

# THE SILVER LINING

VOLUME 15

JANUARY 1965

NUMBER 4

## WHY DESPAIR IN TRIBULATION?

Bro. Homer Reineck

As I stepped out the back door, one autumn morning, a very arresting sight caught my attention. The night before, we had our first hard freeze. The ash tree at the end of the walk was shedding its leaves so rapidly they were falling in a cascade. It was not the usual leaf or two at a time; they were descending by the hundreds. As was to be expected, when the tree was examined that evening, upon my return home, it was completely bare of leaves. There it stood, stark and black in the midst of the splendor of autumn colors. The brilliant reds, browns and yellows of the maples, locust, oaks and others made it seem the more gaunt and homely by contrast.

As I considered all this, it seemed for a moment there was little object in such a poor specimen of nature to have its existence, along with the other more beautiful varieties. Then, my thoughts turned to retrospect and reverie. Last summer, the welcome shade had cooled many times and, foremost

of all, another spring would bring a revival of life and beauty to our ugly duckling. It would then again be as attractive and useful as any of the trees in the lawn.

Still later that evening, my thoughts turned to the word of God in the light of the events of

### II JOHN, VERSE 10

"If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into **your** house, neither bid him God speed:"

that day. How often tragedy, death or other sudden sorrow in our lives make us feel that life has lost its meaning. We stand alone, despairing. All around, the rest of the world goes on the usual pace. Perhaps we might feel as Job writes, "My soul is weary of my life; I will leave my complaint upon myself; I

will speak in the bitterness of my soul."

We need to consider the Beginning and the End, the Alpha and Omega. The Word of God counsels us with such phrases as, ". . . I, I am with you alway, even unto the end", or **Let nothing separate you from the love of God in Christ Jesus**. Also, the poets have written, "Be not dismayed what'er betide, God will take care of you", and "What a Friend we have in Jesus, All our sins and griefs to bear." The Psalmist writes in Psalm 102, "He will regard the prayer of the destitute, and not despise their prayer."

When we consider all these and the many other wonderful teachings which we have in the word, we can also recall the joys of yesterday and stand firm in the hope of tomorrow. The exhortation to long-suffering, patience, continuance then becomes real and full of meaning to us. Once again, we can thank God for all His wonderful works toward the children of men.

## RISE, O SOUL!

Henry Souder Jr.

"Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;" This shows a sad time! There is no grief like that which shall be for one who once knew joy and peace, and then has left.

Good fellowship is free from many sinful pains. Sin's slaves will be "Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron;" Some sad facts come, with departure. It is not what it used to be. Neither is there any base for knowing the joy, save

return. It is departure, fast downward. There is a point possible that is past hope, with no return! Dark deeds bring strange fascination . . . "Forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from meats, which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth." It is sad how the human soul on strange paths will seek some sort of standard.

Man was made in the image of God. He was given a way of looking out into eternity, a feeling of for ever. Alas, what deceivings does man away from God form!

The faithful have it beautiful . . .

"For every creature of God is good, and nothing to be refused, if it be received with thanksgiving: For it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer." God's way is complete, caring in detail. Be ye holy, in everything! The good word prepares that even eating be holy. Indeed, we sit in heavenly and holy places! And with a Holy One!

"If thou put the brethren in remembrance of these things, thou shalt be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished up in the words of faith and of good doctrine, wherunto thou hast attained." To ex-

plain does a lot, much, much good. Sweet remembrance avoids many a finger of blame.

The stern authority given to Paul was held back. Pages and moments were used, in hope that desired fruits would be forthcoming. Have we done all we should? Does the hearer understand?

"But refuse profane and old old wives' fables, and exercise thyself rather unto godliness." Fables come in strange costumes. We need to know what is true and avoid what is false to score on the test for eternity. We do not want to fail!

"For bodily exercise profiteth little: but godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come." The cross is path to glory. **Might I thus as Thee,** goes beautiful footsteps in Zion's Harp. We live with Him; He dieth no more. Exercise as He said, if thou wouldest grow strong.

We dream of Home, set our affection there. We should note and do what God points to.

"This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptation." What heights are underscored for us!

#### FT. SAM HOUSTON, TEXAS Pete Baltic

Once again, our group became smaller. Bro. Phil Stettner, Bluffton, and friends Perry Isch, Bluffton, and Duane Witzig, Gridley, were sent to their permanent duty stations. Bro. Phil and Perry have been sent to Yuma, Arizona. Duane was sent to Walter Reed Hospital, Washington, D.C. We pray God would guide and protect them in their new assignments.

During this past Christmas season, most of the brethren and friends here went home to spend Christmas with loved ones. Yet, we often think of those, in the service, who were unable to spend the joyous birthday of our loving Saviour at home. We know God can lighten any burden. An example of His love was the birth of His Son, Jesus, "for he shall save his people from their sins."

#### UNION CITY, NEW JERSEY August Mueller

We poor mortals can not even tell what will be tomorrow. We are here by the grace of God. He put us on this world, and we know not

What view comes with His verse pointing. We little dreamt how much He meant!

"For therefore we both labour and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living God, who is the Saviour of all men, specially of those that believe." He not only knows what's going on; He has command of the situation. We need His view. Too quickly, we give up on this one or that one. How do we know? All about us, let love beam to all, at every opportunity.

"These things command and teach." Success or failure do not come from unknown reasons.

"Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity." Youth! If others do not follow, do thyself as an example. Do those things that will cause the older to take notice, and follow. If we become vain, we forget—knowledge puffs up Charity builds. There are glorious scenes for love!

"Till I come, give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine." Leave nothing out. Do repeatedly, promptly, thoroughly. Success will show it.

how long we have to stay. We are strangers and pilgrims. This life is not ours to keep; it is lent to us. We hope and pray that when we come to the end of this life, we then inherit the life everlasting, which is promised to all those that stay true and faithful till the end. It is neither the beginning nor the middle that counts; if the end is well, all is well.

Friend Richard J. Diggelman was called into service.

We are very fortunate. Our Heavenly Father does not take long journeys nor does He sleep nor does He tell us, Come some other time; I am busy, when we come to talk to Him. Yes, we know He is busy. He is the Father of a large family; he has many children. They have to be taken care of; they have to be corrected, admonished, chastized, even punished, because he wants his children near Him. He is concerned about his children's welfare.

He takes care of everything. He selects watchmen to watch over his children and to keep them on the straight and narrow way. They have a great responsibility. He sent

"Neglect not the gift that is in thee, which was given thee by prophecy, with the laying on of the hands of the presbytery." Timothy was so nice a young brother, so obedient. Yet, Paul pointed out what might happen. We cannot take things for granted!

"Meditate upon these things; give thyself wholly to them; that thy profiting may appear to all." There is a way of approach, a way of sowing that brings reaping. If we don't want to be clumsy, and make a lot of mistakes, then we should do a lot of listening. It's clear to one who understands.

"Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee." His is a wonderful checking account. He who banks in His word finds riches uncountable!

To wish health, prosperity and the strength from our Saviour, to all in Christian faith, is our most fervent love to those in His service.

Bro. Phil and Sis. Fern Wingeier

His holy word, which is proclaimed by these watchmen. It is food and drink for our inner man. We, as his children, have our obligations to fulfill. We have to obey his word. We have to love one another. We have to be a light in this dark world and time.

God be with you, Richard, and bless you, but not alone you, but all the young men that are in the

#### THE SILVER LINING

Grabill, Indiana 46741

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Published Monthly By the Apostolic Christian Church of America

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

Second class postage paid at Grabill, Indiana.

service, be they members or friends.

Sunday, the 20th. Today, the Sunday School children said their pieces and received their Christmas gifts with smiling faces. We sang a number of Christmas carols. God so loved the world that He sent His only begotten Son into the world. Whoever believes in Him shall not die, but shall have everlasting life.

The soldier boys, Richard Diggliman and William Orth, are home over the holidays. We are glad to have them. Jesus, the Son of God, was born in Bethlehem, the city of David. The shepherds found Him in the manger. How many people realize what God had done for mankind? Very few, compared to the millions of people on this earth. He knew everything that would happen to Him, ere He came upon this world. Out of pure love to mankind did He come to save us from eternal death and destruction. The peace that He brought can be had without money, for the asking.

My sister, Sis. Emma Mueller, was taken to St. Mary's Hospital, Hoboken, in a helpless condition. We are awaiting the outcome. She will be 82 next month.

Another year has vanished and will never return. Many family circles were broken, but this year, the same will happen. It could be me or it could be you. We can not recall the year which is behind us to correct the mistakes we have made. We can not sow upon the same field we sowed upon last year. We have a new field. When the field is ready for the harvest, then the good seed will be separated from the bad.

We all have many reasons to join in with the poet who wrote the beautiful hymn. Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices Who wondrous things has done, in whom the world rejoices, Who from our mother's arms Has blessed us on our way With countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

We do not know what this new year has in store, but if we stay close to Him, He will stay close to us and will grant grace and strength that we can work for Him and be an honor and a praise unto Him. May now the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the peace and love of God, the fellowship of His Holy Spirit Abide with us all, Yea with us all. Amen.

## MILFORD, INDIANA

Paul Haab

Our annual Christmas Sunday School Program was well attended. We were reminded anew of the wonderful story of love—God giving his only begotten Son, setting the example for us to follow, that we might work out our soul's salvation.

Three more of our friends were announced for proving, as they have testified that they have the peace of God in their hearts and feel their sins forgiven. They are Joe, Virginia and Cynthia Beer, all children of Bro. Levi and Sis. Kathryn Beer. There are plans to hear the testimonies of our eight friends in the near future.

On December 27, Bro. Vernon Leman of the Eureka congregation was our guest minister. We are thankful for his message and invite him to return often.

Our friend, Connie Hartter, was united in marriage to Joe Jessop of Milford, on January 2. She is the daughter of Bro. Elmer and Sis. Flossie Hartter. We wish them God's blessings in their future together.

Our congregation is saddened to have Bro. Victor, Sis. Dorothy Beer and family leave this vicinity and make their home in LaBelle, Florida. We will miss them very much, but we know our Heavenly Father is an all-knowing God, dwelling in the hearts of Christians wherever they may reside.

## PEORIA, ILLINOIS

Emily Tanner

Mrs. Michael Weyeneth

We're very thankful to have Bro. Roy Sauder as our elder in Peoria. He was ordained January 3. Bros. Noah Schrock and Silas Leuthold were here the entire day and Bro. Joe A. Getz came at noon. It was indeed a blessed day. In the evening, they shared with us the conclusions of the recent conference held in Tremont.

Bro. Ed Hohulin was the guest teacher at the bi-weekly Bible Class meeting December 8.

Bro. Henry Sabo had the Wednesday evening services December 9. He reminded us to take our burdens to the Lord in prayer, and He will give His help and grace to bear them.

On Christmas Day, Bro. Cleo Rinckenberger ministered to us.

We appreciate and thank God

that these brothers are willing to lend themselves to proclaiming His Holy Word.

Our friends, Ron Kellenberger and Louise Hoerr, have found grace to repent and hope to be proved and baptized in the near future. We're thankful that souls are still heeding the kind invitation.

Sis. Marie Schmidgall and Bro. Joe B. Belsley were united in marriage December 20, Bro. Roy Sauder officiating.

The marriage engagement of Sis. Carol Hoerr and Bro. Roland Scholl was announced December 27. Carol is the daughter of Bro. Pete and Sis. Katherine Hoerr. Roland is the son of Sis. Mary Scholl.

Sis. Emma Hartman fell and broke her hip. She is in the St. Francis Hospital.

Sis. Emma Woerner is in the hospital.

Bro. Theodore Schlatter has been a patient for the past two months at the hospital in Dwight.

Bro. Bernard Ziegenhorn had surgery and is in the St. Francis Hospital.

Bro. Carl Rapp died suddenly December 18. Surviving are his wife, Sis. Emma; their son, Carl A. and daughter, Mrs. Eugene (Helen) Zimmerman. Bro. Roy Sauder had the funeral services.

Mrs. Anna Phipps died December 23. She was hospitalized about three months. Her mother, Sis. Mary Schipf; one sister and three brothers survive. In her sickness, she found peace with her Maker and derived much comfort in her favorite passage, the 23rd psalm.

David Weyeneth died January 1. He is a brother to Bro. Michael Weyeneth, Sis. Elizabeth Broquard and Sis. Mary Reiman.

We miss Bro. Michael and Sis. Emma Weyeneth. They have been in Florida since the first part of December.

The Sunday School classes held their annual Christmas program December 20. It was a blessed evening. We could feel the love for Jesus the children displayed in their songs and verses.

## PRINCEVILLE, ILLINOIS

Ruth Ricketts

Another year is dawning,  
Dear Master, let it be,  
In working or in waiting,  
Another year with Thee.

Another year is dawning,  
Dear Master let it be,  
On earth, or else in heaven,  
Another year for Thee.

1964 is gone—never to return again. What will the coming year bring? We need not worry, for we are told to take no thought of tomorrow—only place your trust in God, and He will abundantly supply all our needs. Did we fall short in doing all we resolved to do in 1964? We cannot see what lies ahead, but we can pray that we will have courage and faith in God to face whatever may come. Let us pray that we can each do our bit to help the poor, the sick, the weary of heart, and those who grieve. Let us pray for strength to overcome our own weakness and for courage to make amends to those whom we may have hurt. Let us resolve to do all we can for others, for the only thing we can take with us is what we have given.

It seems our churches have suffered great loss the past year, with the passing of several of our faithful shepherds and ministers, which causes concern for those who are left to carry on the duties of preserving the true faith. Bros. Henry Koehl, William Stettner, David Mangold and Otto Ramseyer were faithful shepherds for a number of years. We shall not forget what they have done for us. Bros. Otto Norr and Menno Steiner were faithful ministers of the precious word. We deeply miss them all, yet rejoice that they have earned their just reward and come to Rest.

We had a number of changes in our congregation in the past year. In July, about thirty five families began to assemble in the new church at Bradford. This made a big difference. Four dear friends, a brother and a precious infant were called out of this life by the death angel. Thirteen babies were born, seven girls and six boys. Eight dear souls were added to the fold. Seven couples were united in marriage. Five young men left home to enter service, and one returned home after serving his time.

After a brave fight, our friend, Ann Hager, closed her eyes in death on December 6, having been ill only a few months. Bro. Joe Waibel of Bay City assisted Bro. Silas Leuthold with funeral services, held December 9 here in Princeville. She will be greatly missed by her hus-

band, John, her children and all those who knew her. May they find comfort in praying to the dear Lord and Saviour.

A precious evening was spent December 12, when six of our young friends gave their testimonies of their new-found faith. I feel sure that all those present received many blessings and could learn from the sincerity of these dear souls. One stated that they would be willing to admonish, because of the love for each other. (One of the elders mentioned how their burdens would be lifted if all had this true love.) When the last one was called, he was asked if it seemed a long time, whereupon he replied, "I wasn't alone; God was with me." Bros. LeRoy Huber of Eureka & Herman Kellenberger of Elgin were here to help Bro. Silas with the provings of Nancy Kieser, Mary Knobloch, Rose and Teresa Streitmatter, John Guingrich and Larry Endress. Baptisms were in Bradford on Sunday.

Our friends, Joyce and Kenneth Knobloch of Lester, have repented and were announced for proving when the way is open. Joyce lived in Princeville until her marriage last summer. We wish them God's grace and help to stay upright and firm.

Larry Eberle, who is stationed in the army at Ft. Carson, Colorado, spent a week with his parents, Bro. William and Sis. Marie, and family. Bro. Dale Martin was home a short time over the Christmas holidays with his parents, the Sam Martins, and family. He is stationed at Ft. Benning, Georgia. These visits with home folks, even though short, help to pass the time for those who must give of their time.

Alan Robert is the name given to the son of Bro. Eddie and Frances Knobloch, born December 6. He has a little sister, Teresa Kay. Bro. Jeff and Sis. Ruth Streitmatter had a son, Jeff III, born December 8. He has two sisters, Gloria and Katrine.

We have a few shut-ins and must often think of them and remember them in prayer. Sis. Lillian Stahl is still confined to her home, following an auto accident in September. Sis. Lydia Seidel has not been well; she has been suffering from a heart condition which keeps her at home. Bro. Ezra and Sis. Lena Rumbold spent some time at the arthritis clinic at Ottawa and found some relief. Sis. Lena, however, is con-

fined to her home with a heart condition, but is improving, with rest. Sis. Mary Begner has not been able to worship with us for some time, and spends some lonely hours alone. Sis. Louise Greiner is presently with her son Bill and family, in Sparland, Illinois. Sis. Sally Streitmatter, who has been ailing, is with her sister, Mary Meister, in Fairbury. I'm sure a card or a visit would be most welcome to any or all.

"For unto you is born this day a Saviour, Christ the Lord. This is the message that we bring you. From God's own precious word." These were some of the words spoken by one of our little folks December 20, when the Sunday School presented the annual Christmas program. The children all did very well in reciting their verses about Jesus being born in a manger, the star of Bethlehem, the wise men who brought their gifts, etc.; and the songs, too, were beautiful. We feel the Lord was pleased that the honor could be given Him, so simply and true.

We were happy to see the assembly room so full Christmas morning, when we heard the old, old Christmas story; then again New Year's Eve, when we had special services. It pleases us when friends find it worthwhile to come to worship with us. We feel they will never be sorry. A fitting text for New Year's Eve was the Sermon on the Mount, explained so sincerely. We hope all will strive a little harder to abide by the teachings.

Ralph Endress arrived home December 30, after spending several months in Denmark, working on a farm. The past few weeks, he and his friend did some traveling in other parts of Europe. Ralph has many interesting tales to relate to his parents, Bro. Levi and Sis. Mildred, who like us all, are thankful that the dear Lord led him safely home.

We were richly blest the first day of the new year with a most welcome rainfall.

#### REMINGTON, INDIANA

##### Anna M. Waibel

Sis. Mary Bahler has been in the hospital for surgery.

Bro. Edwin Bahler and family were on vacation in Alabama and Florida over the holidays.

Some of the Clauss relatives at-

tended the funeral of Bertha Wuetrich, at Eureka.

There was a good attendance at the Christmas program. It was pleasing so many of all ages went caroling, in spite of the cold weather. We trust each one was blessed for taking part. May the Christmas season be a blessing and inspiration to all.

#### WEST BEND, IOWA

##### Anna Schmidt Marilyn Schneider

On Dec. 18, a reception was held at Bro. and Sis. Eli Grimms' home for Mr. and Mrs. Eli Grimm Jr. Mrs. Grimm is the daughter of Bro. and Sis. Alvia Meyer from Lester.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Thomann observed their 60th wedding anniversary quietly, at their home on Dec. 29. Joe has been in poor health for quite some time.

Several groups went Christmas caroling to quite a number of folks and shut-ins. We had our Christmas Sunday School program on Dec. 20. It was truly a blessing to hear the children recite their pieces about Jesus' birth and to hear the songs by the Sunday School classes, to the honor and praise of the Lord. It was enjoyed by all. We also want to thank our Sunday School teachers for their efforts.

Several of the younger children have been having the mumps the past few weeks.

Bro. Ed Zaugg fell and injured his leg and has to use crutches.

Sis. Katie Alt has been afflicted with arthritis. It is hard for her to get around. She has not been able to attend church for a few weeks. We hope she will soon be able to assemble with us.

Funeral services were held on December 29 for Sis. Lydia Benninger, age 79. She was born at Gridley, Ill., to Henry and Carolyn Eggli. She was united in marriage at Peoria to John C. Benninger. She is survived by her husband, John; seven children; and one brother, Bro. Aaron Eggli of Salt Lake City, Utah.

#### WOLCOTT, INDIANA

##### Arles Kropf

Diane Lehman, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Irvin Lehman, and Kenneth Hopkins were united in marriage by her father on Sat., Dec. 12, at home. May God richly bless them in their life together.

The engagement of Jane Hitz, daughter of the Clyde Hitzs, and

Larry Nuest, son of Bro. and Sis. Lester Nuest of La Crosse has been made known. They are planning a spring wedding.

Our Sunday School children presented their Christmas program on Wed. evening, Dec. 23.

Several groups went caroling during the holidays, bringing cheer to the shut-ins and older folks.

The Sunday School children of the Nursery and primary classes gathered on the Saturday afternoon before Christmas and made scrapbooks and sunshine boxes for two little girls who are sick.

Bro. Elmer Stoller submitted to emergency surgery recently, but is recovering at his home.

New Sunday School teachers elected this year are Bro. Richard Stoller as superintendent; Bro. Kenneth Furrer, Bible Class teacher; Bro. Glenn Blume, Intermediate Class; Sis. Gladys Widmer, grade 1; Sis. Norma Blume, 4-year-olds; and Sis. Viola Stoller, Nursery class. They replaced the ones whose 2-year terms have expired, Bro. Leon Waibel, Bro. Ted Hofstetter, Sis. Reva Waibel, Sis. Arles Kropf, and Sis. Dorothy Lehman. Bro. Vernon Furrer is the new trustee and treasurer.

New Year's services were held here on Friday morning, with the Remington folks gathering with us.

#### ALTO, MICHIGAN

##### Myrna and Loretta Steffen

With help and grace from our Lord, our congregation is busily making plans for a new church. With Him in our midst, we sincerely hope the harmony and love will continue, that we may all work together to His praise.

Our mid-week services will be discontinued during the winter months. Every other Sunday evening, we will have singing instead.

The Sunday before Christmas, our Sunday School classes sang of Christ's birth, their sweet, young voices ascending to the heavenly throne. Afterward, the brothers and young fellows served lunch. This is somewhat a Christmas tradition here at Alto.

Ever and again we thank God for His precious gift of health. Often, we fail to recognize it until we lose it.

Mrs. Wayne (Lydia) Miller has recuperated from her operation, and is with us in our assembly again.

Bro. Phil and Sis. Fern left, to spend the rest of the winter in Sarasota. We wish them a safe trip, and pray that the Lord will be with them.

#### MORTON, ILLINOIS

##### Mrs. Solomon Rapp

##### Mrs. B. E. Getz

The Sunday School Christmas Program was held Dec. 20, with a large attendance. It is always so inspiring to hear the small children tell of the birth of Christ and of his wonderful love. We are indeed fortunate to have teachers who are concerned over the youth. May God bless and encourage them.

God continues to give grace for repentance to those who seek him. On Dec. 27, two more dear souls, Ted Staker—son of Sam and Clara, and Roger Musselman—son of Howard and Sis. Irene, gave their testimony of repentance and were baptized. We hope that many more will be awakened to the love that our Saviour is so ready to give to every soul that longs for him as a Redeemer.

The past month we had two ministering brothers who visited us, Bro. Noah Schrock of Burlington and Bro. Ed Hohulin of Goodfield. We were richly blessed with many good teachings.

A son, Kenneth Ray, was born to Sis. Wilma and Bro. Richard Teubel on Dec. 26.

Sis. Nettie Kaiser is a patient in the Methodist Hospital, where she had major surgery. We wish her God's blessings and a speedy recovery.

Dear Bro. Jacob Zobrist, 67, was called to rest Dec. 22, at the Rest Mor Home, where he had been a patient over a year. He had been an invalid since Sept. 14, 1953, when he suffered a spinal injury in a car accident, and became paralyzed over most of his body. He suffered pain for many years. All these years he spent at home in his bed and a wheel chair. His dear wife, Sis. Emma, cared for him day and night and was faithful till to his end. He leaves his wife, Sis. Emma; a niece reared in his home, Mrs. Paul (Fern) Grieder of Congerville; one sister, Mrs. Harley Smith; two brothers, Noah and John. Funeral services were held on Dec. 24, with Bro. J. A. Getz officiating.

A dear friend, Harold Fite, 58, passed away at the Methodist Hospital Dec. 30 of a heart attack. He

had been a patient there for a few weeks. He leaves to mourn his loss, his dear wife, Sis. Edna Hirstein Fite; a son, Bro. Gary; a daughter, Sis. Patrica; two grandchildren; four brothers and one sister.

Funeral services were held Jan. 2, with Bro. J. A. Getz and Bro. Leroy Hartman, Peoria officiating.

### BLUFFTON, INDIANA

**Carolyn Gerber Delutha Moser**

II Timothy 3:15: "And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus."

On December 12 and 13, Bros. John Bahler & Joe Getz were present for the provings and baptisms of twelve friends. The friends added to the precious fold were: Emanuel Gerber, Lynn Aeschliman, Carol Ringger, Judy Steffen, Imogene Steffen, Janice Gerber, Mr. and Mrs. Ken Kipfer, Janice Maller, Mr. and Mrs. Rudy Frauhiger and Jane Kaehr.

On January 2 and 3, provings and baptisms were held for the following thirteen friends: Terry Steffen, Mr. and Mrs. Dale Gerber, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Kipfer, Kent Ringger, Phillip Moser, Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Gerber, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Neuenschwander Jr. and Mr. and Mrs. Ted Fiechter. Elders Theo Beer and George Sinn assisted Elder Sam Aeschliman in this work.

The following friends have been granted peace and are waiting to bring their testimonies before the congregation: Mr. and Mrs. Linus Gerber, Mr. and Mrs. Gene Baumgartner, Mr. and Mrs. David Booker and Tim Ringger, son of Bro. and Sis. Raymond Ringger.

On December 20, Bro. Al Fisher from Chicago was our visiting minister. In the evening, he delivered the Christmas message to 357 Sunday School scholars, who participated in the program.

Our shut-ins: Sis. Ida (Robert) Aschliman, Sis. Roberta (Kenneth) Steffen, Bros. Wm Fiechter, Reuben Gerber, Obed Steffen, and Ervin Gerber.

Engagements: The engagement of friends Peggy Schaeffer, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Oscar Schaeffer, to Herb Heyerly, son of Bro. and Sis. Lester Heyerly, and the engagement of friends Carolyn Schlatter, daughter of Joe Schlatters of Latty, to Tom Heyerly, son of

Bro. and Sis. Clifford Heyerly, have been made known.

Births: December 27, a girl, Tanya Sue, to friends Charles and Linda Isch, and January 2, a girl, Mary Elizabeth to Bro. and Sis. Leroy Steffen.

On December 20, funeral services were held for baby Mark Kipfer, son of friends Ted and Theresa Kipfer. His death was due to a heart ailment. Bro. Sam Aeschliman officiated at the services.

### A Baby's Secret

I'm just a little feller  
Who didn't quite make it there;  
I went straight to be with Jesus,  
But I'm waiting for you here.

Many dwelling here where I live  
Waited years to enter in,  
Struggled through a world of  
sorrow  
With their lives **once** marred with  
sin.

So sweet Mommy, don't you  
sorrow,  
Wipe those tears and chase the  
gloom,  
I went straight to Jesus' bosom  
From my lovely mother's womb.

Thank you for the life you gave  
me;  
It was brief, but don't complain.  
I have all of heaven's glory,  
Suffered none of earthlings' pain.

I'll be waiting for you, Mommy—  
You and Daddy.  
I'll be with you then for ever—  
Then I'll give you Daddy's kiss.  
JCB

### BURLINGTON, OKLAHOMA

**LaVerne Roth Kathryn Miller**

The beauty of **Why We Really Remember Christmas** penetrated through our busy, scurrying, whirling activities. Some time was spent singing praises to God and His Son, Jesus Christ, in a Christmas program presented by the entire Sunday School. Members of different classes joined in carol singing to shut-ins and some of the elderly of this congregation.

The first Sunday in the New Year of 1965, this congregation remained assembled, to hear yearly reports and carry out business matters as deemed necessary. The meeting was harmonious, dignified in parliamentary order, and love among the members was of sig-

nificance.

At this writing, Mrs. (Sister) Isaac Diel is acutely ill in an Enid Oklahoma Hospital.

Bro. John Schuppach has been quite ill, but he has remained in his home, being cared for by his daughters. Several of them are registered nurses. He is improved.

### EUREKA, ILLINOIS

**Cathryn Wettstein  
Salome Walter**

Last month, mention was made that Bruce Fisher, son of Eli and Helen (Schumacher) Fisher, passed away. His funeral was Dec. 10, with Bros. Leroy Huber and Joe Zimmerman in charge. He is also survived by a sister.

Sis. Bertha Wuetrich, age 76, passed away December 20, at Eureka Hospital, being a patient there 16 days. Her funeral was December 22, with Bro. Leroy Huber and Bro. Geo. Gramm from Gridley in charge. She is survived by three sons and three daughters. She was a sister to Bro. Joe Klopfenstein of Gridley.

Our guest ministers the past month were—Bros. David Bertsch from Leo, John Wagler from Athens, Robert Heuni from Bremen, Joshua Broquard from Fairbury. We always appreciate visitors. May God bless them for speaking God's word in its truth.

Dec. 23, the Sunday School classes presented their Christmas program. Verses from St. Luke, chapter 2, were read between songs of Christmas sung by each class. It is so good to hear all the children sing their praises to God, in respect to His only begotten Son, Jesus . . . in memory of His birth.

January 2, Bro. Leroy and Bro. Joshua Broquard conducted the proving of Jane Stoller and Diana Belsley, and Sharon Blunier from the Roanoke congregation. The next day, they were baptized and added to our church as sisters in faith.

New Years evening services were held, with Bro. Leroy Huber giving the sermon. May the new year be another year of blessing from our God.

A brief summary of a few things from 1964 — There were 14 new babies, 8 deaths, 3 souls added to our church, and 9 who have repented (2 of these were taken up last Sunday).

Another friend is repenting. He

is Jay Johnson, the son of Mrs. Don Littlejon.

The dearest path  
That ever was trod,  
Was to the church  
To worship God.

I'd want to be called  
His very own child.  
I'd want to be made  
So meek and mild.

I'd want to be free  
From all my sin,  
And I'd hope that Jesus  
Would let me in.

I'd want to share with Him  
Heavenly things,  
And to my heart  
I'd hope He clings.

I hope that I wouldn't  
Be too late  
To enter that  
Beautiful Golden Gate.

Written by Jane Anliker—Bro. Walter's daughter.

**LATTY, OHIO**  
**Mrs. Gale Stoller**  
**Mrs. Ray Sinn**

All trees, shrubs and fences were covered with a coat of ice and plenty of snow, so beautiful and white.

We were privileged to hear the memorandum read to us by our elder brother, George Sinn. May we all find the grace to be a righteous judge of ourselves.

Bro. Jesse Kupferschmidt was in the hospital, but was dismissed and is able to assemble with us.

Bro. Otto Schlatter, who had been in the hospital for quite some time, is home now and much improved. We are thankful the good Lord saw fit to lend his healing power, and are looking forward to the time when Bro. Otto can assemble with us in church.

In the hospital this month were Sally Jo Stoller, daughter of Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Esther, and Lamar Stoller, son of Bro. Wayne and Sis. Dorothy. He had toe surgery. He is much better and able to come to Sunday School again.

"And therefore will the LORD wait, that he may be gracious unto you . . . blessed are all they that wait for him." (Isaiah 30:18) Diana Dull, who is repenting, wants to be with those who are waiting for Him . . . Makes us all wonder how long the Lord will wait for

those who are yet outside the fold?

Our Sunday School children recently presented a Christmas program, which we all enjoyed. May the poems and songs leave a lasting impression on their little minds that will some day lead to their soul's salvation.

Bros. Jesse Schrock and Ben Zimmerman from Congerville Bros. Fred Grimm from Taylor and Joe Waibel from Bay City were our visiting ministers recently. May God bless them for their effort, as we were richly blessed by their sermons.

The engagement of Carolyn Schlatter to Tom Heyerly from Bluffton has been made known. Carolyn is the daughter of Bro. Joe and Sis. Elsie.

We assembled together on New Year's Day for a short worship service and also our election. Those elected for Sunday School were Bro. Russell Stoller, Sis. Bertha Sinn and Sis. Melvane Stoller. Bro. Roy Stoller was elected trustee and Bros. Emil Stoller, Willis Stoller and William Eisenman were elected to help appraise any loss covered by the Brotherhood Aid. Bro. Willis Stoller and Sis. Helen Stoller completed their six years in Sunday School as teachers. We know that much time and effort, as well as prayer, was spent in this service. May God be their rewarder.

Oh, let us rejoice in the Lord  
evermore,  
When darts of the tempter are  
flying,

For Satan still dreads, as he oft did  
of yore,  
Our singing much more than our  
sighing.

**SARASOTA, FLORIDA**  
**Velta Laukhuf**

During the holiday season, the Sarasota group held services on December 27, with our visiting minister Bro. Edwin Bahler from Remington.

Bro. Dean Laukhuf, who is attending Indiana University, spent the holidays with his parents, Bro. and Sis. Richard Laukhuf. On Dec. 30, Bro. Philip Wingeier and Sis. Fern arrived. They are staying at the same place as last year, Bahia Court, 1206 South Tamiami Tr., Room 16. We are thankful to God for their safe arrival. Bro. Phil extends a hearty welcome to all, especially visiting ministers, to par-

take in our church service.

On Sunday, January 3, we were happy to have the following service boys with us from Ft. Benning, Georgia: Bro. Charles Sauder, Bro. Dale Martin, Bro. Duane Gerber and George Meyer.

Our services are held at 1 p.m. at the Womens' Club Bldg., at the corner of Park and Palm Avenue.

**TAYLOR, MISSOURI**  
**Mrs. Eli Sutter**  
**Mrs. Bill Heimer**

Bro. Marvin Weigand was appointed treasurer of the World Relief Fund.

The Sunday School pupils were asked how they would like to use the money from their monthly contributions. They decided to divide it between Japan, Alabama, Care and the American Bible Society. They are generous in giving and always anxious to share with the needy ones wherever they are, here in our country or in foreign lands.

We were glad to have Bro. Noah Schrock come on Wednesday evening, to help Bro. Fred Grimm read and meditate on the memorandum from the conference.

We have had many sick the past month with the flu and bad colds; it had become almost an epidemic.

We enjoyed having all home for the holidays who are attending colleges.

**WINTHROP, MINNESOTA**  
**Linda and Melva Messner**

Again, a new year is upon us and another year to resolve to live closer to the Lord. Let us not think how we will strive to garner in for our material wealth, but much more how we can attain spiritual wealth. God's word contains the many love letters to the Christian. May God give us the wisdom to seek and search his word for the riches contained therein for the hungry soul. The living word is so full of promises it should cause faith, which bringeth forth the fruits of the spirit, of which love is the greatest. May we all have a blessed new year in the Lord.

Duane Messner, son of Bro. George and Sis. Esther Messner, was married to Mona Kintzi on Dec. 13. We wish them a happy married life.

Friend Walter Messner is recuperating nicely from last month's surgery. He was able to assemble with us this past Sunday.

Bro. Levi Messner was suddenly taken from our midst on Monday Dec. 8, after suffering a heart attack. We were deeply saddened and will greatly miss him. Our loss will be his gain. "For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of water: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes." Revelation 7:17

Surviving are 8 sons, Bro. Harold, Bro. Michael, Bro. Raymond, Bro. Don, Harvey, Melvin, Marvin and Gerald; and three daughters, Sis. Hazel Schmidt, Idabell Witt and Shirley Stresemann. His wife, Sis. Mae, preceded him in death in 1958.

Beyond the sunset,  
O blissful morning,  
When with our Saviour heav'n is  
begun.  
Earth's toiling ended, O glorious  
dawning;  
Beyond the sunset, when day is  
done . . .  
Beyond the sunset, O glad reunion  
With our dear loved ones who've  
gone before;  
In fair homeland we'll know no  
parting,  
Beyond the sunset for evermore.

#### CROGHAN-NAUMBURG, N. Y.

Mrs. Lawrence Farney  
Mrs. David Schamback

Our congregations have been saddened by the deaths of two of our members, one from each church. On December 31, our aged brother, George Hoppel, went to his reward after a short illness. Although he was eighty-one, he was active and a regular attendant at church. He is survived by his wife, Sis. Deborah Bachman Hoppel, two nieces and a nephew. Funeral services were held at the Naumburg church, with Bro. Robert Beyer officiating.

On New Year's Day, Sis. Luella, wife of Elder Brother John Widrick, departed this life after a long illness, two months of which she was seriously ill. She was born April 2, 1902, the only daughter of Bro. Jacob and Sis. Catherine Virkler Steiner. Beside Bro. John, she is survived by four sons, Boyce, Gilbert, Robert and Virgil, all of Croghan; three daughters, Mrs. Urban (Evelyn) Farney of Croghan, Mrs. Jack (Rita) Ebersol, Rochester, N.Y., and Mrs. Peter (Betty) Nortz, of Lowville; one

brother, Elmer Steiner, Carthage; and twenty-one grandchildren. Funeral services were held at the Croghan church, with Bro. Noah Bauman of Rittman officiating, assisted by Bro. Henry Sabo of Mansfield and Bro. Ben Hartzler also of Rittman. Their ministrations were greatly appreciated, at this time of sorrow in the loss of our dear sister. Also attending from away were Bro. Ernest Luginbuhl and Bro. Ernest Gerber from Rockville. We were sorry to learn Bro. John Bahler is ill at this time.

We have had many illnesses in our congregations during the last month. Hospitalized have been Sis. Sarah (Mrs. Hiram) Farney; Bro. Earl Rohr; David, son of Bro. and Sis. Clayton Virkler; and Linette, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Lowell Virkler. Bro. and Sis. Amos Virkler, Bro. and Sis. Jerome Farney, Sis. Esther Wallace, and Sis. Norah Farney have been confined to their homes for some time.

#### NEW MARTINSVILLE, W. VA.

Mrs. Gus Weltz

Mr. Dan Witschey enjoyed and celebrated his ninetieth birthday, on December 31, with the members of his immediate family. With a dinner at noon and all of his children except one son being present, that day was well spent. He received many gifts, cards and well wishes from his host of friends, and wishes to thank all for remembering him so kindly.

Mrs. E. B. Frumm of Jeanette, Pa., is recovering from a recent illness and is at home again, after spending several days in a hospital there.

Mr. and Mrs. John Partlow and children of Monroeville, Pa., were holiday guests of her mother, Mrs. J. G. Burgess.

Mr. and Mrs. E. E. McIntire enjoyed their fiftieth wedding anniversary on Christmas Day, with their family and many friends calling on them.

Kenneth Witschey and son, Gordon, were both patients in the local hospital in early January. The father underwent surgery on December 29 and the son on January 4.

The annual meeting of the Apostolic Christian Church Cemetery Association was held on January 4 in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Berger in Rolling Acres. Officers were elected and plans for the year

outlined, with a homecoming as in the past two years planned for early summer and perhaps another later in the fall. Delbert Indermuhle of the Monroe Church was present, and a very enthusiastic meeting was held. A tape recording of the sermon given by Minister Ben Maibach of Detroit on his visit here last June was run, and was very well received and enjoyed by all present.

We are having very lovely winter weather, cold enough for winter, yet not the severe cold as sometimes hits us at this season of the year.

The holidays are over, and we look forward to spring, when new life springs forth again in the great outdoors. This to us is great assurance that we shall live again and all things shall be made new.

#### AKRON, OHIO

Grace Schuckert—Alice Graf

Announcement of the engagement of Sis. Margaret Dockus to Bro. Paul Gangel was made Dec. 20. Feb. 11 has been set for the wedding.

Fred and Eva Grawunder have moved into their new home at 2930 Wilbanks Dr. Barberton, Ohio 44203.

Mark Graf, son of Leon and Janet Graf, has a broken collar bone, but is in very good spirits while recovering.

Sis. Anna Rupp passed away Dec. 31. She was 85 years old and the last of her family. She had cared for many sick and afflicted in the Akron area during her long, active life.

Amy Ritzman has a new brother, Jeffrey Earl. Amy and Jeffrey are the children of Earl and Diane Ritzman and the grandchildren of Forrest and Marie.

Sis. Marie Dakovich is in Akron City Hospital, receiving treatment for her legs.

The Sunday evening before Christmas, the Sunday School classes and many others met at the church for carol singing and refreshments. The two groups of youngest children sang for the assembly.

Sis. Becky Coombs was home for Christmas vacation and so was with us for services once again.

Two of our mid-week services this month were special blessings. We had many visitors, when Dec. 22 Bro. Joe Klotzle of California,

and then Dec. 31 Elder Brother Theo Beer of Milford, spoke.

### BERN, KANSAS

Mrs. Morris Edelman

Mrs. Leonard Baumgartner

Many from our church enjoyed the blessings of caroling, during the Christmas season. First, a group of members visited the elderly in Sabetha and Oneida. The two intermediate Sunday School classes visited the Apostolic Christian Home and caroled for the residents. The Bible Class caroled in Sabetha and Bern and met afterwards at Supt. Harlan Stoller's home for refreshments and fellowship. We congregated at Sabetha for services on Christmas morning, to remember our Lord's birth.

Sis. Marie Leuthold spent two weeks in a hospital in Topeka. Sam Hanni underwent major surgery and spent two weeks in the hospital. We are glad they are both home and feeling better. Bro. Emil Strahm slipped on ice and suffered a sprained arm. Bro. Joe and Sis. Lila Rokey, Sis. Janette Strahm and Allen Rokey were confined to their homes with the mumps. Many of the children in our community have had mumps.

Bro. Noah Edelman was elected as treasurer in our church of the World Relief Fund. Bro. Eldon Plattner was appointed assistant custodian, and Bro. Harvey Grimm is our new Deacon. Bro. Louis Meyer is our song leader, and Bros. Joe Marti and Vernon Esslinger take care of the loudspeaker system.

On Dec. 28, Angela Sue was born to Bro. Eldon and Sis. Waneta Plattner. Her grandparents are Bro. and Sis. Dan Sinn of Ft. Scott and Bro. and Sis. John Plattner. This is the first grandchild for both grandparents. Sis. Dorothy Sinn is helping care for her new granddaughter for two weeks.

On New Year's Eve, a group of us surprised Alice and Harlan Wittmer on their 25th wedding anniversary. The evening was spent singing hymns, and refreshments were served.

We began the year of 1965 by attending church in the morning. Bro. Joe Aberle of Sabetha brought us the message.

On Jan. 3, we were very happy to have Bro. Al Langhofer as a visiting minister. He stressed how communism is taking over the

world. It is good for us to realize this and do our little part for good. On this same day, John Lehmann, son of Bro. and Sis. Edward Lehmann, brought his testimony before us. Our entire congregation was inspired. We were thankful to accept him into the fold of the Lord.

Our singing hours are now discontinued, and midweek services have started. We invite anyone to meet with us on Wednesday evenings at 7:30.

### BRADFORD, ILLINOIS

Mrs. Martha Kieser

Elder Bros. Leroy Huber and Herman Kellenberger assisted our elder, Bro. Silas Leuthold, with the proving of six friends. Mary Knobloch, Nancy Kieser, Rose and Teresa Streitmatter, Larry Endress and John Guingrich were proved on Saturday evening in Princeville. They were baptized on Sunday, in Bradford, with the same brothers helping with this work. Bros. Art Gudeman and Ben Fehr were also here for the day. It was truly a day of blessing and rejoicing.

In the evening, short services were held, after which we chose a minister. After voting, lots were cast. It is the lot of Bro. Roy Ehnle to help in this important work. It is our sincere prayer, that God may bless him with abundant grace, that he may carry out his duties.

Our Christmas program was well attended and very much enjoyed by all those that were present. It humbles us to see and hear our little children speak and sing in their innocence of the Lord's birth.

We here in Bradford wish for one and all, the many blessings from above in the New Year.

Harold and Imogene Tanner lost all their possessions in an early morning fire. It was during a blizzard, and flames destroyed their home in a short time. They were just recently married—so everything was new and uninsured.

### BURLINGTON, IOWA

Mrs. Ernest Anliker

Mrs. Richard Taeger

Standing on the threshold of a New Year, "1965", reflecting on the many blessings bestowed on us in the past year — and with thankful hearts, let all look unto our heavenly Father to help us through the coming year.

Many are the problems that face

us in a year — but if at all times we are seeking His help with prayerful hearts, He will not forsake us ". . . the LORD . . . will be with thee, he will not fail thee, neither forsake thee . . ."

Deuteronomy 31:8

Sun., Dec. 20, we had our Christmas program, given by the Sunday School classes. It brought joy to our hearts to watch our youth and little ones sing and speak of our Lord Jesus. It was especially precious to see our pre-schoolers portray "Away in the Manger".

That same evening, many went out caroling, both young and old, and later had chili, cookies and coffee at our church dining room.

We are so very happy to have our friend, Virginia Spitznogle, in our midst again.

Our first monthly hymn singing of the year was Jan. 3. There were about 80 in attendance. May it be God's will for this endeavor to keep growing.

We have an epidemic of flu and mumps in our midst—but after a few days, all are able to get out again.

May this be a year of health, happiness and many blessings for all.

### FAIRBURY, ILLINOIS

Joyce Huber

With the angels in heaven, we rejoiced to hear, on Saturday evening, Dec. 26, the testimonies of conversion of Albert and Betty Sohn and Carol Roth, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Elmer Roth. Bro. Henry Kilgus assisted Bro. Josh Broquard. Albert and Betty were moved to repentance during Albert's stay in the hospital; and Carol testified that she had wanted to repent for sometime, but couldn't actually give in to the Saviour until she attended Camp Mack in Indiana. The three were baptized on Sunday, with friends and relatives witnessing the blessed occasion.

We were blessed this past month to have visiting ministers: Elder Bro. John Bahler and Bro. Albert Schneider of Conn.; Elder Bro. Leroy Huber of Eureka; and Bro. Roy Wernli of Lamont. May the Lord bless their efforts.

Sis. Lydia (Mrs. J. N.) Bach, who has been unable to attend church for quite some time, celebrated her 90th birthday Dec. 22. Some of her friends and residents

from Fairview Haven were taken to Sis. Lydia's home for a visit, and refreshments were served.

Sis. Lydia Schmidgall passed away at the Fairbury Hospital. Funeral services were held Dec. 30.

### FORREST ILLINOIS

Nancy Honegger—Martha Stoller

Bros. Roy Wernli, Lamont; Vernon Schwab, Wolcott; and Sam Kilgus, Remington, visited us the past month. They reminded us that the work of salvation is all the work of God. Our ministers are not boastful, nor take any credit, but only rejoice in the hope of salvation.

Our Sunday School children presented a Christmas program of recitations and carols for all to enjoy. Bro. Henry Kilgus stated, he is often reminded of the flowers in a garden, when he sees our innocent children in the bud stage of their childhood. Will they unfold and bloom to God's glory?

After an autumn of extreme lack of moisture, to the extent there has been some concern for the spring seedbeds, we were again blessed with a gentle, steady, falling rain, which fell throughout the day on New Year's.

We know, as always, winter will bring its days of snow, sleet and storms. Comparing natural with spiritual life, we would prefer all days of sunshine and pleasantness. Just as the snowy blasts and sleet prove the strength of the trees, when they are bowed low with snowladen limbs, in humility shedding themselves of dead branches and twigs, likewise it is the faithful souls who have proven their strength in trials, that God can use in His vineyard.

Sis. Lena Bach, who has been in Princeville for some time, has returned to Forrest and is staying at the home of her daughter, Bro. Dan and Sis. Ruth Schlatter.

Bro. Glenn and Sis. Laura Knapp are the parents of a baby girl, Kaylene Karol.

### FRANCESVILLE, INDIANA Mrs. Herman (Chris) Wuethrich

As we are in the New Year of 1965, we all want to use the key of LOVE, which unlocks all our locks.

Bro. Chris and Sis. Barbara Wuethrich had for their golden wedding anniversary their 12 children, who so wonderfully displayed

love for their parents. Sis. Barbara has not been able to attend church for quite some time, but we pray and trust that she can be restored to reasonable health again.

Sis. Louise Welker has had much suffering. Our sincere wish is God's helping hand for her each day. Sis. Theresa Stefan attends services with her leg fracture, as her grandchildren sure wanted her to attend their Sunday School Christmas program. She has been attending since then. Sis. Mary Wuethrich is so thankful to again be able to be in her home, and wishes to give sincere thanks for all the cards and letters she received.

Bro. Eli and Sis. Pricilla Anliker had the "blessing" of their family and many relatives being with them for their silver wedding anniversary.

With Sis. Lena Huber's sudden passing came comforting words from Bro. George Yergler, who had baptized her ten children . . . as Bro. Theo Beer said later with his God-given message. "Our tribute to Mother" was written by her children.

On January 2, 1918, from Mother's bedroom came the cry of her first-born child, and thus began the years of her motherhood.

In the following 17 years, nine more times God placed within her hands an infant to love and care for . . . So were her days filled with all the tasks of unselfish toil and care, that only a mother has.

Countless hours were spent preparing the necessities for the body, joys for the heart and interceding for the souls of her children. In her own quiet way, she planted within each of our hearts the true value of prayer and faith in Christ and the love of God.

Then, when her hair began to gray, her beautifully white hands did weave together a gift for each of her children, that will serve as a constant reminder of her love for us.

Once again, on the 47th birthday of her first-born child (Helen), from her bedroom came a few faint and feeble sounds, as the hand of God terminated her days on earth.

So we have precious memories and eternal gratitude for all her love and guidance.

Bro. Elmer Bucher wrote the poem "Mother," that he read at the closing of the services.

### Mother

As we gather here together  
Just once more to see her face,  
Ere we take our dearest mother  
To her final resting place . . .

All our hearts are filled with  
sadness  
And a tear be-dims each eye,  
As we reminisce together  
Over blessed years gone by.

We shall ne'r forget her teachings,  
For she chose her words with care,  
And she spent much time with  
Jesus

As she knelt alone in prayer.

Though her words were softly  
spoken,  
Yet they seemed to wend their  
way,  
With the love of God inspired,  
Where they'd bring forth fruit one  
day.

We're so thankful that she taught  
us  
Not the vanities of life,  
But the way that's straight and  
narrow,  
Through a world of sin and  
strife . . .

For she said that Jesus loved us  
And He died to save our soul,  
But we must by His good Spirit  
Be converted and made whole.

We well know that she believed it,  
For she practiced what she taught,  
And because her faith was steadfast,  
We each one the Lord have sought.

In His mercy He forgave us  
When repentance filled our heart;  
Then He took our heavy burden,  
And His peace He did impart.

Now the circle has been broken,  
And our mother's race is run.  
She through faith has gained the  
victory  
And eternity begun . . .

But we hope to one day meet her  
And be numbered with the blest  
Who through faith in God's own  
promise  
Shall receive eternal rest.

### GIRARD, OHIO Karen Stoll

Another year is now behind us,  
and a new one has arrived. May  
we strive harder to do God's will  
and keep His commandments.

The Girard congregation enjoyed  
a very blessed day, when Bro.  
Joseph Klotzle from Altadena min-

istered unto us. It was very inspiring to hear Bro. Joe, as he recalled his former days as a young man in the Girard church, remembering the old members and ministers now gone before us.

In this new year, may God in His mercy and loving kindness, call those many lost souls who are yet outside the fold.

"Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord" The Acts 3:19

#### LA CROSSE INDIANA

##### Martha Rinckenberger

We are happy to report that Bro. Otto Fritz is home from the hospital. He is staying with his daughter, Sis. Sylvia Banwart.

Sue Bucher and Gerry Banwart had surgery. They are both home and doing fine.

On Dec. 20, we had our Sunday School program. It was such a blessing, to see all the little happy faces tell us the story of our dear Lord and Saviour.

May the peace and love of God be with us all in this new year.

#### LESTER, IOWA

##### Emelie M. Knobloch

For our Christmas sermon, Bro. Wayne Gerber read chapter 4 in John 1, **how one should love one another, as God's love was so great toward us he gave His only begotten Son so we might live through him.** Bro. Leo Moser meditated, how the birth of Christ was foretold 2000 years before . . . How the wise men were heralded on that day—if only loved friends among us could be heralded in. Bro. Leo said, we oftentimes feel the world owes us something; if we would only believe and feel that the world owes us nothing. We would strive to do better, even for the betterment of our own soul. I know he felt his preaching wasn't in vain, as another soul heeded God's call, Susan Feucht, daughter of Bro. and Sis. August Feucht. We all rejoice and wish her God's blessings.

On New Year's Day, Bro. Leo Moser pleaded to heed to God's call. The congregation felt for Bro. Henry Mogler, as he was a patient at the Mayo Clinic. Bro. Leo gave an inventory of the past year. We had 10 births, 3 deaths, 4 souls added to the fold, and we now rejoice, as we have 4 souls seeking

their salvation.

Among the ill: Sis. Pauline Mogler shows some improvement some days, and some days she remains about the same. Bro. Henry Mogler is a patient at Rock Rapids, following observation at the Mayo Clinic. He seems some stronger. Bro. August Knobloch seems about the same. Sis. Edith Bick was able to attend services January 3. We hope all these who are ill will soon be able to attend services with us.

We spent several nights caroling this year, due to the fact we have so many ill folks and folks who suffered hardship the past year.

Roger Knobloch, son of Bro. and Sis. Martin Knobloch, is engaged to Janet Banwart, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Walter Banwart of West Bend. A spring wedding is planned.

The engagement of Sis. LaVonne Knobloch, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Martin Knobloch and Bro. Roger Aberle, son of Bro. and Sis. Alf Aberle of Sabetha, was made known on Christmas Day. We wish them God's grace and blessings, in their future step in life.

Births: To Mr. and Mrs. Edward Roeman, a son, Terry Lynn, Dec. 15; and to Mr. and Mrs. Ed Popkes, a son, Gregg Edward, Dec. 17.

#### MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

##### Diane Olson

Again this month we were very happy to have visiting ministers who spoke God's divine word to us. Bro. Wayne Gerber, Lester, ministered to us on Dec. 6; on Dec. 20, Bro. Harold Gramm, Morris, delivered the messages.

On Dec. 20, we had our Christmas program. How happy the little children were to stand up and praise God, and tell of Jesus' birth. It was brought out, "Are we always willing to profess we are God's chosen people, as the children do so happily and willingly?"

Once more, a new year is upon us, and this world will undoubtedly keep its fast pace . . . But may we never fail to take time out from our earthly toils and cares to give our Lord the praise and honor He deserves. As we are taught, we are living on borrowed time, so may we live the best we can for our Lord, and strive to walk closer with Him each day.

Services are held at the Southtown YMCA, 1845 East Lake St., Minneapolis, Minnesota. Sunday School starts at 12:45, church serv-

ices 1:30. All are welcome to attend.

#### ALABAMA

##### Clara Heiniger

The youth group of Landersville and Mountain Home areas gathered together Dec. 1 for a blessed time of singing, for the invalids at the Moulton Rest Home.

Worship services and Sunday School was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Riley Terrys, Courtland, for friends and neighbors, on Wednesday evening. Services were conducted by Bro. Junior Hale.

Friday night meetings of worship and Sunday School during December were at Mr. and Mrs. Will Poseys, Landersville; Bro. and Sis. Junior Hales, Mountain Home; Bro. Carl and Mavis Naylor, Landersville.

Bro. and Sis. Lowell Rassi and Bro. and Sis. Robert Kaiser of Milford visited the Mountain Home area, bringing the Christmas gifts from the Milford area for many a loved one.

We all thank every church in Jesus' name, for their great love and thoughtfulness in giving and sharing at the Christmas season, bringing joy and happiness to many a dear, needy soul. May the riches of His blessings be showered upon each one that had a part.

Dec. 14, the Primary class of Landersville spent a blessed evening singing for the sick and reading the Word for Mrs. Posey, Mr. Norton, Mrs. Kathleen Oliver and grandmother Mrs. James Oliver, then Leman Lou Allens, where the Christmas Story was told.

Dec. 15 . . . The ladies meeting met at Mountain Home church, enjoying singing the Christmas songs and listening to the story of the Christ Child. They asked and sang, "Have you any room for Jesus"?

After the ladies went home, the school bus unloaded around 15 children at the church, and we packed in the station wagon and took boxes of fruit, sang and read the Christmas story to Mr. and Mrs. Jim Kelly, Bro. and Sis. Henry Stricklin, Sis. Martha Evans, Mr. Moultrie, Addie Stricklin and Aletha Kelly, then returned to the church and had their Christmas story of the Babe in the Manger.

Dec. 16, another group of ladies, with many little children, met at Jo Doris Stricklin's, where they all

enjoyed the Wonderful Story of LOVE, the precious Christ Child. Songs were enjoyed by little ones, planting in their minds the love of Jesus.

A Christmas program was enjoyed Dec. 20 in the churches, where children delighted in singing and reciting poetry for the grown-ups.

Dec. 22 . . . the young and old met at the Landersville church. All went caroling to Mr. and Mrs. Frost (parents of Bro. Richard Frost); Tony Mae Meyers, Mrs. Samatha Cartee (Mrs. Paul Graham's mother, who at this writing passed away—Jan. 6); Mr. Ed Sandlin; Mr. Norton and Mr. Posey.

Dec. 23. Bro. Edwin Bahler of Remington visited in this area. Christmas Eve, we all spent a wonderful evening at Billy and Shelby Duttons, singing and reading the Word of God. On Christmas day, a lovely summer day, they left for Florida.

Christmas day was spent in Prospect, Tenn., at the home of Bro. and Sis. George Kellys, where the family were together and enjoyed a Christmas dinner, then enjoyed singing, and the Christmas story for young and old. The five afflicted rejoice so much when we gather with them; it is appreciated so much. After leaving there, Sis. Zelma Young, who is caring for her invalid sister was visited. They were taken to her sister and family, Bueford and Sis. Aline Home. Again the Christmas story was told; a young soul broke down in repentance.

Dec. 31, around 60 gathered here for a time of good singing, a children's program and special numbers. At 11:00 p.m., the precious Word of God was read and mediated upon by Bro. Lavoyd Moore of Athens, with prayer by Bro. John Wagler. As the clock was striking 12, we sang "Take the name of Jesus with you", for 1965.

#### BAY CITY, MICHIGAN Marlene Mosher

Bro. Mat Wieland wishes to thank everyone so very much for cards, letters, and most of all their prayers, during this recent illness.

Early Christmas morning, we lost a dear brother in faith, Bro. Otto Ramseyer. Otto was formerly our minister and elder, until his stroke twelve years ago. He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth; two

daughters, Sisters Helen and Leah Ramseyer; and three sons, Bros. Earl, Ralph and Orville. Bro. Otto was with us for Christmas Eve services, looking very well; the next morning we heard he had passed away. It just didn't seem possible, but everything is possible with God. He can give life, and he can take it away within a twinkling of an eye. It doesn't matter who, the next one can just as well be you. Are you ready to meet your God?

Many friends and relatives were here to pay their last respects to Bro. Otto. Among them were Bros. Rudolph Graf, Noah Bauman, George Sinn, Ben Schlatter, Joe Ramsier, Floyd Wieland, Ben Maibach.

Over the Christmas holidays, we were happy to have with us Bro. Joe Klotzle from Altadena.

This month we were so happy to receive four new members into our flock, Bro. Duane Broquard, Sisters Kathy (Hodder) Jones, Darleen (Rylance) Cluff, and Marian Meylan. Bro. Josh Broquard and also Duane's family were with us for the provings and baptisms.

#### CHAMPAIGN-URBANA, ILL. Ben Blunier

Christ is the Door. This was Bro. Gene Bertsch's message when he visited us from Roanoke, in December. As the Door, He is our only entrance into His sheepfold—anyone who seeks to climb up some other way is a thief and robber. Once we are His, He remains the Door, shielding us from outside dangers. He opens to let in the refreshing breezes of His Word, and closes to the coldness of sin and discouragement.

Bro. Ed Hohulin was here to bring us God's Word the first Sunday of the new year. There were only about 25 in attendance, since the students were still at home for the holidays. Nevertheless, it was a very blessed day, in which we were wonderfully taught from God's Holy Bible.

Three more young men have chosen "the better part" and have sought Jesus, to come into their hearts. They are Phil Leman, Jake Plattner, and Bob Kaiser—all freshmen here at the University of Illinois. God be with them; may their lights shine forth to their fellow students here and throughout their new lives.

God has blessed us richly in 1964 here at Champaign. We rejoice in having seen 10 young people in our midst turn to the Lord. May the seed that has been sown here and everywhere continue to fall on good ground, to bring forth a bountiful harvest of souls.

Bro. Emanuel Gudeman's beautiful message on the sacraments of baptism and communion began our 1965 Bible Classes., on January 6. These are held every other Wednesday while school is in session, in Room 209 in the Illini Union Building.

#### ELGIN, IOWA

##### Mrs. George Butikofer

Once again, time has caused us to turn a New Year, which reminds me of a bit I want to share with you. It is on the "Best Memory System".

Forget each kindness that you do  
As soon as you have done it;  
Forget the praise that falls to you  
The moment you have won it;  
Forget the slander that you hear  
Before you can repeat it;  
Forget each slight, each spite, each  
sneer,

Wherever you may meet it;  
Remember every kindness done  
To you whatever its measure;  
Remember praise by others won  
And pass it on with pleasure;  
Remember every promise made  
And keep it to the letter;  
Remember those who lend you aid  
And be a grateful debtor;  
Remember all the happiness  
That comes your way in living;  
Forget each wrong and distress,  
Be hopeful and forgiving;  
Remember good; remember truth;  
Remember heaven's above you,  
And you will find, through age and  
youth,  
That many hearts will love you.

We had such a blessed holiday season. Everyone enjoyed the songs and bits of verse provided by the young folks of our Sunday School, Dec. 20. During the evening of that day, we went caroling, also left fruit and sweets at some homes. 'Twas indeed a delightful evening; the faces of the carolers fairly beamed with happiness, as they sang "Silent Night" and "Joy to the World." A lunch was enjoyed in the dining area of our church. About sixty people were in attendance.

Bro. Arthur Hunziker of Inde-

pendence, Iowa, is spending part of this winter season in Denver, Colorado, in the interest of his health. His address is Denver, Colorado, 1620 Grant St., c/o Winbro Apts.

No doubt he welcomes mail from his friends and relatives. His wife, Sis. Dena, went to spend two weeks with him during the holidays.

Sis. Martha Frieden is ill with pneumonia, hospitalized at Elkader, Iowa. May God grant her the patience needed in her hours of sickness, and may she soon feel better.

We are always happy to see the William Butikofer family, from Davenport, Iowa, assemble with us. It takes effort to make the trip on Sunday morning, as they do on some occasions. Their children, Mike, Julie, and Jonie—aged 7, 5, and 2½ years respectively, make a nice addition to our Sunday School. Sis. Lena Pulfer lives with the Butikofers.

We here at Elgin, Ia., want to extend a wish for a blessed New Year to all, wherever you may be.

#### ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY Dianne Emch

As we reminisce on the past month, we again can rejoice over a new convert, Marvin Hodel, from Cissna Park. We pray that more of our friends will heed the call of the Lord.

Our Student Teachers presently are Sis. Lillie Ann Moore from Fairbury, who is teaching in Peoria in the Field of Elementary Education, and Sis. Alta Zbinden from Cissna Park, who is teaching in Streator in the field of Home Economics.

Dec. 3, Bro. Joe Schrock from Congerville ministered unto us and read Romans 14, and other references which bore out this scripture. Bro. Frederick Knapp, also of Congerville, closed our meeting with a prayer.

Bro. Emanuel Gudeman from Cissna Park visited us Dec. 10 and brought the Christmas story in all its loveliness so close to each listener. His scripture references were Isaiah 9:6-7 and St. Luke 2:7-20.

On Dec. 15, the Bible Class went Christmas caroling in the Congerville-Goodfield area. Following this, we enjoyed fellowship at the home of Bro. Joe and Sis. Esther Schrock.

We hope that the new year will

bring new visitors to worship with us. Services are Thursday evenings, at 8:00 in the third floor lounge of the University Union.

#### INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA John Isch

Sunday, Jan. 3, was the first anniversary of our meeting in the Indianapolis downtown YMCA. It is certainly not the most luxurious meeting place of our people, but we are thankful to God that He has provided us with these facilities, in order that we may gather together to worship Him.

We extend our heartfelt thanks and appreciation to all the brethren and friends who have supported us so well by their attendance in the past year. We invite each one to return whenever possible. We are especially indebted to the ministers who labored here in our behalf, and trust that God will richly bless them for their efforts.

Bro. Joel Souder from Leo was our visiting minister. Since most of the surrounding universities were still recessed for the Christmas holiday, many of the students who normally attend were absent. We are looking forward to their returning, as their fellowship is truly enjoyed and appreciated.

Our next service will be on Feb. 7, with Bro. Elmer Bucher of Francesville scheduled as our guest minister.

#### OAKVILLE, IOWA Mrs. Ada Banwart Martha Steiner

On December 13, we were witness to the marriage ceremony of Sis. Annette Rocke, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Orttie Rocke, and Bro. Harold Massner, son of Bro. Adolph Massner. All are from this congregation. Bro. Noah Schrock performed the ceremony. Bro. Robert Grimm of Goodfield, a cousin of Sis. Annette, was in our midst that Sunday.

On Saturday evening, December 26, we were privileged to hear the testimonies of four souls who have received grace sufficient for true repentance and conversion in the Lord—Norman and Mary Ann Frank, John Rowell and Arlene Siegle. On the following day, they were added to the fold, through baptism and the laying on of hands. Bro. Noah Schrock carried out this holy act with the help of the Lord.

Sis. Yoshiko Utsuki was present for both blessed events. This was the first time she had witnessed provings and baptisms in the United States. Sis. Yoshiko will assemble with us for several weeks. She is helping Bro. and Sis. Hartzell Schmidgall and their family, as they move into their new home in Mediapolis.

#### PURDUE UNIVERSITY West Lafayette, Ind.

#### Mr. and Mrs. Keith Honegger

Our guest ministers on Dec. 16 were Bros. Lester Huber and Elmer Bucher. Following Bro. Huber's inspiring message from I Timothy 4, we enjoyed listening to songs by a teenage girls' group from Francesville.

With a blessed and enjoyable vacation to reminisce, and resolutions to ponder, we once more resumed classes on Jan. 4. May we strive to do better in this new year. Psalm 65:11, "Thou crownest the year with thy goodness; and thy paths drop fatness."

Our first meeting for the new year was on Jan. 6. Bro. Alfred Bahler from Wolcott ministered to us from Philippians 2, in which we were reminded that the first and most important thing in life is our salvation . . . Philippians 2:5, "Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus".

Once more we wish to thank all the ministers who make our services possible, and our friends and relatives from far and near who worship with us during our youth fellowship hour.

#### RITTMAN, OHIO Ella Mae Trent

" . . . I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." As the verses were read to us by Bro. Noah Bauman on New Year's Day and again by Bro. Walter Anliker of Eureka the following Sunday, the words seemed so fitting for this particular season. As man deems time, we truly are leaving the old behind and facing the uncertainties of another year. Just as the apostle Paul conceded that he had not reached his goal while he was in the flesh, so we who are living in Christ reach forth

and press toward the prize of eternal life and rest, when our earthly sojourn is over. Is there a better or more profitable resolution, or a more splendid or opportune time than now, to surrender our all to our merciful Father, to gain the certainty of "the prize" of our high calling if we remain faithful?

There is an inscription in Germany which has pertinent words for those who would choose to continue in disobedience to Christ's teachings. It reads:

You call me **Master**, and obey me not.

You call me **Light**, and see me not.  
You call me the **Way**, and walk me not.

You call me **Fair**, and love me not.  
You call me **Rich**, and ask me not.  
You call me **Eternal**, and seek me not.

You call me **Gracious**, and trust me not.

You call me **Noble**, and serve me not.

You call me **Mighty**, and honor me not.

You call me **Just**, and fear me not.  
If I condemn you, blame me not.

Jan. 2, we heard words of comfort at the funeral of Bro. Fred Bauman, a faithful caretaker of our church for many years. Bro. Rudolph Graf read from Timothy, where it states that if one fights a good fight and keeps the faith, there is a crown awaiting him. We can believe this was Bro. Fred's portion. Bro. Fred died Dec. 31 at age 76, following a lengthy illness. He had been a member 44 years. He is survived by his wife Catherine, son Robert, foster son Robert Eggeman, four daughters, Mrs. Elizabeth Ruttencutter, Mrs. Fredona Shiffer, Mrs. Garnett Wright, Miss Lillian Bauman; a brother Robert, and three sisters, Mrs. Mina Klaus, Mrs. Emma Maibach, and Mrs. Lillian Beery.

United in marriage Dec. 12 were Cheryl Miller, daughter of Richard and Sis. Melba, and Galen Indermuhle, son of Bro. Edwin and Sis. Elda. Married Dec. 26 were Betty Klotzle, daughter of Sis. Irma Klotzle Hilty, and Walter Marguart. God bless the second most important step of life that you have taken.

A son, Lyle Dwaine, was born to parents Bro. Joe and Sis. Lilas Rufener on Dec. 14. Dec. 15, a

daughter, Jennifer Ann, was welcomed by Bro. Edward and Sis. Shirley Zollinger. Jan. 4, a son was born to Bro. Alpha and Sis. Helen Maibach. Also, on this date a daughter, Kimberly Ann, was welcomed by Bro. Joe and Sis. Lucille Blough.

Hospitalized for brief periods and able to assemble with us again are Stanley Winkler, Sis. Carol Kiser, and Brenda Sidwell, the latter two having submitted to surgery.

### ROANOKE, ILLINOIS

Irene Legel

Sis. Mary Zimmerman, 86, passed away Dec. 10 at the Washington Nursing Center, where she has lived the last two years. Her home had been in Eureka. She was the last one of a family of ten children, a daughter of Andrew and Elizabeth Pfister Zimmerman. She leaves behind her nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by four brothers and five sisters.

Bro. Glen Hodel, who had been in the hospital for several months, has been able to return home again.

Bro. Leonard and Sis. Sallie Fehr have sold their house in Roanoke and moved to their new home at the north edge of Eureka.

Harley Leman, son of Bro. Eli and Sis. Luella Leman, has been in the hospital several days, having trouble with his teeth.

Raymond and Carol Luginbuhl are parents of their first child, a daughter, Jill Renee. Grandparents are Bro. Ralph and Sis. Ruth Knepp and Bro. Herman and Sis. Lizzie Luginbuhl, all of Roanoke.

Bro. Lee and Sis. Emma Scherer drove Sis. Anna Mangold and their grandson to Ft. Lauderdale, where they will gather all their belongings and get their car. Bro. John and Sis. Esther Sauder flew down to accompany her mother and drive her car back for her. Their plans to spend the winter in Florida have been changed since the death of Bro. Dave.

Our life is so uncertain here,  
It gives us one and all great fear,  
What we plan, are concerned about,  
Can change so quickly, without a doubt.

We shall put our trust in God,  
For he will take us to the sod;  
If we work and live for him,  
Then our victory we'll win.

We were very happy to witness the proving and baptism of our dear friend, Sharon Blunier, along with two friends from Eureka. Sharon is the daughter of Bro. Harold and Sis. Emma Blunier. Bro. Josh Broquard assisted Bro. Leroy Huber in this work. We enjoyed the inspiring messages he gave.

It is so wonderful to see more dear ones are accepting the Saviour's call: Phillip Leman, son of Bro. Wilmer and Sis. Lavina Leman, who is in college; Christine Fehr, daughter of our minister, Bro. Ben, and Sis. Helen Fehr; Susan Zimmerman, daughter of Bro. Richard and Sis. Helen and Ann Hodel, daughter of Bro. Warren and Sis. Ruth Hodel. The girls are all sophomores in high school. We certainly pray the dear Lord will give them the help and grace each day.

How wonderful, in this busy life of ours!

You dear souls, realize, Salvation can be yours.

### TOLEDO, OHIO

Emily Frautschi

Our elder, Bro. Rudolph Graf, visited us on December 13, and read the report of the Brother Meeting to the members.

At our annual business meeting, Bro. Dick Clark was elected as our new trustee, for five years.

The Sunday School classes gave their Christmas Program on December 20, and awards were given for the best attendance record in each class. The group went caroling the next evening, and met at the home of Bro. and Sis. Ben Schlatter for refreshments and fellowship.

### TREMONT, ILLINOIS

Esther Schmid

At our annual trustee election, Bro. James Pflederer was elected to serve for the next six years. Bro. Daniel Steiner Jr. has been appointed to take charge of the World Relief Fund. May God grant them grace and wisdom, as they lend themselves to serve.

The Sunday School Christmas program was attended and enjoyed by a large audience. Their opening and closing hymns were very appropriate: "The Sunday School", no. 73, and "The Babe of Bethlehem", no. 36, in the **Hymns of Zion**.

The words of these hymns so beautifully portray the life of Christ and what Sunday School means and teaches the youth. We must not remain at the lowly manger, but also go to the Cross of Calvary, where Christ paid the supreme sacrifice for all mankind.

Ministers visiting our congregation this past month were Bros. Noah Schrock and Harvey Heiniger, Oakville; Philip Sauder, Cissna Park; and Joe A. Getz, Morton.

On Dec. 20, two dear souls, Sam and RoseMary Wegman, gave their testimonies of repentance and conversion and were baptized. We welcome them into the shelter of the fold. We were reminded of the good Samaritan, who took the man that had fallen among thieves to the inn (the Church), and how he bound up his wounds, poured in oil and wine, and said he would further pay. What a merciful Saviour we have who cares and provides for us!

Bro. Heiniger related to us from Ephesians 4 "that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called". This comes from God—Ephesians 4:12. "For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ" We are a fortunate people to have the vocation of faith, after the renewing and sanctification of our being, and to have the word of truth to guide us. The children of Israel again demanded things which they once had renounced, and God was not pleased with them.

Bro. Robert and Sis. Helen Wiegand are the parents of a girl, Linda Jean, born Dec. 30.

Bro. Will and Sis. Rose Beutel are the grandparents of Angela Rae Beutel, born Jan. 2. She is the first child of Mr. and Mrs. Philip Beutel of Pekin, Ill.

Sis. Rose Schurter and Bro. Frank Baurer were hospitalized this month. They now are both home again.

#### WICHITA, KANSAS Mrs. Larry Farney Mrs. Harvey Smith

On Sunday evening December 20, our Sunday School classes presented their Christmas program. The earnestness of the small children reciting their poems and the beauty of the singing of the older classes were enjoyed by all. We certainly thank the Sunday School teachers

for their efforts in organizing the presentation on the birth of our Saviour.

The weather was perfect for Christmas caroling as the young people and several members caroled for our shut-ins and older members. They also caroled at the Mid-Western Convalescent Center, where Sis. Ida Esslinger is staying.

On December 27, Bro. Sam Anliker solemnized the marriage of Sis. Judy Farney and Bro. Max Reimschisel. Among the visitors here for the wedding were Bro. Max's parents and brother from Bluffton. Sis. Judy and Bro. Max are making their home at 658 South Rutan, here in Wichita. Bro. Max is employed by Cessna Aircraft Company. We are happy to have them living here, and wish the Lord's richest blessings in their married life.

Bro. Jake Strahm from Gridley, Kansas, has also been added to our congregation. Bro. Jake started working at Globe Engineering last month. We always welcome additions to our small congregation.

Timmy and Richard Wullschleger, sons of Bro. Arthur and Sis. Augusta, have been ill with bronchial pneumonia. We wish them a full and speedy recovery.

On the evening of December 29, services were held, as we were visited by ministering Bro. Harvey Heiniger. Bro. and Sis. Heiniger were in route to California with Bro. and Sis. Ezra Gerst, and had just visited their son Larry, who is stationed at Ft. Riley—Larry and several of the friends and members from Ft. Riley assembled with us for the evening.

#### FORT WAYNE, INDIANA Mrs. Albert E. Kipfer

A very enjoyable Christmas program was held at the church December 20, after which all partook of candy, cookies and fruit. We thank all who took part in the program.

We were happy to see Friend Stella Scharlach back in our midst again after being hospitalized for an appendectomy operation. We were unaware of her illness until she had returned home and was up and about. We are so glad she recovered so nicely.

Eddy Stoller, son of Sis. Lenora Stoller, underwent an emergency appendectomy operation Thursday, Jan. 7, at the Lutheran Hospital.

He is getting along fairly good. We wish you a speedy recovery.

Mr. and Mrs. John C. Stoller are the parents of a son, born Jan. 2 at the Lutheran Hospital. He has been named John Quinn. Congratulations to the happy parents and grandparents: Bro. and Sis. John and Martha Stoller. The John C. Stollers live at 820 Union Street, Fort Wayne.

Bro. and Sis. John T. and Martha Stoller, who formerly lived at 134 U.S. 30 W., New Haven, are now living at 1235 Vance Ave., Ft. Wayne.

Bro. Jim Gerber was chosen to take charge of the Foreign Relief for the Ft. Wayne church.

The ministers who assisted us recently were Bros. Orville Ringger, David Bertsch and Carl Kipfer. We welcome you back again.

#### Poem: My Purpose

To be a little kindlier  
With the passing of each day;  
To leave but happy memories,  
As I go along my way;  
To use possessions that are mine  
In service full and free;  
To sacrifice the trivial things  
For larger good to be;  
To give of love in lavish way,  
That friendship true may live;  
To be less quick to criticize,  
More ready to forgive;  
To use such talents as I have,  
That happiness may grow;  
To take the bitter with the sweet,  
Assured 'tis better so;  
To help the church's faith stronger  
grow,  
In all that's good and true;  
To be quite free from self-intent,  
Whate'er the task I do;  
To keep my faith in God and right,  
No matter how things run;  
To work and read and pray and  
trust  
Until the journey's done.  
God grant to me the strength of  
heart,  
Of motive and of will,  
To do my part and falter not  
His purpose to fulfill.

#### LEO, INDIANA Mrs. Elias Souder

With the beginning of a new year, let us keep this in mind: "And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not." Galatians 6:9

The Sunday School children gave their Christmas program at the

Fellowship Center, the Sunday evening before Christmas. Church services on Christmas morning were at the church.

A number sang carols at the two rest homes at Butler.

Home for Christmas vacation were Carol Winzeler, from Nappanee where she is teaching music; Connie Thornton from Purdue; Jill Maxfield Huntington College; Edward Frautschi from Purdue and the Harry Joe Stoller family from Indianapolis.

New Year's eve, our young people enjoyed a get together at the Fellowship Center.

It was decided to retain the present Sunday School system.

Oliver Stieglitz was chosen to fulfill the duties of World Relief Fund representative.

Jennie Klopfenstein, wife of the late Wm. Sr., became very ill and was taken to the hospital at Auburn. Now she is at the home of her daughter, Helen Maxfield, at Leo.

Saturday evening, Jan. 8, her son, William and his wife, Nancy, who live in Leo, were enroute to see Sis. Jenny. In a moment's time, William lost control of his car and hit a tree. He is at the hospital with a dislocated hip and other bruises, and Nancy is in poor condition, with both limbs fractured, a broken nose and other injuries. May our good Lord heal them so they can return home to their six children.

Lydia and John Bollier Sr. observed their 50th wedding anniversary at the Fellowship Center. Three of John's sisters and one of Lydia's sisters were present.

Bro. John and Sis. Lydia wish to thank each for the kindness shown and gifts given at this anniversary time.

Our beautiful Zion's Harp . . . many treasures of old melodies blossom in full beauty. The new, many need to use to see the priceless gems . . . Number 32, "Who Shall Abide?" is a new melody. The congregation of Leo is walking its pleasant pathways. What wondrous way is this! Towering in the distance is the city . . . "He will in the church abide, And in Salem's hall reside."

the editor

Bro. Henry Kipfer of our Leo church has written poetry. A book

is now in process of being published. The profit will go to Apostolic Christian charity projects. Here is a verse by him from "My Church":

We love to gather on the Sabbath  
And sing with one accord;  
There is a balm in melody  
Ascending to our Lord.

the editor

#### CISSNA PARK, ILLINOIS

Mrs. Jeff Young

We were grateful to have Bros. George Lambert and Bob Grimm with us recently.

Our ministers held funeral services for Edgar Baker on Dec. 23, at the Watseka funeral home. His wife was the former Helen Young.

Bro. Elmer Bauer had surgery and is getting along fine.

We rejoice over three souls that were announced for proving. They are Hope Valtiena, Will Rentsch, and Larry Kaufman. We are thankful there are still souls seeking the Lord.

Our annual meeting was held. A new trustee, new Sunday School teachers and other officers were elected.

#### CONGERVILLE, ILLINOIS

Ruth Schumacher

Several have had to spend time in the hospital during the past month, Mrs. Art (Lena) Miller, Clarence Schlipf, Ernie Stahl, and Mrs. Dan (Sis. Tillie) Sauder. We wish God's help, a return to good health to each.

A hay shed burned at the home of Jim and Elda Mae Craig—we are thankful that the house was spared, and no one was hurt.

We'd like to share some good spiritual food gathered from sermons heard at the beginning of the New Year: Many have advised that we look backward on the past year, and forward to the new—Bro. LeRoy Huber added that it was very important that we look up. Bro. Joe Schrock brought out that instead of making New Year's resolutions (which are so often made only to be broken), a believer should, by God's grace and help, strive to do His will each day.

"The road is too rough," I said;  
"My Lord,  
There are stones that hurt me so."  
And He said, Dear child, I understand;  
I walked it long ago.

"But there's a cool green path,"

I said,  
"Let me walk there for a time."  
No, child, He gently answered me,  
The green road does not climb.

"My burden," I said, "is far too great;  
How can I bear it so?"  
My child, said He, I know its weight—

I carried my cross, you know.  
"But," I said, "If there were friends  
Who would make my way their own . . ."

Ah, yes, He said, Gethsemane  
Was hard to face alone!

And so I climbed the stony path,  
Content at last to know  
That where my Master had not gone,

I would not need to go,  
And strangely, then, I found new friends;

The burdens grew less sore,  
As I remembered long ago,  
He went that way before.

#### ELGIN, ILLINOIS

Louise Steffen

Katie Kachelmuss

Our Sunday School Christmas program was held Dec. 20. It was a blessed evening, and all did well. We thank God, and the teachers, that the children are taught the real meaning of Christmas. May God bless the teachers for their efforts in this weighty work.

A group of our church and some from the Chicago church went caroling to some of our aged members. Some of the little ones spoke their pieces for them, which they enjoyed very much. The teachers and some of the students spent an evening packing things for the children in Alabama. We are glad to see the young people take an interest in these things.

Sis. Bertha Heiniger of LaCrosse is now working in Elgin, and is making her home here. We welcome her in our midst.

A daughter was born to Harold and Ann Madeen on Dec. 14. She has been named Gwyn Ann. Bro. Herman Kellenberger is her grandfather.

Bro. Maurice Frank visited us; we received many good teachings.

Sis. Mary Schambach, who had been living in Denver since May of this year and before that had been living here, passed away at the age of 88 years. The funeral was here.

She was the sister of Sis. Emma Stettner, who passed away five months ago.

Bro. Albert Wewetzer is glad to be home again, after being hospitalized twice recently.

In our church services we have always used only the Zion's Harp and our aged members are always so glad that they have the Bible and the Zion's Harp to turn to in their hours of loneliness. When the revised Zion's Harp arrived, our song leaders and singers immediately got together, practiced and learned the new melodies. We believe they are now familiar with all the hymns. Our young people are also familiar with many of the hymns, which we can observe when they occasionally attend church services in a group and are seated in the front of the church. It is always a joy to see them there. Then, too, some of the Zion's Harp hymns are often used in the Sunday School programs. These hymns are good for young and old:

No. 168

Think what great honor and glory  
the Lord then will render  
Him who from childhood and till  
his last years did surrender  
All to the Lord; even old age will  
accord  
Crowns of God's mercy so tender.

#### GRIDLEY, ILLINOIS

Lydia and Eunie Kammerer

#### Our Christmas Program

A hush fell over the audience as the beautiful strains of "Silent Night," being sung by the Bible Chorus, came floating up from the hall's below. Soon, the wee folk took their places in the assembly room, followed by the larger children. The opening prayer was given by Bro. Ralph Schlipf. Little Roger Gramm gave the "Welcome," in a very poised manner. As usual, the little people in their innocent way spoke and sang. I think all of us always enjoy the little folks immensely. Each grade then spoke their pieces, telling us of the Christ Child's birth.

We enjoyed the quartet number given by Sally, Susie, Kathy and Diane Gamm. The high school sextet, composed of, Enid Schlipf, Earl Ringger, Bob Romersberger, Susan Stoller, Sandy Ringger and Dixie Stoller, sang the beautiful "Holy Night." John Schlipf and Jim Meiss gave the scripture read-

ing. Al Haney gave the farewell, followed by the closing prayer of Bro. Ralph Klopfenstein.

Our house of worship was filled to capacity for services on Christmas morning. We were happy to see the many friends and brethren home from college and Bro. Orlan Miller and friends Tom Miller and Duane Witzig home from the service.

Bro. Frank Woertz from Goodfield was with us Sunday, Dec. 12, to assist Bros. Joe Klopfenstein and George Gramm in serving Holy Communion. We also enjoyed some inspiring messages from Bro. Woertz.

Visiting our congregation the past month were the following ministers: Bros. John Bahler and Bro. Schneider from Rockville, Ed Alt, Cissna Park, John Yergler, Bluffton, Harold Gramm, Hancock and Bob Grimm, Goodfield.

"Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." Two more souls have answered the call to repentance, Roy Alt and Duane Witzig. Duane is the son of Bro. Alph and Sis. Lillian Witzig and is in the service of his country.

Sis. Helen Schlipf is back at her duties, after being hospitalized for a number of days with a severe attack of kidney stones.

Two of our young children, Becky Gramm, daughter of Bro. Art and Sis. Ruth Gramm, and Jeannette Zimmerman, daughter of Bro. Roy and Sis. Helen Zimmerman, have both returned to their respective homes, after submitting to surgery for appendectomy. We wish them both a speedy recovery. Sisters Katherine Funk, Vira Stoller, Winifred Schlipf and Emma Grusy are able to assemble with us again, after being confined to the hospital and their homes.

Bro. Harry and Sis. Emma Yergler recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary, holding open house for some two hundred relatives and friends, followed by a dinner, served in the church basement. Emma Lutiken and Harry Yergler were married Dec. 22, 1914. They are the parents of seven children, Armond and Eugene, Pekin; John, Kellogg, Idaho; Lewis and Glenn, Gridley; Mrs. Eileen Roberts, Normal; and Mrs. Jerry Sievers from Gridley. They have twenty-seven grandchildren and one great-grandchild. We wish Sis. Emma and Bro.

Harry God's blessings and many more years of happiness together.

After reading the article about our Zion's Harp's new melodies in the December issue of the Silver Lining, I felt it might be interesting to many to hear of the following incident:

When a young sister of our church was preparing to graduate from high school, the music teacher asked to see her church hymnal. The teacher was very impressed with the melodies in the Zion's Harp, and made the remark that she had never seen such a collection of fine music in a hymnbook.

She chose Hymn 87, "Faith's Confidence", for this sister to sing as a solo (verses 1, 5, and 8). She also chose Hymn 230, "Our Shepherd and King", for a boy of the same graduating class to sing as a solo. They were both very beautiful and very appropriate for the occasion. The accompanists for both songs played them just as they were printed in our Zion's Harp. To me, this made the graduation exercise especially impressive.

—Submitted by Sis. Viollette Funk

#### GRIDLEY, KANSAS

Mrs. Eldon Metzger

On December 14, a group of some 22 teenagers and adults went caroling. A number of friends' homes, as well as those of several members, were visited. One widow was so touched to know that they had thought of her that she cried. After caroling, the group gathered at the home of Sis. Mary Beyer for refreshments, which were served by several of the mothers. Many blessings have been received by all who participated, as well as those who were visited.

On December 20, the Lamont congregation gathered with us for our annual Christmas program. It certainly is inspiring to hear the little children telling of the birth of the Christ and see their little faces glow with happiness. It should remind us that we must become as little children, if we hope to enter the Heavenly Kingdom. . . . As we sing in Hymn No. 30, "Hark! for God to Him is speaking who for knowledge pure is seeking. He discerns each hidden thing and to light our thoughts doth bring."

A group of 13 men from our congregation gathered at the church one evening and put acoustical tile

on two-thirds of the Sunday School room (in the basement). The tile was already on one-third of the ceiling. As we have six classes in one large room, it is hoped that the tile will remedy some of the excess noise.

As this is the start of the year 1965, perhaps the words of this song could be made a part of our New Year's Resolutions.

### My Heart's Prayer

My new life I owe to Thee,  
Jesus, Lamb of Calvary;  
Sin was canceled on the tree,  
Jesus, blessed Jesus.

Humbly at Thy cross I'd stay;  
Jesus, keep me there, I pray.  
Teach me more of Thee each day,  
Jesus, blessed Jesus.

Funeral services for Lizzie Schwab were held December 29 at the Gridley church. She was a long-time friend of the church. Services were conducted by Bro. Loren Strahm, assisted by Bro. Sam Anliker. Burial was in the church cemetery.

### JUNCTION, OHIO

**Mrs. Alvin H. Manz  
Henry Manz**

Our dear sister, Lena Manz, age 76, wife of Bro. Henry—one of our ministering brothers, passed away on December 26 at her home in Paulding, after a long illness. We are thankful God saw fit to call her home, after so many years of suffering.

Beside her husband, she leaves two daughters, Sisters Madeline and Henrietta, at home; two sons, Bros. Elias and Ben, both of Route 1, Paulding; thirteen grandchildren; two sisters, Mary Suttor of Detroit and Beatrice Hans, of Ft. Wayne; and one brother, Bro. Ed Suttor of Eureka. One brother, Ben Suttor, preceded her in death.

Sis. Lena was a member for fifty-four years. Even though she was unable to speak to us for around two years, she still was able to write and was an inspiration to many of us.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, December 29. Bro. Noah Bauman, Rittman, conducted the services with the help of Bro. Sam Aeschliman, Bluffton, and Bro. George Sinn, Latty.

We were blessed with messages

from two other visiting ministers, Bro. Alfred Bahler of Wolcott, and Bro. Kilgus of Remington.

Bro. George Sinn, our elder, came to us and read the memorandum.

New Sunday School teachers elected are Bro. Ben Manz, to replace Bro. Elias Manz, and Sis. Juliet Schlatter, to replace Sis. Ruth Manz. Bro. Elias Manz is now a trustee, to relieve Bro. Henry Manz.

### LAMAR, MISSOURI

**Marie Marti**

The miraculous joy of Christmas stirred in our hearts Christmas Eve, when our little church was filled with dear ones, who had gathered to commemorate the birth of our Saviour. Bro. Elmer Bucher gave a most appropriate message. Jesus gives an inner glow and love that shines forth, when we meet and worship together on such special occasions. May we keep joy in our hearts every day in the new year. Let us magnify all that is good, all that lingers in hearts, of this inspiring message. There were many loved ones home for the holidays.

On Sunday night a church picnic was held, and fellowship was enjoyed. Bro. Bucher expounded the Word to us Sunday and Sunday night. He reminded us of the treasure that await those who hold fast to truth. **Faith in action** was his closing phrase. The original poem which Bro. Bucher quoted just before departure touched the hearts of his listeners.

It was a beautiful day. I don't recall the kind of weather, but the day was made beautiful, as loving hours had filled it.

One of our most cherished gifts this Christmas is a record of hymns so beautifully sung by the Prairie Choristers. We can hear God's songs by letting the words of favorite hymns drift through our minds, and a calmness and peace fills our hearts.

Connie and Dale Robertson have a baby boy, Todd Clayton, born Dec. 12. Todd has one sister, Tamie, to welcome him. Mae and Noah Schlupp are the grandparents.

Sis. Arlene Marti has been hospitalized this past month for medical attention. Randy Somerhalder is in the hospital, following an appendectomy.

May we take time to talk with God a little while each day of this

bright new year. Let not the seed of love be choked with tares, for who knows what this year may have in store for us. Each day, we need to feel the love of Jesus all about us, not only in our own hearts, but feel with love the glow from others.

### LAMONT, KANSAS

**Mrs. Bernie Emch  
Glenn Anliker**

As we again are privileged to enter another new year, and folks are so concerned of their material status, busy taking inventories which show gains and losses, how much more important to take an inventory of the spiritual status. God in his kindness would be so glad and willing to help all to have a big gain, spiritual-wise. He will freely give to any lost soul the gain of a home in heaven, to those who will turn to Him in true repentance and ask Him to dwell within their hearts.

Therefore, O soul, consider well what there shall be your portion, and choose while yet you live on earth the way of full salvation. From the Zion's Harp.

We are so thankful the Lord saw fit to relieve and call out of this life to his eternal rest, Bro. Sam Ott, 88 years old, on Dec. 28. With the help of God, he endured much suffering and bodily affliction. He was an invalid, after having strokes, for many years, and also had lost his eyesight. What a blessing it was that he had not lost the sight of his spiritual eyes. In his later years, he could see the need and received his soul's salvation. He was the son of the late Gottlieb and Anna Storrer Ott. He is survived by two daughters, Mrs. Ada McClusky, Emporia and Mrs. Ida Stapleford, Eureka; one brother, George; two sisters, Mrs. Dena Sauder and Mrs. Lucy Imthurn, (all of Madison) five grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. Funeral services were conducted by Bro. Samuel Anliker, assisted by Bro. Loren Strahm. Burial was in the church cemetery.

Sis. Dena Fechter is still absent from our assembly, being treated in a Denver hospital. No doubt mail would be uplifting.

Address: c/o National Jewish Hospital B.B. 1., 3800 East Colfax Ave., Denver 6 Colorado 80206.

On the evening of "Christmas Eve", Gridley and Lamont assem-

bled together at Lamont to hear the word of God, we were again reminded of our Lord and Saviour coming into the world.

On this same night, our Sunday School presented their little Christmas program to us. It was very uplifting to see our dear, innocent little children, with their beaming faces and so great a desire in their hearts to tell the story that never becomes exhausted to the true believer, **THE BIRTH OF CHRIST**.

Let our prayers go out for all Sunday School teachers, that only good, pure seed be sown in these tender hearts, and someday spiritual fruit will be brought forth.

#### **MAYWOOD, CALIFORNIA** **Christine Locher**

Our Sunday School classes presented their Christmas program to the congregation on December 20. The children are always anxious to learn their pieces and songs.

Friend John Palmer passed away January 1, at 80 years of age. Services were held Jan. 7 at Westminster, California.

#### **MORRIS, MINNESOTA** **Mrs. Kenneth Zeltwanger** **Norene Koehl**

May the year 1965 be a happy and blessed one for all the readers.

We enjoyed the Christmas program, presented by the Bible Class and Sunday School children Sunday evening, December 20.

We are glad Sis. Sharon Moser is able to come to church again, after being ill for a month, in the hospital part of the time.

On Dec. 20, two engagements were announced—Bro. Calvin Moser, son of the late Bro. and Sis. Dave Moser Sr., to Sis. Stella Schmidgall, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Henry Schmidgall; and Bro. Jack Knobloch, son of Bro. and Sis. Ed Knobloch of Princeville, to Sis. Nancy Fehr, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Paul Fehr.

Bro. Robert Haas is treasurer of our World Relief Fund.

A daughter, Jodi Kim, was born to Bro. and Sis. Floyd Schmidgall. She has two sisters, Pamela and Kayla, and two brothers, Danny and Tommy.

A son, Mark Alan, was born to Bro. and Sis. Vernard Brown on Dec. 11. He has two brothers, Gary and Dale, and two sisters, Kathy and LeAnn.

#### **PORTLAND, OREGON** **Mrs. Edward Unsicker** **Mrs. Glenn Hackenjos**

Our Christmas Program was a real blessing, thanks and praise to our dear Lord Jesus. A larger number of pupils than ever before reverently reminded us of the true purpose of His coming into the world, bringing mankind's most precious Gift.

Bro. Ray Cooper Sr's Christmas-day prayer voiced heartfelt thanks to the Lord, who had guided him and Sis. Anna three hundred miles across this water-ravaged state—into the refuge of God's own sanctuary. "For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." Romans 8:38, 39.

Thanks to God's goodness, we of Portland-Tacoma churches have been spared; but the distress of homeless evacuees of the worst flood in Oregon's history is truly great—"In times like these, we need a great Saviour!" May this be the anguished heart-cry of many souls.

Bro. Ray Cooper Sr. and Sis. Anna have since moved from Powers, Oregon, where they had lived for several years, to their home in Salem. We at the Portland and Silverton churches are very thankful, as we anticipate weekly fellowship with them once more.

At our New Year's eve services, we were reminded of the "race" of the Apostle Paul—I press toward the mark for the prize of the **high calling** of God in Christ Jesus—In awe we consider the magnitude of this **calling**, and pray that His **life and Words** may be indelibly fixed upon our hearts and minds. We must perpetually feast on the treasures of God's Word. The more we partake of His inexhaustible wealth, the more His words, vivid and alive, take the uppermost place in our lives.

#### **ROCKVILLE, CONNECTICUT** **Carlton Lanz**

Robert Hoffman, 42, father of four, died unexpectedly on Dec. 18, after a brief illness. He had been admitted to the Rockville General Hospital for a check-up, the results which proved fatal. He was employ-

ed as purchasing officer at one of the divisions of United Aircraft. Those surviving him, besides his wife and children, are his father and mother, Bro. Alfred and Sis. Emma Hoffman; two brothers, Walter and Bro. Edwin Hoffman; three sisters, Janice Goric, Sis. Arlene Ballasy, all of Ellington; and Sis. Lois Klotzi of Altadena. Sis. Lois flew here for the services. Burial was at Ellington.

Patrica Anne, a little girl, was born Dec. 22 to Bro. Earl and Sis. Esther Gerber. She has two brothers—Wayne 12, Alan 9; and two sisters—Kathy 11, and Sandra 8. Her grandparents are Sis. Persida and the late Ludwig Metz, Forrest and Bro. Ernest and Sis. Tillie Gerber, Rockville.

Bro. Edmond Kloter spent Christmas with his mother, Sis. Lizzie who is now 85. In his sermons to the congregation to whom he spoke, he stressed the importance of the duties of believers and all who would be **truly Christians**.

Our Christmas exercises for the Sunday School children were again held at the church. This custom seems to be pretty much a standard procedure throughout the land, and well it should be. It is the children, when young and tender in years, who should be taught seriously and be made to know the importance and true meaning of the Saviour's birth. We thank the teachers, and believe that in their efforts to be conscientious and sincere they are doing that very thing.

Bro. Will Schneider is recuperating at his home, after undergoing surgery. Bro. Carl Erisman is at present being treated at the hospital, for various ailments.

#### **SABETHA, KANSAS** **Leona Aeschliman** **Mrs. Theodore Locher**

The testimony of Marian and Gene Kellenberger was given on Saturday evening, December 12. The baptismal service was held on Sunday. We welcome these dear souls into the brotherhood of faith. Bros. Sam Anliker and Lester Hartter were present for this occasion.

Bro. Theodore Locher was hospitalized for several days in our local hospital. Bro. Theodore and Sis. Cordelia are leaving on January 4 for the Phoenix area, where they hope the warmer climate will

be beneficial to Bro. Theodore's asthmatic condition.

Luke 2:14

GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST, AND ON EARTH PEACE, GOOD WILL TOWARD MEN.

The children of the Sunday School and young friends sang Christmas songs of praise to God. We appreciate the effort put forth by these young people and Sunday School teachers.

The residents of the A. C. Home enjoyed Christmas songs and carols by different groups, during the Christmas season.

Announcement was made on Christmas day of the approaching marriage of Sis. Lavonne Knobloch of Lester and Bro. Roger Aberle. We wish them God's Blessing.

Sis. Fanny Bahr has again been hospitalized and is now convalescing at home. We pray to God that her trouble will be diagnosed and that she will again be restored to health.

A daughter, Angela Sue, was born December 28 to Bro. Eldon and Sis. Waneta Plattner. The grandparents are Bro. John and Sis. Marie Plattner and Bro. Charles and Sis. Dorothy Sinn of Ft. Scott.

A son, Louis Eugene, was born December 29 to Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Hartman. The grandparents are Bro. Carl and Sis. Louise Hartman and Mr. and Mrs. Gus Shump.

Bro. Robert Young of Wichita visited our congregation on January 3, bringing us spiritual food and much to think about, as we enter the new year.

Announcement was made that we would again have mid-week services, beginning January 6, at 7:30.

#### FT. LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA Florence Sutter

May the new year bring peace and grace, that each may love God more.

We are enjoying so many visitors at this time of year, we decided to have a picnic on Christmas. Many attended. We are so happy to have Bro. Mike Weyeneth of Peoria with us for the winter and hope they will enjoy the warm weather.

Larry Knapp has had back surgery just recently and is home again, doing nicely. We wish him a speedy and complete recovery.

Bro. Ken Troxel was appointed to take care of the aid for the

needy. May God give him grace to carry out this worthy cause. Let us ever work for the Lord, that we may enter heaven when our short life is over, as one of our ministers mentioned recently that our span of life is so short. With God a thousand years is but one day . . . just think, with this reckoning it would be 2 days since Christ arose from the grave.

Bro. Lee and Sis. Emma Scherer returned with Sis. Anna Mangold for a few weeks. They have gone back again to Roanoke. We will surely miss Bro. Dave Mangold and Sis. Anna; in our hearts will always linger the wonderful times we have enjoyed together.

Bro. Dave Kieser of Princeville spent Christmas with us. We enjoyed his inspiring messages.

#### MANSFIELD, OHIO Aaron A. Sauder

What a wonderful way to close the old year—by the joyous observance of our Saviour's birth. On December 18, the church was invited to join with the Vesper choir at the park pavilion, for the annual Christmas program. Everyone blended their voices in singing a number of the familiar carols; the Junior Choir presented several hymns, followed by various selections from the Vesper Choir. The favorite Christmas story, as recorded in the second chapter of St. Luke, was read. There followed an hour of fellowship as refreshments were served.

The annual Sunday School program was held on Sunday evening, December 20. The little children were radiant as they sang "Happy Birthday, dear Jesus" and other songs. They gave recitations pertaining to the wonderful occasion. The older children also were joyful as they proclaimed the Christmas story to the listening audience. We indeed thank the teachers, parents, and all who help throughout the year, for their love and patience in working with our young people.

Various groups from church went caroling on December 19, 20 and 23, making it possible to sing for many of our shut-ins, as well as the older loved ones in our community, during the Christmas season.

Our Elder Bros. Rudolph Graf and Noah Baumann visited us on December 6, at which time they

head the memorandum; and on December 27 we were visited by Bro. Sam Aeschliman. Again, we were blessed, as they spoke God's word to us.

As we look back on the year we have just completed, do we ask ourselves what we have done for our Lord?

We shall do so much in the years to come . . .

But what have we done today? We shall give our gold in a princely sum,

But what did we give today? We shall lift the heart and dry the tear.

We shall plant a hope in the place of fear.

We shall speak the words of love and cheer . . .

But what did we speak today? We shall be so kind in the after-while . . .

But what have we been today? We shall bring each lonely life a smile,

But what have we brought today?

We shall give to truth a grander birth,

And to steadfast faith a deeper worth.

We shall feed the hungering souls of earth,

But whom have we fed today?

"Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness." Is this not a wonderful promise, as we begin a new year?

After a number of years of discussion and consideration, we have begun a new church building here in Mansfield. It will be located near the Apostolic Christian Home, east of town. The new church, when completed, will seat around 400 in the main assembly and balcony, and will have the dining room and kitchen on the same floor as the auditorium. There is a full basement, with a large fellowship hall and twelve individual Sunday School classrooms. Although there are strong sentimental ties with the old church building, it is inadequate in many respects; we trust that the new church will serve us as well as the old one has. It is our wish that it may be truly

the house of God, and that His name may be glorified by it. We also want to remember what Jesus taught, that true worship is "in spirit and in truth", regardless of the particular building we may occupy.

C. J. S.

### PHOENIX, ARIZONA

#### Eileen Yackley

We were richly blessed this last month with many visitors from a number of our various churches. Among them were Bro. Pete Fankhauser, a retired minister from Lamont and Bro. Harvey Heiniger, who ministers at Oakville.

We felt especially privileged the Sunday our little church had four sets of twins. They were in the families of Bro. Raymond Banwarts, from Ft. Scott, Bro. Dick Grahms from Princeville, Richard Gerbers from Midway City (California) and Bob Farney of Phoenix.

It has been scheduled to hold services in Tucson the second Sunday of each month. We hope this will prove to be a blessing to the members we have there. Elder Bro. Roy Farney and Bro. John Somerhalder were the first ministers to go. May God bless the efforts of man.

Bro. Clarence Yackley and Bro. Henry Schrenk and their wives drove the 85 scenic miles to Camp Verde to visit Bro. and Sis. Art Foster, who really appreciate company since they live so far from church.

Bro. Phillip Stettner and Perry Isch, who were formerly stationed in Ft. Sam, have been transferred to Yuma, Arizona. We are thankful they have been able several times to attend services with us.

### BREMEN, INDIANA

#### Joseph L. Bauman

Engaged recently, planning to get married soon from our congregation is Sis. Sharon Laidig, daughter of Bro. Silas and Sis. Pauline Laidig, to Walter Rager of Payne, Ohio. Bro. Rager is presently attending Toledo University. Also engaged from our congregation is Carol Schini, daughter of Bro. Dan and Sis. Viola Schini. Our sincere best wishes to both for a long, blessed and happy married life.

Our annual business meeting was held last Wednesday evening, at which time a few offices were

changed, and further plans were made to improve Sunday School facilities. Work is to be started on rather extensive improvement in the near future.

Most of our young people were given an opportunity to share in thoughts on the meaning of Christmas, at our Christmas program held in our church the Sunday evening before Christmas.

One of our older members, Sis. Katie VonBergen, continues to be somewhat feeble, but still in good spirits in her present abode in the Schutz Nursing Home, on Center Street in Bremen.

We are at the threshold of a new year. Much is being written, also many prophetic forecasters are predicting somewhat rosy prospects for the coming year with regard to business progress, etc. The writer recently listened to a discourse by a so-called financial wizard, giving a lengthy discription of what is supposed to happen. While we believe it is entirely within our rights to be optimistic and have faith for the future, we do well to remember that what is to happen in the coming year only God knows. As we lay our plans for the future, we continue to put our trust in almighty God, from day to day.

### ALTADENA, CALIFORNIA

#### Jeri Minger Doris Graf

"And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; . . . and pray one for another, that ye may be healed." James 5:15-16 The prayers and thoughts of our congregation are with our dear sister, Rose Preiss, who has again made her home in this area. Sis. Rose has been in the hospital, but hopes to return home in a day or two.

We have enjoyed the recent visit of Bro. Harvey Heiniger of Oakville. His messages were a source of spiritual uplifting to all.

#### Service Addresses—New and Changed

Pvt Gaylord Beery US52601605  
581st Medical Company [Ambulance]  
APO New York New York 09180

Pvt Richard J Diggelman US51543275  
Co D 3rd Bn USAMTC Class 7B  
Ft Sam Houston Texas 78234

Larry Robert Frieden AA7946658  
Co C Second Battalion NAS [54] NATTC  
Memphis Tennessee

Pvt Floyd C Graves US51512195  
Co D 3rd Battalion  
USA Med TC Class 7B  
Ft Sam Houston Texas 78234

E3 Thomas E Martin US55759017  
A Co 3rd Bn 2nd Armor  
APO 39 New York New York 46741

Pvt Alvin Metzger NG27403311  
Co A 3rd Bn 1st Tng BDE  
Ft Jackson South Carolina 29207

Pvt Keith E Metzger US55775363  
Co B 3rd Bn 2nd Trg Reigment  
Ft Leonardwood Missouri 65475

PFC Larry L Metzger US26814880  
Box 228  
HHC 4th Bn 23 INF  
APO 949 Seattle Washington

PFC Richard A Rieger RA16779058  
246 SIG Co APO 09084 Box 3175  
New York New York

Pvt Glenn Riggerbach US52601604  
581st Med Co [Amb]  
APO 180 New York 09180

Mr and Mrs Eugene R Siebenthal  
Kennedy Park Apt  
2837-178th Pl Apt 4  
Hammond Indiana

Pcf Richard O Stoller RA16793039  
Hq & Hq Co  
SPEL TRPS  
Ft Eustis Virginia 23604

Marvin Tom CTSA 692-14-31  
USNS Gilmore Hall  
Qtrs K Columbia Pike  
Arlington Virginia

PFC Robert L Wieland US55793780  
42nd Med Co AMB  
APO 09407 New York New York

Pvt Duane A Witzig US55795148  
Troop command 3401  
Walter Reed Army Med Center  
Washington DC 20012

Pvt Kenneth H Wulf RA17681743  
Co E [Bridge] 3rd Engr Bn  
APO 112  
New York New York 09112

Pvt Ronald J Wulf RA17681750  
Co E [Bridge] 3rd Engr Bn  
APO 112  
New York New York 09112

#### Addresses

Some are students . . . some are working away . . . get to know them better by writing, or face to face!

**Anker Hospital**

Kathryn Koehl SN [Morris]  
Anker Hospital  
St Paul Minnesota 55102

Shirley Koehl SN [Morris]  
Anker Hospital  
St Paul Minnesota 55102

**Ball State Hospital**

Betty Wuethrich [Francesville]  
Maria Bingham Hall  
Muncie Indiana

**Bowling Green**

Janet Rehkla [Toledo]  
213 N MacDonald  
Bowling Green Ohio

Kathryn Rupp [Rittman]  
C338 Harshman  
Bowling Green State University  
Bowling Green Ohio

Ned Spangler [Rittman]  
Rodgers Quadrangle 239  
Bowling Green State University  
Bowling Green Ohio

**Brokaw Hospital, Lab Technician School**

Doris Broquard [Fairbury]  
1112 S Fell St  
Normal Illinois 61761

**Brokaw Lab School and ISU**

Terry Zimmerman [Fairbury]  
1501 N Franklin Blvd  
Bloomington Illinois

**College of Wooster**

Rober Blough [Rittman]  
822 Beall Ave  
Wooster Ohio

**Columbus Business University**

Gail Maibach [Rittman]  
44 E 12th Ave  
Columbus Ohio 43201

**General Motors Institute..**

Ernest Schaefer [Tremont]  
704 E Main St  
Flushing Michigan

**Illinois State University**

Mary Lou Frank [Tremont]  
1901 Colby Hall  
Normal Illinois

Gloria Kaeb [Fairbury]  
Atken Hall Box 151  
Normal Illinois 61761

Jerry Meiss [Gridley Ill]  
700 N Linden  
Normal Illinois

Lillie Ann Moore [Fairbury]  
901 E Arcadia  
Peoria Illinois

Dale Steffen [Fairbury]  
302 Kingsley  
Normal Illinois 61761

**Illinois State ,Nurse's Training**

Leila Funk [Gridley Ill]  
804 NE St  
Bloomington Illinois

**Illinois Wesleyan University**

Carol Ann Roth [Fairbury]  
1209 N Main  
Bloomington Illinois

Jim Stoller [Gridley Ill]  
1404 Lincoln St  
Bloomington Illinois

**Indiana State**

Dean Pelsy [Francesville]  
Gilliam Hall  
Terre Haute Indiana

Craig Gutwein [Francesville]  
Cromwell Hall  
Terre Haute Indiana

**Indiana University**

Carol Traub [Francesville]  
Sycamore Hall  
Bloomington Indiana

**Joliet Junior College**

Jim Ramseyer [Fairbury]  
c/o Joliet Junior College  
Joliet Illinois

**Kansas State University**

Douglas Aberle [Sabetha]  
New Men's Residence Hall  
Manhattan Kansas 66504

Ramon Aberle [Sabetha]  
515 N 17th  
Manhattan Kansas 66504

Stephen Aberle [Sabetha]  
1822 Hunting Dr  
Manhattan Kansas 66504

John Greiner [Tremont]  
Men's Res Hall Rm 250  
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**Ohio University**

Becky Coombs [Rittman]  
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- Earl Hartzler [Rittman]  
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- Peoria School of Practical Nursing**  
Joann Frank [Tremont]  
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Peoria Illinois
- Purdue University**  
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H 2 Purdue  
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- Roger Albrecht [Francesville]  
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- Rodric Huber  
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- Larry Schlatter [Toledo]  
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Note: At least part, maybe all the following are students.

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Susan Garrison [Rittman]  
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Mr Richard Heiniger  
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K S & C  
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Miss Janice Hessidence  
KKM 325 Waldron  
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Bill Schmidgal [Gridley III]  
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Room 263  
Charleston Illinois

Mr and Mrs Allan Weber  
626 Neil Ave  
Columbus Ohio

### GOODFIELD, ILLINOIS

#### Marian Wiegand and Edith Tanner

Another year has past into history! Let us take a moment to review the events.

Births: Wesley Charles Jr., son of Bro. Wesley and Sis. Mildred Knapp; Michael Ray, son of Bro. Daniel and Sis. Verla Wiegand; Kelly, daughter of Don and Virginia Bauman; Dirk Allen, son of Bro. Jerry and Sis. Allene Steffen; Benjamin Allen, son of Kenneth and Phyllis Rokey; and Mark Allen, son of George and Wilma Knapp.

Marriages: Linda Frank and

Barry Smith; Bro. Larry Bauman and Sis. Betty Schlipf; Vermeda Rokey and Wm. Young; Christine Knapp and Dale Metzger; Gary Wiegand and Karen Waldbeser; Sis. Kay Bauman and Bro. Eugene Sibenthal; Donald Tanner and Mary Alice Huff.

Deaths: Bro. Arnold Siebenthal, Bro. Dave Leman, Sis. Irene Hartter.

Baptisms: Bro. Kenneth Plattner and Bro. Joe Landes.

The engagement of Lois Wiegand, daughter of Bro. Simon and Sis. Mary Wiegand, to Ron Underwood, son of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Underwood of Eureka, has been made known.

Glen Joos has been discharged from the army. We are so glad to have him assemble with us, after having spent more than a year overseas.

Our humble thanks go to Bros. Loren Strahm and Irvin Lehman, who spoke to us of God's ways, reminding us that, "An individual is betwixt two powers, the powers of righteousness and the power of unrighteousness! That is the battle that we have, loved ones. Are we going to live for Christ, or are we going to live for the ways of the world? It depends upon which way we are going to let ourselves be swayed. I often had to think of driftwood and of a stream that is swollen with the angry currents. When this driftwood that is light goes out into the current it goes along with the tide. . . . But it takes something that is grounded, firm and staunch to endure the trials and the tribulation of this life. May we ever, beloved, be grounded firmly on this Rock, Jesus Christ."

(Dec. 25) We were grateful to have Bro. John Wagler with us Christmas Day. "Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to

Thee!"—This ought to be our prayer daily!

(Dec. 31) Joe Landes of Donnelson, Iowa, was proved and baptized New Year's Eve. He, at 84 years of age, is now our brother-in-faith! Although he had only five years of school, his testimony assured us that he is filled with the knowledge from on High! What a wonderful way to begin the New Year!

(Jan. 3) During Bro. Vernon Leman's Sunday morning visit, he reminded us that, as many made preparations for travel over the past holiday season, so must we make preparations for our journey toward Heaven.

Sis. Mary Heinold had surgery Jan. 5 at Methodist Hospital. We pray that she shall feel His "arms unfailing 'round" her.

### Rules For Daily Life

#### [Psalm 1

Begin the day with God.  
Kneel down to Him in prayer;  
Lift up thy heart to His abode,  
And seek His love to share.

Open the book of God  
And read the beauty there,  
That it may hallow all thy thoughts  
And sweeten all thy care.

Converse in mind with God;  
Thy spirit heavenward raise.  
Acknowledge every good bestowed,  
And offer grateful praise.

Lie down at night with God,  
Who gives His servants sleep,  
And when thou tread'st the vale of  
death,  
He will thee guard and keep.

WHEN YOU CAN, TWO DOLLARS IS SUGGESTED FOR THE SILVER LINING.

## MOVING? OR HAVE MOVED?

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

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