



O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane and vain babblings, and oppositions of science falsely so

called:
Which some professing have erred concerning the faith. Grace be with thee. Amen.

"....the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever."

THE SILVER LINING

A LIGHT for BELIEVERS

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FATAL FLAWS IN EVOLUTION

Ever hear of the theory? Someone writes, or says, certain layers are hundreds of millions of years old and more? According to the carefully-laid-out words, on the bottom are supposed to be the old, old ones. Then the new, layer upon layer on top.

But . . . There are places where so-called younger rocks are **on the bottom**. Those supposed to be hundreds of millions of years older are over them. The position is regular, normal. There is no evidence of erosion, of taking away a layer or more . . . No showing of a disturbance that would have changed the two.

There is a region 20,000 square miles in southern Alberta and Montana . . . and there are more: Switzerland, Scotland, New York. The earth is written with the power of God. There is abundant testimony that the word of God is true!

"Who is this that darkeneth counsel by words without knowledge? . . . Where wast thou when I laid the foundation . . . ? . . . who shut up the sea . . . ?"

THERE'S POWER, PUT THERE OF GOD

Every material thing you see . . . house, chair, tree, body . . . is made of atoms. There is tremendous power within the atom. Within is something called a proton. It does the work God sent it to do. One writer gives us a little insight into the power here. If one gram of protons was at the north pole and one at the south—8,000 miles apart—they would exert on each other a repelling force of some 26 tons.

Take hydrogen. Hydrogen is part of the water we drink. In one of these atoms, there is only one proton. The space in this hydrogen atom is very, very immense. Between the earth and the moon there is a lot of space. There's much more between the sun, the planet—Jupiter, and the last planet in our solar system. But in proportion, in this one atom the space is greater. Vast, electrical particle with power. Someone is directing His marvelous creation.

Someone has estimated . . .

How many drops of water are there in the Atlantic Ocean? In a cubic inch of copper there are half as many protons as there are drops of water in the Atlantic. Something great's going on in these atoms.

There's electrical particles, field teamwork, teamed in busy-ness, with design. ". . . the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear." ". . . by him all things consist."

DESIGN IS PUT THERE OF GOD

The stars are very, very much larger than the atoms. This comparison of the ultralarge to the ultrasmall is something like this: greater by 10,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000, Almost the same is the relation of the electrical force of proton & electron to their force of gravity. Close to the **same giant number** comes again, with the square root of the total number of hydrogen atoms that are estimated in the universe. Yet again comes close to the same number, with the ratio of the density of matter in the center of a supernova to the average material in the universe.

God has perfect mathematics, perfect design, power tremendous! "Who hath measured the waters in the hollow of his hand, and meted out heaven with the span . . . ? . . . Lift up your eyes on high, and behold who hath created these things, that bringeth out their host by number . . ."

THE FLOOD, MIGHTY MOVEMENT OF GOD

"And all flesh died that moved upon the earth, both of fowl, and of cattle, and of beast, and of every creeping thing . . ."

Nebraska, Sioux County, Agate Springs. A bone bed was discovered—rhinoceros, camels, giant wild boars, others . . . Buried as only water could deposit. The estimate at one hill is 9,000 animals.

France. Valley of the Soane. There is a hill 1,030 feet above the plain. A fissure near the top has bones of bears, wolves, horses, oxen that are together in a disorderly fashion, unweathered, ungnawed. Wild and tame are together, driven by a common fear. Russia On the steppes is a cavity. It is estimated 4,500 bones are there. Hyenas, horses, boars, mammoth, rhinoceros, deer, hares, otters, wolves, foxes.

The dinosaurs are among the evidences in America, from the Connecticut Valley to the Rockies and Far Northwest—"The cutting off of this great Dinosaur dynasty was nearly, if not quite, simultan-

eous the world over". Huge reptilian cemeteries tell of what is written. Red Deer River, Canada. There are fossil remains, reptiles, ". . . seem to have been driven together by a common danger and to have perished in the same great catastrophe." **The Same Great Catastrophe.**

NOT THE SLIGHTEST CHANCE EVOLUTION LIES, A CRUMBLLED ASH

Men who call themselves wise are perfectly shown in their true status, in the Bible: They "became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened . . . Who changed the truth of God into a lie . . ."

Natural selection—Darwin himself began to waver from his so-called "knowledge". He also used, "We may well suppose," 800 times in his two principal works. Paleontology—the study of fossils—No "links" will ever be found. The regular ABSENCE of "transitional forms" is a universal phenomena, it is written. The creation continues as written. For his specialty, the zoologist or the botanist finds none of the wordy patterns of false knowledge furnished are adequate.

"Phylogeny" — From genetics today: no mechanism exists by which some factor, acting on the organism in its lifetime, can bring about the necessary **gene change to perpetuate results of use and disuse of succeeding generations**. He who would pick up the theory of evolution would pick up a poison that would eat, and leave always conscious ashes for eternity.

There is not the **slightest** chance that evolution is true.

LISTEN TO WHAT THEY SAY

Scientists. Etheridge, famous fossilologist, about evolutionists; This museum is full of proofs of the utter falsity of their views. Virchow, Berlin, a naturalist; The attempt to find the transition from the animal to man has ended in total failure. "Fleishman, who once accepted Darwin: The . . . theory of descent has not a single fact to confirm it, in the realm of nature . . . purely the product of the imagination . . ." Thompson, former president of New York Academy of Medicine: "The Darwinian theory is now rejected by the majority of biologists . . ." Dawson, geologist of Canada—"The record of the rocks is decidedly against evolu-

ionists. . .” Orr, Edinburg University—“The greatest scientists . . . of Europe are now pronouncing Darwinism to be absolutely dead.”

TRUTH THE BIBLE IS SO

There was a man who had knowledge that was wrong. He was on his death bed. Time was running out. Looking intently somewhere, he was heard to utter four words; “So it is so!”

This Will Come:

“And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened:”

Some day all shall know what once the LORD told some. They “shall know whose words shall stand, mine, or their’s.”

MORTON, ILLINOIS

Mrs. John Oberlander

Mrs. Ken Getz

The Christmas festivities began early in Morton, with our annual Christmas program being held Sunday evening, Dec. 14. Everyone enjoyed this blessed evening as they heard the story of the Christ child’s birth.

The following ministers gave us food for thought: Bros. Uriel Gehring, Maurice Frank and Dale Eisenmann.

Carl Rapp passed away in downtown Morton very suddenly of a heart attack. He is survived by his wife, Emma Hermann Rapp, and one brother John, living in Morton. He attended Morton church regularly, and our congregation will miss him.

Those who have been in the hospital are: Sisters Margaret Haas, Emma Dale (Grimm) Baer, Christine Woerner, Katie Stieglitz; Bros. Chris Knapp and Arthur Heiniger. Jane Knapp, daughter of

Bro. Chris and Sis. Emma (Braker) Knapp was in the hospital at the same time as her father, along with Jake Woertz, Ed Aberle, Keith Roeschley and Louise (Mrs. Roy) Moser.

Mrs. Tom (Jessica Randolph) Martin has a new baby boy, Bradley John, born Dec. 17. His father, Tom is serving in Viet Nam.

What Does Christmas Really Mean
What does Christmas really mean?

A fancy bit of evergreen
A greeting from somebody dear
The end of “Just another year”?
What does Christmas really mean to you.

What does Christmas really mean?
A quiet little manger scene

A hope for men who’ve gone astray
A silvery star to lead the way?
What does Christmas really mean to you.

What does Christmas mean to you?
And is its message really true

Does love abound more richly than
Do you feel “Peace on earth toward men”?

What does Christmas really mean to you.

What does Christmas mean to me?
Ah yes the Holy Trinity

A blessed peace, an end to strife,
It means eternal glorious life.
That’s what Christmas really means to me.

By Sis. Elna Grimm

FRANCESVILLE, IND.

Mrs. Herman (Chris) Wuethrich

Mrs. Otto Wuethrich

The three sweetest words in the Bible are, **God is Love**. God showed his love in giving us another lamb; Bro. and Sis. Fredrick Gutweins have a baby, David, which makes them a happy family of 2 boys and 2 girls.

We really appreciated the visits of Bros. Leo Moser, Herman Kellenberger, Edwin Bahler and Earl Kilgus. This word was taught us, to carry it on through the week—**appreciation**. Do we appreciate things enough?

We will appreciate other visiting ministers coming whenever the Lord opens the way for them. An elder said, He never met two ministers that had a greater appreciation for each other than our Bros. Elmer and Wendell have.

Bro. and Sis. Joe Yaggie started the second most important event of

their lives fifty years ago, so we wish them God’s continued blessings for more years.

It is a great and marvelous blessing in life to care for loved ones. Some of our past hospital patients need care. Sis. Cordia Leman fractured her hip. Also in the hospital were Sis. Julia Boehning, Sis. Jane Nuest, Bro. Keith Putt and John Wenger.

Farewell. No man gets lost on a straight road.

LONG BINH, VIET NAM

Merle Rocke

Another month has passed, a year has gone by, a decade has ended . . . and we find that our God is yet patient, still merciful. How much longer? Only God knows. May it be, if God wills, that this year, 1970, may be one in which peace comes at last to the war-weary people of this land — that no more blood be needlessly spilled, and that fathers, husbands, and brothers — both from this land as well as our own — may return to their loved ones, to their families.

We are thankful that Dan Kaeb and Charles Knapp, both of Fairbury, have been able to leave Viet Nam. On Sunday, Dec. 7, I enjoyed a blessed two-hour visit with Bro. Glenn Heinold of La Crosse, as he arrived at the big Army base here, 15 mi. northeast of Saigon. What a joy to fellowship with a dear brother again! We are now quite a few miles apart, however, and unable to see one another. I received an unforgettable Christmas blessing on Christmas Eve, when Bro. Bill Schmidtgall awakened me as I slept on my bunk and I learned that he had just arrived in Viet Nam and was assigned here at Long Binh Army Base. His barracks are only a few hundred feet from mine, and we are able to be together every evening. We cannot fully describe how wonderful it is to be together. Yes, in His own way, at His own time, the Lord always provides.

All of us in Viet Nam humbly thank you for the many cards, letters, and “care packages” we received during the Christmas season. Most of all we appreciate the many prayers offered on our behalf. We also will never forget the love, kindness and unselfish efforts of Bro. and Sis. Paul and Mildred Schladenhauffen of Bluffton, who regularly send taped sermons to all the servicemen—both stateside and around the world. Likewise are we

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indebted to the brothers and sisters at Forrest, especially Bro. and Sis. Sidney and Helen Leman, who spend countless hours preparing typed sermons for those of us unable to hear the word proclaimed directly. We have that confidence that the Father's richest blessings will be shared unto those who give of themselves and share such as they have with the least of God's people.

REMINGTON, INDIANA

Anna M. Waibel and Sisters

Bro. Bernard and Sis. Carolyn (Schieler) were visiting and helping her mother, Mary, as she is handicapped due to her ailment in her hands. Mary had her 80th birthday Dec. 1, and her daughter-in-law had a group of 4 or 5 women to call on her in the afternoon, and every hour another group came until 5 o'clock. We all enjoyed the arrangement and I'm sure Mary did too. She wishes to give special thanks for all that took part and all that was given her.

Bros. Herman Kellenberger and Leo Moser (Lester) brought many good teachings. I'm sure all would be more blest if we could remember better and be more obedient.

The community was shocked and grieved to hear of the death of Walter Peters, 64. He lived at Brook, Ind. for a number of years and was in the feed business with his brother, Herman. His whole family lived near our church for as long as I can remember. We went to school together. Walter was in my class. His father passed away many years ago, and his mother, Sis. Bertha is 90 years old, and is in Peoria, where her 2 daughters, Sis. Martha and Marie live. His brother, Clarence lives at Morton, and Ernest at Hammond, Ind.

Bro. Gene Waibel is home from the hospital, but will be on crutches for some weeks (after having knee surgery).

Bro. Gustav (Gus) A. Knochel, 82 passed away at his home Sun. Dec. 14, after a lingering illness. He was married to Sis. Eunice Nussbaum Dec. 29, 1909. This year would be their 60th wedding anniversary. He leaves 6 sons: Raymond, Maurice and Arthur of here; Fern, Buck Creek Ind.; Allen of La-Fayette; Richard, Jackson, Miss.; 3 daughters—Luella Glick, La-Fayette; Dorothy Kiefer, of Baton Rouge La. and Marjorie King of

Toledo. Four sisters, Sis. Sophia Farney of Wolcott, Sis. Lydia Pelsey, Francesville; Sis. Lena and Ida Tyler of here. He was preceded in death by 2 daughters Helen and Sis. Lucile; a son, Glen killed in the Korean War; 4 brothers, Phil, Bro. George, Bro. Ben and Chris; sisters, Sis. Sally Frey and Sis. Louise Scharlach. Just a year ago Dec. 13, a grandson, Charles A. (Fern's) was killed in North Vietnam.

The Christmas program was given on Sun. evening Dec. 21, and was well attended. May the blessings therefrom last throughout the years for all who took part.

We were reminded Sun. Dec. 28, how willing James and John were to follow Jesus the first time he called them . . . In the afternoon Bro. Verlin Stoller from Ft. Wayne encouraged all to give our bodies to Him as we are not our own. The Lord knows in advance how our lives are to be. Will He be able to say of us when our lives are over? It all happened as I had planned?

This afternoon Sun. Dec. 28, word comes of the passing of Reuben Scharlach, 83, almost two weeks to the hour that Bro. Gus Knochel left us. He married Louise Knochel in 1912. She passed away a year ago Dec. 13. Surviving are 3 daughters, Sis. Amelia Schini of here, Aldine Taylor of Minnesota, Doris Zeltwanger of Wakarusa, Indiana; and 2 sons, Melvin of Iowa City, and Wesley of Hammond (Ind).

Sis. Mary Jo (Herbert) Schieler was in the hospital a few days, due to a kidney stone . . . are happy to report she is better.

Bro. Harold and Sis. Marie (Knochel) Schieler went to her folks in Bay City and from there flew to New York state to see Bro. Ralph and Sis. Nina (Schieler) Beyer. Ralph is very ill; our tho'ts and prayers are with them often. We have gone through the same recently, and trust the Lord in His mercy will grant them all that is needed, and that they can find strength, courage and comfort in him in the days ahead.

Practice the Art of forgetting. One of the healthiest things a human being can do is to become a master of forgetting. Don't carry resentments, hates, frustrations, regrets, disappointments. Take the letter "t" off the word forget and it becomes the word **forge**—Forge ahead. It is a great art to know how to forget. Happy New Year to all.

WOLCOTT, INDIANA

Arles Kropf

Our Sunday School children presented their annual Christmas program on Dec. 22.

A nice group gathered and went caroling on Dec. 19 to Lake Manor Home at Monticello, where several of our congregation are now residents, and also to the homes of other aged and shut-ins.

We welcome to our congregation and community Sis. Anna Furrer, who has moved here after many years of employment in Chicago. May the Lord bless her in her new home.

Hospitalized were Mike Minnear and Clara Furrer. We are glad to see Mike in our assembly again and know that Clara is slowly improving.

Our Elder, Bro. Wendell Gudeman spent two Sunday afternoons with us. We always enjoy his presence and the love he has shown to us.

ALTADENA, CALIFORNIA

Freda and Rhoda Minger

Bro. and Sis. Virgil Graf are the happy parents of a baby girl, born Nov. 11 and named her Carol Jean. She has one sister, Elaine Kay. Bro. and Sis. Clarence Graf and Bro. and Sis. Joe Dotterer (Phoenix) are the grandparents.

We are thankful to have Bro. Frank Beyer assemble with us again, and that he is feeling better.

Sunday Dec. 28, Bro. Alfred Bahler of Wolcott spent the day with us. He read from St. Matthew chapter 5. It was very impressive and reminded us that if our right eye offend thee, pluck it out, or if thy right hand offend thee cut it off, and cast it from thee; for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell. Bro. and Sis. Carl Feucht from the Lester church were with us in the evening, and we again received manifold blessings from God's teachings. Our friendship was renewed after so many years of being separated.

Our friend, Judy Crocket gave her testimony and was baptized on Sunday Jan. 5. Bro. and Sis. Clarence Graf are the parents. We were refreshed and encouraged as we listened to her proving. It surely reminded us of our duties toward our friends to win them in love toward God. Baptismal services were witnessed by many loved ones, both

Altadena and Maywood congregations. Bro. John Dapper was our guest minister. There were many visitors from eastern churches with us over the holidays; we thank them all for being with us.

PRINCEVILLE, ILLINOIS

Ruth Ricketts

We were thankful that many of our loved ones could come home for the holidays and many family gatherings were held. On Christmas Day, Bros. Walter Rehklau of Toledo and Clifford Grimm of West Bend could gather with us for services. The brothers so beautifully retold the Christmas Story, of Christ's humble birth, ever sweet to the ear. Did you ever wonder what the inn-keeper must have thought when he learned that it was the parents of the Saviour of the world whom he turned away? How many today turn the Saviour away as they have no room in their hearts for Him? How sad to fill their lives with worldly pleasures, when they could so easily entertain the Heavenly Guest and enjoy the peace that passes all understanding.

Bro. Dave Kieser has been confined to his home, but is recovering nicely from surgery. We are thankful he is improving so well.

Ralph Endress and Howard Rumbold, who are serving in the armed forces in Texas, were happy to be at home with their families during the holidays.

Many gathered Sunday evening before Christmas when the story of the birth of Christ was brought forth in verse and song by the children. It was brought out in one of the lovely recitations how the Wisemen followed a star, being led by faith, to find the Saviour. Our Bible is our star where we can be led by faith to find the Saviour. Children can teach us so much by their eagerness to speak what they have learned, and do so in such innocence. It is always an inspiration to be present to listen to them speak and sing.

The last Sunday in December brought us many visitors from various congregations. Our beloved ministering brothers, LeRoy Huber of Eureka, Cleo Rinckenberger of Pulaski, Charles Hemmer of Peoria, and Lynn Klopfenstein of Alabama gave us many gems for thought, so beneficial for all. When we pray to our Father and ask, "Thy will be done", do we fully

surrender ourselves, or do we listen to our own promptings and rather do it our way?

We are on the threshold of a New Year and a New Decade. What is in store for us? Isn't it good we need not worry about the future, but can place our trust in a blessed Saviour, who abundantly supplies our needs, and all we need do is ask for each day's supply of grace?

A goodly number gathered on New Year's Day morning to worship together. How fitting to sing "The Twenty Third Psalm" and enjoy the blessings from it. As the year dawned, a blanket of pure white snow covered the ground. For several days just enough fell to keep it pure and white.

Since Thanksgiving Day, we are privileged to gather in our new church. May it ever be a place where we as one body in love can worship together and leave a precious heritage to those who follow. Slowly our old church building was dismantled; at last just the shell remained. In a short time it was knocked down, making our new building stand out more beautifully. As the old building was being torn out bit by bit, it came to me how we had to tear out our old self and completely surrender to the Lord.

In the past year four little boys and five little girls were born to gladden families in our congregation; ten souls were called from this life; four young souls were taken into the fold and two young couples who were united in marriage have now taken the most important step in life and have surrendered their lives to the Lord. How happy we are for them. May they enjoy the Lord's rich blessings of peace and happiness.

"I want to express my deep thanks and appreciation to all for your cards, gifts, visits, words and deeds of kindness, and prayers in my behalf. May God bless you. Betty Stahl."

UNION CITY, NEW JERSEY

Ed. Aeschleman

Twelve children participated in our Christmas program at church. It is gratifying to us to see how willing the children are to participate, and how well they seem to grasp the true meaning of Christmas, when they become involved in spiritually guided programs. It is a refreshing change from the

worldly way in which our Saviour's birth is celebrated.

Sis. Ida Knecht's health has been such that she has not been able to attend services for several weeks. May God grant her recovery, that she can again enjoy normal activity.

We just learned that Bro. Ron Koehl, who was convalescing at the Valley Forge General Hospital in Pennsylvania, was discharged from the Army. We enjoyed Ron's visits to Union City and wish him God's grace and blessings in our farewell.

WINTHROP, MINNESOTA

Delores Messerli — Carol Messner

I heard a young friend say, "The best part of Christmas is coming home." My thought, "The best part of being a Christian is going home."

Jeff and Gary Messner, sons of Bro. Ray and Sis. Bernadine, were home on leave from the Navy over the Christmas holidays. Bruce, son of ministering Bro. Harold and Sis. Jerry Messner, was home on leave. He left tonight for his base, Ft Hood Texas.

Ministering Bro. Elmer and Sis. Hazel Schmidt's son, Mark, was hospitalized for surgery. He is recovering at home.

Dec. 13 was the date of the marriage of Dale Messerli and Paulette Tieg. The parents of Dale are Bro. Cornelius and Sis. Delores Messerli.

This poem was given to us by a brother-in-faith.

Three Answers Only

Remember when you pray to God—
The answers are but three—
Yes or No or wait awhile—
Whichever, it may be—
If right away you get your wish—
You know that God said yes—
As He so kindly favors you—
With special happiness—
If He rejects a certain dream—
That you would have come true
He is denying something that—
Would not be good for you—
These answers are quite obvious—
As you may weep or smile—
But now and then God asks that
you—

Wait just a little while—
So when it seems that you receive—

No answer right away—
Have faith in God, and be patient
At least for one more day.

Are you changing your address? Send in ahead, letting know when to change. Send zip.

AKRON, OHIO**Kathy Graf**

On Dec. 28, Roger Gasser gave his testimony and was baptized. We were very happy to welcome Roger as a new brother-in-faith. We wish him God's grace and help that he might grow in faith and love throughout his life. Many visited us that Sunday, including some of the Rittman congregation where Roger was born and reared. Bro. Robert Beer and Bro. Verdon Feldman served us in the morning, and Bro. Noah Bauman and Bro. Ben Hartzler in the afternoon. We want to thank these visiting ministers for their service and to wish them God's rich blessings.

Robert Kaufman, who as reported earlier was hospitalized for major surgery, is making a good recovery. Before his hospitalization he moved to 319 House Drive, Akron Ohio 44319.

Sis. Freda VonGunten, who was injured in an accident at her home, is much better and continues to improve. She hopes to be able to attend church again on Jan. 11.

All those who have not paid their subscriptions for 1970 and would care to do so may send their money to Kathy Graf, 3550 Ridgewood Rd., Akron Ohio 44313.

BAY CITY, MICHIGAN**Marlene Mosher**

Our dear ministering Bro. Henry Wackerle has had his surgery and is now on the mend. Sis. Margaret Molner is able to assemble with us, after her surgery. Bro. David Schlatter had surgery and is coming along fine.

A new baby daughter, Kori, was born to Norm and Sis. Linda Andrzejewski. A baby daughter was born to friends Ronald and Judy Hadd. Judy is the daughter of Bro. Floyd and Sis. Marion Knochel.

We are turning our calendars to a new year and a new decade; let us look back over the last year of our lives or the last 10 years and see if we have made any progress in giving ourselves to the work of our Lord, or if we have been slipping. If we find ourselves slipping, why not bow our hearts to our Lord and ask for forgiveness, and help to do His will and not our own, and to become stronger in Him in the time we have left on earth, and pray to be a light to others.

We hope for the Lord's blessings and help for all in this New Year.

CONGERVILLE, ILLINOIS**Pauline Roth — Phyllis Knapp**

How rapidly another year has passed, reminding us of the swiftness and brevity of life on earth.

"Only one life; twill soon be past; Only what's done for Christ will last."

This poses the question, Have we lived as we will wish to have lived when this life is over?

Our Christmas Sunday School program was held Dec. 17. A special blessing was received by those in attendance; the children told the story of the birth of our Lord.

Another blessing we all enjoyed during the holiday season was having our college students assemble with us. Our friends are such an important part of our church, and it is a real joy to have them fellowship with us.

Our only visiting minister was Bro. Vernon Leman of Eureka. We were privileged to sit in heavenly places, as Vernon taught us from God's holy word.

Our friend, Mary Wettstein remains hospitalized at Methodist Hospital in Peoria, after submitting to major surgery. She hopes to be dismissed in the near future. Sis. Elizabeth Hartter was hospitalized, but has been dismissed to the home of her daughter, Bro. Sam and Sis. Luella Zimmerman in Bloomington. My mother, Ida Nussbaum, is recuperating at home, after hospitalization. Many times the hours are long for shut-ins; may the Lord be near them in their hours of loneliness.

How thankful we can be that the Lord is still calling sinners to repentance. This has again been evidenced in our congregation when at our New Years Eve services we learned that our dear friend Vera Grusy, daughter of Bro. Elmer and Sis. Minnie had decided to cast her lot with the Lord. Could there be a nicer way to end the old year or begin the new? Another friend, Roger Miller, confesses peace with God and man and has been announced for proving and baptism.

On Dec. 19 Bro. Byron and Sis. Mary Schrock became the parents of a baby boy. Trent Douglas has two brothers, Todd and Troy. Bro. Charles and Sis. Martha Rinckenberger of LaCrosse and Bro. Joe and Sis. Esther Schrock of our congregation are grandparents. A

baby boy, Jay Duane, was born to Bro. Duane and Sis. Lois Steffen on Jan. 3. At home to welcome little Jay are Jim, Marilyn, Margie, Mary Ann and Myra Kay. Grandparents are Bro. Dan and Sis. Tillie Sauder and Bro. Ed and Sis. Bena Steffen.

Sis. Cora Schumacher wishes to thank everyone who visited her, sent cards and all other acts of love shown them during her hospitalization and after returning home. A special thank you to the young people of our Bible Class who caroled and gave a basket of fruit.

PEORIA, ILLINOIS**Emily Tanner****Mrs. Michael Weyeneth**

Bro. Bruce and Sis. Lauretta Schafer are the parents of Craig Loren, born Dec. 10. On Dec. 12, Bro. Willis and Sis. Shirley Triplett were so happy to bring a baby boy into their home and hearts as their son. He was born Oct. 17, and they named him Timothy Willis. Tom and Jessica Martin are the parents of Bradley John, born Dec. 17. Tom is stationed in Viet Nam. Bro. Doug and Sis. Myrna Schwenk are the parents of Susan Elizabeth, born Dec. 27.

Sis. Jill Heinold of LaCrosse and Bro. Jay Plattner were united in marriage Dec. 21. Jay is the son of Bro. Walter and Sis. Hannah Plattner. Janis Marie Miller and Ronald Plattner were married Dec. 22. Ronald is the son of Bro. Pete and Sis. Ella Plattner.

Sis. Rosa Heinsman died Dec. 16. She had been a patient in Methodist Hospital for 6 weeks. Surviving are her husband, Bro. Joe Heinsman; one daughter, Mrs. John (Josephine) Roecker of Peoria; one son, William Heinsman of Taichung, Taiwan; three sisters, Mrs. Katie Schupach of Alva Okla., Sis. Mary Ott of Peoria, and Mrs. Jenny Fankhauser of Madison, Kansas.

The Hymnsmen Brothers from Eureka and Roanoke joined us at our January Hymn Sing. We cherish these times when we can praise God in song and have fellowship with our brethren.

Bro. Alfred Rapp is a hospital patient. Sis. Phoebe Eberhardt has returned to the hospital. She wishes to express her thanks for the many prayers, cards and gifts she received from her friends and relatives during her illness. Bro. Chris Sauder has had surgery, and is

home recuperating. He, too, wishes to express his thanks to everyone for their prayers and cards.

Sis. Christine Baurer, who is 97 years old and hasn't been able to assemble in church with us for the past 5 years, received so many lovely cards and gifts from relatives and friends during this past Christmas season. She and her family wish to thank everyone for their expressions of love. May God bless you all.

LATTY, OHIO

Dolores Grant — Iva Stoller THE SMALLEST BLESSINGS

Did I forget to thank Thee, Lord,
For things that may seem small—
A flower by the wayside,
A wild bird's lonely call;

For all the daily happenings
That we call commonplace,
For sunrise and for sunset,
For a neighbor's smiling face?

To thank Thee, Lord, for everyone
That adds a note of cheer,
And my blessings will be multiplied
In this another year.

Let us be thankful unto Him who giveth all.

Our dear Sister Velta Laukhuf (Brother Richard) has again submitted to heart surgery. We were all much concerned for her, but thanks to our dear Savior, she is home and recuperating nicely. We all wish her a speedy recovery. Sister Bena DeLong is still convalescing at her sisters' home (Sis. Mary Stoller). May the Lord bless her with health again.

Our Sunday School presented our Christmas program Dec. 17. It was truly inspiring to hear of our Lord's birth, from the tiny tots on up. May our children always remember the true meaning of Christmas, and may the seeds of righteousness stay embedded in their little hearts.

On Christmas morning, a baby daughter was born to Donna and Carl Laukhuf Jr. The little miss is their second child, and was named Manda Rae. She is the granddaughter of Louise and Carl Laukhuf.

We held our business meeting after services on New Year's Day. Sis. Delores Grant and Bro. Kieth Stoller are to serve as Sunday

School teachers, replacing those who have completed their term. Bro. Kenneth Laukhuf is to serve as trustee.

Friends Gary Grant, son of Bro. Tom and Sis. Delores; Larry Weninger, son of Bro. Don and Sis. Josephine; and Connie Stoller, daughter of Bro. Glen and Sis. Edith, have been announced for baptism. May they be united in holy love within our flock.

We have been reminded of our heavenly calling. Our elder, Bro. George Sinn read the results of the conference, with the assistance of Bro. Loren Stoller. May we all strive to be such children as would please our dear Lord and Savior.

PULASKI, IOWA Mrs. Dave Wiegand

We are having real winter weather. The ground is covered with snow and the temperature around zero.

We welcome Bro. Roger and Sis. Nancy Musselman and their little boy, Matthew, into our congregation. They lived at Morton before moving. Nancy is the daughter of Bro. Cleo and Sis. Esther Rinkenberger; and are especially happy to have Nancy "home."

Sonia Rinkenberger, another daughter of Cleo and Esther, was married on Dec. 21 to Kirk Wegner from Bloomfield. They are both going to college at Cedar Falls, Iowa. We wish them much happiness in their life together!

Bro. Bernard Schaer had surgery on his left hand. One finger was taken off, as a result of an accident he had last summer with a hay-baler. He seems to be getting along pretty well.

WEST BEND, IOWA

Anna Schmidt — Mrs. A. Banwart

What a beautiful way to start the new year. The experience of having Norman Zaugg, Ruth Fehr and Barbara Banwart added to our flock should give us all a host of reflections for guidance anew in the days ahead. Elder Bros. Paul Fehr of Morris, Eugene Marti of Sabetha, and Leo Moser of Lester carried out this sacred ceremony, which was uplifting to all who were spiritually concerned. Eugene remained with us on the following day to bring us the report of the conference. Upon hearing the conclusion of this concerned group, we could feel their efforts were guided from Above. Since they

have labored so sincerely, let each of us do our part by obedience in a humble state of mind. May they all be richly blessed for their efforts.

Bro. Noah Anliker and Mary Mogler (daughter of Bro. and Sis. Ervin and Elma Mogler) have returned from the hospital and are doing quite well. Harry Thoman, brother of Sis. Lilly Mogler was hospitalized in Ft. Dodge with a leg injury, but is improving and is now home. May we ever be thankful for the blessing of health.

This Day God Gave

You can hand out a smile or just give them a frown;
You can lift someone up, or push someone down.
You can lighten some load or some progress impede;
You can look for some rose or just gather some weed.

What have you done with your Beautiful Day
That God gave you — Did you throw it away?

Praise Ye the Lord seemed to echo from on High last Sunday, and no wonder why. Praise seems to fill heart, mind, and lips as we review the past and begin the new. It seems we can feel a hint of glorious rapture as the last of our overseas brethren, Leland Metzger, have returned home safely and of sound body and mind. Regardless of what may arise let us remember, Praise Ye the Lord.

RITTMAN, OHIO

Florence Hartzler Janette Blough

1970! A new decade is before us. A new year, too! Are we going to do better this year? It so, how? By following these two verses from the Old Testament. One from Jeremiah: "Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls." The other from Psalms: "I have set the LORD always before me: because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved." It we walk this good path, keep Christ as our Guide, we will have a good year.

As we ended Sunday School for another year, we enjoyed the singing in the evening of the different classes. The little children were so precious as they sang to us: "O

come little children, O come one and all; To Bethlehem haste, to the manger so small, God's Son for a gift has been sent you this night, To be your redeemer, your joy and delight." As the story "No Room At the Inn" was read by its author, how they all listened with awe, and how we were taken to that little town and could imagine ourselves being with Mary and Joseph on that cold, dark night. We went with them and could find no room. In a stable they took refuge, and there a little babe was born. Then the shepherds and wise men came to worship him. Let's go with Him to Calvary, where he died on the cross that we might live.

It was good to see our Christmas visitors, who came home to be with their families over the holidays. We are thankful they were protected on their homeward ways!

A new baby arrived at the home of Bro. Ken and Sis. Jane Hartzler. Their first daughter, Tamara Kay, was welcomed home, too, by three brothers: Keith, Billy, and Bobby.

Don Riegenbach, son of Bro. Will and Sis. Martha, and Gail Davis have announced their engagement. David Ramsier and Dottie Hartzler have become engaged. Dave is son of Bro. Nelson and Sis. Aldine: Dottie's parents are Bro. Ben and Sis. Clara Hartzler. We pray the Lord will bless these dear ones, as they will soon begin their new life together.

We've had a few surgical patients: Sis. Linda Zollinger, Cheryl Zollinger, Sis. Katharine Laukhuf, Sis. Wilma Ramsier, and Jonathan Hartzler. Danny Marty has rheumatic fever, but can be at home. Sis. Elda Gasser, Sis. Irma Hilty, and Ed Mathys are still hospitalized.

As the old year goes out and the new year comes in, so new ushers and trustee were chosen. Bro. Denny Neiman and Bro. Pete Baltic filled the vacancy for ushers, Bro. Herbert Bauman, trustee.

BERN, KANSAS

Esther and Stella Moser

Arlon Lewis was born Dec. 31 to Stanley and Linda Strahm. He joins a sister, Amy, in the home. Grandparents are Bro. Emil and Sis. Grace Strahm.

Bro. Darrel Stoller had a 16-day leave over the holidays. He reported back to Ft. Sam for five more weeks of schooling.

Hospitalized and able to assem-

ble with us again: Sis. Emily Lortscher and Sis. Lorene Strahm (Ephraim).

Christmas morning Sabetha assembled with us for services. In turn we assembled with Sabetha on New Year's morning. We rejoiced to have our service boys, college students and the many visitors home for the holidays assemble with us. It is but a foretaste of how that Heavenly home-coming will be.

With the New Year, song services have once more been discontinued in favor of mid-week services. We alternate with Sabetha. Plans are to read the memorandum at the first service at Bern.

My Purpose

To be a little kindlier

With the passing of each day;

To leave but happy memories

As I go along my way.

To use possessions that are mine

In serving full and free;

To sacrifice the trivial things

For larger good to be;

To give of love in lavish way

That friendship true may live.

To be less quick to criticize,

More ready to forgive;

To use such talents as I have

That happiness may grow;

To take the bitter with the sweet,

Assured 'tis better so;

God grant me the strength of heart.

Of motive and of will,

To do my part and falter not

His purpose to fulfill.

BLUFFTON, INDIANA

Imogene Steffen — Pat Isch

We have enjoyed our annual Christmas program and are always thrilled to hear the children, young and old, proclaim the wonder of our Saviour's birth.

As the New Year is upon us, may we try to do better and accomplish more. God gives us the privilege of starting a year over with a clean slate, and if we have failed in any way we can always ask for God's help to improve. **WHAT WILL YOU DO WITH THIS YEAR THAT'S SO NEW??** God leaves that to YOU!

The Lord has called one of His children to His Heavenly Home. Sis. Elma (Sam) Kæhr died Dec. 16, after being in failing health for several years. The survivors include her husband, Bro. Sam;

children, Sis. Beulah (Richard) Clark, Sis. Bonnie (Robert) Gerber, Mrs. Ann (Harold) Baumgartner, Robert Kæhr, & Bros. Roger, Charles, and Phillip; and a brother, Harry Dubach. Bros. John Yergler and Robert Meyer officiated at the funeral.

Shut-ins have been Mrs. Tobias (Sis. Hilda) Steffen, Bro. Roger Kæhr, Sis. Lillian Isch, Bro. William Moser, and Brenda Steffen, daughter of Bro. Ramon and Sis. Lorena Steffen.

Our congregation was blessed with the addition of two dear souls, who were taken into the fold on Dec. 28. They are Lois Kipfer and Mark Moser. It was truly a privilege to hear their testimonies of faith and what the Lord has done for their souls. Their parents are Bro. Martin and Sis. Marguerite Kipfer and Bro. Russell and Sis. Dorothy Moser.

New arrivals: A girl, Shawna Sue, to John and Sue Lantz, and a girl to Bro. Walter and Sis. Lillian Bertsch. They named her Jeanne Sue. A son, Stacey Jon, was born to Brother Rich and Sis. Cathy Stucky. We trust the Lord will bless the new family circles.

Our friends, Bev Frauhiger and Steve Miner were united in marriage on Sat. Dec. 27. Bro. Herb and Sis. Lucille are her parents, and his father is Andrew Miner. Friends Kathleen Steffen and Harold Crum were married Sun. Dec. 21 by Bro. John Yergler. Parents are Max and Sis. Eunice Steffen and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Crum.

We have had three servicemen who were able to be with their families over the holidays, but are soon to be scattered over the world. Bro. Leon Gerber has returned to his duties in Ft. Sam, while Bro. Mark Moser will be making his journey to Viet Nam, and Bro. Bill Baumgartner will spend the remainder of his term in Germany. We certainly would wish them the best of everything and that the Lord's grace and protection would be with them always.

Bro. Sam and Sis. Minnie Aeschliman are very grateful to all who remembered Bro. Sam with cards, prayers, and well-wishes during his stay in the hospital and while recuperating at home. They want to thank each of you for your kindness shown.

The amount suggested for the Silver Lining, \$2.00 per year.

BREMEN, INDIANA**Pauline Laidig — Helen Zimmer**

It was a pleasure to listen to our Sunday School children and choir sing and tell of the Christ child's birth. It's a story that never grows old. Even though we joyfully celebrate our Saviour's birth and seek to make others happy with the giving of gifts at Christmas-time, God's great gift of redemption was given to mankind at the cross of Calvary. This was the thought Bro. Walter Rager of Toledo left with us in his message on Christmas eve. Whosoever will may receive this gift if they earnestly seek it.

Many of the aged, sick and shut-ins were visited by carolers and others, with remembrances, in the hope of bringing cheer to them.

After quite a lengthy stay in the hospital, Sis. Pauline Nicholas has been able to return to her home, fulfilling a longing she has had for some time. Sis. Pauline Clauss is grateful to be able to assemble with us again, and we are so happy to have her among us. We are sorry this is not the privilege of Bro. Will and Sis. Anne Leman. Will's condition has become somewhat worse. May God be very near them.

A few weeks ago a number of families accompanied Bro. Earl Zeltwanger to Valparaiso, where they spent a blessed day of fellowship with the congregation there.

We extend our sympathy to Marvaline (Norman) Schini in the passing of her father, Marvin Whitehead.

Bro. John Conrad is spending a month in Mexico with a group from Bethel College. No doubt he will learn much from his travels and experiences, which will be beneficial in his future vocation as a teacher. We pray the Lord will watch over him.

As we stand on the threshold of a new year, our wish is that it would be a blessed one for all. A Tho't: To win spiritual victories, think less of the power of things OVER you, and more of the power of Christ IN you!

FORT SAM HOUSTON, TEXAS
Wendell Anliker

We are thankful that everyone made it back safely, after the holiday season with our loved ones.

Bro. Ron and Sis. Kayleen Heinger, Morton, will be going to Walter Reed Hospital after their Christmas leave, for further training. Stan Stoller, Latty received

orders for Ft Simmons Hospital in Denver. Bro. Bill Baumgartner, Bluffton, received orders for Germany and will be leaving after his Christmas leave. Bro. Mike Aberle, Tremont, Bro. Mark Moser, Bluffton, and John Schmidt, from Elgin, Ill. received orders for Viet Nam. We trust the Lord will be with all who have left for new duty stations, and may God's richest blessings be with them. We are happy to have Bros. Walt Steffen and Leon Gerber as permanent party here.

Anyone who will be coming into service, coming to Ft Sam, should write and let us know. Your welcomed to send any clothes here ahead of time. Our address is: 504 Elmhurst Apt 4, San Antonio Texas 78209.

BURLINGTON, IOWA**Rosella Obermann**
Verna Woodward

With another year ending, we certainly have many things to be thankful for — Have we failed to thank the Lord for what he has given us in the past year? So many of us take things for granted and depend upon our fellowmen for help — It is our God that supplies our every need, and without him all men would be miserable. Let's start the new year with putting our faith and trust in the Lord.

Births—A son, Mark Robert, born to Bro. Paul and Sis. Elaine Eisenmann Dec. 29. A son was born to Bro. Gary and Sis. Edie Anliker of Iowa City, Jan. 6. He has been named Brian Keith.

Bro. Bill Oberman has returned home from the hospital, after a brief stay from surgery, and is recuperating very nicely.

Our new Silver Lining reporter is Sis. Verna Woodward, wife of Bro. Marrien.

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

We rejoice with Bro. Norman and Sis. Gloria Stahl on the arrival of their first child, Raelynne Zita. It reminds us that we must start in the Lord's service like a small child and with His Grace grow in the spirit, even as we see our children grow in the body.

Bro. Ed Frautschi underwent surgery and has returned to work.

Sis. Anna Furrer, who attended the Chicago church for many years, has retired and is making her home in Wolcott. Her faithfulness and help will be remembered by us, and

we wish her the Lord's blessings.

The Sunday School presented the Christmas program with word and song, following the afternoon services on Dec. 21.

Bro. Roy Wieland, Bay City, ministered unto us Jan. 4. We thank him for his efforts and for his willingness to be used in ministering the word. May the Lord bless him.

ELGIN, ILLINOIS**Louise Steffen**
Katie Kachelmuss

Having crossed the threshold of a new year, we know not what it holds in store, but we know that joy here alternates with woe. We are reminded of the hymn in the **Zion's Harp** —

Lead me, Lord, as Thou best knowest

How before Thee I should live;
If but Thou my footstep guidest,
Joy and blessings I receive.

We again were reminded of the birth of Jesus by the Sunday School Program, which was so impressive, the speaking of verses by the little ones, and all the beautiful songs. May God bless the teachers and the parents for their efforts in this.

We had visitors from distant places, Bro. Garth and Sis. Connie Steffen from Portland, Albert Jr. and Kay Schmidgall from Phoenix, James and Shirley Wewetzer and Shirley's mother, Mrs. Warren Jesse of Lynchburg, Virginia. It was Mrs. Jesse's first visit in Elgin, and she said she enjoyed it very much. Garth, Albert and Kay, and James were born and raised in Elgin, so it was like coming home to them.

Sis. Ruth Metzger has been staying at the home of her sister, the John Feuchts at 316 Orchard Street, Elgin, Ill. 60120, and wishes to thank all who remembered her with prayers, cards, and other tokens of love. May God bless you all. She is still quite ill, and we wish her God's presence and comfort.

Sis. Marie Foell, 621 Oakland Ave, and Sis. Otillia Kercher, 675 Forest Avenue, have returned to their homes after being hospitalized. Sis. Emilie Preiss is hospitalized. She lives at 215 Hill Avenue, Elgin Ill. 60120.

We did rejoice when Lucille Knupper was baptized and added to the flock the Sunday before Christ-

mas. She is the granddaughter of our departed Sis. Katie Bruschkinsky, and lived with Katie before she was married. We wish Sis. Lucille God's blessings in her new walk of life, and hope many more will avail themselves of the opportunity of becoming reconciled with God.

Bro. Delbert Schmidt was selected to be our trustee.

A birth: To Bro. Tom and Sis. Marlene Stoller Leman a daughter, Kathleen Ann, born Jan. 6.

Sis. Deloris (Lyle) Kellenberger, 696 E. Chicago St. Elgin Ill. 60120, was hospitalized for surgery, and is again home with her loved ones.

Sis. Otilia Kerchaer would like to extend her thanks to all who remembered her so kindly with prayers, cards and other expressions of love. May God bless you all.

FAIRBURY, ILLINOIS

Joyce Huber

"I will bless the LORD at all times: his praise shall continually be in my mouth." We bless the Lord that four more testified of their praise continually in their mouth. Ben & Marguerite (Kilgus) Lorch, Nancy (Moulton) Johnson, and Doris Rasmus expounded of their experience of conversion, and were baptized.

"I called upon the LORD . . . the LORD answered me . . . The LORD is on my side; I will not fear: what can man do unto me?" This could be words of Al Kupferschmid, as he has returned safely from Viet Nam.

"This is my comfort in my affliction: for thy word hath quickened me." When we are afflicted, we are thankful for the quickening the word gives. Sis. Bertha Moser is home, after surgery in Champaign, Bro. Chris Steffen is recuperating from a heart attack, Sis. Lydia Bittner is in the hospital at Pontiac, David and Eddie, sons of Mr. and Mrs. Ron Zehr, were in the hospital; and little Sarah, the daughter of Bro. and Sis. Earl Steffen is home from being hospitalized.

"Beloved, thou doest faithfully whatsoever thou doest to the brethren . . . Which have borne witness . . ." The visitors bearing witness of God's love to us were Bro. Herman Kellenberger, Bro. Silas Leuthold, Bro. Leroy Huber, and Bro. Perry Zimmerman.

Bro. and Sis. Roger Bachtold have a new baby. The new little boy, named Joseph Ray, has broth-

ers and sisters Dorothy, Roger, Jonathan, and Loraine. Grandparents are Carl and Sis. Dorothy Bachtold. Bro. and Sis. Elmer Aberle have two new grandchildren, as Mr. and Mrs. Merle Aberle have a new baby girl, Amy, who has a brother Merle Jr.; and Mr. and Mrs. Mike Snearly have a baby girl, Sherri. Great grandparents are Bro. and Sis. Carl Aberle.

FORREST, ILLINOIS

Carolyn Zimmerman
Juanita Schneider

The beautiful story of our Lord and Saviour's birth was brought before us in word and song by our future church, the Sunday School children. May we all strive to be as these little ones, innocent, obedient, and pleasing in the sight of God.

We enjoyed many visitors and students home for the holidays, also our loved ones who were granted leaves from their time in serving our country. Among these were Art Lehmann, son of Bro. George and Sis. Alice; David Bach, son of Bro. Edward; Roger Huette and his wife Karen (daughter of Bro. Harvey and Sis. Leona Leman); Steve and Rita Metz (daughter of Leonard and Mary Ann Reiger). Receiving their discharge from the army are Alf Kupferschmid, who rejoins his wife Wanda (both awaiting proving and baptism). Bro. Jim Plattner, who will continue his training in the IMB field, and Bro. Ronnie Koehl, having been released from the General Hospital, Valley Forge, Penn. and having received his artificial leg is presently staying at home with his parents, Bro. Leroy and Sis. Jaunita.

Bro. Dave Wiegand of the Champaign church was among our visitors during the holidays. We were encouraged by the teachings to enjoy our blessed peace with our Lord.

Bro. Melvin Steffen has been elected our new Sunday School superintendent at our annual Brother meeting.

Eddie Plattner and Bro. Sam Maier have both spent several days at the Fairbury Hospital and are home again. Sis. Lydia Sohn, who submitted to eye surgery at Bloomington Hospital, is reported getting along fine; our prayers are that Sis. Lydia will completely recover her sight.

Lydia Anliker, sister to our departed Sis. Carrie Leman, passed away at the age of 91; she was

staying in the Taswell County Nursing Home; the body was brought to Fairbury for burial.

Recipe For A New Year: 12 full months of time, 1970 variety. Be sure they are absolutely free from last year's defects, such as pettiness or bitterness. Cut each month into 30 or 31 equal parts. Each day, all a generous sprinkling of faith, courage, work, and love. Leaven with good spirits. Blend well to insure best results. Cook with sincerity; garnish with smiles. Yield: 365 worthwhile days!

GOODFIELD, ILLINOIS

Elna Grimm

Children are so perfectly frank, free of guilt, ready and eager for each new experience, quick to forgive and forget. No wonder He said, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein.

Sisters Mildred Knapp and Leona Tanner and Bro. Sam Scheiler were hospitalized and are now home. Several other sisters are confined to their homes, among these, Sisters Nettie Knapp, Naomi Nohl, and Katie Goetzinger.

Bro. Roy Sauder was here to assist Bro. Ed in the reading of the memorandum.

We enjoyed the visit of Bros. Harold Krantz and Bruce Schafer and their families, who presented the plans for the home which is to be built for our mentally retarded.

News for Jan. 1970

"Be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace shall be with you." Doesn't this sound like a marvelous way to start a new year? . . . we can try, and this we must do just one day at a time. So let us keep this beautiful verse in mind as we walk the road of 1970.

Our annual Sunday School Christmas program was held on Sun. evening, Dec. 14. We were inspired by the results of the efforts of our Sunday School teachers. The program was truly inspirational. It is always delightful to review the beautiful story of the birth of our Saviour.

The engagement of Bro. Wesly, son of Bro. and Sis. Chris and Vi Hohulin to Sis. Joyce, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Dave and Ann Leman was made known on Dec. 14. Bro. and Sis. Hans and Arlene Hinrichsen announced the engagement of their daughter, Kathy to Jordan,

son of Bro. and Sis. Reuben and Nettie Feucht from Princeville.

Burial services were held for infant daughter, Shandra Gail Martin on Dec. 27. She was the daughter of Dennis and Sis. Carol Martin of 2824 W. Arlington, Peoria. Her parents and two brothers survive. Shandra Gail was born on Dec. 26.

Benjie, son of Bro. and Sis. Ben and Leona Tanner was hospitalized because of burns received when a gas furnace exploded in his face. He had only first and second degree burns and was allowed to return home after just three days. He has recovered almost entirely, for which we are all very grateful. Other hospital patients are Bros. Joshua Nohl and Ivan Nohl. Our prayers go out for their speedy recoveries.

GRIDLEY, KANSAS

Mrs. Rudy Bahr
Mrs. Eldon Metzger

Sunday School superintendents and teachers of the neighboring churches met here to discuss the teenage fellowship plans for the year.

Our sympathy is extended to Sis. Liseten Strahm and family in the loss of her father, Bro. Robert Young of Wichita, formerly from the Gridley congregation.

Sis. Lydia Bahr once more had to return to Wichita for medical treatment of her hip. Friend Charles Knapp was in the Hospital for tests and X-rays and is on a liquid diet but up and around.

Sunday evening we had our monthly singing at church and I, for one, especially enjoyed it. The day was leisurely, no rush and worry about programs and practice, church serving, holiday activities, and our family was without illness—I could relax and “just sing.” It was such a good feeling . . . perhaps it is a lesson to learn to “Take Time To Be Holy”

ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY

Christy Koch

“This world is not my home. I’m just a passing through . . .”, were the words Bro. Uriel Gehring used to remind us that we must live in the fear of the Lord in order to lay up treasures in Heaven. Living for God in this life, Bro. Dave Kieser told us, will make life worth living and death worth dying.

Bro. Steve Gerst and Sis. Bonnie Grusy were united in holy marriage

on Jan. 11. We wish them God’s richest blessings as they establish their new home in Bloomington.

Happy the Home

Happy the home when God is there,
And love fills every breast,
When one their wish, and one their prayer,
And one their heavenly rest.

Happy the home where Jesus’ name
Is sweet to every ear,
Where children early list His fame,
And parents hold Him dear.

Happy the home where prayer is heard,
And praise is wont to rise,
Where parents love the sacred word,
And all its wisdom prize.

Lord, let us in our homes agree,
This blessed peace to gain;
United our hearts in love to Thee,
And love to all will reign.

INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

Mrs. Craig Gutwein

Greetings, Brothers and Sisters. What a beautiful time of the year winter is. The rolling hills of Indiana are covered with white snow, and the tree boughs gracefully hold their share of sparkling snow. Spider webs in the fence rows glisten as the sun rises each morning. What a wonderful sight to behold.

Bro. Bob Meyer from Bluffton was down on the 14th of December. He brought much love and greetings from everyone at Bluffton. We were richly blessed by the message from God that Bob brought to our attention. Our brothers and sisters from Remington were with us on the 21st. Bro. Earl Kilgus ministered unto us. We so much enjoyed visiting with them.

On the 28th of December, church was not held. Most of the brothers and sisters went home for the holidays, so they might rejoice with their families. Bro. Eli and Sis. Priscilla Anliker brought their son, Bro. Wendell down to the airport. He is serving in our arm forces in the States. Roger and Marilynn Albrecht and their family also came down to bid Wendell goodbye. We were happy to have them in our home, since there were no services.

May the good Lord bless you and keep you well.

JUNCTION, OHIO

Henrietta Manz — Betty Manz

Bros. Ben Maibach, Detroit, and Eugene Fetter, Toledo, each spent a Sunday with us. Do we really appreciate it enough on Sunday morning when we can assemble with God’s children? We were thankful to have the word brought to us so clear and plain. Let’s look back at our parents and pillars, many of whom are no longer with us, and strive to hold fast to the narrow way.

Bro. Sam Schlatter (Sis. Esther) has taken over the farming at home. May God grant him a special measure of grace in his many responsibilities. Bro. Don Manz (Bro. Eli and Sis. Evelyn) has returned to college in Mansfield, after spending Christmas vacation at home. Sis. Janet Schlatter (Sis. Juliet) and Bro. Kenneth Manz (Bro. Eli and Sis. Evelyn) have returned to their studies at Defiance College and Purdue University, after winter vacations.

Sis. Juliet Schlatter is again able to assemble with us. We know that often dear ones put forth much effort to spend a few hours in the House of Worship; may God strengthen them and grant a measure of health where it is His will.

Jake Manz (Bro. Adam and Sis. Kate) has returned from Lackland AFB, Texas, and is now to be stationed in Toledo for several months. We are thankful he can spend some Sundays with us.

Little five-year-old Tina Mansfield (Bro. Ben and Sis. Carolyn Manz) has recovered from the scarlet fever.

The other morning there was snow on the trees, causing some of the most beautiful scenery I have ever seen. How exact God is to make each branch so beautiful. Let’s hope our lives look as pure and shining in this dark world.

Mary Suttor moved on New Year’s Day to Apt B, 200 South Main Paulding. May God bless her in her new home.

Elder Bro. George Sinn and Bro. Loren Stoller, Latty, met with us on New Year’s evening for our annual business meeting. Bro. Elias Manz was re-elected as World Relief Treas-Representative and Bro. Kenneth Manz was elected Assistant Janitor. May God always help each in their duties, that we can all be faithful stewards for the Lord. After our business meeting,

Bros. George and Loren read and explained the memorandum. This seemed timely, the first day of the new year. May we always strive to be obedient to God's word.

A large group went Christmas caroling, and again the two upper classes of the Sunday School went caroling for the shut-ins. May these dear Sunday School children be blessed for bringing pleasure to others.

LAMONT, KANSAS

Mrs. Stephen G. Schrader

Winter has really arrived in full force! Our weather has been quite snowy, blustery and cold. Elder Bro. Eugene Marti of Sabetha visited our congregation during December. During his meditation, Eugene commented about man not lighting a candle and putting it under a bushel. If we hide our belief or hope in Christ, it will be stifled. It is only by exercising our faith in Christ and revealing our hope of salvation to others that we can grow in the spirit.

Our Elder Bro. Samuel Anliker, assisted by Bro. Eugene, read and deliberated on the memorandum.

Bro. Samuel and Sis. Kathryn Anliker have retired from their farm and moved to their home in Madison. Their new address is Madison, Kansas 66860 and their telephone number is area code 316, 437-2093. Their son and family, Bro. Glen and Sis. Lorean and children, have moved into their farm house. We wish them all much happiness and contentment in their respective moves.

Our annual business meeting was held Jan. 4. Among the elections were those of Sunday School Supt. Bro. Glen Anliker; Intermediate Class teacher, Bro. Stephen Schrader; and Primary Class teacher, Sis. Jane Isch. We want to commend our out-going teachers for jobs well-done. May the Lord bless them for lending their services to Him in teaching our children of heavenly things.

LANDERSVILLE, ALA.

Billie Jo Harville

Our prayers for the new year include our brothers and sisters in Christ throughout the U. S. as well as the world. The close of a decade causes us to review our spiritual life. May the beginning of a new decade cause each believer and follower of our Lord Jesus Christ to search out a deeper spirit-

ual life and make every effort to broaden our vision in spreading the Gospel.

A good time of fellowship was enjoyed by several who gathered at church on New Year's Eve for prayer.

Our good friend, Mrs. Samantha (Mrs. Henry) Dotson perished in the flames of her burning house trailer on Dec. 13. This tragedy was indeed a shock to the entire community. She was the mother of Sis. Bessie Drake and Sis. Carrie Borden and was a sister to Aunt Bertha Harville, who went to be with the Lord in Jan. 1967. We are thankful for the faith that Mrs. Dotson testified to in the Lord Jesus Christ for her salvation. Services, held at the Landersville church, were conducted by Bros. Junior Hale and Lynn Klopfenstein.

Esterline Latham, who had returned from Viet Nam only a few months ago, was killed in an auto accident near Town Creek. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Latham and a nephew to Sisters Barbara Jean Simmons, Mauvlyn Harville and Billie Jo Harville.

Hospitalized include: Miss Brenda Hood, Mrs. Price Byars, Mr. Will Posey, Mr. Will Latham, Sis. Bessie Drake, Mrs. Doris Nolan, Mrs. Eunice Berryman, Mrs. Jack Bradford (Hillsboro church).

Mr. and Mrs. Delano Harville are parents of a son. Grandparents are Mr. Edd and Sis. Mauvlyn Harville.

A group of over 50 people gathered on Monday before Christmas for caroling. The hymns of Christmas were sung on behalf of the elderly at the Rest Home and Housing Project in Moulton. The previous Friday night we also went caroling in the country. After the carol singing, we had refreshments and a good time of fellowship at the church.

MAYWOOD, CALIFORNIA

Elizabeth K. Kaisner

As a new year dawns, we stand before an open door. Behind us the door is closing . . . closing forever. Before us lies the new . . . new fields of service for our God and fellowmen. No year is likely to be any better than we try to make it . . . anyone of us can take a new year and make it worse or better. May God endow us with His Spirit and grace to live this year with a blessing to the better . . . Amen.

The Sunday School children

brought forth their Christmas program with zeal and inspiration.

We have had many visitors for this holiday season; having enjoyed their visits, we thank them and wish them a safe return home and a blessed new year.

Our visiting ministers over this holiday season were, Bro. Alfred Bahler and Bro. Carl Feucht. May God bless them for their labors in the ministry of the word of God in its truth and sincerity; we thank him for bringing the inspired message.

Our friends, Mich and Coleen Culp and son are leaving in January for their home in Indiana, he being discharged from the marine service. They have attended the Maywood church, and we will miss them, wishing them God's guidance and blessings in their new adventures in life.

NEW MARTINSVILLE, W. VA.

Mrs. Gus Weltz — Della Witschey

We are having a real spell of winter, lot of snow and quite cold.

J. Howard Riggensch is home after being a patient in a hospital in Morgantown since Aug. 3. His condition is good and he gets around fairly well on crutches, hoping soon to be able to be fit with an artificial leg. W. E. Riggensch was able to be returned to his home in Paden City on Jan. 3, after being a patient in the local hospital since Sept. 23. Mrs. J. Clarence Durig is much improved and able to get out some. Mrs. Lena Frayer remains critically ill in the local hospital. Walter Emch remains about the same in the home of his sister, Mrs. Grace Emch Calvert.

Mrs. Elza Ritz, Mrs. C. O. Wade and Mrs. Gus Weltz attended the funeral of Mrs. Ella Eisenbarth at the Monroe Church on Dec. 26. She passed away in the hospital here on Dec. 22.

Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Williams of Akron spent Dec. 28 here with relatives. They left on Jan. 4 for Florida, where they will spend several weeks.

Miss Bonnie Riggensch, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Riggensch, and Larrie Hawkins were united in marriage on Dec. 27. She is a teacher in the local schools and he is a student at West Virginia University, majoring in Business Administration.

The annual meeting of the Apostolic Christian Church Cemetery Association was held in the home

of Mr. and Mrs. Elza Ritz on Jan. 5. Plans were made to have services at the country church on the fourth Sunday in June 1970. Mr. and Mrs. Delbert Indermuhle of Sardis attended the meeting.

PURDUE UNIVERSITY

Deb Wuetrich — Veronica Bucher

Another month has passed by and we, here at Purdue, have another humble heart turning to the blessed Saviour. Bev. Kipfer, daughter of Bro. Carl and Sis. Velma, has realized her lost condition and is repenting. We sure wish her an abundance of God's wonderful grace and richest blessings.

We were reminded of God's precious and free gift to mankind through our Christmas program, Dec. 17. Bro. Elmer Bucher from our Francesville congregation was our host for the evening. He reminded us through God's word of the importance of this free gift and how important it is that we show our appreciation and thanks to God by accepting Jesus Christ as our own Saviour God gave us His own; His **only** son. Can's we, at least, give Him our hearts and let Him guide and direct us?

Here are a few encouraging words that we may all receive a blessing:

We start out the day with great hope in our heart
God's comfort and love is so near.
We give but a thought to the trials of life
We haven't a doubt nor a fear.

Then into our labors we plunge
once again
Everything falling in line
The cares that we face, God's strength can erase
We're happy when all's going fine.

Then somehow that one thing just doesn't go right,
Not quite the way **WE** had planned.
A shadow of anger has come into view
Hiding that great helping hand.

We hurry along through the rest of the day
Our mind on the plan that was lost
And yet though we're doing the best that we can,
The gain doesn't quite match the cost.

Consider the promise of Heaven above,

Compared to success here below,
And make it a point to be happy in God,
No matter how your plans may go.

ROANOKE, ILLINOIS

Norene Herbst — Mary Hoffman

Friends Mary Bradle, daughter of Bro. Chris and Sis. Anna Bradle, and Wanda Edwards, daughter of Bro. Charles and Sis. Jean Kupferschmidt, gave their testimonies and were baptized by Bro. Gene Bertschi on Dec. 14. We wish them God's grace in their new walk of life.

Bro. Roy Sauder was here to assist Bro. Gene in the reading of the memorandum. We appreciate his coming, and thank him for his visit. Other visiting ministers were Bros. Vernon Lemman, Mike Weyeneth, Chuck Hemmer, Art Bauer. It is always good to have ministering brothers visit us, and we extend our thanks to all of them.

The Sunday School presented the Christmas Program on Sunday eve., Dec. 21. We are always inspired to see and hear our young people tell the story of Jesus' birth. We hope the blessings of this season will remain in our hearts through the new year.

Funeral services for Bro. Joe F. Lemman were held on Dec. 22. Joe was called to rest after a lengthy illness, and we surely extend our sympathy to his family, especially his devoted wife, Sis. Minnie, who stood a this bedside so faithfully through the many months of his suffering. May God be near to her now and to the family.

Many loved ones from our congregation have been ill at home or in the hospital. They are Sisters Elizabeth Gudeman, Jean Luginbuhl, Barb Martin and Anna Rasi. Sam Martin and Bonnie Hodel were hospital patients, and are now home and feeling better. Bro. Alvin Hodel is hospitalized, but hopes to be home in a few days.

Burial services for little Nancy Lynn Eft were held Dec. 16. She is the daughter of Gene and Marlene Meier Eft, and she had one sister, Donna Eileen. Nancy had been sick only one day, when the Lord took her to heaven. Her maternal grandparents are Friends Harvey and Salome (Bodmer) Meier, and her paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Fred Eft.

Two little boys, Bobby and Junior Yarbrough have come to

live with the Rudie Hoffman family.

Bro. Jim and Sis. Laura Hodel Weyeneth enjoyed an Open-House in observance of their Golden Wedding anniversary. May God continue to be with them and bless them.

"We wish to extend our warmest thanks to everyone for the many cards, gifts, and prayers during our misfortune. Many, many thanks to all." Mr. and Mrs. Gary Edwards.

SABETHA, KANSAS

Mrs. Joe Steiner

Bro. Joseph Hartter, 81, passed away Dec. 28 at the Sabetha Hospital, after a long illness. He is survived by a daughter, Mrs. James Gillespie of Lawrence, Kansas; two sons, George Hartter of Golden, Colo., and Earl Hartter of Overland Park, Kansas; five sisters. Sis. Emma Wittmer of Bern, Sis. Tillie Stoller, Sis. Sarah Meyer, Sis. Lena Strahm and Sis. Elizabeth Plattner, all of Sabetha; and two brothers, Bros. Ben Harter and John Hartter, both of Sabetha. Services were held Wed. Dec. 30 by Bros. Eugene Marti and Carl Hartman. Burial was in the Sabetha Cemetery.

Bro. Joe Aberle has returned home, after being confined at the Stormont-Vail Hospital in Topeka, where he had surgery.

Friend Carroll Plattner has returned from Vietnam and was discharged from service on Dec. 20. We thank the Lord that He has seen him through his tour of duty and brought him safely home to his family. We welcome him back to our community.

Bro. Roger and Sis. Lavonne Aberle are the parents of a son, Scott Roger, born Dec. 27. He is welcomed by a sister, Lori Lynn. Mr. and Mrs. Elton Aberle of West Lafayette are the parents of a girl, born Dec. 15. She was named Barbara Ann. and has one sister, Krista Kay. Bro. Alpha and Sis. Irene Aberle are the grandparents to both new babies.

The engagement was made known of Sis. Susan Plattner and Bro. Daryl Meyer. We offer them our best wishes.

As is our custom, we are again beginning our mid-week services. This first Wednesday in the New Year we are assembling with the Bern congregation, where Bro. Eugene Marti and Bro. Lester Hartter plan to bring us the deliberations of the conference. We will then al-

ternate each week with Bern. Services begin at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

TAMAHATA, JAPAN

Willis R. Ehnle

Bro. Toshio Uchida has a bad cold, as well as his wife, Sis. Morie. Therefore he will probably not be writing for the Shioda church this month.

Special Christmas as well as New Year's services were held at each of our three churches. Almost immediately after remembering the birth of our Saviour we enter a new year, with its wonderful opportunities to be a servant. May Christ in us shine forth.

On the afternoon of Jan. 2, Bro. Akito Inoue invited everyone to a singing at the Tamahata church, saying that he had attended many singings while in the States. We had quite a number present, and although we have never been very successful in getting people together for singings, we trust that Akito has succeeded in starting something which will be spiritually helpful for all of us.

TUCSON, ARIZONA

The Tuscon Sewing Circle

Jesus may come in the morning were words we heard from the Phoenix Bible Class, led by Bro. Joe Beer, who came to share our first Christmas Program in the new church. It was an inspiring evening to listen to the small children. Bro. John Somerhalder, minister of the Phoenix church, had a message in which he reminded us of the importance of having the Lord in our lives.

Our visiting minister was Bro. Alfred Bahler of the Wolcott congregation. He reminded us of the majestic beauty of the mountains and God's handiwork, so plainly seen here in the Southwest.

DETROIT, MICHIGAN

Judith Aberle — Donna Hartzler

Sharon Wieland, daughter of Bro. Guy and Sis. Rosey, and James Link were united in marriage on Sat. Dec. 20. May they pray for God's guidance as they go through life as husband and wife.

Ministering Bro. Roy Ehnle and his family were with us for Christmas eve services, at which time the beautiful story of the birth of Jesus was read. As we were also reminded, we should remember what Christ did as a man, and why he

came upon this earth, rather than remembering him only as a child.

LAMAR, MISSOURI

Marie Marti

We stand at the threshold of a bright new year. How will we use the days and hours of this year that God has placed in our hands? Will we use them wisely, doing what God most wants us to do? Will we find time to pray and listen to God? This new year is a gift from God to us. May we remember Him and every day kneel to pray in gratitude, thanking Him for his abundant grace and infinite love . . . "and the God of peace shall be with you."

The first days of our new year were truly beautiful ones . . . miles and miles of snow-covered hills, valleys, woods, and lakes, gleaming in each ray of sunshine. The snow-tipped evergreens towered over the landscape. Then, at the journey's end to feel the warm handclasp of cherished friends we dearly love made us feel that God was very near.

We want to thank Elder Bros. Sam Anliker and Lester Hartter for visiting us and serving Holy Communion. What a wonderful way to begin our new year.

Bro. Raymond Banwart visited during the holidays and brought to us a message of love and encouragement.

GIRARD, OHIO

Jesse C. Emch

We are now in the new year and well into the winter. We have had considerable nice, white snow. This brings to my attention a letter my wife and I received from the late Bro. Joseph Klotzle of Altadena, written December 8, 1964. The following is an excerpt from this letter:

"No doubt your winter has set in and this always brings lots of beauty. I am well content with the memory of it, yet do not want to forget . . . no power, it seems is quite so majestic as the huge icebergs, the terrific tempests and blasts of snow, nor can many of the forces of nature or the elements so nicely convey to our hearts the gentle, quiet yet so forceful love of God as the fleecy gentle snow. While it seems so mild and powerless, it soon covers the earth; every blemish is hidden, the rough made smooth, the ugly made beautiful.

Somehow that is what God's love does."

Wed. evening Dec. 24, we held our Christmas worship service and enjoyed hearing our Sunday School group and congregational singing, along with some reading. It is always touching to watch and listen to the little children.

Sis. Mary Beard has been a patient for several weeks in the Trumbull Memorial Hospital, Warren, Ohio. A note or card would be welcome and encouraging. Bro. Carl Gasser is home convalescing, after being in the Youngstown Hospital Northside, where he has undergone major surgery. Friend (Mrs.) Carl (Jean) Deislinger of 924 Bonnie Brae, Youngstown, was in the Youngstown Hospital North Side for major surgery and is home convalescing. Sis. Esther Saylor, who had foot surgery at the Youngstown Hospital is also home. We wish all a speedy recovery and God's blessing.

Friend Harry W. Deislinger, age 69, from 910 Perkinswood N.E., Warren Ohio, died Sat. Jan. 3 at Youngstown Hospital North side, after two months illness. Funeral services were held at the Staton Funeral Home, Warren Ohio, Monday Jan. 5. Bro. Robert Stoll officiated, assisted by Bro. Jess Emch. Beside his wife, Emma Louise, he leaves five sisters, Sis. Ella, Misses Esther and Clara and Mrs. Florence Moore, all of Girard, and Mrs. Ida Whalen of Claremont, California; and three brothers, Carl of Youngstown, and Edward and Robert of Girard. Harry was a partner in a Public Accountant Firm for forty years. We are thankful that Harry was moved to seek the Lord before departing this life. We are in sympathy with his wife, Emma Louise, and the family, wishing them God's comfort and blessing to guide them in the days ahead.

LESTER, IOWA

Emelie M. Knobloch

As the old year has come to a close, and another opportunity is born, may we know that we can be forgiven by our Creator because of His love for us. Our salvation will not depend upon our accomplishments, but by the gift of God's grace and His promise of eternal Life. We have experienced God's love and calling to a friend, Joan Feucht. We wish her God's blessings and grace. May more of our

loved ones feel the need of a Saviour, before the door is closed.

When looking over the past year, we had 17 births and two deaths. Bro. Leo Moser stated one was taken as a thief in the night. Neither one would have had time to prepare themselves.

Bro. Henry Sabo expounded on the uncertainty of life. If we knew the hour, we would prepare ourselves, as we are oftentimes warned of high waters and can remove belongings and ourselves, but such is not always our last hour. Bro. Leo reminded us, must we go an empty-handed, or will we have some flowers for our Master's bouquet.

Sis. Lydia Nester is gravely ill. May the Lord help her endure the pain and suffering she must bear. May He abide with her family during her evening hours of life.

We had many loved ones attend holiday services while home from college and service.

Dale Feucht and Daniel Moser were home on leaves from the Navy. Allen Doorneweerd returned from Germany and has completed his tour of duty.

On Dec. 20, our Sunday School children held an inspiring Christmas program. They recited verses and song, to remind us of the birth of the Saviour, for because of His birth and death on the cross we can have a hope of eternal life.

Births: To Bro. and Sis. Raymond Meyer, a son, Terry Lee, Dec. 12. To Bro. and Sis. Wayne Gerber, a son, Craig Theodore, Dec. 23.

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA Alma and Gus Baum

Much appreciated are the hours Bros. Carl Feucht, Lester and LeRoy Messner, Winthrop, spent in our midst, proclaiming God's message. The heart is oft overwhelmed by the love and willingness our ministers share . . . feeling moved to understand the inspiration of the poet who wrote, Blest be the tie that binds Our hearts in Christian love. The fellowship of kindred minds Is like to that above.

Bro. Noah Miller was ill with the flu, the week-end of Dec. 28; services were cancelled for that Sunday.

Busy days are being spent at 43rd and Wentworth Ave., our future church site, getting at the many repair tasks. As we work and ponder, listening to the tune and rhythm of numerous hammers, sounding almost like music, our

thoughts drift on, with imagination of how it will be when we can sing together (seems we can hear it already) . . . as we yearn for that precious moment, when rejuvenating is completed and we can assemble to worship and raise our voices in chorus to the praise and glory of God.

Your reporters are enjoying winter in its fullness. Thirty-two inches of snow have fallen this season—temperatures have dipped to 20 degrees below the last several days, bringing countless numbers of birds to feed at our feeding stations. One marvels how they withstand this climate, often colder with wind chill than we read on thermometer. Miles and miles of woods, beautifully adorned . . . snow-flocked pines, intermingled with white birch trees—a continuous sight of unexplainable beauty. How wonderful, this pure simple loveliness—only possible by our Creator, a true example of what He can do for our hearts, if we let Him in.

BRADFORD, ILLINOIS Mrs. Loris Kieser

Stephen and Rose Staley are parents of a baby daughter. She is their first child and has been named Cheryl Ann.

Thanks: Words cannot express my appreciation to all who remembered me or my family while I was in the hospital and since being home. I also want to thank all those who helped with the harvesting and carrying on my work. Your kind deeds will always be remembered. May God bless you all. Your-least-one-in-faith, Ed Ehnle.

We were happy to have as visitors Bros. Walter Anliker and Marvin Schmidgall of Eureka. We are thankful for the many blessings they shared with us.

Our Christmas was a glorious white. On Christmas eve, we received a snowfall, and on Christmas Day everything was covered with a pure white covering, a beautiful sight. On New Year's eve, we held church services and many attended. What a blessed way to end the old year.

Three engagements were made known over the holidays. Vicki Stoller, daughter of Bro. Nathan and Sis. Martha, has made known her engagement to Charles Leuthold, son of Bro. Art and Sis. Emily of Lester. Ken Knobloch, son of Bro. Wm. and Sis. Gladys, and

Vicki Hartman, daughter of Bro. Leroy and Sis. Elsa of the Peoria congregation have announced their engagement. A late January wedding is planned by Beverly Streitmatter, daughter of Bro. Leroy and Sis. Esther, and John Drinnin, whose parents are Mr. and Mrs. John Drinnin of Chillicothe, Ill. Our prayers and best wishes go out to these young people, that their lives might be blessed.

It is our prayer that the year ahead might be one of blessing to all of you.

EUREKA, ILLINOIS Cathryn Wettstein Salome Schumacher

Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. As we are in the beginning of another year, we must think, What will be in store for us. As we journey on and realize that God has been good to us, and as we look to Him and ask His help, He will never fail us.

Our visitors were—Bros. James Leman, Roanoke; David Wiegand, Champaign; Willis Wiegand, Goodfield.

The Christmas program was held Wed. evening Dec. 17, with a large crowd in attendance. The Christmas story was told in word and song by all the Sunday School children. Sunday Dec. 21, each class delivered a large box of groceries to a poor or needy family in our town. Perhaps in some cases they felt not so in need, but the thought of love and the spirit of giving was the real motive in mind at this Christmas season.

Wedding announcement — Sis. Joyce Leman, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Dave and Ann, to Bro. Wesley Hohulin from Goodfield, son of Bro. and Sis. Chris and Violet.

Births—A daughter to Bro. and Sis. Earl and Elsie Zimmerman, born Dec. 12; her name is Gloria Jean. A daughter to Bro. and Sis. Lester and Ruth Martin, on Dec. 13; her name is Becki Lynne.

Bro. Leroy Huber conducted our services on New Year's eve., with a large crowd in attendance. It was mentioned in the service that an inventory should be taken by each of us, and then perhaps we could all do a little better in the coming year.

Sis. Minnie Leman has returned to her home, after being a patient in the Eureka Hospital. Sis. Char-

lene Schumacher was a patient in the hospital a couple days.

Perhaps in this year it would be good if more people would read the Bible from cover to cover. A good plan would be to read several chapters each day and by the end of the year be all done. We should never tire of reading God's word, even if we have read it through more than once. It is food and drink for the soul.

CISSNA PARK, ILLINOIS

Mary Young — Margaret Rudin

And now for Thine Altar Lord

I face the year to be

And as Thy child I dedicate
Its unborn days to thee.

Last month's issue told of Bro. Wm. Baumgartner, age 97. He has since been called home. He passed away at the family home Dec. 14. Funeral services were held Dec. 16. Survivors include two sons, Amos and Bro. Alvin; one daughter, Mrs. Glades Knapp; one sister, Sis. Anna Baumgartner. Our home ministers, assisted by Bro. Joshua Broquard officiated. Our sympathy is extended to the family.

Sis. Eliza Schmitt, age 62, passed away at Carle Hospital, Urbana, Dec. 12 after a long illness. Survivors are her husband, Bro. Emil; one stepdaughter, Shirley Bauer; one stepson, Norman Schmitt; one sister, Sis. Hulda Honegger; two brothers, Bro. Alvin and Herman Honegger. Funeral services were held Dec. 15; Bro. Wendell Gude- man, assisted by our home ministers officiated. May God comfort the family.

Our dear friends Marilyn and Lester Maul brought their testimony and were baptized Dec. 21 and are now our brother and sister in faith. Bro. Ed Hohulin assisted with this important work. Other visiting ministers this past month were Bros. Noah Schrock, Roy and Bob Grimm and Frederick Knapp. These were indeed blessed moments.

Our congregation was responsible for song services at the Old Folk's homes in Watseka, which was much appreciated by the shut-ins. Jimmy Waldbeser 4-yr-old son of Bro. John and Sis. Carol had open heart surgery at Children's Memorial Hospital in Chicago. He has returned and is getting along nicely. Bro. Francis Knapp had eye surgery. Sis. Leah Aeschliman, Sis. Laura Bauer and Bro. John Farney,

were hospitalized for tests and medication.

Jim Bauer and Mark Alt left for army duty. Jim is son of Bro. and Sis. Kenneth Bauer; Mark is Bro. and Sis. Edward Alts' son.

A daughter, Donna Jo was born to Bro. Lester and Sis. Arleen Stock on Jan. 2; she has four brothers and two sisters too welcome her.

CROGHAN-NAUMBURG

Carol Virkler

Mrs. David Schamback

On Dec. 14, Elder Bros. Noah Bauman, Herman Kellenberger and John Bahler were with us and the memorandum was read. We were reminded that it is good to do good not only on Sunday but every day.

Terri Steiner, daughter of Bro. Norbert and Sis. Doris, is hospitalized with a fractured leg and pelvis, after being struck with a car in front of her home. She is improving and feeling much better; we are thankful her injuries were not more serious.

Sis. Corrine Virkler has a chipped bone in her foot, following a fall at home. Sis. Florence Herzig broke her collarbone. Sis. Mary Jane (Arthur) Hirschey is hospitalized for surgery, and Bro. Theodore Rohr and Sis. Lucy (John) Hany for tests.

Those returned home and able to assemble with us are Sis. Pernal (Arthur) Virkler and Bro. Philip Farney. Sis. Ella Zahn and Sis. Cora Beyer have not been able to be out much this winter. May God be near each one.

Sis. Barbara Bachman of Naumburg, our oldest member in both churches, was 92 on Dec. 15. She is in good health and staying with her sister, Sis. Laura Farney of Croghan, who had been confined to bed for a time. Aunt Barb does her housework and makes a special effort to attend church regularly. After a snowstorm of nearly two foot and experiencing below zero temperatures, drifted roads and the like, we arrived at church to find Aunt Barb already there supporting our very small gathering that Sunday. She is very active in modern day living and interested in each individual, always lending a helping hand and words of encouragement and counsel to all who are in need.

Our youth presented their Christmas Programs. How uplifting to

hear their voices raise in song and verse.

Note of Thanks: The Lord has left pain and suffering come over us. We will not murmur, trust the Lord will give us grace for each day. It is comforting to hear from loved ones from time to time. We wish to thank the many friends and relatives with their loving thoughts, good wishes and gifts during the past year and the Holy Season. In Christian Love, Ralph and Nina Beyer.

FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA

Robert and Janice Sutter

We were happy to have Bro. Ed Aeschleman of Union City with us.

Friends Gene Bolliger and Jane Pennington were united in marriage by Bro. Harry Sutter. Gene is the son of Bro. George and Sis. Elsie Bolliger of our congregation.

We were certainly sorry to see Bro. Tim and Sis. Jean Hoffman, Bro. Tom Hoffman, and Friend Joe Stoller leave our congregation. We have enjoyed being with them and will surely miss them. May the Lord be with them.

We were happy to have Bro. Jim Leman of Roanoke with us. We certainly enjoyed hearing the true word of God as it was so lovingly brought to us.

Bro. Howard Baumgartner was hospitalized, but we are thankful that he is able to be in our midst again.

MILFORD, INDIANA

Marguerite Hoerr

"Words"

A careless word may kindle strife.
A cruel word may wreck a life.
A bitter word may hate instill.
A brutal word may smite and kill.
A gracious word may smooth the way.
A joyous word may light the day.
A timely word may lessen stress.
A loving word may heal and bless.

Over the holidays our two oldest sons traveled by train to Philadelphia to visit their Uncle Alan and Aunt Dorothy Beer. At the depot my husband picked up a publication that contained the poem above. As I read it, I thought how words come so easily to most of us, and how much power they have. Words and a prayerful heart are all I have at my disposal as I write the news from Milford for the Silver Lining each month. Words and actions are the means of communication we

have between each other. How much power words have. How carefully we should choose them!

The Thurl Igney Family was involved in a car accident, resulting in both Thurl and Betty being hospitalized with painful injuries. Our prayers are for their complete recovery. Betty is the daughter of Bro. Sam and Sis. Aldine Reimchisel.

The last day of 1969 was a special one for the Don Hoovers. A new little girl was added to their family. She has been named Diane and is their fifth daughter. They also have one son, Tony. May God bless their family and the new little girl given them.

It's always a joy to a church to hear testimonies of souls who have made the personal experience of the forgiving love of God. Don and Martha Haab were baptized and received into the membership. Bro. David Bertsch assisted Bro. Theo. Beer at the baptismal services. We experienced a blessed week-end.

Bro. Clarence Rassi is hospitalized for medical treatment. We are hopeful his health can be restored to him soon. Our prayers are for his recovery.

MORRIS, MINNESOTA

Mrs. Herman Schaefer
Mrs. Carl Joos

On Dec. 7, Bro. Steve Schaefer, son of Bro. and Sis. John, and Pam Dogotch, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Leo, were united in marriage by Bro. Paul Fehr. We wish them the Lord's blessing in this important step in life.

We are happy to report four new converts: they are Jan, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Albert Joos; Pam, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Floyd Schmidgall; and Carol and Richard, children of Bro. and Sis. Harold Meiss. We wish them much grace in their new walk of life. We pray many more souls will turn to the Lord while there is still the day of grace.

Bros. Carl Hartman, Sabetha, and Noah Gerber, West Bend, were our visiting ministers. We thank them for their visit.

Tom Schmidgall, son of Bro. and Sis. Floyd Schmidgall was hospitalized. Our faithful, aged Bro. Jake Nohl is hospitalized. We pray his health may be restored.

Are you weary, dejected, o'erburdened with fear?

Come, rest by the wayside, your Saviour is here.

He'll gladly assist you along the steep road,
Perhaps He will shoulder the whole of your load.

There isn't a danger that He cannot stay,
Nor ever a sorrow He cannot allay.
There ne'er was an illness or heart-ache or moan.
That He would not ease, as He promised His own.

OAKVILLE, IOWA

Martha K. Steiner

We enjoyed very much the visit of ministering Bro. Duane Metzger, West Bend.

Our sympathy goes out to Sis. Anna Reeb whose sister, Ida Meyers passed away.

By vote of the congregation, it was decided that beginning Jan. 13, our midweek services will be held on **Wednesday** instead of Thursday evenings, at 7:30 p.m.

Several people were hospitalized: Bro. Carl Gerst, Bro. Roger Moser (surgery), Bro. Harold Massner (partial loss of thumb), Barbara Gerst and Michael and Steven Kuntz (tonsillectomies). All have been dismissed and are getting along all right.

We would like to purchase some used benches for our Sunday School assembly room. If you have any information, please contact me. Myron Schulz Jr., superintendent, Oakville. Home address: RR 2, Burlington Ia. 52601.

PHOENIX, ARIZONA

Carolyn Dotterer

Visiting ministers were Bro. Edwin Ringger of Gridley, Bro. Alfred Bahler of Remington and Bro. Noah Hermann of Tucson. May God bless them in their ministry.

Our congregation enjoyed a blessed hour of fellowship, when we gathered together to sing for our aged Bro. Sam Farney, who is confined to a nursing home. Sam expressed a desire on his 90th birthday to once more hear the congregation sing, and we are thankful that his wish could be granted. May the Lord bless and care for Bro. Sam and and grant him much grace and peace.

Our friend, Jon Kokanovich, son of Bro. Dan and Sis. Doris Kokanovich, has found peace with God and wishes to be baptized. We look forward to hearing his testimony.

ROCKVILLE, CONNECTICUT

Carlton J. Lanz

Millions of families over the years have been celebrating the lovely Christmas and New Year's Holiday Season. It is indisputably a joyous time! It reunites and brings families together, some nearby and some from afar. It is a time for taking inventory of our lives; it is a time for forgiving and again for reuniting separated members of families.

Multitudes of greetings and good wishes are exchanged each year and gifts of every shape and design likewise. There are lots of good things made to eat, where families around their tables can praise God and with one another enjoy these festive feasts. I asked a young married man, with a family of four, where he will spend his Christmas. He said, "Oh! we will be at Mother's; I have a brother leaving for Australia. He will be gone for quite some time so we wanted to be together, yet!" This is what we mean when we speak of families being reunited! Is this not something to cherish and remember, when in a home a dedicated Christian mother still reigns?

Our Sunday School children, nearly all, took part in a nicely organized Christmas program. Reciting of verses, carol singing and presenting of gifts all had been arranged by the dedicated teaching staff. They are to be commended for their diligence and loyalty to these growing-up children.

There has been quite a bit of virus attacks in our area. We do have a hospital patient, Sis. Tillie Gerber (Bro. Ernest Gerber's wife), who has been admitted for various causes and observation. Prayers are always offered in their behalf. She is at the Rockville General Hospital, Rockville Conn 06066.

Sis. Mathilda (Tillie) Gerber (72) died early Sunday Jan. 11. Death came to her peacefully at the Rockville General Hospital, where she was a patient for only a few days. She had been undergoing treatment for various complications. Tillie, as we all knew her, was a dedicated wife and a good mother. Her cheerful greeting and manner endeared her to her friends. We are sure to miss her passing. Besides her husband, Bro. Ernest, she leaves four sons, Bros. Emanuel, Melvin and Everett of Rockville, Earl of Illinois; three

daughters, Sis's Rosetta Stoller and Margaret Fehr of Illinois and Betty of Rockville. Burial will be at Ellington Center Cemetery.

SARASOTA, FLORIDA
Philip Wingeier

"The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God; As it is written in the prophets, Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee."

We all enjoyed having Bro. Art Gudeman here for Dec. 7. On Dec. 21 Bro. Jim Lemman . . . we enjoyed Bro. Jim's inspiring message very much. We had services on New Year's Day, when Bro. Joe Schrock joined us, and plans to be with us for a few weeks.

Miss Hatsume Uchida is visiting in Sarasota; we enjoy her at our place of worship.

Church services at 1:00 pm EST at the Women's Club building, Palm Ave. and Park Ct.

SARDIS, OHIO
Doris Miller

Our dear Sister, Ella Eisenbarth, was called to rest, after nearly 50 years of service to the Lord. She is survived by her husband, William; a son, Paul, of Sardis and a daughter, Sis. Mildred Reusser of Orrville, Ohio.

The day after Ella was laid to rest, a great-great granddaughter was born. Jennifer Ella's parents are Gareald and Jane Okey; her maternal grandparents are Harry and Sis. Marilyn Ice and her great-grandmother is Sis. Mildred Reusser.

TREMONT, ILLINOIS
Josephine Schaefer
Mary Jane Leuthold

Christine Gina Kaufmann arrived in the home of Bro. Larry and Sis. Jean Dec. 23. She is their first child. May she bring much joy and many blessings to them.

Bro. Will Beutel has been transferred to Forest Park Home, across the street from St. Francis hospital. He is undergoing therapy on his legs, and he and we hope he will be coming home to stay in the near future. Sis. Hannah Koch spent some time in the hospital, having skin grafted on her leg. She is home, but confined there. Friend Fred Beutel underwent surgery on his knee. He is to rest at home, before returning to work. May God

strengthen and heal all who have ailments of the body.

Sue Staker, daughter of Bro. Weldon and Sis. Doris, announced her engagement to Warren N. Mura of Tremont. May they find much happiness in their new life.

At this writing, Bro. Mike Aberle will be leaving for his service duty in Viet Nam. May God's hand shield him from all harm and evil. "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much."

Bro. Harold Zeltwanger, Bremen, was our guest minister on Christmas Day. He brought forth the old story of our dear Saviour's birth, yet how refreshing it was to listen anew of our Father's promise, of sending his own son to die for us, coming true.

Christmas is a lingering memory, with the echo's of our children's program ringing in our ears. They centered it around songs. What could be more delightful to our Saviour than children's voices in song raising unto him. First was "A Song was heard." A song of redemption when God first promised to send his son into the world. "O Come all Ye Faithful" was sung at this time. The Song of the Propets was a song of Hope. The ever beloved "Babe of Bethlehem" was sung, with ALL singing the last two verses, at this one blessed moment united together as it can be one day in that heavenly home.

These cold winter snowy days reminds me of our dear friends. Their hearts are cold and cloudy toward turning to their God. Just as the winter sun shines down to try to warm the earth, so God calls to friends of the truth. If only the hearts of our dear ones could be drawn to a repentance, conversion and life—as the earth awakens to a new season, one of warmth radiated by the sun, seeds bringing forth fruit, flowers displaying their beautiful colors, and birds singing to their Creator. With a new year again before us, let us pray earnestly that many will heed the warning and come before their allotted span is over or God's great day will come. We who travel this narrow way, let us pray also that we can be as the summer sun, shining brightly for our Lord, in all of our works and deeds. Let us bring forth a bountiful harvest.

UNIVERSITY OF IOWA
Mrs. Gary Anliker

We are grateful for Bro. Earl

Banwart and others who so willingly traveled to be with us for our December meeting. Bro. Banwart reminded us how willing God was to give His son for the sins of all mankind. It was because of God's great love for us that He gave His son. The call went out to those who have not yet sought their soul salvation. We were reminded that sin cannot enter into heaven, and must be dealt with upon earth.

Our January meeting will be held the fourth Wednesday, due to semester finals.

Gary and I were blessed with a little bundle from heaven on Jan. 6. He has been named Brian Keith. Paternal grandparents are Bro. Emil and Sis. Louise Anliker from Forrest.

URBANA, ILLINOIS
Nada Baumgartner
Sue Zimmerman

"Angry Words! O Let Them Never . . . Love is much too pure and Holy for a moment's reckless folly, thus to desolate and mar". **Love one another**, thus saith the Saviour. Children obey the Father's blest command. Oh how wonderful when words which hurt are never uttered. How marvelous when deeds which harm are never done. How beautiful when love flows from the heart. **Love each other!** 'Tis His blest command. These words were submitted by one of His children.

We welcome the students back from their holiday vacation. Sunday services were not held in Urbana for two weeks over Christmas and most all of us were able to spend the holidays and week ends with our loved ones. We're so thankful our schools and occupations can see to allow time off during this season.

Bro. Edwin Hohulin served us Jan. 4. He reminded us that the door of the sheepfold is the only way to enter. How blessed to be one of His lambs in the precious fold, protected from the storms and fears of the world.

It snowed a lot here in the city, and although sometimes we find it difficult to find a peaceful spot in the "hubbub" around us, I found a little park one evening while out walking. It was snowing hard, and I stood and gazed into the clearing; everything was so white and peaceful—completely quiet! This was a "place of quiet rest, near to the Heart of God."

As a new year is upon us, we can't help but look back over the year that has passed so quickly. We think of the many blessings that came our way . . . Our new church edifice, now complete; . . . more precious souls added to the fold . . . a fellowship sweeter than words can tell . . . We think of the many visiting ministers, parents and friends. It fills our hearts with love for those who came to visit us. We encourage all to come again.

Let our New Year's resolution be to grow in Him and strive to be **One**; "For two reading, two singing, two praying are heard by their Father and truly Showers of blessing refresh the souls."

WICHITA, KANSAS

Ms. Larry Farney
Mrs. Harvey Smith

Our congregation has been saddened at the passing of our dear Bro. Robert Young, Dec. 7. Robert left this life to be forever with the Lord. He was hospitalized following a fall from a ladder. After brain surgery, he remained unconscious most of the time until his death. However, his loved ones have the comfort of his being aware of their presence at various times. Robert has been a member of the Wichita congregation since 1938 and served as a minister for about 28 years. He was born Jan. 20, 1890, and was 79 at the time of his death. He is survived by his dear wife, Sis. Dora; two sons, Clarence, Carrizo, Ariz. and Dr. Willis R., Kennewick, Washington; six daughters, Inez (Vern) Banwart, Viola (Bruce) Dopps; Sisters Gussie (Arthur) Wullschleger, Judy (Al) Langhofer of Wichita, Vera (Clarence) Yackley, Phoenix, and Listeen (Loren) Strahm of Gridley; two brothers, Bro. Andrew of Gridley, and F. J. Young of Madison, Kansas. Services were directed by Bro. George Lambert at Wichita Dec. 10 in the morning, with services and burial at Lamont in the afternoon. We pray for comfort to our bereaved loved ones.

We rejoice with our new sister, Carol (Earl) Crater after hearing her testify what the Lord had done for her in cleansing her heart and giving her the desire to serve him. She was granted her desire to be baptized, and we wish her God's grace and guidance. Carol is the daughter of Mrs. Sophie Sinn of Fort Scott.

Karmin Rachele Warner was

born to Andy and Susan Warner Dec. 28. Karmin is welcomed home by her brother, Doug. Paternal grandparents are Bro. Howard and Sis. Anna Marie Warner.

Hospital patients included Sis. Mae Aeschleman and Bro. Al Langhofer. Al suffered a viral infection, but has been able to return to assemble with us. Mae is out of the hospital, but has not been able to assemble with us. We look forward to seeing her in our congregation soon.

Donald Warner, son of Bro. Howard and Sis. Ann, has left the States for his tour of duty in Viet Nam.

We enjoyed the Christmas program performed by the Sunday School classes. Our oldest child was in the pre-school class, and we spent anxious moments wondering if he would recite when it was his turn. We knew from studying with him that he knew the piece, but wondered if fear would overcome him. He performed beyond our expectations. Our heavenly father knows what we know of His wondrous love and mercy. Are we overcome by fear when we are called upon to "recite," or do we fulfill our Father's "expectations."

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

Mary Jo Metzger

1970 Schedule of Services, Apostolic Christian Church. Location: First Christian Church, 6th and Clark, Ames Iowa. Time: 1:30 p.m. Jan. 11, West Bend; Feb. 8, Pulaske; March 15, Oakville; April 12, West Bend; May 17, Pulaske; June 14, Oakville; July 12, West Bend; Aug. 9, Pulaske; Sept. 13, Oakville; Oct. 11, West Bend; Nov. 8, Pulaske; Dec. 13, Oakville. For further information contact Galen G. Metzger, 45 King's Terrace Rt. 3, Ames, Iowa 50010. AC 515, Ph. 292-4534.

BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL, ILL.

Virgil and Shirley Funk

Our beloved Elder Brethren, Joshua Broquard and Ed Hohulin conveyed the conference deliberations to our congregation. May our elders always perpetrate sound doctrine and may we cultivate an obedient spirit. "Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves; for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you."

Ministering brethren serving our

congregation include Perry Zimmerman, Forrest; Ray Ehnle, Bradford; Simon Wagenbach, Tremont; William Gudeman, Elgin; and Walter Anliker, Eureka. May God reward each for their efforts in our behalf.

Our Christmas program was presented Sunday afternoon, Dec. 21.

BURLINGTON, OKLAHOMA

Millicent Frieden — Laverne Roth

Another year has flown by—another decade to be sure. As we look back on our little congregation this past year, we find one baby born, Cammi Suzette, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Larry Frieden. Sadly we had to part with two dear souls, Sis. Eva McGuire and Bro. Joe Diel . . . then greatly rejoiced when three new converts were taken into the fold, Sisters Janice Springer, Janice Frieden, and Caroline Kraft. May God add His blessing to this, our new year, as well.

Visiting ministers have been Bros. Raymond Banwart of Ft. Scott and John Somerhalder of Phoenix. One thought presented in a sermon was "to worry was to sin." Did not our Lord promise He would take care of the sparrow, and did He not assure us we are of more value than many sparrows? "Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink . . . nor . . . what ye shall put on." Yet, how many of us worry about trivial matters. He will provide sufficiently if we stop worrying and simply trust Him in all matters—be they great or small.

The Sunday School children and their sponsors went Christmas carolling Dec. 20. They visited the Kiowa Hospital, Kiowa Manor Rest Home and many other souls who are aged or shut-ins. Dec. 21 marked our annual Christmas program presented by the Sunday School. The regular monthly hymn singing was held in the home of Bro. and Sis. Marvin Ott with a nice group attending.

Hospital patients included Bro. Raymond Roth, and Sisters Bea Diel, Katheryn Miller, and Laverne Roth.

February is the month to collect annual dues for the Silver Lining from the Burlington congregation. They can be given to either of your reporters; your cooperation is appreciated.

The amount suggested for the Silver \$2.00 per year.

ELGIN, IOWA**Mrs. George Butikofer**

As in many parts of the world, we are in the throes of winter. Our temperature as of today is subzero. The mercury tobogganed down to sixteen degrees below zero last night. The snow blanket which covers all of the landscape in view is near to eight inches in depth. The outdoor view is one of beauty; bushes and trees are semi-covered with glistening whiteness.

We are enjoying the arrival of our feathered friends. An attempt is made to keep them supplied with suet, cracked corn and sunflower seeds. The cardinals are especially fond of the latter. It's interesting to watch the charcoal-feathered juncos snatching the bits of goodies that tremble to the ground. The royal blue jays and the crimson-colored cardinals can never hide themselves against the snowy view.

All of our Sunday School pupils participated in rendering a Christmas program at our church. It consisted of appropriate songs and readings, recounting the birth of our dear Saviour. The children appeared to enjoy giving their parts. The Bible class sang some lovely songs and the intermediate and primary classes did well with readings and songs. In the evening of the same day we went caroling, also distributed some fruit, etc. to the folks, after singing "Silent Night" and "Joy to the World".

Bros. Paul Zehr and Leo Dogotch from Morris visited our assembly. The former assisted Bro. Paul Butikofer in explaining the memorandum. Bro. Uriel Gehring from Burlington visited our church on Christmas and New Year's Day.

Bro. Floyd Frieden has returned to Ft. Sam, after having spent Christmas with his parents and friends. 'Twas nice to see him.

May we all, as our minister reminds us to do, make good use of our time, preparing to meet our Lord and Maker in the heavenly realms.

FORT SCOTT, KANSAS**Ida E. Sinn**

On Sun., Dec. 21, the Sunday School presented their Christmas program. It's such an inspiration to see and hear the children speak their memory verses about baby Jesus and singing to his praise and honor.

Home for the Holidays! What a glad refrain. Bro. Charles Sinn has

returned to Ft. Sam, after spending two weeks with his parents, and the college students have returned to their colleges. May God protect them.

Sis. Mary Reber of 609 Lowman St. was taken to the hospital. We wish her a speedy recovery.

As we embark upon this new year, I took inventory of our little church. One dear brother went home to his eternal reward, and one young brother was baptized. With four young converts we aim to do better in 1970. May we anew dedicate our lives unto the service of our Lord.

GRIDLEY, ILLINOIS**Lydia and Eunice Kammerer**

Births: The first child for Bro. Dale and Sis. Vickie Schlipf is Ryan Dale, born Dec. 18. Grandparents are Bro. Loren and Sis. Mildred Schlipf, El Paso and Mr. and Mrs. Heck, Washburn. Amy Jo, is the daughter born to Bro. Jerome and Sis. Mary Witzig Dec. 28. Grandparents are Bro. Sam and Sis. Louise Witzig, Gridley, and Bro. and Sis. Menold, Morton. Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Keurth are the parents of a daughter, Kay Lynn, a granddaughter of Mrs. Lucille Keurth and the late Emmanuel Keurth. A son, Richard Raymond was born Dec. 5 to Friends Betty and Richard Stuckey of Glen Ellyn. He was welcomed home by two sisters, Teresa and Julie. Grandparents are, George and Sis. Pauline Witzig and Mr. & Mrs. Ezra Stucky, all of Gridley, great-grandmother, Sis. Nettie Witzig of Peoria.

With the Sick: It seems we have quite a few who have been or are ill. Larry, small son of Bro. Edward and Sis. Loretta Gramm, was hospitalized for several weeks with pneumonia; we are glad to report he was able to come home before Christmas and is now recuperating nicely. Sis. Mary Stoller is back in her home, after having surgery in St. James Hospital, in Pontiac. Sis. Lila Schlipf was hospitalized several days, but is able to come to church again.

Bro. Henry Gramm is convalescing in his home, after undergoing surgery several weeks ago. Bro. Ben Hofer suffered a stroke in his home Jan. 2, and is now a patient in the Fairbury Hospital. Sis. Lena Funk is a patient in Brokaw Hospital since Jan. 3. Bro. Henry Ringger was in the hospital a few days, but is home again. We are happy to

have Sis. Rose Schlipf in the assembly again, after being absent for several weeks (after having surgery).

Our annual Christmas program was held Dec. 21. As usual, the little folks caught the eye and ear of everyone there. The rest of the classes presented their songs and pieces in a nice manner. David Zehr gave the scripture reading of the birth of Christ.

Bro. Lynn Klopfenstein from Alabama spent the Christmas holidays in Gridley and Princeville.

Bro. William Witzig, son of Bro. Edward and Sis. Dorothy, and Cleve, son of Bro. Ralph and Sis. Catherine, were fortunate to have a two-week's leave and spent the Christmas holidays with their families and friends. They returned to Ft. Sam the first part of January.

LEO, INDIANA**Mrs. Elias Souder**

A beautiful Christmas program was enjoyed by our congregation, given at the church by our young people and children. The Christmas caroling by the young people was enjoyed. It was a pleasant surprise to hear the carolers on our porch. Indeed it was very much appreciated.

Maurice Frank from the Chicago congregation held services for us on Christmas Day and the following Sunday.

John Klopfenstein and Jimmy Winzeler were the two servicemen home for Christmas.

Dec. 31 marked the wedding of Bro. Steve Bollier and Sis. Carolyn Miller. Bro. Homer Reinick held services for us that morning. The young people are planning to make their home here.

We continued our visits at the three rest homes the first Sunday three rest homes the first Sunday always changes. Some are gone, and new faces are there. They always seem to appreciate our visits and wish we could come more often. I am thinking of the one who smiles, and has laid on her back many years, paralyzed from her shoulders down. Maxine is her name.

The 65th wedding anniversary of Bro. Joe and Sis. Leah Conrad was observed.

PORTLAND, OREGON**Connie Steffen**

Here we go, launching out on the sea of 1970. We can't help but won-

der what the year will bring. We hope it will be the best for each one.

We are so glad to welcome Bro. Ed and Sis. Judy Knecht and their, 4 children back to Oregon. They have bought a home near Oregon City. Judy is the daughter of Bro. Paul and Sis. Ann Rumbold.

Just a heartbeat from the glory,
Just a heartbeat nothing more;
Just a tiny, little heartbeat,
'Till we walk the Golden shore;
Keep your lamp all trimmed and burning,
Let it shine, you'll never fall;
Just a heartbeat from the Glory,
Just a heartbeat that is all.

TOLEDO, OHIO

Emily Frautschi

Mary Ann Weigele

Bro. Loren Stoller spent a Sunday with us. We enjoyed the messages he brought to us.

On Dec. 14 we held our annual business meeting; during this meeting Bro. John Breitwieser was elected as a trustee, and Bro. Ben Schlatter was relected as the treasurer, both for five-year terms.

We enjoyed the Sunday School Christmas Program; the Christmas message in song and verse was very impressive. The following evening, the young folks wended their way through the City to carol to the shut-ins and older folks of the church families. They always seem to appreciate it, and the young folks enjoy the evening too.

Kenneth Newman graduated from the University of Toledo in Engineering. We wish him many blessings in life and endeavors.

Sis. Mary Meister was called Home to rest on Dec. 12, after a period of about 12 years in bed. Services were held at the church by Bros. Rudolph Graf, George Sinn, Walter Rehklaue and Homer Reineck. Through the years we visited her many times, and we shall all miss her. We pray the Lord will bless dear Sis. Lydia, who so lovingly took care of her sister. Mary reached the age of 91 years and served our Lord faithfully since her youth.

Elder Bros. Rudolph Graf and Ben Maibach visited us. The Brothers shared the Lord's Supper with us and reviewed the Memorandum. It was a blessed day together.

VALPARAISO, INDIANA

Alma Morris—Jeannie Morris

How often we want to complain

about this or that, especially now about the weather. . . How cold it is and all the snow, how inconvenient. It always brings this poem to my mind:

O Teach me, Lord, instead of grieving
And wishing all my burdens moved,
To bear them patiently perceiving
How thou hast suffered, borne and loved.

Teach me the art of keeping silent,
That calm, contented I remain.
Cross bearer, Thee, I would resemble.

O change to love my bitterest pain.
Our Sunday School gave us a wonderful reminder of what Christmas means. It is wonderful, the love that is shown in the teachers who have the patience, and the little ones who are so happy and try so hard.

Sis. Lena Bucher fell and broke her ankle. She is at home now and gets around with the use of a walker.

Our community was saddened by the death of Sis. Jayne (Perry) Cross. We were all thankful when she could find the Lord in her illness, repent and be baptized before she was taken home. Bro. Harry had a memorial service at the funeral home in Chesterton. She was taken to Athens, for funeral and burial on Monday. Our sympathy goes out to the family.

MANSFIELD, OHIO

Aaron A. Sauder

The old year has ended, and we have begun a new. We often wonder what the new year has in store for each of us.

"Behold, I will do a new thing."

Carl and Sis. Ruth Sauder Weiss are announcing the birth of a new granddaughter, on Dec. 29. Jamie Lynn's parents are Jim and Sue Weiss; she also has three brothers to love her. Bro. Will and Sis. Mary Sauder are the paternal great-grandparents. Arriving early in the year was Brenda Sue, whose birth date is January 5. Bro. Joel and Sis. Sue Beer are the happy parents of the new little girl; they now have two daughters and three sons. Bro. Dave and Sis. Lena Ruch Beer are the grandparents, and Sis. Frieda Ruch of Milford is the great-grandmother.

Hospital patients have been little Johnny Bricker (son of Bro. Dick

and Sis. Helen), Frank Bertka, Bros. Dick Banks and Dave Beer, and Christine Beer (Charles). We are pleased to report that Sis. Ola Froelich has been discharged from the hospital and has returned to the Geriatrics Center.

Sis. Marie Witschi (Ted) has been saddened by the death of her brother; we extend our sympathy to her and her family.

FORT WAYNE, INDIANA

Mary Eisenmann — Marge Gerber

A new year has dawned and a new decade lies ahead! Looking back over the past ten years—The first services in our Ft. Wayne church were held on New Year's Day, 1960—Surely we have experienced joys and sorrows; We know God permits the storms, tears, raging seas, and angry skies, trials and dismays. . . For how else could we realize the value and beauty of those cloudless and sun-filled days? We know not what the future will bring, but we have the assurance of God's help and guidance if we put our faith and trust in Him!

Denise Elizabeth arrived at the age of 5 days to gladden the home of our Friends, Frank and Joan Jones, Warsaw, Indiana. She was born Dec. 11. Happy maternal grandparents are Bro. Oscar and Sis. Mary Martin of our congregation.

Our service boys, Dennis Pulfer, son of Bro. Ray and Sis. Mary, and Dan Pulver, son of Bro. Les and Sis. Florence, spent time off with their families over the holidays. It is always a pleasure to meet them and have them assemble with us!

Doug & Brenda Stoller & Dougie have moved from their trailer to a home at 2326 Webster, 46807, vacated by the John Pences, who moved to Bluffton.

Baptismal rites were performed for our friend, and now sister-in-faith, Beatrice (Suttor) Hans, on Sunday, Jan. 4, by Elder Bros. Sam Aeschliman and John Yergler of Bluffton. Indeed, we do rejoice, as do the angels in heaven, in that our dear friend has heeded the call to repent, even in her later years, and has now attained the precious "hope" to be A Child of God. . . And as was sung, may the Holy Spirit ever be her guide through the remaining days of her life!

TAYLOR, MISSOURI

Mrs. Eli Sutter — Mrs. Bill Heimer

A group of about 75 Brothers and

Sisters from Peoria came to spend a Sunday with us. They sang several hymns in the evening which we enjoyed very much. They said they didn't sing for any honor for themselves, only to the praise and glory of God. Ministering Bro. Charles Hemmer was among the group. We were happy to have them visit us and hope they will come again.

The college students that have been home for the holidays are: Becky Hodel from I. S. U. Normal, Randy Sutter from E. C. P. Institute. Peoria, Karen Yackley from S. T. C. Kirksville. Roger Steffen, went to his home in Remington from Gem City College, Quincy.

Word has been received of the birth of a son, Michael Ramon, to Dr. and Mrs. Michael R. Stratton of Kansas City, Mo. on Dec. 20. This is their first child. Mrs. Stratton is the former Cheryl Hodel. Grandparents are Henry and Sis. Loida Hodel and Mr. and Mrs. Walter Stratton, Taylor.

Hospital patients were Sis. Sue (Russ) Henning and Vicky, daughter of Bro. James and Sis. Lois Sutter, both in for surgery and home doing quite well.

Bro. Arnold Gerst, Sis. Marjorie and children, Chicago, spent Christmas and New Years with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Arrow-smith of Quincy and with their many relatives and friends. Arnie read and meditated on Phillipians 3, an appropriate part of scripture with which to begin the New Year. "Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended; but **this one thing I do**, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before. . ." He said that if we in the year past have said and done things that were wrong, it should be our resolution to find forgiveness and forget, to reach forth to the things which are before.

Bro. Art Gudeman spent the week end of the 21st with us. In the evening the Sunday School presented the Christmas program, after which Art told about the orphanage in Kentucky, of the pitiful condition of some of the children. He said that whatever we do unto the least of these we do unto the Lord.

STUTT GART, GERMANY

Cedric Messner — Duane Schrenk

Saviour like a shepherd lead us; much we need thy tender care. In

thy pleasant pastures feed us; For our use thy folds prepare. Blessed Jesus, Thou hast loved us, love us still. . .

Greeting from Deutschland. As we start another new year, we can look back on the one just past and see of the many blessings that our dear Saviour has bestowed upon us. As we look out about us we can see the whiteness of the snow and above, the beautiful blue of the heavens; this is just a small sample of how heaven will be.

We are richly blessed, as we can assemble in God's house (Neuhuetten) so far from home. On week-ends, the servicemen gather at the Heinz Maurer home. We enjoy wonderful fellowship with one another.

As we undertake our new tour in Germany, we pray our writing to you through the **Silver Lining** will give those an opportunity to see how the Lord is blessing us.

We have been very thankful to be stationed here, and it was a miracle how Duane and I came to meet. We had gone through Basic and AIT together in Ft. Sam. When I left it was the last I saw him, till one night as I was sitting in the hospital in Stuttgart I looked up with great amazement, there stood Duane. Though we had come 6,000 miles across the ocean, the Lord had put us no more than 50 feet apart. Surely it was the Hand of God who brought us together again.

Arriving from the States was Friend Ken Koch from Tremont; he is stationed at Ludwigsburg. Those who were here: Terry Nussbaum, Hank Young, Dwain Laukhuf.

Friend Thomas Menold left for the States and has completed his duty to Uncle Sam. We would appreciate if all those who receive orders for Germany would drop either Duane or I a letter.

Though we are far from loved ones, we are only a prayer away and truly the Lord sticketh closer than a brother. We pray always for those outside this fold; may our light ever shine on a darkened world. We thank God for the peace and love He gives us.

If anyone has a copy of the **Apostolic Christian Churches** of America booklets, printed in 1946 and/or 1950, please contact me. Thank you. Orel R. Steiner, Oakville Iowa 52646.

New and Changes

II Lt John Robert Deislinger FOBC No 5 Ft Benj Harrison Ind 46216	Girard
Sp4 Jerry L Drayer 304585029 HHC 101st AVN Bn [AH] 101st ABN Div APO San Francisco 96383 Near Phu Bai, Vietnam	Bluffton
Mr and Mrs Ronald Heiniger 7047½ Eastern Ave Takoma Park Maryland 20012	Morton
Pvt Keith E Honegger 352401975 225th H EM [GS] Ft Sill Oklahoma 73503	Forrest
Pvt Kenneth A Koch US320403607 651 Medical Co [ABM] APO New York 09154	
Pfc Scott L Koehl 2569381 MATSS-901 MAT SG 90 BRK S-17 NATTC NAS MFS Millington Tenn 38054	Morton
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WISDOM

Henry Souder Jr.

Where are the sweet springing waters of true wisdom? College adds a mark. It is helpful when it chords with scripture. True wisdom is more than being well-read. A person may even read the scripture a thousand times, and yet not know . . . "But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit:"

Sitting in God's school, that's what is wonderful. He reveals. He opens, lets us glimpse into great, profound wisdom. Are we listening? "for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God." Beautiful ponderings kindle our look into deep treasures.

A human knows what interests him. We have a marvellous mind. It can take hold, understand, pioneer. Those things of everyday life, our spirit knows. We are familiar with such, because our own spirit understands them. The way of God must be taught of God. "For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God." What does He know that He would impart?

There are some teachers who have a knack at kindling a desire to learn. They catch the student's mind. God is the best Teacher. How important are the steps of the day! His knowledge is perfect. He

knows how to kindle the stars in the eyes. He kindles the far reaches. "Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God;"

God's will is "that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God." We need to tarry at His word. We begin to see the immeasurables of everlasting. We ponder the depths of divine nature. They are awe-inspiring. They are the things by which we learn, at peace with His people.

How does the Spirit teach? What is His method? Better than the most polished of man's ways. The words of Jesus are time's work for the believer. Life is a classroom, Farming, household tasks, sick hours are the practice of following Jesus. We learn from a sermon, quiet reading, following some example, a command, a tradition . . . We may learn, and this counts so much, in doing. All the hours are holy. How good if our hours are written of the word. "Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual." A good listening, earnest prayer, and journey into our classrooms of the day.

The following is another of overwhelming truth the Bible is so:

"But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him:" One who flaunts his material smartness does not welcome the spiritual. One more sure proof of God's word. The whole array of modern natural man holds away from receiving these good things.

His learning "culture" is of another kind. We have something to file into, and can increase learning. These people never find, because they shut the door; "neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned."

What a look does being spiritual open. It allows the glow of life to shine into the entire field. No part of the day is withheld. It gives the yardstick for measuring where we will stay right. It keeps from the pointed finger of examination. "But he that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man." No shallow trap will every trap those aware spiritually. We know the truth.

Theories are blown up . . . burst into nothingness. Civilizations are tarnishing. Pillars of society, eroding. He who builds on the Rock . . . wind nor storm nor gathering blackness can move . . . "For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ."