



For to me to live is
Christ, and to die is gain.

But if I live in the flesh,
this is the fruit of my la-
bour: yet what I shall
choose I wot not.

For I am in a strait be-
twixt two, having a desire
to depart, and to be with
Christ; which is far better:

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

THE SILVER LINING

A LIGHT for BELIEVERS

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EXPERIENCE AT DEATH CAN BE BEAUTIFUL!

"Don't worry, but come to me as soon as you can," my sister wired. . . . I felt a deep, numbing pang. I knew Eleanor had been ill some time. Surely this was her gentle way of telling me the end was coming.

I could not picture—or accept it. Always radiating charm, friendliness and an inner happiness, my sister had been a wonderful inspiration to those close to her.

. . . The doctors told her that her days were numbered. Knowing this had not made the slightest difference in her warm interest in people—nor in her deep abiding faith in the wonder of God.

. . . I returned to the States and hurried to Eleanor, expecting to find her in bed in great pain. Instead she was in the living room, perched jauntily on the sofa, looking more like a school girl of 17 than an incurably ill woman.

"Natalie," she held out her arms joyously, "I'm so happy now that you're here. We have so much to talk over." To anyone listening I might have dropped in for a casual call.

After Eleanor had retired for the night, the doctor drew me aside. ". . . I think that it will be a most trying experience for you if you stay here through to the end. I'm afraid that your sister's hours will be an agony of pain."

. . . the exquisite radiance I noticed in my sister's face seemed somehow to refute his statement. The strange feeling swept over me that the strength of my sister's spirit could well triumph over her

pain.

During the next few days I discovered that Eleanor was doing many things to baffle the doctors. They were preparing her for some very grim final moments. She was ignoring their solemn suggestions and remedies. One night she had me sit down on the side of her bed.

"Natalie, promise me that you won't let them give me any drugs. I realize that they are trying to help relieve my pain, but I want to be fully aware of every sensation. I am convinced that death will be a beautiful experience."

I promised. Alone later, I wept, thinking of her courage. Then as I tossed in bed on through the night, I realized that what I looked to be a calamity, my sister intended to be a triumph.

One afternoon, Eleanor . . . asked several friends to a dinner. I was stunned. The sight of the happiness in her face checked my objections.

On the night, Eleanor dressed meticulously, concealing the pain I knew she felt. We helped her downstairs before the guests were to arrive. Sitting in a chair, she sparkled with life and gaiety. Again I noticed the school girl look on her face.

That night, however, when she was carried to bed, her deep physical weariness appeared on the surface. . . . Ten days later the final hour drew near. I had been at her bedside for hours. We had talked about many things, and always I marveled at her quiet, sincere confidence in eternal life. Not once did

the physical torture inside overcome her spiritual strength. This was something that the doctors simply hadn't taken into account.

"Dear kind God, keep my mind clear and give me peace," she had murmured over and over again during those last days. We had talked so long that I noticed she was drifting off to sleep. I left her quietly with the nurse and retired to get some rest. A few minutes later I heard my sister's voice calling for me. Quickly I returned to her room.

I sat on her bed and took her hand. It was on fire. Then she seemed to rise up in bed almost to a sitting position. "Natalie," she said, "There are so many of them. There's Fred . . . and Ruth—what's she doing here? Oh, I know!"

An electric shock went through me. . . . Ruth was her cousin who had died suddenly the week before. **But Eleanor had not been told of Ruth's sudden death.**

Her voice was surprisingly clear. "It's so confusing. So many of them!" Suddenly her arms stretched out as happily as when she had welcomed me! "I'm going up," she murmured. Then she dropped her arms around my neck—and relaxed in my arms.

As I lay her head back on the pillow, there was a warm, peaceful smile on her face. With her petite, trim figure, her wavy hair, the white flower and the soft smile, she looked once more . . . just like a school girl.

I had glimpsed part of the wonderful truth about everlasting life.

ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY Jerry Meiss

I may never be wealthy but that's O. K. The Lord has made me rich in His own way.

On 1-7 Bro. Walter Anliker brought the gospel message to us, and the power of the Spirit was evidenced by his sermon. We were reminded to be a good light and even though the flame sometimes flickers, our heavenly Father has an ample supply of fuel to ward off the devastating winds of gale force that Satan often scourges us with. Bro. Anliker emphasized the vir-

tues of a Christian and encouraged us to be as loving and forgiving with others as we are with ourselves.

The arrival of Jan. 14 brought Bro. Ben "Farmer" Maibach, who delivered to us the message from the word. He told us how it is a natural tendency for man to pray as a last resort when affliction of the spirit strikes, instead of praying at the onset of tribulation. He helped us to realize that our lives would be much more cheerful, if we would only send a small portion of our often vainly spent breath to heaven in supplication. He refreshed our

memories concerning Christ's purpose.

Bro. Bob Grimm spoke to us on the twenty-first of January. He spoke in a language we could all understand, and did not mince any words. We were inspired by his message as he brought out the fact that it is essential to have a deep personal faith in God. He reminded us that we weren't promised a comfortable and rosy path, and mention that all who live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.

We were very thankful to have the Gridley choir on the twenty-

first also. Several brothers took turns in announcing the songs. They seemed to be well disciplined in their singing. We are hoping for a return visit.

As I bid you farewell I will leave you with this: We may live without loving, but we cannot love without living.

LA CROSSE

Mary Ann Feller — Pearl Nuest

Thankful for God's many blessings in the year 1970, we look forward to a new year 1971 in His grace.

Jim and Karen Heinold were blessed with a baby boy named Kyle Edward, on Jan. 16. He has three brothers and two sisters. Maternal grandparents are Mr. & Mrs. Sam Yergler, and paternal grandparents are Bro. Virgil and Sis. Ruth Heinold. His great-grandmother, Alice Heinold is spending the winter months at her home in Florida.

The engagement was announced of Sis. LeAnn Hohulin, daughter of Bro. Edwin and Sis. Elsie of Goodfield, to Bro. Arden Bucher, son of Bro. Art and Sis. Esther. Arden is stationed with the Army at Ft. Sam. May God bless them as they plan for a future together.

Hospital patients include Bro. Harold Heinold and Sis. Lydia Moser, who has suffered a broken hip.

Our sympathy is extended to Sis. Ann Nuest and her family in the

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loss of her dear mother. May we ever look forward to that blessed meeting on yonder shore.

We are so thankful to welcome Bro. Clint and Sis. Gayle Bucher back to our congregation after his graduation from Purdue. They are making their home in South Bend.

On Sunday evening, Jan. 30, we were privileged to hear the conference report given by our Elder Bro. George Yergler and Bro. Ed Frank.

At our annual meeting, election results were: Trustee, Bro. Art Bucher; Hail Aid, Bro. Ken Bucher; Usher, Glenn Heinold; Dinner Committee, Sis. Lena Hitz; Silver Lining Reporter, Sis. Mary Ann Feller, and Assistant, Sis. Pearl Nuest. May God bless those whose terms have expired for their diligent services.

Sis. Clara Heiniger wishes to thank all those who remembered her with cards, letters, and gifts since her illness. We wish God's healing power to be shed on our dear Sis. Clara, who has spent so many hours helping to lighten the load of souls who were shut-in and bringing cheer to all those around her.

MORTON

**Mrs. John Oberlander
Mrs. Ken Getz**

Services for campus students were held for the first time at Western Illinois University at Macomb, Ill. on Wed., Jan. 6. There were 34 in attendance, meeting in the Union Building. Plans are to meet the first Wednesday of each month through the spring quarter, at 8:00 p.m. in the Fox Room. Bro. Ed Hohulin of Goodfield conducted the first service. Bro. Uriel Gehring of Burlington and Bro. Francis Rother of Morton plan to coordinate the services and invite parents and friends to worship and fellowship with the students. We trust and hope that God will bless His word and give the increase.

Announcements were made of the forthcoming marriages of: Bro. Dana Taufer, son of Bro. Robert and Sis. Marie Grimm Taufer, and Sis. Kris Zimmerman, daughter of Bro. Russell and Sis. Elvina Grimm Zimmerman; Bro. Jack Miller of Congerville, son of Bro. Walter and Sis. Irma Hoerr Miller, and Sis. Jean Roeschley, daughter of Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Dorothy Bauman Roeschely. We wish them the Lord's blessings.

Our congregation voted for a new trustee, Bro. Levi Schock, and two ushers, Bros. Melvin Aberle and Ed Roecker.

Visiting ministers for January were Bros. Don Sauder, Harold Schmidgall, and Walter Anliker. Their labor of love is greatly appreciated.

Those in the hospital or convalescing are: Sisters Ida Lou Koehl, Rose Teubel, Anna Kaiser, Anna Springer; Bros. Ben Kaiser and Dale Schmidgall, son of Bro. Bruce and Sis. Lucy Klumpf Schmidgall.

Our community was saddened by the death of five dear souls. Sis. Sarah Huette, 88, passed away Jan. 3 at Restmor Nursing Home. She is survived by one brother, Henry Huette. Jan. 4, Cecil Miller, 48, passed away. He is survived by his wife, Leona Rinkenberger Miller; his mother of Watseka; a son, Daniel; a daughter, Judith; and three sisters. Harley Smith passed away at Restmor Nursing Home. He is survived by his wife, Matilda Zobrist Smith. Little Chad Gudeman, 19 months, died very suddenly Jan. 25. He was the son of Bill and Kay Birkey Gudeman. Bro. Sam L. Getz, 92, passed away in his rural home Jan. 26. He is survived by four sons, Bros. Jesse, Chris, Philip and Emery; two daughters, Sisters Louise (Mrs. Ray) Rocke and Emily at home. May the Lord be with the families of these dear ones.

Morton 1970 Statistics: 31 converts, 19 burials, 2 weddings.

PULASKI

Mary Wiegand Nancy Musselman

There's nothing so bad
That it could not be worse;
There's little that may not mend,
And troubles, no matter how
thickly they come,
Most surely will come to an end.

The oldest member of our congregation, Sis. Lydia Wuthrich, suffered a stroke which left her right side paralyzed and her speech impaired. She had just celebrated her 95th birthday a few days before. May God be with her and Sis. Minnie Wuthrich, who was 85 on Jan. 13. She is confined to the Rest Home, but has shown some improvement in her condition.

We are grateful to Elder Bros. Noah Schrock and Al Fisher for their visit on Jan. 24 and the reading of the memorandum. We are

thankful to them for their labors of love. This was Bro. Fisher's first visit to Pulaski.

WOLCOTT
Arles Kropf

We bless Thee for Thy peace, O
God!
Deep as the boundless sea,
Which falls like sunshine on the
road,
Of those who trust in Thee.

Our dear friend Marjean Lehman can now fully endorse these words, since she has found this peace and has been announced for proving.

Visiting ministers have been Bros. Merle Kaisner, Theo. Beer, Wendell Gudeman, and Earl Kilgus. Wendell and Theo. brought to us the report of the conference.

Our annual meeting was held in January; those elected to Sunday School teaching on our rotation plan are Bros. Gene Lehman, Glenn Furrer, Irvin Furrer, Jerry Kyburz, and Sis. Gladys Widmer. Bro. Leon Waibel is Sunday School superintendent, and Bro. Vernon Furrer our new trustee. Sis. Jan Furrer was selected to serve on the kitchen committee and Bros. Glenn Blume and Richard Stoller as ushers.

Bro. Darl Schieler has been inducted into the service. Our friend, Mike Minniear has completed basic training and will go to Ft. Meade, Maryland for further training in Mechanics. We wish all our service boys well and our prayers go with them.

Bro. Roger Schwab graduated from Valparaiso Tech School and is employed in Hammond.

We are glad to have Sis. Mary Hofstetler, age 90, able to assemble with us again, after being hospitalized for observation.

ALTO
Loretta Steffen

Greetings! At Alto we have a precious new baby born to Bro. Dennis and Sis. Linda Koehl. Roseanne Marie was born Jan. 25 and has a brother, Robbie, to welcome her home.

There have been many folks under the weather with colds, flu, etc., but one brother from our congregation should especially be remembered. Joe Oesch. He speaks a silent sermon to all who visit

him. Joe had a back operation in Dec. and still has several months to be in his cast. This consists of a straight jacket which reaches from his neck to his knees. Bro. Joe never complains, but says extra grace from the Lord is needed for such a trial. Joe spoke of a very unusual experience that manifests the Lord's amazing wonder-working ways. It's been said that the Lord is never in a hurry—but he's never too late either! Joe received an abundance of mail over the holidays, and one of the letters from a beloved elder was entirely overlooked. A few weeks later his wife was sorting through his cards and found the unopened letter. On this particular day, Joe was especially blue and as he read the letter, he felt as though a soothing balm had been applied to his sore aching heart. He felt the Lord had saved the letter for that very day! So we see, our God works little miracles too.

Ernie and Sis. Lena Roth would like to thank everyone who has remembered them in any way during the past year. They feel greatly humbled and blessed by the kind deeds rendered to them.

BAY CITY

Carolyn Knochel—Marlene Mosher

"Flourishing youth, thou our hope and our fond expectation . . ." We rejoiced in the testimonies and baptisms of four souls who were added to the fold, and greeted our new brother, Dean Ramseyer (Bro. Ralph and Sis. Lillian), and new sisters, Linda McKeon, Eileen Knochel (Bro. Norman and Sis. Leonore), and Sharon Waibel (Elder Bro. Joseph and Sis. Elizabeth). Elder Bro. Herman Kellenberger of Elgin was here to assist Bro. Joe in this most blessed work. Ministering Bro. Floyd Wieland was with us also. We had many visitors from distant churches to share a wonderful week-end.

Over the past several weeks we have been listening to tapes of the memorandum on our week day gatherings. We must remember that the Lord chastens those whom He loves, and rejoice that He gives our beloved elders wisdom to guide us; surely we can each try harder to obey His teachings, for the sake of unity in our dear church and our own individual soul's salvation.

New officers for the coming year are: Bro. Norman Knochel,

trustee; Bro. Don Wieland and Sis. Edith Wieland (Daryle), Sunday School teachers; and Bro. Duane Broquardt, usher. We pray always for God's guidance for those who help in the church, especially for those who teach the little children.

We enjoyed a visit from Elder Bro. George Yergler of LaCrosse; he brought us many teachings from the Good Book.

" . . . Hark to the voice that is calling thee in kind invitation!"

HONOLULU

Bill and Sharon Dotterer

January has been a rainy, stormy month for Hawaii. The 55 miles per hour winds and huge waves have caused much damage on the islands. This is just one of the ways God reveals His might and strength.

Bro. Roy and Helen Stoller (and their daughter Jeanette) from Latty spent the holidays with their son Stan, who is in the Service here. We felt privileged to have Ministering Bro. Homer and Sis. Josephine Reineck from Toledo with us two Sundays. It was enjoyable visiting with Bro. Homer and Sis. Josephine, especially since he was stationed on this island during World War II.

Our parents from Phoenix, Bro. Joe and Sis. Lavina Dotterer came here for a 2-week vacation. We certainly enjoyed being with them.

If vacation or R R is planned for Hawaii, we would like to get together with you. Our address is 1235 Ala Kapuna, Apt. 201, Honolulu, Hawaii 96819; phone 839-0965.

SARDIS

Doris Miller

Feb. 20 is the date that has been set for the marriage of our friend, Gene Riggensbach (John and Sis. Hazel) to Ruth Piatt of Woodfield, Ohio. Gene is employed at Kent, Ohio, and they plan to reside near there, at Ravenna. We appreciate our friends like Gene who attend Sunday school and church with us whenever possible. May God bless this couple as they travel through this life.

We are saddened that Bro. William Brake has been called to the service. Not only do we miss him, but his wife, Sis. Miriam, who has gone to stay with her parents (Bro. Herbert and Sis. Ruth Hilty Rittman) until she can join Bill. May

God give them what is needful while they are apart, and while they are apart from us.

Peace, perfect peace, with loved ones far away? In Jesus' keeping we are safe and they.

PEORIA

Emily Tanner

Mrs. Michael Weyeneth

We welcome Bro. Steven and Sis. Vicki Sauder and their daughter, Jennifer Leigh to our assembly. Their address is 1116 Peoria Ave., Washington Ill. 61571. Steve is a chiropractic physician, and his office is at that location, too.

Bros. Everett Hari of Normal and Vernon Leman of Eureka spent a Sunday with us and ministered to our needs.

Bro. Irvin Hodel is now our new treasurer, and Bro. Harlan Thomas our new trustee. Newly-selected Sunday School teachers are Bros. Bob Blunier and Dale Hunzicker and Sisters Hazel Geyer, Marie Hohulin, Lorene Joos and Joan Koehl. May they all seek God's grace and help in their duties.

Hospital patients include Sisters Martha Altorfer, Eugenia Schlipf, Emma Eberhardt, and Sophia Joos. Sisters Mae Asal and Lydia Siebanthal were hospitalized, but are home now recuperating.

The infirmary at our Church Home on Skyline Drive is open now, and Sisters Frieda Nesser, Louise Ruff, Pauline Meier, Elizabeth Heiniger and Ida Kaufman are occupying rooms on the second floor. Sis. Sue Henning is director of nursing. Many hours of volunteer work by members and friends of our church made this opening of the infirmary possible, and has been greatly appreciated. Our administrator, Lydia Meyer expressed the hope for continuing volunteers. There is always so much that can be done; if anyone wishes to do some volunteer work, just contact Lydia. It is very rewarding to give of oneself. Even so much as visiting with the residents is very much appreciated!

Bro. Theodore Schlatter, 75, died Jan. 9 at St. Francis Hospital. He was born in Switzerland and married in Peoria to Louise Knapp. She died Nov. 16, 1968. Surviving are three daughters, Miss Rose Martha Schlatter (who lived at home) and Mrs. William (Erma Louise) See, both of Peoria, and Mrs. Charles (Mary Ella) Mangold of Eureka;

one son, Theodore J. Schlatter of South Elgin, Ill.; one brother and one sister of Switzerland.

Sis. Emma O. Binkele, 88, died Jan. 28 at St. Francis Hospital. She was born in Germany, a daughter of Henry and Katherine Grau Gerst, and was married to Henry Binkele in Peoria. He died July 18, 1930. Surviving are six sons, Otto Binkele (of Minooka, Ill.), Henry, Rudy, Elmer, Bros. Richard and Robert Binkele, all of Peoria; eight daughters, Mrs. Roy (Matilda) Beaver (of Springfield, Mo.), Sisters Bette (who lived at home), Mrs. Emil (Frieda) Hoerr, Mrs. Edward (Esther) Hoerr, Mrs. Otha (Emma) Eshelman, Mrs. Ernest (Vera) Klaus, Mrs. Ernest (Dorothy) Haefli, all of Peoria, and Mrs. Silas (Pauline) Laidig of Bremen. Also surviving are one sister, Sis. Pauline Meier of Peoria, and two brothers, Bros. Julius Gerst of Burlington and Adolph Gerst of Taylor.

CONGERVILLE

Phyllis Knapp — Norma Stahl

Jan. 31, an announcement was made of the engagement of Sis. Jean Roeschley of Morton (daughter of Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Dorothy) to Bro. Jack Miller (son of Bro. Walt and Sis. Erma).

Feb. 1, Tom Zimmerman (son of Bro. Orville and Sis. Lula) left for the Army. May the Lord protect him wherever he may be stationed.

How wonderful it was to see Bro. Ben and Sis. Lula Zimmerman able to assemble together with us. Ben had not been with us for awhile, and it sure made us all happy to see him at church. May the Lord bless him and his family for their efforts.

We all extend our sympathy to Sis. Marjorie (Farney) Knapp and to her sisters and brothers at the passing away of their dear mother, Sis. Lizzie Farney of Cissna Park. May the Lord comfort them all.

Our Loving Saviour has called Sis. Pauline Miller, 85, to her heavenly home. She is survived by six sons — Elmer, Jesse, Chris, Orville, Lyle and Melvin; five daughters — Mrs. Pauline Henley, Mrs. Esther Musselman, Mrs. Alice Kempf, Mrs. Velma Leman and Mrs. Clara Kempf.

Our visiting ministers were Bro. Jim Hoerr, Bro. Bob Grimm, Bro. Art Baurer, Bro. Josh Broquard.

Tis better to walk by faith than sight,

In this path of yours and mine,
And the pitch-black night, when
there's no outer light.

Is the time for faith to shine.

FRANCESVILLE

Mrs. Herman (Chris) Wuethrich
Mrs. Otto Wuethrich

You will be able to tell a Grandma is writing this, when I say we were blessed with another darling grandchild, to our daughter Mary and Edwin Gutwein; they named her Carolyn Carmen. Another happy family is Bro. Ron and Sis. Vickie Anliker, whom God wanted to now have a baby daughter, Lisa Dawn.

Now we go to our new Bro.-in-Faith John Pelsy, whom after his baptism said, "I know I am now ready to go". He said in his younger years he thought about it, but didn't think deep enough. He has to be in the hospital, but we are so thankful that he has a Heavenly Home to look forward to, as he has been a dear father and husband to Sis. Lydia (Knochel).

Sis. Barbara (Chris) Wuethrich had to have surgery, so we certainly pray much courage for her as she asks God for help, as all will be glad when she can again assemble in church with us.

Bro. Elmer Harter visited us, and gave us words from the heart of God, through love, and compared the Bible to a road map.

Bro. Noah Schrock came and explained the **Ways for a Happy Christian Life**. He spoke to us like the voice of a dear father, so we all want to daily try hard to be obedient children.

We are thankful for the newly-appointed brothers chosen to serve in our church, and want to give them our prayers, Bros. Elmer Anliker, Harold Gutwein, Dwight Bucher, Sidney Leman, Emil Gutwein, Bob Pfederer, Perry Neihouser and Ron Vogt.

To get along—The best way to make two boards fit together is to plane a little off of each board.

LATTY

Dolores Grant — Iva Stoller

On Jan. 10 it was our privilege to hear the word of God through our visiting ministers, Bro. Aaron Steffen of Alto and Bro. Alfred Bahler of Wolcott. It was truly a blessed day.

Jan. the 17th was the wedding

day of our friend, Elizabeth Dunham to Paul Deem of Ft Wayne. Elizabeth is the daughter of Sis. Laura and Bro. Charles. May their marriage be a blessed one.

Our congregation was saddened by the passing of Bro. Otto Schlatter. He was 83 years old, and the last the brethren who started our Latty Church. His presence will be greatly missed. He was laid to rest Jan. 22, and leaves to mourn, his wife, Sis. Lydia; also Bro. Joe, Bro. Ben, Bro. Herman and John; Sis. Elizabeth (Clem) Wieland, Sis. Laura (Charles) Dunham, Sis. Josephine (Donald) Wenninger, and Sis. Esther. Our sympathy is with the family.

Our friend, Ray Stoller, son of Bro. Delmar and Sis. Marguerite, testified of his faith on Jan. 23. The following day he was brought into the fold as our brother. How wonderful to see the joy beam from within. May this joy ever be his. After the proving, we were reminded of our duties as God's children, by the reading of the Memorandum.

A son was born to Bro. Dave and Sis. Lou Ann Klopfenstein on Jan. 29. The little lad is named Jeffery David.

NEUHUTTEN, GERMANY

Jon Zeller

The new year welcomes four new troops to the Maurer family and witnesses the departure of three others. Those just arriving for their tour in Germany are: Robert Witzig and Bro. Roger Witzig, both from Gridley Ill., Bro. David Graf from Akron, and Bro. Jon Zeller from Morton. Those leaving us are Bro. Bill Baumgartner, Bro. David Kaeb, and Terry Nussbaum. We shall all miss the love and fellowship that each had to offer.

We are all truly grateful to the Maurers for continually opening their doors and providing for us so generously. Surely the Lord will bless them for their lovingkindness, for as those who are leaving can testify from past experience, and as the new troops are discovering rapidly, a visit with the Maurers is truly rewarding and beneficial to our spiritual needs, while away from our own loved ones.

May God bless each one of our gatherings.

Moving? Send us word, ahead if can. Give both old and new address?

PRINCEVILLE

Ruth Ricketts

Three men are racing toward the moon, while others at various places around the world are taking part. For most of us we can see no real benefit for such an accomplishment. Many years ago our Saviour ascended into heaven unaided from anyone on earth, and so it will be when He will return and call the righteous to join Him in the clouds. It is our sincere prayer that we can all take part in this last and most wonderful accomplishment, that we can bid farewell to this wicked world, and live forevermore with all the redeemed in a better land.

Bro. Jim Ringger of Bradford gave us sincere teachings. Bro. Harvey Grimm of Bern is an ever welcome visitor. We were told that we must forsake what is dearest and put the Lord first before we can find real peace. When we place Him first we can look forward to a good end.

The Bradford members joined us one Wed. evening. Bro. Joshua Broquard of Fairbury and Bro. Noah Schrock of Oakville assisted our brothers in reading and deliberating the discussions of our conference. Since Bro. Silas Leuthold didn't feel well enough, Bro. Dave Kieser took part. I was impressed with the quietness of the large congregation. As Silas entered the hospital the next day, the congregation sang "Faith's Confidence", with the words of one verse especially appropriate: "Since all that I meet shall work for my good, The bitter is sweet, the medicine food; Though painful at present, 'twill end before long, And then, Oh how pleasant the conqueror's song." Silas submitted to surgery and is now at home convalescing very nicely.

Sis. Anna Roach had the misfortune to stumble on a raised place in the sidewalk, causing her to fall against the car. She broke her upper arm near the shoulder and received other bruises, but is convalescing nicely at the home of her daughter and son-in-law, Sis. Lucille and Bro. Ezra Rumbold. She was unable to be out for several weeks, but is now beginning to get out a little. Dennis, son of Bro. Harry and Sis. Bertha Jean Herrmann, submitted to an appendectomy, has recovered nicely and has returned to school. We are thankful to have Bro. Christ Martin able to

worship with us, after an absence of several weeks. The Lord is always so good to be near those in need.

The engagement of Sis. Kaylene Endress and Bro. Dennis Nieman was made known to the congregation Jan. 10. Dennis is from Rittman.

Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Donna Gehrig are rejoicing over the birth of a daughter, Julie Ann, Jan. 11. Grandparents are Bob and Helen Gehrig and Bro. Ed and Sis. Lucille Knobloch; great-grandmothers, Florence Oppelz, Sister Caroline Gehrig and Sis. Pauline Knobloch. Bro. John and Sis. Elizabeth Wieland welcomed a daughter, Heather Michelle, Jan. 12. A little brother, Brian and grandparents Kenneth and Marian Riley also welcomed her.

We were thankful for visitors from Forest, with Bros. Earl Gerber and Clarence Kachelmuss ministering to us.

The Golden Years Give Counsel

In these trying days we can indeed find so much encouragement from our older members who have weathered many a storm. While visiting Bro. Will and Sis. Ida Huber, I feel I have received some interesting gems. Will shared a dream with us. I found true value in it. In one of our newsletters the closing remarks were, "Counsel in the heart of man is like deep water; but a man of understanding will draw it out." I trust Will will be blessed for letting me tell others of his wonderful experience.

First, we—Ida and myself, wish to express our heartfelt thanks to everyone that remembered us this Christmas season and all year through, with many lovely cards and gifts, but most of all your faithful prayers to God for us in our need . . . a humble thanks to our beloved ministering brothers for their visits and prayers with us for our spiritual welfare.

Ruth asked me to tell a few words of my life in faith, and as I am the oldest brother in our church, I have not much to tell except of Jesus and His love, and the goodness and mercy of our Lord. Having attended church in the old country church, we heard the word of God proclaimed to us, were convicted of our sin, repented and found precious peace with God and man. We didn't have all the conveniences of the modern day, and after

being baptized in the dining room (the water being brought in from the well outside), the women changed their clothes in a very small room, while the men either had to go to an outside building or in the dirty coal cellar.

Ida and I were married in the old country church in the year of 1919, 52 years in May. We were not blessed with any children, but raised two motherless children. God's grace and love was ever with us. We had our cross, more so in later years. Ida had several strokes in Sept. 1961 that left her crippled, and she was not able to walk anymore. She was able to get about in a wheel-chair, and was permitted to worship in the new building we now enjoy. In July 1970 she had another light stroke and has been in bed since. She is not yet able to stand on her feet, and only recently can feed herself and sit on the edge of her bed by herself. As I visited with her, she shared a vision she had.

Several years ago when she was in the hospital she closed her eyes, as they hurt her, and when she opened them she saw Jesus sitting on a little bench. A small group of people were sitting around Him, looking what He had in His hands. Everything was dazzling white and so beautiful. A pure white bird flew around Jesus, in front of Him, coming to rest on the arm of His chair; looking again, it was a beautiful child, a curly-headed little girl who too looked to see what He held. Ida couldn't see what He had in His lap, as some people were in the way. As she pondered over this vision it came to her, "This must be what heaven is like." The vision is still very clear in her mind, and she sometimes wonders why she has sometimes been so sick and is yet required to stay here. She feels it is for some purpose so will accept each day as God wills.

We carry our cross and give thanks to our loving God, who has helped to give us strength to endure and be still. We praise our Loving Redeemer for all His grace that has brought us thus far, and grace will lead us Home.

Will's experience too was very impressive. Often I was concerned about my spiritual welfare and thought many times of the end—would I reach the end safely? A dream I had about Feb. 12, 1956 (I can't remember dates very good,

but this one stands fresh in my mind) has greatly strengthened me, and I often think of it; almost every day it comes to me.

In my dream I saw the people of our church walking on the Path of Life. All walked together on the road, and after awhile we came to a fork in the road; one went straight, and one a little to the side. The path going straight was very rough and stony, and the other was most beautiful and like a green meadow, and such an easy way to walk. At the entrance was a sign that read, **This road will join the other before coming to the end.** Since it was a much easier path to walk it appealed to many, and a great many chose this path, including me. We could see the other road for some time, but as we went farther it gradually took us farther from the straight path and we couldn't see it anymore. My heart became heavy, and the farther I went the heavier I became. I soon realized this was not the road to heaven. I stopped and prayed for grace to turn back, which I did, went to the fork, and started down the narrow, straight road. This was a much harder road to walk, as it was so rough, but it was safe and others were also traveling it. I found it was much easier to walk if I stayed in the middle of the road, for if I got to the edge there were so many things reaching out to grab me. Also along the way were big cactus hanging over the fence, and I had to stay in the very middle of the road so I didn't get into the thorns.

I did the best I could and kept on walking. Once in a while someone would pass me, going confidently ahead. After walking along for some time, we came to the end of the road, and before us was a river. Ahead was a sign that read, **All have to cross this river to get into the Promised Land.** The water was about forty feet below us, and some had faith and courage and without any hesitation jumped into the water, brothers and sisters alike. Some hesitated and stood looking down at the water which seemed so far below. I stood there and cried, as I was afraid to jump; I couldn't swim. I then prayed for help, and then my eyes fell on a little sign with the words **For those of little faith.** This sign was on a pole, thin and very slick, yet gave support for those weak

ones like me. I took hold the pole and began to slide toward the water, and before I was halfway down my faith came back, and I had courage to let go of the pole and jumped into the water. I said, "Lord, here I come." I had a struggle, but had enough grace to keep my head above the water, and after sometime felt my feet touch something. I found I now had solid footing and could walk the rest of the way across. Then I stood, not knowing where to go, as I didn't see any of my companions. I was feeling very lonely when I saw a light, so started to walk toward it, and then I heard singing, the most beautiful singing coming from above me somewhere. I stopped to find where it came from, and then high up on a hill I saw a city, The New Jerusalem. I felt I must get there, and looked for a path leading to it. There was no wide smooth path, but a narrow one that wound around the hill. I started on the path, and wound around and around, and ahead of me was a gate. I was about ten feet from the gate when I woke up and realized I was in my own bed. I wondered why I couldn't have gotten to the city, and then realized I was still alive. Three days later I had to go to the hospital for five weeks and was very sick. This dream was ever before me and brought comfort and strength to me many times.

I could go on and on to tell of the great love of God, especially to our beloved youth, that He yet calls sinners to repentance. It is good if we always pray, but prayer is not enough; we must watch and pray every day.

Greetings to all Believers in Christ, and may the grace of God be with you, and may we all meet in Heaven. Your needy old Brother and Sister in Christ, Will and Ida Huber.

TAMAHATA, JAPAN Willis R. Ehnle

The meetings at Tamahata Church are presently being taken care of by Bro. Akito Inoue, who travels all the way from Yokohama, where he is employed, to have a Sunday morning meeting. Heretofore, I have gone over in the afternoons from Shioda, but the folks there have long desired to have a morning service. The young people at Tamahata also prefer to have a young brother like Akito, who can

speak Japanese in a much more expressive manner than I do.

We had a blessed day here at Shioda. There were about 15 adults present. After our afternoon service, which was mostly singing with a Bible reading and short meditation by Bro. Uchida, as I had the morning sermon, a group of us stayed on and sang some more. Two young men, Saito San and Shimura San, stayed and helped us sing. Shimura San is a crippled man, as he had polio as a child. He gets around on a three-wheeled bicycle. Before, when we went to Tamahata each Sunday afternoon, we did not have the opportunity to fellowship leisurely as we did yesterday.

Sis. Judy Bauer is expected to arrive in Japan on Sunday evening, Feb. 14. We shall meet her with joy and the right hand of fellowship, and are determined to so arrange things that her stay in Japan will not be an unnecessary hardship for her, but we hope it will be enjoyable and spiritually beneficial. We are seeking someone to replace Sis. Carol Schrenk this summer. Some have been invited, but nothing is decided.

I work part-time with an American-Japanese joint-venture company in Tokyo, and on Jan. 5 I went with two of the men from my company to make New Year's greeting calls on several of our customers. At one of the customers, after visiting about many things pertaining to the business, the customer, Mr. Akiyama, who is an old acquaintance of mine, looked at me and said as a joke, "What's the matter with you, Ehnle? Your eyes are all red like you have been drinking."

I replied that the truth was there was so much tobacco smoke in the room that it made tears come to my eyes, especially since I don't smoke and I am not accustomed to it. The customer, Mr. Akiyama, went on to say that I don't smoke, don't drink, and don't do this, that and the other thing but that it can't be helped since I am a preacher, jokingly insinuating that such a thing was a pity. The men from my company definitely assured Mr. Akiyama that I would not do the things of which he spoke and I replied, "It isn't a pity that I am as I am, but it is rather a pity that others do not believe in and follow God. Everyone should do so."

Our friendly conversation ended

there. It is written in I Peter 3:15, "But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear".

I have been thinking; we have many rules in our church, but that you cannot be happy is not one of them. I, for one, intend to be very happy, almost to the point of being exuberant. I believe that in the long run the rules, based on the Bible, will help me to maintain that joy and help in passing it on to others.

REMINGTON Anna M. Waibel

The annual church meeting was the 1st Tues. of the year as usual and was well attended. Bros. Harold Waibel, Ben Braker, Albert Schini and Sis. Esther Bahler were elected for the various vacancies.

One must make changes from time to time or we do not make progress. It applies to us, be it in our business, church or nation. It is an art to get along with others. Our mother use to tell us similar to the one following: Two animals went to get a drink, but quarreled who should drink first. When finally they saw if they did not agree peaceably, both their lives were endangered, decided to drink together, and it behooves us all to do likewise.

Nora Knochel (Bro. Al and Sis. Evelyn) had an emergency operation Jan. 20. She is home again doing well.

Bros. Herman Kellenberger—Elgin and Leroy Huber, Eureka, were here Jan. 24 to read the minutes of the conference. Bro. Merle Kaisner—Fairbury and Earl Gerber, Forrest, blest us with their presence. We are always grateful for all who worship with us.

Bro. Sam and Sis. Elsie Kilgus had their 50th Wedding Anniversary Jan. 23. Their family were all together the 1st time for many years, including her sisters from Rockville, Sis. Lora and Sis. Clara Zahner and their husbands, also Sam's relatives. All are thankful Elsie has improved remarkably since a year ago. **Thank you note:** We wish to thank everyone who remembered us with cards, gifts, and good wishes on our 50th Wedding Anniversary. It was all appre-

ciated very much. May God bless you. Sam and Elsie Kilgus.

Bro. Earl Kilgus had a big farm sale Jan. 29, is moving to town, just one block from us, and will work with Bro. Edwin Bahlers. Farm Builders. We've had very cold weather. The morning of the sale it was snowing and blowing. By sale time it quit and warmed up remarkably, and he had a very good sale.

Our sympathy goes to Bro. Odell Pittman and family, as his mother passed away, in the southern part of the state. She has been ill for sometime.

We are happy to report Linda (Mrs. Allen) Oberlander is repenting. They have moved here from Wolcott and live where Ruben Scharlachs lived, on the farm.

Bro. Noah Schrock, Oakville, and Bro. Wendell Gudeman, Francesville were with us for services on Sun. evening.

A well-known, successful Christian business man made his will and stated at the beginning of it, the most important item in it was to confess his faith in Christ as his Lord and Saviour. He had the usual joys and sorrows, but was sustained by his faith in God and gave Him credit for his business success. He wanted his parting words to emphasize the truth of Philippians 1:21. Paul here is saying: My strength, my salvation, my joy, my all is found in Christ. He is the object of my heart's devotion and the fountain head of all grace. Incorporated into His body by the inseparable ties of His precious blood, even death will not interrupt my fellowship and union with Him. Let others dread earth's final moments, for me they will spell added gain, for I shall then find myself in the personal presence of Him who loved me so much that He died for me! Does your grace-renewed heart echo the same sentiments? Then yours is a blessed estate.

Look away from earth's attractions;
All its joys will soon be o'er;
Rest not till thy heart exclaimeth,
I have Christ! What want I more.

AKRON, OHIO Katherine Ries

And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also; knowing that tribulation worketh patience; And

patience, experience; and experience, hope." Baby Ann Marie, daughter of John and Margaret (Graf) Gallagher, who was hospitalized 10 days with pneumonia, is now recuperating at home. Maternal grandparents; Elder Bro. Rudolph and Sis. Betti Graf. Sis. Margaret (Dockus) Gangel has been undergoing tests at the hospital. Her home address: 2908 Wilbanks Dr., Barberton Ohio 44203. Fred Burr (Helen) and Howard Dockus (Alice) are now home, after being hospitalized. We pray for good health for all.

Heidi Elizabeth was born to Bro. Arthur and Sis. Audrey (Bahler) Graf, Jan. 28. Both are at home doing well. Maternal grandmother: Sis. Olga Bahler (Rockville). Paternal grandparents: Elder Bro. Rudolph and Sis. Betti Graf.

We extend our good wishes and pray for the Lord's blessings upon Bill and Sis. Fredda Von Guten, who plan to quietly celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary with their children and grandchildren March 19, at their winter home: 203 Fairweather Lane, Ft Myers Beach Fla 33931, P. O, Bx. 6093,

Graveside services were held by Elder Bro. Rudolph Graf for the infant son of Earl and Diane Ritzman, 3134 Loyal Oak Dr., Barberton, O., 44203, who passed away at birth Jan. 5. Beside the parents, he is survived by a sister, Amy, and a brother, Jeffery; grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Roland Snellenberger and Sis. Marie Ritzman. Sympathy to our young friends, Earl and Diane.

BRADFORD Rebecca Endress

"A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver." Bro. Al Aberle of Tremont brought us words fitly spoken when he spent a Sunday with us in January. He reminded us that if we expect to take our place with the great men of old in eternity, then we should walk on earth as becometh saints.

We assembled with Princeville to hear the report of the conference.

Pamela Kieser, daughter of Bro. David and Sis. Shirley, and Kent Knobloch, son of Bro. Robert and Sis. Marvel, were hospitalized for surgery. They have both returned home and are getting along fine. Bro. Herman Dietz was dismissed from Mayo Clinic, where he had

surgery. He is getting along pretty well and is able to assemble with us again.

Two young couples are making wedding plans. Freddie Endress, son of Sis. Lois, is engaged to Joni Belsley, Morton; and Dick Tanner, son of Bro. John and Sis. Margaret, is engaged to Marilyn Wiegand of Goodfield. Our best wishes go to both of them.

Our best wishes are extended to S/Sgt. and Mrs. Victor W. Koelling, who were married. He is the son of Levi and Mary Koelling of Bradford, and she is the former Frances Marie Michief of Alexander, Louisiana. They are at home at 2020 Day St., Alexander La., where he is stationed at England Air Force Base.

Card of Thanks: I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks for remembering me with prayers, cards and gifts, letters and visits while I was in the hospital at Rochester, Minn., and since returning home. They were appreciated very much. May God bless each of you. Herman Dietz.

BREMEN Mrs. Willard Feldman

My gift was delivered at seven,
Just as I woke where I lay;
A gift was marked—From heaven;
My gift was this beautiful day.
One wonderful shining good
morning,
Entrusted by God to my care,
It came bearing only this warning:
Fragile — handle with prayer.

Note of Thanks: The family of William Leman Sr. wish to express our appreciation for the many prayers, cards, visitations and loving deeds bestowed upon us during the long illness and death of our dear husband and father. We truly miss his earthly presence, but have the comfort of knowing that he is now at home with his heavenly Father.

We were deeply saddened by the news of the death of Mrs. Gertrude Schuck Thomas on Jan. 11 at her home in Albuquerque, N.M., following a stroke a few days before. Surviving with her husband, Theodore, are two children, Sylvia Gibson (Gallup, N.M.) and Grant at home; two sisters, Mathilda Aldrich, (Tuscon), Mrs. Sophia Jones (Pompano Beach, Fla.); and four brothers, David Schuck (Bourbon),

Bro. Sam, Bro. John, and Jacob, all of Bremen. Our heartfelt sympathy to the family.

Our love goes out to Mr. and Mrs. Dean Gudeman in the death of their son, Steve. Our deepest sympathy to Steve's grandmother, Sis. Clara Klopfenstein of our congregation. Our love and sympathy is extended to Sis. Pauline Laidig and the Binkeley family in the loss of their mother, Sis. Emma Binkele of Peoria. May the love and prayers and her precious teachings continue to be felt and heeded by all who knew her.

Jan. 16, a daughter Wendy Jane, was born to Mr. and Mrs. James Laidig. Her sisters, Donna and Melissa and brother Timmy, joined to welcome her to their home. Bro. Si and Sis. Pauline Laidig are the grandparents.

We are happy to report Bro. Sam Schuck is able to fellowship and worship with us again. Sis. Elizabeth Yackley is recuperating at home, but is still unable to assemble with us again. Elmer Meister is convalescing at home from an operation. We wish him a speedy recovery. Sis. Pauline Nicholas is hospitalized, after a fall at her home.

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Germann returned from England. Kenneth had hip surgery at an England hospital. We are thankful to God for His care over them on their trip, also for the Lords guiding hand on the surgeon and His healing power to make the operation successful. He is able to assemble with us and to help with the farm chores.

Isn't the love of Jesus wonderful. This is what we experienced through Bro. Joe Waibel's visit to us Jan. 23 and 24. He and Bro. Earl Zeltwanger read the memorandum . . . also shared experiences of his trip to India. We appreciate his love and interest for us.

Our church collection for the Silver Lining will be in March.

ELGIN, ILLINOIS Louise Steffen Katie Kachelmuss

Come, my Friend, and take me
sunder;
From all tumult make me free.
Let me sit like Mary yonder
In true solitude with Thee.
Solitude and quietness
Leads to everlasting rest.

This hymn was chosen at the start of a Lord's Day service, and

it brought to mind a Sunday morning quite some time ago, when sitting in church beside Sis. Hattie Rein; this hymn was chosen that morning, and she said that when she lived in Oklahoma, their elder chose this hymn at the start of every Sunday morning service, as he felt this very fitting.

Bros. Ben Maibach and Floyd Wieland of Detroit and Albert Fisher of Chicago visited us, served us with the Bread of Life. The elders aided in sharing the Memorandum with us. Bro. Al Langhofer was with us for an evening service. **Thy Messengers Thou sendest, by them to us extendest, the Living Bread of Heaven.** May God bless them for their labor of love.

Sis. Bertha (Samuel) Clauss, 121 S. Worth Ave., Elgin Ill. 60120, Lester Heiniger, R. 2, Box 65, Elgin Ill 60120 were hospitalized and are now at home with their loved ones. Debbie, young daughter of Bro. Nathan and Sis. Marilyn Steffen, R. 3, Box 207, Elgin Ill 60120 had a fall in her home and had to be hospitalized for a time. We wish God's blessings and help for all the sick, shut-ins and elderly, and those who care for them.

We extend our sympathy to Bro. Elmer Getz and family in the sudden passing of his father, Bro. George Getz of Tremont.

On Jan. 29, Sue, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Ford of San Rafael, California, became the bride of James, son of Bro. Earl and Sis. Janet Moser. The newlyweds will be living at 809 W. Illinois St., Apt. 7, Urbana Ill 61801. We wish them God's blessings in their future life together.

Sis. Bertha Clauss wishes to express her thanks for the prayers, cards and gifts while in the hospital and since returning home. May God bless each and everyone.

FAIRBURY Joyce Huber

It has been announced that Bro. Vernon Hartman is a new trustee and Bro. Warren Hartman an usher, replacing those whose terms expired.

We are saddened by the passing of Bro. Chris Steffen, 64, at the Carle Hospital in Urbana, where he had been taken because of his heart condition. His wife, Sis. Ida (Zehr) survives; and Sis. Marjorie (Traub) Leman, who was with them for many years. His brothers

and sisters surviving are: Bros. Sam, Ezra, Alpha, Andy and Sisters Lena, Clara, Louise Sabo, and Lydia Bachtold.

Sis. Martha Widmer suffered a stroke, leaving her in the hospital paralyzed on the right side, and unable to speak. Also hospitalized were Sis. Clara Zehr, Clara Bender, Bro. Dan Meiss, Bro. Fred Feldman, and Lydia Haab.

Bro. Dan Roth has been home on a month's furlough and leaves for Viet Nam. While Dan was home, his parents, Bro. and Sis. Earl Roth took a trip to Spain, which they had won.

Notes: I wish to thank everyone who remembered me while I was in the hospital and since returning home with cards, gifts, visits, and prayers. It was all much appreciated. May God bless you for your deeds of kindness. Sis. Amelia Zimmerman. We would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere thanks to the Fairbury and Forrest community for the gifts, sympathy, and love shown in the death of our loved one, Omar Weiser of Denver. Services were conducted by Bro. Theo. Beer of Milford and Bro. Joshua Broquard. Laura Weisser, Wm. and Evangeline Crawford, James and Laura Lee Woodson.

FORT LAUDERDALE

The visiting ministers were Bros. Joe Schrock (Congerville), Al Schneider and Roy Luginbuhl (Rockville), and Roy Sauder (Peoria). We were very thankful and happy to have these ministering brothers with us and hope God will bless them for their efforts.

Sis. Mary Erkert was in the hospital, but is home again and feeling much better.

Bro. Bob and Sis. Caroline Yergler went to Bluffton to celebrate their Silver Wedding Anniversary, and we hope that the Lord adds many more years to their married life.

The second Sunday of January we held our General Meeting and elected the following Bros., Fred Myers, trustee; Robert Yergler, Sunday School Supt.; George Bolliger and Roger Sauder, Ushers; and Ken Troxel, Treasurer.

We are happy to hear that our dear friend Fran Black has decided to give his heart to the Lord, and we hope and pray that the Lord

will grant him grace.

We were sorry to hear that Fran Black's father passed away, and wish to extend our deepest sympathy. His father made his home in North Miami.

City of Ft. Lauderdale

Our city is called the "Venice of America" because of the many waterways throughout our area. Our population is approx. 150,000 and growing very fast; although we use the name Ft. Lauderdale, the church is located in the small city of Plantation, where most of the members live. We are near the large City of Miami on the south and Pompano Beach on the north. The weather is humid in the summer, with the temperature about 90 to 95 degrees, and in the winter about 75.

GRIDLEY, ILLINOIS Ruth Gramm

"Now wash me and I shall be whiter than snow." As I wash dishes and look out my kitchen window upon the purity of God's new-fallen snow, I see the glistening diamond sparkles of God's wonderful sunshine on the fluffy, pure white snow. I ponder. Is my heart really "Whiter than Snow", Then I thank Jesus for only His blood could cleanse such a heart and cover the ugly scars of selfishness and sin. With the covering of Jesus blood and love, we too can be "Whiter Than Snow".

Lord Jesus for this I most humbly entreat;

I wait, blessed Lord, at Thy crucified feet.

By faith for my cleansing, I see Thy blood flow—

Now wash me and I shall be whiter than snow.

Among our shut-ins have been Sis. Mary Gramm, Friends June Zimmerman, and Ike Gundy, who all had surgery but are home and recuperating nicely. Our aged sisters, Lizzie and Katie Funk, who have been hospitalized since their car accident, are still not improving too much. Bro. John Schlipf has been having difficulty with a slipped disc in his back and will be admitted to the Methodist Hospital in Peoria on Feb. 11, for surgery.

Jerry and Sis. Ada (Klopfenstein) Christensen are the parents of a new son, Jason.

Visiting ministers have been Bro. Frances Roether from Morton and Bro. Merle Laukhuf from Latty. How thankful we are for such servants of God.

We were inspired at our Monthly Hymn sing by the message in song from **The Hymnsmen of Eureka** and the dear young members of our own congregation. May we ever be thankful to God to be able to live in a land where we can praise God with our hearts and voices.

Bro. and Sis. Herb Gramm flew to Phoenix to be with their son Jim, who is starting to repent. We certainly wish Jim much grace. Jim is going to school there.

GRIDLEY

Edna Somerhalder — Wilma Young

The Golden Age Counsels

When I came under conviction 47 years ago and felt my lost condition at the age of 23 years, I knew I had to make a change in my walk of life. When I asked God to help me, I found the love He had for a sinner (but not for the sins he commits). How willing He was to help and forgive me, when I came to Him with a broken heart asking for His help and guidance. Then after I was converted and taken into the fold of His believing children, I could never forget how merciful the Lord was to me. The love He has for His believers and all mankind . . . what He did for me, that made me stay firm in my faith, that I would never lose that great unsurpassing love of God that the unconverted person knows nothing of. We all need His grace, which is undeserved love. It should've been us who had to suffer for our wrongs instead of our Lord Jesus, who sacrificed His life for the love of mankind on that old rugged cross. We can never repay our loving Saviour for what He has done for us.

"This letter was written by Bro. Sam Kraft, one who has taught Sunday School 19 years, and has been serving on the church committee for the last 28 years. Recently three of his grandchildren have been converted."

"For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened." How refreshing to hear the testimony of faith given by Douglas Kraft, son of Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Nadine. He was bap-

tized on Sunday, following the afternoon services. We welcome him as a brother in Christ.

Visiting ministers have been Elder Bro. Samuel Anliker, Bros. Samuel Huber, Raymond Banwart, Max Reimchisel, Al Langhofer and Roy Wernli. We wish to thank each for their time and efforts, and welcome their return.

We extend our sympathy to Bro. Albert and Sis. Hannah Grimm in the passing of Ben Grimm of Sabetha, Albert's brother.

Rhonda Owens, (8-mo.-old granddaughter of Sis. Wilma Young) spent 8 days in the hospital with double pneumonia . . . glad to report, she is recuperating. Bro. Sam and Sis. Esther Kraft have recuperated sufficiently to attend church.

Leon Bahr, grandson of Sis. Lydia Bahr, has completed his boot training for National Guard. Samuel Somerhalder has completed his 2 years in the Army. He returned from Germany after spending 19 months there. Those who have had a son serve overseas can realize how thankful we are to have him home. He is the son of Bro. Joseph and Sis. Edna.

As I'm writing this, the snow is falling fast . . . all is white . . . trees are covered with ice . . . a beautiful sight.

KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY Mrs. Daryl Meyer

The month of January was relatively quiet, due to the semester break. Classes resumed again on Jan. 18. On Jan. 21, the members and friends gathered at the apartment of Bro. Ron and Sis. Kay Heiniger for an evening of fellowship.

Wed. evening, Jan. 27, we gathered at Danforth Chapel for a church service. Bro. Alpha Strahm, Sabetha, conducted the service, with Bro. Sam Huber, Sabetha assisting.

EUREKA Cathryn Wettstein

"The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."

Not always can we see the course
Our ship of life must sail,
But since our Father guides the
helm,
We must calmly face the gale.

Sat. evening, Jan. 16, our friends, Jane Anliker and Janet Leman were given the opportunity to bring their testimonies before the congregation. Bro. and Sis. Walter and Wilhelmina are Jane's parents; Janet's parents are Bro. and Sis. Sam and Aldine. The next day they were baptized and are now our sisters in faith. Bro. Eugene Bertschi helped in this important work.

Births: Bro. and Sis. Harvey and Sharon Martin are the parents of a baby girl, born Jan. 13; her name is Lisa Ann. She has a brother and sister at home to say welcome. Bro. and Sis. Curtis and Beth Rocke are the parents of their first child, a son born Jan. 14, named Duane Ray.

Wedding: Sis. Nancy Blunier and Bro. Gary Knepp were united in marriage by Bro. Leroy Huber, Jan. 31. Her folks are Henry and Sis. Wilma, and his parents are Bro. and Sis. Carl and Frieda. The couple will reside in Champaign. May God bless their lives together.

Bro. Carl Sinn passed away on Sat. Jan. 30; he was 93 years old and had been a resident of the Home for about three years. His funeral was held in Tremont, his former home. Sis. Pauline Miller, age 85, passed away at the Eureka Hospital Feb. 2, being a patient there for 35 days. She had been a resident of the Home for five years. Surviving are six sons, Elmer, Congerville; Jesse, Danvers; Bro. Chris, Carlock; Orville, East Peoria; Lyle and Melvin, Eureka. Five daughters—Sis. Esther Muselman, Tremont; Pauline Henley, Springfield, Penn.; Sis. Alice Kempf, Sis. Velma Leman, Sis. Clara Kempf, all of Eureka. Bro. Joe Zimmerman conducted the funeral service at the Eureka church on Feb. 5. We at the Home will surely miss these two dear souls, but we feel they have gone on to a much better place, Heaven. May God comfort the bereft ones as only He can.

Bro. Ed Geiger has been admitted into the Home. Millie McKitrich is a new resident. The following people are living in the new apartments that are joined to the Home: Minnie Flanigan; Sis. Gertrude Bauer; Sis. Nettie Rocke; Sis. Eliza Leman; Sis. Nima Zimmerman; and Edna Ranney. There are five more apartments available. Anyone interested can contact the

Home office. Usually the third Sunday evening of each month a Birthday Singing is held to observe all the birthdays that month. It seems the old folks enjoy this evening of singing hymns to the Lord.

Correction for last month: For 1970 summary of events, it should be 3 births instead of 2.

BIBLE READING

March 1, Deuteronomy, chapters 1-2; Mar. 2, 3-4; Mar. 3, 5-6; Mar. 4, 7-9; Mar. 5, 10-12; Mar. 6, 13-16; Mar. 7, 17-19; Mar. 8, 20-23; Mar. 9, 24-26; Mar. 10, 27-28; Mar. 11, 29-31; Mar. 12, 32-34; Mar. 13, Joshua 1-3; Mar. 14, 4-6; Mar. 15, 7-8; Mar. 16, 9-10; Mar. 17, 11-13; Mar. 18, 14-16; Mar. 19, 17-19; Mar. 20, 20-22; Mar. 21, 23-24; Mar. 22, Judges 1-2; Mar. 23, 3-5; Mar. 24, 6-7; Mar. 25, 8-9; Mar. 26, 10-11; Mar. 27, 12-14; Mar. 28, 15-17; Mar. 29, 18-19; Mar. 30, 20-21; Mar. 31, Ruth 1-4.

LAMAR

Bonnie Braker — Evelyn Marti

Our shepherd, Elder Bro. Sam Anliker of Lamont, was with us and reminded us of the ten virgins . . . That we too need to be ready for the Lord's coming. He reminded us how important to love one another. He said, "Once more, let me lead you to Calvary." . . . And he did. It seemed to me, as though we were getting our final instruction. What awaits us we do not know, but let's hope and pray that whatever, we might be ready. We thank Bro. Sam for coming. The love and concern shown us by our elder should make us try a little harder. We are like the children of Israel in the wilderness; we constantly need reminding and help.

The funeral of John Kibler was conducted Jan. 12 by Bro. Lester Braker and Bro. Charles Marti, prayer at the graveside by Bro. Raymond Banwart of Ft. Scott. He leaves one son, Clifford, of Altamont, Ks.; one brother, Walter (Jim) Kibler of Lamar; one sister, Nettie Weiland of Peoria. We extend them our sympathy. He was a cousin of Noah Schlupp and Emma Lanz, both of Lamar.

Mrs. Thelma Davis was admitted to the Springfield Hospital for surgery. We are thankful she is home and doing fine. Thelma is the mother of Sis. Bonnie Braker. Alma Frieden entered a Springfield Hospital for medical attention. We

hope she will soon be able to come home again, feeling much better. Bro. Virgil Frieden was admitted to a Springfield hospital for surgery, but is home again, doing fine, for which we are thankful. Sis. Arline Marti was first admitted to the Lamar Hospital and later transferred to Springfield, where she had surgery. She was very ill, but God answered the many prayers in her behalf, and now she is home again.

Roger Marti, son of Bro. Charles and Sis. Alice, had a close call, so to speak, when he was injured by a cow. He received a long deep cut on the back of his head. The cow had a new calf, and Roger went to see it. Roger said it was a tame cow!

We voted in two new Sunday School teachers to take the place of the two who went out. Coming in were Bro. Leonard Braker and Sis. Janice Frieden. Bro. Alfred Banwart was put in as usher, Bro. Noah Schlupp as trustee.

"He Was One of Us"

He was born as little children are
and lived as children do,
So remember that the Saviour
was once a child
like you,
And remember that He lived on
earth in the midst of sinful men,
And the problem of the present
existed even then . . .
He was tempted . . . He was hungry
He was lonely . . . He was sad.
There's no sorrowful experience
that the Saviour
has not had;
And in the end He was betrayed
and even crucified,
For He was truly **one of us**—
He lived on earth and died;
So do not heed the skeptics
who are often
heard to say,
"What does God up in Heaven
know of things we face today" . . .
For our Father up in heaven
is very much aware
Of our failures and shortcomings
and the burdens
that we bear;
So when ever you are troubled,
Put your problems in God's hand,
For He has faced all problems
And He will understand.

OAKVILLE

Martha Steiner

Bro. Leon and Sis. Doris Kuntz are the happy parents of a boy,

born Jan. 23. Terry Lynn came to their home on Jan. 28 and is a blessed and welcome addition. Grandparents are Bro. George and Sis. Hazel Kuntz (Oakville) and Bro. Ben and Sis. Marie Moser (Morton).

We greatly enjoyed the unexpected visit of Bro. Duane Metzger from West Bend on a Wed. evening. We have also appreciated the visits of the Burlington ministering brothers recently.

Bro. Joseph Reiman departed this life on Jan. 10, after a rather lengthy illness; he would have been 74 years old this month. He married Della Malcolm of Oakville in 1918, and they later repented together; Sis. Della passed away in 1966. Bro. Joe later married Sister Ruth (Zaugg) Hodel. Also surviving are two sons, Kenneth (Maple Valley, Washington) and Stanley (Oakville); a daughter, Sis. Josephine Martin (Mt. Union); three step-daughters, Sis. Judy Gerst (Grand Rapids, Michigan), Sis. Marjorie Hodel (Burlington), and Dorothy Rinkenberger (Morton); a brother Benjamin (Oakville), and a sister, Mrs. Sophie Shcori (Plymouth, Indiana). His son Rex passed away nearly twenty years ago. We greatly miss Bro. Joe, who was one of the steadfast pillars of our church.

PHOENIX

Wilma Pulfer

Our congratulations go to Jack and Susan (Knochel) Hill, who were married on Jan. 2 in the home of Susan's parents, Bro. Ted and Sis. Madeline Knochel. Also to Roger and Marsha (Lemons) Banks, who were married on Jan. 22. Marsha is the daughter of Bro. Floyd and Sis. Clara Banwart. We wish both couples many blessings as they start their married life together.

Ministering brothers visiting our congregation with their families were Bro. Albert Scheitlin of Elgin, Bro. Phil Sauder of Cissna Park, and Bro. Henry Manz of Junction. We enjoyed their teachings and fellowship and hope they will come again.

Leaving our congregation are Ron and Faye Hoenes and their three sons, Jeff, Vernon, and Clifford. Ron has finished his schooling here. We will miss them and hope they will visit us again.

REUTLINGEN, GERMANY Philip and Janice Webber

One's faith is always confirmed in a special way by finding it shared by believers in a different country, who speak a different language, and whose life patterns may differ from our own. We thank the Lord that in essentials there is unity, in non-essentials liberty, but in all things charity.

We want to extend a hearty welcome to all to visit and fellowship with us. Our address in Germany is: D-741 Reutlingen, Durerstrasse 98, (bei Ludwig Gall). Our accommodations are less than spacious (2 rooms), but all are welcome to our humble home.

A special note: we don't claim to be experts, but we do both speak German, and would gladly help servicemen or others, where needed, to "get introduced" to the German churches and their members.

RITTMAN

Florence Hartzler—Janette Blough

Funeral services were held for Bro. Robert Gasser, who passed away after a long illness. He is survived by his parents, Bro. and Sis. Carl Gasser of Girard; sons, Jim, Jerry, Jeff and Neil; and daughters, Sis. Barbara and Beverly Moore. Also surviving are a brother, Bro. Bill Gasser of Rittman, and a sister, Evelyn Howley of Phoenix. His wife, Sis. Elda, died a year ago. Our sympathy is extended to the family.

Beverly and Randy Moore are the new parents of a little son, Robert Lee. He is their first child.

We are happy to report that Don Spangler has turned to the Lord in repentance. Don is the husband of Sis. Louise Spangler.

Those on our sick list include Sis. Elda Indermuhle, who fell and required surgery on her knee. Others hospitalized for surgery are Bro. Will Riegenbach and Sis. Wilma Ramsier. Sis. Elizabeth Beery was hospitalized for a short time. Bill Young was in the hospital, and Mark Maibach had surgery on his ears.

The engagement of Bro. Denny Neiman, son of Bro. Charles and Sis. Delphine Neiman, to Sis. Kay Endress of Princeville has been announced. May our Lord direct them as they plan their life together.

Bro. Marvin Dotterer, son of Bro. John and Sis. Betty Dotterer, has left for the military service. We

pray the Lord will go with him and guide and protect him.

Sis. Emma Maibach fell and fractured her arm. She was in the hospital for a short time, but is now home.

When the World Relief meeting was held at Rittman in November, a sister from Bluffton found that her coat was taken by mistake. Anyone attending these meetings should check to make sure if they have their right coat. The coat that was left is now at the Rittman church.

WEST BEND

Mrs. Melvin Fehr Mrs. A. Banwart

The kind invitation of the Lord has been heard by Lyle Rick, son-in-law of Bro. Noah Anliker, who has been granted grace to turn to God in repentance. May we remember the seeking souls in our prayers.

As we go about our daily work, remembering those with bodily afflictions will help us to appreciate more the blessing of health. Hospital patients have been Bro. Noah Gerber, Bro. Noah Anliker, and Sis. Alice (Arnold) Metzger. Others missing from our assembly for some time include Sis. Verda (Don) Bruellman, Sis. Minnie Bruellman and Sis. Rosa Zaugg. Each day has been bringing them some improvement. Sam Metzger has been moved to Clearview Manor Rest Home in West Bend. Let us not forget to take time to visit the shut-ins, to whom a word of encouragement means so much.

Richard and Dorothy Zaugg are the parents of a baby boy, Gerald George, born Jan. 20. He has 3 brothers and a sister at home.

Our thoughts go with those who serve our country. Friend Robert Gress, son of Bro. Fahy and Sis. Marie Gress has left for duty at Fort Campbell, Ky.

Bro. Noah Gerber wishes to offer his sincere thanks for the prayers and acts of kindness shown to him while he was in the hospital and since his return home.

LEO

Mrs. Elias Souder

We have had a number of hospital patients. Nancy Souder spent some time there for dental surgery. David Lantz spent several days at a hospital for congestion on his lungs, and is at home now recuper-

ating. Dean Stoller is still at the hospital, and we hope he too can be home soon with his parents, Ernie and Dean. Andrew Bertsch is home recuperating from surgery on his hip. We are glad to hear he is feeling better.

Our minister for afternoon service on Jan. 17 was Verlin Stoller from the Ft. Wayne congregation. We could feel the Lord's presence, altho' we were small in number.

Announcement of a coming wedding was made Sunday Feb. 7, Norma, daughter of Maurice and Lucille Frank of this congregation to Stan Schambach of the Elgin Ill. congregation.

In the message to the church, Bro. Rother of the Morton congregation told us the story of a builder who was hired to build a house for a wealthy man. The builder proceeded to build, cheating here a little, and then a little covering up, so it could not be seen. When he had completed his work, it looked fine, altho' he had cheapened it and made it weak by his cheating. When he told his employer it was completed, the employer told him, you can have that house; it is yours! So our brother likened the home we are building for eternity. It will be made up of the material we sent.

BERN

Esther and Stella Moser

Bro. Alvin and Sis. Mildred Strahm have a new grandson, Darin Eugene, born Jan. 15 to Eugene and Barbara Strahm Beethe, Topeka. He has a sister, Martelle to welcome him.

Our hospital patient was Adrian Strahm, baby son of Bro. Wayne and Sis. Claudia (medical). Improving, but as yet unable to worship with us are Sisters Louise Esslinger and Tillie Stoller. Tillie now has the cast removed from her leg, but must take it easy until the bone is completely healed.

Note or thanks: I wish to take this opportunity to express my thanks and appreciation for cards, gifts and prayers . . . also thanks to all who remembered me on my birthday. May God bless each one. Sis. Tillie Stoller.

Louisa Marti was born March 16, 1882 to Adolph and Mary Wenger Marti. She passed away Jan. 16 at the A. C. Home, where she had resided the past six months, at the age of 88 years. On Feb. 28, 1910

she was married to John Baumgartner, who preceded her in death in 1941. To this union were born three daughters, Mrs. Alyce Liven-good, Topeka, Mrs. Abshier, Mrs. Eula Mae Arnett, Mission, Kans. Along with her girls she raised John's three children, left motherless by the death of her sister Sarah, Bro. Louis Baumgartner, Mrs. Louise Bieri, Manhattan, and Alvie (deceased). Three sisters also survive, Sisters Minnie Meyer, Apphia Aeschliman and Miss Emma Marti. Sis. Louisa turned to the Lord in her young years. Services were held Jan. 19, with Bros. Carl Hartman and Gene Marti in charge. Burial in the church cemetery.

A journey to a grander place
Beyond the bounds of time and space

Where light is brighter than the day

And God illumines the higher way . . .
A crossing to a lovely land.

Where dear ones wait upon the strand,

Where all the noblest saints of old
Assemble on the shores of gold
To bid us welcome cordially . . .

A putting off of earthly dress,
A putting on of heavenly bliss,
No tragic words, no heavy sighs,
Some whispered love, a few good-byes,

A tasting of eternal breath—
And that is Death.

BLUFFTON

Imogene Steffen — Pat Isch

Prayer is the deepest impulse of the soul. With the power of prayer, we can lift our soul above ourself and fix our thoughts on God. The Lord does not take joy in the style of speech or the multitude of words, but rather in a fervent spirit, lifting ourselves to the heavenly bliss of His love.

The little sharp vexations

And the briars that cut the feet,
Why not take all to the Helper

Who has never failed us yet?
Tell Him about the heartache,

And tell Him the longings too,
Tell Him the baffled purpose

When we scarce know what to do.
Then leaving all our weakness

With the One divinely strong,
Forget that we bore the burden

And carry away the song.

Our community was stunned by

the tragic death of Friend Ed Beer, son of Sis. Sarah Gerber Beer. His death was attributed to massive head wounds, due to an explosion while using a cutting torch. Other survivors include his wife, Judy; three children; two sisters, Judy and Nancy; and one brother, Phillip.

An inspiring day was granted to us on Jan. 10 as Bro. Ben Manz was with us and exhorted us through the Spirit.

Sunday, Jan. 17 brought many visitors our way to witness the wedding of Sis. Linda Tonner and Bro. John Klopfenstein of Leo. Among those present were Ministering Brethren Maurice Frank, Marvin Steiglitz and David Bertsch, all of Leo. Bro. Bertsch assisted Bro. Sam Aeschliman with the wedding ceremony. Parents are Bro. Curt and Sis. Jeannette Tonner and Bro. Bill and Sis. Nancy Klopfenstein. May many blessings follow them wherever they dwell.

During a season which seems almost as one of spiritual drought, we were so fortunate to hear the testimony of Gloria Fiechter on Jan. 20 after midweek services. We again experienced the working of our ever faithful Lord, as one again turned away from this world. Gloria was then baptized the following Sunday. Her parents are Bro. Dale and Sis. Doris. We welcome her and hope for many others who might follow in this way.

Those of our congregation who have been confined to the hospital because of surgery are Bro. David Gerber, Bro. Melvin Feichter, Sis. Linda Stultz, and Friend Tim Gerber, son of Bro. Harry and Sis. Ada. Also hospitalized for treatment were Sis. Louise (Carroll) Gerber, Bro. Kenneth Schaefer and Dale Frauhofer. All have been dismissed, and we wish them continued improvement.

Bro. Emil Steffen, aged 77, was called from this earthly life Feb. 5, after an illness of one year. Survivors include his wife, Sis. Rose-lena; four sons, Bros. Leroy, Leonard, Robert and Ramon; three daughters, Sis. Luella (Harold) Aeschliman, Sis. Dina Fae (Glenn) Moser, and Mrs. Lorene (Nolan) Barger; three brothers, Bro. Joe, Sam, and William; two sisters, Sis. Leah Ringger and Sis. Mary Kipfer.

Bro. Bill Baumgartner returned home, after spending a year of

military service in Germany. We welcome him and are thankful for the Lord's guidance and protection.

Bro. John and Sis. Ella Yergler commemorated their 50th year of wedded life. They were honored with a dinner at the Fellowship Hall, with their family and many friends present.

With the love of God inspired
There is joy for us on earth;
May the Spirit we've acquired
Grant us blessing, peace and mirth.

FORT WAYNE

Mary Eisenmann — Marge Gerber

"How wonderful that we can go many miles to the House of Worship unmolested, YET! Christ has done all for us, and in return, he asks our heart. Do we truly appreciate this? If we keep the faith to life's end, we will all be together in Heaven. No fears, nor cares, nor tears, but joy and happiness evermore! Does God have a promise for YOU in the hereafter . . ." Precious words of our visiting brethren, Elder Bros. Sam Aeschliman and John Yergler of Bluffton, who brought a report of the conference on Jan. 10, and Bro. Maurice Frank of Leo on Jan. 24.

When you are sick, be not discouraged, Though no earthly help is nigh; In James 5 you'll find a Healer Who can hear your faintest cry. James 5:15, ". . . the prayer of faith shall save the sick". Sis. Mary Ella Klopfenstein was hospitalized for minor surgery and Marialyn Clauss (Stan) has her left arm in a cast, following a fall.

Our sympathy is extended to Bro. Levi Pfister in the loss of his father, Bro. Albert.

The Golden Years

Our Bro. Noah Gerber and his wife, Sis. Hulda Rager Gerber, are celebrating their Golden Wedding Anniversary. Surely the Lord has been with them through stormy days, as well as having blessed them with much joy and happiness.

Noah was born at Cissna Park on Dec. 20, 1884, the son of Bro. Paul and Sis. Susan Schrock Gerber. Noah was baptized on Nov. 11, 1909 at Oakville. The following spring they moved to Paulding County and attended church at Junction until the Latty church was established. Hulda was born at Cissna Park on Dec. 5, 1888, the

daughter of Bro. Fred and Sis. Anna Wuethrich Rager. When the Rager family came by train to a farm near Latty, they were met and taken to the Paul Gerber home for supper. Bro. Fred Rager was the first minister at Latty. Hulda relates her baptism as being in a stock tank in the church yard, when she was 16.

The engagement had been announced and the wedding set. On the day they were to get their license, Noah was kicked by a horse, receiving a head injury. The wedding plans were postponed several weeks, and then performed in the home of the bride on Feb. 9, 1921, by Elders Rauch of Bluffton and Souder of Leo. These dear ones spent their first years on his father's farm, where their four children were born: Sis. Berniece Bauman (Herbert), Sterling (Rittman); Bro. Robert, Monroe (Bluffton); Bro. Lloyd, Roanoke; Bro. Jim, Ft. Wayne.

After living in the Paulding County area, Noah and Hulda moved to Indiana 30 years ago and have resided at their present address, 3215 Varsity Lane since late summer of 1962. An open house in observance of their Golden wedding Anniversary was held at their home from 2-4:30 p.m. Sunday Feb. 7.

In looking back over the years and thinking of the old superstition that postponing one's wedding would bring bad luck, these dear ones have found it otherwise. They feel they have been wonderfully blessed. Through the years they've had their trials, like every Christian, but they feel the Lord has blessed and provided for them with a **Cup of blessings** running over. They have found much comfort in the precious promises found in the pages of the Holy Bible, the word of God.

"How does hope help?" — "It lifts one up over stormy ways that will come in our lives, as it has in theirs. It is a joy to look forward to that beautiful city where God is, when life on earth will be over, and this too helps one through trials and tribulations."

Bro. Noah expressed his thoughts as **LOOKING FORWARD** to meeting the loved ones "across the waters of death", and that would be very dark if it were not for the promise of God's help when death comes, for no earthly

friend can help. We all must meet our Maker alone!

In answer for help or advice for new converts, Noah stated, "One should always remember the **TIME** and **HOW** peace came; for it is a help all through life to cleave to. He well remembers how his load of sin kept going farther and farther westward until it set with the sun, and the next morning it didn't arise again as the sun arose in the East."

Some suggestions to overcome temptations of the pleasures of the world: 1. Church attendance, always a great joy through life; 2. Singing of our beautiful hymns, a great blessing; 3. Fellowshiping with the children of God brings great joy and pleasure.

How can we reach our young people? "One way is by bringing our children up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord from babyhood, and another is being a good example ourselves".

Bro. Noah and Sis. Hulda feel they have been well blessed in our church and feel a great love of all, as well as having love for all of God's children. They feel it would be wrong to change any church customs based upon the Holy Scriptures.

They would add that if we listen to that still small voice, we will find help in proving the good or bad spirits, and we can avoid many problems if we let the Holy Spirit be our guide.

Surely these dear ones have weathered the storms of the past, have that hope of bringing their **ship of faith** to that safe harbor, and have radiated light, love, joy, and peace to others by their walk of life. May the Heavenly Father continue to bless our dear ones, as they see their dreams and hopes fulfilled.

Bro. Noah and Sis. Hulda Gerber wish to express their thanks and appreciation to all who remembered them in any way through gifts, cards, and deeds in observance of their Golden Wedding Anniversary.

INDIANAPOLIS

Charles and Doris Neuenschwander

"It's not a disgrace to be a sinner because we were born a sinner, but it's a disgrace to remain a sinner". These words were spoken by Bro. Earl Kilgus, who worshipped with us Jan. 10.

If we ever become lonesome or disturbed, we were reminded by Bro. Harold Zeltwanger on Jan. 17 of these famous words, "What a Friend We Have in Jesus".

On Jan. 24 we were blest with two ministers, Bros. Norman Stoller and Bob Meyer. We had no services Jan. 31.

Bro. Mike and Sis. Anna Kray have much to be thankful for; their son and daughter-in-law, Michael and Nancy Kray of Columbus Ohio surrendered their hearts unto the Lord, and on Jan. 22 she gave birth to her first child. They had a daughter, whom they named Rachael.

LAMONT Betty Wernli

Heart with heart in love united,
Seek upon God's heart repose;
Let your love to flames ignited
To the Saviour upward flow.

What more could believers strive for than to be united, heart with heart in true love.

Sis. Leah Fecter is again able to be in our midst, after her surgery. She wants to thank each one for their cards and visits, and especially their prayers which she feels helped her so much to a speedy recovery.

Elder Bro. Joshua Broquard traveled to our community and helped Elder Bro. Sam Anliker with the reading of the memorandum on Sat. evening. He was willing to labor in our midst on Sunday, truly a blessed day for all. May the Lord richly bless him for his efforts, and that the warnings and admonitions we heard may bear fruit.

Several carloads traveled to help in preparing clothing for overseas shipment in World Relief Work.

Lamont and Gridley alternate mid-week services each Wed. evening at 7:30 p.m. We would welcome those traveling by this way to stop and worship with us.

Bro. Christ Sauder remains about the same at an Emporia Rest Home. Sam Enz is a hospital patient, but hopes to come home soon.

Bro. Pete Fankhauser has gone to Phoenix and Bro. Fred Luthi to California to spend the winter months.

Bro. Max Reimchisel of Wichita spent the morning of Jan. 24 with us. May he ever find strength and

courage to rightly divide the word of truth.

MAYWOOD

Elizabeth K. Kaisner

As I travel on to Heaven,
Lord, may Thy will be done;
Thou knowest what for me is best,
Till the victory is won.
I want to Jesus to be true
And do my Father's will;
In devotion, love and service,
Life's great purpose to fulfill.

We have had many visitors for this holiday season, including three ministers:

Bro. Edward Aeschliman from Union City, Bros. Alfred Bahler, Noah Herman, from Wolcott and Tucson.

The brothers revealed through the Holy Spirit the revelation of the word of God for our comfort and consolation. May His grace and Spirit guide us through this life, and bless them on their way. Our thanks be to God and to them for their visit.

It is not for me to know
What the future holds in store.
But this I surely know:
To prove my faith,
He'll try me o'er and o'er.

MILFORD

Marguerite Hoerr

Our dear sister, Mary Armbruster, was injured as she fell on the ice outside her home. Her family reports she is doing fine again, and we're most happy to anticipate her return to our church services.

My aunt, Lorene (Mrs. Earl Sorg) has submitted to major surgery at Goshen General Hospital. Prayers have been answered and she is making a satisfactory recovery, for which we are most thankful.

We have a new sister in faith in our Milford congregation. Pat Steffen, daughter of our Ministering Bro. Walter and Sis. Dot, gave the testimony of her experience with the Lord and was baptized, making her covenant with God. We welcome her as a member of our church.

Bro. Nathan Steffen of Elgin spent Sunday with us, and we are grateful for his proclamation of God's word. Our thanks to Bro. Carl Kipfer of Bluffton, who spent a Sunday with us.

MORRIS

Ann Meiss — Helen Joos

"And the LORD God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him." Two engagements were announced. They are: Sis. Linda Lehman of Roanoke to Bro. Jerel Schmidgall, and Sis. Sharon Sauder to Bro. Arnold Koehl. May their lives together be an honor and a glory to their Creator, who from the very beginning sanctioned this blessed bond of marriage.

Elder Bro. Leo Moser from Lester was with us Sunday Jan. 17. He assisted Bro. Paul in bringing the timely warnings of the memorandum.

We sadly bade farewell to three young men from our congregation, who left for service in the Army. They are Doug Wulf and Bros. Dale Koehl and Beirnie Messner. Let us all pray for our servicemen and remember that we are in the service of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

A daughter, Jodi Lynn, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Robert Heil on Jan. 21. She is welcomed home by a sister and three brothers.

Our dear old sister in faith, Clara Moser, was hospitalized after being stricken by a stroke. May the Lord again strengthen and heal her. Also hospitalized was Bro. Glen Domnick. He underwent surgery and is now at home recuperating.

An exciting, yet very blessed week-end was in store for our Morris congregation on the 30th and 31st of January. Amid blowing and drifting snow, many brothers and sisters struggled to the church to hear the moving testimonies of Lois Moser and Peg Gramm. Assisting in this important work was Bro. George Gramm from Gridley, Peg's grandfather. On Sunday, Bro. George and Bro. Elmer Schmidt from Winthrop ministered to us, and we then witnessed the baptisms of the two souls. We are thankful for the company that could be with us to help welcome these two new sisters in Christ.

PURDUE UNIVERSITY

Emily Heinold — Linda Laidig

At the beginning of a new semester we must check into the classes we are enrolled in, but do we also remember to check into God's school every day of our life? Many blessings may be ours if we check into God's school every morn-

ing with, "Here I am Lord, use me and teach me today." And again check out at night with, "Thank you, Lord."

Jan. 10 was the first Sunday services were ever held at Purdue. A large group gathered together, and we received many teachings from Bros. Wendell Gudeman and Edwin Bahler. We thank them for lending themselves and for giving us guidance in planning for services on a trial basis, at various times in the future.

Only one midweek service has been held here since the last writing, as we had our holiday vacation and semester break. We thank Bro. Vernon Schwab for bringing us the word on Jan. 13.

We welcome Bro. Bill Baumgartner from Bluffton; he attends school here since returning from his Army duty. Best wishes are extended to Bro. Clint and Sis. Gayle Bucher, as they leave Purdue and move to South Bend where he is employed.

ROANOKE

Marilyn Weyeneth—Norene Herbst

The announcement of Sis. Linda Leman to Jerel Schmidgall of Morris was made on Jan. 10. Parents are Bro. Wilmer and Sis. Lavinia Leman and Bro. Wayne and Sis. Dorothy Schmidgall of Morris. Bro. Ervin and Sis. Alice Kempf announce the engagement of their daughter, Gail Marie, to Lyle E. Smith of Peoria. Sis. Kathy Fischer was announced to Bro. Keith Funk, Gridley, on Feb. 7. Parents are Bro. Earl and Sis. Martha (Fischer) Bowald and Bro. Eugene and Sis. Kathryn Funk of Gridley.

A daughter, Brenda, was born to Bro. Robert and Sis. Christine Hartter, Feb. 6. She is their first child.

Margaret DeSigne has been a patient at Mayo Clinic, Rochester since Dec. 31. Sis. Faith (Marvin) Fischer was a patient there, but has now returned to her home. Sis. Esther (Ray) Beer was a patient at the hospital in Eureka. Ollie Kempf is recuperating at her home from a fall on the ice. Bro. Charles Farney, 83, fell in his home and broke his hip. He is in the Methodist Hospital at Peoria.

Bro. Henry Manz of Junction was our guest minister Jan. 24. On Feb. 3, Bro. Russell Rapp (Morton) conducted short services and assisted Bro. Gene Bertschi in rela-

ting the conclusions of the Conference.

Sis. Fannie Minger is making her home at the Roanoke Manor Nursing Home in Roanoke. She was 90 years old Feb. 5.

Our friend, Curtis Knepp's orders were changed from Viet Nam to Milan, Italy.

Our annual business meeting was held on Jan. 20. Bro. Clarence Aeschleman was voted in as trustee. Bro. Don Sauder was chosen to take care of the World Relief Fund, and Bro. Ben Hodel the Home for the Handicapped.

Services for Ben Weyeneth, a former Roanoke resident, were at Wilton Mortuary Feb. 6. He was born Nov. 17, 1887, a son of Alpheus and Rosa Garber Weyeneth, and was married to Ida M. Haecker in Chicago July 9, 1914. Surviving are his widow; three sons, Eugene of Westport (Conn.), Alpheus of Eureka, and Carl of Peoria; two daughters, Mrs. Edward (Margaret) Gale and Mrs. Jack (Rosemary) Heintzman, both of Peoria. Also surviving are four sisters, Sis. Elizabeth Broquard of Peoria, Sis. Anna Leman and Sis. Esther Weyeneth, both of Roanoke, Sis. Mary Reiman, Florida; and three brothers, Bro. Michael and Lester, both of Peoria, and Bro. Silas (Jim) Weyeneth of Roanoke.

SARASOTA Philip Wingeier

The Bible contains many books, and we are taught throughout all generations how that God in his mercy did lead mankind. We often read the book of Jonah, which tells of a man who tried to escape the command of God, for God had asked him to go to the great wicked city of Nineveh, to preach to them how they should turn from their sins. Now the Lord had prepared a great fish to swallow up Jonah. Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights. We are now living in the days of our Lord Jesus, from whom we as Jonah are unable to hide from his presence.

Bro. Joe Schrock and Sis. Esther, who have been with us for some time are now leaving for their home. We have enjoyed them very much.

On Jan. 31, Bro. Roy Sauder ministered unto us; we received many rich blessings. We thank them for their visit.

On Feb. 3 we had our annual meeting, which was very well attended. Our treasurer gave a very good report. A new trustee was chosen, and another usher. We are very pleased to have brothers who are willing with God's grace to take part in this worthy cause.

Our conversation was directed by the good Spirit of the Lord. The question was brought forth, when is the time for us to buy land for future church in Sarasota; voting by ballot, all sincerely "agree," that the present is the "time." We have different land sites located; now we wait upon the Lord, to help us make the right choice. We sincerely need everyone's prayer and support in every way.

Place of church: The Women's Club Building, Palm Ave. and Park Ct., 1:00 E.S.T.

TAYLOR

Mrs. Eli Sutter—Mrs. Bill Heimer

Bro. George Hoerr was elected trustee at the annual business meeting held in January. The teachers are to be elected in September.

Those in the hospital were Trent, 20-month-old son of Bro. Stan and Linda Heimer with double pneumonia, and sixteen-month-old Erin, daughter of Myron and Debbie (Heimer) Barkley, with tonsillitis. Also in the hospital was Sis. Betty (George) Hoerr with phlebitis. They have all returned home and are getting along quite well. Sis. Clara (Perry) Yackley also suffered with phlebitis, but was not hospitalized.

Connie Plank, daughter of Buddy and Barbara (Hoerr) Plank began a course to become a Clinical Laboratory Technician at Blessing Hospital. At the time she was to begin the class, she became ill with jaundice, but has recovered sufficiently to continue her studies.

We were so glad to have Bro. Albert Wuthrich spend a Sunday with us to bring us a message from God's word. He and his wife, Sis. Elizabeth spent a few days with their daughter, Sis. Lois and Bro. James Sutter and family.

Our sympathy is extended to Bro. William Cottrell and family in the death of his father, Willil Cottrell, 71, of LaGrange, Mo. He is survived by his wife and three sons, William, Robert, James.

Bros. Noah Schrock and Al Fisher came on Sat. Jan. 23, to read and

meditate on the memorandum and also spent Sunday with us. It humbles us to see how much time and effort the brothers take in their deliberations and then to bring it to all the churches. It is deeply appreciated by all of us.

TOLEDO

Diane Reineck

On Jan. 31, our congregation was served Holy Communion by Elder Bros. Rudy Graf and Ben Maibach. At this time our Elder Bro. Rudy terminated his many years as elder of the Toledo Church. Bro. Ben Maibach is our new elder. The conference letter was then read and explained to us.

TUCSON

Tucson Sewing Circle

Our visiting elders were Bro. Roy Farney, Phoenix; Bro. Carl Kinsinger, California. Our visiting ministers were Bro. Henry Manz, Junction; Bro. Fred Knapp, Congerville; Bro. Richard Schupbach, Phoenix. We really appreciate the precious teaching they shared with us. Our weather has been so nice, with warm sunny days and cool nights. The Tucson congregation and our winter visitors all enjoyed our monthly fellowship dinner in the church dining room. The birthdays of the month were recognized, and the evening spent in singing hymns.

The Golden Years Give Counsel
Noah Herman

I would like to share with you some of the fond memories I have of a departed father, who grew old in years and wise of heart, through many hardships. In his prayers and in his conversation, he would repeat many times how we must live in newness of life. This is a tremendous statement, as it says in Romans 6:4, even so we also should walk in newness of life. He would go on to say, You know some people say the church is in a rut, but if this rut gets us to heaven it's good enough for me. This brother was Will Yoder of the Peoria church.

URBANA

Teresa Hufford
Susan Zimmerman

"Count your many blessings and it will surprise you what the Lord hath done . . ."

We complain at the weather, we hastily utter a harsh word, we

don't bother to smile at a passing stranger . . . and then, we're ashamed—for we think of our many blessings! We get so swept away in our daily cares that it's easy to forget how the Lord has blest us. Oh, of course, we thank God for the food before us and whisper a tired "Bless me and keep me" before we tumble into bed each night, but do we realize what others have to eat? Are we thankful for our parents? our shoes? the sunshine? and a smile on a dreary day? Truly, God has been very good to us—let us not forget to thank Him sincerely more often.

We are thankful that more souls have been taken into the Fold. Baptisms for Bro. Leon Rinkenberger, Bro. Ken Rinkenberger, Bro. Dennis Kaufmann, and Sis. Mardel Knapp were held in Cissna Park. They are all students in Champaign-Urbana. We wish them grace and strength as they begin their walk as children of God.

To me is given boundless mercy,
A gift that I did not deserve.
Such wond'rous love it is so
marv'lous
That such for me should be
reserved . . .
But since I know I will rejoice
And praise thy mercy with my
voice.

WINTHROP

Delores Messerli — Carol Messner

An ideal home cannot be built with compass, rule, or square.
An ideal home cannot be built without our Saviour there.
A place you find just filled with love no matter where you roam,
Where Jesus Christ does reign supreme, Ah there's an ideal home.

Duane and Mona Messner are parents of a new baby girl, Kari Elizabeth. Sara and Danny welcome her home. Bro. George & Sis. Esther are the paternal grandparents.

Bro. Dick Schmidt was hospitalized with surgery. Sis. Lois Messner (Marlyn) was hospitalized for surgery. They are recovering at home. Many prayers are offered for Sis. Carrie Messner. May the good Lord heal her of her affliction and give her strength to gather with her dear ones in faith in the house of worship.

Stan and Jeanine Messner, son of Bro. Ray and Sis. Bernadine,

have returned from service in the Navy. We thank the Lord for watching over both.

We held our annual meeting at church. Bro. Dennis Messner was reelected Sunday School superintendent. Bro. Leo Messner was put in for Junior Bible class, and Sis. Pearl Lienemann for the first grade class.

Are we Christians ever in places where we feel we shouldn't be, and try not to act like we're part of the crowd? What would be our answer to the Lord if He came while we were there? what excuse could we give?

BURLINGTON, IOWA

Verna Woodward — Edna Pohl

At our annual meeting we elected three trustees, bringing our board to five members. Bro. Marvin Woodward was chosen for a five-year term; Bro. Dale Massner, four; and Bro. Gary Anliker, three. They will serve this year along with Bro. Allan Massner, who has two years left, and Bro. Richard Taeger with one year remaining.

Sis. Edna Pohl was elected to be our new Silver Lining reporter.

We were privileged to meet with the Oakville congregation to hear the reading of the memorandum. Bro. Dan Koch assisted Bro. Noah Schrock in bringing us the guidelines and admonitions set forth at the meeting. May God bless them for their untiring efforts in caring for the flock.

Quite a large group braved a very chilly evening to gather with us for our monthly song service. Inside, our hearts were warmed as we sang sweet praises to our Lord.

Little Keith Massner, son of Bro. Dale and Sis. Evelyn, was back in church Sunday, after having been hospitalized and then confined to his home for several weeks.

BURLINGTON, OKLAHOMA

Janice Frieden — Janice Springer

The Lord again has given His counsel and His love.
He came to live among us
His promise to fulfill.

God's counsel was given to our congregation when Ministering Bros. Ben Fehr and Jim Lehman, Roanoke, visited us. Bro. and Sis. Huber Farney held a singing for Bro. and Sis. Fehr; Bro. and Sis. Lehman; and Bro. and Sis. Bob

Sherer, who flew the others here. We were so thankful for their words of love, and that God granted them a safe journey home.

Hospital patients included Sis. Betsy Diel, Sis. Beatrice Diel, and Ministering Bro. Eli Somerhalder. Eli is in church again, and we pray God's strength and love will bring the others back soon.

We had the thrill of knowing how young voices can sing a sermon of their own, when visitors from Bern, Sabetha, and Ft. Scott joined us the week-end of Jan. 30 and 31. Bro. and Sis. John Kraft and Bro. and Sis. Ronald Allenbach opened their homes for a supper and singing on Sat. evening. Then on Sunday our hearts soared with the peace and love of God at the beauty and sincerity in the singing, plus the blessed messages of our ministering brothers. God truly blessed us.

One of our ministering brothers said, "Are we serving the Creator or the creation?" Which should it be?

CHICAGO

Our annual meeting was held in January. Bro. Earl Feller has been given the responsibilities of trustee.

Our congregation was richly blessed by the inspired word of God given through visiting Bro. Al Langhofer of Wichita on Jan. 17.

On Jan. 31, Friend Herb Gray gave his testimony and was baptized. We rejoice to welcome him into the fold.

CISSNA PARK

Mary Young — Margaret Rudin

On Jan. 16, five souls gave their testimonies, and were baptized on Sunday. They were Leon Rinkenberger, Kenneth Rinkenberger, Dennis Kaufman, Arden Schlipf, and Mardall Knapp; they are now our brothers and sisters in faith. May God be near them in their new walk of life. Bro. George Gramm assisted with this important work.

Let us always be mindful of the sick. Sis. Mary Schupbach was a hospital patient but is home again, showing improvement. Bro. Albert Martin is a hospital patient. Bro. Clarence Knapp is home again, after spending six weeks in the hospital. He is being cared for by his loving wife and children.

Sunday Jan. 24, Sis. Kailyn Kaufman and Bro. Mark Alt were

united in Holy Matrimony by Bro. Ezra Feller. May God bless their life together. Where two join hand and heart, in the Lord we find a three-fold cord not lightly rent apart. They will make their home in Urbana.

Our guest ministers were Bros. Earl Gerber (from Rockville), Edwin Bahler and Arthur Gudeman; we thank them for coming and bringing us the living word.

We have six more souls that have repented and found peace. They hope to bring their testimonies before the congregation soon. They are Mary Greiner, daughter of Bro. Howard and Sis. Viola; Kathy Knapp, daughter of Bro. Earl and Sis. Mary; Brenda and Bonna Hoffman, daughters of Bro. Harry and Sis. Helen; Nancy Kaufmann, daughter of Bro. Don and Sis. Gladys; and Ray Bauer, son of Bro. Urban and Sis. Mary.

The death angel called Sis. Lizzie Farney, age 84, home Jan. 28, after a short illness. Services were held Jan. 31. Survivors are her husband, Bro. William; ten daughters, Sis's Anna Nuest, Helen Lackey, Louise Drayer, Esther Steiner, Carolyn Leman, Marthy Farney, Marjorie Knapp and Sophia Peyer; Clara Bodager and Lucille Baker; two sons, Bro. John and Ben; one sister, Sophia Neukomm; three brothers, Bro. Ben, Louis and Joe Neukomm. Our sympathy is extended to the family. We will miss Sis. Lizzie in our midst. She labored over 60 years in the service of the Lord. Services were conducted by Bros. Russell Rapp and Everett Hari, assisted by our home ministers.

Births: A daughter was born to Gorden and Aldine Winger, Jan. 30; she was named Abigail. She has two brothers to welcome her. George and Gladys Winger and Jeff and Mary Young are the grandparents.

Sis. Anna Baumgartner observed her 96th birthday; she is still quite alert and able to assemble with us most every Sunday.

Sis. Judy Bauer left for Japan, where she will be teaching. We will miss her fellowship. May the Lord bless her in her undertaking.

FORREST

Carolyn Zimmerman
Juanita Schneider

May we each profit from this little poem and use it as a daily reminder.

Have we tried to do our duty?
Have we done the best we know?
Have we tried to lead our children
In the path that they should go?
Have we tried to help a neighbor?
Have we tried to help a friend?
We shall try, and keep on trying
Until our journey's end.

Bros. Larry Kaisner and Duane Schneider have been chosen to fill vacancies in our Sunday School. May God grant the needed grace to these brothers, and eagerness to learn to the children.

A little boy was born to Tom and Sis. Earlene Hamilton, their fourth child and first son. He has been named Chris Allen. Bro. and Sis. Silas Hohulin, Forrest, are maternal grandparents. Little Chris' daddy is a hospital patient and very anxious to be home with his family.

Little Corban Kupferschmid, infant son of Bro. and Sis. Gary, spent several days at Gibson City Hospital with a bronchial infection, but is home again. Sisters Bernice Cox and Bena Lehmann were in the hospital for tests. Sister Jean Martin, Sis. Peggy Stoller, and Edith Honegger were surgical patients. Jeff Sohn was a surgical patient in Bloomington. Andy Rieger, son of Bro. and Sis. Richard Rieger, underwent the removal of both kidneys at Mayo Clinic, Minn. Andy is home again, relying on a kidney machine and awaiting a kidney transplant.

We have laid to rest our friend. Mrs. Ollie Stoller. She is survived by her husband, Ed; son, Curtiss of Chatsworth; one daughter, Sis. Mildred (Ed) Traub, Forrest. Bro. Clarence Kachelmuss held the services.

We enjoyed God's blessing with the visits of ministers, Bro. Hartzell Kaisner, Detroit, and Bro. Charles Hemmer, Peoria. Thank you, brothers. May God grant an increase into the fold from such willing efforts.

Bro. Gary Ifft, son of Bro. Harvey and Sis. Velma, has entered the armed service and is stationed at Ft. Sam Houston. Art Lehmann, son of Bro. George and Sis. Alice is now serving in Viet Nam. Mark Aberle, son of Bro. William and Sis. Jean, left this month and is now stationed at Ft. Polk, La.

Note: We would like to thank everyone who remembered us with cards, gifts, and money during Bill's illness. The many prayers and

words of concern were also deeply appreciated. May God bless you. Bro. Bill and Sis. Mary Masters.

FT. SAM HOUSTON

Walt Steffen

Life left to God will bring a greater yield of golden harvest and a ripened field, Than all the weary plannings of the soul can force to be or strength of will control; Oh trust a power that must bring good from all, And leave thy life to God!

Bro. Charles Sinn, a Viet Nam war casualty who recently rejoined us here, had his Christian manhood tested severely. He bears witness to the victorious power of a life left to God, and radiates this serenity to all of us around him.

Also radiating a Christ-surrendered life were Bros. Jim Ramseyer, Clarence Yackley, and Alfred Bahler, who gave of themselves to minister to our spiritual needs. We wish to thank them and their respective churches that supported them: Bay City, Phoenix, and Wolcott.

Although Bro. Bob and Sis. Doris Meiss, Bro. Jerel Schmidgall, and Bro. Dan Roth have been reassigned to overseas duty stations, many treasured memories of love remain. We admire their courageous faith and outlook and enjoin your prayers for them, as Bob and Doris will be separated, and Dan and Jerel will be subjected to the unknown dangers of a war-torn country.

Recent arrivals to San Antonio have been: Bro. Duane and Sis. Kay Reutter from Chicago; Bro. Bill and Sis. Cindy Green from Richmond, Va.; Bro. Darl Schieler from Wolcott; Howard Leman from Eureka; Bro. Marion Dotterer from Rittman; and Sis. Pat Stuber from Phoenix, who joins her husband, Brian.

We encourage visitors to contact us prior to their arrival, at 463 Eleanor St: Phone: (512) 824-9803.

GOODFIELD

Elna Grimm

Life isn't long . . . a mother's song . . . and then another's smile . . . Then romping feet, and then the sweet . . . r e m e m b r a n c e s awhile . . . From gold to gray, from dawn to day . . . And then the twilight hours . . . Life's too brief to hunt for grief . . . For thorns among the flowers.

If hurt by what men say . . . If

wounded by a friend . . . Oh let tonight set all things right . . . Let trouble have an end . . . Life is too short to let report . . . Or rumor long annoy . . . Today has had so much so glad . . . We need it all for joy.

God's world, God's word, His breeze, His bird . . . No hand can rob you of . . . Wrong comes too late for hearts to hate . . . There is so much to love . . . Life isn't long, just time for song . . . And love and things sublime . . . Be not concerned with thoughts that burned . . . Good friends, there isn't time.

We rejoice with Bro. Sam and Sis. Pat Plattner, who also admit that "Life isn't long, just time for song" . . . They gave their testimonies on Sat. evening, Jan. 30, and were baptized and received into the fold on Sun. Jan. 31. Sam is the son of Bro. and Sis. Harold and Gerry Plattner of Goodfield; and Pat is the daughter of Bro. and Sis. Ben and Audrey Ehnle of Bradford.

We have three engagements to report: Friend Marilyn Wiegand, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Simon and Mary Ellen of R. R. Deer Creek, has announced her engagement to Friend Richard Tanner, son of Bro. and Sis. John Tanner of Speer. Sis. Leann Hohulin, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Ed and Elsie, is engaged to Bro. Arden Bucher, son of Bro. and Sis. Art and Esther of R. R. Valparaiso. Sis. Peg Grimm, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Bob and Elna, is engaged to Bro. Jaye Rinckenberger, son of Bro. and Sis. Joe and Irene of Cissna Park.

Our visiting ministers have been Bros. Ed Lanz and John Steiner of Oakville, Bro. Ray Ehnle of Bradford, and Bro. Art Baurer of Princeville.

Bro. Eli Hohulin was admitted to the Methodist Hospital in Peoria for surgery. Our thoughts and prayers surely go out for him.

Correction: The baby son of Bro. and Sis. Jerry and Allene Steffen was named Torry Ray, not Ray, as last month's paper stated.

SABETHA

Mrs. Joe Steiner

Beth Meyer and Jere Herold were united in marriage at the Fellowship Hall on Sat. Jan. 9, by Bro. Eugene Marti. Beth is the daughter of Bro. Velmer and Sis.

Vila Meyer. The new couple is at home at 205 South 14th St., Sabetha. We wish them the Lord's blessings in their new life together.

We had our annual business meeting. Bro. Walter Strahm was re-elected to a three-year term as trustee. Bro. Ben Wysong was re-elected to a three-year term on the committee for the Fellowship Hall.

We were happy to see Sis. Louise Hartman in church for afternoon services. She had been absent for a couple months and had quite a lengthy stay at the hospital. We are thankful she can be at home again, and hope the Lord will grant her a speedy recovery.

CROGHAN-NAUMBURG

Carol Virkler

Mrs. David Schamback

On Jan. 17 we were richly blessed with a visit of Elder Bros. Rudy Graf and John Bahler, who so lovingly shared with us the reading and contemplation of the memorandum.

During the last week of January we had a severe blizzard, which added much snow to our already abundant supply. It was Sat. Jan. 30 that we were in doubt whether the marriage of Sis. Eleanor Virkler to Bro. Ronald Herzig would be able to be held Sunday, because the blizzard was in full force, but the Lord was good to us again by having a bright, clear, sunny day Sunday. Many out-of-town guests were unable to come, but we had a blessed day, and our congregations join in wishing them God's blessing in their new life together.

Carl Schulz, son of Sis. Rozella Schulz of Naumburg, passed away Jan. 18 of a sudden heart attack. We join in sorrow for Rozella and her family and also for his dear wife, Irene. Carl leaves four brothers. Bro. Kenneth, Rockville; Vernon, Norman and Ralph; and two sisters, Mrs. Louis (Doris) Pokorny and Sis. Jennie (Bro. Lee) Gerber of Bluffton.

Sis. Mary Jane (Bro. Arthur) Hirschev was in an auto accident, but is at home again convalescing.

Bro. Ezra Lehman is hospitalized. Sis. Edna Sturtz of Naumburg has returned home from the hospital, recuperating from a fall at her home.

Card of Thanks: Sis. Rozella Schulz and family wish to thank each one of you for your many acts

of kindness shown to them in their deep sorrow, and for your cards and prayers.

FORT SCOTT

Ida Sinn

We had the privilege of having Bro. Harvey Grimm in our midst. He brought forth many good teachings to take with us, as we go about our daily tasks further on.

Bro. Tom Sinn and Sis. Nancy Kraft were united in holy matrimony on Jan. 10. Bro. Sam Anliker was here to pronounce the vows. May the Lord's blessings be upon this union. They are at home at 501 South Judson St. Apt. 4.

Larry Bahr and Sis. Elsie Sinn have been hospital patients.

Our annual election was held on Jan. 13. Bro. Jim Bahr was re-elected on the board of trustees and also for the teacher of the Bible class. Bro. Dannie Sinn was elected for treasurer on the Brotherhood Aid.

Bro. Jacob and Sis. Anna Pfister had their 61st wedding anniversary on Feb. 6. Both are in fair health and have been able to assemble with us every Sunday.

Bro. Charles Sinn, son of Bro. Charles and Sis. Dorothy arrived at San Antonio just yesterday evening. He was wounded in Viet Nam on Jan. 13 and is now in the hospital at Ft. Sam. We are awaiting his arrival at home.

Bro. Raymond Banwart handed me this poem:

Once I heard a song of sweetness
as it cleft the morning air,
Sounding in its blest completeness,
like a tender, pleading prayer,
And I sought to find the singer
whence the wondrous song was
born,
And I found a bird, sore wounded,
pinioned by an ugly thorn.
I have seen a soul of sadness while
its wings with pain were furled,
Giving hope and cheer and gladness
that should bless the weeping
world;
And I knew that life of sweetness
was of pain and sorrow borne,
And a stricken soul was singing
with its heart against the thorn!

Ye are told of One who loves you,
of a Saviour crucified;
Ye are told of nails that pinioned,
and a spear that pierced His side.
Ye are told of cruel scourging,
of a Saviour bearing scorn,
And He died for your salvation,

with His brow against the thorn.
Ye are not above the Master! Will
you breathe a sweet refrain?
Then His grace will be sufficient
when your heart is pierced with
pain.
Will you live to bless His loved ones,
though your life be bruised and
torn,
Like a bird that sang so sweetly
with its heart against a thorn?

MANSFIELD

Aaron A. Sauder

Wedding congratulations are extended to the new Mr. and Mrs. Gerald E. Bird and Mr. and Mrs. Russell E. Hoffman. Gerald Bird and Erika Urschitz chose Jan. 16 as the date of their marriage; Bro. Donald (Bob) and Sis. Miriam Sauder Bird are Jerry's parents. Feb. 6 was the wedding day of Russell Hoffman and Ethel Walker; Russell (Corky) is the son of Sis. Anna Sauder Hoffman and the late Bro. Earl. Our prayer would be that the Lord would bless these couples throughout their lives.

Again the government has called one of our young men into service. Fred Domka, son of Bro. Steve and Sis. Ruth Sabo Domka has been inducted into the Army and is stationed at San Antonio. We would commit Fred into the Lord's keeping, wherever he may be sent.

How shall it be? Oh what this mortal vision
Can neither see nor hear nor understand,
Of happiness and glory shall be given
To those who pass into that promised land!

Our aged Bro. Albert Pfister passed into that **promised land** on Jan. 20. Albert had attained the age of 96 years on Nov. 27, and for some time had been unable to attend church, but he was a staunch follower of our Lord and loved those who knew and served his God. His children so wonderfully loved and cared for their father as he needed, and we would share our sympathy with them: to Bro. Clarence of our congregation, Martha Gilbert (Leo), Lydia Stacy, Emma DeLong (Edward), Eunice Tucker (Harvey) and Emil Pfister, all of the Mansfield area; Henry Pfister of Chicago, Bro. Bill Pfister of Bluffton, Bro. Levi Pfister of the Ft. Wayne area, Ida Carter (Wm.) of California, Clara Hassig

(Henry) of Detroit and Esther Friend (Glenn) of Defiance; one daughter, Frieda Messner (Fred) preceded her father in death. Also surviving are three sisters, Louise Rentsch of Lamar, Rose Ripper and Anna Pfister of Peoria.

Likewise, we offer our sympathy to Sis. Louise Steffen Sabo (Henry), whose brother Christ Steffen of Fairbury passed away.

NEW MARTINSVILLE

Mrs. Gus Weltz

Miss Della Witschey

Real winter weather really hit this area the past few weeks, not much snow, but cold weather and some ice; zero was reached several mornings.

A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Walter Witschey on Jan. 31. Mr. and Mrs. Harold Witschey are the paternal grandparents.

J. Howard Riegenbach underwent another major operation on Jan. 18 (the last one we hope); he is recovering very nicely and was able to return home on Feb. 9. Many of his former troubles were taken care of, and he is looking forward to good health again.

Mrs. Bonnie Riegenbach Hawkins, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Howard Riegenbach, accompanied by her husband flew to Mayo's Clinic Jan. 24 for tests; she underwent surgery in the hospital here on Feb. 5 and is doing nicely.

A. C. Renner, husband of the late Edna Berger Renner, was a medical patient in the University Hospital in Morgantown for three weeks, but has returned home; he is scheduled to return in a few weeks. Mrs. Ruth Witschey Edge, daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. William Witschey, underwent surgery on Feb. 3 in San Leandro, California for restoration of the use of her right arm and hand. Doctors have assured her that the operation was successful. Walter Emch remains a patient in the local hospital.

Miss Della Witschey entertained the following at dinner on Jan. 21 in her home: Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Froelich, Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Moser, Miss Charlotte Emch, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Estep and sons, James and Terry, Elizabeth Hawkins and Margaret Witschey, Mrs. Grace Calvert, Mrs. Juna Broadwater.

Jimmy Wade, grandson of Mr.

and Mrs. C. O. Wade left the States on Dec. 18 and is stationed at Da Nangh, Viet Nam. His letters are very cheery, and he seemingly is in good health and enjoying his training, which will give him an MP rating.

Mrs. Gladys Durig, wife of Clarence Durig, passed away on Jan. 13 following a lengthy illness. Services were held on Jan. 16, and interment took place here.

PORTLAND

Connie Steffen

Spring is making it's first appearances. Newness of life in the plant world can be seen about us. Even more wonderful we can evidence a newness of life in four young souls who have turned to the Lord in repentance; Steve and Carol Miller, son and daughter of Bro. Robt. and Sis. Pearl Miller; Debbie Unsicker, daughter of Bro. Ed and Sis. Elva Unsicker; and our son, Joe. We are so happy for them and pray the Lord will richly bless them in their lives for Him. It is such an encouragement to our small congregation.

Bro. Ray Banwart was elected as trustee to fill the vacancy left by Bro. Ray Cooper Jr.

Our friend, David Rumbold has safely returned from Viet Nam. We are glad to have him home. He will be stationed now in Colorado.

We are happy to have John and Ann Kauffman and their baby daughter Bethany with us, from Normal. They are taking a year of schooling in the Portland area.

A Thought: The cross of Christ is the only bridge that spans the gulf between God's holiness and man's sinfulness.

BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL

Virgil and Shirley Funk

Visiting Ministers for the month include: Henry Grimm, Morton; Willis Wiegand, Goodfield; Dan Koch, Tremont; and Joshua Broquard, Fairbury. We do not wish to take these services for granted, but rather acknowledge our appreciation to the Lord, and to each individually.

Bro. Robert Meiss and his wife Doris visited our congregation. Robert is a son of Bro. Earl and Sis. Edith Meiss of our congregation, and was on furlough prior to leaving for a tour of duty in Thailand.

Sis. Beverly Hari was hospital-

ized several days, but is now at home recuperating nicely.

DETROIT

Donna Hartzler — Judith Aberle
Bro. Ernest and Sis. Mary Weigele are the new parents of a baby girl, Gretchen Elise, born Jan. 18. Well put by a poet are these words: "A babe in the house is a well-spring of pleasure, a messenger of peace and love, a resting-place for innocence on earth, a link between angels and men."

An expression of sympathy, to Bro. Guy and Sis. Rosie Wieland at the passing of Sis. Rosie's mother, Mrs. Fierke. Our sympathy also is extended to Sis. Anna Magyar whose husband, Bro. Louis, passed away Sunday, Feb. 7. Bro. Louis and Sis. Anna had recently moved to a home northeast of Bay City.

LANDERSVILLE

Billie Jo Harville

Our congregation rejoiced as we could hear the testimony of Pam Harville and her faith in the Lord Jesus Christ for personal salvation. Following water baptism, Elder Wendell Gudeman offered a prayer of consecration. The brothers and sisters in Christ welcome Sis. Pam into the fellowship.

Lyndon Borden, an uncle of Sis. Mavis Naylor was found dead of an apparent heart attack.

Price Harville, eldest son of the sister in Christ, Bertha Harville, passed away Thursday morning, Feb. 4. Man is indeed, "going down the valley one by one."

We are thankful for the visit of Elders David Bertsch, Noah Bauman and Wendell Gudeman. May God bless them for efforts put forth in the Lord's work and for the concern that God's children live pure and separated lives for Christ.

We welcome Bro. John and Ann Wagler to this area again and trust God to bless their efforts in establishing a Christian fellowship in Huntsville, Alabama.

ROCKVILLE

Carlton J. Lanz

Bro. James Hoerr of Peoria was our guest minister. We enjoyed his visit. It is indeed precious when one can sit in an assembly where the word is spoken by inspired brethren. The author tells us that it is, then, the word which God has spoken, a joyful message of God given, sent to us from Heaven.

Bro. Emanuel Gerber is a patient at the Rockville General Hospital, where he had undergone major surgery. A visit to his room found him cheerful and confident. He is the son of Bro. Ernest Gerber.

Bro. Roy Schneider succeeded the retiring treasurer at the annual business meeting Sunday. Bro. Wilbur Schneider was chosen to be trustee for three years. Bro. Carlton Lanz was re-elected usher for two years; Bro. Douglas Moser, auditor, two years; for Sunday School Superintendent, Bro. Emanuel Schneider succeeded himself for another term of one year. Acting as secretary was Bro. Ronald Trueb, with Elder Bro. John Bahler presiding as Chairman. The meeting was attended by nearly 200 members. A closing prayer was offered at the adjournment.

ELGIN, IOWA

Mrs. George Butikofer

We find ourselves in the throes of winter. Since our first snowfall, which arrived the tenth of December, the earth has had a continual snow cover. This keeps the surface warm but causes some hardship for our wild life. In addition to the many birds we view at the feeding stations, squirrels and hares have appeared to partake of the grains.

Sis. Marie Schmid has returned from the hospital and was able to attend church services last Sunday. She feels some improved since the treatments were administered.

Bro. Ed Pulfer has returned home from the hospital and is feeling much improved.

Reuben Schupbach, son of Sis. Anna Schupbach, spent 2½ weeks in the Veterans Hospital at Iowa City. He fell quite a few feet while at one of his plumbing jobs and sustained a serious head injury and a fractured elbow. However, he is improving as well as can be expected. We hope for a complete recovery.

Arthritis is curtailing Sis. Anna Schupbach's activities . . . bothers her especially in her knee area. We sincerely hope that she can find some medical help.

We were blessed with three guest Ministers in the last eight-week period. Elder Bros. Noah Schrock, Bros. Noah Gerber and David Weigand. While Elder Bro. Schrock was here, he and our Elder

Bro. Paul Butikofer shared the memorandum.

Speak kind words and you will hear kind echoes.

JUNCTION

Henrietta Manz — Betty Manz

We enjoyed very much the visit of a large group of Bluffton and Latty young folks. It is uplifting to meet and greet others of like mind and faith.

Walking on the ice recently reminded me, when we walk on ice we watch every step and keep our eyes on the path. Let's be careful, too, in our spiritual walk and watch every step—CHRISTIAN WALK CAREFULLY.

Our shut-ins have been Margaret Aufrance and Sis. Martha Laukhuf. May God provide a blessing for those who must spend many hours alone.

LESTER

Mrs. Emelie Knobloch

We had many joys and sorrows during the past year. We had 11 dear souls who have turned to the Lord. Two have announced peace with God and man, Jerry and Susie Leuthold.

God has gifted 15 families with new babies, one being twin boys. "Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it."

One dear soul (a sister) gained rest.

We discontinue the Sunday evening singing on the first and third Sunday of each month during the winter, but are having church services the first and third Thursday of each month, beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Note of thanks: Bro. Chris and Sis. Lena Kellenberger and Sis. Viola wish to express their heartfelt thanks to the dear ones at Fairbury who opened their heart and homes to them while Chris was hospitalized . . . also for the prayers in his behalf, gifts, letters, and cards during his illness and convalescing. Sis. Lena had surgery; Bro. Chris had surgery.

Linda Doorneweerd, daughter of Sis. Karoline Doorneweerd, and Verlyn Kellenberger, son of Bro. and Sis. Henry Kellenberger; and Cinthia Metzger, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Eli Metzger, and Robert Leuthold, son of Bro. and Sis. Paul Leuthold have announced their engagements.

Joleen Wirtz and Marvin Metzger were married Dec. 27 in the bride's home at West Bend by Bro. Leo Moser. She teaches in our community.

Sis. Mary Knobloch (Ernst J's wife), Bro. Wilhelm Nester, Bro. Paul Leuthold, Dean Feucht (son of Bro. and Sis. Carl Feucht) were surgical patients. Kathy Knobloch had surgery at Rochester (injuries in a car accident). Bro. John Gerber was hospitalized for medical treatment.

Births: Mr. and Mrs. Charles Leuthold, a son, Brian Anthony, Dec. 28; Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Feucht, a daughter, Kimberly Kay, January 16.

Grandma Leuthold has been unable to care for herself, so she is now a resident of the church home at Sabetha. I am sure she would appreciate a note.

"My heartfelt thanks to all of you who remembered me with cards, visits, prayers and gifts during my hospitalization. Bro. Wilhelm Nester.

TREMONT

Josephine Schaefer
Mary Jane Leuthold

Three soldiers of the cross have laid their armor down, as they were called from this time to eternity. Bro. Carl Sinn passed away on Jan. 30. At the time of his death, Carl was residing at the church home in Eureka. Bro. George Getz went to be with the Lord on Jan. 31, at the age of 85. Surviving are his wife, Mary and his children, Robert of Peoria, Carl of Tremont, Elmer of Elgin and Elda Beutel of Tremont. Bro. William Unsicker passed away on Feb. 3; Bro. Dan Koch was in charge of the services.

It is comforting to think of the words, Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord . . .

We extend our sympathy to each of the families and loved ones of these three souls who so quickly were taken from our midst, and also to Sis. Helen Rapp, whose mother passed away in Colorado.

Bro. Bob Wagenbach was hospitalized by a broken leg, which resulted from a fall off a ladder, but we are glad to report that his leg is mending nicely, and he is getting along quite well. Not so fortunate is Sis. Esther Musselman, who is hospitalized as a result of an automobile accident. We hope and pray that she, too, will soon be able to leave the hospital.

Bro. Harlan Bolliger was chosen as trustee.

We rejoice that John Huette has turned his back on the world and has declared his intentions to bring his life in conformity with the word of God. We wish him much grace in his new walk of life.

Margo Yergler, daughter of Gene and Sis. Betty, became the bride of David Wilcox on Jan. 20. They are making their home in Tremont.

Announcement has been made of the engagement of Judy Moser to Bob Mooney of Sparland. Judy is the daughter of John and Sis. Lila Moser.

Our visiting ministers were Bros. Willis Wiegand of Goodfield, Harry Bucher of Valparaiso, and Everett Hari of Normal. We appreciated their visits and thank them for coming.

Bro. Jerry and Sis. Carolyn Prather were blessed with a new little daughter, Antia Christine, on Feb. 5. Anita has two sisters and a brother.

The annual collection for the Silver Lining is underway. Anyone who has not already done so should see their reporter.

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY AMES

We enjoyed hearing the word proclaimed by Bro. Earl Banwart of West Bend at our January meeting.

Bro. Dale Banwart, son of Bro. Earl and Sis. Edna of West Bend, finished school in Des Moines and has accepted a job in Morris, Illinois. We will miss having him assemble with us each month.

The schedule of monthly services for 1971-72 has been set up for Ames. The dates and congregations in charge are: March 14—Oakville; April 18—West Bend; May 16—Pulaski; June 13—Oakville; July 18—West Bend; Aug. 8—Pulaski; Sept. 12—Oakville; Oct. 10—West Bend; Nov. 14—Pulaski; Dec. 12—Oakville; Jan. 9 1972—West Bend.

Services are held at 1:30 p.m. at the First Christian Church, at 6th and Clark in Ames.

SERVICES ADDRESSES

New and Changed

Steven D Aupperle 320402143
3rd Plt Morton
Co C 5th Bn 2nd BCT BDE
USATCIA Ft Lewis Wash 98433

Sp4 Phil L Baumgartner 314588229
536th General Dispensary Bluffton
APO New York 09140

Pvt Marvin Dotterer US272441174
Co E 4th Bn Class 16B USAMTC
Ft Sam Houston Texas 78234 Rittman

Frederick W Domke 291503269
Co E, 4th Bn Class 15B USAMTC
Ft Sam Houston Texas 78234
Mansfield

Mr and Mrs Virgil J Eisenmann
Airmans Trailer Ct Lot 36
Scott AFB Ill 62221 Burlington Ia

Steven E Frank
Marine Liaison Burlington Ia
Fitzsimmons Gen Hosp
Denver Colorado 80240

Pfc David E Graf 279501920
HHC 1st BN 68 Armor
Med Sec Akron
APO New York 09034

Pvt 2 Robert M Gress 483624746
Co E 4th Bn 1st Tng Bde 2nd Plt
Ft Campbell Kentucky 42223 W Bend

Sp4 Keith E Honegger 352401975
Box 818 Forrest
HHC USAG
APO San Francisco 98731

Pfc Douglas F Kellenberger 341409747
4th Bn 64th Armor Elgin Il
APO New York 09162

Pvt E2 David Klopfenstein US541541485
Co A 8th Med Bn
APO New York 09185

Sp4 David G Knobloch 333402310
HHC [Motor Pool]
USAD Qui Nhon Bradford
APO San Francisco 96226

Pfc Sherman Lanz 042384040
HHC 2/5 INF 1st BDE 35th Div
APO San Francisco 96557

Daniel Moser AMH3
UA-122 Box M-NAS
Lemoore Calif 93245 Lester

James H Mullen
1043 A Simpson Loop
Ft Shafter
APO San Francisco 96558

Pvt Robert Schambach
Co Hq & A 8th Med Bn Elgin Il
APO New York 09185

SSG John L Schieler 308483837
Military Science Dept
Univ of Ill [Chic Cir Campus] Bx 4348
Chicago Ill 60680 Remington

Pfc Floyd D Wulf
D Btry 1 Bn 5th Arty Lester
Ft Riley Kansas 66442

Pfc Jon F Zeller 311-54-0877
Medical Ser **Morton**
HQ Trp 2 Sqdn 2 Armd Cav Regt
APO New York 09139

Pvt Douglas G Zimmerman 355420721
A Co 4th Bn 2nd B G D **Morton**
Ft Lewis Wash 98433

SERVICE ADDRESSES

Sp4 John R Aberle 510580170
Medical Co 33rd Field Hospital
APO New York 09801 **Sabetha**

Sp4 Michael Aberle 355421097
Co C 23rd Med Bn **Tremont**
APO San Francisco 96256
35 mi. NW Chulai on Hawk Hill

Capt Ramon J Aberle
750 South Highway 22A No 78
Panama City Fla 32401 **Sabetha**

Sp4 David E Bach 322-46-2828
HQ BTRY 2 Bn 75 ARTY
APO New York 09165 **Forrest**

Pvt Kurt E Bahler 306-48-3006
463 Eleanor St.
San Antonio Texas 78209

Sp4 Thomas Batt 328420152
HHC EUSA O-H **Elgin II**
APO San Francisco 96301

AB David W Beard AF23617811
CMR No 3 Sq 3706 Flight G-1
Lackland AFB Texas 78236

" . . . this cup . . . "

Henry Souder Jr.

Humanity for the most part follows the long processional in and to darkness. What is really wanted? A thousand pleasures? A billionaire's riches? Beggar's rags, apart from happiness. A hollow day can't hold real joy. Deep down sometimes is desire . . . a thirst . . . hunger.

Steps of the Son of Man were with you in mind. "Then cometh Jesus with them unto a place called Gethsemane, and saith unto the disciples, Sit ye here, while I go and pray yonder."

In the Garden of Eden was failure for man. The Garden of Gethsemane was victory. In each, the wonderful Creator walked. He loved and cared for His creation, in both. Man was thrust out in Eden, but God thrust Himself into Gethsemane, and to a cup. . . .

Why? Before, ten thousand dreams were but a small part of His lovely Home in endless ages. Here, the marshall music of a thousand dirges was small, compared with the misery of His lost creature. We look into the Garden. It is night: "And he took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be sorrowful and very heavy."

The offering of the Lord began in Gethsemane. Look into the mind of the sweet, loving Saviour. Read the mind of God, His soul an offering for sin. He was made sin for us. Such a wonderful Lamb! Never

was seen such a Wonderful One. The glory of God shines in that Garden.

Brutal, biting lashes would come. Nails would pierce, hold, and the body tire and sag. They cost. They dearly cost. There, vivid now in Gethsemane, they were plain and hurting the soul. More, the SINS. Die! man died in the other garden . . . inside . . . and later out. Death is more than passing . . . it is heart-break, deadness of heart, outer coffin of an endless existence without light. In Gethsemane the Creator is sorrowful unto death.

Now He dies . . . on Him costs and counts our familiar sins . . . the choking, the stifling, the shameful. What far cry of unknown anguish gripped our Lord? Look! "Then saith he unto them, My soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death: tarry ye here, and watch with me."

They didn't watch . . . still some of the story of the old garden. This old sleep, hard to stir . . . drowsiness to awaking realities . . . to a way that cost . . . "And he went a little farther, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, . . ."

At the dawn of civilization, He had formed man of the dust. Now His face was on the ground. The Creator. It cost. "O my Father, if it be possible let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt."

How thoroughly and familiarly like us was He in that He suffered. How completely unlike us in His

purity, majestic obedience and total compassion. Down there on the ground, the Son was pouring His heart out.

Creation proves Genesis. The Spirit proves Gethsemane in our heart. "And he cometh unto the disciples, and findeth them asleep, and saith unto Peter, What, could ye not watch with me one hour?" Sleep? while day is breaking, clouds parting, and heaven opening? Slumber, what will you cost? Weeping to Peter, fleeing to all. Some further out will never awaken from the night.

Hear the words of Jesus! One hour of sorrow with Him is good. All the days of vain chase could not compare to one of solid building to a permanent future. Sorrow mellows the soul for sweetness. Sorrow prepares the heart for joy. "Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."

Victory comes. There is a beautiful pattern for success here. One anyone can grasp. Keep knocking and the door will open! The Saviour prayed three times. He won. Calvary was success that night. Events happen, but their triumph is secured beforehand. "He went away again the second time, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if this cup may not pass away from me, except I drink it, thy will be done."

Calling upon Him always opens His door to win.