunday mornings, and our ministering brother said this answer was given him, "Trusting in the Lord." What a comforting answer!

May you all be blessed with the deepest happiness of this Christmas-time. The little children really teach us that we are "wise men" too, when we give gifts. They so dearly like to talk and sing about dear little Baby Jesus.

We were thankful to be blessed with the visiting ministers, Bros. Roy Sauder, Clarence Kachelmus, Andrew Koehl, John Yergler, Fred Grimm and George Yergler. The Lord's nearness was felt, as his servants, through the Holy Spirit, brought us the truth in its sincerity. We were reminded of our duty to God. Proclaimed was the time we are now in as being the latter days. Although He does not tell of the hour or season of His return, we see in the world today the scriptures fulfillment is rapidly approaching.

Now a good closing thought—I asked a dear young teenager about an unexpected task that came up in their home for them to do, that took quite a bit of their time—but this is the answer she said she gave her mother:

"God doesn't want us to get lazy; He wants to give us something to do."

INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

John Isch

We were very happy to have with us again this month visiting ministers, who richly shared the true Word with us. Sunday, Nov. 15. Bro. Sam Kilgus, Remington, ministered to us; on Nov. 29, Bro. Emanuel Gudeman, Cissna Park, delivered the messages. We could all feel the true Spirit's presence, as both gave us much food for thought—reminding us that the twelfth hour is drawing very near.

Our dear friend, John Mayer, has found peace with his Lord and was announced to be proved and hopefully baptized, on Dec. 19 and 20 at Detroit. We wish him God's grace and richest blessings in his newly-found life.

We have been richly blessed in our small young congregation, having had three souls turn their hearts to the Lord in the past year. We hope and pray that there might yet be many more, not only here,

but wherever He might see fit to trouble the waters.

Our next meeting is planned for Jan. 3. Bros. Henry Grimm, Morton, and Robert Grimm, Goodfield, are planning to be with us. Our service scheduled for Dec. 20 has been cancelled, since some will be attending the proving in Detroit, and many surrounding students will be home for the holidays.

As the wonderful Christmas Season draws near again, mid all the hustle and bustle, let's not forget the real purpose of the holiday . . . For if it weren't for the humble birth of our Lord and Saviour in the lowly manger at Bethlehem, we couldn't enjoy the precious faith that we share today.

So in this blessed season, we wish all a very Merry Christmas, and trust that the Lord will grant us another New Year again.

SARASOTA, FLORIDA

Velta Laukhuf

We are very happy and thankful to God, to see so many of our folks back again this winter season. We also welcome the new ones. This is the time of the year that causes one to pause and give our Heavenly Father special thanks, for the many blessings that were bestowed on us this past year. As we approach this blessed day, Christmas, the birth of our dear Lord and Saviour, we feel greatly indebted to Him, for coming into this world and making it possible for our redemption. We also look forward in faith and hope, and ask him to be with us during this new year, at all times.

Church Services

At 1:00 p.m., Womens' Club Bldg., corner of Park and Palm Ave., starting first Sunday in January.

STUDENT ADDRESSES

And Some Working Away From Home

Remember! they should be in our circle of kindness. Writing them is good opportunity . . . when they're around, meet them. Show them you're glad to see them!

A new feature is part of this issue of the "Silver Lining". It is a list of students attending schools of higher learning and some working away from home.

This list was compiled from a questionnaire sent to each church, requesting this information. It is

planned to publish this list twice a year, near the start of each semester.

Changes and additions will be published monthly, as reported. This information is to be supplied by the Silver Lining reporters in each church (or by the individual or family).

The home church follows the name.

Advising news reporters or the Silver Lining at Grabill on changes or additions is necessary for a complete and accurate list.

Send this information:

Name
Address
Name of School or Employer
Home church

ALEXANDRIA AREA TECHNICAL SCHOOL

Susan Feuchtenberger Morris
1321 Irving St
Alexandria Minnesota

ANCKER HOSPITAL

Kathryn Koehl SN Morris
St Paul Minnesota

Shirley Koehl SN Morris
St Paul Minnesota

BALL STATE COLLEGE

Lynne Aechleman Bluffton
500 North Calvert
Muncie Indiana

Martha Breitwieser Latty
2116 Euclid Ave
Muncie Indiana

Emily Furrer Wolcott
7 Warwick Rd.
Muncie Indiana

Jeanne Gerber Bluffton
500 North Calvert
Muncie Indiana

Karen Laidig Bremen
500 North Calvert
Muncie Indiana

Becky Mayer Indianapolis
Beeman Box 46
Muncie Indiana

Diane Radcliffe Wolcott
916½ W Gilbert St
Muncie Indiana

Daryl Steffen Bluffton
McKnight Manor
325 N McKinley
Muncie Indiana

BLOOMINGTON SCHOOL OF PRACTICAL NURSING

Christine Schupbach Phoenix
Emerson School
Bunn Street
Bloomington Illinois

BOWLING GREEN UNIVERSITY

Ken Beer Milford
Kohl Hall — R225
Bowling Green Ohio

Dale Laukhuf Latty
Box 205 Rodgers Quadrangle
Bowling Green Ohio

Keith Stoller Latty
Box 205 Rodgers Quadrangle
Bowling Green Ohio

DRAKE UNIVERSITY

Thomas Ackerman Lamar
Des Moines Iowa

CITY COLLEGE OF SAN FRANCISCO

David Levy Ft Wayne
776 Geary St Apt 304
San Francisco California

HUNTINGTON COLLEGE

Jyl Maxfield Leo
Box 124
Huntington Indiana

John Pence Bluffton
301 Wright Hall
Huntington Indiana

ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY

Anne Hodel Taylor
208 Normal Ave
Normal Illinois

Gene Hodel Roanoke
Box 171 — Walker Hall
Normal Illinois

Ross Hodel Eureka
Box 172 — Walker Hall
Normal Illinois

Kenneth L Leman Roanoke
220 Normal Ave
Normal Illinois

Mike Mangold Roanoke
102 E Lincoln
Normal Illinois

DENVER UNIVERSITY

Roger D Sorg Eureka
RAMAC Apt 103
1640 S Albion
Denver Colorado

INDIANA SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

John Isch Bluffton
2106 Cold Spring Road
Indianapolis Indiana

Mr and Mrs Harry J Stoller Leo
Winona Village 570
Indianapolis 2 Indiana

INDIANA STATE

Shelbey Culp Francesville
321A Erickson Hall
Terre Haute Indiana

INDIANA UNIVERSITY

Kathy Gray Francesville
515 Read Center Curry
Bloomington Indiana

Kenneth Honegger Bluffton
417 East First Street
Bloomington Indiana

Jean Ann Kaiser Milford
McNutt Quadrangle Box S 222
Bloomington Indiana

Dean R Laukhuf Latty
613 S Jordan
Bloomington Indiana

Richard Martin Ft Wayne
305 E Vermylia
Bloomington Indiana

INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE

Joseph Beer Milford
YMCA-226 E Washington
Ft Wayne Indiana

Connie Hartter Milford
Berry St
Ft Wayne Indiana

Daniel Sinn Latty
226 E Washington
Ft Wayne Indiana

INDIANA INSTITUTE
OF TECHNOLOGY

David Norr Leo
1529 E Washington
Ft Wayne Indiana

KIRKSVILLE STATE
TEACHER'S COLLEGE

Eleanor Yackley Taylor
512 South Marion St
Kirksville Missouri

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

Sidney Banwart West Bend
4734—Merrill House
Helser Hall
Ames Iowa 50010

LUTHERAN HOSPITAL

Mary Rager Latty
535 Home Ave
Box 111
Ft Wayne Indiana

MANKATO COMMERCIAL COLLEGE

Elaine Fehr West Bend
416 N Broad
Mankato Minnesota

Dolores Gerber West Bend
416 N Broad
Mankato Minnesota

METHODIST HOSPITAL
SCHOOL OF NURSING

Jane Stoller Eureka
233 Crescent Ave
Peoria Illinois

MANCHESTER COLLEGE

Sharon Laidig Bremen
North Manchester Indiana

Terry Miller Bremen
North Manchester Indiana

NATIONAL COLLEGE
OF EDUCATION

Jayne Bauer Cissna Park
2752 Hampton Parkway
Evanston Illinois

NATIONAL SCHOOL
OF CHIROPRACTIC

Mr and Mrs John Kellenberger Morris
4920 Highland Ave
Downers Grove Illinois

NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

Patricia Gould Elgin
North Neptune Hall 5 Rm 208
DeKalb Illinois

Mr and Mrs Stanley Kellenberger Elgin
Evergreen Trailer Park [Trailer H]
Sycamore Illinois

NORTHWESTERN

Joanne Stoller Gridley Illinois
630 Emerson
Evanston Illinois

NORTHWEST MISSOURI
STATE COLLEGE

Ronald Banwart West Bend
Cooper Hall Box 541
Maryville Missouri 64468

NORTHWESTERN COLLEGE

Jim Zaugg West Bend
Colenbrander Hall — Rm 211
Orange City Iowa

NORTHWESTERN HOSPITAL

Charlotte Koehl SN Morris

801 E 26th St
Minneapolis Minnesota

PARKVIEW MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

Emily Stoller Latty
2200 Randalia Dr
Ft Wayne Indiana

PURDUE UNIVERSITY

Edward Frautschi Leo
Box 905 MRH H-3
W Lafayette Indiana

Larry Hartter Bremen
Box 381 Cary Hall
West Lafayette Indiana

Steven Kaiser Milford
Benjamin Klaus Eureka
Room 349-B Cary Hall Box 506
W Lafayette Indiana

Kent Ringger Bluffton
303 Russell St
W Lafayette Indiana

Richard Stoller Gridley III
506 M Graduate House
W Lafayette Indiana 47906

Connie Thornton Leo
Duhme Hall—Rm 307
W Lafayette Indiana

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

Merle Hodel Roanoke
311 E Hester
Carbondale Illinois

Rondell H Hodel Taylor
910 E Park St
Carbondale Illinois

Donald Knepp Eureka
611 E College
Carbondale Illinois

SPARTAN COLLEGE

Mr and Mrs Aaron Aupperle Morris
3504 N Sheridan
Tulsa Oklahoma

ST ELIZABETH SCHOOL
OF NURSING

Diane Lehman Wolcott
Lafayette Indiana

STATE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

Terry Frieden West Bend
N 307 Hillcrest
Iowa City Iowa

Eli Wirtz West Bend
137 Templin Park
Iowa City Iowa

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

Diana Belsley Eureka
URH Saunders 003
Urbana Illinois 61801

Larry Bertschi Morton
1110 California Ave
Urbana Illinois

Robert O Kaiser Morton
161 Scott MRH
Champaign Illinois

Michael R Kaufman Morton
1110 W California
Urbana Illinois

Wayne Knepp Eureka
803 W Oregon
Urbana Illinois

Douglas Moser Rockville
901 W California
Urbana Illinois

Stephen Rapp Morton
2082A Orchard St
Urbana Illinois

Merle Rocke Eureka
901 W California
Urbana Illinois

Ted Stoker Morton
58 E Gregory Drive
Champaign Illinois

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Frederick Aupperle Morris
1807 Washington Ave South
Minneapolis Minnesota

David Joos Jr Morris
2258 Commonwealth Ave
St Paul Minnesota
Minneapolis 14 Minnesota

Sidney Messner Morris
Apt 18
708 University Ave
Minneapolis 14 Minnesota

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI

Mr and Mrs Don Braker Lamar
RR No. 5
Columbia Missouri

Mr and Mrs Raymond Haerr Taylor
6-G University Terrace
Columbia Missouri

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH DAKOTA

Larry Schlupp Morris
1131—14th St North
Fargo North Dakota

UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

David L Stevig Phoenix
612 W 35th Place
Los Angeles California 90007

UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO

Walter Rager Ft Wayne
Box 178 — Carter Hall
Toledo 6 Ohio

WALDORF COLLEGE

Karen Banwart West Bend
Thorson Hall
Forrest City Iowa

WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

Bill R Cottrell Taylor
0310 Washington Lower
Macomb Illinois 61455

Shirley Ann Heiniger Morton
212 Corbin Hall
Macomb Illinois

COLLEGES NOT GIVEN
TO THE FOLLOWING

Carol Steffen Bremen
915 N Hartwell
Waukesha Wisconsin

Alan Stoller Latty
4103 N Kenneth
Chicago Illinois

Mary Zimmer Bremen
[Practical Nurses' Training]
2020 Florida Dr
Ft Wayne Indiana

WORKING AWAY FROM HOME

Mr and Mrs Kermit Bragg Morris
1229 West 5th Ave Apt BZ
Gary Indiana

Mr and Mrs Wm Carlson Morris
14416 Roxton Avenue
Gardena California

Mr and Mrs Gerald Koehl Morris
702 7th Ave — South
South St Paul Minnesota

Mr and Mrs David H Nohl Morris
221 Birch Ave NW
Wadena Minnesota

Mr and Mrs Gid Rinckenberger Morris
Bagley Minnesota

Mr and Mrs Richard Voeller Morris
14610 SE L13th St
Renton Washington

ALTADENA CALIFORNIA

Jeri Minger and Doris Graf

"And suddenly there was with

the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men." Luke 2:13,14 And across our nation today, there are still multitudes joined in singing praises to God, the Father of our Redeemer. On December 20, our Sunday School classes will also honor with song and verse the birth of which the angels sang.

We are thankful for the blessings we received in fellowship with our visitors this month.

Carol Stoller, daughter of friends Floyd and Betty Stoller of Pasadena, was married this month to Roy Peck, also of that city. May God, in His infinite wisdom, grant them His blessings.

BAY CITY, MICHIGAN

Marlene Mosher

Sisters Bertha Meister, Faye Wackerle and Delfa Anman are still unable to gather with us for services.

Bro. Matt Wieland was able to be with us for services for half a day this past Sunday afternoon. He is looking quite well, after his illness. May our Lord be with those of our loved ones who are ill and bedridden. May he bestow an extra blessing upon each one.

Bro. Floyd Wieland of Detroit ministered with us this month.

Over the Thanksgiving week end, we were very pleased to have a number of guests with us.

Now that the Thanksgiving week end is over, the Christmas holiday is coming. May we again remember the birth of our blessed Lord and Saviour. Let us not just remember Him for this one season, but for all seasons and every day. May we also remember why He was born and what He has done for us.

HE GAVE HIS LIFE FOR US.

Maybe if we repent, Have faith in Him, and try to do His Will, we might be able to repay Him just a LITTLE.

REMINGTON, INDIANA

Anna M. Waibel

Nov. 8, spending the day were Bro. Joe Zimmerman and Bro. Ben Fehr. Thanks to them for inspiring messages. Many gathered at the Fellowship hall for the evening.

We had evening church Nov. 13, Fri., as Elders John Bahler, Rockville, Joe Waibel, Bay City, and Rudolph Graf, Akron, assembled

with us. We are always happy and richly blessed by such surprise visits.

Thurs., Nov. 19, we had our 1st snow . . . Snowed most of the day. We need the moisture.

Nov. 17, Bro. Gust and Sis. Eunice Knochel had the misfortune of a bad car accident. Both were in the hospital with multiple injuries.

Nov. 18, Bro. Ed Alt from Cissna held the services at Purdue. There was a good attendance.

Nov. 22, Bro. Irvin Lehman was with us. He read and explained the conference memorandum.

Our dear friend, Persy Clauss, is in hospital for a hernia operation.

Ronnie, son of Phil and Eliza Getz, was discharged from the Army, after serving several months in service.

RITTMAN, OHIO

Ella Mae Trent

Our community has taken on a new look of beauty, as our bleak, bare physical surroundings, made so in nature's preparation for winter, have been covered by the gently falling, pure white snow. In a short time, we are encompassed by a new and beautiful environment. Our spiritual life, too, can be transformed in a short time. We are reminded particularly at this time of year of the Babe of Bethlehem, our Redeemer, who lived and died that we might exchange our garment, stained and blackened by sin and unrighteousness, for a robe as white as snow. May we acquire and retain the beauty such a spiritual transformation brings to one's life.

Two more souls were laid to rest this past month. Graveside services were conducted Nov. 8 for Sherri Ann Little, daughter of Fred and Nancy Maibach Little. She died shortly after birth on Nov. 7.

Nov. 20, burial services were conducted for Sis. Catharine Hanzie, age 79. She died shortly after being admitted to a hospital on Nov. 17. Immediate surviving relatives include a son, Virgil; a daughter, Anna Cunningham; two brothers, Bro. Fred Bauman and Robert Bauman; and three sisters, Sis. Mina Klaus, Sis. Emma Maibach, and Sis. Lillian Beery. These deaths confirm the truism that the old **Must** die — the young **Can** die. We are consoled that our losses are heaven's gain.

Three infants were born to Rittman parents. Nov. 24 a son, Wil-

liam Edward, was welcomed to the home of Marion and Sis. Delores Bauman. A son, Wayne, came to the parents, Bro. Dale and Sis. Joyce Hartzler. Dec. 6, Rudy and Brenda Zollinger became parents of a new daughter, Sandra.

BERN, KANSAS

Mrs. Morris Edelman

Mrs. Leonard Baumgartner

On Wednesday, November 11, we were happy to have Bro. Fred Grimm from Taylor and Bro. Lowell Stoller from Princeville visit us. We thank them for their inspiring messages. They left us with this thought in mind, "We will not have time to change anything, or get ready, on that Day when the Lord shall come. What if we are not ready?"

We were thankful that Bro. Noah and Sis. Lillian Edelman have returned home safely from a three-weeks' trip to Europe. After visiting Frankfurt, Rome, Paris and other points of interest, they both agreed they enjoyed Switzerland the most.

Earl and Keith Meyer, sons of Sis. Pearl Meyer, were hospitalized with tonsillectomies.

Thanksgiving services were held on Thanksgiving morning. Bro. Carl Hartman of Sabetha conducted the worship. We are always glad to meet relatives and friends home for the holidays.

On December 2, Brenda Sue was born to Mr. and Mrs. Charles Branek of Steinaur, Nebraska. Brenda is a granddaughter of Albert and Sis. Julia Plattner.

On December 3, Faron James came to live with Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Strahm. Faron has two sisters; his paternal grandparents are Bro. Alf and Sis. Lena Strahm.

Mr. and Mrs. Lynn Hartter became parents of a son, Scott Alan, on December 3. The paternal grandparents are Bro. Lester and Sis. Ella Hartter.

On Monday evening, December 7, Bros. Noah Schrock, Leo Moser and Lester Hartter brought unto us the Conference Memorandum. We are thankful that we still have our Elder Body working to keep order in the church and to act as watchmen.

BURLINGTON, IOWA

Uriel Gehring

Bros. Fred Grimm and Noah Schrock read the deliberations of

our last church conference, Sun. evening, Nov. 22.

Our former friends, Lloyd and Dale Massner, are now our brothers in faith. They were baptized Sunday evening, Nov. 22. We welcome them to the flock of Jesus' sheep.

May we ever follow our faithful Shepherd, who was tempted in all ways such as we, and yet without sin.

Our friend, Mrs. Wm. (Rosie) Oberman, is seeking the Lord in repentance. We wish her God's grace.

Bro. Ernest Anliker is treasurer of our World Relief Fund.

We have six new names added to our lunch serving list. This makes a total of 16 names.

Sis. Esther Wagler has returned from Lampasas, Texas, where she helped care for her new grandson, Stephen Eric. Steve and Natalie Kristina are the children of Mr. and Mrs. Steve McCullough.

Bros. Uriel Gehring, Paul Wagler, Paul and Jess Eisenman and Sis. Judy Gehring attended the monthly church service held at Iowa City for the University students and all who want to attend. There were 45 in attendance that evening. The endeavor seems to have the Lord's blessing.

This is my last report for the Silver Lining. Thank you to everyone for your patience and forbearance. May the SILVER LINING continue to shine forth as an emblem of the truth. Our new reporters are Sis. Rekie Anliker and Dorothy Taeger. May they prayerfully seek the Lord's guidance in this undertaking.

Our Sunday School Christmas program is planned for Sunday, Dec. 20, right after our afternoon services. That evening we plan to go caroling.

We had a nice group, about 65, present at our monthly singing in the church auditorium. We have had these singings for a year now, and we feel the Lord has added His blessing. We will continue them next year.

ELGIN, IOWA

Mrs. George Butikofer

Song of the Ages

The words, as penned that starry night,
Has brightened all the earth

And brought to darkened lands
afar
A blessed Saviour's birth.

But "peace on earth" is still a
dream
For which we humbly pray,
A song which we would gladly hear
In every land today.

However, peace in our hearts
Is not fancy, but a fact,
If we let the Christlike spirit
Direct our every act.

And so we come again to Christ-
mas, with all its color and joy, its
wonder, its spirit of good will and
warmth. But how do we come to
Christmas? What it means to us de-
pends on what we bring to it, not in
gifts and outer display, but in the
inner offerings of love and faith,
that abide in the heart.

Our congregation was blessed
with a visit from the following eld-
ers, Bros. Paul Banwart, Leo Moser
and Paul Fehr from West Bend,
Lester and Morris, respectively.

They read the memorandum.
May their efforts be blessed.

Bros. Uriel Gehring of Burling-
ton and Wm. Cottrell from Quincy
were visitors at our church recent-
ly and gave us some inspiring mes-
sages.

Sis. Mollie Beer from Roanoke,
in company with her daughter,
Fannie, and son, Lee, and Sis. Ella
Gehring visited relatives during
the Thanksgiving week end. Sis.
Mollie has lost her physical vision,
but it was noted that she possesses
spiritual vision. One of the verses
she quoted is found in II Tim. 1:7.
"For God hath not given us the
spirit of fear; but of power, and of
love, and of a sound mind." We
certainly enjoyed having these
folks.

May our readers all enjoy a
blessed Christmas season. Our
Sunday School children are prac-
ticing their parts for our annual
program. This year it will be given
Dec. 20. The Bible class met at the
Reuben Metzger home for their
"once a month" get-together.

ELGIN, ILLINOIS
Louise Steffen
Katie Kachelmuss

We were privileged to partake of
Holy Communion, and thankful to
have with us at that time, assisting
our elder, Bros. Klopfenstein and
Gramm from Gridley. It was a

blessed occasion. We received good
teachings and admonishments on
how we were to be prepared, to
examine ourselves as the apostles
did at that Last Supper. Christ did
not tell Judas, "You are the one,"
but He said, **One of you will betray
me**, and they began asking, **Lord,
is it I?** We appreciated the efforts
of the elders. May God bless them.

Bro. Albert Wewetzer, our uncle
and brother, is hospitalized with
pneumonia, for the second time
within the past month. We wish
him God's presence in his illness,
as well as all shut-ins and all in
sickness and sorrow.

New arrivals—Nov. 8—a son,
Joseph David, to Bro. and Sis.
Merle Tobler; Nov. 27—a son, Je-
fery Keith, to Bro. and Sis. Gerald
Kellenberger.

Bro. Lorentz Emch spent a
Lord's Day with us. We were rich-
ly blessed, and warned about the
deceitful doctrine prevalent in our
time, and given many other good
teachings. We also had in our midst
recently Bros. Andrew and Walter
Koehl, and again we had a day of
blessing. We received the Word of
truth and light, God's precious Gift
so clear and bright, the Word of
truth to teach us true, And nourish
heart and soul anew.

Have Courage,
Courage when the road is rocky,
Courage when the skies are gray!
Courage when you've been
defeated,
Courage when hope seems away!
Courage when strength's failed
you, too—

May God grant you daily courage
That will always see you through!

The year is swiftly drawing to a
close and we, God willing, will be-
gin a new one:

At Thy feet, our God and Father,
Who has blest us all our days,
We with grateful hearts would
gather

And begin the year with praise—
Jesus, for Thy love most tender
On the cross for sinners shown,
We would praise Thee and
surrender

All our hearts to be Thine own.

EUREKA, ILLINOIS
Cathryn Wettstein
Salome Walter

Our monthly singing was held
the 4th Sunday of November, at

the church. It was announced there
would be no singing in December,
on account of the Christmas pro-
grams.

Plans are now underway to have
our Christmas program, given by
the Sunday School classes, on Wed-
nesday evening, Dec. 23.

Dec. 2, Bro. Leroy Huber, assist-
ed by Bros. Joe Klopfenstein and
George Gramm from Gridley, read
to us the memorandum from the
recent Brother meeting. Now it is
up to each member to be obedient
to words which were spoken and
read. May we all appreciate what
is being done to preserve our
church and keep "The Faith of Our
Fathers."

November 28, a son was born to
Bro. Leland and Sis. Lorene Zim-
merman. His name is Michael John.
He has two sisters and a brother
to welcome him.

Those who were in the hospital
the past month are—at Eureka
Hospital—Bro. Gerald Leman (now
home); Sis. Wilhelmina Klaus
(home again); Mrs. Leonard Hart-
ter (home); Sis. Bertha Walder
and Sis. Bertha Weutrich (hospital
patients); Sis. Dorothy Ginzel
(home from Peoria hospital); and
Sis. Inez Mogler (in Bloomington
hospital). May God be ever near all
the sick folks and hear their earn-
est prayers and pleadings.

We have more dear souls who
are heeding God's word—**Come un-
to me and I will forgive you your
sins and transgressions . . .** Debra
Rocke, Bro. and Sis. Harry and
Lydia Rocke's daughter; Nancy
Blunier, Henry and Sis. Wilma
Blunier's daughter; Connie Cawley,
Dallas and Sis. Madalyn Cawley's
daughter; Maryellen Hartter, Bro.
and Sis. Dan and Dorothy Hartter's
daughter; Mary Kay Anliker, Bro.
and Sis. Walter and Wilhelmina
Anliker's daughter; and Beth
Hodel, Bro. and Sis. Harold and
Mildred Hodel's daughter.

Bruce Fisher, 12 years old,
passed away at Eureka Hospital
Dec. 8. He was the son of Eli and
Helen Schumacher Fisher.

O rapturous, holy, blissful scene
Above Judea's plain,
As there the humble shepherds
stood
And heard that sweet refrain!

The echoes of the heavenly words
Did fill the earth that night.

For in the town of Bethlehem
Was born the Prince of Light.
Bro. Henry Beer

FAIRBURY, ILLINOIS
Joyce Huber

May He who in the manger lay
Bring to your heart this Christmas
Day

The peace that never fails to bless,
The joy that is true happiness.

As Christmas draws near, our hearts turn toward Bethlehem. It is quite a thrill to actually have been to Bethlehem and see the mementos of the blessed event—Wise men made the long journey to Bethlehem, seeking the one who was born "King of the Jews", and a significant part of their visit was the presentation of royal gifts to Jesus.

We were happy to have Bro. Orin Strahm minister to us Sunday evening, Dec. 6. His message was on the zealous missionary, Paul. He stated that Jesus told Peter, "... when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren"; and even though Paul wanted to do other things, God's plan for him was the same as to Peter, as well as for us, to "strengthen thy brethren". God sent Paul far hence to the Gentiles.

A group of single sisters are delivering tokens of cheer, as they go caroling to the sick and shut-ins.

Our Sunday School is planning to present a program of the Christmas Story Sunday evening, Dec. 20.

FORREST ILLINOIS

Nancy Honegger—Martha Stoller

Visiting ministers this past month have been Bros. Russell Rapp, Morton; Eugene Bertschi, Roanoke; Merle Kaisner and Josh Broquard, Fairbury; Ed Alt, Cissna Park; and Loren Strahm, Gridley, Kansas.

It is uplifting to observe how the teachings of the brothers from the various congregations are all of the same Apostolic faith, based on the word of God. Bro. Rapp stated, it is good for us to ask God's blessing in all our undertakings. By so doing we shall then be casting our nets on the right side, which is Christ's side.

Bro. Bertschi spoke on the love of God. If we let it work in our hearts, in our thought and actions, as the leaven permeates the dough, so our lives can then be of useful

and worthwhile existence.

Patients at the hospital recently were Sis. Carolyn Zimmerman, surgical, and Bro. Louis Koehl, medical. Sis. Rose Tyler was confined to her home for several weeks by illness. All are improved at this writing. Since Sis. Rose is unable to continue to care for her aunt, Sis. Maggie Bachtold, she has gone to Fairview Haven at Fairbury.

Meredith Ricketts and Earlene Hamilton gave their testimonies of repentance and were baptized on Dec. 6. It is with great joy that we welcome them into our brotherhood.

With the Christmas season approaching, almost everyone takes part in celebrating the first coming of Christ. Bro. Ed Alt drew to our attention the fact that actually we are not partakers in this if we are not prepared and concerned for His second coming. Wouldn't it be wonderful if everyone that is so busy preparing themselves for the celebration of His birth would be just as busy in preparations for Christ's return?

GIRARD, OHIO

Karen Stoll

May the Lord comfort those who have lost loved ones and are in sorrow this Christmas season. We all can be comforted in the assurance that because Christ was born as man and died on the cross for our sins, we and those who sleep in Christ have been born to eternal life.

Friend Kenneth Hart, son-in-law of Sis. Elizabeth Games, passed away, following two heart attacks. Sis. Elizabeth had made her home with him and her daughter, Mary, for many years.

Bro. Harold and Sis. Kathryn Emch recently visited our churches in Athens and Taylor, and members in Oakville and Milford. They were inspired by the efforts being put forth to the honor and glory of God in Alabama, and the fellowship with loved ones in the congregations where they visited.

Sis. Dianne Emch was home from Illinois State over the Thanksgiving week end.

Several young members from the Rittman church attended our church services last Sunday, and then went to the Sleigh Bell Nursing Home, where Friend Ike Bauman is residing. They sang and had

prayer for all those living in the home.

The Lord provided an inspiring sermon through His humble servant and our brother-in-faith, Arthur Gudeman. Bro. Don Gudeman, who is in the service, was accompanied to Girard by three other soldier boys, to be with his parents and family. The members and friends spent an evening of singing and fellowship at Bro. Harold Emch's.

Love

(No. 37 Zion's Harp)

O Thou Spirit which has given
To me grace to seek my Lord,
Teach me strive for love of heaven
And to love Thy precious word!
Love has mercy and is patient;
Love has mercy and is patient;
Hasty ways it does not own.
Humbleness of mind is present;
With true peace it has its home.

GRIDLEY, ILLINOIS

Lydia and Eunie Kammerer

Days, weeks, months and years are rapidly slipping by. The end of another year is near. November has come and gone; again two days were set aside, one for the fallen dead, "Veterans Day", the other, Thanksgiving Day.

Soon we will celebrate "Christ's Birthday", "Christmas." We feel as many feel, too much stress is put on the commercial, instead of the spiritual.

Under the stars one Holy night a little Babe was born . . . And through the darkness shone the light, The morning at His birth, Wise men came from far and near, . . . Shepherds came to where he lay upon His lowly bed, under the stars, "One Night."

In Memory of Bro. David Mangold

A loving Shepherd from us has gone.
A voice well loved is still;
A vacancy felt far and wide,
Which he with grace had filled.

In the passing of our beloved brother, Dave Mangold, we lost not only an esteemed elder and minister, but a true and trusted friend as well.

We agree wholeheartedly with Bro. John Bahler, who spoke at the final rites, His passing has spread a gloom over all the congregations throughout the land.

We who had the privilege to know him well feel his passing has left an indefinable vacancy. We were fortunate in Gridley to have him for our shepherd for a few years. We were always glad when we knew Bro. Dave was in our midst. Now he has gone to join the innumerable throng, and as an author once wrote, "He has wrapped the drapery of his couch about him, and laid down to pleasant dreams."

Gridley, as well as other churches, still have a number of sick folks on the list:

Sis. Winifred Schlipf, who was a patient in a Springfield hospital, is improving in her home.

Sis. Vira Stoller is convalescing in her home, following a fall down the basement steps, which caused a concussion.

Sis. Ruth Rinkenberger has returned from the hospital, following a siege of hepatitis.

We wish them all a speedy recovery.

Funeral services were held on Saturday for our friend, Henry Stortz, who passed away in St. James Hospital in Pontiac, on Dec. 2.

Charity

"Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up . . ."

The small children of the church kindergarten class contributed their pennies and nickels to aid the poor and hungry children in Japan. This teaching their young hearts of charity will aid them in their future lives, to give to those who are less fortunate.

Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Stoller, accompanied by four friends, spent Thanksgiving in the homes of the parents, Bro. Alf and Sis. Carolyn Stoller and Mr. and Mrs. Orene Crump. The three young men all attend Northwestern Dental School in Chicago.

Birth: We have another little newcomer in our circle, Larry Lee, born to Bro. Edward and Sis. Loretta Gramm, in Mennonite Hospital, Nov. 30. He has four brothers, Dale, Ben, Chris and David, and two sisters, Diane and Rose, to welcome him.

LA CROSSE INDIANA Martha Rinkenberger

Our visitors for this month were Bros. Orville Ringger and Carl Kipfer of Bluffton.

We had a Thanksgiving program on Sun., Nov. 22.

Bro. Otto Fritz is still in the hospital. May God be with him, and if it can be his will, restore good health to him again.

Shari Bucher (Bro. Merle's daughter) was in the hospital for about three weeks. She is home now and getting along pretty well.

Bro. Garry and Sis. Lois Bucher have a little girl, Marcia Kay. Bro. Don and Sis. Gwen Bucher have a girl, Amy Sue. She has 4 brothers.

MANSFIELD, OHIO Aaron A. Sauder

We extend our congratulations to: Mr. and Mrs. Larry Sauder & to Mr. and Mrs. Richard Enderle, who recently exchanged marriage vows.

Our sympathy to: Sis. Dorothy Stavenik (Mrs. Ben), whose father passed away; to Henry Enderle who lost his mother; and to Alice Dotterer (Mrs. Arthur), whose father died as a result of an automobile accident.

Our best wishes to: Ronald and Lois Sauder Lotz, who are the parents of a baby boy, born November 17. Little Lori is so excited at the arrival of her new brother, Danny.

We are happy to report that those who have spent time in the hospital this past month are recovering and have been able to attend church again: Sisters Katherine Fuhrer, Mary Sabo and Dorothy Sabo, and Bros. Bob Sauder and Kenny Sauder.

Sing for joy, O people sing;
Good tidings to you today we bring,

For unto you down Bethlehem way
A child is born — is born today.

Sing ye people, O people sing!
Sing for joy; let your voices ring,
For in Bethlehem in early morn,
In David's city, a Saviour is born.

An angel came to earth today
To bring the message all the way;
The baby born is Christ the King,
Who to the world will gladness bring.

O come ye people and worship him!
Let loud hosannas to Him ring
Until this message covers the earth,
And hearts of men shall know rebirth.

"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace." Isaiah 9:6.

MILFORD, INDIANA Paul Haab

Our annual Thanksgiving Program was presented November 22. Early American life was depicted by song and verse stressing how religion played a big part in their coming to this country. They remembered that God brought them through their adversities and gave Him thanks.

On December 6, Bro. Ervin Lehman performed the marriage of our friends, Steve Haab and Marceil Furrer. Steve is the son of Bro. Elmer and Sis. Rose, and Marcy is the daughter of Sis. Emma Furrer of Wolcott. We welcome Marcy to Milford and wish them God's blessings.

Sis. Flossie Hartter has been ill for quite some time. We wish her and Bro. Elmer much patience during these trying times.

Five of our friends have been announced for proving, and hope to be baptized in the near future. They are Kathy Pfister, daughter of Bro. Eli and Sis. Marie; Nelson Beer, son of Bro. Howard and Sis. Eleanor; Ken Beer, son of Bro. Maurice and Sis. Betty; and John and Carol Hurd (she is the daughter of Bro. Frank and Sis. Ruth Beer). It is uplifting that God is still extending His call and supplying the grace to overcome this world and its lures.

We look forward to the Christmas Season, and are filled with wonder anew, thinking of this great event in history, when the angels in heaven told the good tidings to the people on earth.

MORTON, ILLINOIS Mrs. Solomon Rapp Mrs. B. E. Getz

Bro. Albert Wiedman, age 81 years, passed away at the Rest Mor Nursing Home. Funeral services were held Nov. 17. Bro. Joe A. Getz

officiated. He is survived by his wife, Sis. Christine, who is still a patient at Rest Mor.

Funeral services were held for Ernest Smallenberger, who passed away Nov. 11 at the Methodist Hospital, where he had been a patient since Oct. 25. Surviving are his dear wife, Leah Rapp Smallenberger, daughter of the late Bro. Chris and Sis. Mary Huette Rapp; one son, Ronald; one daughter, Mrs. Al (Sandra) Rebholz; and one brother, Clifford.

We were blessed the past month with many visiting brothers: Vernon Leman, Eureka; Eugene Bertsch and Ben Fehr, Roanoke; Harvey Grimm, Bern; Robert Grimm, Goodfield; Orville Ringer, Bluffton; Merle Bucher, La Crosse; Elmer Bucher, Francesville; John Roche, Goodfield.

Bro. Joe Bauman and his wife, Sis. Emma, are patients at the Rest Mor Home. Bro. Joe fell in his home and must stay in bed.

Jay Weidman, son of Bro. Albert and Sis. Wilma Weidman, who met with an accident Oct. 31 while helping his father, is still in the Methodist Hospital. He has been in critical condition several times, and is showing little improvement. Our prayers go out for him.

Saturday, Dec. 5, we had a blessed evening, and our church was filled to its capacity. Six more dear souls in our midst have repented and brought their testimony before the congregation. On Sunday, they were all baptized. It is surely a time of rejoicing when we can see that God still works the miracle of awakening and enlightening dear souls, so they can become his child, and heir of His kingdom.

The converts were Ron Heiniger, son of Bro. Arthur and Sis. Verena; Russell Zimmerman and his wife, Alvina; Kathy Zimmerman, daughter of Bro. Joe and Sis. Mildred; Kayleen Rumbold, daughter of Sis. Buelah; and Mary Menold, daughter of Bro. Herman and Sis. Oleta. Bros. Herman Kellenberger of Elgin and Silas Leuthold of Peoria assisted Bro. Joe Getz in this holy act.

OAKVILLE, IOWA

Mrs. Ezra Gerst

Mrs. Edwin Banwart

The Thursday evening services held at Danforth College Chapel (across from Memorial Union) at

Iowa City have been quite well attended. We invite all in that area to attend.

Sis. Sara (Bro. Leslie) Gerst returned from a visit to their son and daughter-in-law and new grandson. Bro. Arnold will be transferred from Oklahoma to Chicago. They plan to move during Christmas vacation.

Sis. Lena (Bro. Fred) Siegle had surgery at Burlington Hospital. The report was that she is getting along fine. Lori, small daughter of Bro. and Sis. Robert Lanz, had a tonsillectomy. Sis. Lizzie (Bro. Louis) Aberle has been absent from church services for several weeks. We miss those who cannot attend, and hope they will soon be with us again.

There was a good attendance at the hail insurance meeting, in spite of the weather which was quite threatening. We served about 160 for dinner and supper.

Sis. Anna Reeb has moved to her new trailer home in Mediapolis, from Burlington, to be near her sister, Ida Meyers, who also is a widow.

We thank Bro. Joe Getz for his visit, the messages he brought, and for helping Bro. Noah Schrock with the proving and baptisms of Evelyn Siegle, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Joe; Kathy Wyss; and Myron Schultz, husband of Sis. Dorothy Wagenbach Schultz. Sis. Kathy and Bro. Myron were not brought up in our faith, and we thank God for his love in showing them THE WAY. Mr. and Mrs. Norman Frank, son and daughter-in-law of Bro. and Sis. John Frank; Arlene Siegle, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Fred; and John Rowell, son of Bro. and Sis. Floyd, confess peace with God and have been announced for proving in the near future. We wish them God's grace and richest blessings in their new walk of life.

What Does Christmas Mean To Me

While gazing rather fondly
On Yuletide finery,
There came a gentle pricking,
What does Christmas mean to me?

Does it mean making cookies,
And candy by the score?
And sending Christmas greetings,
And buying gifts galore?

Attending Christmas parties
Intent on having fun!

A lot of hustle-bustle,
Forever on the run?

Or is my time more solemn?
Reflecting on the Light
That guided those few shepherds
On that first Holy Night.

And do I share my blessings
With those in poverty?
Remem'bring they're but riches
That God has lent to me.

Do I stop and meditate
Upon His love, still nigh?
And praise Him, as the angels—
Glory to God on High!

Yes—do I thank the Father,
Who sent His only Son?
Believing—we shall join Him,
When our life's course is run?

Let's ask our hearts this
question—

Has Christ's love made me free?
And what is the real meaning
Of Christmas time to me?

A.B.W.

ROANOKE, ILLINOIS

Irene Legel

Bro. Bill and Sis. Helen Leman are parents of a son, born Nov. 11, David Barry, named after his grandfather. Grandparents are Bro. Dave and Sis. Ann Hodel of here and Bro. John (Jack) Leman of Eureka. There other children are Sis. Sandra 16, Ruth 14, Amy 11, William 10, Scott 9, Marjorie 7, Danny 5 and Mary 2.

We are very happy to hear our friend, Pat Sauder, is repenting. She is the daughter of Bro. Curtis and Sis. Edna Sauder. We wish her the Lord's blessings, and pray for more of our dear friends to seek their soul's salvation before it is too late.

Bro. Glen Hodel, who is in the hospital now several weeks suffering from an accident on his farm (where his foot slipped into a silage auger), is slowly improving. We wish him a pleasant recovery. He is the son of Bro. and Sis. Edw. Hodel Sr.

Bro. Merlyn and Sis. Janice Getz and daughters moved from a farm, northwest of Roanoke, to the basement of their new home on Howard St.

Bro. Ben and Sis. Ruth Fisher have returned from Pomona, Calif., where they helped care for their new grandson, Russel Ray, born

to Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Razo. They have another son, Randy Ray, 21 months old.

Daniel Ray was the name chosen for the first son of Bro. Bill and Sis. Betty Zimmerman. He has a sister, Doreen, nearly 5. His grandparents are Bro. and Sis. Ervin Bahler of Remington and Bro. Lou and Sis. Fannie Zimmerman of here.

Our dear brother, Dan Greuter, 92, passed away on the 4th, being a hospital patient 18 days. We are all so thankful he entered into the fold this past year . . . as we might say, the eleventh hour. He was born March 7, 1872, the son of Benedict and Elizabeth Martin Greuter. He married Barbara Zimmerman in 1898 (She died in 1943). Surviving are two sons, Orie and Omer of East Peoria, and the children of his deceased daughter, Sis. Olga Moser, who are Bro. Calvin Moser, Sis. Barbara Stoller, Bro. Lyle, Bro. Glen and Harley Moser, all of here. Bros. Joe Zimmerman and Gene Bertschi had the services.

It was only ten days after our elder, Bro. Dave and Sis. Anna Mangold flew to Florida for his failing health, that we received the sad news of his death. Several days before they left, Bro. Lee and Sis. Emma Scherer (Anna's sister) drove their car to Florida, got their house ready for them, and met them at the airport. Upon arriving there, Bro. Dave thought he could breathe better already . . . and now, so soon, he has been called out of this life to his eternal rest. We are all thankful he doesn't have to suffer anymore. We have many wonderful teachings and memories of him. Although he wasn't too active anymore, due to his illness, we will certainly miss seeing him around. We, his neighbors, always enjoyed seeing him out and about his home. He was minister since 1928 (36 years), and served as our elder for the past 29 years.

Bro. Dave was born April 27, 1892, the son of Bro. Michael and Sis. Lydia Hartman Mangold. He married Sis. Anna Martin in 1917. He leaves to mourn, his wife, Sis. Anna; two sons, Bro. Melvin of here and Charles of Eureka; two daughters, Sisters Ruth Scherer & Esther Sauder, both of here; one brother, Bro. John Mangold of here, and 13 grandchildren. Two brothers preceded him in death. Bro.

John Bahler of Rockville conducted the services, with the help of Bro. Sam Aeschliman of Bluffton and Bro. Joe Getz of Morton.

In Memory Of Our SHEPHERD, DAVID MANGOLD

We pause to pay deep reverence
To one we loved so dear.
He was our shepherd here on earth,
Who served for many a year.

Our thoughts go back to an earlier
day,
When he took the staff in hand.
He put his hope and trust in God,
And for God's truth did stand.

As he served in the vineyard of the
Lord,
He preached the Word so true,
And in his quiet, humble way
Ever sought God's will to do.

He was the shepherd of the flock;
His life was in God's plan,
To care for those whom God had
called,
And brought into the inn.

As many of us received God's call
And to the Cross did go,
We knew it was the Lord who died,
Because he loved us so.

We also knew God did provide
A shepherd here on earth,
And to him we were glad to go,
To learn more of God's truth . . .

To further learn more perfectly
What God would have us do,
That we might find the blessed
peace,
And live in Him anew.

Then we were taken in the fold,
After our faith was proved,
And baptized in the cleansing flood,
By a shepherd most beloved.

His great concern was for the
flock,
That none might go astray,
But all who entered at the door
Might be in Heav'n some day.

He often thought of future time,
When the Lord Himself would
come—
Would He find faith within the
church?
Would the Master say, "Well
done"?

And so through life he labored on,
Toward that bright Home so fair,

Leading the many sheep and lambs
Entrusted to his care.

God had a special use for him,
And to him gave much grace
To labor among God's people here,
And to uphold the peace.

Then all so soon, his work was
done,
And God did bid him come,
To rest in that bright happy land,
In God's Eternal Home.

A blessed rest for one so dear,
Who bore the heat of day,
Who helped us as we took each step
Along life's pilgrim way.

Our hearts are sad and sorely
grieved,
As onward we must trod;
Our shepherd we so dearly loved
Has gone to be with God.

Written by Bro. Gene Bertschi

ROCKVILLE, CONNECTICUT Carlton Lanz

A Tribute to Bro. Dave Mangold
We were saddened to hear of the passing of our dearly beloved Bro. Dave Mangold. Although we knew he had been ailing, we still hoped for him to improve or even possibly recover.

We shall miss him! His death to the church is a deep loss, yet for him is a great gain. Alone, however, to have him present at our meetings and gatherings meant much to us. His counsel in matters of importance was always sought and looked upon with high regard, and the sound reasoning, along with the mild manner in which he proceeded, earned for him the high respect he held.

Word of his coming to Rockville was always greeted with warm enthusiasm and with high regard. It would be utterly impossible to enumerate the many beautiful sermons he delivered and the pleading prayers he offered for the church and all mankind.

His walk-of-life, his faith in God and concern for the church and his peace-striving efforts, all brought him so close to us and endeared him to so many. He left an example to follow, and a light to all who knew him.

Not long ago when visiting him in Florida, he once said, thoughtfully, "That home in heaven, that is the one I'm looking for!"

How shall it be, when we in close
relation
With holy saints the streets of
heaven tread;
Where trees of life, fresh as in first
creation,
By waters from the stream of life
are fed?
When fountains of eternal youth
shall flourish—
The hand of time no more shall
work decay—
No eyes shall close in death, no
more souls perish.
Pain, sorrow and distress have
passed away!

Our Thanksgiving Day services were held as usual, in the morning. Bro. John Bahler, holding the services, referred to the Psalms in which David saw reasons for thanking God for His goodness, reminding us also of our duties and obligations to thank God for the benefits and countless blessings we, likewise, receive of God. He drew a comparison with the time of the famines, when in those years no food was produced. He warned, "That very thing could happen today, if God would withhold the rain; we would find ourselves in that same dire need." He reminded us further, "We should not take it for granted, for it is very definitely a blessing from God!"

At the close of the services, the engagement of Sis. LeNay Moser to Bro. Richard Aberle was announced by Bro. John Bahler. Sis. LeNay's parents are Bro. John and Sis. Esther Moser, Bro. Richard's are Bro. and Sis. Joe Aberle of Sabetha.

Vistors spending the Thanksgiving holidays here were, Bros. Robert W a g e n b a c h, Tremont, Chris Leman, Fairbury and Anton Schafer, Morris. We spent a pleasant Sunday evening in song-service at Bro. and Sis. Charles Lanz. Scripture reading followed, after which a prayer was offered. We thank the Lanz's for their hospitality.

Seasons Greetings and best wishes for the New Year.

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA Mrs. Everett Olson

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

St. Mark 16:15

Surely, the truth of this verse is shown to us, as the Lord has opened the way, that many dear ones can assemble together in his Name, from the St. Paul and Minneapolis areas.

We are a small group of about fifty, and we meet every other Sunday. We are richly blessed with ministering brethren from the West Bend, Lester, Morris and Winthrop churches. They are usually accompanied by a song leader and a Bible class teacher.

We welcome Bro. Edwin and Sis. Marilyn Lanz and family into our small congregation. They have recently moved here from Morris.

Our blessings have been many, and even the angels in heaven are rejoicing with us. We had the experience of hearing the testimony of our first convert, and witnessing the baptism of Friend Diane Olson, daughter of Everett and Sis. Kathryn Olson, at Winthrop on Nov. 29.

We assemble every other Sunday at the Southtown YMCA, 1845 East Lake Street, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Sunday School begins at 12:45, Church services, 1:30.

Students, friends, and relatives living in this twin cities area are invited to meet with us. We also extend a cordial invitation to friends and members of other congregations. Ample room for a large group is available.

ATHENS, ALABAMA Ann Wagler

Mrs. Dolly Haggenmaker and Mrs. Shirley Haggenmaker gave their testimonies and were baptized recently. Elders Noah Bauman and Henry Kilgus were with us. Holy Communion was also held while they were here.

A little girl was born to Delmar and Jennie Lou Favors on Dec. 2. Sis. Retha Chambers is the grandmother.

Joan and Susan Wagler will be coming home from school on Dec. 18, to spend Christmas with us.

Mr. Dell Brown is back in the hospital again. He returns periodically for blood transfusions.

Kathleen Kyle continues to be cared for by her sister, Sis. Zelma Young. She has improved some and can walk about again.

We wish to express our sincere thanks to each one who shared in the work here during the past year. Letters show love in so many ways:

by just remembering to write, or "what can we do to help"; or "is there anything you need?"; and those who tell us news of loved ones we haven't seen. We just can't express how much it means to us to know that folks do care, do pray, and do remember.

The Athens Bible class met together for a time of fellowship, here at the apartment.

Landersville

Sis. Bertha Harville has been in poor health. Some of you may be wanting to write her. Her address is, R. 3, Town Creek, Alabama. She has made many friends among the northern folks through the years, as they came down to visit.

Mrs. Katherine Oliver had surgery at the Moulton Hospital. Three weeks later, she fell from a moving car. She has been released from the hospital, but continues to have some uncomfortable days.

Meetings were held the past weeks at the following homes: Dyars Harville, Toni Mae Meyers, Billy Blankenship, Frank Posey, Carl Naylor and B. L. Hale.

Dyars Harville while deer hunting was shot and narrowly escaped death. We are thankful he can again attend services with us.

The youth groups from the Landersville and Hillsboro churches sang for the folks at the Moulton Rest Home for the aged. This is a lovely new building. It has 40 beds, all which are filled at the present time.

BRADFORD, ILLINOIS Mrs. Martha Kieser

We are thankful for those who visited during the month of November. Among them were Bro's. Jim Hoerr, Peoria; Harvey Heiniger, Oakville; Fred Grimm, Taylor; and Walter Anliker, Eureka.

Christian Endeavor was held here on two Sundays. Bro. Heiniger and others from Oakville brought their Bible class, and they stayed for Christian Endeavor. Bro. Harvey Grimm was also an evening guest.

Bro. Jerry and Sis. Wilma Kieser welcomed a new baby girl, Mary Ann. She has a brother Joey, and a sister Barbara. Sis. Emma Moser and Bro. Sam and Sis. Lucille Kieser are her grandparents.

Larry Endress, who attends church here, son of Bro. Levi and

Sis. Mildred, Princeville; John Guingrich, son of Bro. Ed and Sis. Doris; Mary Knobloch, daughter of Bro. Clarence and Sis. Emma; and Nancy Kieser, daughter of Bro. George and Sis. Esther have been announced for proving. Plans are for these four, and Teresa and Rose Marie Streitmatter, daughters of Bro. Burton and Sis. Martha, to be proved in Princeville on Saturday evening. Sunday, baptisms will be in Bradford.

The members of Princeville and Bradford met in Princeville on Wednesday evening to hear the memorandum. Elder Bro's. Leroy Huber and Josh Broquard assisted our elder, Silas Leuthold, with this work. We trust God will bless them for their efforts—and may we be obedient lambs, so their work is not in vain.

Sis Ann Rumbold has been suffering from an infection of the inner ear. We hope she can assemble with us again soon.

We are sorry to report the death of Anna Hager, a sister of Sis. Lucille Kieser. She attended our church on opening day, and since has been confined to her home or the hospital.

CISSNA PARK, ILLINOIS Mrs. Jeff Young

In behalf of the church, we wish to thank the elder brothers, who so faithfully served us in the past month. The memorandum was read and commented on. Bro. Joe Waibel assisted in Sunday School that Sunday, which was greatly appreciated by the Sunday School staff. Thanks to all the visiting brothers who helped in the Sunday School the past month. All are invited back again.

The Bible Class enjoyed a weiner roast at the home of Bro. and Sis. Kenneth Bauer.

On Nov. 29, our friends, Vera Eisenman and Roger Knapp, were united in marriage by Bro. Emanuel Gudeman, at the home of the parents, Bro. and Sis. Alf Eisenman.

Our friend, Anna Reutter, had major surgery, and is now able to be home.

Sis. Clara Lober also has been hospitalized for some time.

A baby boy was born to Bro. and Sis. Dale Walder on Nov. 17. He was named Russell Henry.

A daughter, Lori Sue, was born to Bro. and Sis. Joe Rinkenberger

on Dec. 3. Sis. Lyda Rinkenberger is the grandmother.

A boy was born to Vernon and Rosie Martin on Dec. 6. He has one brother to welcome him.

Bro. Harland and Sis. Kathryn Rudin became parents of a son, born Dec. 7. He was named Martin Harland.

On Dec. 20, our Sunday School Children will present their Christmas Program at the church, if the Lord will.

If there are bitter feelings
Within your heart and mine,
There will be no room for Jesus
When He comes this Christmas-time.

But if we hold thoughts of kindness,
And our hearts are full of love,
Then our honored guest this Christmas
Will be Christ, from heaven above.

GOODFIELD, ILLINOIS Marian Wiegand

Our dear sister, Irene Hartter, was called suddenly, so very suddenly, to her eternal reward. Death was due to complications in childbirth.

Although we will miss her sunny smile and kind presence, we must believe her life's work was completed and is now awaiting her crown. We must believe, too, that God had a purpose: Could it be an act of kindness that the valley between life and death was shortened for her? Could it be He is showing His almighty power in hope, that somewhere, someplace, a soul might yet take heed? The very fitting hymn, "Sometime we'll understand" was sung at her funeral.

Sis. Irene was born August 1, 1923, the daughter of the late Marse and Mrs. Lucy Adams of Eureka. She found God's forgiveness and peace about thirteen years ago. That blessed experience has since been treasured in her heart.

Surviving are her husband, Bro. Richard, and five children, Eddis, Melvin, Kenneth, Russell and Lucy at home.

The marriage of Sis. Kay Bauman., daughter of Bro. and Sis. Elmer Bauman, and Eugene Siebenthal, son of Bro. and Sis. Dan Siebenthal, was solemnized November 22, by Bro. Frank Woertz. Meditation was based on I Corinthians, chapter 13. They will make

their home at Hammond, Indiana, until Bro. Eugene completes his service with the army at Munster, Indiana.

The Lord's supper was served to us by our dear elder brothers, Frank Woertz, George Gramm and Joe Klopfenstein.

"Then let us follow our dear Lord,
Bearing the cross appointed,
And bravely clinging to His word,
In suffering be undaunted.
He who shall bear the battle's strain,
The crown of life shall there obtain."

Sis. Edna Schieler was a hospital patient recently. She is certainly an example of patience to all who know her. Her husband, Sam Schieler, was also a hospital patient for a few days.

Sis. Mary Jane Knapp was hospitalized for a few days.

Thanksgiving day brought many thankful hearts together. Bro. Bob Grimm mentioned that a thankful heart can draw love, goodness, and thoughts of heaven out of every hour of the day.

We are humbled and deeply thankful that Dan Plattner, son of Bro. Harold and Sis. Jerry Plattner, is seeking God in repentance.

We were grateful to have Bro. Harvey Grimm with us recently. He reminded us that "Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him."

Sis. Ann Plattner has been a surgical patient at Methodist Hospital. She is recuperating satisfactorily, and we look forward to having her assemble with us again.

Recently, Bro. Art Gudeman expounded the Word to us. He began the services with these words of introduction to the Bible:

The Bible contains the mind of God, the state of man, the way of salvation, the doom of sinners, the happiness of believers.

Its doctrines are sure; its precepts are binding; its histories are true; and its decisions are immutable.

Read it to be wise; believe it to be safe; practice it to be holy.

It contains light to direct you, food to support you, and comfort to cheer you.

It is the traveler's map, the pil-

grim's staff, the pilot's compass, the soldier's sword, the Christian's charter.

Herein is paradise restored, heaven opened, and the gates of hell are disclosed.

It should fill our memories; it should rule our hearts and it should guide our feet.

Read it slowly, frequently, and prayerfully, for it contains a mine of wealth, a paradise of glory, and a river of happiness.

It should be remembered; it should be respected; and its labor shall be rewarded, and those who trifle with it shall be condemned.

"The American soldier is the most lonesome in a foreign land, because he has more to go home to" is an excerpt of the services by Bro. Dave Kieser. Since we are soldiers of the cross, we too do often long for home, where more peace and love is waiting.

After a balmy fall, December is here with its wintry days. As the temperature drops and the earth is blanketed with snow, our thoughts automatically turn to Christmas.

It is such a beautiful time of the year—a time when love glows and everyone reminisces and remembers relatives and old friends; a time when our thoughts go back to a little babe lying in a manger. And as we think of this little babe, all the events surrounding this miraculous birth flood our minds: the virgin Mary and her husband, Joseph, Bethlehem, the inn, the guiding star, the shepherds and the wise men. Truly, it is a time of rejoicing and praising God, for giving the world such a priceless gift.

LAMAR, MISSOURI Marie Marti

May we all, this Christmas season, rededicate our lives to Him who did so much for us. May we see, beyond the tinsel and glitter, the true character of Him whose birth we celebrate, and may we exemplify it in lives of service to our Lord and a love and respect for our fellowmen.

Have you ever felt the trusting eyes of a child look up to you in faith and confidence, as he firmly clasps your hand for guidance? May we ever have that same, firm faith and confidence and ask, **Jesus, hold my hand**, and let Him

guide us on to that heavenly goal.

Yes, there was a vacant place in our small church last Sunday. A place which had been occupied by our devoted sister, Cecelia Banwart, for many years. She passed away Nov. 27. She was born in Elgin, Iowa, Sept., 17, 1885, & moved with her parents to Lamar in 1902. She was married to Bro. Ben Banwart in 1906. She is survived by her husband; four sons, Bro. Arthur, Bro. Harvey, Bro. Raymond and Lloyd; three daughters—Sis. Pearl, Sis. Marie, and Sis. Clara Frank; and ten grandchildren. Elder Bro. Sam Anliker, assisted by Bros. Art Gudeman and Harvey Heininger, spoke words of comfort to the family and friends, using as the text Proverbs 31:10-31. Sis. Cecelia had served 60 years in the vineyard of the Lord, having turned to Him at the age of 19. This is a precious privilege not granted to many.

MAYWOOD, CALIFORNIA Christine Locher

Sis. Janet Elasser of Princeville has moved to our area, and we welcome her to our fold.

The Sunday School classes are preparing their annual Christmas Program, to be presented to the congregation December 20. When the children were approached about a program this year, it was interesting to see how enthused they were about it.

One Saturday recently, we gathered at the church and had our annual cleaning.

MORRIS, MINNESOTA Mrs. Kenneth Zeltwanger Norene Koehl

Elder Bros. Noah Shrock, Lester Hartter, and Paul Banwart were with us for the reading of the memorandum on Nov. 9. We should always realize the importance of obeying their warnings, which are given to us in love, to strengthen and keep us pure in our walk of life with our Lord.

We also thank the visiting brothers, George Gramm and Carl Feucht, for bringing God's word to us.

Bro. and Sis. Henry Schmidgall and their daughter, Sis. Stella, returned home from their monthly trip to Rochester on Dec. 1. Bro. Henry took treatments, which kept them there over Thanksgiving. He seems to be feeling better. We were

happy to see them with us again in church Sunday.

Sis. Saddle Metzger is in the hospital. She is improving, though and our prayers would be for these loved ones—that God may be their help by restoring them the needed strength.

Charlene Luthi, small daughter of Bro. and Sis. Donald Luthi, was hospitalized a few days for surgery. She is feeling fine again.

Sis. Wilda Fehr, daughter, of Bro. and Sis. Paul Fehr, and Bro. Harvey Koehl, son of Bro. and Sis. Charlie Koehl, were united in holy matrimony Dec. 6. Bro. Paul performed the marriage. May the Lord bless them in their married life.

As the Christmas season is here, let us again read and rejoice about our precious Saviour's birth.

Hark, words of angels hosts
On Judah's meadows ring,
Where flocks and shepherds had
their post . . .
The joyful tidings bring!

To you is born today
The Lord at Bethlehem.
O gladsome message, full of grace,
How worthy of esteem!

Bring glory now to God,
Whose throne is built on high.
The realm of darkness comes to
naught;
The reign of peace is nigh!

Ye ransomed souls, rejoice,
And your redemption praise.
With angel hosts lift up your voice,
Who-e'er believes is saved.

Glory to God on high;
On earth His peace retell!
The Father's will shall now be done,
Who maketh all things well.

PORTLAND, OREGON Mrs. Edward Unsicker Mrs. Glenn Hackenjos

"They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat.

For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes." Revelation 7:16,17.

Reading these glorious words, Bro. Bob Miller voiced our final respects to our dear departed sister, Elizabeth Diriwachter. Her six

children were all able to attend their beloved mother's funeral.

Bro. Bob Fischer was elected new Sunday School teacher for the Primary Class, to replace his wife, Sis. Nilah. Sis. Kay Hackenjoes was elected assistant Silver Lining reporter. May each of us, in our little corner, be united to serve for one purpose—God's glory!

"For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many." St. Mark 10:45.

"He came in humble modesty
And brought to us all blessing.
There in a manger slumbered He,
Eternal gifts possessing."

At Christmas-time and all through the year, these blessed words from our Zion's Harp remind us of our Saviour's humble advent. Yet He was Lord of all, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace.

WICHITA, KANSAS
Mrs. Harvey Smith

Thoughts For Christmas
Submitted by
Bro. George Lambert

Modern philosophy has distorted the real meaning of Christmas so much through the years, that we find even true believers often subscribing to its teachings without knowing it.

Christmas is the blessed event that was designed by our Heavenly Father to be the first step in the eventual spiritual rehabilitation of the sinner, who was destined to die without any eternal security. The birth of Jesus Christ became the first stepping-stone in the great plan of salvation. Its celebration should portray this truth.

For instance, we have been so thoroughly indoctrinated through the years that there were only three wise men that came to present the infant child gold, frankincense and myrrh, that many accept this as gospel truth. The Bible does not so much as hint that this is true (Matthew 2:1). In fact, there could of been a whole caravan of wise men that came to visit Him, in response to the star they saw in the east.

The words "Search the scriptures" could well be inserted here as a must to all believers, not only pertaining to this subject, but for all scriptural truths. It is easy

to become conformed to such teachings, and if we do not guard against such things, it could even become dangerous to our spiritual welfare. We are warned not to become **conformed to this world: but to be transformed by the renewing of our minds.**

Another error so widely accepted as fact is that the wise men visited the inn and found Jesus in a manger. We might ask ourselves a few questions relative to this event, and see if we might come to some conclusion on the matter. Just how long would Mary be confined after the birth of Jesus? How many days or weeks would it be before she would be able to travel, or go to the house of friends or relatives? We can easily imagine that they would like to get away from, as soon as possible, the inconvenience of the stable.

This then brings up another question. How long would it take the wise men to travel from "the east" to Bethlehem? I do not know the exact miles they would have to travel. Scholars say that it would take several months to make this journey. This would indicate in itself that Jesus must of been at least a month old, even more.

But, why not use the Bible again to answer this question? Matthew 2:11 says, **And when they (the wise men) were come into the HOUSE, they saw the young child with Mary His mother.** The shepherds alone visited the manger that night, not the wise men. (Luke 2:12).

This is again substantiated in the action of Herod (Matthew 2:16) who "slew all the children . . . from two years old and under, according to the time he had . . . inquired of the wise men."

The Holy Word was written and preserved through the centuries, so that His people might know the truth and not come into condemnation. Many wonderful secrets are reserved for the true children of God, if we search the scriptures. There is no need for us to accept modern philosophy that can only help destroy the real truth.

So, for this Christmas and every subsequent Christmas, let us put the praise where it justly belongs, as the wise men did. They came to Him and honored Him. Let us do likewise, in true adoration, out of a pure heart.

Our elder brother, Samuel Anliker, was with us & read the minutes of the recent conference. May we ever realize the great concern our elder body has, and strive to live a closer life with our Lord and Saviour.

Wishing you all the Season's Greetings . . . may the peace and joy of the Christmas season be yours. May our hearts be filled with the same love that God had for us, when He sent His only begotten Son, that we might have life everlasting. It was the greatest of all gifts . . . the gift of our Lord.

LESTER, IOWA
Emelie M. Knobloch

We are happy to report that God has performed a miracle in our community. Bro. Arthur Leuthold is recuperating in his home, after being near death several times during his five weeks of hospitalization. May he soon be able to assemble with us again. Bro. Arthur would like me to express these few words of thanks to all.

"For God has promised to hear even a sigh or a groan; how much more effective it is when whole congregations raised up their voices in prayer in my behalf during my recent sickness. I feel that it was through these prayers that I am able to again be restored to a fair measure of health. I wish to express my sincere and heartfelt thanks to everyone for their deeds of kindness, cards and letters, and especially for prayers that were offered for me." Bro. Arthur Leuthold.

Sis. Pauline Mogler has showed some improvement. Bros. Henry Mogler and Paul Leuthold were surgical patients this past month. Jim Gerber, son of Bro. and Sis. Ted Gerber, has had back surgery, which required bone grafting. He is feeling some improved at this time. Sis. Edith Knobloch was hospitalized for a day.

Birth: To Mr. and Mrs. Roger Myrlie, a son, Victor Jay, Nov. 24.

Our congregation rejoices that another dear soul, Adolph Moser, has answered God's call. We wish him God's grace and blessings. Shortly before her sudden death, I visited with his mother, concerning "Know Each Other Better" and "History of the Church". She told me her only wish was to see just one of her children repent. We know she is not with us anymore,

but we feel as the word says, **Angels rejoice over every sinner that repents.** And she is rejoicing over there.

Margaret Meyer, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Alvia Meyer, and Eli Grimm Jr., son of Bro. and Sis. Eli Grimm, of West Bend, were united in Holy Matrimony by Elder Bro. Leo Moser, in the home of the bride's parents, Nov. 28. A buffet supper and reception were held, following the ceremony. The couple will be at home on a farm near West Bend. We wish them God's blessing in their new life together.

We have been practicing for the Christmas program, which will be held Dec. 20. We have enough snow to make it feel like the holiday season, but may we truly take the holiday season for its real meaning: The birth of a Saviour who was to live only a short life here, and die on the cross for our soul's salvation.

As another year comes to a close, may we meditate on this verse:

The time flies on and death draws nigh;

Unite us Lord with thee on High!
Prepare us now to live with Thee
Forever in eternity.

We also want to share our sympathy for the passing of a dear shepherd and elder, Bro. David Mangold. He will be missed by all those who knew him. May God's blessings of sympathy be shared to his family.

LEO, INDIANA Mrs. Elias Souder

The Star Which They Saw In The
East Went Before Them
Keep Christ in Christmas

This is on the greeting our brother, Otto Norr, sent to us last Christmas. I could think of nothing better for all of us this Christmas. May the good work go on.

Our midweek services have been changed from Thursday evening to Wednesday evening, beginning at 7:30, Eastern Standard Time.

Those who have been on our sick list this past month were Jerry Stieglitz, son of Oliver Stieglitz, Joseph and Leah Conrad and Gene Bollier Smith. All are improved or better.

Funeral services for Martha Conrad, who had been making her home in Indianapolis, were held at

the Leo Church Dec. 12. Burial was in the Leo Cemetery. Martha was a sister to Joseph Conrad.

Born to Emma Jean and Oliver Stieglitz, a baby girl named Marcia Ann, Nov. 17. They have two boys and two girls now.

Our elder brothers, Theo. Beer of Milford and Samuel Aeschliman of Bluffton were here. They read and explained the memorandum. The kindness and gentleness shown in their explanation surely for love's sake makes one want to be cautious in one's living in these last days.

Bro. Henry Beer held our midweek service on Dec. 9. After the church service, he played the record, "The Life of Christ in Song", for the benefit of those who had not heard it before.

A wedding shower was given Friday evening, Dec. 11, at the Fellowship Center, honoring the bride-to-be of Phillip Pulver, Mary M. Bowers.

CHRISTMAS

Cheryl Norr

On a lane to Bethlehem, far away, there were two people, Mary and Joseph.

Alas, after their hard journey, the hotels were filled up.

"Where could they sleep?" was the thought in their minds.

"Would you go in a stable?"

Perhaps an hour, a minute later, a child was born to them. He was laid in a manger.

The angel said, **He is the Son of God, and Jesus is what He will be called, for God wishes that to be His name."**

A bright star shone over them. Weary wise men worshipped Him, humbly.

The child was Jesus Christ.

BREMEN, INDIANA Joseph L. Bauman

Bro. Herbert Hueni recently suffered a period of illness, but is well again and about his regular duties.

Sis. Bertha Annis is gaining slowly. Sis. Bertha suffered a mild heart attack and was hospitalized for some time.

Thanksgiving was observed in our church with special Thanksgiving services and a program given by the Sunday School. After listening to the expressions from those who participated, it was felt by many, I believe, that we have much

more to be thankful for than we normally realize.

Departed from this life recently and laid to rest in the Milford Cemetery was Mrs. Arthur Tabb, loving mother of Sis. Berniece Bauman. Tho' due somewhat perhaps to long standing physical infirmities, she was known to but few. Nevertheless, she was a life-long friend of our faith, and during her last illness made full confession of her faith and found peace with God. With this blessed assurance, we rejoice.

This is the sacred season in which we commemorate the coming into the world of Jesus Christ. Once upon a time, long ago, God, ruler of the universe and everything therein, who set in motion the millions of other planets and stars . . . in the form of his dear Son became a human being like ourselves. Here He worked, grew to manhood, taught, witnessed the joys and sorrows that all mankind is subject to, and lived the only perfect life ever lived on earth. Born in a stable, He died on a cross. He came that we might have life—not for a few years, but for **eternity.**

FT. LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA Florence Sutter

We were so very happy when Elder Bro. Dave Mangold and Sis. Anna were in our midst again. We met them at Miami Airport. Although he did not have the health of former times, we hoped he would respond to warm air and sunshine, as other years. Eleven days later, we were saddened as we reached the hospital to be told, he had just passed away. We were blessed with Bro. Dave and Sis. Anna's presence four winters, and wish to say he has helped us very much.

It was not pleasant to see someone suffer the afflictions of the body who has done so much for our church; however, afflictions are sometimes a test of faith.

Even though there was not much time, we had visitation at the Fairchild Mortuary for the local members and friends of Ft. Lauderdale.

We will miss Bro. Dave, as we know he was a guide to us all here in this locality.

Bro. Will and Sis. Mayme Erkert are spending their winter months with us again. It is a pleasure to welcome them back to our congregation.

Bro. Don Zeltwanger and Sis. Marceil and children, Stephenie and Phil, plan to spend the winter with us. We hope they will stay well and happy here in Florida.

Bro. Recksteiner and his daughter, Sis. Emily, of Bay City have arrived for the winter months.

GRIDLEY, KANSAS

Mrs. Eldon Metzger

Now that the Christmas season is here once again, let us ponder upon the spiritual aspect of it.

We are about to remember the season set aside to commemorate the birth of our dear Saviour and Lord. Do we think often on the life of the Humble Christ Child, as He lived under the roof of Joseph, the carpenter?—His great, but short, ministry and the many miracles He performed?—and the cruel death He suffered, that we might have life eternal? Can we realize even a particle of the great loneliness Jesus felt when He hung on the cross and cried, "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?"

A man once wrote, "The trouble with people these days is that they want to reach the promised land without going through the wilderness."

Are we like this? It seems we should be willing to give up the things of the world, as Christ advises us through the writings of His apostles. It will be to our eternal gain if we forsake these things of earthly basis. So let us dedicate our lives anew in this Christmas season and the coming New Year. May we be living Christian examples.

Let the beauty of Jesus be seen in me,
All His wonderful passion and purity.
Oh, Thou Spirit divine, all my nature refine,
Till the beauty of Jesus be seen in me.

The memorandum of the Elders' Conference was read and commented upon to our little congregation by Bro. Sam Anliker a few weeks ago. May we take heed to this advice and warning.

We have had a good bit of moisture, over five inches of rain, and now our first snow of the season is blanketing the landscape. It seems very fitting to give God thanks and praise for this moisture

and the many other blessings we receive.

The world judges you not only by what you stand for, but by what you fall for.

May the blessings of our Heavenly Father rest upon each and everyone of you in this Christmas season.

LAMONT, KANSAS

Mrs. Bernie Emch

Glenn Anliker

Our Sister Lizzie Young, 86 years old, passed away in the Burlington, Ks., hospital Nov. 26, Thanksgiving day. She had fallen several weeks prior, in her home, and broke six ribs, and complications caused her going. Her suffering was much. One of her nurses remarked of her patience through it all. Sis. Lizzie told her she had endured so much and had many trials in her lifetime, but with God's help could endure more. Her patience will be remembered by those who knew her. The funeral services were Nov. 29, Bro. Samuel officiating, assisted by Bro. Roy Wernli.

Sis. Dena Fechter has gone to Denver, Colorado, for treatment of asthma. May the Great Physician do as He sees best for her.

This congregation had the blessed privilege to assemble with our neighboring congregation, Gridley, Kansas, to hear Bros. Lowell Stoller from Princeville and Fred Grimm from Taylor speak the Word of God to us.

This congregation would like to express their sincere thanks to them for this visit, and would like to extend a special invitation to all elders, ministers, and brethren, to visit our little congregations here, as it is greatly appreciated.

Let us go all the way in giving our support to our elders and ministers, for the efforts they put forth in keeping the church functioning properly, and bringing the Word of God to us. Let us remember them in our prayers.

PHOENIX, ARIZONA

Eileen Yackley

What do I want for Christmas?

Incense and gold myrrh
That wise men left in a certain place?

Oh, no! I much prefer . . .
The Love that sent me Jesus,
Safe as the days go on;

Courage to walk a too high hill . . .

After the lure is gone.
That's what I want for Christmas
Things that you never see
Wrapped up in tissue paper
Under a tinsel tree!

We have had several of our beloved hospitalized this month. Sisters Vera Yackley, Emma Sanders, and Christine Dubach had surgery. They all have returned home and are doing well, for which we thank God, the Great Physician. A/2c Al Yackley was home on emergency leave, while Sis. Vera was hospitalized. We enjoyed having him home once again. In behalf of the ones who were ill, they wish to thank everyone for your prayers during their illnesses.

We are thankful that God has granted strength to Bro. Joe Heindold—and he has been able to assemble with us the past few Sundays.

We are grateful that our friend, George Schuster, was announced, having found peace with God. He awaits baptism. We wish him God's grace.

We had our annual business meeting. The following offices were filled: Sunday School superintendent, Bro. Alan Freed; assistant superintendent, Bro. Joe Beer; board member, Irvin Rokey; director of song leaders, Bro. Joe Dotterer; ushers, Bros. Roy Stevig and Eddy Dotterer; lunch fund, Bro. Henry Schrenk; and world relief fund, Bro. Richard Schupbach.

Bob Lemons has returned to his family, from his duty overseas. It makes us thankful when our boys can again return safely.

For the benefit of our winter visitors the address of our church is—2945 N. 18th Place.

The addresses of new families that have moved to Phoenix are:

Bro. and Sis. John Somerhalder
6621 N 20th Ave

Bro. and Sis. Ernest Elsasser
7810 N 15 Ave

Bro. and Sis. Paul Emch
915 E Missouri

Sis. Lillian Landes
1509 N 46th St B 29

Sis. Lillian Landes has just moved here from Peoria, where she had worked a number of years.

Bro. and Sis. Irvin Rokey
2030 E 4th Ave Apt R
Mesa

Terry and Jan Klaus
2030 E 4th Ave Apt Q
Mesa

In thinking of the various hymn books we sing out of, the Zion's Harp seems so nice for our church worship. In our little church, we have been blessed with approximately nine brothers that can lead in song service, Bro. Joe Dotterer being the director of song leaders; so fortunately we never have to turn away from one or our beautiful Zion's Harp songs. It is encouraging when new converts say that they derive such a blessing from the words in the Zion's Harps hymns.

For the Thanksgiving holidays, we enjoyed having Bro. David Stevig, Sis. Marilyn Dotterer and Janice Frieden home again.

We of the Phoenix congregation want to wish you all a blessed Christmas!

PURDUE UNIVERSITY West Lafayette, Ind.

Mr. and Mrs. Keith Honegger

Although winter has finally arrived, with its snow and ice, we still have been fortunate in having many assemble with us for our services. Our recent ministers include Bro. Ed Alt from Cissna Park, on Nov. 18, and Bros. Ed Frank and Merle Bucher from La-Crosse, on Dec. 2. Once more we received many teachings and blessings from their inspirational messages.

Thanksgiving vacation was from Nov. 25-30. How thankful we were in being able to commemorate this holiday with our families and friends!

Now, as another holiday approaches, we see the glitter and lights of Christmas and hear its carols and good cheer. May we also know in our hearts the deep joy and beauty of its sweet story. Matthew 1:21 "And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins."

Thus, as your thoughts turn to Bethlehem's manger, may your heart be filled with abiding faith, deep inward peace, and lasting contentment throughout the New Year.

TREMONT, ILLINOIS Esther Schmid

We truly appreciate the inspired messages brought to us this past month by the following visiting ministers: Bros. Eugene Bertschi and Ben Fehr, Roanoke; Philip Sauder, Cissna Park; James Ringger, Bradford; LeRoy Huber, Eureka; and Joe A. Getz, Morton.

The parable of the true vine and the branches, which from time to time need pruning, was explained. If all the saplings are allowed to grow, at last the main tree or vine would be crowded out and smothered. Shouldn't we all heed the warnings of this teaching and be willing to be pruned of these earthly and worldly lusts, so we may remain close to the vine and bear fruit; yes, much fruit is pleasing to our Maker.

Bro. LeRoy Huber assisted our elder, Bro. Joe A. Getz, in explaining the Conference memorandum, based on scriptural teachings. Bro. LeRoy explained that the teaching of obedience is better than sacrifice. After disobedience, a sacrifice must be brought and correction made of the mistakes which we often make. This should humble us and again restore us, but it would have been better if at first we would have obeyed; then a sacrifice would not have been needful.

Bro. Simon and Sis. Louise Wagenbach's daughter, Sharon, has announced her engagement to Jordon Elsasser of Princeville. An early spring wedding is planned.

The engagement of Sis. Mary Jane Aberle, daughter of Bro. Al and Sis. Emma Aberle, to Bro. Dean Leuthold of Peoria was made known on Nov. 29.

Bro. John and Sis. Rose Schurter received news from Silverton, Ore., of the marriage of their granddaughter, Betty Youle, to Lowell Kuenzi, on Nov. 25.

Bro. Virgil and Sis. Shirley Funk are the parents of a daughter, Ruth Marie, born on Nov. 19.

Hospitalized this month were Sisters Lydia Kaeb, Marie Schmid, and Alma Getz. Sis. Alma had the misfortune of slipping on the ice and fracturing a bone above her wrist. Bro. Frank Baurer had major surgery and is slowly improving.

The Christmas season is approaching, and it is then we are so richly reminded of the babe of Bethlehem, the angels, the star,

and the shepherds. We are looking forward to the children's Sunday School program on Dec. 20.

TAYLOR, MISSOURI Mrs. Eli Sutter Mrs. Bill Heimer

Sis. Judy, wife of Bro. Don Feller, submitted to a tonsillectomy. It was necessary for her to stay at the hospital a few days. She is now recuperating at the home of her parents, Bro. Fred Grimms.

Sis. Yoshiko Utsuki has been staying at the home of Bro. Robert Hoerrs'. We have enjoyed having her tell us of her home and church and the customs in her country, and were especially interested in the ceremonial tea, which is a custom in their homes, especially among the older people.

We enjoyed having Bro. Loren Strahm, Gridley, Kansas, bring us a message from God's Word, on Wed. evening, Dec. 9.

The Sunday School teachers and pupils are busy, getting ready for the Christmas program, which is to be given on Dec. 20. As we teach in song and verse of the birth of the Baby Jesus, as he grew to manhood and gave his life and shed his blood for all mankind, we often think of what a sad world this would be if he had never come.

A few years ago, a striking Christmas card was published, with the title "If Christ Had Not Come." The card represented a man, falling asleep on Christmas morning, dreaming of a world into which Jesus had never come.

In this dream, he found himself looking through his home. There was no Christmas, no Christ to comfort, gladden, and save. He walked out on the public street, but there was no church.

A ring at the doorbell! A messenger asked him to come to a poor, dying mother. He hastened. As he reached the home, he sat down and said "I have something here that will comfort you." But the Bible, in such circumstances, ended at Malachi. There was no Gospel, no promise of hope and salvation. He could only bow his head, and weep with her in bitter despair.

Two days afterward, he stood beside this mother's coffin and conducted the funeral service. There was no message of a glorious resurrection, no open Heaven, but only dust to dust, ashes to ashes . . . One long farewell. In his sorrowful

dream; He had not come. He burst into tears and bitter weeping.

Suddenly, he woke with a start. A great shout of joy and praise burst from his lips. He heard the choir singing,

O come all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!

O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;

Come and behold Him, born the King of angels.

O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord!

Services Addresses—New and Changed

Pfc Carl Bricker RA15699278
508th GPU Sa Sa
Co A APO 24
San Francisco California

A-3c Steven L Drach AF16795189
Box 1689
Plt Tng Wg 3525
Williams AFB Arizona 85225

Mr and Mrs Richard L Enderle
Terrace Gardens Apts Apt No 8
715 Pulaski Highway
Harve De Grace Maryland

Pvt Herb J Frank US55783511
USA Disp Camp A P Hill
Bowling Green Virginia

Ben Hartzler
Apt 2 2229 Cummington
Cleveland 6 Ohio

Pvt Larry R Heiniger ER17691152
Headquarter Co
1st Btn 63rd Armory
Ft Riley Kansas

Pvt Herbert G Heyerly NG23044004
Co A 2nd Bn 1st Tng BDE
USATC Armor
Ft Knox Kentucky 40121

Pvt Robert J Heyerly NG23044008
USA TC Armor Co A 2nd BN
1st TRN BDE 1st Platoon
Ft Knox Kentucky 40120

Perry L Isch US55783554
USA Hospital [6376]
Yuma P G
Yuma Arizona

Pfc Marion E Knobloch US55781464
Hg & Hg Co 1st Bn

16th Inf Medical Platoon
Ft Riley Kansas

Leo Marty
Apt 2 2229 Cummington
Cleveland 6 Ohio

Pvt Thomas L Miller NG26418672
Co D 13th BN 4th Tng BDE USATCA
Ft Knox Kentucky 40121

SP/4 John C Messner RA17649706
Hq Hq Service Btry
5 BN 78th Arty
Ft Ord California

PFC Duane D Metzger US55774086
Hospital Co IAH
[Ambulance Dispatch]
Ft Knox Kentucky 40121

Delwin L Meyer AOAN 5998393
VF 124 Ordnance NAS
Miramar 45 California

Pfc Arthur R Mogler US55773437
28th General Hospital
Phoenixville Pennsylvania

Pvt William Orth 55253786
HHC 197th Infantry Brigade
Ft Benning Georgia

Mr and Mrs James M Ricketts
1034 Polk
Topeka Kansas 66612

Pvt Glenn Riggenbach US52601604
581st Med Co Amb
APO 180 New York New York

Kenneth Riggenbach
Apt 2 2229 Cummington
Cleveland 6 Ohio

Pvt Vernon Schrof US55795060
Co D 1st Bn USAIC Trp Comd
Ft Benning Georgia

Sp/4 Lester W Steffen US55749655
185th Gen Disp
APO 227 New York New York 09227
[This is Kaeserlautern Germany]

Phillip H Stettner US55783582
USA Hospital [6376]
Yuma PG
Yuma Arizona

Pvt Richard J Tanner RA16794027
Hg Co 1st Bn 70th Armored
APO 112 New York New York
[Richard is in Germany]

Pvt Duane A Witzig US55795148
Class 56 A Co E 2nd Bn
USAMTC Co 61744
Ft Sam Houston Texas 78234

FORT WAYNE, INDIANA
Mrs. Albert E. Kipfer

Bro. and Sis. Verlin Stoller sponsored the Thanksgiving program, held Nov. 22, with the Latty Sunday School being our guests for the day. A pot-luck supper was held in the evening, followed by the program. We wish to thank the Latty Sunday School, as well as Bro. Loren Stoller, for their part in the program which we all enjoyed. Come back again.

Sis. Ann Swihart informed me of the marriage of her son, Leroy, to Sandra Kunkel on Nov. 28. They are now residing at 3229 Dinnen Street, Ft. Wayne, Ind. Congratulations! We are so glad that Leroy has recovered from his serious accident which occurred last August.

Bro. and Sis. Oscar Martin announce the arrival of a new grandson. Their son, Richard, and Darlene Martin of Bloomington, Ind., are the happy parents of a son, Kevin Douglas, born Dec. 5.

David Levy, son of Bro. and Sis. Bill Levy, is confined to his bed with an illness of Infectious Mononucleosis, which requires bed rest. Inasmuch as he will be bedfast for at least a couple more weeks, anyone wishing to drop him a card or note, I'm sure it would be appreciated.

Connie Clauss, daughter of Sis. Mattie Clauss, is attending school at Ft. Lauderdale and is planning on coming home for Christmas.

Ministers who assisted us recently are Bros. Wendell Gudeman, Ben Schlatter, Loren Stoller and Orville Ringger.

Time's countdown continues. Circle a day ahead in your mind. If the Lord lets you live, you will soon be there and past. Moments move. We should look for every opportunity. Let love write its verse in our lives and those we love. Is there someone that would read the Silver Lining? Send in their address; include the zip number, if you know. Where one can, two dollars is suggested, per year.