

THE SILVER LINING

Volume 18

FEBRUARY 1968

NUMBER 5

FROM A SERMON BY BRO. JACOB VIRKLER

Delivered at Naumburg, New York

August 29, 1904

“ . . . Oh why don't we more appreciate the blessings promised in the word of God? The door of blessing shall be closed, even as the door of the Ark was closed when all were entered; the Lord came Himself and closed the door. How many were inside? The wicked ones were outside the Ark. The door was closed—no more entrance. The flood came and the destruction came and took them all away. Let us imagine their feelings at the rising of the flood. They sought to escape, but

there was no place of refuge for them, no hill, no mountain high enough to save them from death.

There shall be a time . . . All who have not heard the voice of the Shepherd, the voice of Jesus Christ, and have not entered into the covenant of the New Testament—to them the door of salvation shall be closed, and those outside shall have no more promise of entering into everlasting life. But now, beloved ones, the door is open; the word says

call and the door is open, for there is a day of destruction ahead. The Lord says The door is open; repent and come unto me, and I will give you everlasting life, for there cometh a night when no man can do anything for the salvation of his soul.

The Lord will find every individual buried in the earth or sea. They will all hear His voice . . . when the Lord will call them from the grave and they shall rise.

THE LIFE STORY OF ELIZABETH SPEHEGER

Who passed away in 1937 at the age of 105 years.

Submitted by Theo. Beer

(Found in an old record book of Wells and Adams county, Indiana.)

She was a member of the Apostolic Christian Church of Bluffton for over 80 years. Born in Switzerland in 1832, Elizabeth Frauhiger lived there her first 23 years, emigrated to America with her widowed mother, brother and sister, settling in Ohio near Massillon.

There in 1855 she was married to John Speheger, and the couple came to Indiana by covered wagon, built a cabin on a farm four miles east of Bluffton, where she and her family lived their entire life.

The mother in her long life had no serious illnesses, except in her 100th year she fell and broke her hip. She recovered nicely but walked a little carefully; her fall made her a little timid.

She was a small woman, but was strong and did her housework and tended her garden until her fall, in

her 100th year. Each fall previous to that she would help with the outdoor work, and helped to put corn in the shock, to her intense satisfaction (although her sons protested unavailingly).

She reared her family in a time when there were no modern conveniences as we have them today. The coming of inventions, the vanishing forests, the development of fine farms and highways, she viewed all this from her own little narrow window of her home, all this with but little personal sorrow, and with ever increasing prosperity and well-being for herself and children, her church and her friends.

A quiet, seemingly uneventful life, one day after another, year after year, until now with one hundred and five years at hand, she is peaceful and ready to go when the time comes. Her only lament is, Ich kan nicht arbeiten, I cannot work.

She feels useless; her work has been done.

So she sits in her rocking chair, and one would never think she had reached such a high age, but when she moves, that is another matter, for 105 years has taken its toll.

She has many memories of a life which has been good to her. She possesses a beautiful faith; she is content. She states, Gott hat mich gut behandelt und ich bin yetz bereit abzuschneiden—God has been good to me and I am now ready to depart.

What a wonderful life, a dear mother who fought the good fight. The story of a farmer's wife in the wilderness unfolding into the days of today, patiently, lovingly, kindly living a life of service for five-score and five years, it is to the thoughtful person an inspiration gloriously satisfying.

DO UNTO OTHERS

From A Letter From Bro. Ed and Sis. Connie Frautschi

Connie first:

Greetings Ed, Irma and all,

It hasn't been but a few days since we last saw you . . .

The reason I'm writing is to let you know, Ed, that what you do say in Sunday School does sink into some of our minds . . . I couldn't help but remember what we'd talked about last Sunday, as we drove home that evening . . .

We hadn't gone more than a few miles on the Ohio turnpike, when we came upon a miserable sight . . . There, we saw death . . . Three cars, two totaled; a woman lying in the middle of the road—dead; another woman; a small boy hanging out the back door—dead. We must've arrived seconds after the impact—cars ahead of us passed around . . . Ed immediately pulled over, grabbed our blanket, and ran to cover the boy; came back and grabbed his rain coat and jacket to cover the women. It seemed like ages before the police came. When they did, Ed helped them remove the woman and lay her on the road; shortly after she died—her face covered with blood and her head partially crushed . . . an ambulance came.

Apparently, a Negro man, driving west in a Chrysler had a blow-out, crossed the median, collided with the green Plymouth, and came to a stop on the side of the road. A middle-aged woman, trying to miss the spinning green Plymouth, ran her own grey Plymouth into the green car broadside . . . The middle-aged lady in the grey Plymouth was in shock, but no apparent physical injuries. The negro man's face had cuts, and he possibly broke a leg; but he was conscious and hopped into the ambulance. The green Plymouth got the worse of it all. The father was thrown, but was near the driver's door of his car. He had a couple of broken arms, legs, and who knows what else. I didn't see him, but Ed said he kept yelling, "I'm so cold! What's happened? Where is my wife . . . my son?" Ed could say nothing . . . how could you tell a man, probably dying, that his wife and son were just killed?

After Ed helped the police carry

the dead to the side of the road, swept the glass, clothes, shoes, pieces of flesh, and other debris, we drove on. Our stomach's felt sick;

It is not for us to judge, but we couldn't help but think how **any one** could pass those poor people and not stop to care for them. What if it had been us?—wouldn't any of those first few cars have stopped to give us warmth, reassurance and help? The golden rule applied here. We both wondered if those who had died had peace. Their lives had been taken in a twinkling of an eye. Were they going to spend eternity in heaven or hell? . . .

We thanked God for protecting us and continue to thank Him for the peace we have in our hearts—if we should die in a twinkling of an eye.

We cannot erase that tragic picture from our minds. Just last night before we fell to sleep, Ed said, "I can't get that little boy's face out of my mind—I tried so hard to get a pulse from his wrist. And that father . . . what if he'd been me, and you and Heather were dead—we are certainly blessed, Connie."

Ed, I've been thinking these things for days, and I felt I had to write and tell you that it **is important** to have peace, that what you and others teach us in Sunday School **does matter** . . . Even more than ever, we pray for our friends that they, too, will come to the Lord.

Now, Bro. Ed. Frautschi:

Dear Everybody,

It's very funny how two people's minds run in much the same line. I had wanted to write you a letter of much the same type but a buddy stopped over . . .

I have never felt such complete hopeless abandon as I did when we came upon that lady lying in the road with her left leg almost completely severed . . . I knew how lucky we were—to be alive and to know if we were killed we'd have eternal life . . .

I asked one man for his coat to cover the woman lying in the motor

of the one car . . . but he said. "No, I have to leave"; but he didn't, he stood and gawked. Another I asked to speak with the negro who was trapped so he'd know help was coming. He too refused he "did not want to get involved." Two people dead, one dying and they don't want to get involved! Another man, when his car got stuck trying to pass the scene: "why did this happen now; why couldn't it have waited? I'm late already!" Where were those people's hearts? **Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.** Or is that only when you're not too busy?

. . . again I must thank you and all our teachers and our Heavenly Father for giving us our chance of eternal life. Keep telling them over and over again—just one soul is worth it."

Anaheim, Calif, Henry Souder Jr.
Editor of "The Silver Lining". Dear Sir:

I want to ask you to put an item in your paper about a "Mr. William Schmidt" who rooms here. He had a stroke and is in the hospital. He is getting along as nice as possible but I know he would like the prayers from Wolcott, where his brother John lived. If he was able I know he would be reading this paper throughout. Your every prayer would be grateful . . . Mrs. Grogan, (1215 E Chestnut, Anaheim Calif.)

THE SILVER LINING

Grabill, Indiana 46741

Editor: Henry Souder Jr.

Published Monthly By the Apostolic Christian Church of America

Counsellors: Theo. Beer, Loren Stoller, David Bertsch.

News Correspondent: Ed Souder

Send correspondence to The Silver Lining, Grabill, Ind. 46741

Second class postage paid at Grabill, Indiana 46741.

Amt. suggested for a year, \$2.00.

Send zip No. with address. Remember to send change of address.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME EUREKA

August Mueller

We are indeed fortunate to have such a merciful Father. He knows everything. He sees everything; we are at all times like an open book before Him. Our time in this world is short, even if they are 100 years. How glad would they be (those lost forever) that even in 10 years one would come to promise them that they would be free, but there is no such a promise in the Bible. The only way things can be straightened out is repentance. We must make use of the time that is given unto us. How will it be when the day will come when the Master of the house will stand up to shut the door, and nobody will be able to open it. The word tells us that when He opens, no one can close, and where He closes no one can open. Let us sow good seed, that when the harvest comes, we will be able to gather the good fruit from the seed we did sow.

ALTO, MICHIGAN

Donna Steffen

"Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life."

Sunday afternoon, Jan. 14, we had a business meeting. Bro. Noah Blough was elected Treasurer, Bro. Otto Schlatter was elected Secretary, and Bro. David Wingeier became our new Trustee. We wish for these dear brothers God's grace in their important duties.

Wed. evening, Jan. 17, we were very pleased that our dear Bro. Ben Maibach, from Detroit, could visit our congregation. Bro. Ben brought forth such a wonderful and very encouraging message for all of us. He reminded us that when we place our lives and hearts in the hands of God, we must surrender all! We thank Ben and his wife for coming, and extend a hearty invitation for them to come again as soon as possible.

Our dear Bro. Fred Oesch hasn't been feeling well this month, but seems to be improving daily. We pray that God will give this dear brother new strength and courage each day as it comes.

Friend R. D. Bancroft recently suffered a heart attack; he passed away Sunday morning, Jan. 28, at the age of 67. The following Tuesday, funeral services were held by

Bro. Ben Maibach. Our prayers surely go out for R. D's dear wife and family, in their days of great sorrow. May they be comforted to know "The Lord is nigh unto all them that call upon him".

ATHENS, ALABAMA

203 N. Clinton St.

Lynn Klopfenstein

Night meetings have been held at the homes of Prater and Sis. Irene Sprat, and Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Massey.

Sis. Ora Kelley is confined to bed at her home, following surgery. It is expected that her recuperation will require several months. She and Bro. George have requested that a note of thanks be made for the many cards and notes of encouragement sent to them during her confinement.

Sis. Irene Spratt gave an interesting testimony of faith on Christmas Eve Day, and baptism followed.

Miss Ida Randolph, sister-in-law of Bro. Wesley Long, died at the Giles County Hospital in Pulaski, Tenn.

Franklin Moss and his cousin, Wendell Robinson, were killed instantly when hit by a car, as the two walked along Highway 121, north of Athens. Franklin was the son of Bro. Marvin and Sis. Ruby Moss. A very tragic death. We observe daily that this life must end—sometimes abruptly. Bro. Lavoyd Moore conducted services at the Athens church.

Killed In Viet Nam

Junior Lott, son of Dick and Sis. Ruth Lott, was killed in action in Viet Nam on December 19. Survivors included his parents, his wife Shirley, as well as five brothers and sisters. Funeral services were held at the Athens church and conducted by Bro. Lavoyd Moore.

LANDERSVILLE, ALABAMA

R. R. 1, Moulton, Alabama

Lynn Klopfenstein

Inspiring testimonies of faith and conversion were given by Mauvlyn Harville and Billy Jo Harville. Following the testimony service, Bro. Junior Hale administered baptism, & Elder Bro. David Bertsch led the prayer of consecration. Thank God for these souls to enjoy the peace and grace of God through Jesus Christ.

Group singing was held Jan. 26 at the home of Dyars and Sis. Billy Jo Harville.

Bro. Art Gudeman delivered an inspiring devotional to the Youth Group, at the bi-weekly meeting on Jan. 18.

Hospitalized: Mr. Will Posey, Mr. Will Lathan, Mrs. Eunice Berryman, Tim Blankenship, John Dotson, the baby of John and Betty (Drake) Fuller, Mrs. Billy Dutton and Mike LouAllen.

Billy and Shelby Dutton are parents of a baby girl, born Jan. 11 at Moulton. She is named Melaney Ray and has a brother and sister to help care for her.

We are thankful for the inspiring message and challenge presented to us through the ministry of Bro. Edwin Bahler, at the Sunday night service, Dec. 31.

MOUNTAIN HOME APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

R. R. 1, Hillsboro, Alabama

Lynn Klopfenstein

Bro. Henry and Sis. Pearl Stricklin now reside at the Beatrice Rest Home in Moulton, Alabama. Henry is confined to bed in failing health, and Pearl is confined to a wheelchair.

Jerry Anderson, grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Hardy Hale, leaves for a tour of duty in Viet Nam.

Bro. and Sis. Edwin Bahler and family visited here the week end of Dec. 31. We are thankful for the ministry of Bro. Edwin at the Sunday morning service.

The Youth Group, including the Sunday School Junior and Bible classes, met on Jan. 22, for the regular bi-weekly meeting. Bro. Junior Hale led the group devotion.

FRANCESVILLE, INDIANA

Mrs. Herman (Chris) Wuethrich

Mrs. Edison Gutwein

"Farewell, I go to rest." The wish of our dear Grandma Pelsy had been for so long that she could go to her heavenly home, so she could sweetly go a short time before her 107th birthday. Bro. Joe Zimmerman said, her passing was of one we have loved. He gave a special prayer for her two daughters, who were always so kind and faithful to her. Sis. Catherine Pelsy lived 88 years for her Lord and Saviour, and would always say, "I love everyone." Something she will be remembered by is the peppermint drink she would serve and the peppermint candy she would give. One of the last things she said, two Saturdays before her death, was "I would like

to go to church tomorrow”.

Grandma's last great-great-grandchild, her 49th, was born to our youngest daughter, Betty. And when Betty was born, my father and mother (Norr) wrote to us that she was "God's wonderful gift to us". God also gave a wonderful gift to Bro. Rodric Hubers, which was Grandma Pelsy's 48th great-great-grandchild. The Bro. Freddie Gutweins have their third gift from God.

Now we have yearly church work given to some of our brothers again—Emil Pelsy, Keith Getz, Orie Heinold, Bill Huber and Willie Stefan. Our churches need the cooperation of many brothers and sisters, to keep up the Christian Fellowship that we deeply cherish.

We could lovingly hear the words of a visiting grandfather, Bro. Sam Kilgus, speak to us and say, "It is not difficult, a blessed man to be."

Sincere thanks and deep appreciation comes from Bro. Will Kahler; his daughter, Sis. Norma and her husband; and the Gudeman brothers and sisters, for all the love that was done for them and sent to them, after the sudden passing of Sis. Katie Kahler.

Closing prayer—Each morning that we awake, show us the path of love to take.

MORTON, ILLINOIS

Rose Getz — Ruth Rapp

Our guest ministers were Bro. Ezra Feller of Cissna Park, Bro. Ed Lanz of Oakville, Bro. Robert Grimm, Goodfield and Bro. Albert Aberle of Tremont.

Announcement was made of the future wedding of Sis. LeAnn Bertschi, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Rudolph Bertschi, and Bro. Guss Schlatter, son of Bro. and Sis. Joe Schlatter of Latty.

Bro. Sam Roth, who had major surgery, is convalescing at his home. Bro. Irvin Leman was released from the hospital, where he underwent surgery.

Funeral services for Bro. Irvin Nohl, 60, were held Jan. 20. He was the son of Bro. Jacob and Anna Zobrist Nohl, of Morris. Surviving are his wife, Martha Strunk Nohl; his father; three sisters, Mrs. Ed (LaVerne) Heil, Mrs. David (Neel) Joos and Mrs. Gottlieb (Edith) Joos, all of Hancock; three brothers, Lawrence and Noah of Hancock, & Orville of Morris. Bro. Russell Rapp and the home ministers officiated.

A daughter, Ann Marie, was born to Bro. Marvin and Sis. Lois Zimmerman Getz, Jan. 13. A son, Mark Allen, was born to Bro. Howard and Sis. Gloria Vierling Leman, Jan. 20.

BREMEN, INDIANA

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

On Jan. 14, our congregation enjoyed a very blessed afternoon visiting with the Milford church. In the spirit of love and fellowship we were drawn closer to one another, and hence closer to the Lord.

We praise God that Tom and Mary Steele gave their testimonies, were baptized, and became children of God. May the Lord grant them the grace to be living, loving witnesses for Him. It was a blessing to have Bro. Joe Waibel and Bro. Noah Bauman with us for that glorious occasion.

At this writing, Bro. Sam Nicholas remains in the hospital in poor condition. Sis. Elizabeth Yackley also is hospitalized at this time. Our love and prayers go out to them.

"By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another." John 13:35

JAPAN

Yoshio Yamazaki

It is worse and worse in this earth day by day, and seems to us Christians that Jesus will come very soon. In 1968, we started by struggle inside and outside of the countries. I believe and should accept 1968 is a year of tribulation and temptation in this world. However, we true Christian are really thankful to God because we already reserved the heavenly home through the Son of God, Jesus, who died on the cross. "Behold, the LORD's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear." "And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass . . ."

As already you knew, the Klaus' lovely daughter Gracie had happened by the traffic accident last November. Now she is mostly complete healed. We really thanked God, for He really accepted our humble

prayer. She is going to the kindergarten everyday except the Lord's day. We should say surely appreciated it very much for your kindness, prayer and deep concern for her.

At middle of January, Elmer Greenbank from Barberton, Ohio, visited here in our country Japan second time and had nice fellowship with us. He is really fine young man, and we surely hope and pray for him to repent before the time comes.

Sis. Nancy Roth's brother John Link, who is from Fairbury, is in the US Army hospital here; it's about 35 miles away to the east from central Tokyo. He had wound in Viet Nam last month, and troubled his leg now. I visited there and talked with him a little while, and he showed me the big thing from the leg. I feel very sorry for him; such young boys have to go the fight in such miserable war without their willing. However, we really thankful that Link's injury is not so much, and he will be soon better, that I believe. Nancy is going to visit him once a week from the country church.

Our churches in Japan always welcome the visitors from the States, Viet Nam and some other places, and we try to share you our love. Let try to work together and pray together more earnestly in Him, before closed the door of in this world.

We certainly appreciated it very much for your past support and prayer, and will ask you brethren in the States also this year still continue prayer, and encourage to our small congregation in Japan.

SARASOTA, FLORIDA

Velta Laukhuf

Take root downward, and bear fruit upward is found in II Kings 19:30. The roots of our inner life must take hold on the riches of heaven's grace, and drink of the waters that flow from heaven. In our oft and silent communion with God, they take root downward and then go forth and bear fruit upward.

Visiting ministers for the past month were Bros. Phil Sauder, Joe Schrock, Arthur Gudeman. May God bless them for their efforts in explaining the word of truth. We thank them for their inspiring messages. We hope they will visit us again soon.

On our sick list and hospitalized were friend Sam Grimm and Bro.

Richard Lauhuf. Both are out, and we are thankful to God that he has again healed their weak and mortal bodies.

Our hearts were saddened to hear our dear friend, Chris Knochel, has passed away so suddenly in the north. The heavenly Father saw fit to call him to me. Our sympathy is extended to his wife, Vera, and family. Chris and Vera attended our church services regularly in Sarasota. They always opened their heart and home to the church group. Chris and Vera have spent many winters here. He was a brother to Gust Knochel of Remington. We are going to miss Chris.

A church picnic was held at the Elk's Park on Jan. 30, with a large number attending. A pot-luck dinner was held at noon. The afternoon was spent in singing hymns to the praise, honor and glory of God, and visiting with one another.

REMINGTON, INDIANA

Anna M. Waibel and Sisters

Bro. Eldon Getz, Sis. Eliza's son, was inducted into the armed services.

Sis. Edna Lehman (Richard) entered the hospital for foot surgery. Robert Bahler is in hospital for surgery; his son Victor is recuperating from recent surgery. Sis. Sophie Siebenthal was in hospital for X-rays. Sis. Mary Bahler was moved to a nursing home at San Pierre, Indiana. We hope and pray that each one's lot will be made bearable, through faith and prayer in Him who loves us all.

Sis. Marlene Schini, Bro. Albert and Sis. Amelia's daughter, was announced to be married to Bro. Tim Ringger of Bluffton.

Bro. Irvin Lehman spent Sunday forenoon with us recently. Always there is gratefulness for his presence and messages.

Chris Knochel, 74, passed away Jan. 20, after suffering a stroke. He just recently was dismissed from hospital, after a 3-month stay due to a compound fracture of his leg. He was married to Vera Brown in 1925. Surviving, with her, are 5 sons and 3 daughters; five sisters, Ida Tyler, Sis. Lena, Bro. Gus, Sis. Louise Scharlach of here, Sis. Sophie Farney of Wolcott, and Sis. Lydia Pelsey of Francesville. Our sympathy goes out to all, as his death was unexpected. They had reservations made to fly to their home in Sarasota. The uncertainty of life is ever

before us. May we all strive to know that we are ready to meet our God and Maker.

A Christian should study the word daily. Ask yourself: Do I really have all three of these working in my life? (1) The word of God. (2) A changed life. (3) The witness of the Holy Spirit.

While we cannot judge, we can be fruit-inspectors! That very clearly means, all other people should be able to find imprinted in a Christian's life the evidence that he is a child of God. So should he!

We returned from Lakeland, Fla., after a 5-weeks' stay, due to the illness and death of our sister-in-law, Mildred, our brother Arnold's wife. She suffered 3 cerebral hemorrhages since Dec. 12, and broke all their medical records at the hospital there to survive so long. She passed away Jan. 22.

WOLCOTT, INDIANA

Arles Kropf

Ring the bells of heaven! there is joy today,
For the wand'rer now is reconciled;
Yes a soul is rescued from his sinful way,

And is born anew a ransomed child!
Not only was there joy in heaven,
but in our church on Jan. 21, when Roger Schwab gave his testimony and could be baptized. May the Lord's rich blessings be upon him in his new life.

We are glad to have Bro. Dave and Sis. Hulda Strahm from Kansas assemble with us while they are spending the winter here with their daughter, Sis. Reva Waibel and family. Bro. Dave had been ill, but is improved enough to attend church again.

Bro. Nathan Lehman has completed his course at the Valparaiso Tech School and is now employed at an electronics plant in Lafayette.

INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

Howard and Louise Getz

On Jan. 14 our little congregation was reminded of Matthew 18:20: "For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." A snowstorm that blanketed most of the state and made driving extremely hazardous brought us our first Sunday without a minister. Although no one was able to minister unto us, we felt a rich blessing came to each of the 20 who braved the elements to gather together in His name, and

who so enjoyed the song service and fellowship of that day.

In contrast, on Jan. 21 over 70 took advantage of better roads to hear Bro. Ben Maibach (Detroit) make us aware that the wisdom through Christ is far more important than man's knowledge. Inclement weather delayed the Maibach's return flight to Detroit until Monday, but Bro. John Mayer's family greatly enjoyed the opportunity to extend their hospitality to a minister from their former home.

On Jan. 28, Bro. Bob Meyer and Bro. Carl Kipfer (Bluffton) were the first ministers to visit us during the semester break. Though the attendance was slim on that Sunday and also the following Sunday when Bro. Merle Bucher (LaCrosse) was with us, we shared God's endless blessings and love.

As the second semester of school begins, we wish to extend a hearty invitation to the parents and friends of students to meet and worship with them in Indianapolis. We meet at the Krannert YMCA, which is just off Interstate 465, on the west side of Indianapolis. Take route 40 west off Rt. 465, and turn right at the first stoplight. The YMCA is about $\frac{3}{4}$ mile from there, on the right-hand side.

PULASKI, IOWA

Mrs. Dave Wiegand

We had our first monthly singing on Jan. 14. It was a blessed hour singing praises to the Lord.

Some of us gathered at the home of Sisters Minnie Getz and Lydia Wuthrich, to help them celebrate their 82nd and 92nd birthdays. These two dear souls are still very active and healthy. May God continue to bless them with reasonable health and strength.

We welcomed Bro. Ronnie and Sis. Janice Rinkenberger and their little boy, Tony, to our congregation. They moved from Burlington to Ottumwa, on Jan. 20. Bro. Cleo and Sis. Esther are very happy to have their son and his family here. They will be missed in Burlington, but they make a nice addition to our small flock.

PORTLAND, OREGON

Connie Steffen

The flowers appear on the earth; the time of the singing of birds is come, and the voice of the turtle (dove) is heard in our land.

Portland's winter weather seems

to be past, and now we are able to see the flowering shrubs and ornamental trees break into bloom, accented by numerous small flowers.

Our friend, Eli Ardu, hopes to leave for France, where he will join his wife and children the last of February.

Sis. Clara Kaufman has improved enough to be released from the Rehabilitation Center. Her progress was very good, and she's happy to be able to be home again with her daughter Janice, and near her son, John's home. Her address is Route 2 Box 193, Silverton Oregon 97381. We know her hours would pass more swiftly if she could hear from some of you.

Some of the Sunday School boys from the two older classes, accompanied by three brothers, went to the coast the second week end of Jan. The children can explore marine life and find driftwood and agates. January is a very good month for beachcombing here. There is a beautiful beach about 100 miles from Portland. The weather is generally mild, and the ocean breakers leave many things on the shores.

We were happy to have Dave and Elinor (Steffen) Hanchett from Elgin, Illinois, with us. Dave had been working for his company in the Portland area for a month.

Betty Kaufman was hospitalized for a few days, but now is home again and feeling quite a little better. We'll be very glad when she's "all fine" again, for a mother is very important.

PRINCEVILLE, ILLINOIS

Ruth Ricketts—Anna Marie Baer

A few hours before the new year came in, a little son, Phil David, was born to Bro. Edwin and Sis. Carol Baurer. Cynthia and Renee happily welcomed their little brother. Grandparents are Bro. John and Sis. Louise Baurer and Bro. Clarence and Sis. Emma Knobloch of Bradford.

The New Year was started with sub zero weather, with quite a lot of snow during the month. At the end of the month we enjoyed springlike weather; the snow has melted, the grass is green and bulbs are beginning to push up. How happy we are for the sunny days, after having so much gloomy weather.

The annual church business meeting was held on a Wed. evening, the

first of the month. Various reports were read, and officers elected to replace those whose terms had expired.

Bro. Wm. Stahl received word of the death of his mother in Germany. We extend our sympathy to the family. Bro. Wm. and Sis. Marie had the pleasure of visiting with her a few days last fall.

SP4 Gregory Martin, son of Sis. Edith, who is stationed in Viet Nam, had the distinction of being **Soldier of the Month** recently. He was personally complimented by General Westmorland, and also had the pleasure of meeting the President of the U.S. while on his recent visit to Viet Nam.

The engagement of Bro. Dale Martin and Sis. Teresa Streitmatter was made known to the congregation Jan. 21.

We have had quite a lot of sickness the past month. Bad colds, flu, mumps and chicken pox are quite prevalent, as well as other disorders. Sis. Margaret Ehle was a hospital patient for a few days, and is now nursing her husband, Bro. Will, who suffered a slight stroke recently. Both are showing improvement. Bro. Norman Streitmatter has nicely recovered from recent surgery, and Bro. Richard Graham is able to be about again, following surgery. Bro. Levi Endress is presently receiving treatment in a Galesburg hospital following a slight stroke, and other complication. Sis. Nellie Woertz is in the hospital, slowly recovering from surgery. Bro. Chris Martin had surgery, and is recovering at home. The infant son of Bro. Bill and Sis. Diane Streitmatter spent several days in the hospital for emergency surgery. Crystal, small daughter of Bro. Harry and Sis. Bertha Jeanne Herrmann, had a tonsillectomy recently and is recovering nicely. Little Karen Menold had a severe stomach distress and has been receiving treatment in the hospital. She is improving and is hoping to get home soon. (Her parents are Bro. Leonard and Sis. Marie.) Sis. Edith Stahl has entered the hospital and will undergo surgery.

"The LORD is nigh unto all them that call upon him, to all that call upon him in truth. He will fulfill the desire of them that fear him; he also will hear their cry . . ."

There was much joy in our congregation Feb 3 and 4 (felt as though we sat in heavenly places),

when seven souls gave their testimonies of their newfound faith. Faithful shepherds, Joshua Broquard of Fairbury, Roy Sauder of Peoria, and Dan Koch of Tremont, so willingly assisted our Elder Brother Silas Leuthold, in helping the friends before an over-filled room. I'm sure that all who were present were benefited by the heart-stirring experiences of our new converts, who are: Marita Seidel, daughter of Bro. Richard and Sis. Marie; Kayleen Endress, daughter of Bro. Levi and Sis. Mildred; Marlene Rumbold, daughter of Bro. Ezra and the late Sis. Lena; Linda Baer, daughter of Otto and Eleanor; Margaret Wieland, wife of Walter and also sister-in-law of Bro. Will and Sis. Ida Huber; and Diane and Bill Streitmatter. Diane is the daughter of Al and Katherine Baer, and Bill the son of Bro. Harold and Sis. Anna.

"He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved". Baptismal services were witnessed by many relatives and friends on Sunday, Feb. 4. So thankful are we for our new converts, and it is our prayer that many more will turn their backs to this sinful world, and place their trust in the Almighty God.

TOLEDO, OHIO

**Mary Ann Weigele
Emily Frautschi**

Sis. Sharon and Bro. Walter Rager welcomed a new baby boy, Kent Duane, to their family on Christmas Day.

David Laidig has been enjoying a 30-day furlough, after serving in Korea. He will be stationed in the States until his discharge this summer. While home, he became engaged to Jo Ann Dahms. They plan to be married when she is finished with nurse's training.

Bro. Ben Maibach visited us on Jan. 7. We enjoyed his words of wisdom.

Bro. Al Weigle was chosen to take Sis. Josephine Reineck's place as teacher of the Intermediate Bible Class and Sunday School song leader.

On Feb. 3 and 4, Elder Bros. John Bahler and Rudolph Graf visited our congregation. We had services on Saturday evening. On Sunday we enjoyed the blessings of Holy Communion. The memorandum was read, and we were reminded that moderation in all things is well.

Bros. Eugene Fetter and Walter

Rager were elected to assist in the ministry. We pray the Lord will give them the much-needed grace in their new responsibilities.

VALPARAISO, INDIANA

Mrs. H. G. Bucher

Mrs. W. A. Jacobs

"All the paths of the LORD are mercy and truth unto such as keep his covenant and his testimonies." Bro. Art Yergler and his Bible class students are studying the creation of the earth and the seven dispensations, which is very interesting to them.

Our friend Clarence Morris, who has been a shut in for some time, confesses peace with God and is looking forward to be added to the fold. We wish him God's blessing.

On Jan. 20, funeral service was conducted by Bro. Harry Bucher for Mrs. Walter Hitz at the Apostolic church of Valparaiso. The body was taken to La Crosse Cemetery for burial. She leaves a daughter and two grandsons.

Our college students have returned to school, after spending two weeks at home. They are Lynn Freiden, Barry Bucher; Sandra Dehaven (to IU).

When deep in despair
And surrounded by care
And you sink neath the weight of
the load,
What a joy and what peace
And what blessed release
When God supplies strength for the
road.

WEST BEND, IOWA

Anna Schmidt — Mrs. A. Banwart

Brenda and Byron, children of Helen and Lenord Anliker have been to Iowa City for check-ups and are doing quite well. Bro. Wm. Metzger has been taken to the hospital and isn't too well. Sis. Elizabeth Zaugg has improved considerably and has returned to the rest home. So many have had various types of flu and sicknesses recently, that most of us are able to better appreciate our blessing of good health to a greater extent.

Bro. Harlan, son of Bro. and Sis. Arnold and Alice Metzger, is now in Ft. Sam, fulfilling his military obligations. We are grateful Bro. and Sis. Elmer and Matilda Fehr and Sisters Nima Fehr, Corrine Traub, and Elizabeth Traub could journey to Ft. Sam and spend some time with the servicemen there. Bro.

Noah Gerber and others enjoyed Sunday services and visiting with the Minneapolis congregation recently.

May we all take a few moments often, to apply the following lines to ourselves. We were deeply touched to learn our recently departed dear sister, Peggy Metzger had this poem, unbeknown to Bro. Duane, near the top of some keepsakes.

My Father

Dear Father, when I pass away,
Perhaps there won't be time to
pray—

For death may strike so suddenly,
I'll not have time to call on Thee;
So precious Lord, while yet I live,
Be Thou my Saviour, cleanse,
forgive;

Help me Lord to watch and pray,
To serve Thee gladly day by day,
To be at all times, by Thy grace—
Prepared to meet Thee face to face.

DETROIT, MICHIGAN

Judith Aberle — Donna Hartzler

Sunday, Jan. 14 was a blessed day for us and especially for Mary Guthrie, who was baptized into Christ's death and could arise unto a newness of life. On Saturday evening, Mary gave her testimony of how the Lord had called her from the world and led her unto His marvelous light. Mary is originally from Kiowa, Kansas, and attended church at Burlington, Oklahoma. Bro. Roy Farney, from Phoenix, who is elder at Burlington, was able to be with us and hear Mary tell of how the Lord had worked in her heart. Our elder, Bro. Joe Waibel from Bay City was also here to assist with the proving and baptism. Sunday afternoon, the commandments of God was fulfilled with the baptism by Bro. Ben Maibach, and the laying on of hands by Bro. Roy Farney, who prayed the Holy Spirit to enter into Mary's cleansed and purified heart.

It was a joy to have with us Mary's parents, Bro. Richard and Sis. Florence Guthrie, for this blessed occasion. The presence of ministering Bro. Joe and Sis. Mary Aberle of Sabetha, formerly of Burlington, completed the small reunion of Burlington folks. We all wish Mary God's grace to remain true and faithful all the days of her life, and may His richest blessings be hers.

On Jan. 24, Bro. John and Sis. Martha Gleichman became the

happy parents of their first child, a son, John Alan Jr. May God bless the new family. The newest addition to the family of Bro. Frank and Sis. Ruth Gudeman is Eric Mathew, born Feb. 5. He joins another brother, Keith.

Sis. Audrey Hitz has been confined to her home for several weeks, after undergoing surgery on her foot. Roger Saurer also injured his foot, but is able to walk on crutches. We sympathize with both and hope they will soon be blessed with full recovery.

EUREKA, ILLINOIS

Cathryn Wettstein

Salome Walter

On Saturday evening Jan. 13, six dear souls were given their chance to give their testimonies before the congregation. They were Sam Fehr, Duane Blunier, Tom Stoller, John Hartter, Gary Knepp and Janet Fisher. They all testified of what God had done for them, had changed their hearts so the Holy Spirit could dwell therein. Bros. Silas Leuthold and Edwin Hohulin helped Bro. Huber in this important work. The next day, all six were baptized and now are new babes in Christ. May God ever be as near them as He was this day. Bro. Merrill Laukhuf from Latty was also a guest.

Today, January 14, was a most blessed day;

Six souls were baptized according to God's way.

Sam, Duane, Tom, John, Gary, Janet they were;

We hope their now clean slates they'll never mar.

Several months ago, they had to humble be,

To make a good beginning; their pride just had to flee.

Realizing their sin, praying to God to forgive,

Making all wrongs right, then His peace He would give.

These favors, God's grace, so undeserved

Are granted to us and not reserved.

Last night they gave their testimonies—"Twas touching it was true

To hear how they began their life in their dear Lord anew.

A grandmother's death, and the world situation

Helped two to seek their soul's salvation.

All realized that because of their sin

Heaven's gate they could not enter in.
 Sunday morning, to willingly bear the Cross, we heard,
 We should walk close to God, obeying His good word.
 In the afternoon we heard if we only ask and believe,
 A new life we can begin in the Lord—our old one to leave.
 Then for baptism the six converts prepared,
 With thankful hearts toward their Saviour who cared.
 Before they stepped into the watery grave,
 For God's blessings we all earnestly prayed.
 A covenant was erected by those who were converted
 Which all hope and pray will never be subverted.
 They promise their dear Lord to follow 'til the end,
 And He will always help them, ever be their friend.
 Then into the water, where their sin does depart—
 And raised is a new man, with a new heart.
 The newborn children of God returned to the congregation,
 And the elders with their hands upon their heads made intercession,
 Praying that the Holy Spirit fill their heart,
 With love, joy, and peace, never to depart.
 We welcome you heartily into the flock;
 May you continue to build on Jesus, the Rock,
 But we must remember, too, coming are many temptations.
 Don't fear; Pray. These are for your salvation.
 Share your joys and temptations with the brotherhood,
 And they will gladly help, for your eternal good.
 Daily we must read the Bible carefully,
 And in our work follow the teachings prayerfully.
 Now may the heavenly Father ever keep you in His love,
 That some day a heavenly home you may have above.
 Written by a sister-in-faith from Eureka.

Those who were in the hospital recently: Sis. Velma Leman, wife of Bro. Gerald was a surgical patient. Myron Blunier, son of Bro. and Sis. Vernon and Verda received

a broken arm in an accident at his father's farm. Sis. Lena Leman, wife of Bro. Alf has not been very well and has been unable to assemble with us regularly. Sis. Corrine Hartter has been confined to her home because of illness. May God grant good health soon to these and all who are not well, if it be His will.

Recently, Art and Sis. Lillian Fehr's country home burned to the ground. They now have found another place to live, so they can start housekeeping again. Many things have been donated, to help them get started. They have two children, a son and a daughter.

The business meeting was held in January. Bro. Carl Knepp was elected a new trustee. Bros. Earl Zimmerman and Ira Farney and Sis. Helen Belsley were chosen as new Sunday School teachers.

Births: Bro. and Sis. Robert and Helen Wiegand are the parents of their seventh child, a son born Jan. 17, named Andrew Lee. To Allen and Nathalia Getz, a son, Kent Douglas, was born Jan. 30. They have three sons and a daughter now.

Our friends, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Schumacher have left our Eureka community, having moved to Brussels, Belgium. He is employed with the Caterpillar company.

BAY CITY, MICHIGAN

Marlene Mosher

Friend Eugene Meylan has left for the service. He is the son of Bro. Henry and Sis. Eunice Meylan. Another of their sons, Friend Gary Meylan, has just returned home.

Bro. Duane and Sis. Carol Broquard have a new baby daughter, Heidi.

We are so very happy to have two young men in our congregation that have turned to the Lord, Bradley and Brace Wieland. They are the sons of Bro. Roy and Sis. Margaret Wieland. Bradley has found peace with our Lord and his fellowman. We wish these two young men the grace and blessings of our dear Lord and Saviour.

We hope and pray that many more of our young men and women will come now, to find their precious Lord, and taste of His rich love and comfort in this time of so much deception and confusion.

We were very happy to have with us Ministering Bros. Ken Sauder of Mansfield and Ben Maibach of

Detroit and their families. We enjoyed these brothers' visit so very much.

Sis. Kathryn Wieland has had surgery, but is now on the mend.

May our precious Lord be with us each day and help us to do His will, in each hour, so we do not break that tie that we have with Him. If our tie between our Lord and ourselves, the tie of loving the Bible and prayer, is broken we are lost, and it is so lonely in this world, that is so full of confusion and hypocrisy. Let us be careful and watchful.

Christian, walk carefully;
 Christian, walk prayerfully.

BLUFFTON, INDIANA

Delutha Moser — Carolyn Gerber
 Life burdens become lighter
 when we walk by faith in God.

Shut-ins: Sisters Mary C Moser, Marjorie (Truman) Baumgartner, Maryann (Homer) Gerber, Katie Isch and Mrs. Bill Steffen; Bros. Sylvan Gerber and Harold Steffen.

Weddings: On Jan. 14, Sis. Carol Tonner and Bro. Steve Stuckey were united in marriage by Bro. John Yergler. On Jan. 28, Sis. Rosemary Eisenmann and Bro. Edwin Hegerfeld were united in holy matrimony by Bro. Sam Aeschliman.

Engagements: Sis. Kathy Gerber announced her engagement to Bro. Rick Stuckey; parents of the couple are Bro. and Sis. Harry W. Gerber and Bro. and Sis. Earl Stuckey. Bro. Tim Ringger made known his engagement to Sis. Marlene Schini of Remington; parents of the couple are Bro. and Sis. Raymond Ringger and Bro. and Sis. Albert Schini.

Funerals: Services were held for Sis. Katie Reinhard, age 93, who was ill for two years. Surviving are five sons, Ulrich, Ephraim, Alphonie, Amos, Aaron; one daughter, Sylvia, 19 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren. Bros. Sam Aeschliman and John Yergler officiated the services.

Services were held for Sis. Edna Gerber, age 73, who died unexpectedly of a heart attack. Surviving are five brothers, Homer, Elmer, Ray, Obed and David; four sisters, Josephine, Judith Pfister, Lucinda Sauder, Ida Aschliman, Bros. Sam Aeschliman and John Yergler officiated the services.

Moving? Let us know.

CONGERVILLE, ILLINOIS

Fannie Schieber — Jeanette Knapp

We had quite a few visiting ministers the past month. We were happy to have them, and thank them for bringing God's word to us. They were Bros. Josh Broquard, Fairbury; Henry Kilgus and Perry Zimmerman, Forrest; Joe Zimmerman, Roanoke; Daniel Koch and Simon Wagenbach, Tremont; Edwin Ringger, Gridley; Silas Leuthold and Joe Stoller from Princeville.

On Jan. 21, five more souls were baptized. They were: Orville and Lulu Zimmerman and their son, Fred (Orville is the son of Bro. Ben and Sis. Lula Zimmerman; Lulu is the daughter of Bro. Charles and Sis. Martha Wettstein of Eureka) Ernest Stahl and his wife Norma (Ernie is the son of Bro. Emil and Sis. Della Stahl, and Norma is the daughter of Bro. Merion and Sis. Esther Miller). We are happy for the new converts and their parents, too. We wish it for many dear friends yet.

Bro. Robert Knapp has been in the Eureka Hospital for treatment and observation. He is feeling better and is home with his family again.

Sis. Elizabeth Hartter is in the Menonite Hospital in Bloomington. She had surgery. She seems to be doing real well, considering her age and all.

Ida Eglin has been ill at her home for several weeks, but is improving slowly now. We miss them all, and hope they can soon assemble with us in church again.

We welcome two new families to our community and church. They are: Bro. Willis and Sis. Bernice Knapp and children from Morton. (They are building a new home west of Congerville in a wooded area). Bro. Julius and Sis. Kathryn Miller have built a new home in Forest View addition. (They lived near Colfax, on a farm, before moving to Congerville). We hope both families will like their new homes, community and church.

James David was born Jan. 11 to Bro. Keith and Sis. Pauline Roth. Ann, Sue, Allen, Kay and Mark were waiting at home to welcome the new little baby.

Linda Sue, was born Jan. 31 to Bro. Allen and Sister Carol Schrock. Little Mark and Lori were waiting at Grandma's house to welcome the new baby home.

Sis. Lena Schieber, who has been

staying at the A. C. Nursing Home in Eureka, was able to spend the weekend in her home with her daughter Emma. She was in church in the forenoon. It is nice to see her in her home and church, and we hope she can soon be in her home to stay.

Sis. Anna Miller was able to assemble with us in church the last two Sundays. We welcome her back, and hope she can continue to assemble with us.

We have had several nice spring-like days. I know we will all welcome spring, when buds burst forth and new life begins again.

ELGIN, ILLINOIS

Louise Steffen—Katie Kachelmuss

Recently, we were privileged to hear and witness the proving and baptism of our dear friends, Arthur and Betty Martin Metz. We are so thankful that God is still calling souls to come unto Him and find rest and peace for their undying souls. May He continue to awaken souls here and everywhere, before the door of grace will be closed forever.

Sis. Martha Hugh was hospitalized for a few days for surgery, is at home again, and getting along very well.

We recently met and chose Bro. Elmer Getz to succeed Bro. Edward Schambach as our church treasurer, and Bro. Albert Schambach to succeed Bro. Gene Moser as one of our trustees. We wish them God's help in their new duties.

Mrs. Kenneth (Iona Mae) Banwart passed away at the age of 43 years. Our sincere sympathy is extended to her family in their bereavement.

Bro. Levi Metzger passed away very suddenly, at the age of fifty-eight years. May God comfort his widow, Sis. Thelma, and his children. His aged mother, Sis. Sadie Metzger, also survives; she is weak and infirm in body and mind, and our prayers are that God will be with her until it will please Him to take her from this life into eternity.

God knows the way; He holds the key.

He guides us with unerring hand. Sometime with tearless eyes we'll see;

Yes there, up there we'll understand.

FT. LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA

Louise Akel

We have received showers of blessings in the form of visiting brothers, sisters, ministers and elders, a wonderful response to our request. Bro. Sauder of Cissna Park ministered unto us with words that penetrated deep into our hearts. Bro. Joe Schrock related prophecies from Daniel and the Revelation. Bro. Wieland from Michigan spoke earnestly and sincerely, stating that corrections from the word of God start at the pulpit and then sifts down to the congregation. Elder Bro. John Yergler from Bluffton and a brother from Goodfield held services today, Feb. 4. The brother read from Exodus about the pass-over, and St. John Chapter 17. Each word was distinct and clear as if lingering for someone to grasp it. Bro. Yergler read from Isaiah 32 and St. John Chapter 4, besides making an impressive plea to come to the Lord. There is no other by which we can be saved. God bless them all.

Bro. Harry Sutter related good news, by telling us the mortgage on our church is paid off, and there is money in the till. Many, many thanks to all who gave so abundantly; this includes the widow's mite (if there was such).

Visiting Bro. Walter Pfister is in the Doctor's Hospital in Plantation, and is not doing as well as expected.

Heartfelt thanks to all visitors who so eagerly serve the luncheons. Bro. and Sis. Sam Eckert and Bro. and Sis. Bauman gave the past two Sundays. Many others who are not able to serve donate, and we would not like to overlook these kind acts of love. It is not always that which is seen that is blessed. The good acts done in secret have a great reward.

We are members of the body of Christ, but being in the flesh are prone to make mistakes. How far can a child of God go and be safe? We do not always like to disturb the peace and harmony, and it would be wonderful if each and everyone could always smile and say all is well. Search; if things are not right plead with God through tears and confession. Do not partake of Holy Communion unless all is well. There is one sign God gives us to let us know when it is time to talk to an elder. That is when you feel that you will get in trouble if you do. We are expecting Elder Bro. John Bah-

ler about Feb. 18, and will have Holy Communion at that time. As Bro. Weiland stated, the above advice should start here, with me.

GIRARD, OHIO

Jesse C. Emch

Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.

Friend Mary Hart was in the Youngstown Hospital, North Side where she underwent surgery. She is at home, convalescing. Mary is a daughter of Sis. Elizabeth Games. Friend Oscar W. Emch is in St. Elizabeth Hospital of Youngstown, Ohio, where he is slowly recovering from a severe heart coronary. We wish them both God's blessing and patience to bear their affliction.

The engagement of Sis. Karen Stoll from Girard to Bro. Robert Indermuhle, from Sardis, was announced Sunday Feb. 4. The parents are Bro. Robert and Sis. Arlene Stoll and Bro. Delbert and Sis. Martha Indermuhle. No date has been set for the wedding.

The Road Ahead

I placed another calendar
Today upon the wall,
And pondered on the coming year
And just what may befall.

In all the days and weeks and
months
Before the year has fled,
I wonder why I cannot see
The road that lies ahead.

We strive to put each in its place,
As through the year we tread.
Sometime a hopeless puzzle seems,
The year that lies ahead.

But God in His far wiser way
Makes time a book unread,
And we must walk in hope and faith
The year that lies ahead.

LATTY, OHIO

Dolores Grant—Marguerite Stoller
The LORD is the strength of my
life . . . in this will I be confident . . .

Among those hospitalized were Marsha Stoller, daughter of Bro. Darl and Sis. Iva Stoller; Harlan Riggenbach, Sis. Naomi Metzger, Sis. Mary Ella Klopfenstein, Mrs. Ralph (Ruth) Stoller and Lee Klopfenstein, son of Bro. Alvin and Sis.

Ellen Klopfenstein. All are home and improving. However Ruth will be returning for major surgery as soon as she is able. May God in his mercy be with all the sick and make each one's lot bearable.

We had one visiting minister, on Jan. 7, Bro. Walter Steffen from Milford. We were thankful for his visit.

On Jan. 14, the engagement of Bro. Gus Schlatter, son of Bro. Joe and Sis. Elsie Schlatter, and Sis. LeAnn Bertschi, daughter of Bro. Rudy and Sis. Irene Bertschi, was made known. We wish them God's blessings.

We are happy to report that Sis. Alice Stoller is released from the hospital, and at this writing is staying at the home of her daughter, Sis. Gloria and Bro. Kent Miller. She is recovering very well from her auto accident in December.

On Jan. 21, Bro. Gus Laukhuf was rushed to hospital, where he passed away the 22nd. He reached the age of 71 years, 11 months, and had been in ill health for the past five years. He is survived by his wife, Sis. Madie; two sons, Marvin of Haviland, Ohio, Gerald of Bowling Green Ohio; a daughter, Joan Bevers, Lynchburg, Ohio; and five grandchildren. Funeral services were conducted Jan. 25, with Bro. Theo. Beer officiating.

Bro. Gus Laukhuf's wife and family wish to thank all those who remembered Bro. Gus during his long illness and now during his passing. Your many deeds of kindness, cards, gifts, and especially the prayers will never be forgotten. May everyone be richly blessed for their part in sharing with us.

Know Each Other Better

Sis. Rosa Guingrich, daughter of Fred and Sarah Schultz, Gridley Ill., married Emanuel E. Guingrich, son of John and Susan Guingrich of Cissna Park. They resided at Gridley for seven years, then moved to Carlock Ill., and attended the Slabtown Church at Congerville. Mother and father repented there, and were baptized in the Mackinaw River. They lived in Carlock four years, then moved to Princeville, lived there four years, then moved to Latty. In less than one year father died, of the flu in 1919. He left five sons and four daughters.

Mother learned to manage her family alone in her new-found Christian life. Father had enjoyed

singing the gospel hymns and all the church songs. In this way he tried to impress on the young, unconverted souls of repentance, as they both believed that each and everyone should have a part in Christian service. They believed in the song, "Will There Be Any Stars in My Crown," and would certainly feel found wanting if and when their day of glory appeared and there were no stars. We best remember mother rocking the youngest child, or whichever one needed comforting, and singing the song, "What a Friend We Have In Jesus" No doubt this is her faith during these forty-nine years of widowhood.

At the age of 79, mother suffered a stroke, and was at the point of death. For a time she was in the hospital, then to a rest home for several months, unable to walk. God saw fit to restore her health, and again she is very active, for her high age of 84 years. She spends her time crocheting afgans, and cares for her blessed but unfortunate grandchild and attends church every Sunday.

Her nine children all live close by, with exception of our brother Chester who lives in Dallas Wisconsin, and our brother Edward at Bradford.

She enjoys hearing from her children and many grandchildren, and looks forward to the birth of every new child in the family. To date, she has 48 living grandchildren, 77 great-grandchildren and 2 great-great-grandchildren, making a total of 127 descendants. Two grandchildren and one great-grandchild died at a young age, and now recently was the death of her son-in-law, Gus Laukhuf, husband of Madie. Mother will be 85, May 27—this spring.

Submitted by daughters, Madie, Lucille, Helen and Minerva.

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA Mrs. Gus Baum

Our good wishes go out to Sis. Diane Olson, our former reporter, who has gone to Morris to continue her schooling. We miss her in our congregation, where she also was a faithful Sunday School teacher.

. . . also miss the happy face of our dear Sis. Sophie Sikaparija, who went to Phoenix, where according to her reports she is enjoying the sunshine of the desert country, along with making many new

acquaintances of those of kindred mind.

Roger, son of Bro. Noah and Sis. Laura Miller, who is serving in the armed forces, spent a few days with his family and attended services with us.

Our hearts are filled with gratefulness to the Ministering Brothers who shared God's word with us this past month. As we pause and realize January has come and gone, we feel moved to count our blessings, for the privilege to be able to assemble around God's word in this big city, and partake of the messages, as that of the Ten Virgins so simply explained, along with many other inspiring teachings.

Where there is love the heart is light;

Where there is love the day is bright.

Where there is love there is a song,
To help when things are going wrong.

Where there is love there is a smile
To make all things seem more worth while.

Where there is love there's quiet peace,

A tranquil place where turmoils cease

PEORIA, ILLINOIS

Emily Tanner

Mrs. Michael Weyeneth

Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

We welcome five dear souls as our brothers in faith, Alan and Gary Unsicker, Paul Erkert, Steve and Tim Klaus. They gave testimonies of their faith on Saturday evening and were baptized the following day, Jan. 28. Bros. Russell Rapp and Eugene Bertschi assisted Bro. Roy Sauder in this work.

Our thanks also go to Bros. Roy Ehnle and Hartzell Kaisner, who visited our assembly and ministered God's holy word.

There are five more dear friends who have been announced for proving and are awaiting baptism. They are David Koehl, son of Bro. George and Sis. Joan; Jane and Jean Hemmer, twin daughters of Bro. Chuck and Sis. Marian; Michael Rieker, son of Fred and Sis. Norma; and Steve Sauder, son of Bro. Roy and Sis. Gertrude.

Sis. Esther (Endress) Herman and Bro. Ezra (Jack) Sutter were united in marriage Jan. 31. We will

miss Sis. Esther in our assembly, but I'm sure she will be most welcome in the Tucson assembly, too.

Sis. Julia Ehnle is planning to move to the Eureka A.C. Home. We will miss her in our assembly, too, but hope she will be happy and find blessed fellowship there also.

Elizabeth Altorfer Herbst died Jan. 8. She has been a resident of Peoria since 1916. Sis. Elizabeth was born at Roanoke, a daughter of John F. & Katherine Belsley Sauder, & first was married to Bro. Silas H. Altorfer. He died May 14, 1934. In 1953 she was married to Bro. William A. Herbst. Surviving besides her husband are one daughter, Mrs. Katherine Altorfer Swain; and two sons, John H. and Edward J. Altorfer; one brother, Bro. Chris Sauder; 10 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren. One son, Richard Altorfer, and 3 brothers preceded her in death.

Funeral services were held Feb. 1 for Henry Alford Neeser, at the Wright and Salmon Mortuary, with Bro. Michael Weyeneth officiating. Surviving are his mother, Sis. Frieda Neeser, who lives at our church home on Skyline Drive; one sister, Hanna (Mrs. Elvin) Zellars; and one brother, Otto Neeser.

Our sympathy is also extended to Bro. Leroy Hartman. His brother-in-law, Howard Hay of Chicago, died of a cerebral hemorrhage. His funeral was Feb. 3. Bro. Al Fisher conducted the services. Surviving are his wife, Sis. Esther, one daughter Mary Lou, and one son Bill.

Our friend Steve Schurter, son of Bro. Clarence and Sis. Verna, entered the service this past month and is presently stationed in Kentucky.

TUCSON, ARIZONA

Jay Bertsch — Noah Herman

Take a bit of tolerance
And add it to your day.
A pinch of understanding
Will make a fine bouquet.
A cheerful disposition
Will blend in very nice—
Mix in an honest effort
To do a deed worth while.
Sprinkle in some kindness
And serve it with a smile.

Visiting Ministering Bros.: Richard Schupbach, Clarence Yackley, both of Phoenix.

Bro. Jack Sutter of Tucson and Sis. Esther Herman of Peoria were united in marriage on Jan. 31.

UNION CITY, NEW JERSEY

Ed. Aeschleman

Our Christmas program was held for the Sunday School children on Sunday afternoon, Dec. 24. Ten children participated. It was inspiring to see the eagerness with which each paid reverence to our Saviour. We pray daily that we can keep that interest alive within them, and guide them toward the everlasting home.

With the joy of Christmas also came sorrow. Arnold Knecht, a dear friend who was stricken several weeks earlier, passed away Dec. 23. In his late 70's, he left behind 4 children and his dear wife, Sis. Ida, who had depended greatly on him over the past years, because her activity was limited by poor health. She will miss him and his tender care, but we know that God will comfort and provide for her. Arnold was the church caretaker, faithfully attended services, and helped everywhere he could. His passing leaves a noticeable emptiness in our small congregation. Services were held in Union City Dec. 26 by Bro. John Diggelman.

CHAMPAIGN-URBANA, ILLINOIS

Ben Blunier

The story of this beautiful example of Christian love came to me far from where it took place. A couple with a good-sized family purchased a larger home. To close the deal, it was necessary that the real-estate agent, a brother-in-faith, take a note for a considerable amount, to make up the difference in the necessary down payment. After the papers were signed and the note handed the agent, he proceeded to tear it up and throw it away. "Man shall not live by bread alone".

The Lord continues to bless our Champaign gatherings. Attendance is almost always forty or more. Wonderful support comes from our churches, who send a minister each Sunday as scheduled and also contribute much to help meet our financial obligations. We are most grateful. A recent sizeable increase in rent for the YMCA facilities now makes it feasible that we consider acquiring a building of our own. Please join our prayers that God's will be done through these major problems, to His name's praise, honor and glory.

Most of our students were home

over semester break, which usually falls over the last Sunday in January and the first in February. We missed them, but rejoice to have them back again. One dear brother, Roger Musselman, is graduating; he and Sis. Nancy will be living in the Gridley area. Roger was a big help in our Sunday School. We thank him for his service. God's blessings to this fine couple and a hearty welcome ever awaits their every visit to Champaign.

We are happy to have in our fellowship a new brother-in-faith. Larry Ifft, and a few others that are repenting. God bless them.

CISSNA PARK, ILLINOIS

Mary Young — Margaret Rudin

Funeral services were held at the Knapp Funeral Home on Jan. 31 for Sis. Laura Pfister, age 57, who passed away at Richmond, Ind., after a long illness. Our local ministers conducted the services. She is survived by Kathryn Martin of here; Deana and Cora of Peoria; Levi of Delavan; Eli of Elkhart, Ind.; George of Lexington, Nebr.; and Arthur of Peoria.

During January we had much cold weather and lots of snow. Jan. 14, many were missing from our congregation; some were snowed in, others not able to come. Quite a number of the people came in trucks. The following day, schools were closed, as some of the roads were blocked.

Jan. 21, the memorandum was read. When we see the deep concern our elders have over the flock, it behooves us to try to be more obedient and walk closer to the Lord. When they admonish us in love and fear, it is up to each to obey and not to be an offence.

Hospitalized this past month have been Sis. Helen (Art) Bauer (who was involved in a car accident but is home mending nicely), Sis. Katie (Ben) Walder home again and improving). Bro. Walter Barth had surgery.

Sis. Lena Feller is home again with her daughter. Lydia Moser.

We thank Bros. Elmer Witzig and Fredrick Knapp and their company for visiting our congregation. Bro. Fredrick served in the Sunday School in the morning, which was very much appreciated by the Sunday School staff.

The Kneeling Camel

The camel at the close of day

Kneels down upon the sandy plain,
To have his burden lifted off
And rest to gain.

My soul, thou too shouldst to thy knees
When the daylight draweth to a close,
And let thy Master lift thy load
And grant repose.

Else how canst thou tomorrow meet,
With all tomorrow's work to do,
If thou thy burden all the night
Dost carry through?

The camel kneels at break of day
To have his guide replace his load;
Then rises up again to take
The desert road.

So thou shouldst kneel at morning's dawn
That God may give thee daily care,
Assured that He no load too great
Will make thee bear.

GRIDLEY, KANSAS

Mrs. Rudy Bahr

Mrs. Eldon Metzger

Rudy says to me when I "worry about not hearing from someone", "no news means good news." We are without "news" from Gridley and have much to be thankful for! The good Lord surely knew what He was doing when He planned the seasons; the winter may seem "weary" to some, but I enjoy it . . . because I'm mostly indoors looking out, and it's nice to have a little slower "pace", good to be warm and happy and enjoy our family, doing a few things we "don't have time for" the rest of the year.

SHIODA CHURCH, JAPAN

Toshio and Marie Uchida

We wish God's rich blessings for all the beloved brethren in the United States during this new year, 1968.

Recently, we have made several trips to visit an old people's home near our church. At Christmas-time the young people from our English conversation school sang Christmas carols for the old folks and presented them gifts, which included a pamphlet from the Japan Bible Society containing the story of Christmas from the Bible.

This old people's home is probably

different from most in the U. S., as the rooms are not heated, but there is a "Kotatsu" in the center of each little room. A "Kotatsu" is a short-legged table, setting on the straw mat flooring. It is covered with a blanket and has an electric bulb for heating under the table. The part of your body which is under the blanket is quite comfortable. Philippians 4:11 ". . . I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, **there-with to be content.**"

Eighteen children have registered for attending our Shioda American Kindergarten from April, and there are three others so far who have asked to attend which we cannot now accept, because eighteen students is our limit for one American teacher.

Bro. Willis Ehnle is responsible for teaching God's word here at Shioda, and Sisters Nancy Roth and Nancy Schrock are busy in our schools. If it is God's will, we certainly hope and pray that the number of brethren and friends attending our three churches in Japan can be greatly increased.

The war in Vietnam is of great concern to us, and we feel inclined to pray with all of you together that it might come to a speedy conclusion.

BERN, KANSAS

Esther and Stella Moser

"At Home 'Tis Well", sang the choir and shortly after, the worn and weary body of our brother, Charley Strahm was laid to rest in the churchyard cemetery. Charley was born to J. C. and Minnie (Leuthold) Strahm April 28, 1884 and passed away January 10, age 83 years, after a short bout with pneumonia. Although severely handicapped for many years and later confined to a wheel-chair, it was remarkable how well he managed to care for himself, kept his hands busy; he was cheerful and uncomplaining. He is survived by four daughters, Mrs. Leona Grimm, Mrs. Alice Wittmer, Sis. Flora Metzger (Lester), Sis. Annabelle Bahr (Fort Scott); one son Carl; 17 grandchildren; 5 great-grandchildren, 5 brothers and 4 sisters. He was preceded in death by his wife, Sis. Lydia (Moser) 1941, and a daughter Ruth, 1964. Services were held Jan. 13 by Bros. Gene Marti and Harvey Grimm.

We are happy to have our friend, Rudolph Lehmann in church with

us again, and rejoice with Bro. Edward and Sis. Leola that the Lord kept a protective hand over him. Rudy was stationed in Germany (Mannheim) and had opportunity to visit Switzerland, the birthplace of his grandparents (both Lehman and Locher). An 88-year-old great uncle, Fred Locher, still lives there.

At the same time we welcome one friend back, we had to see another one leave. Earl Meyer, Sis. Pearl's son, left Jan. 10 to serve in the army. May the Lord also bring him safely home in due time.

Ernest Gerber and Sis. Lucinda Brunner have both been transferred from the hospital to the A.C. Home. Hospital patients at this writing are Sis. Stella (Jake) Wenger for tests and observation, Bro. Glen Luthi (pneumonia).

Jan. 28, our guest minister was Bro. Carl Hartman for the morning service. In the afternoon, Bro. Gene Marti ministered to us, then helped Bro. Lester Hartter read the memorandum. These shepherds have a deep concern for their flocks, and especially for the young lambs. May we heed the watchman's warnings.

Feb. 4, the engagement of Sis. Lois Mason to Bro. Stephen Hartter was made known to us. We wish them the Lord's blessing.

BURLINGTON, OKLAHOMA

Millicent Frieden — Lavern Roth

Our annual meeting was held Jan. 14, with various reports given. Bro. Arnold Ott was elected to fill the unexpired term of Bro. Raymond Roth (minister) as trustee. Bro. Ott was also chosen as usher. Bro. Ronald Allenbach succeeds Bro. Arnold Ott as Sunday School superintendent. All other offices remained the same.

We were responsible for services at the Kiowa Manor Rest Home on Jan. 21 . . . such a small task for us to do, and yet the residents seem so pleased with our efforts.

Sis. Anna Miller was hospitalized a week, with complications of the flu. Since being released from the hospital, she has suffered a slight fall in her home. She seems to be improving however.

THE MOST

The biggest word is "God".

The longest word is "Eternity".

The swiftest word is "Time".

The darkest word is "Sin".

The sweetest word is "Jesus".

ELGIN, IOWA

Mrs. George Butikofer

It is rather dull, gray and cheerless this morning. Our snow has all disappeared and it is misting. We are thankful for the moisture, and are looking forward to a new blanket of snow, commencing with a few flakes, drifting in and continuing to spin faster and faster against the porch-light outside, until we behold a white landscape.

We are anticipating two pleasant events. One is the baptism of our friend Johnny Schupbach. The other is the wedding of Sis. Ruth Butikofer to Bro. Wilbur Weigand of Saunemin, Illinois. The latter is to take place the evening of the 28th of this month. May God richly bless both events.

Bro. Paul Butikofer accompanied Bro. Noah Shrock from Prairie Du Chein, Wis. to Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada to meet with some folks who are interested in the welfare of their souls. For a period of some months, some minister of our faith has been going there to expound the scriptures to those interested in and around Regina. Here is part of the diary of Bro. Paul's experience on his and Bro. Shrock's trip:

Left from Prairie Du Chein by train to Winnipeg and from there flew to Regina, where the Simeon sisters and Bro. Shipley met us. Some of the highlights of our stay were: meeting with these humble people and taking part in lively Bible discussions that followed each service.

On one of our afternoons, we went to see the Canadian mounties, which was very impressive.

There are two members, four prospective converts, and several more interested souls in and around Regina. While the love of God is working in the lives of these people, we could also detect that Satan is working to hinder the works of the Lord. Let us prayerfully support this cause, that God's will may be done.

After bidding them all a fond farewell, we again boarded a four-motor Air Canada for Winnipeg, where we took a train for home. It had been a comfortable and most interesting trip. The weather was mild all the time we were there.

We are thankful that Bro. Noah could spend an evening with us, expounding the scriptures to us. . . hope he will be able to visit us again

real soon.

FAIRBURY, ILLINOIS

Joyce Huber

We rejoice that Mr. and Mrs. Phil Thames and Donna Hartman were baptized and added to the fold.

Phil Thames said he was thankful that he could testify before the church of the miracle God did for him. Before his conversion, he had not previously attended our church, but became acquainted with Bro. Roger Bachtold and his cabinet shop and started working there. The Bachtolds and other brothers were a light to him. They took him to the Thursday evening services at Normal; he repented and asked the Lord Jesus to be his Saviour.

Noticing the change in her husband, Phil's wife, Kay, took Jesus Christ for her Saviour, too. In receiving the precious possession, the Holy Spirit, Kay said, "I saw no bright lights, and nothing hit me on the head, but I feel in my heart that I can walk with God."

Donna Hartman, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Vernon Hartman, testified of her repentance, calling upon the Lord, and receiving and believing peace in her heart.

Duane and Sis. Carol Bazell were blessed with a new baby girl, Anntte Marie, born Jan. 14. The Bazells have two other children, Lorie and Greg.

Mr. and Mrs. Keith Moser were blessed with a new baby boy, Brian Keith, who has two sisters also to welcome him, Patty and Nancy. Grandparents are Bro. and Sis. Walter Moser.

Carl Richardson, son of Bro. Bud and Sis. Lucille Richardson, has enrolled in college at Phoenix.

Jim Steffen, son of Bro. and Sis. Emanuel Steffen, left for army duties in January. Duane Bach, son of Bro. and Sis. Reuben Bach, and Herbert Steffen, son of Bro. and Sis. Alph Steffen, were drafted for service this month. We know the Lord watches over those that call upon Him.

Recent visiting ministers were Bro. Dan Koch and Bro. August Bolliger of Tremont, and Bro. Vernon Schwab of Wolcott.

Sis. Ida Meiss and Sis. Louise Roth have gone to the hospital, to rest and gain strength.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Moser and family, who have been living at Decatur, will be at Omaha for 6 months, as Robert has been selected

as one of the two Illinois residents to take additional training in vocational rehabilitation at the Nebraska College of Medicine.

At our annual meeting, Bro. Henry Steffen was elected an usher to replace Bro. Chris Leman, retiring.

FORT SCOTT, KANSAS

Annabell Bahr
Marie Zaugg

Another dear soul has turned to the Lord, Charles Sinn, the son of Bro. Danny and Sis. Dorothy Sinn. God is still calling; may many more answer.

On Jan. 13, Bro. Jim and Sis. Annabell Bahr and family attended the funeral of Bro. Charlie Strahm of Sabetha. He was Sis. Annabell's father.

Sis. Annabell Bahr had major surgery; she recovered rapidly. Now she has other complications. Sis. Lillian Ficher had major surgery, and she is doing very well. May God grant them good health again.

Bro. Joe Mulhauer is home now, after several weeks in the Nevada Mo. hospital, recovering from burns received at his home.

Our elder, Bro. Sam Anliker was with us Jan. 28, read the report of the conference. May we all show more love to God and to man. If we love God enough, we will put off those things that hinder our soul's growth. While here, Bro. Sam announced our two converts for baptism. Friends Tommy Sinn, son of Bro. Gus and Sis. Ruth Sinn, and Charles Sinn, son of Bro. Danny and Sis. Dorothy Sinn.

On Jan. 10, we had our annual business meeting. Sis. Marie Zaugg was voted in as teacher, replacing Sis. Ruth Sinn. Bro. Danny Sinn replaced Bro. Jim Bahr; Bro. Jim was re-elected as trustee for another three years.

FT. WAYNE, INDIANA

Mary Eisenmann — Marge Gerber

Altho' the weather was unfavorable and the attendance fewer in number, the singing and fellowship was wonderful at our monthly singing in January. We thank the Leo brethren for their special efforts to be with us. David Levy, son of Bro. Bill and Sis. Lillian, has his new assignment, and is now stationed at Ft. Clayton, in the Canal Zone, doing intelligence work.

Recently we were the recipient of gifts, in memory of dear ones who

have departed this life. In memory of Bro. Jacob Unsicker, money was used to purchase additional books for the assembly room, and a gift of money has been given in memory of Alpha and Sis. Carrie Keidel by their sons, Loren and Marlin. When I think of those whose faces we no long see, I think of these words written by an acquaintance (in memory of one who had passed on) :

When I no longer saw her face
And nothing came to take her place—
I saw her goodness deep within
Shining bright in the heart of a friend,
And marveled when I thought her gone

That so much that was her
lingered on.

Sis. Mary Ellen Pulver has enrolled at Winona Lake, Indiana, and began her studies the beginning of the new semester.

A little boy was born November 29. He came to gladden the home and hearts of Bro. Stanley and Sis. Connie Clauss and Marilyn and Jennifer, on Jan. 31. He has been given the name of Nathan S. Sis. Connie has found this poem by Tayshiko Kagwa which expresses her feelings:

(Editor's note: Bringing a little one without a real home into a home circle. That is a good work.)
Holding an (unwanted) child
against my heart,

Through blinding tears I see
That as I love the tiny, piteous
thing,

So God loves me.

Bro. Bill Levy was a medical patient this past month, but is home again. Sis. Ida Sinn is a medical patient at Parkview Hospital and Bro. Luther Steffen is a surgical patient at the Veteran's Hospital. May they feel the presence of the Almighty God, and may He soon bless them with better health.

John Lieberenz completed his training at Great Lakes, and is presently spending a few weeks with his parents, Floren and Sis. Edith. He reports to his new base at San Diego, California on Feb. 20, and has been assigned to a destroyer, "Gurke". Our thoughts and our prayers will surely be with him.

ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY

Sue Ann Kupferschmid

No matter how long you try to think of something, you will not be able to come up with anything more

important for you to be than a child of God. You can not enter into a business which is more important than being about the business of your Father in Heaven. You may never again see another day or another moment as important as the present, for it may be your last either before death calls or the Lord returns. You will never owe a debt as great as the one which the Lord has already paid for you when He gave His life. For who can put a price on the value of your soul?

Jan. 11, we sang for the residents at the Americana Nursing Home in Normal. With us at Bible Study that evening were Bros. Nathan Steffen and Roy Ehnlé. Bro. Roy read from Matt. 5:1-16. He told us it is the desire of man to be peaceful and happy, but often because of our own selfishness we reach hardship.

Bro. Nathan encouraged us to be good lights, as he quoted to us: "Brightly beams our Father's mercy from His light-house evermore, But to us He gives the keeping of the lights along the shore. Let the lower lights be burning! Send a gleam across the wave! Some poor fainting, struggling seaman you may rescue, you may save."

We wish God's richest blessings for our students, Louise Hoerr, Peoria; Diane Emch, Girard; and Wayne Drayer, Cissna Park, who graduated in January . . . for Netta Knobloch of the Bradford congregation, and Marlene Rumbold of the Princeville congregation, who were baptized on Jan. 21 and 28, respectively.

Feb. 1 we began a new semester, with Bro. August visiting us. He read from Hebrews 12 and spoke on chastisement, reminding us that the Lord chastens those He loves.

LAMAR, MISSOURI

Marie Marti

Believing! Believe in God's promises. He means it when He says, **I am with you always.** Believe in God's mercy; if God forgives you, you can forgive, and try again tomorrow. A German in whose home we visited in Germany said these words, "The glory of life comes not from the things we can command, but from the things we can reverence." The way to Christian living is by a simple belief in God. Some of the greatest adventures are experienced in the soul of man. Our belief in God makes our

hearts glad, and we rejoice.

Bro. Alfred Lee Banwart and Sis. Luetta Braker are the Sunday School teachers who were elected to replace Bro. Leonard Marti and Sis. Cecil Braker, whose terms have expired. We wish to thank the brothers and sisters for their fine efforts in our Sunday School.

Our community was saddened by the sudden death of Ed Dumm, father of Sis. Cecil Braker. We extend our sympathy to the family.

Linda Braker, daughter of Leonard and Bonnie Braker, is presently a patient in the Springfield Hospital, receiving treatment for a severe cough.

We want to express our sincere appreciation to Bro. Raymond Banwart, for so kindly and generously lending a helping hand by coming to Lamar, when one of our ministering Bros. was at Ft. Sam Houston and another one was ill. Bro. Banwart brought an inspiring message of truth.

Mae Schlupp remains in Burge Hospital in Springfield in a serious condition. Our continued prayers go out for her welfare. May she feel God's nearness and may His abundant grace supply her needs.

LESTER, IOWA Emelie Knobloch

Our community has been saddened by the sudden tragedy of little Lynn Carl Feucht. He was run over by a semi-truck near his home, Jan. 15. Little Lynn was born Dec. 16, 1962 to Ernest and Sis. Martha Feucht. He leaves to mourn his passing: his parents; four brothers, Dale (in the navy), Gary, Lyle, Loren; 5 sisters, Mary Lou (Mrs. Terry Schacht)—Laura LeAnn Donna and Rosella at home; his aged maternal grandparents, Bro. and Sis. Joe Moser of Morris. Bros. Harold Gramm and Leo Moser held the services. Bearers were his brothers, Dale and Gary Feucht, Terry Schacht and a cousin, Ray Wulf. May the Lord share his comfort and sympathy to his parents and family.

The family of Lynn Feucht wish to extend their thanks to everyone for their love and deeds of kindness, shared on them during their bereavement. They will always be remembered.

Word was received of the passing of Bro. Charlie Strahm of Sabetha. He leaves to mourn his passing a daughter, Sis. Flora (Emil) Metzger of this community, and a host

of other relatives.

I read the article concerning Gary Maibach. While I was in the hospital, a girl friend visited me (from another church or teaching) and asked if I read it. I didn't know about it. She remarked, "If we all believed as he, things would certainly be different."

On our way to work Dec. 7, Bro. Andy Mogler and myself were involved in a head-on collision, due to icy roads. We were both hospitalized, Andy for a few days and I got home for the holidays. We feel the Lord was with us, and we were very fortunate, as both cars were a total loss. We are recuperating from our injuries, and are both back at work. Work is a blessing. May the Lord bless all the loved ones who remembered us with gifts, cards, and notes of cheer during convalescing.

Among the ill: Art Metzger and Bro. Arthur Leuthold were surgical patients, Fred Metzger, Ben Feucht and little Marilyn Knobloch spent some time in the hospital. All have been able to assemble again but Fred Metzger. Bro. Jacob has been ill and unable to assemble every Sunday.

Births: Bro. and Sis. William Knobloch, a daughter, Lisa Lyn, Dec. 20; Bro. and Sis. Orlan Kellenberger, twin daughters, Jenise and Jenell, Dec. 22; Bro. and Sis. Dale Metzger, a daughter, Sherri Lynn, Nov. 15; Bro. and Sis. Kenneth Knobloch, a son, Lynn Douglas, Jan. 12; Bro. and Sis. David Teubel, a son, Brent Allen, Jan. 22.

Bro. and Sis. Noah Schrock were here, sharing the gospel, in the past month.

MORRIS, MINNESOTA

Mrs. Herman Schaefer
Mrs. Otto Schaefer

Bro. J. B. Moser has met with a farm accident and was hospitalized. He has once again been able to assemble with us. Marilyn Schaefer also has been a hospital patient. We are thankful to God for their recovery.

Mr. and Mrs. David Nohl are the parents of a baby girl; she has been named Shawn Marie. She has a little sister to welcome her. Shawn was the New Year's baby of this community.

Dwayne Everett has come to live at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Feuchtenberger. He is their first child.

Bro. and Sis. Ray Luthi welcome

a little son to their home. He has been named Darwin Chris. He has two sisters and four brothers.

Sis. Helen Schaefer is home again from the hospital and improving satisfactorily. She wishes to thank all who remembered her with cards, gifts, and prayers offered in her behalf. May God bless you all.

NEW MARTINSVILLE, W. VA.

Mrs. Gus Weltz
Miss Della Witschey

Daniel S. Witschey, 93, passed away on Feb. 5, after a lengthy illness. He was born on Dec. 31, 1874, a son of the late John and Elizabeth Emch Witschey. His wife, Ida Thomas Witschey, died in 1943, and a son Robert E. in 1966. He leaves three daughters and three sons, two sisters and two brothers. Funeral services were held on Feb. 8, and interment followed in Northview Cemetery.

Mrs. J. C. Froelich has been a patient in the local hospital for three weeks, and underwent surgery for gallstones last week. Her condition is satisfactory at this time.

Gus Weltz was a patient in the local hospital for two weeks; pneumonia followed a severe cold, but he is recuperating nicely.

Homer E. Schupbach, son of Emma Schupbach, and the late Ed Schupbach, had been very ill in a Veteran's Hospital in Pittsburgh, but he has been able to return to his home in Wheeling.

Mrs. Blanche Hienzman Reef, daughter of William & Lillie Protzman Heinzman, passed away after a lengthy illness, on Jan. 28. Surviving are her husband, William Reef, two sisters and four brothers. Funeral services were held on Jan. 30, and interment followed in Northview Cemetery.

Mrs. Marie Farmer Lund, who has been quite ill for several years, is now a patient in the Lewis Wetzel Nursing Home, here in New Martinsville.

Miss Elizabeth Heinzman is now a patient in the Lewis Wetzel Nursing Home.

Miss Ruth Mullett, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Mullett, has been ill for some time.

Miss Bonnie Riggenschach, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Riggenschach, has been a patient in the local hospital for several days, but is improving nicely.

After a very long spell of ice,

snow and extreme cold weather, also a small threat of an Ohio River flood, everything looks better. We are having mild winter weather at this time.

SABETHA, KANSAS

Mrs. Joe Steiner

We have again lost two from our community. Bro. Charley Strahm passed away on Jan. 10. His services were held Jan. 13 at the Bern church.

Lydia Heiniger Kaufman passed away Jan. 22 at the Sabetha Community Hospital, after a short illness. She was residing at the A.C. Home. Survivors include two sisters, Sis. Katie Ott and Sis. Lizzie Beck. Burial services were held in Sabetha church on Jan. 25, Bros. Carl Hartman and Joe Aberle officiating.

Friend Ernest Gerber of Oneida and Sis. Lucinda Brunner are new residents of the A.C. Home. We now have 33 residents, 3 are past 95 and several more past 90 years of age.

Bro. Alec Wenger is still in the Sabetha Community Hospital. He has had a very lengthy stay.

Sis. Fanny Bahr is doing quite well again. She is in her own home and has been attending church quite regularly.

Sis. Irene Griggs of Salina, Kansas wishes to extend her greetings to all.

Sis. Katie Ott has moved to Phoenix, to be near her daughter, Sis. Ora Schrenk.

Friends Janell Plattner and Roger Locher made known their marriage engagement. She is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ben Plattner of Morrill, Kansas. Roger is a son of Sis. Cordelia and Bro. Ted Locher of Sabetha.

Bro. Walter Strahm was elected as trustee, replacing Bro. Harlan Meyer, whose term expired this year. Bro. Lou Wenger and Bro. Paul Strahm are the other trustees.

Bro. Lester Hartter visited our church Sunday afternoon. He assisted Bro. Eugene Marti in bringing the deliberations of the recent conference in Eureka. We appreciate the time and efforts all our brothers put forth in attending these conferences . . . also their sincerity in **blowing the trumpet** and warning us of the dangers along the way. We would do well to heed their warnings—“Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.”

MILFORD, INDIANA

Marguerite Hoerr

Don and Sis. Ginny Hoover have welcomed their fourth daughter into their family. Happy over the arrival of their new sister are Marla, Tony, Sonya and Penny. Our congratulations to them all.

Our Milford church enjoyed hosting a World Relief meeting on Jan. 20 for a number of representatives from Ohio, Michigan and Indiana. Those attending were made keenly aware of the needy, at home and abroad, and how we as individuals can help in practical ways.

Our thanks go to Bros. Earl Zeltwanger, Wendell Gudeman and Elmer Bucher for their visits to us this month, and for God's word which they shared with us. A special blessing was derived, too, from the fellowship we enjoyed with those accompanying them.

Bro. Arnold Doll was elected as trustee at our annual business meeting, and Bro. Arthur Haab as our World Relief representative. Following the meeting, Bro. Theo. Beer shared the Memoranda with us. He asked for our cooperation in keeping God's house orderly and to be diligent in our Christian living, that our church might be an honor to God and His Son.

Representatives from churches in Ohio, Michigan and Indiana met at Milford Jan. 20, for the purpose of reviewing projects which had been completed for World Relief in the past year.

Bro. Herman Norr of Leo conducted the business meeting, which had been opened with prayer by Bro. Eugene Huber of Francesville. Bro. Norr asked for reports from the sewing groups of the respective churches which had done work for relief purposes on a local and foreign level.

Many interesting projects were included in the reports: clothing for children, layette bundles, health kits, sewing kits, leprosy bandages, school kits, warm blankets and comforters, homemade laundry soap, stuffed toys, new bedding purchased, used clothing drives, warm knitted scarves, caps and mittens, and many other items too numerous to mention. The common denominator of all the reports was that the work was gladly done and that there were regrets they hadn't been able to do more.

A special report, concerning the

Indiana Cutting Mill was given. The beginning of the mill was formed for the purpose of supplying clothing for the needy throughout the world. By means of an electric cutter, hundreds of patterns are cut at a time, using new material, into children's and adult's clothing. These are individually packaged and sold to relief groups, to be sewed for use wherever there is a need. The money gained from these purchases is used for more material, that more patterns can be cut. The work done there is completely voluntary, and the mill is a non-profit organization. Many of the church groups reported buying materials and finding it a competent way to sew in quantity for those in need.

Sisters Mary Ann and Millie Fischer reported on their interest in this work, and how the first sewing groups were started in their home church in Roanoke. They were able to give helpful advice to others attempting the projects and would be willing to help new groups get started.

Bro. Norr told of delivering packages to orphanages in Kentucky at Christmas. These gifts were provided by Sunday School groups who were informed of their need. He told of the joy that abounded when the packages were received, and of the wish that the Sunday School children who were responsible could have been present to share in this wonderful experience.

The concern of the meeting was that all work be done to the glory of God, that it be done diligently and with gladness, that of our abundance we can share with those who do not have in abundance . . . That we may be on His right hand, when the King shall say, “Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in. Naked, and ye clothed me: . . . “Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.”

The next meeting planned will include all of the churches in Indiana, Ohio and Michigan and will be at Bluffton, on the second Saturday in Jan. 1969.

Moving? Send new address, also old zip number.

AKRON, OHIO**Florence Graf**

Bro. Herman Von Gunten passed away Jan. 12, at the age of 69 years, after a long illness. He leaves his wife, Sis. Anna, four daughters, a son and fifteen grandchildren. Funeral services were Jan. 15 from Billow Chapel, with burial in Copley Cemetery.

Sis. Anna wishes to express her gratitude and heartfelt thanks for the many cards, flowers and various remembrances and tokens of love and concern during Bro. Herman's long illness and during the days following his passing.

Sis. Rose Graf and Bro. Marvin Luginbuhl were united in marriage on Jan. 28. Many friends and loved ones witnessed the ceremony and rejoiced in the young couple's happiness. Bros. Ray Luginbuhl, Robert Stoll and Ben Hartzler were our visiting ministers. We thank them for their efforts toward us. Bro. Marvin and Sis. Rose are making their home in Rockville; we wish them the Lord's blessing in their life together.

Bob Wells completed his tour of duty with the Marines some weeks ago, and has returned to civilian life with his parents, the Sam Wells.

Ernie Graf, son of Bro. Ernest and Sis. Louise, arrived safely in Viet Nam some weeks ago. We certainly wish him God's blessing and protection each day.

BURLINGTON, IOWA**Mrs. Paul Eisenmann****Mrs. Paul Wagler**

Last night, after hearing an exhortation concerning "to know them which labour among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you; And to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake", we sang "Faithfulness in Small Things", which fell open to our minister. How well it would be to remember this, for doesn't most dissatisfaction or departure from the faith start with small things?

We're glad to have Bro. Jerry Banwart of La Crosse with us. He is staying at the Bro. John Frank home, while taking "on the job" training in connection with his college course.

We miss Bro. Ronnie and Sis. Janice Rinkenberger, who moved from our community to Ottumwa, Iowa, and will attend the Pulaski church.

Sis. Martha Perdlewitz had an enjoyable month's visit with her daughter and son-in-law, Eleanor and Charles Mode of Williamsville, New York, near Buffalo.

Except for her son John at Oakville, Sis. Martha's family are rather spread out, with other daughters (Mrs. Clara Thomas) at Ames, Iowa, and (Mrs. Helen Hodel) at Roanoke, Illinois.

FORREST, ILLINOIS**Martha Stoller****Carolyn Zimmerman**

Sis. Jeanne Ricketts was involved in a one-car accident, when she came to the dead-end of an unfamiliar country road. The fractured jaw she sustained in the mishap has mended nicely. We are thankful her baby daughter, Amy, who was with her was unharmed.

Sis. Bertha Maurer has returned to Marshalltown, Ia. for repeat surgery on one of her eyes. May the Great Physician grant His healing power. Bro. William Kupferschmid Sr. has returned home from a short stay as a medical patient in Gibson City Hospital.

Bro. Ezra Feller, Cissna Park, assisted Bro. Henry Kilgus when our three converts, Albert and Jeanne (Strahm) Edelman and Larry Ifft gave their testimonies. Since our last writing Larry's cousin, Gary Ifft, son of Bro. Harvey and Sis. Velma has turned to the Lord in repentance.

We were richly blessed in the visits and meditations of the following visiting ministers the past month: Bros. Walter Anliker, Vernon Leman, Eureka; Al Langhofer, Wichita; Loren Strahm, Gridley (Kans.); Vernon Schwab, Wolcott; Alfred Bahler, Remington; and Merle Kaisner, Fairbury.

The 3rd chapter of James was read, where we are reminded how, if not bridled, what an unruly member the tongue can become. Many years ago the mother of one of our local ministers spent much time writing poems. We would like to share with you a portion of one which coincides so well with the scripture reading and meditation.

Remember, children, gossip's bred
From unkind words that have been
said,

So learn your lesson while you're
young;

Be ever watchful of your tongue.

When unkind words have left the
tongue

We can't recall them—no not one!
No matter how much we regret
And wish the words were still
unsaid.

From mouth to mouth, they fly and
fly,

And as they fly they multiply.
More unkind words are added too,
And that's the reason that they
grew.

Satan will always magnify
The faults of others in our eye.
We may have faults that are far
more
Displeasing to our God and Lord.

So let us strive our house to clean
From faults we have, and do not see,
But we perhaps do not realize
They are magnified in others eyes.

GOODFIELD, ILLINOIS**Elna Grimm**

Nine more dear souls have been added to the fold, here in our Goodfield congregation, in the past month.

On Wed. evening, Jan. 10, Howard and Vera Heinold and their daughter, Beverly, and her husband, Glenn Joos gave their testimonies. They were baptized on the following Sunday. To help with this sacred task, Bro. Dan Koch was here on Wed. evening, and Bro. Roy Sauder on Sunday.

Bros. Ezra Feller, Joshua Brquard, and LeRoy Huber were here on Sat. evening, Jan. 27, and again on Sun. Jan. 28, to help Bro. Ed Hohulin with the provings and baptisms of Molly Hinrichsen, Terry Grimm, Wayne Weigand, Carol Weigand Martin, and Steve Reeser.

Those hospitalized in the past month were Sis. Luann Knapp (wife of Bro. Mike Knapp Jr.) and our friend, Jesse Hunzicker. They both underwent surgery. Sis. Luann has returned home, and is doing well. Friend Jesse is recuperating more slowly, but hopes to be released very soon.

We sympathize with our loving Sis. Fannie Witzig, whose son Joseph of Downs Ill. passed away on Jan. 9. Funeral services were held at the Bruce Memorial Funeral Home in LeRoy, on Thursday, Jan. 11.

Bros. Earl Kilgus and Edwin Bahler of Remington visited our

congregation on Sun. Feb. 4. We thank them for their messages of love.

LAMONT, KANSAS

Mrs. Stephen G. Schrader

During the past winter months, many in our congregation have had the flu and other viral infections—especially our little ones.

Bro. Pete Fankhauser is now in Phoenix, for a visit with his daughter, Sis. Geraldine and her husband, Bro. Clarence Beyer.

Bro. Chris Sauder was transferred from the hospital to the Meadows Rest Home in Emporia and, the Lord willing, he is looking forward to soon being at home again.

MAYWOOD, CALIFORNIA

**Marcelle Dapper — Jan Elsasser
Ruth Dapper**

February is the month for Valentine's Day. What is the real meaning of that Day? The Bible has much to say about matters of the heart—here are just a few:

God says the unregenerated heart is "deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked".

Solomon, when asked of God what he wanted most of all, replied, "Give . . . thy servant an understanding heart to judge thy people".

Jesus says, "Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God."

The Saviour gives this important commentary in Luke 12: "where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

Our ministering Bro. Albert Kaisner was in the hospital, but is now home, recovering from a heart condition. May the Lord restore him with health and strength, to enable him to assemble with us soon. In a small congregation like ours, even one person absent is missed by all.

On Jan. 21, Mr. and Mrs. Ben Belsley of Claremont, Calif. celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary. They were very happy to have their relatives, Sis. Mae Sauder of Roanoke and Bro. Aaron and Sis. Caroline Moser of Eureka spend this happy occasion with them. The Belsleys are originally from Roanoke, and have lived approximately their last 35 years in California. May God grant them continued health and happiness, and may His many blessings be a part of their life together.

Our congregation will certainly

miss Bro. Roy and Sis. Beulah Stoller of Latty, who have spent several Sundays with us while visiting their daughters, June of Fullerton and Sharon and her family of Lakewood, Calif. Even though this was our first meeting, we could certainly feel the flow of God's love from heart to heart. May God richly bless them for their visit, and we invite them to visit us again soon.

OAKVILLE, IOWA

Martha Steiner

Bro. Harold and Sis. Annette (Rocke) Massner are the happy parents of a baby girl, Crystal Lee, who has come to live with them and their little son Corbin. She was born Jan. 5.

Other happy parents are Bro. Doss and Sis. Bertha Lee (Wagenbach) Massner, who have a second son, Derek Doss, born Jan. 22. Mark Frederick was born to Friends Richard and Thelma (Schulz) Siegle, on Jan. 23; they have another son and two daughters.

Our aged brother, Henry Ellenson, was finally able to go to his eternal rest on Jan. 25, after a lengthy illness and stay in the hospital. He is survived by his beloved wife, Sis. Julia (Enz), one daughter—Marie Haney, four grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. Bro. Ellenson had reached the age of almost 76 years. Among those attending the funeral service was ministering brother August Bolliger from Tremont.

Several in our congregation have been in the hospital this past month. At this writing, all are again home and/or able to be up and about their duties. Among them were Bro. Joseph Eberhard Sr., Bro. Harvey and Sis. Leola Heiniger, Sis. Lena (Mrs. Fred) Siegle, Sis. Elva (Mrs. Paul) Gerst, and Friend Sally (Mrs. Ed) Schrock. We all have much to be thankful for, whether we are recovering from illness or in good health. If our spiritual welfare is good, we should be able to endure any physical infirmities, knowing God will take care of us.

PHOENIX, ARIZONA

Carolyn Dotterer — Lois Heiniger

David Richard, born Jan. 9, has come home from the hospital to join his parents, Bro. Joe and Sis. Connie Schupbach Beer, and his sister Sheri Jo.

We are grateful for the Lord's blessings in granting that another

soul could be added to the fold. On Sunday, Jan. 28, Dan Kokanovich was baptized, following his Saturday evening testimony. Assisting Elder Bro. Roy Farney were Bro. Carl Kinsinger of Altadena and Bro. Paul Fehr, of the Morris congregation. Bro. Dan and his wife, Sis. Doris Schupbach Kokanovich have been part of our congregation for many years. Sis. Doris' parents, Bro. Sam and Sis. Rose Schupbach of Burlington, Oklahoma, came for the baptism and for a visit with their family.

Our prayers are with our aged Bro. Sam Farney, who has been unable to assemble with us for many months.

We are glad to have our friend Carl Richardson from Fairbury with us, while he attends college in Phoenix.

Sisters Sarah Tanner, Anna Roth, Katie Ott, and Pauline Deihs have come to spend some time with their families and friends in the Phoenix area.

A church supper was held on Jan. 28, with church services following. It was a blessing to hear God's word, as Bro. Paul Fehr ministered unto us. We have many winter visitors with us, and are thankful for the blessed fellowship we can share with each other.

PURDUE UNIVERSITY

Shirley Frank — Mary Heinold

During the month of January the Wolcott congregation, with Bro. Ervin Lehman, met with us for an evening of blessed fellowship. Then, as we students returned to Lafayette after the semester break, our first meeting of February was hosted by Remington, with Bro. Edwin Bahler giving us an inspiring and encouraging message. We enjoy these moments of fellowship, and thank all those who make an effort to gather with us.

We are happy for Sis. Marlene Schini, who lives and works in the Lafayette area, as she was announced to be married to Bro. Tim Ringger of Bluffton.

FORT SAM HOUSTON, TEXAS

Steve Gerst

We, brothers and sisters of the household of faith, do not always understand the role of our college student and serviceman. Each of them are tested of their moral standards in ways which we could not comprehend. They are living

near the filth and the degradation of this world. They are living near fornication, wicked and wrathful speaking, indignation, and last of all, haters of God. We, who are supposedly grounded on a firm foundation, are tried and tempted of our highest estate—our religious beliefs.

Even if our young ones are brought up with the nurture and admonition of the Lord, they tend to break away and reach out. It is the duty of parents to know where and what their children are doing. Nowadays, it's (sometimes) the children that tell the parents what to do. It all begins in the home, with our love and strong attention. I have tried to speak to you not as a parent, but as a child of believing parents.

SERVICE BULLETIN:

Visiting Ministers: We were richly blessed with the holy fruit of life, when Bro. Lester Braker of Lamar ministered unto us on Jan. 14; and Bro. Art Gudeman of La Crosse on Jan. 28. Our little chapel is our sole refuge and fortress. It is the place where we can feel His holy presence, love and truth no man can take away.

Reunion: Sis. Sharon (Blunier) Kellenberger has moved down from Elgin, Ill., to join her husband, Bro. Keith, until he receives further assignment. We wish them happiness together and God's many blessings.

Drafted: Many young brothers and friends were again drafted this past month. It is our daily prayer that the world crisis may soon cease. Bro. Harlan Metzger, Bro. Denny Fehr, and Convert Jim Fehr, all of West Bend; Joe Schneider and Bro. Eldon Getz of Remington; Roy Wiegand of Goodfield; and Tom Menold of Morton have all entered the service and are in basic training.

Discharge: Bro. Ernie Herman of Morton has completed his tour of duty and has returned home. His humbleness and kindness will be missed by all.

New Assignment: Mike Menold of Princeville, who had previously been stationed at Ft Hood, Texas, received orders for Viet Nam. It is our sincere prayer that the Lord will guide and shield him through all trial and danger. . . . And that Mike will follow the path of repentance, with the grace of our Heavenly Father.

My dear ones, upon my discharge

from the service, I will no longer be the Ft Sam Houston reporter. I have enjoyed this work of the Lord, and I have received many blessings from it. Bro. Joe Beer of Milford will continue the work.

NOTICE: Regarding ministers scheduled to come during the months of April through October—the Hemisfair '68 or World's Fair is being held in San Antonio. Airline or train transportation and motel reservations will be very hard to obtain. It is my suggestion that the scheduled ministering brother write for reservations several months ahead. If they are unable to be obtained, please write us, and we will try to find accommodations.

MANSFIELD, OHIO

"God, even our Father . . . Comfort your hearts . . ." This is our prayer for Sis. Theresa Bidinger, her daughter and sons, whose husband and father, Fred, passed away on Jan. 12 at the age of 72, following a brief illness.

Having known many of the infirmities of advanced years, our aged Bro. Simon Beer had attained the age of 91 and had long yearned to hear the call of the Master. On Jan. 26, Bro. Simon answered the summons, Come. He was a faithful and active brother. As long as health permitted, he was with us for services, and continued to share his love with the congregation even after he could no longer worship with us. We extend our sincere sympathy to his children, grandchildren, brothers and sisters.

Those who were hospital patients were Sis. Ola Freulich & Carl Weiss. Many others have been confined to their homes as victims of flu, colds, children's diseases etc. We are thankful the Lord has abundantly blessed us with His healing powers.

For the first time in a number of years, we were unable to hold church services on Sunday (Jan. 14) because of the extremely heavy snowfall. The beauty of the pure white snow covering the entire area was surely evidence of God's might and glory.

What a blessed week end we shared, when on Jan. 20 and 21, Elder Bros. Rudolph Graf and Noah Bauman were with us for the testimonies and baptisms of three teenagers, Sis. Pamela Pfister, daughter of Bro. Clarence and Sis. Ruth

Pfister, and Sis. Judy and Sis. Sharon Sauder, daughters of Bro. Robert and Sis. Wilma Sauder. We were then privileged to partake of the Lord's Supper.

Amazing love! How can it be that Thou, My God shouldst die for me? No condemnation now I dread; I am my Lord's and He is mine. Alive in Him, my living Head, And clothed in righteousness divine.

STUTT GART, GERMANY

Bill Emch

There are very few left in Germany, as many have rotated to the States. Some of us have the privilege to gather with one another, or meet and have fellowship at a German congregation in Neuhutton or Ludwigsburg. The German families show much kindness and hospitality, and we cannot thank them enough for all they have done. It makes us wonder if we would do as much for them in the States as they have done for the service boys here.

We are looking forward to the spring and summer, when there will be visitors to gather with. In the meantime, nothing helps more than the letters written from the loved ones at home (Editor's note: And prayer that God will give His almighty power and grace, and will Himself graciously continue to guide His own.)

TAYLOR, MISSOURI

Mrs. Eli Sutter — Mrs. Bill Heimer

We were thankful to have Bro. Bob Pohl, Burlington Ia., and Bro. Albert Wuthrich, Pulaski, bring us a message from God's holy word.

On Wed. evening, Jan. 31, our dear Elder Bro. Noah Schrock (accompanied by his wife, Sis. Hattie) came to our congregation to read the memorandum. What a blessing it is to have elder brethren who truly are concerned for the welfare of their flock. Bro. Noah revealed in such a kind and loving way his deep concern of the trend toward being conformed to this world, and exhorted the brethren to strive to spend our days in true service and obedience to the word, that we might be of those that are accounted worthy to escape the Great Tribulation. "Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labour in the word and doctrine."

Our sympathy is extended to

Peter and Kay Gudeman in the death of their first child, Krista Louise. The baby was born on Jan. 21 and passed away the following day. Peter is the son of the late Jess and Ann (Grimm) Gudeman of Hampshire, Ill.

Bro. Eli Sutter has returned home from the hospital, after a 5-weeks' stay with a heart condition. He is getting along quite well.

Randy Sutter, 16, son of Bro. James and Sis. Lois Sutter, was hospitalized with a broken nose and concussion. We are glad that he seems fully recovered from the accident.

Little Becky Huber, daughter of Vernon and Judy Huber, had her tonsils and adenoids removed. She is getting along very well.

Our Sunday School children have always been interested in helping wherever there was a need, and are generous in giving in the monthly collection. They were anxious to do something that would be of special help to someone, so with the help of the teachers they have "adopted" Fanny Angelou, a 14-yr.-old Greek girl. She is described as "intelligent, polite, diligent, helpful, studious and has a lovely disposition." Her father died suddenly of a heart attack in 1965, and the family, including Fanny, her mother and sister were left penniless. Her mother earns \$11.10 a month, which is not enough for their daily needs. The help received from the Sunday School assures her schooling, also new clothing, supplies and medical care for the family. They have received letters from Fanny, expressing her appreciation for their help. When children have a desire to help others in their youth, it sets an important pattern in their lives for giving that is very worth while.

SARDIS, OHIO **Doris Indermuhle**

"And the LORD God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make an help meet for him . . . Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh."

The engagement of Bro. Bob Indermuhle, son of Bro. Delbert and Sis. Martha Indermuhle to Sis. Karen Stoll, daughter of Bro. Robert and Sis. Arlene Stoll of Girard was made known. We wish them God's richest blessings.

BRADFORD, ILLINOIS

Mrs. Loris Kieser
Mrs. Don Duckworth

We were happy to have Bros. Don Koch and Al Aberle of Tremont visit us one Sunday. Bro. Dave Kieser of Princeville came in the afternoon to worship with us. We spent a most blessed Sat. evening and Sunday, when Judy Guingrich, daughter of Bro. Ed and Sis. Doris; David Knobloch, son of Bro. Wm. and Sis. Gladys; and Joan and Netta Knobloch, daughters of Bro. Clarence and Sis. Emma gave their testimonies and were baptized. Bro. Herman Kellenberger, Elgin and Bro. Silas Leuthold carried out this important work. Bros. Ben Fehr, Roanoke and Dave Kieser, Princeville also spent the day with us.

We assembled with the Princeville congregation one Wed. evening, to hear the minutes of the last conference. Bro. Noah Shrock, Oakville, assisted Bro. Silas Leuthold. It was most interesting to hear how men even in Bible times had meetings and talked over their problems, even as we still do today.

Larry and Sis. Sandra Guingrich welcomed a little girl. Brenda Sue has two sisters, Michelle and Tonya.

David Guingrich had an emergency appendectomy and is getting along fine again. His parents are Bro. Ed and Sis. Doris Guingrich.

LEO, INDIANA

Mrs. Elias Souder

Bros. Sam Aeschliman and Wendell Gerber, accompanied by their wives, visited our congregation. The last time we were together before this (in Florida), Bros. Jos. A Getz and David Manigold were present. Both have gone to be with the Lord.

Another minister was added here, Bro. Marvin Stieglitz. We now have four. Bros. Joel Souder, David Bertsch and John Bollier are the others.

At the church business meeting, there was little change. Bro. John Klopfenstein was chosen as an usher (Bro. Max Hettrick is to help with ushering when needed). Sis. Sandra Bertsch is secretary.

Bud Fahling, Edw. Souder's brother-in-law, has made it safely home from Viet Nam; but we must not give up praying, as there are many others over there. May our dear Lord send His guardian angels to watch over each one.

Mary Schwartz is at home and getting better. We do miss her as

she is one of the faithful workers who helps prepare for the mailing of the **Silver Lining**.

Bro. Ed. Bertsch, who was in "Know Each Other Better" in the last issue, is very ill in the Constant Care Unit of the Ft. Wayne Park-view Hospital.

Two groups again visited the Butler Rest Homes, the first Sunday of the month. Our brother Fred Wiggs, who is at the Hotel Butler Rest Home, seemed in good spirits.

Little Troy, son of Dennis and Roberta Klopfenstein, spent some time at the Park View Hospital. He is getting along all right.

GRIDLEY, ILLINOIS

Eunice and Lydia Kammerer

Elder Eugene Bertschi of Roanoke visited our congregation, to assist Bro. George Gramm with the deliberation of the conference.

Our congregation was saddened again with the passing of another dear sister, Sis. Clara Funk, who had been ailing for the last year and a half. She is missed by the congregation, as well as by her husband and family.

We have several brethren and friends who have been admitted to hospitals.

Sis. Martha Schlipf is improving, following a fall in her basement, receiving a pelvic fracture. Bro. Kenneth Burgess had bone fusion on his arm, which resulted from an automobile accident sometime ago. Bradley Gramm, son of Bro. Bob and Sis. Nola Gramm, had an appendectomy. Brad has sufficiently recovered to be back in his home. Arty Stoller had the misfortune of getting his leg caught in an augur. He had several broken bones and was badly cut. He is the son of Bro. Rubin and Sis. Emily Stoller. Lois Schlipf, daughter of Sis. Rose Schlipf, is recovering from a siege of flu. Bro. Clarence Stoller who has been ailing is somewhat improved. Sis. Violet Funk was admitted to Mennonite Hospital to undergo surgery.

Sis. Mary Hannie of 205 E. Chestnut, Bloomington, has been hospitalized and is slowly improving. Sis. Mary is doing wonderfully well, having had a 95th birthday on July 26. She is able to sit by her bed for short intervals. Sis. Mary, in Mennonite Hospital, would appreciate hearing from her friends.

Sis. Lorene Kiefer has sufficiently recovered from eye surgery to as-

semble with us again. Sis. Anna M. Miller had her cast removed from her foot, following a fracture from a fall, and is able to assemble again with us. We wish all our sick and injured a speedy recovery.

We welcome Bro. Roger and Sis. Nancy Musselman to our congregation. They have moved here from Tremont. Bro. Roger has employment with Bro. Rubin Stoller.

Bro. Jack Gramm was home on leave from Ft. Sam Houston for two weeks and is now stationed in Korea. We wish, God willing, all our brothers and friends can soon be back with their families.

On the third Sunday of January, we had our monthly singing. A group from Cissna Park were our guest singers. The eighth grade boys of our Sunday School sang several selections, which was enjoyed by all.

ROCKVILLE, CONNECTICUT

Carlton J. Lanz

Our annual business meeting was held on the second Sunday in January. Elected as our new trustee was Bro. Russell A. Bahler, replacing the retiring Bro. Emanuel Schneider and, for auditor, Bro. John R. Gottier, who replaced outgoing Bro. John Feldman. Both had served in their capacities well. Bro. John Bahler competently again acted as chairman.

Births: Jan. 19, a son, Edward Dean to Gernard and Marie (Schneider) Garrow. (Grandparents, Sis. Louise Schneider and Mr. and Mrs. Henry Garrow of Thompsonville, Conn.) January 22, a daughter, Lisa Jeanne to Glenn and Maryella Luginbuhl. They have one other child, Todd, age 1. Grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Brisette and Bro. Urban and Sis. Charlotte Luginbuhl.

Richard Hany, now in Viet Nam, having arrived only a few days ago, has already seen and experienced some of the horrors of this war. He wrote in his letter to his wife, Kathleen, that he had been kept so busy carrying out the wounded and the dead—women and children included. We trust that Richard who has accepted the Lord's call, we believe, will find Him ever close.

Bro. Werner Hany has been discharged from the hospital and is at his home, recuperating from surgery. Bro. Daryl Luginbuhl has returned to the hospital at Newington, Conn, where he will undergo surgery for an injury to his hip, re-

sulting from a fall some time ago from a silo.

Bro. Roy and Sis. Helen Luginbuhl opened their home to a wedding reception, given in respect to their son and daughter-in-law, Bro. Marvin and Sis. Rose (Graf). They were married at Akron Jan. 28. Bro. Rudolph Graf solemnized their union. He read from the book of Genesis, chapter 24: How Abraham had become old and was stricken in age, how the Lord had blessed him in all things and, the time then, according to their custom, that the eldest servant was sent and would seek a wife for Isaac, Abraham's son. This was then done by faith and by the divine hand of God. We can read in this chapter how this all took place, and at the end, there when Isaac met Rebekah, we read he took Rebekah and she became his wife and he loved her . . .

We welcome Sis. Rose to our community and to our congregation. According to comments we listened to, Sis. Rose left many friends there at Akron, including her uncle, Bro. Rudolph, who as elder of the church had several good remarks for her.

WINTHROP, MINNESOTA

Delores Messerli — Carol Messner

Starting in February, the Winthrop church service will begin at 10:30 a.m.

Our annual meeting was held with Bro. Roland Messner chosen as superintendent of Sunday School and Bible class teacher, Bro. Dennis Messner was elected to assist him.

Ministering Bro. Clifford Grimm visited and served us. His wife and the Bro. Verner Wirtzs were with him. We received many blessings from the LOVE chapter of the Bible. How important it is that we have love within our hearts.

Duane and Mona Messner are the parents of a new baby boy, Daniel Duane. The grandparents, Bro. George and Sis. Esther Messner, are enjoying their first grandson.

Sis. Bernadine (Ray) Messner had surgery and is recovering at home. Mary Ann Theim was hospitalized for surgery and observation.

Bro. Ray and Sis. Millie Schmidgalls' daughter, Patti, was married to Steven Monson of Winthrop.

The marriage of Sharon Howk, daughter of Bro. Roy and Sis. Rose Alice, to Dennis Christensen took place Feb. 3.

Know Each Other Better

Sis. Enma Schmidt, a widow, is the oldest member of our Winthrop congregation. She was born the oldest child of Dan and Sis. Sarah Messner, and observed her seventy-fifth birthday Sept. 17. The mother passed away, and Emma kept house for the family. Emma and Fred Schmidt were married at Morris, in 1915. The wedding supper was served at the home of her uncle, Bro. Will and Sis. Mary Messner. A snowstorm came up, and all the guests stayed overnight. I remember my father telling the great excitement of so many overnight at one house. Two days later, the newlyweds left for West Bend, where Fred was engaged in farming. They repented and were baptized in 1918, two of a very large group of converts taken into the fold of the West Bend church.

Fifteen children were born to this union, two of them girls. The oldest child, Eli, passed away in December of last year. Fred passed away suddenly in 1955, at home in Lafayette, where Sis. Emma still resides. Sis. Emma has been an able helper in time of need to many of us; if a new mother needed help or some other hardship came up, she was there to give her hand, until someone else could take over. They used to go from farm to farm and help with the winter butchering, staying overnight until the many kinds of meat were all made and preserved. Sis. Emma lives alone and spends much of her time quilting, helping and visiting.

Sis. Carrie Messner is our only other widow. She was born June 18, 1900, the oldest daughter to Bro. Mike and Sis. Ida Miller, in Pulaski. Carrie was visiting relatives in West Bend, where she met Ben Messner, son of Dan and Sis. Sarah. They were married at Pulaski in 1920. Bro. Ben and Sis. Carrie repented, and were baptized in 1922 on a farm near Winthrop. They were part of the first group of converts in this new congregation. (Bro. Joe and Sis. Mary Banwart of West Bend felt the responsibility for the souls of these young people. Sis. Mary was a sister to their mothers. They helped to hold gatherings here, to interest them in the salvation of their souls.)

Messners operated the meat market in Winthrop for a living. Six children were born to this family. Sis. Mabel (Francis) Schmidgall of

Hancock, Florence (Sid) Gutknecht, Clarence of here, Earl of Minneapolis (and two died in infancy). Bro. Ben passed away in 1945. Sis. Carrie makes her home with her daughter, Florence, in Winthrop. She helps with the housework, making a special effort to cook "Just what they like". When I called at her home, she had two warm pies waiting. "You must have some of each kind." Sis. Carrie is a quiet, God-fearing example for our younger sisters.

WICHITA, KANSAS

Mrs. Larry Farney
Mrs. Harvey Smith

Mark Alan Reimschisel was born Feb. 4. Mark is the first child for Bro. Max and Sis. Judy. Maternal grandparents are Bro. Harvey and Sis. Ann Farney.

Bro. Art and Sis. Gussie Wullschleger's home was damaged by fire this past month. There was extensive damage to the second floor, including the furniture and clothing. There was smoke and water damage to the rest of the house. Fortunately all escaped without injury.

We are happy to have Sis. Hattie Farney and Sis. Lydia Bahr able to attend services regularly with us. Both are recovering from broken hips. At this writing, Sis. Lydia is getting around with crutches, and Sis. Hattie is using a cane.

ROANOKE, ILLINOIS

Sara Aeschleman — Norene Herbst

Visiting ministers were Bros.: Mike Weyeneth, Marvin Schmidgall and George Gramm. We are thankful to God for the message's of salvation given through the inspiration of the Almighty.

Those who were or are in the hospital are: Bros. Richard Zimmerman, Ed Hodel, Leonard Fehr, and Charles Farney. Bro. Vincent Hodel is home from Mayos and was able to attend services this past Sunday.

Bro. Ike Stortz, age 73, passed away Feb. 6, after a long illness. His funeral was Feb. 8. Bro. Joe Zimmerman officiated.

We are very happy for our dear friend, Gale Kempf, who is seeking the Lord in repentance. May the Lord be gracious unto her.

My heartfelt thanks to friends and relatives for the lovely get-well cards and season's greetings, which I rec'd. during my stay in the Eureka Hospital, and at Morton Rest-

Mor home. May God bless each one. Nettie Pfau.

We wish to express our heartfelt thanks to all our relatives, friends and neighbors for the beautiful cards, gifts, best wishes and expressions of love which helped to make our golden anniversary such a joyous and blessed occasion. May God bless you all. Joe and Katie Hodel.

Thou Knowest

Thou knowest, Lord, the weariness and sorrow
Of the sad heart that comes to Thee for rest,
Cares of today, and burdens for tomorrow,
Blessings implored, and sins to be confessed.
We come before Thee at Thy gracious word
And lay them at Thy feet: Thou knowest, Lord.

Thou knowest all the present: each temptation,
Each toilsome duty, each foreboding fear;
All to each one assigned of tribulation,
Or to beloved ones, than self more dear;
All pensive memories, as we journey on,
Longings for vanished smiles and voices gone.

Thou knowest all the future;
gleams of gladness
By stormy clouds too quickly overcast;
Hours of sweet fellowship and parting sadness,
And the dark river to be crossed at last.
Oh what could hope and confidence afford
To tread that path but this, Thou knowest, Lord!

Thou knowest, not alone as God,
All-knowing;
As Man, our mortal weakness Thou hast proved,
On earth, with purest sympathies o'er-flowing.
O Saviour, Thou hast wept, and Thou hast loved,
And love and sorrow still to Thee may come,
And find a hiding-place, a rest, a home.
Therefore we come, Thy gentle call obeying,

And lay our sins and sorrows at Thy feet;
On Everlasting Strength our weakness staying,
Clothed in Thy robe of righteousness complete;
Then, rising and refreshed, we leave Thy throne,
And follow on . . . to know as we are known.

RITTMAN, OHIO

Ella Trent — Claribel Walters

Jan. 14, our brotherhood was enlarged with the baptisms of Bro. Andy Winkler, son of Bro. Alvin and Sis. Stella, Sis. Mary Jane and Margaret Beery, daughters of Bro. Karl and Sis. Ruth.

Hospitalized or ill were Florence Hanzie, Sis. Arlene Ramsier, Bro. Harry Saurer, Terry Schar, Bro. Herman Ingold, Sis. Elizabeth Ramsier, Jim Marty, Russell Mathys, Bro. Ezra Beery, Sis. Jessie Winkler and Sis. Lillian Beery.

The engagement of Wanda Gasser, daughter of Bro. Robert and Sis. Neva, and Merv Ullman was made known.

Russell Mathys wishes to thank all who remembered him during his hospitalization.

STUDENT ADDRESSES

Susan Emch Upsala College 106 N Arlington Ave East Orange New Jersey 07017	Girard
Kathi Stoll Geneva College Bx 882 Beaver Falls Pa 15010	Girard
Virginia Lance School of Nursing Rm 325 Jamison Memorial Hosp Wilmington Ave New Castle Pa 16101	Girard
Sandra Hafely Wesleyan College R R 1 Croton Ohio 43013	Girard
James P Emch Denison Univ Delta Upsilon Granville Ohio 43023	Girard
Linda Ancik Kings Hall Rm 11 Otterbein College Westerville Ohio 43081	Girard
Nellie Lou Weingart Youngstown State Univ Knauf Rd Canfield Ohio 44406	Girard

Larry Emch Youngstown State Univ 423½ North Ave Girard Ohio 44420	Girard	Max Beer Bryan Hall A203 Mich State Univ East Lansing Mich 48823	Milford	Pfc John C Bruell 2323333 MAG-31 2nd MAW MCAS Beaufort South Carolina 29906
Gail Price Youngstown State Univ 1850 Pleasant Valley Girard Ohio 44420	Girard	Wayne Banwart 145 Campus St ISU Ames Iowa 50010	West Bend	Richard Enderle B T B Div USS Biddle DLG-34 FPO San Francisco Calif 96601
Karen Stoll Nurses Res Trumbull Mem Hosp Market St Warren Ohio 44481		Warren Kellenberger 145 Campus St ISU Ames Iowa 50010	West Bend	Pvt Dennis E Fehr US54929066 Co E 4th BN Class 12B USAMTC Ft Sam Houston Texas 78234 West Bd
Ray Weingart Youngstown State Univ 211 Parkman Rd Apt 81 Warren Ohio 44485	Girard	Leland Metzger 145 Campus St ISU Ames Iowa 50010	West Bend	Pvt James A Fehr 54928943 West Bd Co E 4th Bn USAMTC Class 12B Ft Sam Houston Texas 78234
David Lance Youngstown State Univ 514 Elm St Youngstown Ohio 44503		Diane Klaus 5624 Kate Daum University of Iowa Iowa City Ia 52240	West Bend	AMN Lloyd Douglas Hartman AF17773758 Sq 3794 Peoria Box B 4322 C/MR 2 Sheppard AFB Texas 76311
Larry Lance Youngstown State Univ 3104 Southern Blvd Youngstown Ohio 44507	Girard	Duane Reutter 1512 Mulford Evanston Ill 60202	Eureka	SA Myron L Jacob 3536393 2 Div USS America [CVA66] FPO New York 09501 Cissna Park
Barbara Bell Youngstown State Univ 765 Glen Park Dr Youngstown Ohio 44503	Girard	David Stevig 438 W Briar P1 Chicago Ill 60657	Phoenix	Mr and Mrs Keith Kellenberger 504 Elmhurst Apt 5 San Antonio Texas 78209
Richard Bell Youngstown State Univ 765 Glen Park Dr Youngstown Ohio 44512	Girard	Norm Rocke 608 Washington Tower Western Ill Univ Macomb Ill 61455	Peoria	Pfc David John Levy RA16950072 HHC USASASC DRAWER 939 Ft Wayne Ft Clayton Canal Zone
Joan Benner Ketchum Hall Bx 5 Mt Union College Alliance Ohio 44601	Girard	Ann Getz Whitten Hall Rm 1030 Normal Ill 61761	Eureka	Pfc L D Lober RA16899243 Co c/4 Bat/ 503 Rd ABN Inf 173 Rd ABN BDF [sep] Cissna Pk APO San Francisco Calif 96250
L Donald Stoll King Hall Bx 46 Mt Union College Alliance Ohio 44601	Girard	Larry Kupferschmid 810 S Adelaide Normal Ill 61761	Cissna Park	Pvt Harlan H Metzger US54929307 Co E 4 Bn USAMTC Class 13B Ft Sam Houston Texas 78234 West Bd
Mike Klaus Goshen College Goshen Ind 46526	Eureka	Roger Belsley 804 W Oregon Urbana Ill 61801	Morton	Pvt Earl E Meyer US56428900 1st Plt D Co 5th Btl Bern 2nd Trg Reg Basic Ft Leonardwood Mo 65475
Mary Ellen Pulver R R 2 Leesburg Ind 46538	Ft Wayne	Walter L Steffen 1008 West University Urbana Ill 61801	Fairbury	Pvt Eugene Meylan US54976924 Co D 18th Bn 5tr Trg Bde 4th Plat USATC Armor Bay City Ft Knox Kentucky 40121
Marilyn Emch Grace College Bx 654 Winona Lake Ind 46590	Girard	Glen Carey 364 Thomas Hall Charleston Ill 61920	Morton	Pvt Joe L Schneider NG23040101 Co C 1st BN USAMTC Class 159 Ft Sam Houston Texas 78234 Reming
Jim Braker 1313 West Wayne St Ft Wayne Ind 46804		Miss Edra Gerst 1018 Spring St Quincy Ill 62301	Oakville	Pvt Steve Schurter US54825631 B Co 5th BTN Peoria 1st BDE 3rd Plt Ft Campbell Kentucky 42223
Barbara Lance 800 W Rudisill Bx 147 Ft Wayne Ind 46807	Girard			Pvt Roy Wiegand US54824844 Co E 4th Bn Class 12B Goodfield Ft Sam Houston Texas 78234
Ron Kipfer 110 W Lutz West Lafayette Ind 47906		Sp4 Dennie P Baumgartner US55853640 Hdtrs Special Troops Bluffton 16th Medical Detachment APO San Francisco Calif 96384 [Near Long Bink Viet Nam]		Pfc Clifford L Wulf US56564834 HHC 3D BN 22D Inf Lester 25th Inf Div APO San Francisco Calif 96268

HOW ABOUT THE HEREAFTER?

Henry Souder Jr.

The Bible opens lovely things. There are paths. We can walk in them, and still not know all that is there.

On earth, there are views that are nice. Water, roaring, rolling over falls. Far off views, from a high mountain-side, blue skies, sunsets with color. God tells about heavenly views. "For we know that if our earthly house of **this** tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens"

Present days will not last long. Tabernacle, tent shows how long . . . just camping, only like a little vacation. The time comes, the tent, the body is loosened down. Then, there is a strong, lovely building, not a tent. No hands worked on it. Eternal means no time. The clock, calendar, days, years are gone. Eternal is without time.

"For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed upon with our house which is from heaven:"

Some beautiful kind of clothing to wrap our inner man. Today we groan in our earthy house, our body. We have pain; we make mistakes. We have to fight evil. There is a secret in earnestly desiring. We get glad when something special is coming . . . Sunday morning, Christmas, somebody we like. Hope brings getting glad in His joy.

"If so be that being clothed we shall not be found naked." There is also a great unhappiness. The guest not having a wedding garment was not wanted. He was cast out into the great, black outside.

"For we that are in **this** tabernacle do groan, being burdened: not for that we would be unclothed, but clothed upon, that mortality might be swallowed up of life."

Those words "swallowed up of life", what all do you suppose they hold? Needed food, swallowed is not lost. The body, even though it is blown to bits, is kept track of. It is going to be raised a new body. What does the Lord say? Those who

are in heaven, he is going to bring with Him. Their very own spirit will come. The loud call and the beautiful trumpet will sound. The dead in Christ shall be raised first. Our spirit will be the same, but life! how much. Our friends, our love, our remembrances will be there.

"Now he that hath wrought us for the selfsame thing is God, who also hath given unto us the earnest of the Spirit."

Man does some special things. He makes nice cars. He makes machines that can store billions of figures. They give him an answer quickly. God is also working. Take any child of His, He in person has charge. That's why things happen that cannot always be understood. He is turning out with His machines for eternity. Within, He has given His Spirit. This is proof, our hope, that He will give in full what He has promised.

"Therefore we are always confident, knowing that, whilst we are at home in the body, we are absent from the Lord:" Kind of like a motel . . . or a stay in the Service. Away from home, we are absent from the place we feel we belong. There is something that does not give that settled-down, rested feeling of place. Our believing has that uneasiness, that missing, that "absent". Where is the real?

The Lord talked about preparing a place. He said that where I am, there ye may be also.

"(For we walk by faith, not by sight:)" This has a lot more than what we might at first think. Even with our eyes shut, our mind sees. Habits of thinking are built from childhood. We feel that such and such should be so. Faith looks at things which are not seen. It feels and sees in the word of God.

"We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord."

The silent lips are closed. The body lies in state. The Lord watches over it. We are confident, have faith. Tho' the shop is closed and business is done, there is a happy "and". We've gone some place.

We art at home, present with the Lord.

"Wherefore we labour, that, whether present or absent, we may be accepted of him."

Accepted, warmly welcomed. That is what counts! The Lord will come and call those yet living, too. To labour is to get things done. Can you say that you know which day is circled, for your life to be done? How happy are we, whether we stay or go, if our day is in His labor.

"For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things **done** in his body, according to that he hath done, whether **it be** good or bad."

There will be order in this court. Judgment will begin at the house of God, Peter writes. Paul says the quick (the child of God, the alive in spirit) and the dead shall be judged at His coming and His kingdom. It won't be hasty. A recording machine puts, on tape, the sound of the voice. Before God's bench, even the thoughts will testify. When our turn comes, that which appears is going to be very familiar and very personal.

That's why it's so important not to love the world. How happy we shall be if the cross was to the very end. How happy is one, before the throne, who sees that the things done in His body were wrought in Christ.

It is suggested that, for every home into which the Silver Lining goes, there should be given \$2.00 per year, where it works no hardship.
the editor