

# THE SILVER LINING

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## THE ACTS IN ACTION

"Beloved Brother in Christ. Greetings in our Lord. I am enclosing parts of a letter from Bro. Willis Ehnle, dated 11/9, that Bro. Schrock has recommended be given consideration for publication . . ." (The foregoing words were from Bro. Ben Maibach, Detroit.)

Dear ones all 'Charity . . . Bear-eth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.' In Japan, there are temptations to no longer bear one another's burdens, to no longer believe one another, to no longer maintain an uplifting hope, and to no longer endure those things which confront us, but the love of God throws out all these temptations and holds forth a victory in the end through our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Bros. Noah Schrock and Ben Maibach left last evening for their return trip to the United States. They are no doubt in Portland now, as transportation nowadays is very fast indeed. The brothers spent 16 days with us. The first few days were spent in Tokyo, where we counselled together concerning the word of God and putting it into practice in the church. The next couple of days our two visitors and I visited Sis. Atsumi Takai and her husband in Osaka. We rode on the new Tokaido line, the world's fastest train; the brothers were amazed at the smoothness of the ride. In Osaka, Mr. Takai asked if they were going to start any more churches in Japan, and indicated they would like us to have meetings in Osaka. Thus, it has come about that one of us brothers from Tokyo is to go to Osaka once a month to hold a meeting.

"From Osaka we went to Kofu, a city of about 200,000 people, in the vicinity of our two churches. One week was spent with our country churches, most of the time being spent in personal conversation with individuals.

"Takeshita-san had a long visit

with the brothers, at which time I interpreted.

"It was decided that someone should live in the Shioda church beside Sis. Asakawa. If God is willing, my family will move out there, and Bro. John Klaus' family will move to our Tokyo church. Bro. John has some nice meetings out at Fuchu, where he lives now, but he can still keep up these meetings from here—as it is only about 15 minutes away by car.

"Yesterday was our wedding anniversary. It is now 12 years since Lois and I were married . . . No

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### STARLIT PROMISES

#### Together Forever

"And the LORD will create upon every dwelling place of mount Zion, and upon her assemblies, a cloud and smoke by day, and the shining of a flaming fire by night . . ."

"And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads: they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away."

". . . I shall be satisfied, when I awake, with thy likeness."

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time to celebrate yesterday, so our whole family is planning to go out to supper tonight.

"Let's try to strive earnestly to maintain a pure and holy fellowship in our Lord and Saviour. Much love in Christ, Willis and Lois Ehnle, Tony, Joy, Tommy and Jewel."

From here on, the lines are from Bro. Ben Maibach of Detroit.

"Bro. Noah Schrock and I made the long trip to visit our brethren and friends in the Orient, leaving home October 19. We spent the evening with the brethren from the California churches at Altadena, where services were well attended, then departed for Honolulu, where

we spent a night and changed planes, leaving the following day for Tokyo. Although the plane was scheduled for a stop at Wake, it was bypassed. We arrived at Haneda the evening of Friday, October 22, having lost a day crossing the International Date Line. We were warmly welcomed at the airport with many tears and kind embraces. Saturday, October 23, we went to Fuchu, where Bro. John Klaus holds Sunday School services in the afternoon; then on Sunday services were held at the Tsutsujiga-oka church.

After several interviews and counselling with brethren and friends, we left October 28 for Osaka, making the 350 mile trip in about 4 hours. We were very pleasantly surprised and encouraged to hear a request from Sis. Atsumi's husband for the Apostolic Christian Church doctrine to be preached, because he and a group of about 15 souls had become very disillusioned with the nominal Christian church, and it was evident to him that his wife had a faith that was much more substantial than that to which he had been exposed.

(To be continued)

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Attention Apostolic Mission Fund Treasurers: Send all contributions to Ben Maibach; address to his home preferably. Bro Ben is now Treasurer of this fund. (Part of a letter from Bro. Ben will be printed in a later issue).

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**Gospel Hymns Revised**—A beautiful collection of over 800 hymns. Radiant jewels gem the life of a believer. Mother can carol their beauty to baby. Young people can remember their precious rhyme and rhythm. They chorus the life of the Apostolic Christian. They blend of the voice of the Chief Shepherd and chorus the call of each shepherd. Gospel Hymns Revised, hymns of grace, given for love.

## GOSPEL HYMNS — COURAGE AND COMFORT

Sis. Lydia Bollier, a heavenly light-bearer. On the path that leads to crowning glory she has walked. Now the best of treatment, it was said, could no longer help long. Hers were suffering steps.

We should commit all to God's will. His miracles and mercies reach on and on.

How happy are we that the path continues. Lydia saw a vision, Beautiful and comforting. Such can carry us in hope through fire and flood.

There was light, and then beautiful brown eyes. She would keep on. The words of gospel hymn 97 she quoted in part. Part of this hymn reads, "My latest sun is sinking fast, My race is nearly run. My strongest trials now are past, My triumph is begun. O come, angel band, Come and around me stand, O bear me away on your snowy wings To my immortal home, O bear me away on your snowy wings to my immortal home."

Bro. Elias Souder, heavenly light-bearer.

The doctor said the angels were there. He stated that very few who have the combination of heart block and bronchial pneumonia pull through.

I remember, oxygen tent . . . The breath was short, hard, irregular. It was a fight. Even one full, fresh measure would feel so good. The nurse was called. Medication was given. For a while, still was the breath not normal. A nurse said about possibly calling the doctor . . . God gave strength for the hill climb.

We had some Christmas in the

hospital. It doesn't matter so much where you are, as long as righteousness, peace and joy are there. That is real Christmas. You can still hear the angels, adore the Christ, listen, love. Memory of saintly times treasure our album for eternity.

Elias said about the song, "Dark is the Night"—that we could sing it in church (Number 68.) We did. It is a sturdy song that pilots toward the color-circled harbor. It helps carry through the storm; "With His loving hand to guide, let the clouds above me roll, And the billows in their fury dash around me. I can brave the wildest storm, with His glory in my soul. I can sing amidst the tempest—Praise the Lord!"

With the number of decades that can be counted on our fingers most (if not all) of us will have closed our last chapter in this life. Many will get only to the first finger, many not even there. Life is as a weaving that hastens toward end.

We are passing through. Level road or suffering load, rain or sunshine, we need Jesus. He is an experienced help, whispers advice and comfort from first-hand knowledge. He experienced the suffering and dying, each step. His answer is a life preserver that always pulls to His own bosom.

His hymns and songs helps conquer the most pressing, and faintest mile. Remember, His songs beam warmth on little ones and all—songs of deliverance and triumph.

Sequel: Bro. Elias yet was to see waters flooding to the very

steps. The rapids of a stream are rough, but then the peace and quiet can assure all, always.

Bro. John and Sis. Mary Baumgartner were among the visitors. Elias wanted John to hear the beautiful "Open Thy Merciful Arms". This new gospel hymn reflects coming home. Its radiant rays cast celestial light to the real homecoming.

Here are some of the words: ". . . one of God's children is coming home, open thy merciful arms . . . send out a shepherd, lest ye be late; Jesus has called and His sheep must not wait. Oh what a joy to be travelling home. Open Thy merciful arms."

Sunday afternoon . . . the congregation had finished Zion's Harp 252, "garments glorious and white In that eternal home." Bro. John Bollier had been called home on account of his mother, Sis. Lydia. He came in again.

Prayer had been offered . . . she had spoke of glory. Were her thoughts, her vision on that beautiful home of light, so bright and fair? Yes.

Yes, what a beautiful memory to look forward to . . . Lydia left, and awaits our coming.

Bro. Sam Aeschliman spoke words of comfort. The reading was from the beauty of the Revelation. Later Sam visited Bro. Elias. It was understood by mother, that Bro. Elias said that it has been like going up a river, and he couldn't find a boat to get across.

One day is so very, very important, **this day**. Let us leave Tomorrow with God.

## GIVE WHILE YOU LIVE

(The following was submitted by Bro. Herman Norr. A beloved brother and elder, John Bahler of Rockville, puts forth the way he feels. It behooves us all to gain the greatest treasures that will meet us on the other shore.)

Does it surprise you to learn that the Believer will not be rewarded for what he leaves in a will? It sounds that way according to II Corinthians 5:10.

At the judgment seat of Christ, Paul says, **Each Believer will receive the things done in the body.**

A will is of no effect while the testator lives; it is a mere scrap of paper. It costs the testator nothing to will it. He sacrifices nothing. The report comes out that . . . so and so . . . died. How much did he leave? He left it all. He had no choice about leaving it, and he left everything . . . But it was only after the man left the body that the will was in effect. The man gave nothing.

Of course, it is often necessary for Believers to retain certain properties during their lifetime and

to will them to heirs or to God's work. We are aware of this. However, there is no sacrificing for Christ after death. That must be done in the body, and that is what brings the reward.

"Be not deceived", God warns us. Did you ever hear a Believer say, "If only I had a million dollars to give"? How easy for the living, as well as the dead, to sacrifice things they do not have! You can't take your money to Heaven . . . but you can send it ahead.

## APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH — WORLD RELIEF

A meeting of the A. C. C. World Relief Committee was held at Rittman on Nov. 17. All committee members and a goodly number of Treasurer representatives and guests were present.

The Treasurers report stated that \$76,221 was contributed by the churches, as of Nov. 6. The committee is grateful to those that contributed to this worthwhile cause.

Projects sponsored were

A. Food, Clothing and Christmas bundles to the starving and needy.

B. Self-Help — through distribution of cattle, pigs, goats, rabbits and chickens, Agricultural hand-tool kits, needle trade kits, sewing machines, woodworking kits etc. to the needy, to enable them to help themselves.

C. Medical — support to hospitals abroad where emergencies

developed.

D. Education — Two schools and classroom equipment, enabling over 200 children to attend school that would not have been able to without your help.

E. Distribution of \$38,800 was made in the U.S. to victims of flood and tornado. Many families lost loved ones and all earthly possessions.

The need for help is increasing daily. In many countries, 50% of the people die of Malnutrition. Refugees in Vietnam has increased from 80,000 at the beginning of the year to about 750,000 at the end, because of the escalation of the military activities.

Your committee, with the help of the Almighty God, plan to continue distribution where help is needed most, in the categories of

starving, medical, self-help education.

To assist in this worthy cause the following additional members were appointed to the committee—Bros. Francis Rother, Morton, Arthur Leuthold, Ellsworth (Minn.), and Arthur Gasser (Smithsville, Ohio). They, along with Bros. Herman Kellenberger, Elgin (Ill.), Henry Beer, Milford, Arthur Gudeman, La Crosse, Wendell Gudeman, Francesville and Herman Norr, Leo, comprise the committee.

Collection of used clothing and Christmas bundle preparation was explained.

Sisters Maryann and Millie Fischer, Roanoke, gave a very interesting presentation on salvaging of used clothing and the development and operation of sewing groups.

## SPLENDOR OF MUSIC

Henry Souder Jr.

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord."

To whom do we sing?

Round the heavenly Father is beautiful happiness. His grace is many splendored. His care kindly enfolds the children. His word provides a complete life. Song is lovely, in limitless always.

We need all, each one of His words. Verses unsought are lost chords of eternal dimensions. Psalms, hymns and spiritual songs provide gems, glistening in eternal sunlight.

They are part of God's plan. "... be filled with the Spirit; Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord; ..."

Real dwelling gathers us in heavenly places. God has a loving, real interest in our song. More. He dwells in us, moves us in gracious, heavenly hymn. Our song swells in heavenly home!

He cares. He knows we have moments that are rough, sad ... some-

times sleepless. We have priceless privilege: At any moment we can sing or reflect of song. He wants to hear us; He loves song. Songs are charioted thoughts that wing us in heavenly way.

"Now the God of patience and consolation grant you to be like-minded one toward another according to Christ Jesus: That ye may with one mind and one mouth glorify God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ."

One of the beauties of His City is unity. A people have chosen to blend in family oneness. They find joy beyond compare.

Unity is individual parts indivisible. The leader strives, more and more to follow perfect score . . . The beat of his rhythm becomes reflected, the beat of each. The mind reaches deep . . . that is beautiful singing.

"And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul: neither said any of them that ought of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common."

Common is key to fellowship.

We may gain insight into singing with this gem. We give our voices.

In giving we gain. We gain by shaping our time and our note to the common goal. Singing should not be slovenly, but with mind sharp.

Beautiful heights in song is life in the beautiful city. We walk on the divide. We see into heaven.

Take one word. Picture way down deep, feel what all it means. Rejoice.

"I will pray with the spirit, and I will pray with the understanding also: I will sing with the spirit, and

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I will sing with the understanding also."

"Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of God."

The builders used the term "rightly dividing". Each stone would be hewed according to plan. From opposite ends, the work would come together, commonly. Then, there would be room enough for just **one** stone. If it was **rightly divided**, hewn to considered size, it would fit into place just right.

Each verse has a particular place. If we call upon God to do great and mighty things, He will answer. His wondrous plan purposes to fit each and all His thoughts—word or song—into place.

There are gems covered that await use.

Bro. David Mangold said that about 25 per cent of the songs were being used 75 per cent of the time. Much service can be done by seeking all. With Bible verse or song verse, one time use this, at the proper time another.

Talented wisdom strikes all the keys to chord the riches of heaven.

"Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost."

Singing centers round and springs from God in heaven. Inspiration wells from our fountain.

The world has pep talks. In business and industry, personalities

give great enthusiasm. Our God can fill us with the divine thrill of doing things lasting. We live in His vision. We catch the courage of our eternal one.

"I will sing of the mercies of the LORD for ever . . ."

After death life is full. Paul wrote of the third heavens. He told of speakings which could not be spoken. He came again to this earthly vale, inspired with new vision. The glory carried him through all tribulation, and death.

In the ages of ages, triumphant choirs will chorus in chords celestial. Life will be good, great and glorious. Song will sound, full symphony, music in His sphere beautiful beyond all description.

Song is forever, world without end.

### ALTADENA, CALIFORNIA

#### Doris Graf

"Two little hands to bring a gift,  
Two little lips to sing,  
Two little eyes to read about  
The birthday of Jesus, our King."

This poem was recited in our Christmas program on Sunday, Dec. 19. It was truly inspiring to hear the innocent children of the Sunday School praising and honoring the birthday of our King.

On Sunday, Dec. 5, the Maywood and Altadena congregations heard the testimony of our friend, Emery Minger, son of Bro. and Sis. Wm. Minger. It was truly a blessed day as our new brother was added to the fold.

We thank all our visitors who were here over Christmas and New Year.

Bro. and Sis. Wm. Minger have announced the engagement of their daughter, Irene, and Matthew Olivero. Their wedding date has been set for Jan. 15.

### AKRON, OHIO

#### Florence Graf

A wonderful attitude with which to begin each day has come my way recently from the letter of a loved one. Perhaps others can gain inspiration from it also:

Today let me useful;  
Lord give me a job to do.  
When hands and thoughts are busy—  
Life takes on a different hue.

Hazel Baumgartner injured her

hand and wrist in a mishap in her home. Several stitches were required.

Sis. Maude Kaufman has been hospitalized several times this past month. We wish her a speedy return to good health.

Two classes of our Sunday School children sang several of the songs they have been learning in Sunday School at our Christmas carol services. The congregation spent the evening singing Christmas carols—followed by a short service conducted by Bros. Forrest Ritzman and Eugene Pamer. A refreshment and fellowship period followed.

John Greenbank has been discharged from military duty, after being in our country's service. We welcome John home, and rejoice with his loved ones over his return.

At this writing, Margaret Graf is hospitalized, following an emergency appendectomy. We extend best wishes for a speedy recovery.

### ALTO, MICHIGAN

#### Loretta and Myrna Steffen

On December 16, Anton Wingeier passed from this life into eternity. He is survived by his wife, Lucy; a daughter, Dorothy; one son, Anton Jr.; one brother and seven sisters: Bro. Philip, Sis. Anna, Sis. Christine, Sis. Margaret Wingeier, Sis. Delilah Schrenk, Sis. Mary Krebs, Sis. Katherine Grauberg, all of Alto, Sis. Hulda Fiechter of Bluffton.

Mary Smith, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Maxim, and Darrel Schutte, son of Bro. and Sis. Derry

Schutte, were married on December 18.

Bro. Henry Wackerle was our visiting minister this past month. We thank the Lord for the words of truth which were spoken.

In our Christian walk of life, we sometimes meet situations which seem hopeless. Of course, we all have trials and temptations, but how do we respond when these times come?

Let me relate an incident I read about recently. A small dog had wandered into a fenced yard. The dog raced back and forth along the fence, frantically searching for a way out.

There was a way—an open gate—but in his despair, he overlooked it.

Now we must not, in the face of crisis, do as the little dog did. For the way—the open gate—is there for us too, if we but only use it. It is the open gate of prayer, through which we can take our every care to Him.

St. Luke 18:1, "And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint;"

### ATHENS, ALABAMA

#### Lynn Klopfenstein

Several of our brethren, along with the youth group, enjoyed a night of Christmas caroling for shut-ins in our community. They sang for Mr. Dell Brown, Mrs. Blankenship (mother of Sis. Alice Kelley), and Mr. Robert Carroll. We had an enjoyable time, in this service for the aged. Following the

caroling, a light refreshment was served.

Bro. Henry Perry has been confined to his home for several days with a case of the flu.

The December meeting of the Athens Young People, including the Junior and Bibles classes, was held in the church. At this time, the group framed pictures that could be used as Christmas presents. Following the group activity the devotional was held, which included the Christmas story. Presently, the group is busy working on Valentines day favors for shut-ins.

On December 22, Bible study and midweek services were held at the home of Bro. George Kelly, in Tennessee. Bro. Lavoid Moore conducted the study, which included Psalm 1:5.

Billy Massey, of our young people, was recently inducted into the U.S. Army.

#### BAY CITY, MICHIGAN

**Marlene Mosher**

A baby boy, Timothy Ted, was born to Clifford and Sis. Kathy Jones. Kathy is the daughter of Jesse and Sis. Mildred (Lambert) Hodder.

We have had a very fine holiday season, with many home for the holidays, even though some of us did get snowed in over the Christmas week end. Now that the new year has once again begun, let us remember what our dear Lord and Saviour did for us. Let us try to be more obedient to Him, and do His will and not our own—most of all, let us not forget to pray and seek His guidance in all things, no matter how large or small.

#### BERN, KANSAS

**Mrs. Morris Edelman**

**Mrs. Leonard Baumgartner**

The Sabetha congregation met with us on Christmas Eve for services, to remember the birth of our Saviour. Bro. Joe Aberle spoke. Adults went caroling this year in Bern and Oneida communities, and met afterward for fellowship at Bro. Roy Rokeys. Two Sunday School groups went caroling in Sabetha, at the hospital, rest homes and private homes. The Bible class met afterwards at Bro. Louis Meyers' home.

Sis. Marie Leuthold was hospitalized during the month of December in St. Joseph, Mo., and submitted to surgery. We pray this will

help her, and that she can soon be home. While working at his carpenter job, Bro. Wilfred Strahm cut a finger with a power saw. He was hospitalized briefly and had skin grafted to his finger.

We attended church in Sabetha on New Years' Eve, with Bro. Lester Hartter ministering. We know of no better way to start 1966 than to thank God for his blessings in 1965 and ask for his help in the new year.

After a church business meeting, Bro. Reuben Moser was appointed to help with funerals. Bro. Alvin Strahm has been elected to fill the expired trustee term of Bro. Joe Rokey.

We have discontinued Sunday evening singings and will start Wednesday evening services, as we have in other years. Everyone is invited to meet at 7:30 on Wednesday evenings.

#### BLUFFTON, INDIANA

**Delutha Moser Carolyn Gerber**

Shut-ins: Sis. Bertha Reinhard and Bro. David Reimschisel.

Visiting ministers during the past month were Bro. Rudy Graf, Bro. John Bahler, Bro. Noah Baum, and Bro. Matt Wackerle.

Births: Dec. 14, a daughter, Lila Joanne to Bro. Gary and Sis. Rosetta Ringger; Dec. 15, a daughter, Jacquelyn Ellen, to Bro. Bob and Sis. Louise Reimschisel; Dec. 15, a daughter, Deborah Kay, to Bro. and Sis. Tom Baumgartner; Dec. 19, a son, Kevin Lee, to Bro. Ken and Sis. Ann Reinhard; Dec. 20, a daughter, Marlene May, to Bro. Dan and Sis. Delores Reinhard; and Dec. 28, a son, Mitchell Ray, to Bro. Robert and Sis. Carol Steffen.

The Way . . . it is Christ.

"Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." John 14:6

We are happy to report that five dear friends have surrendered their hearts unto the Lord. They are as follows: Andrea Aschliman, Sharon Schwartz, Judy Ringger, Jean Clark, and Bob Honegger. Provings of these dear friends will take place at a future date.

#### BRADFORD, ILLINOIS

**Mrs. Martha Kieser**

We enjoyed having Bro. Clifford Grimm from West Bend with us one Sunday recently.

We welcome Diane Elsasser as

our sister-in-faith. She was proved and baptized along with others from Princeville. She is the daughter of Bro. Wm. and Sis. Violet Elsasser.

Quite a number enjoyed the Christmas program that was put on by the efforts of our Sunday School teachers and children. It always seems to warm our hearts when we can hear of Jesus birth from the lips of little children.

I have failed to report that Marion Knobloch is in Viet Nam. He has been there for several months. His parents are Bro. Clarence and Sis. Emma Knobloch.

Three young men left for service from our congregation this month: Bro. John Guingrich, son of Bro. Ed and Sis. Doris; Roland Rumbold, son of Bro. Louie and Sis. Ann; and Dale Endress, son of Bro. John and Sis. Lucille.

We are thankful for three souls who have turned to the Lord in repentance. They are Loris Stisser and his wife Lottie, and Clarence Bruell.

Larry and Sis. Sandra Guingrich welcomed their second daughter. She has been named Tonya Renee. She has a sister, Michelle, and is the granddaughter of Bro. Ed and Sis. Doris Guingrich.

Wilma Tanner, daughter of Bro. John and Sis. Margaret, and Melvin Knobloch, son of Bro. Emil and Sis. Frieda, of the Lester congregation have announced their engagement. They plan to be married Feb. 6.

Dale Endress, son of Bro. John and Sis. Lucille, and Cindy Jackson, daughter of the Don Jacksons of Princeville, have also announced their engagement. We wish both couples God's blessings.

#### BREMEN, INDIANA

**Mrs. Earl Zeltwanger**

Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not love, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal. I Corinthians 13:1.

How inspiring and true are the above words from the Holy Bible. If all mankind would have this love for God and one another, there could truly be peace on earth.

Bro. Dan Germann is in Latty, at the home of his daughter, Florence Stoller, who continues to care for him during his convalescence.

Ben and Marlene Jagla are the parents of Kristine Marie, born

Dec. 23. (Marlene is the daughter of Bro. Dan and Sis. Viola Schini.)

Max and Mira Bauman are the parents of twins, Joseph Elliott and Emily Jeanette, born Dec. 31. Bro. Joseph and Sis. Bernice Bauman are the happy grandparents.

We wish these parents grace to raise their children to His honor and glory.

### BURLINGTON, IOWA

**Riekie Anliker — Dorothy Taeger**

Dec. 19, our Sunday School presented a short Christmas program. It does bring much joy to our hearts when we can hear our little ones tell the story of how Jesus Christ our Saviour came into this world.

Sometime ago, Elder Bro. Noah Schrock asked us to seek guidance from the Lord in searching out in our congregation a brother to minister the holy word of God. On Dec. 12, this was brought before the congregation, and God, we feel has directed it that Bro. Robert Pohl have this duty.

We trust that through our earnest prayers and faith in God that His church might still have those that can stand before us and always proclaim his word in its truth and purity.

We all wish Bro. Bob much grace in his new duties.

### My Experiences of Sorrow by Death

The deep grief and sorrow brought by the visits of the Death Angel cannot be brushed off carnally. The despondency that could follow and sometimes does, will through sincere prayers to God bring one so near, so close to Him, understanding truly comes. "What God does is well done".

One's faith is made stronger through sorrow . . . makes one feel deeply comforted and even glad, for the departed ones in faith prepared to meet their Maker, that they, our loved ones, are now forever safe. Though oftentimes sad, one does also feel deep, deep down in one's heart a gentle rejoicing, which I believe is God-given to those who have suffered through death of their loved ones. Pray always.

"Faith is the substance of things hoped for and the evidence of things not seen." Hebrews 11:1

**For The Believer**  
Time goes so fast;

Life asks so much,  
But in our hearts  
Deep, true, unseen,  
Love stays  
Forever serene!  
(Undisturbed)

### BURLINGTON, OKLAHOMA

**Kathryn Miller**

Sis. Lottie Stuckey Bartel, from Portland, has moved to Burlington, where she will establish her home. She is spending some time with her sisters in Elgin, Illinois, before starting to build her home.

Monday evening, December 20, the Sunday School children presented their Christmas program, speaking and singing praises to the honor of Christ's birth, so many years ago. The Christmas caroling was cancelled, due to heavy rains.

Ministering Bro. John Somerhalder and wife, Sis. Charlene, from Phoenix, spent a short time during the Christmas holidays with Bro. John's parents, Bro. and Sis. Eli Somerhalder, family and friends. Bro. John and Sis. Charlene are formerly from this congregation. It was good to have them and their children in our midst again.

Bro. Isaac and Sis. Mary Diel were honored on their golden wedding anniversary Sunday, January 2, at their home in Burlington. Their seven children were host for the open house. They have twenty grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren.

The divine plan of God alone  
Predestinates life's span;  
Redemption through His beloved  
Son  
Offered He to every man.

He bonds the earthly family ties,  
Seasoned with happiness and  
tears;  
By virtue of His abiding grace  
Some reach the golden years.

### CHAMPAIGN-URBANA, ILL.

**Ben Blunier**

Bro. Joe Zimmerman, Roanoke, ministered to us the third Sunday in December, and Bro. Ed Hohulin, Goodfield, the first Sunday in the new year. Bro. Ed also had the Bible Class meeting on January 5. We thank them for including us at Champaign in their busy schedules. We truly feasted on wonderful spiritual food, so necessary in a life of faith.

At Christmastime, a good-sized

group spent a pleasant evening carolling at some hospitals and homes in the area. It was heart-warming to see the joy in many faces as we walked the halls, harmonizing the always beautiful carols. Later, we gathered at Bro. Kenneth Weerts' for refreshments and more fellowship.

Two of our couples have blessed additions to their homes. Roy and Sherry Meiss have a second son, Darren Scott born December 20. Bro. Bob and Sis. Lynn Blunier have adopted a baby girl, Cara Lynn (who was born December 19). She is also welcomed by a brother, Brian, age 2.

The University students are now preparing for semester exams, which are given about the third week in January. This is an important time for them—much depends on making good grades. Our prayers are with them.

We look forward to having a minister with us from Tremont on February 6, and from Wolcott on February 20, per the 1966 schedule that has been recently compiled and sent to participating churches.

### CISSNA PARK, ILLINOIS

**Mary Young - Margaret Rudin**

On Dec. 12, Sis. Joan Feller and Bro. Fred Waldbusser were united in holy matrimony by her father, Bro. Ezra Feller.

On Dec. 26, Sis. Sanda Yergler and Bro. Ralph Bauer were united in marriage. The marriage was performed by Bro. Emanuel Gudeman.

We were blessed with many visitors, including Ministering Bros. Bob Grimm, Fredrick Knapp and John Somerhalder. Bro. John visited the Sunday School class in the morning, which was very much appreciated.

Our annual Sunday School program on Dec. 19 was well attended. The program was titled **In the fullness of Time**. "But when the fullness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons." Galations 4:4, 5. May God bless those that teach the children.

The Year of our Lord 1965 is gone, never to return again.

Our loving elders have deep concern what the coming year might bring. May God give us grace to

take one day at a time. "Casting all your care upon him; for He careth for you." I Peter 5:7

Our annual meeting was held. New Sunday School teachers were elected and other offices filled, where they have expired.

A boy was born to Bro. John and Sis. Carol Waldbeser on Jan. 3. He was named James.

Sis. Anna Schubach went to live with her sisters, Martha and Rosie Langjahr, for a while, at 1124 East Elmhurst, Peoria, Ill.

Sis. Helen Lackey is convalescing at her home, following surgery on her knee. Bro. Joe Waldbeser was in the hospital two days. Other shut-ins are Bro. Ben Walder, Sis. Rosie Stoller, Sis. Mary Hari, and Bro. Jon Bauer. Our prayers go out for these loved ones.

### The Believer

Recently we visited a dear sister, Lydia Scharlach, who has come to a high age. She had her 95th birthday in November. She has been confined to her home for over five years. Three months ago she broke her hip, and since has been confined to her bed and wheel chair. She has been a child of God for 66 years.

She lost her hearing 75 years ago, when she had her first child. Life was harder for her because of her loss, as she didn't receive as much spiritual food . . . But she was blessed in many ways.

They were blessed with 13 children; one died in infancy. Having reared 12 children, she was a devoted Christian, and her concern was for her children—to repent. Her husband passed away in 1947.

In the last years, her memory is gone. She cannot as much as express her appreciation for the loving care she receives from her daughters. We can see the wonderful love of God in these beloved daughters, how they so lovingly care for their mother night and day. They must miss many church services and often eagerly wait for someone to spend a few hours with them, or to receive some encouragement. They have told us this has made them stronger in faith, and they have to wait on the Lord and often must pray for strength to carry on their duties. They enjoy reading the Silver Lining. May God grant them sufficient grace to endure and look to the reward beyond. If it is five or ten years, it

will be like a moment compared to eternity.

### CROGHAN-NAUMBURG, N. Y. Mrs. David Schamback

On December 19, our two Sunday Schools presented a joint Christmas program in the Croghan church.

The young members and their parents, of our two churches, went caroling for the shut-ins: Sisters Leda Farney, Anna Lehman, Minnie Rauhe, and Bros. John Merz and Earl Rohr.

Remodeling of the Naumburg church has been completed.

Funeral services for an aged friend, Mrs. Joseph Sabo, were held on December 23 at Naumburg. She is survived by her husband and six step-children.

Hospitalized this month were Sisters Bernice (Mrs. Leland) Hirschey and Lois (Mrs. David) Schamback. Both underwent surgery.

Our congregations were happy to hear of the engagement of our elder brother, John Widrick, and Sis. Berdena Streeter, on January 2.

On January 5, our community was saddened by the sudden tragic death of Sis. Florence Ebersol in an automobile accident. Her husband, Bro. Joseph Ebersol, is in serious condition in a Watertown Hospital.

### CONGERVILLE, ILLINOIS Lorna Schrock — Jeanette Knapp

Our annual Christmas program was held on Dec. 23, the theme being "Peace In A Troubled World." The Sunday School children and young people did exceptionally well in saying their pieces and singing the beautiful Christmas carols.

In reviewing the events of the past year, we discovered that our congregation has been blessed with 15 births (including 2 pair of twins), 5 baptisms, and 1 marriage. Our hearts were saddened, though, as we also remember that 4 souls departed this life. Truly the Lord giveth, and the Lord taketh away. Our constant prayer should be that we may be found in Him.

A number of people have been hospitalized during the past month.

Kent Steffen, son of Bro. Ed and Sis. Mary, underwent an emergency appendectomy.

Bro. Dan Sauder had cataract surgery.

Sis. Doris Knapp, daughter of Bro. Ben and Sis. Elsie, will be hospitalized for several weeks, due to contracting infectious hepatitis.

Bro. Alvin and Sis. Marie Farneys' daughter, Ann, is presently hospitalized with pneumonia.

Mary Wettstein has also spent some time in the hospital.

We certainly wish them God's nearness, healing power, and much patience.

The engagement of Vernon Wettstein, son of Bro. John Wettstein, to Judy Wagenbach, daughter of Bro. Simon and Sis. Louise, of Tremont, has been announced. They have chosen March 20 as their wedding date.

Jerry Sides, son of Bro. Edgar and Sis. Mary, has left for the Army, and is stationed at Ft. Jackson, South Carolina.

### ELGIN, ILLINOIS

Louise Steffen  
Katie Kachelmuss

Our Sunday School Christmas program was very well attended. We are always glad to see so many friends assemble with us, to hear the message of the birth of Christ, which the little children bring to us in verse and song, and the older ones join their voices in the praise of God. Douglas Kellenberger was chosen this time to read the Gospel message—St. Luke 2.

A group of ninety or more, Sunday School teachers and children, got together one evening and packed stockings for the children in Alabama. All enjoyed having the opportunity to share.

Our older and shut-in members were remembered with flowers. Some of the children went along and spoke their Christmas pieces and sang for them, which they enjoyed very much.

Bro. Assenheimer of Cudahy, Wisconsin, was also visited. This pleased him so much, as he has been unable to attend the services for sometime and has lonely hours. He rejoices in the Lord and is so glad that he has a living hope that all things will work for the best, and that God will always be at his side and keep him in His care. God never forsakes His own who put their trust in Him.

New arrivals: A daughter to Bro. and Sis. Tom Leman, Dec. 20, Kristin Kay, and a son to Bro. and

Sis. Gene Moser, Dec. 31, Daniel Edward.

Mr. and Mrs. George Foxe, 642 Adobe Court, Carol Stream, Illinois, formerly of Ellington Connecticut, also Jeanne Heintz, are now attending our church and Sunday School. We welcome them to our circle. Jeanne is teaching school at Streamwood, Illinois.

We are glad to report that Bro. Albert Scheitlin is again able to assemble with us, after an absence due to illness.

We had to say farewell to one of our young brothers, Tom Schifferer. It is always sad to see them go and have to leave their home, their loved ones and friends, but as the hymn writer expresses it:

We say, "We here, you yonder; you go and we remain,"  
And yet are not asunder, but links of one great chain.  
In tones of deep affection, "Our ways part here" we say,  
Yet go in one direction, and in the selfsame way.

(Bro. Tom's address is listed under Servicemen's addresses)

### DETROIT, MICHIGAN

Ruth Gudeman

Ruth Knochel, reporting

Bro. Art Gudeman and his family were with us for Christmas eve services and also the following Sunday, as they were visiting their son Frank and his family. We were thankful for his inspirational messages. He gave much food for thought to friends and members alike.

Our congregation was saddened by the sudden death of Sis. Sadie Segadi, on Jan. 6. She was 75 years old. Her husband, Bro. Mitru Segadi, has been in poor health for a number of years. His last severe illness, approximately 3 years ago, caused a loss of hearing. In the past year, his eyesight has gradually left him too, but he could always depend on his faithful wife to anticipate his needs. We sincerely pray that the Lord will comfort him in his hours of loneliness. Besides her husband, Sis. Segadi is survived by 6 daughters, 2 sons and 21 grandchildren.

We also received this request: I wish to take this opportunity to sincerely thank each and everyone for the many, many cards and letters I received while recuperating from injuries received in an auto-

mobile accident. They were deeply appreciated. A least sister, Lucille Maibach.

### ELGIN, IOWA Mrs. George Butikofer

This is our first genuinely cold day of the winter; fact is, the mercury dipped down to zero this morning. Weather predictions are for an even lower dip for the ensuing days. The wild birds are busy coming to and going from our feeding stations. The cardinals flash of red and the blues of the jays lend the maximum of color to the feathered visitors.

John, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Schupbach, who is in the army, was home for the Christmas season. Larry, son of Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Frieden, is home on a furlough at this time. It is indeed a pleasure to see and talk with these young men who are doing their duty in the service of our country. May they always look to our Creator and Saviour for inspiration and help. . . Sincerely, our hope is that eventually they will come home to stay.

We have more good news. Another one of our friends is repenting. Next month we will attempt to send in a list of the converts.

Bro. Bert and Sis. Beulah Butikofer are the parents of Melaine Ann, a baby girl born on the 6th day of December. Their children now number four. The first three are boys.

Our Sunday School pupils presented a Christmas program, which was very much enjoyed by all. Mickey Schupbach announced the various numbers. The first one was participated in by all, including the audience. This was the Christmas song, Zions Harp No. 7. Next, Floyd Frieden read St. Luke's account of the birth of our Saviour. There were readings by Timmy Butikofer, Audrey Pulfer, Philip Metzger, Toni Butikofer, Chuckie Schupbach and Karla Moore. There was a duet by Marion and Karla Moore. Songs and poems by the first and second intermediate groups were very much enjoyed. The Bible and Junior groups did very well with their songs.

On the Thursday evening before Christmas eve, the carolers sang at a number of homes, leaving a bag of goodies as a token of good will. Later, a lunch was served to them in the dining area of our church.

Bro. Paul Butikofer gave us a Christmas sermonette which was followed by a prayer by Bro. Bert Butikofer.

We hope that you readers will experience rich Christian living in our new year.

### EUREKA, ILLINOIS Cathryn Wettstein - Salome Walter

Births are as follows: A first child for Thelma (Stoller) and Robert Wind is Kristine Marie, born December 4. A first child for Mr. and Mrs. Bill Martin is Jill Ann, born December 6. A fourth child for Bro. Earl Eugene and Sis. Carol (Zimmerman) Zobrist is Jacqueline Renee, born Dec. 8; she has a sister and two brothers. A second son for Bro. Robert and Sis. Charlene (Wiegand) Schumacher is Daniel Walter, born Dec. 18. A third child for Jerry and Jane Schumacher is James Robert, born Dec. 18; he has a brother and sister. The last two babies are cousins, born on the same day.

The Christmas program was held December 22, with all the Sunday School children taking part in telling about the time when Jesus was born, nearly 2,000 years ago.

A large crowd attended our Christmas Day Services at 10:00. Bro. Leroy Huber had the services.

On New Year's eve we had services, with Bro. Uriel Gehring being our guest. May we all try to be more obedient and faithful as we start the New Year, and hope that God will bless everyone. . . But we all realize we know not what lies ahead of us, so we must hope and pray that God will be merciful, as He has been the past year and years.

The new Apostolic Christian Home for the Aged will have Open House Jan. 8 and 9, and the next day will start taking in patients.

Marvin Ginzel and Nancy Wolfe were married Dec. 4. He is the son of Bro. Elmer and Sis. Dorothy Ginzel. Marvin left for the armed services January 3.

Bro. Dan Wiegand was in Eureka Hospital a few days.

This is a brief summary of the past year—Nine souls were baptized, and 3 more have repented but have not yet been taken in. Eight babies were born. One funeral. Five wedding engagements (three of these were friends).



**FAIRBURY, ILLINOIS****Joyce Huber**

We praise the Lord for Perry Wenger seeking the Saviour. Perry is the son of Bro. Louie and Tusy Wenger. About 3 years ago, Perry lost his wife in an auto accident, leaving him with 4 young children. May he now find much about which to rejoice in the Lord.

We are sorry that the following have been ill in the hospital the past month: Sis. Leona Nussbaum, Sis. Lydia Bachtold, Bro. Merle Kaisner, and Bro. Carl Schmidgall. May the Lord strengthen them.

We were happy to have Bro. Noah Schrock as visiting elder and Bro. Joe Kaisner as a visiting minister last month.

Albert Steffen and Karen Rieger were married Sunday, Dec. 19.

Curtis Meiss, son of Bro. Dan and Sis. Lucille Meiss, was called to service, leaving Dec. 29. We wish him the best in his army duties.

Sis. Esther Stoller wishes to thank all who remembered her in this time of her illness.

A Thank you: For all love and kindness, gifts & cards extended to us, ever since Dave's illness, and especially again over the holiday season. It was all greatly appreciated. May God bless each for their effort, and remember us in your prayers, so greatly needed.—Carrie Roth.

**FORREST, ILLINOIS****Martha Stoller - Nancy Honegger**

The Sunday School children presented their annual Christmas program to the congregation on Dec. 19. It is always inspiring to see the little ones eager to tell the Christmas story, and to hear the voices blend together, singing praise to the Saviour.

Bro. John and Sis. Bev. Eisenmann are the parents of a new baby boy, David John.

Sisters Hulda Honegger and Viola Metz were medical patients at the Fairbury Hospital, but are assembling with us again. Sisters Marion Rieger and Ruth Metz are convalescing at home, after submitting to surgery.

Bro. Vernon Schwab of Wolcott ministered to us on Christmas day.

Sis. Kathryn Miller is a patient at Mennonite Hospital at Bloomington, following an auto accident resulting in leg and eye injuries.

**The Believer**

It is always an inspiration to us

when we can hear how our forefathers held fast to their faith, in spite of trials and persecutions.

Bro. Joe Kaisner recently told us the experience of his parents, who were both put into prison—in solitary confinement for 6 weeks. In Austria-Hungary, this punishment was given to parents not consenting to infant baptism by the state church. The grandmother cared for the children at home during this time.

Evidently there were also others of this faith in the same prison at this time. The mother asked the guard if he would allow her to visit someone in another cell. The guard agreed that he would unlock her gate after dark so she could slip quietly over to her friend, but she must promise to be back in her own cell before daybreak, when she might be seen.

No doubt this time was spent in prayer, and encouraging one another to hold fast to their faith.

Bro. Joe's parents also told of another family who had the roof torn from their home, by persecutors, because of their faith. After these men had worked hard for several hours, these people prepared a lunch and invited them to come and partake, which they did. One of these persecutors later became a converted man, and told how his conscience burned within him as he partook of this food prepared by these God-fearing people. Maybe a soul was saved by this act of kindness.

It was also a state law that all young men must take military training, which included carrying arms. Again, this was against the dictates of Father Kaisner's conscience, and having five young sons, he left his home and country and came to America, because of the freedom of religion over here. By making reservations only from city to city, they were able to wend their way to the coast, without saying they were leaving the country. They finally reached America, in 1893.

**FT. SAM HOUSTON, TEXAS****Larry Endress**

Truly, God knows what is best for us. He knows why he places some of us here, and some of us there. Such is the lot of our dear beloved brother, Dale Zahner, and Friends Roger Hartter, Sabetha; Steve Aschlmen, Bluffton; and

Fred Beutel, Tremont. We are yet sorrowed and can feel the loss, over the departure of our dear ones who have left for Viet Nam. May God grant them the grace to carry their cross, no matter how heavy it may be. God has a purpose for everything. His purpose has been revealed to Roger and Steve, who have realized their lost condition and have, with sincere and broken hearts, begun a new life, a life for God. May God give them the grace to continue and the strength to fall upon their knees in sincere prayer, asking God to lead them day by day. May we do our part in prayer and intercession for them.

The week-end of Dec. 11-12, Ministering Bro. Wayne and Sis. Dorthy Gerber, Lester, were here. Even though the week end was sad indeed, we could still feel the presence of God. Bro. Gerber had many instructions and teachings. There were 44 assembled on Sunday.

The week of Dec. 21-28. Ministering Bro. James and Sis. Lyola Ringger and family, Bradford, were here. We feel we were richly blessed, and are so thankful for God's word which was expounded to us.

We were unexpectedly surprised, but indeed thankful to have Ministering Bro. Loren and Sis. Listene Strahm, Gridley, Kan., with us Jan. 1-2. They stopped enroute home from Phoenix. Their son, Jake, is in the service here.

May God richly bless His servants who are so willing to come and share with us the precious word of God.

I would advise anyone coming into the service not to send their civilian clothes home, because they can be used on week-ends here at Ft. Sam.

The average attendance for services was 26 per gathering in December. There are 26 friends and seven brothers here at the present time.

I would appreciate it if anyone entering the service as a C.O. would write me beforehand, so I can arrange to meet you.

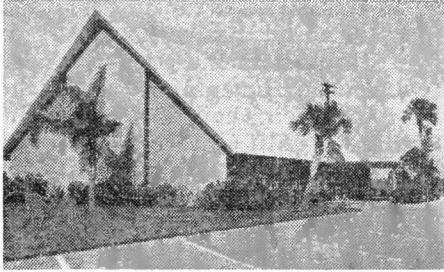
**FORT SCOTT, KANSAS****Annabelle Bahr—Marie Zaugg**

Sunday School presented a Christmas program in verse and song, telling of the birth and life of Christ. It was well given, and enjoyed by all.

Christmas Eve services were held. Bro. Sam Huber, Burlington, Kans., was guest speaker.

Sis. Ida Sinn has moved to town from her farm home. She is now residing at 301 So. Eddy.

### FT. LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA



This is the Ft. Lauderdale church, which is located at 850 N. W. 46 Ave., and is near the McArthur Interchange (No. 4) of the Sunshine Parkway. We invite you to come and worship with us.

Christmas morning in Florida, the weather was warm and sunny.

The brothers that brought us the story of Christ's birth were inspired by God. We were thankful for their efforts.

The Sunday School children gave us a wonderful program of verse and song.

Sunday, December 26, we had our first wedding in our new church. Bro. Roger Sauder and Sis. Judy Sutter were united in marriage by Bro. Al Fisher. After the wedding service, a reception was held at the home of the bride's parents, Bro. Harry and Sis. Florence Sutter. Many attended.

A supper was held at the church for all that wished to attend (about two hundred attended).

Visiting ministers for December 26 were Bros. Al Fisher, Earl Kilgus, Phil Wingeier, Ed Lanz, Edwin Bahler and Carl Kipfer.

### FORT WAYNE, INDIANA

Mrs. Lee E. Eisenmann

Mrs. Jim Gerber

Sis. Thelma Kipfer has resigned as reporter, after having given over five years in this service. May her time and efforts have been blessed! Sis. Mary Eisenmann will serve as the new reporter, and Sis. Marge Gerber has consented to be the assistant. We ask the help and support of all, in obtaining news.

Our monthly singing was held December 12, with the Leo brothers in charge.

The young people of Ft. Wayne and Leo enjoyed Christmas caroling together on Saturday evening, December 18. They met at the Leo

church, and ended the evening with lunch and a Christmas exchange at Bro. and Sis. Verlin and Marge Stollers.

We were richly blessed the evening of December 19, when we assembled at the church to hear our children expound the Christmas Story in verse and song. Truly we were enlightened from the beginning, when the smallest class began with the singing of "Happy Birthday, Dear Jesus", to the very end. Each class took its turn, and several numbers were given. "Joy To The World" was sung in unison by the combined Sunday School and the teachers, and the program ended with closing remarks and a prayer by Bro. Verlin Stoller, the superintendent. Refreshments were served at the close of the program. May the teachers be blessed for their time and patience in teaching our children the word of God.

Over Christmas, many of us traveled to various places to be with our families . . . But many here in Ft. Wayne were gladdened to have their children home with them. Included in this are the young people that are attending school away from home. We always enjoy having them assemble with us whenever they can.

Terry Fulkerson spent six days over Christmas with his parents, Bro. and Sis. Sy and Velma, and his wife, Judy. He is presently in military service at Ft. Knox, Kentucky. Terry and Judy Claymiller were married on December 7, while he was home on leave. Judy is the daughter of Mrs. Hazel Claymiller of 3017 Lower Huntington Rd. Waynedale, Indiana, where she is staying at the present. We truly wish them the Lord's blessings in this important step in life.

David Unsicker, with his wife and small son, Chris, also spent the holidays with their parents. We are thankful he has returned safely from his tour of patrol duty in the Southwest Pacific, which included the area around Viet Nam. He is now going to school at the Oakland Naval Base, and they are living in Richmond, California.

Bro. and Sis. Oscar and Mayme Getz became grandparents for the first time when a little girl, Karen Sue, was born to Bro. and Sis. David and Sharon Pfister on December 23. Paternal grandparents are Bro. and Sis. Levi and Lillian Pfister of Winthrop. May the little

miss bring much joy to her parents!

Our visiting minister this past month was Bro. Joel Souder of Leo.

Another year has passed. May the New Year be one of joy and prosperity in the Lord for one and all. May we all endeavor to strengthen our faith and trust in our Lord throughout the coming year.

Sometimes it takes the simple faith of our children to do this for us. When I explained to my Kindergarten age son that Uncle Fred was going to Viet Nam, and that had made me quite sad, he replied, "I will ask God to take care of him!" What more can we do! In this New Year, this becomes a growing concern for us all, as more and more our young friends and brothers are being called to serve their country, and are scattered far and wide upon the face of this earth . . . But as we heard in a sermon in Cissna Park the Sunday after Christmas, if being sent to these far corners of the earth will bring our young friends to seek their soul's salvation, then it will not have been for naught! . . . And so we can only pray, that God's will might be done in all things, and may we ever accept His Way as best for us.

### FRANCESVILLE, INDIANA

Mrs. Herman (Chris) Wuethrich  
Mrs. Edison Gutwein

One of the greatest words for this year is "Love." We have much good news to report.

May God bless the wedding engagement of Sis. Shelby Culp to Bro. Nelson Beer of Milford.

Our dear Sis. Anna Getz's daughter, the Fred Howat's had a nice Silver Wedding Anniversary. We wish them the best of everything for their future.

Bro. Ronald Anliker is home from service, to the government, and we know the place where he found the most comfort was in the Lord.

Bro. Fred Gutwein had surgery. We certainly thank God that it was His will to again let him return home to his loved ones.

The greatest joy of life was given to seven converts who were baptized: Pamela Huber, daughter of the Bro. Wayne Hubers; Veronica Bucher, daughter of the Bro. Wally Buchers; Janet Overmeyer, the granddaughter of the Bro. Chris Wuethrichs; Ronald and Diane Vogt and Madeline Gutwein, the

grandchildren of the Bro. Fred Gutweins; and Mary Gutwein, the daughter-in-law of our dear departed Philip Gutwein. When these converts found peace, they wanted to give something to the Lord, so they have promised to live obedient to Him the rest of their lives.

All of the following Elders that were with us have the same interest in mind, "Keep Love between everyone," Bro. Noah Shrock, Rudy Graf, John Bahler, Noah Bauman, Joe Waibel, Silas Leuthold, George Yergler and Ezra Feller. Many other dear ministers were with us. Holy Communion was served.

When this life is over, we wish everyone "Eternal Life."

### GOODFIELD, ILLINOIS

Marian Wiegand—Edith Tanner

#### Happy New Year

God make your year a happy one—not by shielding you from all sorrow and pain, but by strengthening you to bear it if it comes; not by making your path easy, but by making you sturdy enough to tread any path; not by taking hardship from you, but by taking all cowardice and fear from your heart as you meet hardship; not by granting you unbroken sunshine, but by keeping your face bright even in the shadows; not by making your life always pleasant, but by showing you where man and his cause need you most, and by making you zealous to be there and to help; not by keeping you from battle, but by bringing you off every field more than conqueror through Christ who loves you.

Sis. Fern Goetzinger, daughter of Sis. Marie Goetzinger, and Bro. George Knapp, son of George and Martha Knapp, were united in holy matrimony January 2 by Bro. Leroy Huber, during an impressive ceremony. **Be ye therefore holy; even as I am holy**, was the thought left with each one.

Joyce Bauman, daughter of Bro. Irvin and Sis. Hilda Bauman, and Robert Baskovic were married December 18. They will reside in Virden, Ill.

The marriage of Beverly Heinold, daughter of Howard and Vera Heinold, and Glen Joos, son of Bro. Wm. and Sis. Clementine Joos, was solemnized on December 19.

Dale Wyss and Mike Hinrichsen had tonsillectomies this past month. They are the sons of Bro.

Roy and Sis. Arlene Wyss, and Bro. Hans and Sis. Arlene Hinrichsen.

Bro. Wilbur and Sis. Mildred Heinold welcome their infant son, Scott Allen, born December 12. Scott has three sisters and two brothers.

Jerry Binkele has been transferred abroad, to serve in the Mediterranean area with the Navy.

Steven Nohl, son of Bro. Ivan and Sis. Pearl Nohl, and Ed Fehr, son of Bro. Oliver and Sis. Lavina Nohl, have entered the Armed Services.

### GRIDLEY, ILLINOIS

Lydia and Eunice Kammerer

Is there a gift more precious a child can give their parents than to tell them they want to repent and be a child of God? Surely this is a wonderful gift at any time, and at this Christmas season we have a number of parents in our congregation who we know and feel must be thankful for such gifts. We reported three young souls in our last report who answered the call to repentance; to that list has been added the following: Enid, son of Bro. Emil and Sis. Ella Schlipf; Bruce, son of Bro. Alph and Sis. Lillian Witzig; Keith, son of Bro. Eugene and Sis. Kathryn Funk; Mr. and Mrs. Gary Volk (Gary is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John Volk and Mrs. Volk is the daughter of Bro. Ralph and Sis. Kathryn Klopfenstein) Mrs. Ruth Stoller, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Orville Rinkenberger; and Mrs. Rose Aberle.

The congregation, as well as the families of these souls, are thankful that once again the waters have been troubled, and the efforts of ministers, parents and teachers are not in vain. We wish them much grace in their new walk of life.

### Christmas

Once again the Christmas story has been read and carols sung by our young people, through the annual Christmas program. The "Welcome" was given by Debra, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Rinkenberger.

Visiting our congregation the past month were Bro. Elmer Bucher, from Francesville; Bro. Harry Bucher, Valparaiso; Bro. Noah Hermann, Tucson; and Bro. James Ringger, Bradford.

**With the Sick:** Bro. Joe Rinkenberger and Sis. Fannie Wiegand are recuperating in their homes, after

being hospitalized for a time. Glenn Yergler is a surgical patient in Memnonite Hospital, Bloomington.

Wedding: Living in Apt. R.F.B. 2 in Carbondale, Ill., are Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Kauffman, who were married Dec. 18. Mrs. Kauffman is the former Barbara Gilby, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Parks of Lebanon, Ohio, and Mr. Kauffman is the son of Bro. Daniel and Sis. Ernestine Kauffman of El Paso, Illinois.

### GRIDLEY, KANSAS

Mrs. Rudy Bahr

Mrs. Eldon Metzger

Having begun a New Year, as we look backward we have experienced a holiday season where many opened their hearts and expressed love towards one another. Looking forward, we think of ways in how we might grow and improve. Christmas certainly is a message of love. There are many meanings to the word "love", so I thought I'd look in the dictionary for a clear, simple definition . . . but didn't find a simple definition! Not only are there different meanings, but it also has different degrees, ranging from concern to deep affection. An easy description is to take its opposite—hate—to say what it is not. A minister defined love as charity in action.

All of us know the need for love, but looking ahead, will love be the only quality needed? Last fall I heard what are some of the qualities youth leaders needed: First, to love, show concern for; second, to limit—that there were boundaries for the good of the group, as well as individually. Two "L's"—love and limit. Not long afterwards I read, "Restraint without love is barbarity, but love without restraint soon commits suicide. They grow best together."

Here we are—parents, teachers, ministers—many times it would seem so much easier and pleasant to not feel we need to say "no" and be "unpopular" to our children. How thankful we can be that our parents stuck to certain "limits"—sometimes it was good to be able to say, "My parents won't let me do that" . . . and not have to take the responsibility on our own and be "labeled" a "square", if the rest of the crowd and "everybody else is . . ." So we are as Christians, children of the heavenly Father—loved and limited . . . so that we

may grow and be truly happy and content. Even as Christians, we sometimes want our own way, bawlk, complain, as do our children; but how blessed to know that He cares so much for us and sees so far beyond our **immediate temporary**, 'we think' needs that He patiently holds fast to that which is good in order that we may reach our goal. How much more blessed if we as children, physically or spiritually, can learn to accept cheerfully and not go over these limits—not having to be scarred by mistakes that could take such a hold on us, that we might not be able to become healed again. May God grant us wisdom, courage, patience, love, and grace that we can be better examples, as He is and has been such a wonderful example to us.

This evening, the Lord's will, we plan to assemble to have Bro. Sam Anliker with us to share the brotherhood deliberations.

One our ministers, Bro. Loren Strahm, was hospitalized about a week before Christmas, for observation and tests. He has suffered heart damage over the past two years. They had made plans previously to spend Christmas in Phoenix, and the doctor urged him to take the trip for a rest.

Glenn A. Young (Gay), grandson of Bro. and Sis. Andy Young, was wounded in Viet Nam. Since returning home he has been getting along very well. He will report in the States when his leave is up.

### ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY Normal, Illinois Shelby Culp

"Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee."

Our visiting minister was Bro. Elmer Bucher from Francesville. We were richly reminded to not only believe but also keep God's word. This can be done only through praying for the needed strength and grace of God, because we of ourselves can do nothing.

Bro. Joe Schrock from Congerville meditated upon a great miracle that God can perform, the healing of our burdened soul. Truly, this is a miracle that one cannot comprehend until he experiences it within his own heart. We should be thankful that God promises to send none away empty ex-

cept those who are full of themselves.

### INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA Christine Leman — Jeanne Steffen

On December 12, we were privileged to have with us Bro. Irvin Lehman of Wolcott. His message was very inspiring. After services, we all enjoyed a short Christmas program presented by the Mayer and Zeller children. Then the group joined together in singing Christmas hymns.

Services were not held on December 26, due to the college Christmas vacation. Most of our small congregation spent some time at home over the holidays.

Bro. John Isch is serving his externship at Hollywood, Florida, for three months. We hope his work will be very rewarding and a real blessing to others there.

We are happy to have our friend, Joanne Heiniger of Oakville, with us for 13 weeks. She is taking her Pediatric's Affiliation at Riley Hospital, at the IU Medical Center.

### JAPAN Yoshio Yamazaki

In the beginning I would like to say, it is very wonderful news because we are able to be near with Christ day by day. Someday we, all true converted brethren, will be able to meet together with our Lord's Father in heaven. We had very fine Christmas; also, we will accept the bright new year, 1966. It may become the Lord's day; I can't say. However, we are all brethren in faith, and are waiting to meet Jesus very quickly. In the Scripture it says, And I heard a great voice out of the throne saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he shall dwell with them, and they shall be his peoples, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God; and he shall wipe away every tear from their eyes; and death shall be no more; neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain, any more: the first things are passed away. And he that sitteth on the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he saith: Write: for these words are faithful and true. And he said unto me, They are come to pass. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely. He that over-

cometh shall inherit these things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son. Revelation

In Tokyo, we had a wonderful and blessed Christmas by our precious Father. It was very good attendance in the Christmas eve service. Bro. John Klaus and his family did not come at that night, because he had his own service, at his home in Fuchu. Anyhow, our attendance was about more than 36, I believe. Bro. Willis spoke about the people who sat in darkness saw a great light. Then after that I spoke as same as he did, because he had bad flu that night.

In the country churches, Bro. Willis and his family went there on Christmas morning, after we had Christmas breakfast. According to Bro. Willis, it was pretty good attendance and also Furuyasan and Misawa-san came (but the other five who resigned didn't).

Our children's class: In this time, we started a children's Saturday class at Bro. John Klaus' home at Fuchu, as you know. They are very wonderful and enjoy to meet in the class very much. When we started that meeting—only 7 children, but now more than 20. Also there, some parents are interested about that and also appreciate it; that's what I surely believe.

We are planning to have Bro. Willis and his family move to country church, coming June, and Bro. John and his family to here in Kaneko after the Ehnles move. However, if the Klaus's move from Fuchu, Fuchu meeting become develop or not, we don't know, because most Japanese people are very weak to keep up faith without leader. This is the true history here in Japan. Also, I can say it is pretty difficult to have democracy as like you have in America. I wish to ask you to remember this and add to your daily prayer; I surely appreciate it.

We decided to have some meetings of the Apostolic Christian Church at Osaka, where our beloved sister, Atsumi Takai, lives. A few weeks ago, Bro. Willis and his family went there and met them. Also coming January, Bro. Akira and I might go there and see the place where we will have meetings from now on. Osaka is about little more than 300 kilometers from Tokyo by the The New Special Super Express train.

I wish you to have a very won-

derful new year, and thank you also your deep concern about our churches in Japan. Our churches are really The Apostolic Christian Church, and of course we are all same mind with you brethren, even such far as ocean between U.S. and Japan. I believe sometime it is very difficult to understand each other because the customs are different, but I surely believe our prayer overcometh by pure blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. I believe we will. Please, patience.

**JUNCTION, OHIO**  
**Mrs. Alvin H. Manz**  
**Mrs. Ben Manz**

Three of our young friends have sought the Lord in repentance and found peace. They are Lois Schlatter, daughter of Bro. Ben and Sis. Esther Schlatter; Janet, daughter of Bro. Richard and Sis. Juliet Schlatter; and Ruthemma, daughter of Bro. Isaac and Sis. Frances Dotterer. We wish them much grace that they can keep this peace. Their baptism has not yet been announced.

... Also wish to report that our Thursday evening services will not be held until warm weather. We are continuing with the singing every third Sunday evening.

After church services on Dec. 19, our Sunday School children gathered at the home of Sisters Priscilla, Lydia and Naomi Rehkla to sing Christmas carols. A short service was held by Bro. Ben Schlatter. These older sisters, who are shut-ins, said they enjoyed it very much.

As another new year has begun, we might consider the words of the following poem:

Now as I open the door to this new year,

And carefully peep inside,  
 I wonder what it holds for me . . .  
 But I'll throw the door open wide.

I've thought of the new friends I have made,  
 And of the old ones staunch and true . . .

The path of the old year was made easier, Lord,  
 Because I have walked it with you.

And whatever it brings to me and mine,  
 I'll meet it with a heart so true . . .  
 I know that, Lord, whate'er it may be,  
 You'll be there to carry me through.

**LA CROSSE, INDIANA**  
**Martha Rinckenberger**

Sis. Emma Wittmer, a faithful old sister, passed away—at the age of 87.

Eugene Heinold (son of Bro. and Sis. Aaron) and Jerry Banwart (son of Bro. and Sis. Harvey) brought nice testimonies before the church and were baptized. We thank God for calling our dear friends. May he bless us again in this new year.

Bro. and Sis. Elvin Nuest have a baby boy, Ronald Orin. He has a sister and 2 brothers. Bro. and Sis. Nile Bucher have a new baby boy; his name is Rodney Scott, and he has a little brother. Bro. and Sis. Larry Nuest have a little girl, Rhonda. Bro. and Sis. Garry Bucher had a little girl, but God saw it best to take her. May God comfort them in their sorrow. They have one other little girl.

**LAMAR, MISSOURI**  
**Marie Marti**

A daughter, Dixie Lou, was born to Mary Ellen and Clarence Engelage. She was welcomed home by two brothers, Danny and David. Sis. Rose Widmer is the new baby's grandmother.

The holiday season was a beautiful one. Music filled the air. Happy, cheery greetings were everywhere. Many loved ones were home to spend a few hours with their families. We received Christmas letters from so many dear loved ones. The warm friendly messages they brought were truly appreciated. Among the many treasured gifts that were received was a book of friendship from a valued friend. As we recall the countless wonderful blessings of the past year may we—

Begin the new year with friendliness;

Keep friendly all year long;  
 Keep in our souls a friendly thought,  
 And in our hearts a friendly song.

Our friends are among the choicest possessions God has bestowed on us, and we should use the greatest possible care to preserve them.

"Let brotherly love continue."—Hebrews 13:1

May God's sunshine remove the dark of each rainy day, and may the new year be a most blessed one.

**LAMONT, KANSAS**

**Mrs. Bernie Emch - Glen Anliker**

Another year has again passed. Let us be mindful of the blessings and mercies that we received from God.

This is that time of year when people are invoicing and going through their records and so thoroughly checking each day's results. As they total their gains and losses for the year, the greater the gains, the more it costs them. If the losses are the greater, they strive to do a better job in the coming year.

Let us rejoice that in the spiritual life it is just the opposite. If man would do the same and go through their spiritual book, the Bible, and study and check it as carefully for their gains and losses. How fortunate for those that had attained a big spiritual gain. The cost would be free, as God had paid it for us, through the shedding of the blood, and a reward of a home in heaven.

If there is no gain for our soul's salvation, let us all strive to lay up for ourselves treasures in heaven, so our heart can be there also. Matthew 6:33, "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."

On Dec. 11, Bro. Floyd and Sis. Julia Isch gave their testimonies, and on the following day were baptized by Elder Bro. Samuel Anliker. We give God the praise and honor in calling souls to repentance and conversion. We can rejoice that two souls have been received into the fold. We pray that those who have not heeded God's word would turn to him with a broken heart and contrite spirit, while it is day of grace.

We are grateful for Bro. Al Langhofer, of Wichita, being with us that day. In his messages he reminded us of the dangers and wickedness in the world.

Sis. Dena Fechter went to Phoenix a few weeks ago for her health. We ask God to grant her what he thinks best for her body and soul. Sis. Leah accompanied her there.

Ben Ott received a shoulder injury, as a step ladder broke while he was hanging storm windows. He is to have surgery for ligament repair, in Wichita.

We had our Christmas eve services; Gridley assembled with us. Our Sunday School children put on a little program, before the services.

**LANDERSVILLE, ALABAMA**

Clara Heiniger

The Primary class met at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Harville for a singing and the Christmas story. They practiced for the program, held at the church. We do appreciate the many families opening their heart and home to bring the children.

Our Friday night worship hour was spent at Billy and Shelby Dutton. It has been decided to meet at the church every Friday night, instead of the homes.

Bro. Wingeier of Mich. gave the message Sunday evening. We do appreciate them stopping and encouraging with the work.

The ladies met at the home of Louise Lou Allen, where all enjoyed the Christmas carols and the chapter of Luke 2.

Everyone prepared 60 plastic bags with fruit, hankie, and an American Bible Story of Christmas, and took them to the Moulton rest home, where the ladies distributed them to the patients. All were thrilled to receive them.

**LATTY, OHIO**

Mrs. Ray Sinn Mrs. Gale Stoller

Bro. Elmer Riegenbaugh, Priscilla Riegenbaugh and Sis. Marge (Mrs. Kenneth) Laukhuf were in the hospital this past month.

On New Years day, we had services at 1:00, then held our yearly election. The 2 Sunday School teachers put in were Bro. Melvin Stoller and Sis. Edith (Mrs. Glenn) Stoller. Bro. Raymond Klopfenstein was put in as our new trustee, and Bro. Carl Sinn as Brotherhood Aid appraiser. May God give understanding and wisdom to the ones who are called upon to perform these duties. . . And may all feel the prayful support of every member. Those who completed their terms were Bro. Elmer Lanz as trustee, Bro. Joe Schlatter and Sis. Dolly Laukhuf as Sunday School teachers. May God bless these for their service.

Bro. Ray and Sis. Ann Sinn are parents of a new baby girl, named Jane Marie. She is welcomed by a sister, Susie and two brothers, Gary and Philip.

May our Lord's sweet hands square us, hammer us and strike off all pride, self-love, and world-worship, so that He can make us stones and pillars in His Father's House.

**LESTER, IOWA**

Emelle Knobloch

Bro. August Knobloch, who had been in failing health and a bed patient for more than a year, passed out of this life at the Rock Valley Convalescent Home, on December 19, at the age of 74 years. He was laid to rest in the church cemetery, December 22. August was born August 21, 1891, and lived in this community all his life. He is survived by his daughters, Christine—Mrs. Dick Schmidt and Sis. Louise—Mrs. Raymond Anliker, of West Bend; his sons: Paul, Woodward, (Iowa), Bros. Martin and August Jr. of this community; fifteen grandchildren; one great-grandchild; three brothers, Bros. Ernest, Jacob, and Emil, and two sisters, Sisters Karoline—Mrs. Fred Metzger, Lydia—Mrs. Wilhelm Nester, all of this community. His wife preceded him in death as did two brothers and four sisters. My past memories of him being my Sunday School teacher will never be forgotten. We hope and pray Heaven's door may be open unto us, as to this dear soul. May God share His sympathy unto his children.

Bro. Jacob Knobloch suffered a heart attack at the funeral, and was hospitalized for several days. We are happy to report he is recuperating at his home. Sis. Betty Leuthold is in the hospital, following surgery. Jerry Feucht, son of Mr. and Mrs. Emil Feucht, had the misfortune of cutting the end of his thumb off with a saw. David Moser, son of Bro. Adolph and Lydia Moser, suffered painful injuries to his fingers, after getting them smashed in a punchpress at school.

Several groups caroled at the convalescent homes, hospitals, and older ones of the congregation, this past month.

We, now in the New Year, may all meditate on the blessings of the past year. Bro. Leo Moser meditated and expounded on the last chapter in the Exodus, concerning the gathering on the first day of the year. He also mentioned, We do not know what is in store for the coming year, and we are unable to relive the past. It will remain on a chapter in our Book of Life.

**LEO, INDIANA**

Mrs. Elias Souder

Ernie Hurt Jr. met with an accident which put him in the Lutheran Hospital at Ft. Wayne. He had

ten fractured ribs, a fractured leg and a collapsed lung. He is now in traction, but very cheerful. Ernie's home is in Poe, Indiana; his wife and children cannot visit him everyday. I have become acquainted with him while staying here at the same hospital with my husband, Elias. Elias has had a rough time, but at the present is on the mend. He will also be here for sometime. We are looking forward to the day when Elias and Ernie can visit together in person. Ernie is on the 2nd floor, Elias on the 5th.

A group of young people gathered at the home of Edward Souder New Year's eve.

Joyce Schlatter, Edward Frautschi, and Jyl Klopfenstein spent their Christmas vacation with their parents.

The Sunday School gave their program at the church Sunday evening, Dec. 19. The singing of little children and the young and old people all help to remind us of our wonderful Saviour's birthday.

Sis. Lydia Bollier came to the end of her journey and was transported to realms above, her heavenly home. Funeral services were on Thursday, Jan. 6. Bro. Sam Aeschliman spoke comforting and wisely, words weighed with eternal comfort.

Our annual business meeting at the church is the second Sunday in January. Bro. Al Frautschi is the trustee elected. Marvin Stieglitz will keep the duty of being usher at the church.

**MANSFIELD, OHIO**

Aaron A. Sauder

"Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift." II Corinthians 9:15

In memory of God's wonderful gift to us, the Sunday School Christmas program was held on Sunday evening, December 19. The tiny tots, as well as the older children, expressed their happiness as they gave recitations and joyously sang of Jesus' birth.

On Saturday, December 18, various groups went caroling to the shut-ins from our congregation, several hospitals, nursing homes, the church home, etc. What a blessing to herald the coming of our Saviour by the beautiful carols and hymns familiar to us all.

Congratulations to Bill and Becky Banks on the birth of their son, December 2. The Banks are also the parents of a daughter.

Church services were held on Christmas morning, and again on New Year's Eve, as we assembled to worship and give thanks for the year which was ending, and to pray for God's blessings and guidance through the year we have now begun. ". . . 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." Philippians 3:13, 14.

Dark clouds have silver linings,  
And even teardrops glisten,  
And sad songs have sweet melodies,  
If we will only listen!  
Raindrops shine like diamonds fair;  
Thistles have a lovely flower,  
And hope—like a cheery sunbeam  
Springs in the darkest hour!

May God's comfort abide in the hearts of Sisters Bertha, Amelia, and Katherine Matthes, whose brother Sam passed away unexpectedly on December 18.

#### MAYWOOD, CALIFORNIA Julie Dapper

Sunday, December 19, many gathered to enjoy our Sunday School Christmas program. There were truly many blessings received, and so much can be learned from our innocent Sunday School children.

. . . "Another year is dawning;  
Dear Master, let it be, In working  
or in waiting, Another year with  
Thee" Hymns of Zion No. 150.

Once again as a new year begins, inventory is the main topic with many business affiliations. This is also a good opportunity for each of us to look over the past year and take an inventory of our life. Those things which are not essential for our heavenly walk, let us put aside, for we are so often reminded to seek first the heavenly needs, and the earthly will also be granted. The Maywood congregation wishes to extend to each of you a very Happy and Blessed New Year.

Mr. and Mrs. William Frank, Bell, California, announced the marriage of their daughter, Ruthann, to Mr. Roy Gilbert, on December 10. We wish them the Lord's blessings.

We are very happy to have and welcome to the West Coast and into our congregation Rick Pfaffmann. Rick has been going to col-

lege in Denver, Colorado, and was given the opportunity to work for three months in Santa Ana, California, as an accountant. Upon completion of his three months, Rick will return to Denver to complete his schooling. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Pfaffmann of Peoria.

#### MILFORD INDIANA Marguerite Hoerr

Bro. Joe Rassi passed away Sunday, Dec. 12, at the home of his son, where he had lived for the past year. He had been ill for one year, but had been able to worship with us until just recently. We always looked forward to seeing him, because he was a cheerful, friendly brother. When we would inquire about his health, he would always smile and say "Just pretty good." He wasn't one who burdened others with his ill health. His family testifies to this, also.

His wife, our Sis. Bertha, preceded him in death one year ago. Beside his son, Bro. Lowell, and his daughter-in-law, Sis. Mary Ann, he leaves three grandchildren, Clark, Joan and Doug. Also surviving are one sister, Mathilda of Goshen, and two brothers, Daniel of Columbus, Tenn. and Bro. Louis, who lives here. Bros. Robert Heuni and Emanuel Gudeman conducted the services Tues., Dec. 14.

Bro. and Sis. Howard and Eleanor Beer had an eventful Christmas this year, combining both the bad and the good. Just before the holiday, their daughter, Linda became quite ill and had to be hospitalized, so a good share of their Christmas plan were changed, to be with her. We are glad to report she is home again and feeling better, although she is still in bed and will have to take a few weeks vacation from her senior year at school. On Christmas Day, the engagement of their son, Bro. Nelson, was announced—to Sis. Shelby Culp of Francesville. We wish them happiness and God's blessings in their future plans. They are planning a March wedding.

Bro. and Sis. Don and Ruth Beer announce the engagement of their daughter, Carol, to Dane Rumpfelt. Dane lives in our community, and prior to his induction into service often worshipped with us. No immediate plans have been made for the wedding. We extend our best wishes for God's blessings in their plans, too.

We were glad to have Don Haab, John Martin and Mike Zimmerman home from Ft. Sam Houston over the holidays.

Five of our sisters who were faithful many years in Sunday School work have asked to be relieved of their duties, so that others might share in this worthwhile experience. Leaving their classes are Sisters Helen Kaiser, Mary Ann Haab, Evelyn Beer, Edna Lehman and Carol Weisser. Replacing them are Sisters Mary Ann Beer, Clara Kaiser, Miriam Speicher, Mary Ann Rassi and Marguerite Hoerr. Our other sisters who will remain with their classes, and with whom we will teach, are Eleanor Beer, Laura and Illene Kammerer, Helen Steffen and Martha Ruch. In our Sunday School, the sisters are responsible for teaching children from three years of age up to and including second grade. There are five classes, with the total enrollment being near fifty.

Bros. Rudolph Graf of Akron and Noah Bauman of Rittman conducted services here Jan. 7. They stopped enroute to Francesville to worship with us.

#### MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA Diane Olson

"For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord." St. Luke 2:11 This precious story of the Christ child's birth was narrated unto us by the Sunday School classes on Dec. 19.

We are thankful for the words of life brought to us by Bro. Floyd Schmidgall of Morris.

A get-acquainted dinner, with all from our church invited, was held Dec. 12. Bro. Noah and Sis. Laura Miller were host and hostess.

What a blessing and privilege we have as a New year is now before us. May we live day by day constantly sending material up to the heavenly mansions awaiting us.

#### Prayer For Peace

Our Father up in heaven, hear this fervent prayer . . .  
May the people of all nations bow humbly for Thy Care,  
For earth's peace and man's salvation can come only by Thy grace,  
And not through bombs and missiles and the quest for outer space . . .  
For until all men recognize that

**The Battle Is The Lord's**

And peace on earth cannot be won  
with strategy and swords,  
Men will go on vainly fighting as  
they have in ages past,  
Finding only empty victories and  
a peace that did not last . . .  
Some have grow so rich and mighty  
and so arrogantly strong,  
They no longer ask in humbleness  
"God, show us where we're  
wrong" . . .  
Some have come to trust completely  
in the power of man-made  
things,  
Unmindful of God's mighty power  
and that He is **King of Kings** . .  
They have turned the eyes away  
from Him to go a selfish way,  
And money, power and pleasure  
are the gods most serve  
today . . .  
And the good, green earth God gave  
them to peacefully enjoy,  
Through greed and fear and hatred  
they are seeking to destroy . . .  
Oh Father up in heaven, stir and  
wake the sleeping soul,  
Stir the heart and show them plain ;  
and speak of Thy great goal,  
And grant the heavenly guidance,  
as war triggers now again—  
For, more than guided missiles, all  
the world needs guided men.

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

A son, Chris Edward, was born to Bro. Edward and Sis. Lois Koehl on Dec. 16. He has two sisters, Doreen and Kay, and a brother, Guy.

Bro. Harvey and Sis. Wilda Koehl are the parents of their first child, a son, born December 17. They have named him Byron Allen.

Richard Tohm, son of Bro. Ferd and Sis. Pauline Tohm, and Eileen Kirchaf, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. David Kirchaf, of Benson have announced their engagement.

Mark Kellenberger, son of Bro. Ernest and Sis. Tillie, and Diane Logan, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Braun, have made their engagement known. Mark will leave for military service Jan. 25.

Bro. Paul and Sis. Anna Fehr are spending some time with their daughter and her husband, Sis. Nancy and Bro. Jack Knobloch, in Phoenixville, (Pa.) who are the parents of a first son, Mark Allen, born December 25.

Larry Schlupp, son of Waldimore and Minnie, entered the military service December 10.

**MORTON, ILLINOIS**  
**Rose Getz**

Funeral services were held Dec. 9 for Charles Tuffentsamer, 83. He was a son of John and Barbara Bauman Tuffentsamer. His wife, Rose Speerly, preceded him in death.

A former Morton resident, Mrs. Leah Aberle Schmidgall, who has lived removed from this area many years, has had a call and been drawn by God to repent. Expressing a desire to come "home" to the mother church, she repented, was converted and recently baptized, after testimony of her experience. Bro. LeRoy Huber of Eureka assisted Bro. Getz. Another visiting minister was Bro. Al Aberle of Tremont.

Bro. Roy Sauder performed the marriage ceremony of Sis. Jill Geiger, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Willis Geiger, and Bro. Mike Kaufman, son of the Ben Kaufmans, on December 19.

Sis. Amelia Rein (Mrs. George Rein) is a patient at the Methodist Hospital. Bro. Chris Kaiser and little Danny Grimm, son of Bro. and Sis. Dan Grimm Jr. are also patients.

Johnnie Hauter, 7, son of Bro. and Sis. Ed Hauter, met with a painful accident, when hit by a car. His leg is broken, and he sustained other injuries.

Sis. Emma Menold wishes to thank all who so kindly remembered her with flowers, cards, gifts and visits during her recent stay in the hospital with pneumonia. She has now returned home to complete her convalescence.

Bro. Russell Rapp will assist Bro. Getz in many of his duties.

Bro. Noah Schrock, Bro. Silas Leuthold and Bro. LeRoy Huber spent Sunday, Dec. 26, with us, when the memorandum was read.

**MOUNTAIN HOME (Hillsboro)**  
**Clara Heiniger**

The Primary class met at the home of Jr. and Addie Stricklin, singing carols and hearing the story of the birth of our Saviour. The program was practiced. How precious the little ones are, giving their best to speak for Jesus.

The ladies in one area met at the home of Bro. and Sis. Henry Stricklan. Since she can not get to church, she enjoyed the songs and chapter 2 in Luke. It was blessed, well worth time to spend with them.

Sis. Pearl now can get about in a wheel chair in her home.

Mothers and children gathered in the home of Mrs. Dave Corum.

The Bible class caroled in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Kelly, Daniels, and Bro. and Sis. Henry Stricklin.

We all thank everyone for your great love of God, throughout Christmas and the year for giving, making the necessary items that fits in every home. Just an example in one home: some socks, combs, unbleached sheeting, towels, needles and shoestrings were given. One little boy grabbed the shoestrings, and immediately put them in his little shoes, in order to keep them on his feet, and said, "See, Miss Clara, now my shoes will stay on", and said, "Thank You!" I see many a place like that; it is all appreciated so much. May our Heavenly Father richly bless everyone, in helping to get out the Gospel.

At Christmas, I always enjoy being with the Bro. and Sis. Geo. Kelly family, which is a drive of 65 miles, one way. It is very rewarding to take time out for the five afflicted children. They love singing and best of all the Gospel Story.

**NEW MARTINSVILLE, W. VA.**  
**Mrs. Gus Weltz**  
**Miss Della Witschey**

At this writing, we are having good winter weather, not too cold, no snow, in fact many buds are showing on shrubs and flowers, tulips are two inches high. We fear they will get frostbitten before many days.

The annual meeting of the stockholders and friends of the Apostolic Christian Church Cemetery Association was held in the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Durig on January 3, with a good attendance. Much interest was shown in the building of the new fence around the cemetery, and plans were made for the spring and summer care of the grounds and building. With fairly good weather, the fence should be completed by early spring.

Plans were made to have two services at the country church during the summer, the first one to be held on Sunday, June 26, and the second one on Sunday, July 31. More announcements will be made later.

Miss Della Witschey has been



suffering with a severe attack of neuritis in her left hand. At times she has been unable to use it, and has been under a doctor's care.

Mr. Dan Witschey wishes to thank all who sent cards to him on his 91st birthday, on December 31. He received 47 in all.

Mrs. J. C. Froelich is able to be out again, after being home for several days with illness.

Mrs. Lena Frayer has been a patient in the Ohio Valley Hospital in Wheeling since Dec. 13, but hopes to be home in a short time.

Ray Witschey of Pittsburgh spent the week-end of January 1 here with his father, D. S. Witschey; John and Robert of Charleston, W. Va., visited with their father recently.

Mrs. Elza Ritz, Mrs. Gus Wertz, Mrs. C. O. Wade and grandson Mark visited Mr. and Mrs. Ray Williams in Akron and Mr. and Mrs. Albert Durig in Girard, on December 30 through January 1.

Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Witschey and daughter Thelma of Moundsville, W. Va., visited the Dan Witschey family and Della Witschey on January 5.

Mr. and Mrs. Verda Fankhouser and Mrs. Elizabeth Witschey Hawkins attended the wedding of Elizabeth Witschey, in Pittsburgh, on December 18. Miss Witschey is a granddaughter of Mr. Dan Witschey.

While visiting our sister in Girard, on January 1, my two sisters and I along with sister Freda were shown through the new church in Girard by Mrs. Robert Stoll, who took time out from her many duties to come and open the church, that we might see the beauty of the new building. Much work has been done since we were in it on November 3. It is a beautiful building, and we know the members at Girard will be happy to have a new church for their worship service. We hope to see it again if possible at the dedication service.

#### OAKVILLE, IOWA Martha Steiner

The marriage ceremony of Sis. Elaine Steiner and Bro. Paul Eisenmann was performed by Elder Brother Noah Schrock on Sunday, January 2. Their parents are Bro. Orel and Sis. Rose Steiner, and Bro. Jesse and Sis. Bertha Eisenmann.

Friend John Cordill was home on a short leave from the army. He is stationed in Ft. Sam Houston.

Bro. Orel Steiner is in the hospital for corrective surgery. He is recuperating and will soon be home again.

The December meeting at the chapel in Iowa City was well attended. Bros. Paul Butikofer from Elgin, Iowa, and John Wagenbach from Oakville aided Bro. Harvey Heiniger from Oakville—who is in charge of the services at Iowa City.

Friend Wayne Gerst, son of Bro. Chris and Sis. Nettie Gerst, is now in basic training in the army at Ft. Sam Houston.

#### PEORIA, ILLINOIS

Emily Tanner

Mrs. Michael Weyeneth

Ben and Sis. Clara Huber announced the engagement of their daughter, Marilyn Louise, to Thomas Sturtevant — from Freeport, Illinois.

Jeannie Carol Koehl, daughter of Bro. Eric and Sis. Mildred Koehl, became the bride of Larry Nolan Dicks on December 4. The young couple are living in Peoria.

A daughter, Kayla Ruth, was born December 11 to Bro. Dan and Sis. Mariam Messerli.

A daughter, Katherine Lydia, was born December 12 to Bro. George and Sis. Ruth Huthmann.

Benjamin Asal died December 20 of a heart attack, at his home. Surviving are his sisters, Amelia, Sisters Louise, Lena, Mae and Tillie. It was only last month that his brother's death was reported.

Sis. Freda Kipfer and Bro. Alfred Thomas are hospital patients at this writing. May the Lord reveal His nearness to them during this period of illness.

We welcome to our assembly Sis. Nettie Zimmerman, Bro. Charles and Sis. Marian Hemmer and their four daughters. Sis. Nettie came here recently from California. She plans to move into her home on Sheridan Road soon. The Hemmers moved here from Princeville.

The Sunday School children presented their annual Christmas program December 19. May the Lord bless them all and also the teachers, so that the children can learn more of Jesus, His love and His purpose here on earth.

We were pleasantly surprised on Christmas Day to have two visiting ministers from Arizona

with us, Bros. John Somerhalder and Noah Herman.

#### PHOENIX, ARIZONA

Mrs. Joe Beer

At the beginning of a new year, many people resolve to better themselves in some way or another.

A story was told recently of a man raking the ground in his lawn. He must have been raking deeper than usual, because he uncovered a rusty, dirty tool. He saw, after examining it, that it was a chisel. He laid it aside, thinking that he could clean it up and use it again. It was brought out in this account that this very incident can parallel with our own spiritual life. We could start out the new year by digging a little deeper in ourselves. If we find that we are rusty and dirty, we should clean ourselves so that we can become a useful tool in God's work.

We were blessed with inspiring messages from Bro. Carl Kinsinger and Bro. Loren Strahm.

The marriage vows of Christine Schupbach, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Richard Schupbach, and Robert Baum, son of Bro. and Sis. Otto Baum, were solemnized, on January 1, by Bro. Roy Farney in the home of the bride's parents. We wish them much happiness in their new life together. They are residing in Morton.

Sis. Ann Rieger is a shut-in at this time. She wished to have this "thank you" expressed: To all the dear ones in all the churches who have remembered me at this holy season with cards and gifts, I want to give my heartfelt thanks and appreciation.

#### PORTLAND, OREGON

Mrs. Edward Unsicker

Mrs. Glenn Hackenjos

Christmas week-end in Portland was a real blessing to all of us. We were permitted to fellowship with most of our distant members from Washington and Southern Oregon. Also, we rejoiced with our many children, as their Christmas program glorified God in song and verse.

Our sisters and friends brightened a little corner by making pillowcases and napkins and taking them, with personal gifts, fruits and goodies, to the residents of a nursing home. As we were singing carols for them, we could only thank God for the opportunity,

even though small, He had again given us.

Bro. Ray and Sis. Virginia Cooper's Billy has recovered speedily from a tonsillectomy he had during Christmas vacation.

### PRINCEVILLE, ILLINOIS

#### Ruth Ricketts—Anna Marie Baer

One year; twelve months; fifty two weeks; three hundred sixty-five days; no matter how you look at it, it's a long time. Yet, has it really been long enough to do all the things we should have done, meant to do, and would have done if only we hadn't been so busy. Did we go to see the shut-ins, the lonely, the ones in sorrow, like we meant to do? Did we write to the servicemen a word of encouragement and let them know we are thinking about them? Did we read the word daily, and pray for those less fortunate than we?

We now have a New Year ahead of us, one year in which to live a better life. Twelve months to spend helping our neighbors. Fifty-two weeks to call on the unfortunate, and write letters. Three hundred sixty-five days to read God's word and pray to live closer to our dear Lord. With God's help, we can do it. Let us all resolve to do our best.

In the past year we had eight funerals, six of the deaths almost instant and unexpected. The death angel is no respecter of persons, and called young as well as old. Even one of our dearly beloved ministers was taken suddenly from us. We do not want to question any of these deaths, for we believe God had a good purpose. With love for one another and remembrance in prayer, each of these bereaved families were able to bravely struggle onward each day.

We had five young couples united in marriage, and there were nine babies born, six boys and three girls. Six souls were added to the fold. Two young men were called into the armed service.

Bros. Joshua Broquard of Fairbury and Roy Sauder of Peoria assisted Bro. Silas Leuthold in proving six souls December 11. The assembly room was filled to capacity, to enjoy the testimonies and renew their faith in the living God. It was truly a humbling evening, and all could go home knowing God had been in our presence. The following day, many relatives and friends returned for baptismal services for

Steve Stoller, son of the late Brother Lowell and Sis. Clara; Diana Elsassner, daughter of Bro. William and Sis. Violet of Bradford; Mary Ann and Howard Herrmann, daughter-in-law and son of Bro. Robert and Sis. Esther; Ben and Alvina Streitmatter, son-in-law and daughter of Bro. Sam Grimm. These new converts brought interesting testimonies, and have indeed made a good beginning and set a good example for all to follow. May we all strive to walk a little closer to God.

Bro. Clifford Grimm of West Bend delivered the Christmas message in a humble simple way. The listeners could truly receive a blessing and feel strengthened.

Bro. Richard Seidel's family had planned to go to Phoenix for Christmas. Two hours before they were to leave, their daughter—Marita became very ill and had to submit to an emergency appendectomy. She has returned home and is getting along nicely. It was quite a disappointment for them, but they were thankful they were not already on the way.

Sis. Arlene Knapp hopes to return to Princeville after an extended visit with her parents in Cissna Park. She went home for Thanksgiving, had the misfortune to break an ankle, and has been in a cast for several weeks. It has now been removed, and she is getting along nicely.

Bro. Dale Martin, who contracted malaria in Viet Nam and has been in a hospital in Guam for the past several weeks, was flown to the Naval Hospital at Great Lakes, Illinois. Dale has improved, but the nature of his ailment brings new recurrences, and he must remain in the hospital for further treatment.

Our sympathy is extended to the Asal family, who buried their brother Ben, five weeks after another brother, Albert. Our home ministers conducted services December 23 for Ben, who had made his home in Princeville for some time, before going to live with his sister, Louise, in Peoria. Ben died very suddenly from an apparent heart attack, the morning of December 20.

Bro. Charles and Sis. Marian Hemmer and daughters have moved to Peoria. We will miss them in our assembly, and hope they will come back often. We wish them much happiness in their new home.

Many gathered the evening of December 19 to hear the children eagerly speak and sing, telling the Christmas story, old yet ever new. How humbling to listen to little voices praise God for His most precious gift, His only Son, who was born in a humble station. Many lessons can be learned from innocent, little ones.

Eugene Rumbold, son of Bro. Roy and Sis. Pearl, and Marvin Eberle, son of Bro. Wm. and Sis. Marie was recently inducted into the armed service.

A large group of members and friends assembled New Year's Eve and spent a blessed hour together. All who were there could go home richly blessed and thankful to spend the evening close to God.

Sis. Elizabeth Kieser has submitted the following "Thank You." May the dear Lord bless each who so kindly remembered me with their prayers, and with cards, letters, flowers and gifts, while I was in the hospital and since my return home. It is indeed humbling to accept so much, when the Bible teaches us, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." Yet, it is gratifying to know others care. We certainly need the prayers of those we love. May God bless you, one and all.

### REMINGTON, INDIANA

#### Anna M. Waibel and sisters

The Larry Pittman's of Indianapolis have a baby boy, Daynen Dean, born Dec. 9. Needless to say, Grandpa (Bro.) Odell and Grandma (Sis. Marjorie) are very happy.

Ed and Sis. Lillie Frey had their 50th wedding anniversary Dec. 29. All eight of their children and families were present, representing four generations. May God bless them yet in the future.

Bro. Verlin Stoller stayed for Sunday and expounded the Scripture, through the reading of Revelation 20, 21 and Exodus, in a manner which gave us much to ponder.

#### "Recipe for a Happy New Year"

Take 12 fine, full-grown months. See that these are thoroughly free from all old memories of bitterness, rancor, hate, and jealousy. Cleanse them completely from every clinging spite; pick off all specks of pettiness.

Cut these months into equal parts. Do not attempt to make up

the whole batch at one time, but prepare one day at a time, as follows:

Into each day put equal parts of faith, patience, courage, work, hope, fidelity, liberality, kindness, rest, prayer and meditation.

Pour love into the whole and mix with a vim. Serve with quietness, unselfishness, and cheerfulness. Try it. Wishing all a Blessed New Year!

Philippians 2:1,2 Be of one mind. Matthew 18: 23-35 We are the family of God. In this family there will be differences, but there need not be discord. There will be mistakes, but there need not be friction. There can be unity, because we are united in our Father.

The happiness of our lives depends upon the quality of our thoughts!

**RITTMAN, OHIO**  
**Ella Mae Trent**

It is almost ironical that so much attention is focused on the start of another year, especially with regards to needing a New Year to make major changes in one's life as in the forms of resolutions. How much better to think as an old poet, that "Every day is a fresh beginning," and that each morning we face the world anew. May we examine and evaluate ourselves each day, that no evening will come upon us, finding us wanting in the balances of God.

- Daily Resolutions Worth Adopting
- A little less impatience with those we deem too slow,
  - A little less arrogance because of what we know,
  - A little more humility, seeing our might so slight,
  - (We are such small dim candles compared to starlit night),
  - A little more forgiving and trying to be kind,
  - A little more often the word of gold to find,
  - A word of goodness give, and make a heart rejoice,
  - A little more careful to speak in gentle voice;
  - A little more eagerness to understand the other.
  - A little more striving to help a shipwrecked brother,
  - A little more courage for the hard task that must be done,
- These are daily resolutions. God, help us keep each one.

Looking back the final month of 1965 found many hospitalized. These included Lori Steiner, Sis. Carol Kiser, Sis. Bertha Kiser, Bro. Arthur Gasser, Bro. Bill Saylor, Bro. Ben Hartzler and Bro. John Steiner. All are continuing their recovery at home; some can assemble with us again. Ricky Garrison also required medical treatment, for a leg laceration.

Dec. 26, a daughter, Betty Rena was born to Bro. Merle and Sis. Bonnie Hartzler.

We welcome home Bro. Irwin and Sis. Jane Klotzle, following a six-month stay in North Carolina.

Bro. Fred Stoller departed for the service. We wish him God's protection in this new undertaking.

Bro. Fred and Sis. Emma Ramsier wish to thank all who remembered them on their wedding anniversary.

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

Bro. John Strahm is convalescing after having surgery. Sis. Della Heiniger has returned to her home, after being hospitalized for a heart ailment. May God grant them extra grace.

The Sunday School classes presented the Christmas program. The friends also sang several Christmas selections. We thank the children, friends and teachers for extra effort put forth in singing these beautiful songs of praise to our Lord and Redeemer. We were glad to have the college students with us for worship during the Holiday Season.

The residents of the A. C. Home were pleased to have different groups come in, singing praise at this blessed time.

We have again commemorated the birth of our Lord and Saviour. May we now all strive to fully rededicate our lives to God, as we have approached the new year, walking closer to Him, as we heard in our sermons recently.

The wedding of Elaine Meyer and John Garber was held the evening of December 26. Elaine is the daughter of Bro. Velmer and Sis. Vila Meyer. John is the son of Rose Mary and Edward Garber. May God bless them.

Roger Hartter has left Ft. Sam Houston and arrived safely in Viet Nam. We pray for his protection, as well as all brothers and friends

servicing our country.

The Bern congregation joined us in worship New Year's evening. We find again what a fortunate people we are, having this precious faith, and (as we sang) the beautiful Hymn No. 86—Zion's Harp, "The Lord Will Provide".

Mid-week services will be again, beginning January 5.

**ROCKVILLE, CONNECTICUT**  
**Carlton J. Lanz**

Sis. Lena Limberger while in her home slipped on a rug, fracturing her hip. She had stepped on that very same rug many times. She is at present at the hospital and, according to her daughter, Sis. Emma, "is getting along well." Sis. Lena is 80 years old.

Bro. Dale Zahner is now in Viet Nam, transferred there from Ft. Sam Houston. Bro. Roger Moser is stationed at Fort Sam. He was inducted around Christmas. Both their addresses will be found elsewhere in this issue.

The annual Christmas exercises for the Sunday School children were held in the church's assembly room December 19. The program was lovely and excellent. Children were taught beautiful verses and recited them and sang carols and hymns—alone and together—all in recognition of, and reminiscent to the birth of Jesus Christ, the Saviour. How fortunate these children are to hear sound teaching in their Sunday school by the many dedicated teachers who have served in this important work, so faithfully.

Our annual business meeting was held this year on Wednesday evening January 5. There was but one change made, and that was when a new trustee was elected. Otherwise, the entire slate of officers were voted in to serve for another term. Bro. Arthur Lanz is the new trustee, replacing the retiring brother, Ben Moser.

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

The first service of 1966 (and of the winter season) was held January 2 in the Women's Club Building, with a large number attending from various churches in the North.

Since most of us do not see each other during the summer months, this first gathering is usually a most happy occasion.

As we begin the new year, one of the most important resolutions one can make is to have and serve Christ our Lord foremost in our hearts at all times.

We are happy that our minister, Bro. Philip Wingeier, and his wife have arrived safely, and that the Lord was with them on their trip. Bro. Phil is staying this year at 2035 Palm Terrace, here in Sarasota.

### TAYLOR MISSOURI

Mrs. Eli Sutter Mrs. Bill Heimer

With the beginning of another year we must look to the future with hope, knowing that if we put our trust in the Lord day by day, He will be our strength and shield in prosperity and in need, in sickness and health, in joy and in sorrow, whatever our lot may be.

In Isaiah 41:13 we find this promise—"For I the LORD thy God will hold thy right hand, saying unto thee, Fear not; I will help thee."

#### A New Year's Promise

Another year I enter, its history unknown;

Oh how my feet would tremble to tread its paths alone!

But I have heard a whisper; I know I shall be blest:

"My presence shall go **with thee**, and I will give thee rest."

What will the New Year bring me?

I may not, must not know;

Will it be love and rapture, or loneliness and woe?

Hush! Hush! I hear His whisper; I surely shall be blest:

"My presence shall go **with thee**, and I will give thee rest."

The Sunday School pupils and teachers presented the Christmas program in verse and song, telling of the birth of the Christ Child. We enjoyed it very much, and appreciate the efforts of the teachers working with the children.

Hospital patients this month were Bro. Will Butikofer, for minor surgery, and Bro. William Cottrell, for tests. They have both returned home and are quite well again. Bro. Eli Sutter is a medical patient; we are glad to report that he is improving.

Elder Bro. Fred Grimm has shown considerable improvement, for which we are thankful. He wishes to thank all who sent get-well cards, Christmas cards, gifts and for the prayers in his behalf.

Visiting ministers were Bro.

Harvey Grimm, Bro. Art Gudeman, Bro. Noah Schrock and Bro. Silas Leuthold. They were here for evening services. Their timely messages were a blessing to all.

Many of those away at school and work returned to spend the holidays with families and friends.

### TOLEDO, OHIO

Mary Ann Weigele

Emily Frautschi

We always enjoy the Christmas activities of the Sunday School. The children had their program on Dec. 19. The group went caroling another evening to the aged and shut-ins.

We are glad to report that Tillie Laukhuf is recuperating from her recent gallbladder surgery. Mary Wright has been quite ill in the hospital for about a month. We wish them both God's healing power and strength.

### TREMONT, ILLINOIS

Josephine Schaefer

Sharon Herman

During the Christmas season just past, the Sunday School children once again, through their annual Christmas program, reminded us of God's gift to mankind. It is always wonderful to hear the children, the small ones especially, praising God in such a pure and guileless way.

I had hoped that by this writing I would be able to report that Sis. Rose Beutel, who has been hospitalized for several weeks, was home again, but as of now she is still confined to the hospital. Certainly we hope and pray God will again, in the very near future, bless her with good health.

Bro. Jay Bolliger and Bro. Sam Wegman were chosen recently for Sunday School teachers. As trustee, Bro. Earl Sauder was selected, and Bro. Melvin Kaiser for treasurer.

We thank Bro. Philip Sauder of Cissna Park and Bro. Noah Herman of Tucson for the messages they shared with us. Truly God provides for His children.

Bro. Will and Sis. Rose Beutel received word this past week that their son Fred had arrived safely in Viet Nam. Fred wrote a little of the conditions under which the Vietnamese people live, and we often hear from other sources of the poverty, sickness and terror that are a daily part of their lives. Shouldn't this make each one of us count our blessings and be more ap-

preciative and thankful? God has certainly been good to us.

### The Believer

The following was related to us by a sister who has been in the church for over thirty years. It is certainly a heart-warming experience, showing the blessing in helping those in need, even though it requires a great sacrifice. It should also be a comfort to the unmarried who sometimes wonder what will become of them in their old age, for it impresses one with the fact that God truly will provide.

Quite a number of years ago in our congregation, there was a little old sister-in-faith of a very kindly nature, who was suffering from a very serious illness and was confined to her bed. Because she was unmarried and had no one to care for her, her sister left her family to come and help. The sister, however, was also old and was crippled with arthritis, and therefore, even though she did her best, additional care was needed.

From my youth, but especially after my conversion, my mother had always taught me to show special honor to older people, because it means so much to them. Perhaps it was this that compelled me to pay these two sisters a visit. When I saw that this bedfast sister needed attention, I offered to come and bathe her every morning. She gladly accepted.

Every morning for a number of months I arose very early—long before daylight—so that I could bathe her and be at work on time. On Sunday, I would stay longer and change the bedding on her big featherbed. Needless to say, it was a very tiring job. I would go home utterly exhausted, to lie down for a while before church. The exhaustion was scarcely noticed, for as I would lie there, the most wonderful feeling would come over me—I can't find words to explain it. I had to think that all the extra effort was, without a doubt, worthwhile.

As I look back now, I know that I certainly would have missed a great opportunity had I failed to help this poor sister. The value of this experience is not only to be found in the opportunity to lend a helping hand, but I profited much from the example of this sister. As I would bathe her, sometimes the pain must have been almost unbearable, but never would she cry

out. She would only raise her hand to show it was hurting her.

Sickness teaches patience, and this sister surely knew what patience was, and practiced it.

### TUCSON, ARIZONA

Jay J. Bertsch

Sis. Martha Blessman has departed on a tour of Japan. We wish her God-speed and a safe journey.

Our ministering brother, Noah Herman, his wife and daughter have returned from spending the holiday season with their children in Peoria.

There are a few months of winter here, which is usually very mild. We welcome any to spend some time here . . . we are extremely grateful for any visitors who come and assemble with us. Anyone coming to Tucson should feel free to call on me at my home at 5957 East 20th St., or call me by telephone—my number is 298-5074, for any kind of information.

May the Lord be with us . . . one and all.

### UNION CITY, NEW JERSEY

August Mueller

Today was the first time I assembled here since I returned from Florida. They did not expect to see me; I did not expect to be here. They all were glad to see me, and I was glad to be among them.

We need not fear, even if we should live a hundred or more years. We have members that are over a hundred years old, and if we should ask them, "Did you ever have want," I believe we would get the answer, **No, never.** While we are here in time, let us fall upon our mortal knees and confess that He is Lord of Lords and King over all Kings. If we neglect to do so in this life, we will be forced to do so on that great judgment day. Then it will be too late. The Lord fulfilled His promise which He made many thousand years ago that He would send a Saviour into the world to redeem mankind. Especially He was sent to the lost house of Israel, because they were His chosen people. They strayed from the commandments. They rejected Him. They did not want Him to rule over them. They treated Him shamefully. They killed im.

The Lord sent the gospel among the Gentiles especially by Paul who was a chosen tool for this work. They rejoiced that they also could

be saved from everlasting destruction. Should we not rejoice that the Lord has chosen us to share in this saving grace and can have everlasting life?

Peace on earth, good will to men. Yes, Jesus did bring peace upon earth, but only to those that ask for it. Anybody can have it. It is free for the asking. Would God that a great revival would take place, ere the door of grace will be closed, especially those that know the way. All believing parents are concerned about their children.

In this world we cannot find any peace. The word is being fulfilled which Jesus spake, that in the last days there shall be wars and rumors of war, famine and pestilence. These are the days wherein we live. How fortunate are we that we are on the Lord's side; we have nothing to fear. O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

December 25 . . . Millions of people celebrate this day, and sing Christmas carols. Only those that come from the heart will reach the Father heart, because without faith it is impossible to please God. We indeed have reason to rejoice, that we know there is only one way to come to the Lord and inherit eternal life, and that is to believe.

Sunday the 26th . . . We went to the highest school today, where Jesus Christ is the teacher. He gave us our lesson, that we should walk as children of light, in humbleness. The late Bro. Wartman used to say, "Grow big, but stay as little children." Our teacher expects us to learn and make headway, not to attend class without gaining. The day will come when we will have to show our report cards, which plainly show whether we gained or lost.

Our congregation was saddened very much to hear about Bro. and Sis. Ed Hauter's boy being in the hospital with a fractured hip. They were in our congregation as members for over a year. Bro. Ed still proves his love, in deed and truth. We hope that the Lord, who knoweth all things, will make everything bearable. This is the way He proves the faith of His children.

Two more days and another year is behind us. We ask each other, "Where did the time go?" It seems like only yesterday, the families got together on New Year's eve to spend the last few hours together, but many are missing, among them my dear wife. Many seats are emp-

tied in churches, and in homes. I for one have no reason to murmur or complain. The Lord has kept His promise. It will not be long and we will join those up Yonder. We know the past, but the future is hidden. We are very fortunate not to know what the new year holds in store. All the sorrows, pains and troubles will not vanish with the old year. Let us then look into the future with trust and confidence, knowing that the same God that helped of old the men of faith will also help his children today.

It will be a little late, nevertheless in closing, I wish every member and friend God's richest blessing for the coming year.

### VALPARAISO, INDIANA

Mrs. W. A. Jacob

Mrs. Harry Bucher

How fortunate we are that we can have freedom of speech and freedom to hear the true word of God. We take too much for granted. If we would pause just a moment and count our blessings, name them one by one. How thankful we should be to have such a merciful God. This was the inspiring message brought to us by Bro. Harry Bucher.

The Bremen Sunday School visited us. We were blessed with a day of praise and glory.

Food baskets were distributed to the "Shut-ins" for Thanksgiving and Christmas, by our Sunday School. Bro. Orville and Sis. Mil Bucher had a taffy-pull after distributing the food baskets. May we never fail to thank God for the abundance and opportunity to share cheerfully with others.

"The Light of the World" was our Sunday School Christmas program, which was indeed very impressive. May God bless the teachers for putting forth their efforts.

### WEST BEND, IOWA

Anna Schmidt Marilyn Schneider

Bro. Ivan and Sis. Evelyn Schmidt are the parents of a son, Frank Ivan, born on Dec. 10. Two sisters and two brothers welcome him home.

We are happy to report that Sis. Lizzie Zaugg and Sis. Katie Alt are improving satisfactorily. Sis. Katie's address is: Melvin Alt, Burt, Iowa 51522.

Bro. Eugene Bruellman was in the hospital for observation. Bro.

Joe Benninger is in the hospital for tests.

We had our annual election of Sunday School teachers and trustees this past month. Bro. Don Bruellman replaced Bro. Clifford Grimm; Bro. Ivan Schmidt replaced Bro. Silas Metzger; and Sis. Doris Fehr replaced Sis. Amy Banwart. Bro. Ervin Mogler replaced Bro. Joe Benninger as trustee.

James Zaugg was home on leave for a few days for Christmas. All of the college students from this area were home for the holidays.

We had our Christmas program on December 19; it was enjoyed by all.

The Junior and Senior Bible Classes went caroling to the older folks and shut-ins.

We are happy to announce that Edwin Wirtz has received peace and was announced for proving.

#### On Resolutions

Bells ring out so loud and clear  
Heralding the arrival of another  
New Year.

Resolutions are made over again  
On "This to do", "From that to  
abstain."

But do you know, you  
Who would do well,  
It's best to go, on bended knee,  
And "Help me, Lord",  
To make your plea.

For man's weak strength  
Is all in vain,  
But help from Above  
Is our only sure gain.

#### WICHITA, KANSAS

Mrs. Larry Farney  
Mrs. Harvey Smith

The Sunday School presented their annual Christmas program on December 19. The story of Christ's humble birth—to his suffering on the cross—was repeated in poems, Bible verses and songs. We were reminded ". . ."Tis not the manger, but the cross, That sets the spirit free." The shining faces of the children, as they said their little pieces, proved that the planning and effort the Sunday School teachers put forth was worthwhile.

Sis. Mae Aeschleman has been in the hospital for the past three weeks. We pray that God will give her grace and strength to put her faith and trust in Him. We hope it will not be long before she may fellowship with us again. Also hospi-

talized this month was Terry Farney, son of Bro. Harvey and Sis. Ann Farney. Terry had an infection, in his throat, then it settled in his knee; however, he is up and around on it now.

We always enjoy the holiday seasons, when loved ones gather from far and near to be with their families. How joyful it will be in heaven when we will be joined together forever, with no parting there.

#### WINTHROP, MINNESOTA

Lillian Pfister - Delores Messerli

God wants your heart every hour in the day, every day in the week, and every week in the year.

I was privileged to be part of the group that went carol singing. We sang at the homes in both Winthrop and Lafayette, and also called on two shut-ins in their homes.

Our Christmas weather is mild, and there is scarcely any snow on the ground. However, New Year's evening we were favored with a feathery snowstorm, and now have a lovely, white winter blanket.

We are grateful to be able to report that our Christmas program was well attended. In the closing prayer, our ministering brother, Elmer Schmidt, mentioned that surely our Heavenly Father sees and hears our little ones even better than we do!

Sis. Ida Miller wishes to thank all who remembered her during the Christmas season.

Brother Fred Messner is recovering from surgery.

Recently our ministering brother, Harold Messner, reminded us that resolutions aren't enough. . . That as Christ's followers we must diligently seek God's saving power, which is ever available to the trusting soul. Bro. LeRoy Messner read I Timothy Chapter 6. We were exhorted to fight the good fight of faith and lay hold on eternal life, to follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness.

There had been no news from our soldier boy. Our hearts were heavy, when suddenly our hearts were gladdened by a telegram, giving us assurance that our loved one was sending Christmas greetings to us.

#### BARE TREES

Some think trees, when leaves are gone,

Are ugly things, Bare, Bleak and Brown,

But frosted twigs on leafless trees  
Sparkle brightly in the breeze,  
Shining white against azure skies,  
Intricate lace work before our eyes.  
God creates for us each day  
Beauty somewhere on our way.  
Our hearts must look, for some-  
times He  
Hides his loveliness in a leafless  
tree.

Now now, but in the coming years,  
It may be in a better land,  
We'll know the meaning of our  
tears.

Ah then, ah then we'll understand.

#### GIRARD, OHIO

Jesse C. Emch

Our Sunday School presented their Christmas program on Christmas eve. We are privileged to listen, and watch the children as they recite their pieces or sing; it gives us reason to be humbled and also edified in spirit. The Sunday School group cheered many as they went from place to place singing carols.

Our shut-ins are as follows: Sis. Emma Tochtenhagen, 987 Woodlawn, Girard, O. (has been unable to attend church for almost 7 years, due to a stroke); Sis. Louisa Deisinger, North Side Nursery Home, 480 Lora Ave., Youngstown, Ohio; Sis. Sadie Schladen, 2056 Pleasant Valley Rd., Niles, Ohio.

We are glad to have Bro. Lorentz and Sis. Caroline Emch back home with us, after their stay in Waukegan, Ill., during the illness and death of Sis. Caroline's sister, Clara Cummings. We are all in sympathy with the family.

We enjoyed having several visitors on Sunday, Jan. 9, our last Sunday in our old church. There are many who have found recollections of our little church here. We hope, God willing, to be able to worship in our new church Sun., Jan. 16.

#### WOLCOTT, INDIANA

Arles Kropf

The Sunday School children told us of Jesus' birth, in verse and song at their Christmas program on Dec. 22. Surely God is pleased when he sees these little ones praise Him in this way.

A group of carolers brought cheer to the aged and shut-ins, one evening before Christmas.

Bradley Charles is the new little son of Clifford and Wanda Leh-

man) Johnson, born Dec. 18. Bro. and Sis. Irvin Lehman are grandparents.

Services were held at the church on New Year's morning, with the Remington congregation gathering with us.

May 1966 prove to be a blessed year for each of the Silver Lining readers.

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Lt J G and Mrs David Unsicker  
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PFC Dale Zahner US51540625  
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#### ROANOKE, ILLINOIS

##### Pat Stoller — La Verne Fischer

We are sorry to report that Sis. Irene Legel, who was previously reporting the news from Roanoke, has suffered a stroke, which has left her partially paralyzed and unable to talk. This was quite a shock to her husband, family and the whole congregation. Her being a sister who was always ready and willing to help with anything, it makes us wonder why this should be a part of His plan. We hear that she is recovering slowly, and we hope that she will continue to make

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progress, so that it will not be too long till she can be among us.

David L. Knapp, son of Sis. and Bro. Maurice Knapp, has been inducted into the service on January 3. We certainly wish him the Lord's blessing and protection.

Praise ye the Father  
Praise ye the Son!  
Praise ye the Spirit!  
Sing ye, everyone!

God accepted one more sinner!  
God accepted one more soul!  
God in His great love  
Did another heart console!

My sinsick soul desired  
More than the world could give.  
I wanted the love of Jesus  
And with Him in Heaven to live.

For days I prayed for mercy  
For pardon and release,  
Until at last God, in His grace,  
Sent wondrous, marvelous peace!!!

I want to go to Heaven above!  
I want to be your lamb!  
Please, Lord, I am proud no more!  
A lowly sinner I am!

"Forgive me, God! Forgive my sins!  
Please, God, don't say No!  
I know I don't deserve a Yes.  
For I've mistreated you so!

"Fulfill your promise, Lord, I beg  
While at the door I stand.  
I'm asking, seeking, knocking, now.  
Please open! Take my hand!

"Dear Lord, if you'll forgive me now  
Faithful and true I'll be!  
I'll live my life for you till death!!!  
Please, Lord, hear my plea! . . ."

Forgive me, friends, I'm sorry  
If I hurt or offended you.  
I'll try to make it up to you.  
Just tell me what I can do!

"Praise ye my heavenly Father!  
And praise ye Jesus Christ,  
Who died that I might live  
And dwell in Paradise!!

He shed His blood for sinners.  
How He suffered on that tree

So repentant sinners such as I  
Could from their sins be free!

So great was my joy, I could but sing!  
My heart increased in size!  
To think that after life on earth,  
Unworthy I will gain the prize!

So with a smile and a cheerful heart  
The sinful world I faced.  
"Lord, please help me overcome,  
And Satan thus abase."

"I've been forgiven! Praise His name!  
But yet one thing I need.  
I must be baptized in His death  
To show from sin I'm freed.

So before the church, the children of God  
My testimony I did give  
Of what the Saviour did for me,  
And why I promised for Him to live.

Oh, glorious feeling! Oh, such joy!  
When all stood up to agree  
That they felt I was sincere,  
That God had "worked" in me!

The next day I was baptized.  
A covenant I made to be true.  
As I arose from the baptismal waters,  
I arose to a life anew!

Then the elder said a prayer  
The Holy Spirit to impart.  
He laid his hands upon my head,  
And the Spirit filled my heart!

At last I was fully a child of God—  
A sister in the Lord!!  
And all because of His wonderful love  
I learned of through His Word!

So use me now, oh Jesus!  
Let me be a light  
To guide others toward salvation,  
Away from sinful plight!  
Sis. Sharon Blunier

Have you ordered the new **Gospel Hymns Revised**? Price is \$3.48 plus postage [and 2% sales tax for Indiana residents only]. If you want to order, write The Gospel Hymn Publishing Co., Inc., Box 74, Grabill, Ind. 46741. [not available yet]

We would like to humbly express our thanks to all the brethren and friends for the beautiful get-well cards, letters and gifts that we received, also to those of you who came to visit me at the hospital and at home. Your cards, letters and gifts were such a help and encouragement to me. I appreciated so much your assurance that you were praying for me. We believe your prayers were heard by God, for I have improved considerably. I have been able to attend church for several months, and it is such a blessing when one has been deprived of going for a space of time. May the Lord richly bless and reward you for all you have done for me.

Your least bro. and sis. in Christ,  
Fred and Louise Grimm."

What is suggested for **The Silver Lining** for a year? \$2.00. Where do you send, or where can you ask for **The Silver Lining**? Just write Silver Lining, Box 74, Grabill, Ind. 46741.

**FOR A BELIEVER'S WALK  
As the Years Roll Onward**

I learn as the years roll onward,  
and leave the past behind,  
That much I have counted sorrow  
but proves that our God is kind,  
That many a flower I longed for  
had a hidden thorn of pain,  
And many a rugged bypath  
led to fields of ripened grain.

The clouds but cover the sunshine;  
they cannot banish the sun,  
And the earth shines out the  
brighter  
when the weary rain is done.  
We stand in the deepest sorrow  
and see clearest the light,  
And when suff'ring wrong's own  
darkness,  
Always comes the very strength  
of right.

So the heart in cross-bearing trial  
keeps the purest joy of all,  
And from lips that have tasted  
sadness,  
the sweetest songs will fall,  
For as peace comes after suffering,  
and love is reward of pain,  
So after earth comes heaven,  
and after the cross great gain.