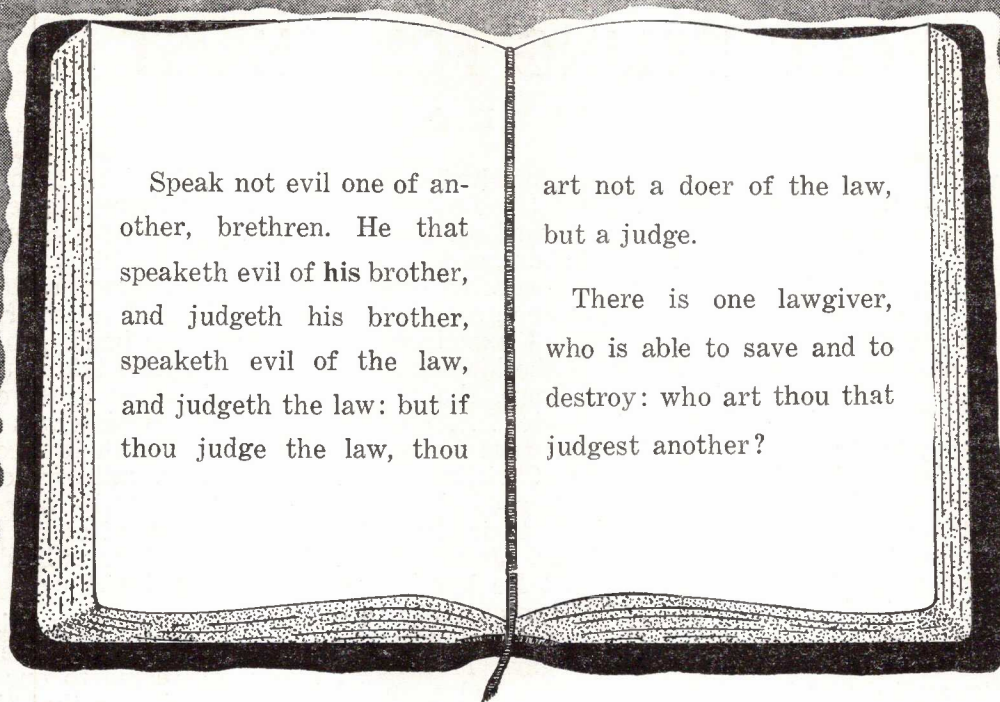


Speak not evil one of another, brethren. He that speaketh evil of his brother, and judgeth his brother, speaketh evil of the law, and judgeth the law: but if thou judge the law, thou

art not a doer of the law, but a judge.

There is one lawgiver, who is able to save and to destroy: who art thou that judgest another?



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

THE SILVER LINING

A LIGHT for BELIEVERS

COUNSELING FOR CHRIST

Bro. Willis R. Ehnle, 1968

My family and I visited our Tokyo church, while Bro. John Klaus came to take care of our Shioda and Tamahata services.

After services in Tokyo, I had a talk with Enda-san, a young man who has been coming to church for several years and who has made some effort to repent and believe the Gospel. He has told me before that he had read many books, trying to understand life, and he always comes back to the Bible. He tells me he doesn't read much in other books anymore, but he is reading the Bible. When I asked if he believes Jesus Christ is the Son of God he answered, "Yes." When I asked if he believes Christ had died for his sins, he replied that he has not yet come that far. One wonders if the term, "Son of God" means the same to him as it does to us.

Later in the afternoon a man who is perhaps in his late forties, a total stranger, came to the entrance of the church, and after greeting him I beckoned him in. His name is Motome-san. He told me that he went to his uncle's funeral, and was surprised that his uncle had been a professing Chris-

tian and therefore had a Christian funeral. Since the funeral he has been trying to find out what Christianity is all about, and to his great surprise has discovered that Christianity is not one group but many, many groups. I explained to him something of the history of Christianity in Europe, the Protestant Reformation, etc. . . . I proceeded to explain that true Christians did not become Christians because they were so good, but because they realized their imperfection and sinfulness. Jesus Christ is God's Son and He has borne the punishment for our sins in our place, and we serve him out of gratitude. I gave Motome-san a scripture portion and a cordial invitation to come again to our Tokyo Church, as he lives near by.

The following Tuesday, Lois had a phone call from Kazuo Amemiya, saying he wanted to come to see me that night. He is a college student who formerly came to our Shioda Sunday School and church, who has repented . . . I met him that evening and enjoyed the conversation. He explained that the man in charge of the dormitory where he lives has a Bible Class on Sunday and will

not give him permission to come to our church, instead of the meeting in the dormitory. This man is quite strict and once scolded Amemiya-san quite severely for walking into their meeting-place with one hand in his pocket. This man is also taking up collections to send money to Korea, to rebuild a church which was burned to the ground with its occupants by the Japanese military, either before or during World War II. Amemiya-san said, after he graduates in a couple of years he desires to serve the Lord with us.

While writing this on the train, I met a lady whose daughter formerly came to our English class. She told me that the doctors say her husband does not have long to live, because of a heart condition. She wonders if our life really ends at death, and I told her it doesn't. She says her husband's younger brother is a joyful, thankful Christian. I hope to meet her and her husband again soon, with the desire they might repent and believe the Gospel.

Please remember us all in your prayers.

BIBLE RELIGION DEMANDS APPROPRIATE ACTIONS

The enclosed article was published in Tokyo's leading English language daily, **The Japan Times**. Bro. Willis R. Ehnle.

Many people equate religion with acceptance of certain doctrines . . . But this is not the Biblical view. In the great sourcebook of Christianity, a religious person is distinguished not by his stated beliefs but by his actions, his attitudes, his relationships—in short, by his style of life.

It is, of course, true that everyone's style of life ultimately reflects his deepest convictions . . . But what a person says is not always a reliable guide to what he believes strongly enough to live by. Some who profess ardent religious faith are unwilling to take any costly action in obedience to that faith.

Anyone who thinks that religion is merely a matter of "believing in God" will find little comfort in the Scriptures.

So you believe that there is one God? asks the author of the New Testament Epistle of James. **Good for you! The demons also believe that—and shudder."**

Hundreds of years earlier, the great Jewish prophets had warned that God is concerned with the way men act, rather than their diligence in paying ritual tributes to Him.

Thus says the Lord, cried the Prophet Amos . . . I hate, I despise your feasts, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies . . . Take away from Me the noise of your songs; to the melody of your harps I will not listen. But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

The Prophet Micah was equally

scornful of a religion which expresses itself only in giving lip service to orthodox beliefs and attending punctiliously to ceremonies which are thought to honor God.

With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high? Micah asked.

Shall I come before him with burnt offerings . . . will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousand rivers of oil? . . .

He has showed you, O Man, what is good;

And what does the Lord require of you, but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with thy God?

Perhaps the most persistent of all Christian heresies is the idea that a person is assured of salvation if he publicly professes belief that Jesus is the Son of God.

Jesus gave no encouragement to

that kind of purely verbal piety. Not every person who calls Me Lord, Lord will enter into the kingdom of heaven, but only those who do what My Father in heaven wants them to do, He said in the Sermon on the Mount.

On another occasion, when some of his disciples were proclaiming their devotion to Him, He told them they could easily prove it by their deeds.

If you really love Me, he said, you will obey my commandments.

The Apostle Paul, in his letter to Christians at Rome, said that true worship consists of offering yourself as a living sacrifice to God.

Love one another warmly as brothers in Christ, and be eager to show respect for one another, he said. Work hard, and do not be lazy. Serve the Lord with a heart full of devotion . . . share your belongings with your needy brothers, and open your homes to strangers . . .

Do not be proud but accept humble duties. Do not think of yourselves as wise.

If someone does evil to you, do not pay him back with evil. Try to do what all men consider to be good. Do everything possible, on your part, to live at peace with all men.

The Biblical emphasis on doing . . . in the Epistle of James.

Do not fool yourselves by just listening to God's word, it admonishes. Instead, put it into practice.

What good is it for a man to say, I have faith, if his actions do not prove it? . . . Show me how you can have faith without actions, and I will show you my faith by my actions.

If the church is in trouble today, especially with young people, it may be a result of trying to show the world **faith without actions**.

Is there some loved one you should be sending the Silver Lining? The love through the Silver Lining can go miles when perhaps you can't.

Do as you would wish you had done, if their lips would be silent tomorrow!

CHAMPAIGN-URBANA

Sue Zimmerman

Nada Baumgartner

Once again, a semester of studying has ended at the University of Illinois, and most of the students have returned home for a short vacation. Those attending Parkland College have already resumed their

studies and are well into another quarter.

The engagement of Sis. Terry Grimm, Goodfield to Bro. Bill Hart, Goodfield was announced. May God's blessings go with them. Terry is a freshman at the University of Illinois.

We are deeply thankful to all ministering brethren who come and gather with us to share God's wonderful plan of salvation. Visiting ministers were Bro. Ed Hohulin, Goodfield; Bro. Simon Wagenbach, Tremont; and Bro. Marvin Schmidgall, Eureka. May God reward them richly for their willingness to travel a distance to minister to us.

God is in every tomorrow;

Therefore I live for today,
Certain of finding at sunrise,

Guidance and strength for the way;

Power for each moment of weakness,

Hope for each moment of pain,
Comfort for every sorrow,
Sunshine and joy after rain.

GIRARD, OHIO

Caroline Emch

We have had continuous snow since December 1, with some zero weather. Some of the snow is melting at this writing. So far I have not seen any robins.

We had our annual business meeting on Dec. 18, the Sunday School business on Dec. 25.

We are always thankful when God restores health to loved ones. Bro. Carl Gasser is able to assemble with us again. There are several on our sick list, Sis. Ella, Friend Esther Deislinger, suffering with severe colds; Friend Clara Deislinger, with eye surgery; Bro. Lorentz Emch, lung congestion; Friend Ruth Emch, foot surgery. We pray a speedy recovery.

The meat canning project will be Feb. 10 at Columbiana for the Girard area.

Sis. Charlotte Emch, West Liberty St. Ext. Girard, Ohio 44420 will celebrate her 80th birthday, Mar. 12, the Lord willing.

Sis. Mary Beard is at the Elbert Rest Home, 2035 Van Wye Ave., Warren, Ohio.

We wish to express our sympathy to Bro. Frank and Sis. Mina Emch in the death of their brother-in-law, Friend Ray McElroy, aged 70, Lakewood, Ohio.

NOTE OF THANKS: We wish to extend our heartfelt thanks for

the many prayers, cards, kind deeds, and words of consolation received during the illness and death of Harry W. Deislinger. May God bless you all. Mrs. Harry W. Deislinger and the William Deislinger Family.

MAYWOOD, CALIFORNIA

Elizabeth K. Kaisner

Home Sweet Home From Out West

Wherever we may roam, be it ever so humble, there's no place like home. A charm from the skies seems to hallow us there.

Little paths of sunshine
Surround us every day,
To make our lives worthwhile
In a very special way.

They begin at dawning
When you awake to see
The wonders and the GLORY
Set on earth for you and me.

The smile of a loved one.
The greeting of a friend,
Kind deeds you do for others
Are sunny paths which never end.

We here in California do appreciate our mild climate. Today is a beautiful day, clear, sunshine, nice view of the mountains, with a gentle cool breeze. The roses, birds of paradise, poinsettias, and other flowers are in bloom.

Our Sis. Nettie Locher has been in and out of the hospital, and is confined to her home at present. Their address is: Mr. and Mrs. Andy Locher, 4930-135th St., Hawthorne Calif. 90250. They would appreciate hearing from some one.

Miss Tomoko Utsuki from Japan stopped here on her way to New York, where she is going to work.

Sunday Jan. 25, our Elder Bro.

THE SILVER LINING

Grabill, Indiana 46741

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Carl Kinsinger was in Maywood and read to us the Memorandum. This should be important to us all.

At The Close Of Life

If I shall find at my setting sun,
That all of my work is carefully
done,
And that I shall wear a golden
crown
In a beautiful land of bliss and
and renown . . .

If all is well at the close of day,
When this soul of mine shall sweep
away
To a lovely land of perfect light,
Where I shall never know of
night . . .

If I can say at the close of life,
How sweet it is to know no strife,
Tho' sometimes hard the path may
seem,
I hope to close my eyes in peace.

If I can stay at the close of life,
That this race of mine is faithfully
run,
I should be content if I could know,
That my children follow the way I
go.

When we come to the close of life,
Will we be able to say, I have kept
the faith,
I have the hope of ETERNAL
LIFE,
As a testimony to those left behind.

PHOENIX, ARIZONA

Wilma J. Pulfer

On January 17 our friend, Jon Kokanovich, gave his testimony before the church, and was baptized the following Sunday. We welcome him as a new brother in faith, and wish him God's blessing in his new walk of life. Bro. Jon is the son of Bro. Dan and Sis. Doris (Schupbach) Kokanovich. When asked how it feels to be a child of God, Jon replied, "It's really great!"

Sis. Charlene Somerhalder underwent major surgery. We are happy to report, she is recovering very nicely.

Sis. Mary Sitzler passed away January 27 at the age of 83. Funeral services were held Jan. 30, with our Elder Brother Roy Farney officiating, assisted by Bro. Clarence Yackley and Bro. Richard Schupbach. God took Mary out of this life unto eternal rest while she slept. She was born in Addleshofen, Germany on October 8, 1886. She was converted at the age of 12 and

was a faithful member for over 70 years. She came to America at the age of 25 and worked for 16 years. She returned to Europe for one year, but came back to America to work in Peoria, then Chicago. In 1948 she moved to Phoenix. She leaves her foster family of 35 years, Ernest and Martha De Mille, Ernie, Esther, Roy and Billie of Phoenix; a cousin, Rosie Cross of Peoria; and relatives in Germany. We extend our sympathy to her family. She will be missed by many of us.

VALPARAISO, INDIANA

Alma Morris

We have had a very severe winter; everything is at a stand still, But, God in his far wiser way Makes time a book unread, And we must walk in hope and faith The year that lies ahead.

Our minister Bro. Harry Bucher has undergone a serious operation. God in his far wiser way has our plans laid out, too. If it is His will, Harry will be back with us in time. He is in Lutheran General Hospital, 1775 Dempster, Park Ridge, Illinois. No one knows how much we miss or need him. Our prayers are all for him and Sis. Lena. It's like a flock without a shepherd, a home without a mother.

Sis. Lena is still in a cast after having broken her ankle at Christmas. They will take X-rays soon. The Lord willing she'll be able to walk again without help. Their daughter, Bernadine Martin from Cissna Park has been with them.

TAYLOR, MISSOURI

Mrs. Eli Sutter — Mrs. Bill Heimer

Bro. Art Gudeman . . . told the story of the cobbler that was expecting the Lord to come as his guest. The following poem contains the story he told:

How the Great Guest Came

It happened one day at the year's
white end—
Two neighbors called on their old-
time friend;
And they found the shop, so
meager and mean,
Made gay with a hundred boughs
of green.
Conrad was stitching with face
ashine,
But suddenly stopped as he
twitched a twine . . .

"The Lord appeared in a dream
to me,
And said, 'I am coming your guest
to be',
So I've been busy with feet astir,
Strewing the floor with branches
of fir.
The wall is washed, the shelf is
shined,
And over the rafter the holly
twined.
He comes today, the table is spread
With milk and honey and wheaten
bread."

His friends went home; and his
face grew still
As he watched for the shadow
across the sill.
He lived all the moments o'er and
o'er,
When the Lord should enter the
lowly door—
The knock, the call, the latch
pulled up,
The lighted face, the offered cup.
He would wash the feet where the
spikes had been;
He would kiss the hands where the
nails went in,
And then at last would sit with
Him
And break the bread as the day
grew dim.

While the cobbler mused there
passed his pane
A beggar drenched by the driving
rain.
He called him in from the stony
street
And gave him shoes for his bruised
feet.
The beggar went, and there came a
crone,
Her face with wrinkles of sorrow
sown.
A bundle of fagots bowed her back,
And she was spent with the wrench
and rack.
He gave her his loaf and steadied
her load
As she took her way on the weary
road.

Then to his door came a little child,
Lost and afraid in the world so wild,
In the big, dark world. Catching
it up,
He gave it the milk in the waiting
cup,
And led it home to its mother's
arms,
Out of the reach of the world's
alarm.

The day went down in the crimson west,
 And with it the hope of the blessed Guest,
 And Conrad sighed as the world turned grey;
 "Why is it, Lord, that your feet delayed?
 Did you forget that this was the day?"

Then soft in the silence a Voice he heard:
 "Lift up your heart, for I kept my word.
 Three times I came to your friendly door;
 Three times my shadow was on your floor.
 I was the beggar with bruised feet;
 I was the woman you gave to eat;
 I was the child in the homeless street."

BREMEN, INDIANA

Emma Unsicker

God will take care of you still to the end;

Oh what a Father, Redeemer, and Friend.

Guiding, protecting, and keeping is own,

He will take care of you—trust Him alone!

Our Minister, Bro. Henry Souder, is recovering very well from his surgery. We have missed him and hope he can be back with us real soon. Sis. Mary Sinn is feeling better and is able to come to church again.

We have missed the happy smile of little Betsy Zimmer, who was hospitalized with appendicitis. She is the daughter of Bro. Bill and Sis. Ann Zimmer. What "emptiness" is felt when a brother, sister, friend or a little child is absent on Sunday. This proves we all need each other so very much.

Bro. Walter Rager and his family were with us on Sunday, Feb. 1. His message was from Galatians, chapter 3. All who have faith in Christ are one in Him and, as the spiritual seed of Abraham, are heirs according to the promise.

The new addition to our church is progressing quite rapidly. The Sunday School students are willing and eager to do their part. They are planning different projects to earn money so they can help financially, as well as donate their time and labor. **The unfinished task before us is no greater than the unlimited power of God behind us.**

Home for mid-term vacation were our college students, Linda Laidig, Diane Zimmer and Eric Meister. It's always a joy to have them with us.

FRANCESVILLE, IND.

Mrs. Herman (Chris) Wuethrich
 Mrs. Otto Wuethrich

"Open Thy Merciful Arms", I'm coming. Yes, dear Uncle Chris Wuethrich could fall "Asleep In Jesus." He was loved as an uncle by many, many . . . But he was a real pillar of his home, which Bro. Chris shared with his loved companion, Sis. Barbara . . . and memories will remain with their twelve children, who all said "He was such a good Father; he always gave us good advice." His daily prayers, three times a day, will never be forgotten by his sixty-five grandchildren . . . and know that even his fourteen great-grandchildren have all been sent to heaven in prayer many times. His only surviving sister, Rose Wuethrich, could have the blessings of hearing "God Is Our Refuge", and comforting services by Bros. Elmer Bucher and Wendell Gudeman. They also said what a good pillar he was in our church. Some of his last words were, "Bob, pray with me", and this was granted "Farewell, I Go To Rest."

Bro. Andre & Sis. Lois Neihouser are thankful to God for another joy sent to their home, Baby Andrea, who has a sister and two brothers.

Our Francesville church has had joys of more families assembling with us. Bro. George Erbs are welcomed back . . . Bro. Alvin Nuests, who have even given us a new baby . . . Alvin Furrers have a darling little girl and baby boy . . . Bro. Larry Nuest's have been with us for quite a while, but his wife, Sis. Jane had to be hospitalized for some time with an injury from a toothpick.

We have had loved ones in and out of the hospital, but God has promised He will never forsake anyone who puts their trust in him. Dear Aunt Cordia Leman hasn't been able to come home yet, but it sure will be a happy day when she can. Thankful these are well again: Bro. Will Kahler; Jerry, son of Dan Overmeyers; Sis. Nola Wuethrich; Sis. Helen (Geyer) Eshleman; Bro. Ronald Anliker, and Sis. Mary (Emil) Gutwein.

Closing: May God bless you with peace and happiness.

MILFORD, INDIANA

Marguerite Hoerr

A little son named Ty, born to Linda and Doug Coy, passed away several days after his birth. Maternal grandparents are Bro. Ray and Mildred Levy. Our deep sympathy is extended to all members of his family.

Sis. Laura Kammerer suffered a broken foot as the result of a recent fall.

Little Lana Beer, youngest daughter of Bro. Frank and Sis. Lois is wearing a splint on a broken arm, also from a fall.

Sis. Anna Stieglitz has been hospitalized for possible surgery. We're hopeful her illness will be a short one and that God will be especially near her.

Bro. Mike Zimmerman is ill and confined to his home. His family reports he is feeling better, and we're hoping to see him in church again soon.

My father-in-law, Bro. John Hoerr, has been ill the last few weeks with a painful case of shingles. I'm happy to report he was able to be in church again today.

Our sincere sympathy is extended to Sis. Martha Ruch, at the death of her sister, Edna Ruch Krantz. May God comfort her family.

Bro. Harold Zeltwanger was a visitor to our congregation on this Sunday afternoon. He vividly read and explained the "turning around" and redemption of Saul. He asked us all to recall and relive our own conversions. He reminded us, as Christians, we should explain the marvelous love of God to others. We should also always remember our lives are a constant witness to those with whom we daily come in contact.

REMINGTON, INDIANA

We wish to welcome Mick and Coleen Culp and son Shawn back to Remington. Mick has recently completed his duties in the armed forces.

Those among us who have been ill are Sis. Charlotte Bahler and Sis. Evelyn Knochel. We are happy to report both are home from the hospital and regaining good health. Sis. Elsie Kilgus is improving slowly, and remains in the St. Elizabeth Hospital in Lafayette. We are sorry to say Sis. Mary Bahler, who was living in the Eureka Nursing Home, fell and broke her hip. She

was brought to the Home Hospital in Lafayette.

On January 25, we enjoyed the message of God's word brought to us by Bro. Walt Steffen from Milford.

A baby boy, Dale Eugene, born Jan. 27, was welcomed home by two sisters and three brothers in the home of Bro. Ken and Sis. Loretta Schnieder.

ROCKVILLE, CONNECTICUT

Carlton J. Lanz

"Evolution Theory Lacks Proof"

He who can look into the sky with a telescope, or even with his natural eye alone, and see there the immensity of creation, its symmetry, beauty, order, harmony and diversity, and yet doubt that the Creator of these is vastly superior both in wisdom and power, or who can suppose for a moment that such order came by chance, without a Creator, has so far lost or ignored the faculty of reason as to be properly considered what the Bible terms, a fool (one who ignores or lacks reason): "The fool hath said in his heart, **There is no God.**"

Some who deny the existence of an intelligent Creator claim that nature is the only God, and that from nature all forms of animal and vegetable developments proceeded without the ordering of intelligence, but governed, they say, by "the law of the survival of the fittest" in a process of evolution.

All about us we see that various creatures are of fixed natures which do not evolve to higher natures, and though those who hold to this theory have made repeated endeavors, they have never succeeded either in blending different species or in producing a new, fixed kind. Though there are fish that can use their fins for a moment as wings, and fly out of the water, and frogs that can sing, they have never been known to change into birds; and though there are beasts or brutes which bear some resemblance to men, the evidence is wholly lacking that man was evolved from such creatures. On the contrary, investigations prove that though different varieties of the same species may be produced, it is impossible to blend the various species, or for one to evolve from another. For the same reason the donkey and the horse, though resembling each other, cannot be claimed as related, for it is well known that their offspring is im-

perfect and cannot propagate either species.

Surely if unintelligent nature were the creator or evolver, she would continue the process, and there would be no fixed species, since without intelligence nothing would arrive at fixed conditions. Evolution would be a fact today, and we would see about us fish becoming birds, and monkeys becoming men.

Giving due credit to nature's laws in every case, back of it all the intricate machinery of nature is the hand of its great Author, an intelligent, omnipotent God.

Let us realize that the existence of an intelligent Creator is a clearly demonstrated truth, the proof of which lies all around us, and even within us, for we are his workmanship, whose every power of mind and body speaks of a marvelous skill beyond our comprehension. He is also the Designer and Creator of what we term nature. To realize the existence of this mighty God is but to dread His Omnipotent strength, unless we see Him possessed of benevolence and goodness corresponding to His power.

The One Whose wisdom planned, and whose power upholds and guides the universe, we instinctively worship and adore!

Birth: On January 21, a little girl, Stephany ReNae was born to Bro. Douglas and Sis. Carol Moser. Grandparents: Bro. Phil and Sis. Bertha Metzger, Sabetha, and Bro. John and Sis. Esther Moser, Rockville.

Funeral services for Sis. Marie Ludwig were January 24, at the church. Death came quietly at the convalescing home where she had been for the last several years. She was 88. In her earlier years, she had taught Sunday School and seemed to always enjoy doing so. She was known to have had a remarkable memory, very often quoting a sermon almost word for word. She also did much work on the families' genealogy. She leaves one sister, Emily Schneider; a brother, Edward Ludwig and several nephews and neices. Burial was at Ellington.

Our annual business meeting was again held as usual on the second Sunday in January. Bro. Emanuel Schneider was elected our new Sunday School superintendent. Bro. Joe Skipper was chosen to serve as trustee for 3 years. Few other

changes took place, followed with adjournment.

We have had our share of snow and cold weather, resulting perhaps in the much illness experienced here . . . Huge peaks of snow nearly everywhere, reminding one of miniature Alps or else. James (Jimmie) Schneider has been wearing an ankle cast, as the result of a fall from a moving car. Not badly hurt, however he did require some medical service and some time out of school. A boy in school started the car with James sitting on the fender.

AKRON, OHIO

Kathy Graf

A daughter, Jodi Ann, was born to Fred and Eva Grawunder. She has two sisters, Monica and Susan. Her maternal grandparents are Bro. Fred and Sis. Eva Wenhardt.

Bros. Paul and Roger Gasser have moved to a new address at 4640 Wayview Avenue, North Canton, Ohio 44720.

Bro. Charles Novotny and Bro. Peter Barna were hospitalized, and both are making a good recovery. Bro. Peter and Sis. Elizabeth Barna have moved to Route 1, Sterling, Ohio.

Quite a few changes have been made as the result of the two elections within the past two months. We have changed our Sunday School time from 9:30 to 10:30, and it is now held at the same time as the regular services. Bro. Leon Graf was put in as Sunday School superintendent. Other positions voted on and their holders are Bro. Paul Gasser and Sis. Kathy Graf as Sunday School teachers, Bro. Paul Gangle as usher, Bro. Kenneth Weerts as trustee, and Sis. Ruth Taylor as an added member of the kitchen committee. We also voted on the name of the church, The Apostolic Church of Rothrock Road.

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Visiting us on the evening of Jan. 7 was Bro. Bob Pohl of Burlington, Iowa. We thank the Lord for the important teachings which were given.

Announcement was made on Jan. 25 of the engagement of Sis. Christine Leman to Bro. Lynn Klopferstein of Leo. We wish them the Lord's rich blessings.

Our congregation feels deep sympathy toward Elder Bro. George

Yergler in the loss of his loving wife, Sis. Ida. Bro. George has labored as our shepherd here for many years, for which we give sincere thanks and praise to God. The Chicago brethren feel that God has lovingly provided for us, in that as George has requested to be relieved of his duties here, the responsibilities of the eldership will now be assumed by our dear Bro. Al Fisher. On Feb. 1 Elder Bros. Noah Schrock, Herman Kellenberger and George Gramm assisted Bro. Yergler in the ordination of Bro. Fisher. The impressive service should inspire all of us to do our part to support our shepherd and strive to maintain the unity of our flock.

BERN, KANSAS

Esther and Stella Moser

Marcia Rae Strahm arrived Jan. 17 to make her home with Bro. Wilfred and Sis. Vernona, also little sister Sara Jean. Grandparents are Bro. Emil and Sis. Grace, Bro. Virgil and Sis. Marie Hartter, Sabetha.

Announced to us was the engagement of Bro. Morris Rokey (Bro. Bob and Sis. Lila) to Sis. Arlinda Strahm (Bro. Walter and Sis. Mildred) Sabetha.

We are having our share of sickness, flu, colds, along with chickenpox the little folks are passing around. At present, Jeff, Heidi and Holly Baumgartner are entertaining them. Hospital patients have been Sisters Leah Bauman, Lena Garber, Frieda Strahm (Aaron), Louise Esslinger (Pete).

I spend the evening visiting with my dear friend, Sis. Rose Ulmer, who quietly observed her 87 birthday today (Feb. 1). Rose has been shut in all winter and is looking forward to getting out again, come spring and warmer weather. Rose enjoys her visitors, and we enjoy her.

Sis. Lorene Strahm (Ephraim) is recovering nicely from her recent surgery. Lorene and her family wish to thank everyone for the many cards, gifts and flowers, with a special word of thanks to all who remembered them in their prayers. May God bless all for your kindness.

My Prayer

When life grows weary from day to day,
Take my hand and show me Thy way.

When my heart is troubled, let turmoil cease,
And deep inside, help me find peace.

Dear Lord, lest hate should take control,
Help me find love within my soul.
When I'm afraid, calm every fear,
And may I feel Thy presence near.
For Thou art the truth, the light, the way,
So guide my life from day to day.

BLUFFTON, INDIANA

Imogene Steffen — Pat Isch

On Sunday, January 11, Bro. Loren Stoller of Latty was our guest minister. We were truly inspired as we could listen to what the Spirit of God does through His servants. We also enjoyed the visit of Bro. Merle Bucher from LaCrosse on Sunday, January 25. He, too, gave us much food for thought and comforting words to encourage us on our way of life. May the Lord bless these true servants with His grace and nearness.

Three homes have recently been brightened by a new member to the family. Bro. Tim and Sis. Marlene (Schini) Ringger welcomed a baby girl, June Ellen. Grandparents are Bro. Raymond and Sis. Vi Ringger (Bluffton) and Bro. Albert and Sis. Amelia Schini (Remington). Little Jayla Marie was born to Bro. Charles and Sis. Marie Frauhiger. Grandparents are Bro. Frederick and Sis. Naomi Kaehr and Bro. Earl and Sis. Ann Frauhiger. Bro. Ralph and Sis. Lucinda Steffen are happy parents of son, Ronald Dean, born Feb. 1.

Bro. Jacob Kaehr celebrated his 90th birthday on Feb. 2. We are truly thankful that his health continues to permit him to attend church services, for our congregation needs the support of the older members, as well as the young ones.

Several persons have been confined to the hospital, due to illness or surgery. They are Lisa Ann Gerber, daughter of Bro. Robert and Sis. Evelyn Gerber; Steven Frauhiger, son of Bro. William and Sis. Betty Frauhiger; Sis. Anita (Godfrey) Bertsch; and Bro. Lewis Gerber. Bro. Ralph Gerber is recuperating at home, after a serious truck accident in Ohio. May God grant each soul patience and courage day by day.

Word was received of the death of Chris Drayer at a convalescent home at Upper Sandusky, Ohio.

He is survived by his wife, Rosina (Baumgartner) Drayer, and one brother, Bro. Charles Drayer of Bluffton.

Sis. Carol Ringger and Bro. Dennis Klopfenstein of Latty were joined together in marriage by her grandfather, Bro. Sam Aeschliman on Jan. 11. We are thankful that the Lord did lead their hearts together and that His promise to be with them always will follow them. Their parents are Bro. Sib and Sis. Vi Ringger and Bro. Floren and Sis. Mary Ella Klopfenstein. On Jan. 25, Bro. Aeschliman received the vows of Sis. Gayle Aeschliman and Bro. Clint Bucher of La Crosse. Their parents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Ida Aeschliman and Bro. Vernon and Sis. Melva Bucher. We will miss Carol and Gayle as they make their homes in nearby churches, but we pray the Lord will bless these young couples and keep them near Him.

A happy marriage is one in which two persons of one mind, and God as the third in the union, are united in wedlock, where there is mutual understanding, and where one does not live only for himself, but in the unity of faith and spirit, and where the burdens upon this earth are borne together. On such a marriage God has promised His blessing, as it is written in Psalm 128.

ELGIN, ILLINOIS

Louise Steffen Katie Kachelmuss

Faithful was she until death's day;
Now God will wipe her tears away.
What are the sorrows of this time
Against God's glory so sublime.

This was the graveside hymn which we sang when one of our dear sisters, Ruth Metzger, was laid to rest, after a time of suffering which she so patiently endured. She will be missed by all, and especially by her Sunday School Class which she so faithfully served. Her son, Bro. Robert of Lester survives, also a brother and sister, Bro. Clarence Dietrich and Florence (John) Feucht. Bro. Simon Wagenbach of Tremont took part in the services.

Bro. Earl Banwart of West Bend ministered unto us, and stressed the importance always, and especially in these days, of heeding the words of Christ which He left for us, **Watch and Pray.**

Sis. Martha Lanz is able to as-

semble with us again; she is so happy and thankful, and says it is such a wonderful feeling to be back among us.

Sis. Mary (Howard) Kimball, 1222 Indian Dr., Elgin Ill. 60120, fell, while working in her home, and had to be hospitalized with a back injury. Sis. Dorothy (Albert) Schambach and their daughter, Sis. Carol, 500 No. McLean Blvd., Elgin Ill. 60120, were hospitalized and have returned to their home. May God restore to good health, according to His will.

We spent a little time with our aged Sis. Karoline Kuehner, who lives with her daughter and family at 530 S. Liberty Street, who has been bedridden for some time but is now able to sit in a chair for awhile, and is again able to read the Silver Lining, which she always enjoyed so much. She will be 92 years old on May 4, God willing.

A conference of our elders (with the exception of 2 or 3) was held here; all have a deep concern for the welfare of our churches. After much consideration and discussion, all concluded that a firm and united stand would be taken for the preservation of the churches in these deceptive and perilous times. May God give the courage and grace to carry on, so that fruit would come from this meeting for the good of His people, for whom Christ died and arose again victorious from the grave.

Births: A daughter, Lorraine Beth, to Bro. Jerry and Sis. Kay Cargill, Jan. 18. Address, 944 Marlene, Elgin Ill. 60120. A son, Michael Edward, to James and Ruth Kellenberger, Jan. 30. Address, 1080 Birchdale, Elgin Ill. 60120.

The engagement was announced of Sis. Betty Schambach, daughter of Bro. John and Sis. Elizabeth Wuetrich Schambach, to Bro. Carl Bechtold, who is teaching here. We wish them God's blessings in their future life together.

EUREKA, ILLINOIS

**Cathryn Wettstein
Salome Schumacher**

"The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul:
the testimony of the LORD is sure,
making wise the simple."

Saviour like a shepherd lead us;
Much we need Thy tenderest care.
In thy pleasant pastures feed us,
For our use Thy folds prepare.

Our guest ministers were Bro. Eli Somerhalder from Burlington, Okla.; Bro. Ben Fehr, Roanoke.

Our friend, Lee Blunier was proved on the first Wednesday evening of the New Year and baptized the following Sunday by Bro. Leroy Huber. May God ever be near him as he has been thus far. What a good beginning to make in this new year.

Sis. Inez Mogler is a medical patient in Eureka Hospital.

Sis. Mary Bahler, a resident of the "Home", fell and broke her hip. She was taken to a hospital in Lafayette, Ind., where her son lives and is a doctor.

Our annual Business Meeting was held Jan. 14. Bros. Roy Leman and Nelson Martin were voted to be Sunday School teachers. Bro. Ralph Fehr was put in as a new trustee.

As January has just passed, and a very cold one at that, we have to realize that God sends the cold weather just as well as the severe heat in summer. One morning it was 18 below zero. The creatures that have been created by our God must bear such temperatures and shiver. We should all remember to feed the birds and other wild life in such times. Some one reported to me last week that some robins were seen in our vicinity.

FAIRBURY, ILLINOIS

Joyce Huber

Dan Kaeb, son of Bro. and Sis. David Kaeb, has been awarded the Purple Heart for wounds received April 7 in Vietnam. Dan also received the Bronze Star, the Silver Star and the Air Medal for meritorious service while serving as a combat medic with the Airborne Division in Vietnam. He received shrapnel wounds while serving on the front lines during jungle combat, and refused hospitalization at the time, staying on the field aiding other casualties. He later received treatment in the field. He returned from Vietnam and is stationed in New Jersey until his discharge.

Our hearts are deeply saddened by the tragedy of James Steffen, 23, son of Bro. Emanuel and Sis. Lucille Steffen, being killed in a plane crash on Feb. 1. Jim was a 1967 graduate of the Institute of Aviation at the University of Illinois, and was a commercial pilot. He just received his discharge from service Jan. 13, having spent 7½ months in Korea. Jim was flying a

plane that the Steffens had built; it had been approved by Federal Aviation Authority. His father and a friend of theirs witnessed the crash about a mile from them, as they waited for Jim at the Honnegger Farms' air strip, where he had taken off about 20 minutes before. Jim has 2 brothers, both in the service, Bro. Keith at Ft. Sam, and Jerry, who has orders for Vietnam. His grandparents are Bro. and Sis. Andy Steffen and Sis. Marie Schupbach from Cissna Park.

Bro. Walter and Sis. Martha Steffen plan on having their Golden Wedding Anniversary March 7. Sis. Martha is the former Martha Bahler, whose family had 3 weddings in less than 3 months time 50 years ago. Martha's sister, Sis. Lydia married Bro. Henry Kilgus, who celebrated their Golden Anniversary in January, and her late brother, Bro. Emil Bahler married Sis. Ida Steffen in February.

Several have been hospitalized and some have returned home: Ray Huber, son of Bro. and Sis. Reuben Huber, had eye surgery; Bro. Chris Huette; Marlene Moser, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Walter Moser; Shirley Roth, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Earl Roth; Sis. Nancy Steffen; and Sis. Elsie Bachtold, a surgical patient.

The following is a writing of a Christian while in the hospital, recalling his own conversion:

Two and one-half years ago
From this December day
Jesus gave me one more chance
To walk the narrow way.

He had called me many times
But I rejected Him;
Now He called me one time more,
Withdraw yourself from sin.

Wondering how much time I had
Before this chance would pass,
Jesus quickly advised me,
This privilege is the last.

Excitement of my future
Turned quickly into fear;
The joys of a Christian life
Were becoming more clear.

I thought of joy, love, and peace
With God and mankind, too,
Compared to strife and envy;
I knew what I should do.

Grace to overcome my sin,
For that is what I prayed,

Grace that I might tell my Mom
The decision I had made.

At that moment grace came in
And flooded o'er my soul,
Grace to save me from my sin
Enough to make me whole.

I ran and told my mother
And told my father, too.
We rejoiced with each other
As heaven's angels do.

God granted me forgiveness
When I confessed my sins;
Then my heart, all purified,
He poured the Spirit in.

The Holy Ghost dwells in me,
That I need never fear;
When I listen to this Spirit,
Satan can't come near.

I now live a life in Christ,
Risen in Him anew;
I'm working in the vineyard
'Til His coming I shall view.
—By Bro. John Kaeb

Sis. Carrie Roth submitted an appreciation note: "Thanks to all relatives and friends for prayers, gifts, cards and flowers rendered me while in hospital and since returning home. May God bless and reward everyone for their kind deeds."

LA CROSSE, INDIANA Mrs. Lucille Heiniger

Sis. Ida (Wittmer) Yergler, wife of our loved Elder Bro. George Yergler, passed away January 6, after an illness of about one year. Services were conducted by Bros. Wendell Gudeman and Theo. Beer. She leaves to mourn her loss, besides Bro. George, two sons, Willard and Ralph; two brothers, John of Eureka and Edward of La Crosse. The Bros. Wendell and Theo. reminded us that she gave her life to the Lord when she was young. It is on occasions as these, when a loved one is laid to rest, that it should remind us that whether old or young that we be ready to meet our God on Judgment Day. Have we made the preparations for our salvation, and lived so that we may inherit eternal life when the grim reaper comes to claim us? Why wait to live for God until sickness or death-beds come, when we could enjoy living for Him while we are well and strong?

A number from here attended

the wedding of Bro. Clint Bucher from here and Sis. Gail Aschleman, at Bluffton January 25.

A girl, Janelle Marie was born Jan. 25 to Bro. Elvin and Sis. Janet Nuest. She has three brothers and two sisters to welcome her home.

Our friend, Alice Heinold has gone to Florida, to spend the rest of the winter months at her home there.

Kenneth Pfeifer, son of Bro. Ernest and Sis. Emma, recently graduated from Purdue University. He has accepted a position with a firm at Huntington, Pa., where he will be doing research and development work. We wish him success as he begins his new work.

Visiting ministers were Bros. Wendell Gudeman and Henry Beer.

LATTY, OHIO

Dolores Grant — Iva Stodler

We wish to extend our heartfelt sympathy to Sis. Dora Sinn. Her son, Roy Sinn, passed from this life after an extensive illness.

Sis. Dolly Laukhuf spent several days in the hospital for tests.

On Jan. 11, Bro. Dennis Klopfenstein, son of Bro. Floren and Sis. Mary Ella, and Sis. Carol Ringger, daughter of Bro. Sylvan and Sis. Violet, were united in holy matrimony at the Bluffton church. May theirs be a threefold cord, bound together with Christ.

Sat., Jan. 17, those privileged to be present heard the wonderful testimonies of three of our converts. They were Gary Grant, son of Bro. Tom and Sis. Delores; Larry Wenninger, son of Bro. Don and Sis. Josephine; and Connie Stoller, daughter of Bro. Glen and Sis. Edith. On Sunday they were added to our fold. Here are some of their remarks: "I just love everyone now"—"I've never been this happy before in my life"—"There just isn't enough 'Sundays' in a week!"—"I really have a much happier life and more than ever look forward to going to church now."—"I wish everyone could experience it." Those remarks are true for us all. How we wish all who are outside the fold could experience this love, joy and peace, this "first love" that we cherish so much and seek to hold fast to.

We had one birth. A little girl was born to Bro. Ron and Sis. Diane Gerber. She has been named Jamie Elaine, and is welcomed home by Laura Ann. Grandparents are Bro.

Clem and Sis. Elizabeth Weiland and Dick and Ruth Gerber.

We were fortunate. We have had several accidents which could have been much more serious. Paul Grant received a number of stitches on his face, when hit by a chain saw he was using. Sis. Lillian Stoller and her daughter, Sis. Janice Laukhuf (Bill) were involved in a car accident, in which they escaped serious injuries.

Sis. Velta Laukhuf is improving at home, after heart surgery. Following is her note of thanks.

Words cannot express my gratitude for the many prayers, cards and gifts received during my stay in the Cleveland Hospital. Thank you, and may God bless you all. Sis. Velta Laukhuf.

MORTON, ILLINOIS

Mrs. John Oberlander
Mrs. Ken Getz

Sis. Emma Rassi Glaser celebrated her 88th birthday. We wish her God's blessings.

Our visiting ministers for the month of January were Bros. Ben Maibach and Roy Sauder. We thank God for their timely messages.

Announcement has been made of the forthcoming marriage of Sis. Janet Stetzler, daughter of Arthur and Sis. Addie Stoecker Stetzler, and Bro. Mark Gutwein, son of Bro. James and Sis. Marian Gutwein. We wish them God's blessings in the future.

Bro. George and Sis. Kate Welk Belsley celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. They wish to thank everyone who remembered them with many cards and gifts.

Births: Ronald and Sis. June Mowery Slagel are the parents of a boy, John Albert. He has one brother and one sister at home. Bro. Ted and Sis. Mary Sauder Staker welcomed their second daughter, Janice Elizabeth. Bro. Maurice and Sis. Marjorie Huetta Schaefer were blessed with their first child, Janet Lynn. Roger and Marjorie Trimble Ackerman have a new baby boy, Mathew.

Bro. Jim Heiniger left for a tour of duty in Germany. His wife, Sis. Kathy Zimmerman Heiniger, plans to join him in the near future. Prayers of all their loved ones go with them.

Sis. Verna Pfister Getz passed away at her home Jan. 20, after an extended illness. She is survived by her husband, Bro. Chris; two daughters, Mrs. Richard (Ruth)

Rapp of California and Mrs. Robert (Judie) Bergquist of Wisconsin; five sisters, Mrs. George (Fannie) Sauder, Mrs. Ed (Esther) Getz, Mrs. George (Katheryn) Schroeder, Mrs. Warren (Martha) Brown, and Anna Hernfelt; three brothers, William, Raymond, and Gilbert Pfister.

Those convalescing are: Debbie Koehl, daughter of Bro. Eric and Sis. Mildred Domnick Koehl; Mrs. Robert (Janet) Rassi; Sisters Rose Getz, Esther Gingrich, Verna Bauman, Hazel Ferguson, Marie Schick; and Bro. Joe E. Hauter.

The congregation voted for the following brothers to hold church offices: Trustee, Louis Belsley; Ushers, Roy Getz and Frank Stephens; Cemetery trustee, Carl Huber; World Relief Committee, Jack Krantz.

PRINCEVILLE, ILLINOIS

Ruth Ricketts

We have experienced real winter weather the past few weeks, with quite a lot of snow and at times severe cold weather. Several mornings we experienced sub zero weather. It has now moderated and much of the snow has melted, showing grass that has a tint of green in it. It has been a beautiful winter, but we are thankful for the warmer weather.

It is always a pleasure to go to church on Sunday and wonder who our visitors will be. We have been richly blessed with visitors and are glad for each one. One Sunday, Bros. Edwin Ringger and Elmer Witzig of Gridley were our guest ministers. We are thankful for them and those who accompanied them. Again we were richly blessed with the wholesome teachings we heard. Let us trust in the Lord at all times, don't rely upon our own decisions, but wait on the Lord. Even if the Lord answers no, it is best for us. We can be truly happy if we can accept this and be a good example, so those about us may see only good in us. We should stay close to the Lord and abide by His teachings.

Bro. Harvey Grimm of Bern came "home" again recently. He was doubly appreciated, as Bro. Arthur was alone that day. Again such simple, instructive teachings were sent forth from His humble servant. We look into a mirror to see that our personal being is in order; so should we often look into God's mirror, the word, to see if

our spiritual body is in proper order. We should be willing each day to carry our cross and not envy another or feel his cross is not as heavy as ours. There is the story of a man who complained that his cross was too heavy for him, so went to the place where crosses were made. He tried on a number of crosses and found something wrong with each one, until he tried on his own, and that fit his body properly. God has promised to help each one carry his cross, and will not lay more on than he can bear. We need only place all our trust in Him.

We are always glad to see our dear ones visit who have moved away. One Sunday, Sis. Carrie Gehrig of Peoria was there. She must get about in a wheel chair, but I believe she enjoyed meeting her loved ones. Sis. Frieda Streitmatter, who is making her home at the Eureka Home, was back home today for a visit. How good it is to have them with us. May the dear Lord bless all our visitors, who are most welcome.

We were glad to have Bro. Dave Kieser back with us, the first time at our mid-week annual business meeting. Dave recovered nicely from surgery and is at present recuperating in Florida.

Sis. Donna Martin, who had major surgery, is back with us too, and we are glad she made such nice progress.

Little Katrina Streitmatter, daughter of Bro. Jeff and Sis. Ruth, spent several days in the hospital for observation. We are glad nothing serious was found and she is able to be with us again.

A little girl, Sherri Lynn, has come to share the home of John and Judy Girard and little Steven. She was born on Jan. 12. Her maternal grandparents are Bro. Phillip and Sis. Mary Musselmann.

Sis. Mary Scholl received word of the birth of a grandson, Troy William, Jan. 17, born to Wayne and Linda Scholl, who live near Elgin, Illinois. He is their first child.

The snow fell gently, making a beautiful winter wonderful, while inside a fire crackled in a fireplace where Sharon Smith and Michael Menold exchanged their sacred vows of Holy Matrimony at the Apostolic Christian Fellowship Hall near Peoria. Bro. Silas Leuthold married his grandson, Michael, son of Bro. Leonard and Sis. Marie, and

Sharon Smith, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Smith of Peoria.

The engagement of Nancy Trickle and Fred Menold has been made known. Fred is the son of Bro. Leonard and Sis. Marie. May they ever find a place for the Lord in their hearts and home.

Howard Rumbold, son of Bro. Roy and Sis. Pearl, has been home on furlough from Texas, and is now to be stationed at Honolulu, Hawaii. May the Lord be with him in this far away land.

My Guide

I know not the way I am going,
But well do I know my Guide!
With a childlike faith do I give my hand

To the mighty Friend by my side.
And the only thing that I say to Him

As He takes it is, Hold it fast,
Suffer me not to lose the way,
And lead me home at last.

ROANOKE, ILLINOIS

Norene Herbst — Mary Hoffman

Bro. Wilmer and Sis. Clara Fischer are the parents of a son, born Jan. 6. He has been named Roger Alan.

Bro. Marvin and Sis. Faith Fischer are also the parents of a son, Marvin Lee II, born Jan. 21. Faith underwent surgery several days later and is reported as getting along well.

Sis. Anna (John) Mangold has been hospitalized several weeks and has undergone surgery. She is improving, and is expected to be dismissed from the hospital soon.

Sis. Minnie Leman, widow of the late Bro. Joe F. Leman, suffered a broken bone in her hand from a fall at her home.

Wanda Pfister, wife of Friend Harvey Pfister, has been seriously ill at the St. Francis hospital the past few weeks. She is now out of intensive care and somewhat improved.

Bro. Ervin Kempf was hospitalized a few days, due to a broken ankle.

Sis. Ann (Jerry) Sauder has undergone surgery and is improving.

Sis. Mollie Beer, who has been confined to her home for several years, passed her 84th birthday January 24. Mollie is handicapped with the loss of her eyesight.

Our annual business meeting was held Jan. 14, at which time Bro. Joe D. Leman was chosen as trea-

surer and Bro. Warren Hodel as trustee.

Bros. Roy Sauder and Ed Hohulin visited our congregation January 25, at which time they ordained Bro. Joe Zimmerman as deacon. We ask the Lord's blessings and help in his labors, and thank Bros. Ed and Roy for their assistance.

LAMONT, KANSAS

Mrs. Stephen G. Schrader

As I'm writing this we are experiencing a cold arctic blast of air and a temperature of a few degrees above zero. The icy grip of winter is very evident, after a few days of mild weather.

The time of departure came rather suddenly for our Bro. Joe Fechter, who passed away Jan. 23 after a comparatively short illness. Our heartfelt sympathy goes to his two sisters, Sis. Leah and Sis. Dena, who were his companions in the home. We know that it is a comfort for them to know that he is safe in the arms of Jesus. Elder Bro. Samuel Anliker meditated upon II Tim. 4, in which the Apostle Paul writes, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing." Great is the reward of those who truly love and serve the Lord and who live in anticipation of His second coming!

I'm sure the following verses from the Zion's Harp Hymn No. 205 express Bro. Joe's wish during his earthly sojourn and found fulfillment upon his demise.

Lord, throughout my pilgrim journey
Let me find Thee by my side,
And when evening shades are falling

Do Thou still with me abide . . .
And in holy benediction
Lay on me Thy hand of love,
Saying: Son, thy course is finished,
But through faith thou'lt live above!

Stay Thou near me when the shadows
Of chill death are drawing nigh,
Like the frosty breath of morning
Ere the dawn in rosy sky.
When the darkness falls around me
Then illuminate my soul.
When illuminate my soul.

As a traveller home returning,
May I reach my heavenly goal.

Our friend, George Emch, son of Martin and Mary Jane Emch, has returned to civilian life. He wishes to express his thanks to those who penned to him words of encouragement when he was stationed in Viet Nam. He and his wife Janet are living in Emporia.

RITTMAN, OHIO

Janette Blough—Florence Hartzler

We were privileged to hear the word of God preached to us by visiting ministers, Bro. Fred Knapp of Congerville and Bro. Walter Anliker of Eureka.

Funeral services for Edward Mathys were held Jan. 16. He is survived by his wife, Sis. Barbara; four daughters, Mrs. Edna Cain, Mrs. Mae Zimmerman, Mrs. Betty Briggs, and Blanche; seven sons, Robert, Philip, John, Arthur, James, Fred, and Russell. The family wishes to thank all for their deeds of kindness and love shown to them during the illness and death of their husband and father.

Our hospitalized include Ronnie Winkler, Bro. Dwaine Indermuhle, Bro. Pete Baltic, and Sis. Elda Gasser. May God ease the suffering of those who are ill, and return them again to good health if it is His will.

We have two births to report. Jennifer Lynn was born to Ben and Sandy Hartzler. She is their first child. Ned and Sis. Gail Spangler have a new boy, Eric William. Eric is welcomed home by a sister, Lisa.

We are happy that Mark Steiner, son of Bro. Alvin and Sis. Eldora, has returned from his tour of army duty in Viet Nam.

WEST BEND, IOWA

Anna Schmidt — Mrs. A. Banwart

Many were the blessings bestowed on us all through the visits of Ministering Bros. Albert Wuthrich of Pulaski and Art Gudeman of La Crosse. We wish to thank them for their efforts and are also grateful that the weather has allowed us to assemble whenever we have planned thus far this winter.

Bro. Arnold Ludwig is home again and recovering satisfactorily from his surgery. Connie and Pam Banwart, daughters of Dean and Lilas Banwart, are recovering from tonsillectomies. It was good to hear Sarah Jean, daughter of Bro. and

Sis. Duane and Elizabeth Metzger, had a satisfactory report from her check-up at Iowa City. Their infant son, Brent is improved since his surgery, too.

We have a new set of parents in our congregation. Bro. and Sis. Marvin and Charlotte Fehr have been blessed with a baby girl named Susan Kaye.

Time passes so swiftly. This can be verified by two couples from our congregation who last month observed special wedding anniversaries. Nathan and Sis. Esther (Kropf) Banwart have now been married fifty years. Their children entertained at an open house for them. Likewise, the children of Bro. and Sis. Alfred and Mary (Gerber) Fehr held an open house for them, as they enjoyed their sixtieth wedding anniversary. Reasonable health was enjoyed by both couples, and it gives us courage to press forward with more sincerity, when we can observe how the Lord has blessed and led them so faithfully these many years.

Both couples would like to thank everyone for remembering them and making it a memorable experience. May the Lord bless you all for your kindnesses. Sis. Lillian Fehr of the Clearview Manor would like to say a word of thanks to everyone furnishing her transportation, so she is able to assemble with those of like mind in the House of the Lord. May we all appreciate this privilege while we can enjoy it.

The engagement of Sis. Charlen, daughter of Bro. and Sis. John and Ruth Schrock, of Oakville to Bro. Wayne, son of Bro. and Sis. Albert and Betty Banwart, has been announced. May the Lord bless this important undertaking.

SABETHA, KANSAS

Mrs. Joe Steiner

Sis. Mary Bahr and Bro. Stephen Aberle were united in marriage on Jan. 18 by Bro. Eugene Marti. We wish them God's grace, and our best wishes, as they establish their home here in Sabetha.

Sis. Ida Heiniger Stoldt passed away at the Sabetha Community Hospital on Jan. 25, at the age of 80 years and nine days. She is survived by one son, Ival, and his wife, Maxine; a sister, Mrs. Lena Zubler of Sabetha. Services were held Jan. 28 by Bro. Carl Hartman and Bro. Alpha Strahm Jr. Burial was in the Sabetha Cemetery.

The engagement was made known of Sis. Arlinda Strahm and Bro. Morris Rokey of Bern. Arlinda is the daughter of Bro. Walter and Sis. Mildred Strahm. Morris is the son of Bro. Joe and Sis. Lila Rokey. We wish them much happiness in their future together.

Those hospitalized this past month were Sis. Barbara Edelman and Carroll Plattner.

Our annual business meeting was held Feb. 1, to select a new trustee. Bro. John Plattner was selected. Bro. Ben Aberle was re-elected on the operating committee for the Fellowship Center, to serve three years.

FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA

Howard and Joyce Baumgartner
God take you up another rung
To reach a star today,
A star of love, of faith and peace,
To light you on your way.

Another year has begun, as Bro. Harry Sutter mentioned in his sermon; a wonderful resolution would be for each of us to read the Bible daily. I am sure several of us have taken this to heart and benefit greatly thereby. We want to commend our Bro. D. Klopfenstein, in the ministry only a short while, for giving himself to the Lord and proclaiming the gospel in sincere humility. May God be with him and Sis. Billy, whom we know is by his side in every trial.

The time of year is here to extend a hearty welcome to all our winter visitors. Some are here only a short while and others for the season. We are always thankful for every brother, sister, or friend who comes to worship with us. We hope their stay is enjoyable and rewarding. We know in this Southland of ours, one is truly reminded of God's creation, as we see the waving palms, hear the mighty ocean, and feel the gentle breeze.

On Sunday Jan. 18, Bro. and Sis. Bob Grimm from Goodfield, were with us. Bob left us very inspired, as the message he shared unto us penetrated deeply into every heart. We wish them abundance of God's grace.

We have been reminded of the uncertainty of life, as Bro. Jake Ebach was taken out of this world so suddenly. He worshipped with us on Sunday, and Monday morning was succumbed by death. We have a special prayer in our hearts for his dear wife and beloved fam-

ily. May God be their refuge. Services were held at Fairbury.

Bro. and Sis. Al Schneider from Rockville spent Sunday Jan. 25 in our midst. Al is a diligent laborer for the Lord. Our hearts were uplifted and enlightened. We always enjoy their visits and ask God to reward them richly.

INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

Mrs. Craig Gutwein

Our snow is just about gone, for awhile anyway. The green grass is showing again. We have seen a few birds in our yards but no robins; spring will be here before we know it.

On Jan. 11, church was not started till late. A tape was played.

There were only a few who gathered on the 18th of January, but the Lord brought many blessings. A tape was also played this Sunday.

Bro. Carl Kipfer and Bro. Wendell Gerber from Bluffton worshipped with us on the 25th. Bro. Joe Gray and his family from the Francesville congregation joined us for worship also. We thank Bro. Joe for his closing prayer.

John H. Mayer II and Deborah Ann Stafford were joined together as man and wife on Feb. 1. Debby is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William C. Strafford, and John the son of Bro. John and Sis. Edith Mayer. We wish them God's blessings as they start on the journey of life together.

Bro. Henry Beer and a few others from Milford joined us for worship on Feb. 1. It was such a bright and sun-shining day, filled with many blessings. Bro. Howard and Sis. Louise Getz and their family came for a visit. It was nice having them back worshipping with us.

We also are glad to welcome back Eleanor Stieglitz. We have missed this dear sister; she has been teaching at Ft. Wayne for one semester. The second semester, she will be attending Indiana University.

LEO, INDIANA

Mrs. Elias Souder

Announcement was made of the coming wedding of Christine Leman, daughter of Irvin and Leona Leman of Morton and Lynn Klopfenstein, son of Lloyd and Pearl Klopfenstein of this congregation.

We had our church business meeting.

Henry and Alice Beer of Milford

visited on Sat. afternoon and evening at the Fellowship Center, displaying his books etc. Sunday, he held our services, which all appreciated.

Edward Souder tore some muscles around his knee. He is improved and able to be around again.

John Getz, my brother, is ill with an heart ailment at the Lutheran Hospital in Ft. Wayne.

It was nice to have Bro. Norman Stoller of Ft. Wayne help us with our visit to the rest homes in Butler.

The whereabouts of some of our young people is like this: Lillian Winzler is at Wheaton College; Sandra Bertsch is a technician at the Park View Hospital. Cynthia Bertsch is continuing her training in nursing; Imogene Steiglitz is also training for nursing. Steve and Caroline Bollier are continuing their education at Indiana University, (Ft. Wayne campus) as Mark Souder also is. Joyce Schlatter is teaching in East Allen County schools and working on her Master's degree. Terrill Stoller is continuing his education at Ind. Univ. (Ft. Wayne); John Klopfenstein and Jimmy Winzler are in service of our country. Bill Hartman is in service in Colorado. James Maxfield is at Purdue (Ft. Wayne).

The ring of the telephone . . . it was for Lydia, Sis. Souder, the reporter. Sometimes it's about business, sometimes a personal chat, sometimes a message. This proved to be Aunt Annie. Years ago, Lydia's father, Bro. Ed and his family were the only family of our brotherhood near Bremen. It was a glad time when Uncle Will and Aunt Annie Leman came from Fairbury, and Grandpa (Bro. John), and Grandma Gerber.

The horse and wagon was the moving van of those days. Now, the voice was Annie's. Bro. Will is a shut-in, still a pioneer. There is a church now, beautiful in faith, and voices are raised heavenward to a mighty God. The sweet spirits of Uncle Will and Aunt Annie are an influence and an aid we should not think lightly of . . . for in those deeper things of God, where prayer and faith trod, they yet go their pathway towards the city of home.

ALTO, MICHIGAN

Loretta Steffen

Sis. Sharon Wingeier has left us for a time to go to college in Illi-

nois. We wish her much grace and courage to stand true to Christ during the days ahead.

A reception was held for Bro. Ernie and Sis. Mary Weigele, who were married in Oklahoma.

We enjoyed our guests during the month; Feb. 1, Bro. Homer Reineck was our visiting minister. We are thankful to the Lord for the teachings he brought through the Holy Bible. One thing that deeply impressed me was the thought that the Lord would much rather that we be obedient and walk in the center of the narrow path, doing His work, than on the side lines where He must constantly be pulling us back on the right path, thus wasting precious time and talents which the Lord has allotted us.

With Easter so near, we again want to turn our thoughts to the cross of Calvary. Thru Christ's suffering we have obtained a glorious gift—Hope of eternal life!

ALTADENA, CALIFORNIA

Freda and Rhoda Minger

"Give me, Lord, sympathy and mercy with my poor brethren in distress..."

Sis. Christine Pierson was hospitalized for 10 days to undergo tests. She is now home, but very weak and unable to attend church. In visiting her, she related to me how she often lay in her hospital bed, unable to find sleep. In the early hours prior to the breaking of dawn, she viewed through her window the far-reaching structure of the huge Hollywood Presbyterian Hospital. These grey lifeless walls with their numerous darkened windows made her thoughts turn to the many people who must spend their remaining years confined to prison cells. Even though ill, she said the above words from the hymn "Boundless Mercy" came to mind.

We can all benefit from her experience, if we would pause for a moment from our cares and concerns and consider that which is ours, because of God's extreme love and mercy extended towards us... For if it were not for the love of God, we too might be a captive of a prison cell.

Robert and Sis. Judy Crockett are the parents of a son, Edward Allan David, born Jan. 26. Judy is the daughter of Bro. Clarence and Sis. Mabelle Graf and has only recently been added to the Body of

Christ. As we watch our little ones grow, might we in like manner grow in spirit.

Sunday, Feb. 1, Bro. Carl Kinsinger shared with us the memorandum, after which a dinner was served at the church. We are so thankful for the many guests from our Eastern churches who shared the day with us. Many of these guests, as well as others, have spent some time with us during the winter months, to share with us the beautiful sunny weather we have been having. This too is a gift from God!

BURLINGTON, OKLAHOMA

Millicent Frieden — Laverne Roth

Bro. Ben Maibach of Detroit was our guest minister. We thank him for the words of wisdom; we wish we could retain all the good advice.

Sis. Mary Guthrie and Bro. Ernest Wiegele, both of Detroit, were united in holy matrimony by Bro. Ben Maibach on Sun., Jan. 11. Mary is the daughter of Bro. and Sis. Richard Guthrie of our congregation. Ernest's parents, Bro. and Sis. Chris Wiegele of Alto, and other relatives of the couple attended. The new couple is living in Detroit, where both are employed.

On Sun., Jan. 25, Gay Webs and Tom Farney were united in marriage. Tom is the son of Bro. and Sis. Huber Farney. The new couple is living in Hays, Kansas, where both are attending the university.

We wish both newly-married couples God's richest blessings for a long and happy married life.

Bro. Sam Schrock has been a hospital patient and is now recuperating at home.

Our monthly hymn singing was held in the home of Bro. and Sis. Richard Guthrie.

CISSNA PARK, ILLINOIS

Mary Young — Margaret Rudin

The death angel came to take home our Sis. Dora Walder, age 74, who passed away very unexpectedly at her home Jan. 28. Survivors include: sons, Bros. Harry, Ervin, Melvin, Lester, Donald, Dale, Charles, and Robert; two daughters, Sisters Lillian Maibach, and Deloris—who was at home with her mother; one brother, Bro. Joe Hari; three sisters, Lillian Foell, Martha Lohbauer, and Gladys Winger. Funeral services were held Jan. 31. Bros. Joshua Broquard and Leroy Huber officiating. We shall miss Dora in our midst, as she was

ever ready to lend a helping hand. May God comfort the bereaved family.

Funeral services were held Jan. 17 for Bro. John Farney, who died after a long illness. Surviving are three brothers, Charley of Roanoke, William of here, Sam of Eureka; three sisters, Sis's. Minnie Farney, Sophie Funk, and Mary Young. The family wishes to express their thanks for all deeds of kindness extended to them in the time of illness and departure.

Our dear friend, Mary (Scharlach) Anderson has repented and has found peace. She hopes to bring her testimony before the congregation soon.

Sis. Laura Bauer has been hospitalized, having had major surgery. Our sick: Sis. Helen Lackey was a hospital patient for treatments and medication. Our dear friend, Arthur Laubscher had major surgery. We are thankful they are all home and coming along nicely. Sis. Anna Hari is in the hospital. Our prayers go out to the sick for a speedy recovery; may the Divine Healer soothe the pains.

A son, Dale David was born to Bro. John and Sis. Carol Waldbeser Jan. 29. He has a sister and a brother to welcome him.

We welcome Bro. Larry and Sis. Jean Kaufman and baby daughter, who have moved into our midst.

Sis. Leah Aeschliman wishes to express her thanks for the prayers, get-well cards, visits and love shown to her during her stay in the hospital and since she is home.

We had a very pleasant weekend when Bro. Merle Laukhuf and his company payed us a visit. We thank them and hope they will come again soon.

After midweek service we had our Annual Meeting. May God help each in their duties that we can be faithful stewards.

Thanks to the Cissna Park readers for the response in paying for The Silver Lining.

CROGHAN-NAUMBURG

Carol Virkler

Mrs. David Schamback

Our friend, Lawrence Purvines, returned home from service in the Army, spending much of his time in Korea.

We have enjoyed visitors from Rittman, Akron and Rockville who have shared with us our beautiful winter weather. A very wonderful

fellowship was enjoyed as we sang hymns of praise together.

Little Tim Virkler, son of Bro. Ted and Sis. Mae, was hospitalized for a short time. Terri Steiner, daughter of Bro. Norbert and Sis. Doris, has returned home and is getting around quite well on crutches. Sis. Lucy Hany, Bro. Theodore Rohr and Sis. Mary Jane Hirschey have returned home, feeling much better.

Hospitalized are Bro. John Hany, Andrew Virkler and Sis. Elva Schulz. Benjamin Herzig, son of Ted and Gert Herzig, is slowly recovering from an appendectomy.

John Ulrich has not been feeling well this winter and not been able to assemble with us much.

We extend our sympathy to our dear friends, Duane and Karen Farney in the loss of their infant son, Scott Michael. We know that in time God can heal all wounds, and trust that He will always provide.

CONGERVILLE, ILLINOIS

Pauline Roth — Phyllis Knapp

We, like many other areas in our nation, have experienced some real winter weather during January. We will all be glad to have spring arrive, after a number of days of sub zero cold, much snow and some blizzard days. In spite of disagreeable weather, we have so much for which to be thankful, when we have sufficient warm clothing, enough food and warm homes. There are so many in the world who do not have even the necessities of life, which all too often we take for granted.

We have had two weddings in our congregation. On Jan. 11, Sis. Bonnie Grusy became the bride of Bro. Steve Gerst. Our visiting ministers for the day were Bros. Josh Broquard and Harvey Heiniger of Oakville. Our friends, Dennis Blunier, son of Tim and Lucille, and Eddie Hartter, daughter of Bro. Richard and Sis. Verna of the Goodfield congregation were united in marriage Feb. 1 by Bro. Ed Hohulin, in the home of the bride's parents. May the Lord bless these two dear couples as they journey through this life together.

Our friend, Barbara Zimmerman, daughter of Mahlan and Katherine, is engaged to be married this summer to Richard Bartels of Elgin. Both Dick and Barb are senior students at Western Illinois University.

Bro. LeRoy Huber spent a blessed Sunday with us and reminded each of us of our duties and responsibilities in our life on earth, if we hope someday to inherit eternal life.

It was so nice to have Sis. Elizabeth Hartter assemble with us last Sunday A.M. We are thankful she is feeling enough better to again come to the house of the Lord. Our friend, Mary Wettstein, is not yet able to be with us on Sundays, but she is home after a rather lengthy hospitalization, recuperating nicely.

The home of Bro. Steve and Sis. Geri Schrock has been blessed with a baby girl, Jennifer Lynn. Jennifer was born Jan. 24, and has one brother, Jeff, and 2 sisters, Joan and Jill. Grandparents are Bro. Alvin and Sis. Irene Schrock and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Scherer of Eureka.

Robert Massa, whose wife is the former Theresa Grieder (daughter of Paul and Fern), was inducted into the air force and is stationed in Texas.

Our sympathy is extended to Bro. Bob and Sis. Gloria Walder in the sudden passing of his mother, Sis. Dora Walder of Cissna. We also extend our sympathy to Elder Bro. George Yergler, in the loss of his wife, Sis. Ida. May the Lord be with him in his hours of loneliness.

DETROIT, MICHIGAN

Judith Aberle — Donna Hartzler

We welcome back to our congregation the newly-married couple, Bro. Ernest and Sis. Mary Weigele. They were united in marriage on Jan. 11 in Burlington, Oklahoma, the church where Mary's parents, Bro. Richard and Sis. Florence Guthrie assemble. We wish Ernie and Mary every rich blessing of God in their future life together.

Our sympathy goes out to the family of Anna Maletich, at the passing of their dear mother. Anna, mother of Helen Ropp, had lived for many years in Detroit, but for the last couple of years she stayed in the Barberton, Ohio area, where several of her children live. Burial was in Detroit.

FORREST, ILLINOIS

Carolyn Zimmerman

Juanita Schneider

Beautiful hands at the gateway tonight,

Faces all shining with radiant light;
Eyes looking down from yon heavenly home,

Beautiful hands they are beckoning
"come."

Beckoning hand of a husband, a wife,
Watching and waiting the loved one of life;
Hands of a brother, a sister, a friend,
Out from the gateway tonight they extend.

These comforting words were spoken for the dear ones who laid to rest their husband and father on Jan 22. Our Bro. Jacob Ebach passed away on his 63rd birthday, while vacationing in Florida. We will miss his fellowship and readiness to help in our congregation. Bro. Ben Fehr, Roanoke held the services. He leaves to mourn: his wife, Sis. Clara; his mother, Sis. Mary, of our church; two daughters, Sis. Jane Martin, Morton; Sis. Marybeth Kupferschmid, Forrest; two sons, Bro. J. C. Forrest and Lyle, Fairbury.

The Bible tells us joy will alternate with sorrow! We have felt this in our midst; the testimonies of four dear souls, Alf and Wanda Kupferschmid, and Elmer and I vonne Lanz were heard, with baptism the following Sunday. Bro. Josh Broquard, Fairbury assisted and Bro. Merle Kaisner, Sis. Wanda's father held services on Sunday. We also commit our friend, Jeanne Ricketts, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Merideth Ricketts to the Lord, as she has confessed peace and has a desire to live for her Lord.

Our beloved elder, Bro. Henry Kilgus and his wife Sis. Lydia observed their 50th Wedding Anniversary this past month. We enjoyed the visit of their families and also the holy words spoken by their son, Bro. Earl, Remington. May God fill their remaining years together with peace and love, with sufficient grace to stay close to Him.

We wish to extend a welcome to Sis. Karen Virkler Honegger of Rockville, who was married to Bro. Roger Honegger. God grant them many happy, faithful years together. The engagement of Sis. Betty Schambach, Elgin, to Bro. Sam Bachtold of this congregation who is teaching in the Chicago area, has been made known. We wish them God's blessings.

Sis. Janice Honegger, daughter of Bro. and Sis. William Honegger,

has been chosen to fill a vacancy in Sunday School; she will be teaching in the first grade. The Lord grant her the needed patience and grace to fill these little hearts with seeds of goodness.

Bro. Duane Schneider received a severe cut on his left hand, while operating a power saw. It has nearly severed the bone under the little finger and cut many nerves. He is back with us, after spending several days at the hospital. Sis. Beverly Eisenmann and Sis. Vi Metz spent a few days at Fairbury Hospital. Sis. Lizzy Geyer and Friend Fred Reiger remain patients. May God's healing hand intervene to comfort the sick.

FORT SAM HOUSTON, TEXAS **Wendell Anliker**

After much looking around and prayerful support from the brethren, we have found a different apartment for the brothers and friends here at Ft Sam. We were fortunate to get a 2-bedroom apartment, unfurnished. We have it almost completely furnished now, and trust the Lord will add His blessings, that we might be able to enjoy the many hours of fellowship together.

New assignments: Bro. Bill and Sis. Sharon Dotterer, Phoenix, Dick Dietz and Howard Rumbold from Princeville were assigned to Tripler Hospital in Hawaii. Bro. John Kaeb, Fairbury will be assigned to Letterman's General Hospital in San Francisco.

We were richly blessed by our visiting ministers, Bro. Edmund Kloter from Fairbury and Bro. Edward Alt from Cissna Park.

The brothers and friends here at Ft. Sam wish the express our heartfelt thanks and appreciation to the Brotherhood for their prayerful and financial support towards providing an apartment for us, that the love and precious fellowship that we have may grow spiritually among us, and may the efforts of the Brotherhood here at Ft. Sam bring forth fruits of repentance unto eternal life.

Our new address is: Apostolic Christian Church Apt., c/o Person's Name, 463 Eleanor, San Antonio, Tex. 78209.

GOODFIELD, ILLINOIS **Elna Grimm**

As we look about, we have so much to see, to love, and to appreciate. This winter has been especial-

ly beautiful in Illinois. Somehow, it has been comparable to living in a "Winter Wonderland". From my window, now, I can see the snow-covered hills and valleys. Sometimes the God-given beauty of our land sends chills up and down my spine. We are truly a blessed people, and should often say, "Thank you, God, I live!"

Jim Hinrichsen, son of Bro. and Sis. Hans and Arlene of R.R. Congerville returned from his service in Germany to spend a couple of weeks at home. He is now stationed at Hunter Air Force Base in Savannah, Ga. where he will spend a month or so. He is, then, scheduled to serve in Viet Nam.

Gary Bauman, son of Bro. and Sis. Elmer and Mildred of R.R. Congerville was married to Sally Hobbs, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Hobbs, also of R. R. Congerville, on Jan. 9.

Glenn Bauman, also son of Bro. and Sis. Elmer and Mildred, entered the service on Jan. 15. He is now stationed at Ft. Campbell, Ky., where he awaits further instructions. Melvin Hartter, son of Bro. and Sis. Richard and Verna of R.R. Eureka, is home from Germany for 30 days. He will return to Germany at the end of his leave.

Eddis Hartter, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Richard and Verna was married to Dennis Blunier, son of Mr. and Mrs. Tilman Blunier of R.R. Congerville on Sun. Jan. 31.

Bro. Joshua Nohl has returned home, after quite a lengthy stay at Eureka Hospital. He is reported to be doing very well since he is at home.

Bro. Eli Somerhalder spent a Wed. evening with our congregation. We thank him for his message.

We are happy to announce the engagement of our daughter, Sis. Teresa (Terry) Grimm to Bro. Bill Hart of our congregation. Bro. Bill lives in Eureka, and is the son of Mr. Chas. Hart of Eureka.

GRIDLEY, KANSAS **Mrs. Rudy Bahr** **Mrs. Eldon Metzger**

Several weeks ago we had rain, then ice, and then snow. Rudy slipped on a patch of ice on the wagon, while feeding cattle, and off he went landing on the frozen bumpy ground. He was fortunate not to have broken anything but was mighty sore. I helped chore a couple of mornings in the near zero

weather . . . the cattle all huddled together, snow on their backs, not even wanting to eat much if the wind is making stinging missiles of snow; the pigs "hogpiled" to keep warm, weren't waiting outside as usual to be fed; the metal gates were coated with ice, and gloves don't stay warm and dry very long . . . most of the animals are watered by automatic waterers with the heat automatically, but you're in for a mess if the line freezes up. Normally we don't have zero weather but a few days at a time here, so the lines aren't buried so deeply. The weather changes quickly in Kansas, perhaps because we're kinda midway—we get cold blasts from the north and warm winds from the south. We had some days up to the 60's, and our ground doesn't look pretty white anymore. There is a "happy side" to the cold weather too . . . one enjoys the warm fires of home and enjoys being home . . .

Sis. Lydia Bahr was hospitalized a week in Wichita for medication and is now feeling better, but must remain in Wichita, close to the doctor for awhile. She is at the home of one of her daughters, Mrs. Joe (Lucille) Herr, 2228 S. Crestway, Wichita, Kansas 67218.

Bro. Frank and Sis. Elizabeth Beyer were in California when they had their 50th Wedding Anniversary Jan. 29, so a card shower was held.

We were glad that the weather was co-operative, and Bro. Sam Huber and his family could be with us this past Sunday. Bro. Loren and Sis. Liseten Strahm were in Phoenix.

Christians are presumed to be persons of broad and deep sympathy. But most of us fall far short of the ideal in this matter. How then can we grow in compassion? One way is to identify ourselves with others. Ezekiel found he could minister effectively to the Jewish exiles in Babylon in his day only when he could honestly report, "I sat where they sat". Then he began to understand their mood of despair.

A Persian, who was particularly anxious to rule his people wisely and well, disguised himself and descended into a cellar occupied by a poor furnace tender. He shared the unfortunate man's food and fate. One day the Shah revealed his true identity and the man said,

"You left your palace and your glory to sit with me in this dark place. You became my friend in the midst of my loneliness . . . You have given me yourself."

That is exactly what God did when He gave us Christ. The gift was of Himself! And that is what God expects us to do in response to His gift of love. He wants us to share ourselves with others. Mere charity is not enough; we must have concern for others.

FORT SCOTT, KANSAS

Ida E. Sinn

Bro. Earl Banwart was here on Jan. 11. We heard much about charity. Charity is a virtue we should all strive to possess.

We held our annual election on Jan. 14. Bro. Harold Kraft was re-elected Treasurer, and Bro. James Bahr was again elected trustee. Sunday School teachers elected were: Bro. Don Banwart for the Junior Bible class, Sis. Ruth Bahr for the 3rd and 4th grades, and Sis. Wanda Kraft for the 1st and 2nd grades.

Our Elder Bro. Sam Anliker was with us on Jan. 25. He reviewed the minutes of the last elder meeting with us.

Michael Sinn was a hospital patient.

ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY **Christy Koch**

"God is in every tomorrow,
Therefore I live for today,
Certain of finding at sunrise,
Guidance and strength for the way;

Power for each moment of weakness,

Hope for each moment of pain,
Comfort for every sorrow,
Sunshine and joy after rain."

On Jan. 8, Bro. Joshua Broquard reminded us that we must be willing to lay everything at Jesus' feet. He gave us His all, His most precious Gift, His Son; and in return he wants our whole heart. How thankful we are that one of our students has given her heart to God. Carla Vierling of Morton has found grace unto repentance and now has a Friend and Guide to help her on the pathway of life. We pray that many more souls will turn to the Lord while there is still the day of grace.

In his message on Jan. 29, Bro. Bob Grimm told us that we must

stand up for what is right in the sight of God in our schools, in our community, and in our neighborhoods. He reminded us that even though we are in an age where "anything goes", "a n y t h i n g" doesn't go with God.

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

Mary Jo Metzger

Services were held Jan. 11. Bro. Noah Gerber from West Bend was our minister.

The engagement of two our students has been announced. Sis. Charlen Schrock, daughter of Bro. John and Sis. Ruth of Oakville and Bro. Wayne Banwart, son of Bro. Albert and Sis. Betty of West Bend.

Jim Whipple and Denis Poggmiller were united in marriage, Jan. 30. Jim is the son of Lawrence and Sis. Lorraine Whipple from the Oakville congregation. They are making their home in Ames.

We wish both couples God's richest blessings.

JUNCTION, OHIO

Henrietta Manz — Betty Manz

Bros. Andy Virkler, Bay City; Vernon Schwab, Wolcott; Marvin Stieglitz, Leo; Eugene Fetter, Toledo; and Merrill Laukhuf, Latty, assembled with us.

Our dear Sis. Naomi Rehklau, who reached the age of 82 years, was laid to rest on Jan. 24. Naomi had lived in Toledo for several years, but services were held here in our church, since she had lived in our community for many years. Services were conducted by our Elder Bro. George Sinn, Latty, and Bros. Homer Reineck and Eugene Fetter, Toledo. Our sympathy goes out to her sisters, Sis. Lydia and Sis. Priscilla. They and Sis. Naomi suffered much with bodily ailments.

Judy Manz (Bro. Ben and Sis. Carolyn) had the misfortune of being hit on the head with a bale of hay. She had a concussion but has recovered, after being out of school a week. Sis. Martha Laukhuf has not been able to assemble with us for some time. Margaret Aufrance has not been well and has also not been able to assemble with us for quite some time. May God always bless those who cannot go in and out. We know they spend many lonely hours; let us remember them in our prayers. Let us not neglect to visit the shut-ins.

Jake Manz (Bro. Adam and Sis.

Kate) and Roberta Weller, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Weller, Continental, have announced their engagement. May God be with them as they plan their life together.

We are thankful that the weather has broken some. We have had colder weather than we have had for some time.

God was certainly good to us when he spared the home of Bro. Eli and Sis. Evelyn Manz. The clothes dryer blew up, but the fire was quickly brought under control, with only the dryer ruined. How quickly a home could be completely gone!

In memory of our loved ones who were recently killed, a memorial gift of a serving table was given to our church by the Paulding High School. Mr. Moore, the principal, and representatives from each class and the Student Council were with us one Thursday evening for the presentation. We are thankful they remembered us with such a useful gift of love, and may God bless them for their kindness.

MORRIS, MINNESOTA

Mrs. Herman Schaefer
Mrs. Carl Joos

Bro. Keith Schmidgall, son of Bro. and Sis. Francis Schmidgall, left for service. We pray for the Lord's protection over him.

Mr. and Mrs. David Nohl are the parents of a little girl, born Jan. 28. She has been named Michelle Lynn. She has two sisters at home. Bro. and Sis. Henry Nohl Jr. are the grandparents.

Bro. Floyd Schmidgall has been hospitalized. He underwent surgery on his knee, and is now at home recuperating. Also hospitalized this month were Sis. Chrystol Luthi and Sis. Hazel Moser. We pray they all will soon be able to assemble with us.

Funeral services were held for Bro. Carl Griener, who died suddenly at the age of 92. Officiating were Bro. Albert Scheitlin, Elgin Ill., and Bro. Harold Gramm. He is survived by one daughter and three sons.

Ronda Joos and Mick Asmus were united in marriage on Jan. 31 by Bro. Paul Fehr. Bro. and Sis. Carl Joos are the parents.

PULASKI, IOWA

Mrs. Dave Wiegand

Bros. Noah Schrock and Herman Kellenberger spent the evening of

Jan. 11 with us, reading the memorandum.

On her 94th birthday, Sis. Lydia Wuthrich and her sister, Sis. Minnie Getz who was 84 just a few days earlier, served lunch at church. These sisters still enjoy baking their own cookies and bars when they serve. They enjoy having company and like to go away, too. They will be glad when the weather warms up, so they can work out in their yard again. They are both thankful for the good measure of health with which they have been blessed. May this continue to be their lot.

Bro. Kenneth Scheitlin was elected as trustee.

PURDUE UNIVERSITY

Deb Wuethrich — Veronica Bucher

As God never fails us, He once again inspired one of His servants with encouraging words. Bro. Vernon Schwab of the Wolcott congregation was our host for the mid-week services, Jan. 7. He reminded us of the true faithfulness that we owe our Saviour. We must be careful in our daily walk of life. After all, we may be the only Bible some people read:

Christ has no hands but our hands
To do His work today,
He has no feet but our feet
To lead men in His way.
He has no tongue but our tongues
To tell men how He died,
He has no help but our help
To bring them to His side.

We are the only Bible
The careless world will read,
We are the sinner's Gospel,
We are the scoffer's creed.
We are the Lord's last message
Given in deed and word.
What if the type is crooked?
What if the print is blurred?

What if our hands are busy
With other work than His?
What if our feet are walking
Where sin's allurements is?
What if our tongues are speaking
Of things His lips would spurn?
How can we hope to help Him
And hasten His return?

To hasten our Lord's return,
We truly need much power,
So let us all be Spirit filled,
And awaiting Him each hour.
In an hour that we think not,
He said He should appear,

Then let us walk in holiness,
And meet Him with a cheer.
—A.J.F. and A.O.S.

We certainly want to welcome Sis. Gayle (Aschliman) Bucher to our group here. We wish Clint and Gayle the Lord's blessings in beginning their walk of life together.

UNION CITY, NEW JERSEY

Ed. Aeschleman

Elder Bro. John Bahler and Bro. Corbin Bahler visited Union City with their wives and families on Jan. 18. We were blessed with holy teachings as the word was given us in power, and John then read and elaborated on the memorandum. It was a day of blessing wherein we enjoy good fellowship, instruction, admonition and warnings, all of love and toward the end that we could be holy, acceptable to God when His time was come.

Bro. Ronald Heiniger and his wife, Sis. Kay, from Morton, will be in the Washington D.C. area for several months, while Ron is in training in the Army. We enjoy their visits to Union City and appreciate the effort they make.

Friend Dan Kaeb of Fairbury just returned from Vietnam, is stationed at Fort Dix New Jersey. Dan gathers with us regularly, and we are grateful that God so saw fit to send him to us for a season.

Bro. Ron Koehl of Forrest, who was convalescing at the Valley Forge Army Hospital in Penn. from wounds received in Vietnam, has now been discharged. May God ever be with him.

UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

Mrs. Gary Anliker

We are grateful that Bros. Bert Butikofer, Robert Pohl and Harvey Heiniger were willing to lend themselves in bringing the word to us at our January meeting.

We were reminded that we have no promise of tomorrow. We do not know when the Lord will come to call the end. We do not know when He will call us and we will take our last breath. We do not know when the day of grace will be closed. Let us prepare ourselves while there is yet time.

We thank all the brothers, sisters and friends who put forth the effort to journey to Iowa City to meet with us.

Changing address? Tell your reporter.
Remember to send zip number!

WINTHROP, MINNESOTA

Delores Messerli — Carol Messner

A prayer was offered, and we started our annual meeting. Bro. Roland Messner is the new trustee. Bro. Dennis Messner was elected Sunday School superintendent. The new teachers are Bro. Dick Schmidt and Sis. Delores Messerli. Bro. Gene Schmidt and Sis. Viola Messner are the substitute teachers. The new secretary for Personal Property Aid is Bro. Don Messner. Ministering Bro. Harold Messner offered the final prayer and asked God for the needed grace for those about to undertake these new positions, and also for those who will continue to serve the congregation.

Sue, daughter of Al and Sis. Donnabell Nelson, and Jerry Leuthold, son of Bro. Alvin and Sis. Estelle Leuthold of Lester, were united in marriage Jan. 31. Elder Bro. Leo Moser performed the ceremony. The marriage was held at the home of the bride's grandparents, the Bro. Fred Messners. We pray they will look to the Lord for guidance in their life together.

Rose Helen, baby daughter of Lupie and Kenny Howk, was hospitalized due to the flu.

Sinner—flee to God. Christian—go on with God. Take troubles as they come, with his hand in your hand. He will help us turn every trouble into a stepping-stone to the heights above.

FAITH has been described as:

F—orsaking
A—ll
I—
T—ake
H—im.

MANSFIELD, OHIO

Aaron A. Sauder

As I behold the beautiful white snow that has recently fallen, and realize how it covers all the dirt and grime which had previously been in view, it reminds me of the blood of Christ which was shed on Calvary to take away and erase the sins of all who believe in Him—it makes them as white as the beautiful snow. **Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.**

Elder Bro. Rudy Graf visited our congregation on Sunday, 25, and ministered to us for morning and afternoon services. He also read the memorandum from the conference. We appreciated his visit, as well as his love and concern for our congregation.

We have had a number spend time in the hospital: Little Brant Enderle (son of Larry and Sis. Darlene), Jerry Robers (young son of Bro. Dave and Sis. Shirley), Russell (Corky) Hoffman, Bros. Will Sauder and Henry Sabo, and Sis. Wilma Sauder (Robert). We would commit each one in the Lord's keeping.

LAMAR, MISSOURI Marie Marti

"God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in Him." Love is one of the most beautiful words in our language. Love works in ways that are wonderful; it can transform the simple things into things of beauty, splendor and grace. Love is unselfish, kind, and understanding; it communicates an immense value to our smallest actions. Love cannot be bought; it is priceless, yet free. The greatest of all love is the love of God, which is infinite and great.

Father, take my hand in thine
Let me serve through love divine
If some heart should lose its way
Let me be the one to pray
Like a candle shed the light
Till Thy Presence is in sight.

Then I'd ask dear Father Mine
Bless their lives with joy sublime
If they serve Thee all the way
Come into their hearts and stay
Fill their souls with sacred love
Till they live with Thee above.

Sis. Arlene Marti was hospitalized for medical attention: Linda Braker, daughter of Bro. Leonard and Sis. Bonnie, entered the hospital for tests and observation. Sis. Janice Frieden spent sometime in the hospital in Springfield. We are thankful to God that they were able to assemble with us again last Sunday. Bro. Fred Lanz submitted to surgery at Cox Medical Center in Springfield. He is recovering nicely and has gone to the home of his daughter and family, Reba and Burl Pfander, to continue his convalescence. May they ever feel God's nearness.

OAKVILLE, IOWA Martha K. Steiner

Darrin Lee Wagenbach, born Jan. 23, is a welcome addition to the family of Bro. Gerald and Sis. Bonnie Wagenbach. He has two sisters and three brothers: Debbie, Jerry, Tammy, Jeffrey, and Donald.

Paternal grandparents are Bro. John and Sis. Bertha Wagenbach.

A number of members from our congregation, including Ministering Brother Harvey Heiniger, attended the wedding of Bro. Steve Gerst from the Oakville congregation and Sis. Bonnie Grusy from Congerville, on Jan. 11.

Friend Joyce Frank, daughter of Bro. Robert and Sis. Clara Frank, and Bradley Eland from this area were united in marriage on Jan. 25 by Bro. Harvey Heiniger. Denise Pogemiller from Wapello and James Whipple, son of Friend Lawrence and Sis. Lorraine Whipple, were married Jan. 30; both attend college in Ames.

We wish all three new couples God's protection and guidance in their new walk of life together.

Bro. Noah Schrock announced the engagement of his eldest granddaughter, Sis. Charlen Schrock, to Bro. Wayne Banwart of West Bend. Their parents are Bro. John and Sis. Ruth (Marti) Schrock and Bro. Albert and Sis. Betty (Zaugg) Banwart. Both are nearing completion of their schooling in Ames. We wish them God's richest blessings, too.

We enjoyed the visits of ministering Bros. Charles Hemmer (Peoria) and Duane Metzger (West Bend).

The families of Bro. Ernest Gerber, who only recently lost a dear wife and mother, requested that this column offer thanks to all, for their kindness, cards and messages of sympathy. They had celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary in the month of October last.

LESTER, IOWA Emelie M. Knobloch

Three engagements were made known: Jean Knobloch, daughter of Sis. Iola Knobloch, and Gary Heyer, son of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Heyer of Larchwood, Ia.; Susette Kay Nelson and Jerry Leuthold, son of Bro. and Sis. Alvin Leuthold; Linda Harison, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Hanson of Sioux Falls, S. Dakota, and Charles Metzger, son of Bro. and Sis. Emil Metzger.

Sis. Ruth Metzger of Elgin, Ill., and who lived here until the passing of her husband, Paul Metzger, 1948, passed away at an Elgin hospital Jan. 19; funeral was held there Jan. 22.

Sis. Mary Knobloch was hospitalized and is now home, but has

been unable to attend services for several weeks. Sis. Emma Leuthold has not been too well. Kathy Knobloch has been to Rochester for dental surgery.

January has been very cold, 20 degrees and 30 degrees below zero, until the last week we had several days of thawing weather. We do not have as much snow as we had last year at this time. Our ground is covered with snow.

David Moser returned from Vietnam, completing his tour of duty.

Bro. and Sis. Art Gudeman were with us Jan. 25. Art expounded on Matthew 11. We can believe we have loved ones who have done as were read, "He that hath ears to hear, let him hear" and in the last three verses "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." He gave us warnings, the things which are to come to pass before the end of time are fast fulfilling themselves. He spoke to the Bible Class of their loss in the past year. Bro. Arthur reminded to come to Jesus and be sorry for sins, and by a true faith can we make our peace with God. . . . We have loved ones who have heeded God's calling, as friends Larry and Cheryl Knobloch and George and Charolyn Meyer have turned in repentance. We want to thank Arthur and his wife for spending the week end with us. We wish the converts God's blessings in their undertaking. May we use our older brethren and sisters as examples, which Arthur reminded us.

Sis. Connie Knobloch returned to La Crosse with them, after spending a couple months with her folks.

"We wish to thank everyone who helped our daughter, Clara Marie of Princeville at the time of her car accident and during her convalescing . . . also thanks to all who remembered her with prayers, cards, gifts and visits at the hospital and at home. May God bless you all. Bro. and Sis. Ed Gerber.

Our heartfelt thanks to all members and friends, from near and far, for your many kind expressions of sympathy, your prayers, cards, memorials, your visits and other deeds of kindness shown during the bereavement of our beloved wife, mother and grandmother . . . For all your loving concern during

her illness, we sincerely say "thank you." God bless you for your deeds of love and kindness. Bro. Wilhelm Nester, Bro. Eugene and Sis. Shirley Nester and daughter, Ruth Nester.

Sis. Lydia Knobloch Nester passed away Jan. 6 at the hospital, after being a patient for a couple months. She had been in failing health for more than a year. She was born in Rock Rapids Nov. 7, 1895 to Wilhelm and Friedrika Knobloch. She was married to Bro. Wilhelm Nester Jan. 5, 1927. They farmed in the area until their retirement to Rock Rapids. She is survived by her husband; a daughter, Ruth at home; and a son, Bro. Eugene. She has one sister, Sis. Carrie Metzger, and three brothers, Ernst, Jacob, Emil. She was preceded in death by two daughters, four sisters and three brothers. Bro. Leo Moser and Bro. Paul Butikofer conducted the services on Jan. 9. May God share His sympathy to the loved ones.

Trust

Just one by one
The steps we take;
Just one by one the glories wake,
Or tempest beat. We go
Nearer and nearer to the setting
sun, and know
But this, Whatever is, is best—
Sweetest of words confessed
By love's warm breath
in life or death.

We go
Led by His shielding hand and
know
He will not make,
Except for love's sweet sake,
A single day
Shadowed along life's way.
When it is night,
We rest in this—He leadeth
toward the light.

PEORIA, ILLINOIS

Emily Tanner
Mrs. Michael Weyeneth

Our best wishes are extended to Vicki Hartman, daughter of Bro. Leroy and Sis. Elsa Hartman, and Ken Knobloch, son of Bro. William and Sis. Gladys Knobloch of the Bradford congregation, whose engagement has been announced.

A son, Van, was born Dec. 15 to Alan and Judy Den Hartog. Serena Sue was the name chosen for the new arrival, daughter of David and Rita Sauder, born Jan. 9. Paternal grandfather is Bro. Silas Sauder. A

daughter, Lori Ann, was born Jan. 11 to Bro. Howard and Sis. Nancy Herman. Bro. Rolland and Sis. Carol Scholl are the parents of Angela Lou, born Jan. 30.

Steve Schurter was discharged from the army Dec. 21. We're always thankful when one more has this behind them and is home safe again.

Sis. Phoebe Eberhardt died Jan. 16. Surviving are four sisters, Sis. Emma and Miss Verona Eberhardt, with whom she made her home, Sis. Elmina (Mrs. George) Rauhaus, all of Peoria, and Lydia (Mrs. Gus) Laidig of Mackinaw; four brothers, Bros. Manassa and Sam Eberhardt, Vernon Eberhardt, all of Peoria, and Joseph Eberhardt of Mediapolis, Iowa. One brother preceded her in death.

Kimberly Schlosser, granddaughter of Bro. Silas Sauder, was in the hospital with pneumonia, but is home again.

We enjoyed the selection of hymns the Goodfield brothers and sisters sang at our February Hymn Sing and sincerely hope they come back again.

Bro. Bruce and Sis. Leila Witzig have a large home at 1201 W. Columbia Terrace here in Peoria; zip code is 61606. They would be happy to accommodate any friend or member of our faith who is planning to come to Peoria and is looking for a Christian Home. Their phone number is 685-4167.

Sis. Mattie Fisher, who has been living at the Apostolic Christian Home in Eureka, is at Forest Park Home here in Peoria for therapy.

TREMONT, ILLINOIS

Josephine Schaefer
Mary Jane Leuthold

The blessings brought to us by the visit of Bros. Josh Broquard and Merle Kaisner of Fairbury gave us reasons to rejoice. Bro. Josh assisted our Elder Bro. Dan Koch in the reading of the memorandum.

We also had other reasons for rejoicing on that day, as Karl and Velda Glueck were received into the church as brother and sister.

In his sermon, Bro. Josh reminded us that should we be tempted to murmur and complain that our cross is too heavy, we should stop and consider what Job had to endure. Because Satan desired to try this just and upright servant of God, Job was so sorely afflicted that his friends coming to visit

him did not recognize him. It was a full seven days before they even ventured to speak unto him, for they saw that his grief was very great. When we think of the sufferings of Job in contrast to our own lot and portion, have we any reason to become discouraged or to think that our cross is too heavy?

Sis. Jean and Bro. Larry Kaufmann have left our congregation to make their home in Cissna Park. We will miss them, but we trust that God will be with them and that they will find much happiness in their new home.

Bro. Vernon Koch has been chosen as our new Sunday School teacher of the fourth grade class. Bro. Herman Laidig has been elected to serve as trustee, and Bro. Bob Wagenbach will now be taking care of the Brotherhood Aid. We are thankful that these brother are willing to give of their time and talents.

Bros. Dan Steiner and Ed Sauder were hospitalized for surgery, but we are happy to report that such is no longer the case. After a confinement of about three months, Bro. Will Beutel has returned to his home and is now able to walk with the help of a walker.

"I sincerely thank everyone for their prayers, and remembering me with cards, letters, and gifts during my recent hospital stay. May God bless you for your love and kindness." William H. Beutel

Bro. Glenn and Sis. Marilyn Dill are the parents of a new daughter, Kathleen Marie. Kathleen was born on Jan. 24.

Sis. Hanna Koch has given me the following note: "My sincere thanks to all who remembered me with their prayers, visits, gifts, flowers and cards during my recent stay in the hospital and while at home. May God bless each and everyone for this kindness."

Perhaps a fitting closing would be, as Bro. Merle Kaisner reminded us during his visit, that we should endeavor to more fully appreciate the privilege of being able to gather together to worship from Sunday to Sunday. If we will only look around us, even today there are those who are not permitted to gather as we. It is even necessary for them to hide somewhere when they desire to read from the word of God. How could we explain to these people (or God) that we have something more important to do than come to church,

or that we are too busy to read the word of God as we should?

BAY CITY, MICHIGAN

**Marlene Mosher
Carolyn Knochel**

Our Elder Bro. Joe Waibel has had surgery, but is doing fine now and is back with us.

Our Ministering Bro. Henry Wackerle is now with us again, after having a second surgery, and is doing quite well. Others who have been in the hospital and are coming back to a measure of health are, Bro. Emery Molner, Sis. Anna Ruegsegger and Sis. Lena Lambert.

A baby daughter, Stacy Ann, was born to Jon and Sis. Darleen Cluff.

At our annual meeting new officers were set into office: Bro. Wallace Wackerle was put in as Trustee and Treasurer. Bro. Wayne Wieland is Treasurer of World Relief; Sunday School teachers are Bro. Darrell Steffen, Sis. Alvina Wackerle, and Sis. Marlene Mosher. We wish the new and old servants of our church the Lord's grace and wisdom, so that His will and teachings might be done.

Bro. Aaron Steffen of Alto ministered with us one evening. His wife, Sis. Loretta was with him. It was a very enjoyable evening.

Bay City midweek services have been changed, from Thursday evening at 8:00 p.m. to Wednesday evening at 8:00 p.m.

BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL, ILL. Virgil and Shirley Funk

Our congregation participated in its first Communion service, on Tuesday evening, Jan. 6. Our elder, Joshua Broquard was assisted by Elder Dan Koch from Tremont. May we all remember the Lord's suffering and death everyday of our lives, and strive to follow in His footsteps.

Our visiting ministers during January included: Arnold Gerst, Chicago; Vernon Leman, Eureka; George Gramm, Gridley; Joe Stoller and George Wagenbach, Princeville. We are grateful to each for their efforts, and hope God will reward accordingly.

Bro. John Gudeman had the misfortune of incurring head and back injuries, when a tree fell on him while cutting wood. We wish him God's blessing toward a speedy recovery.

NEW MARTINSVILLE, W. VA. Mrs. Gus Weltz — Della Witschey

We are still having winter, with more snow at this date, Feb. 5, (having had as much as four to six inches of snow in January), and again in February. Temperature went to below zero several mornings.

Mrs. Ellen Riggenbach Lohr, daughter of the late Dan and Ella Riggenbach, passed away on Jan. 28 after a lengthy illness. She leaves her husband, one daughter, two sons, two sisters and two brothers. Services were held on Jan. 31.

Mrs. Lena Frayer remains critically ill in the local hospital; this reporter visited her on Feb. 4, and she did not realize that I was there.

Mrs. Elizabeth McGuire of Washington, Pa. visited with her aunt, Miss Della Witschey. On Jan. 25, Miss Della had a dinner for her nieces, Mrs. Elizabeth McGuire, Misses Margaret and Mary Witschey, Mrs. Elizabeth Hawkins, and a friend, Mrs. Broadwater.

Roy Lewis Riggenbach, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ferd Riggenbach of Sardis, passed away on January 18 in the hospital here, after a long illness. He leaves his widow, five children, two sisters and two brothers. He was laid to rest in the church cemetery.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Riggenbach enjoyed a trip to Puerto Rica the last of January.

Mrs. Dorothy Downing, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Finley Ruth spent the first of February in Hawaii, where she joined her husband, Roy Downing, who was having a six day R. and R. leave from Viet Nam.

W. E. Riggenbach is slowly improving at his home in Paden City, after being a patient in the local hospital 100 days.

BRADFORD, ILLINOIS Martha Kieser Delores Duckworth

Our elder Bro. Silas Leuthold spent a Sunday with us. We are always happy to have him come, especially since he answers us—when we call "Dad".

Randy and Linda Stisser, who are stationed in Denver, Colorado with the army, are happy parents of their first child, a son. Daryl John is he first grandchild for our Bro. Loris and Sis. Lottie Stisser. Randy has now received further orders to go to Viet Nam.

Jordan and Sharon Elsasser wel-

comed a baby son. Troy Andrew has one sister, Marina and two brothers, Mike and Matthew.

Richard Dietz has a new assignment in Hawaii. He is spending a furlough with his parents, Bro. Herman and Sis. Hilda Dietz and family, before going there.

David Knobloch was sent to Ft. Bliss, Texas, after spending the holidays at home with his family, Bro. Wm. and Sis. Gladys Knobloch and family.

ELGIN, IOWA Mrs. George Butikofer Faith

Faith is like a flower
That's in bloom all through the years.

A flower that grows in loveliness
As each new day appears,
And Heaven must send its cooling rain
As well as sunny skies
To make the flower of faith grow strong
And pleasing in His eyes.

This morning we were greeted with the song of a cardinal, perched on a tree nearby; the sky is clear and the cold wind has subsided. In view of these facts, we can feel that the backbone of winter has been broken, and that from here on we will see and feel hints of spring in the offing.

Everyone in our congregation is tolerably well. At least no one is in the hospital at the moment. May God be praised for His many gifts.

FORT WAYNE, INDIANA Mary Eisenmann — Marge Gerber

Where there is love, there must be faith,
And where there is faith, there is peace indeed.
Where there is peace, there must be God,
And where there is God, there is no need.

Our annual election was held, January. That evening was our monthly singing, with the Leo brethren in charge. Bro. Henry Beer of Milford was in our midst and we reminisced with him of 50 years as a **Child of God**.

Our friend, Roger Stoller, son of Bro. Gene and Sis. Minerva, left for San Diego, Cal. on Jan. 11, where he entered the service as a Marine. John Lieberenz, son of Floren and Sis. Edith, spent a week with his

parents and has returned to his base. Dennis Pulfer, son of Bro. and Sis. Ray and Mary spent a few days with his family, departing for Oakland, Cal. on Feb. 3. His orders are for Viet Nam from there. We trust the Heavenly Father will be with our friends, and may they feel our prayers and concerns for them as well as their loved ones here.

Bro. Norman spoke of how the tides will wash away one's footprints in the sand, no matter how deep they may be, and just so the tides of saving grace will wash away the **footsteps of sin**, if we will only open our heart's door to the loving Saviour and let Him in.

May we ever give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; for His mercy endureth forever. A wandering soul did heed the call of the Heavenly Father and our Lord Jesus and found rest for his soul in his last hours! Alfred Gerber was added to the Household of God on Monday evening, Jan. 19, at the Lawton Nursing Home, in the presence of a few close friends and relatives, by Elders Sam Aeschliman and John Yergler. He testified that it wasn't that he didn't believe the Bible, but he doubted that those things could be for him, for he wasn't worthy of them—But are any of us? But, in his last words to Bro. Verlin only last Friday evening, he uttered in a frail and weary voice, "that now he had no more doubts, and he was ready to go to his rest". Bro. Alf passed from this life into eternity at midnight on Tuesday, and was laid to rest in the Latty Cemetery, following services here by our local ministers on Friday afternoon, Feb. 6. Our sympathy is extended to his family and relatives, and especially his dear ones in our congregation, Sisters Edith Lieberenz and Laura Gerber, and Bro. Noah Gerber. Noah submitted the following: "My dear Bro. Al is now with the Lord. How thankful we are that he could heed the call of our dear Lord to repentance and be baptized before his parting. It made me think of the 103rd Psalm, verse 11—For as the heaven is high above the earth, so great is His mercy toward them that fear him.

The family wishes to express their sincere thanks and appreciation for the many deeds of love and kindness and the prayers for them during the time of sickness and death of their loved one.

We spent an enjoyable evening

with our Bro. Elmore Schlatter. He has been unable to assemble with us in recent years, but we find he has much interest in everyone, and sends his greetings to all the **Silver Lining** readers.

Have you ever thought of what is contained in God's Holy Book, the Bible?—One Sunday, with his hands upon the Bible, Bro. Norman repeated the following words:

This Book contains the mind of God, the state of man, the way of salvation, the doom of sinners, and the happiness of believers. Its doctrines are holy, its precepts are binding, its histories are true, and its decisions are immutable. Read it to be wise, believe it to be safe, and practice it to be holy. It contains light to direct you, food to support you, and comfort to cheer you. It is the traveler's map, the pilgrim's staff, and the Christian's charter. Here paradise is restored, heaven opened, and gates of hell disclosed. Christ is its grand object, our good its design, and the glory of God its end. It should fill the memory, rule the heart, and guide the feet. Read it slowly, frequently, and prayerfully. It is a mine of wealth, a paradise of glory, and a river of pleasure. It is given you in life, will be opened in judgment, and be remembered forever. It involves the highest responsibility, will reward the greatest, and will condemn all who trifle with its sacred content.

PORTLAND, OREGON

Connie Steffen

Beautiful Spring is here again. We can hear the birds singing, and see the flowering trees and shrubs and many flowers blooming. All nature proclaims that a wonderful Hand has wrought these miracles. If only mankind, especially God's children, could stand together and dwell in harmony like the flowers, how wonderful it would be.

SARASOTA, FLORIDA

Philip Wingeier

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith."

Bro. Joe Schrock and companions remained with us from Jan. 1 through Jan. 25. It was very nice

to have them. Joe brought us many inspiring messages from the gospel. They also were enjoying their new apartment very much.

Bro. and Sis. Warren Bauman went to their home in Morton, as Sis. Vernia was not too well; we hope she will be feeling better again soon. May God give her strength, that she may enjoy some days of good health.

On Feb. 1, Bro. Henry Grimm from Morton, also Bro. David Kieser from Princeville were with us and ministered many of the good tidings of the Gospel. We all enjoyed the day very much.

Bro. Rudolph Moser of Rockville, who is spending the winter here, had to be hospitalized for a few days. We trust God will soon give him strength, that he may receive his health and be able to go in and out again.

Church Services, 1:00 p.m. E.S. T. at the Women's Club Building, Palm Ave. and Park Ct.

STUTTGART, GERMANY

Cedric Messner — Duane Schrenk

Divide Thou to us richly Thy comfort, Lord, we pray; Let Thy salvation enter in hearts and homes today.

Greetings from Deutschland to all of God's people, wherever you are. We have been blessed again by our wonderful Lord, with two more brothers in the faith that arrived, Bro. Bill Baungartner, from La Crosse, and Bro. Jim Heiniger and his wife, Kathy. I was pleased to meet Jim at Heinz Maurers last Sunday, and looking forward to seeing Bill, since we went through Ft. Sam together (in the Field at present). Also at the Maurers was Dwain Laukhuf. I ran into Friend, Terry Nussbaum while on a run to Landstuhl. Though we are scattered about Germany, we still manage to see one another. Duane and I get together often, and it's a blessing to have fellowship with someone of like mind and faith. I also was blessed by God when I got to see my cousin, Don Reber and his wife, who I haven't seen for about four years. Truly the Lord will never leave us nor forsake us; this we know.

Germany is a pretty country, and we are very fortunate to have this wonderful duty station. We pray for those boys in Viet Nam, that they will come home safely. God has us here for a purpose, and though we would rather be home

with our loved ones, we must do His will. We are not really soldiers for Uncle Sam, but rather soldiers of the Cross. I only pray others might be as blessed as we.

Thank you all for your prayers, and let there be love, hope, and peace in the heart of every Christian.

Life is what you make it,
And only you alone
Can walk the path that leads
Where man has never known.
Time will come and end our years,
And footsteps walk no more.

Then we'll meet the Maker's Face
When coming through the door.
Some will smile and others weep,
For all shall know His name,
But thanks to God he's kept my
soul,
So I can smile that day.

CM

ALABAMA Hillsboro

Johnny Pitt gave his testimony of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and experience in conversion. Everyone who heard his testimony and witnessed his baptism truly rejoiced together with spiritual rejoicing.

Sis. Clara Heiniger was laid up a few days with a severely bruised foot. She had the misfortune of closing the car door on it.

Jeanette Pitt was confined to the hospital for a week, with a back injury. Jerry Stricklan also injured his back at work and is undergoing treatment.

The young people of our church meet every two weeks on Monday night for a time of fellowship and spiritual teaching and guidance. Jerry Stricklan is currently the President. We are thankful for Bro. Junior Hale, who has so willingly spent much time in teaching the youth and offering guidance in day by day living. God bless him for his faithful service.

Landersville

Arlon Byars, son of John and Betty (Frost) Byars, is presently in Children's Hospital at Birmingham. Prayers are requested for Arlon in his illness.

Mr. Will Latham passed away Feb. 5. He was the father of Billie Joe Harville, Barbara Jean Simmons and Mauvlyn Harville. Mr. Latham was 87. Even though the time of separation is difficult, we

are thankful that Mr. Latham many years ago had turned in repentance and called upon the Lord Jesus for salvation.

A blessed time of fellowship was enjoyed by several at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Maddox of Phil Campbell, Alabama. Every other Thursday night, services are held at their home or at their neighbor, Mr. and Mrs. Luther Arnold. We trust the Lord to continue this good time of fellowship in His name.

Hospitalized: Mrs. Opal Frost, Leo Nolan, Mrs. Alta Brewer, Mr. Will Posey, Mrs. Jeanette Harville Rutherford.

Athens

Wesley Long passed away Feb. 1. Many visitors to the Athens church met Wesley in his home at Lester, Alabama. He enjoyed spending his time in building small additions to his home. How thankful we can be that he made preparation and built his eternal home on the foundation of the Lord Jesus Christ. Funeral services were held at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Lee Favors, Minor Hill, Tenn. Bro. Wesley was about 86.

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

Jesse Massey, son of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Massey, suffered a crushed elbow while at work. Surgery was required, and a pin was inserted.

Elder David Bertsch and Bro. Bill Klopfenstein visited here on Saturday, Jan. 31.

GRIDLEY, ILLINOIS

Lydia and Eunice Kammerer

Bro. Ben Hofer, age 87 years, passed away in the Fairbury Hospital, Jan. 14. His funeral was held on Sat. Jan. 17. He is survived by his wife, the former Sis. Sophie Wenger; one son, John, and one daughter, Sis. Laura Beutner, Peoria.

Ben was the oldest member in our congregation. He enjoyed so much visiting with others, and loved to sing and to hear singing.

Our monthly Singspiration was held Jan. 18. The Mortonaire were greatly appreciated, and enjoyed by the audience with their presentation of the beautiful hymns with such deep meaning. We sincerely hope they come again.

Birth: Glenn Donald was born on

Dec. 10 to Don and Jan Schieler, a brother of Charwin Kay. Grandparents are Julia and Walter Schieler of Gridley, and Florence and Orville Schultz of Hudson.

Hospital Patients: Bro. Roy Alt, Bro. Albert Grusy, and Sis. Lillian Fenton are patients in Bloomington hospitals. We wish them all a speedy recovery.

TUCSON, ARIZONA

Tucson Sewing Circle

An anniversary dinner was held the evening of Jan. 20, to remember the opening of our new church building, for which we are all so thankful. Bro. Noah Herman informed us that the final payment on the church was made, and it is now paid. We wish to take this opportunity to again thank all the members and friends who gave so freely to our needs. Bro. Noah Herman suggested we continue the building fund to build Sunday School rooms on the back part of the church lot, to be used to gather the young people of the neighborhood and to teach our children in the ways of the Lord. This is badly needed in our time, to keep our young people from joining groups where there is no Christian environment and leadership. A donation was then given by one of the Tucson members to start the fund for this worthy cause. We appreciate the members and friends from the East who spend some time with us during the winter months, and also those who drop in from time to time to meet and greet us. May God bless and keep us all, and hold his big hand of love over us all in these latter and troubled days. A poem was handed to me by Lillian Whiteley, and we want to share it with you.

I met God in the morning,
When the day was at its best,
And his presence came as sunrise,
Like a glory in my breast.

All day long the presence lingered,
All day long he stayed with me,
And we sailed with perfect calmness
O'er a very troubled sea.

Other ships were blown a
battered;
Other ships were sore distressed,
But the winds that seemed to drive them
Brought to us a perfect rest.

Then I thought of other mornings
With a keen remorse of mind,
When I, too, had loosed the
moorings,
With Thy presence left behind.

So I think I know the secret learned,
From many a troubled way;
You must seek Him in the morning
If you want Him through the day.

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HIS CIRCLE

Henry Souder Jr.

The days come, the days go. The seasons take their turn, come, and leave. The hours move, move, move. Time is spending. Limited. An end there is.

The very picture of *A Day Gone* is a picture of time. All will go, just like that. Glorious life eternal is different. We receive the Holy Spirit. We become one with the everlasting God. We partake of His beautiful nature, breathe and live in Him; "For none of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself." Glory to Him!

We are the Lord's. The saints are a priceless purchase. The Lord takes great delight in them. Each of us needs to think of them by God's standard. That gives us good reason to think highly. "For whether we live, we live unto the Lord; and whether we die, we die unto the Lord: whether we live therefore, or die, we are the Lord's."

He keeps both those in heaven and those here. He had a great purpose in mind when He willingly laid down His life. He had a great reason for His resurrection. His purpose was not only to organize and manage, but to rejoice over His children, and love them, each one. To Him they stand. What a wonderful, kind circle He brings about.

"For to this end Christ both died, and rose, and revived, that he might be Lord both of the dead and living."

The bigger sins are sometimes echoed in small missteps. The gross sin is the hypocrite, with a rafter in the eye, wanting to pick a small splinter from another's. Yet, in small ways we can be picky. There are certain areas where the word says we have no business and no right to do so: "But why dost thou judge thy brother? or why dost thou set at nought thy brother?" There will be a time when the climate of the court will be present. That will be quite a different day. We shall stand, each before the bar; "for we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ." What a day, when God's court is in session!

God gives His word, that we may gain the feeling of that day . . . That we may wisely apply the insight, so we do today with that day in mind. Then days will be in the past . . . Eternity will be here and now. The awesome judge will have attention. Perfect holiness. His is the right to demand justice and righteousness. God's look into the future then comes to pass: "For it is written, As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God."

No Christian is exempt: "So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God." What's going to happen when the things are gone over that are so familiar and personal? What are we going to tell Him?

Our Saviour is the one that asks us not to judge. He knows the human frame, and understands where it's easy to err. His foresight is given to benefit thereby. "Let us not therefore judge one another any more: but judge this rather, that no man put a stumblingblock or an occasion to fall in his brother's way."

It is not the thing itself that causes wrong, but the use. Drink, food, the body, the tongue, so many things can be used for right, or for wrong. There is a certain area that can become debatable, can ruffle the peace, without God's pleasure. We can step in with judging or setting at nought, looking down on, when God has accepted that one and causes him to stand. There is a common meeting place of forbearance, where love-links are not broken; "For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost. For he that in these things serveth Christ is acceptable to God . . ."