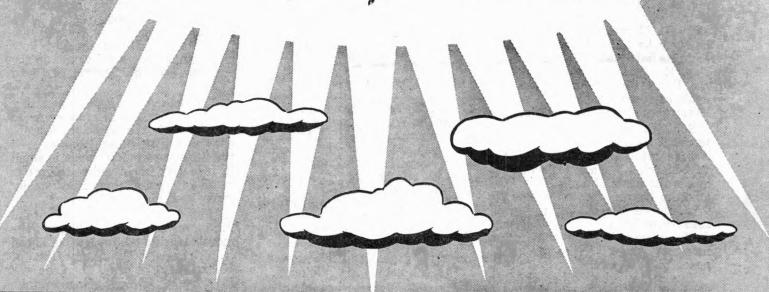
Thus saith the LORD; I am returned unto Zion, and will dwell in the midst of Jerusalem: and Jerusalem shall be called a city of truth; and the mountain of the LORD of hosts the holy mountain.

Thus saith the LORD of hosts; There shall yet old

men and old women dwell in the streets of Jerusalem, and every man with his staff in his hand for very age.

And the streets of the city shall be full of boys and girls playing in the streets thereof.



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

THESILVEDILLING

A LIGHT for BELIEVERS

VOLUME 22

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NUMBER 5

OF SUCH IS THE KINGDOM

The rose of memory intertwines passing scenes. Its sweet fragrance, its delicate beauty are for us to enjoy.

An artist etches his lines, brushes soft color. Life is deeper than we feel, more real than is sometimes grasped. There become etched in our heart others who become part of us.

Kalisa Maria Souder was a little girl, born lame in both feet. At six, she took her first step with crutches. It takes effort, and courage for a little girl. She might have continued to walk, if such would have been her destiny...

Sometime ago near here a boy, around 6, died. Christmas was nearing. The little one asked his mother if they could have their Christmas early. Daddy would be asked. When he came, he consented, and the boy had this happiness. With Christmas Day, the little boy's spirit was in the Home Beyond. Life should be made of roses, happiness to others. Every day should be Christmas.

Sunlight and shadows . . . patterns. The snow comes down. Light is different at different times of the day. March 1969, and Kalisa experiences the hospital again. The Lord answers prayer. Not only does He give the very best, but the great breadth of His heart shows a wonderful interest in His own and what interests them. Kalisa looks so peaceful.

Sometimes when other children play, and a little girl sits and looks, what must be the thoughts? Kalisa took a test at school. Then at home, she commented on how nice her dad's suit looked. Then she had something to show him she really liked . . . two pair of new shoes. Let us listen to the often unspoken needs, where we can help.

Sometimes the road is uphill for all. Kalisa said, Mom, I don't care if I die, but I don't want to go to the hospital again. Sept. '69 and her Grandpa Souder enters the glorious gates of home. Of him she said, He is better off in heaven than we are.

Children are a beautiful gift. Sis. Leah Souder carried with her some sweet words. We listen, in part: When little children go to church, It always seems to me . . . That they are holding hands with God . .

In sweet tranquillity... That there is music in the wind... And incense in the air... And there are angels at their side... To guard them everywhere... And somehow they can feel... That paradise is something that... Is beautiful and real... Their little eyes look up to Him... With innocence and love... And they belong to Him as much... As all the stars above...

June 7, 1970 . . . Kalisa and her sisters came over for breakfast. Vacation was very near. She would be talked to later from Guadalajara Mexico, 2200 miles away, with everybody OK.

Kalisa had some very wise words ... When something is missing and she cannot sleep, she prays—then she can go to sleep. A child of 8 years. Her little heart believed in prayer. What an example. She would pray before a meal, even in a restaurant.

A message while on a vacation from her: "Hi, I'm at the beautiful Castle. We're all OK. I am getting homesick. We are heading home but first we are going to Mexico city "maybe" but daddy might not . . ." Now, she and her messages are seen in faith and hope, from Home, and they are real.

May 15, 1971—Talking to Kalisa of Dad (her Grandpa). She replied to question, he is in heaven. She said: makes her happy and sad at the same time. The Bible says, "As sorrowful, yet always rejoicing . . ."

June 4, Mommy was baptized, and she was there. She would have liked to have been with mommy too during proving, and would be willing to wear a veil. July 4 finds the family home from Vacation '71—familiar voices, familiar faces in familiar places. How we long for all to be in that Home forever, before perhaps too long.

The Marvin Stieglitzs' have a little boy with Jesus. Marvin said, when he is not home, little David takes the opportunity and prays. He includes, That God will help him be good so he can go to his brother.

The thunders were sounding. Earlier at supper, Kalisa and Betty (Mommy) were here. Kalisa had been sick to her stomach and sore with a boil, but was improved. A picture of a very beautiful lake was shown her. She talked of a beauti-

ful lake and a storm and a turn... There would be a storm, but also beautiful hope and home.

Oct. 16, 1971 . . . Lobby, 4th floor, the hospital . . . doctor said not more than a week, but the Lord has the final say-so . . . mother (grandma) in a dream or vision heard Dad laugh, not too long ago . . .

There were: the wail of a siren ... Dr Culp, 248"... the heavy heart of Dwight, her daddy... the low blood of Kalisa— more, it was said, than "we could take".

Grandma found some words by Beth, one of her teenage sisters, to this effect: When the long night dreary, Oh yes He cares.

Oct. 17, about 8 till 7...Kalisa shows a good change in last half hour or so...Good to see Kalisa's dad, as he looked on scene and saw improvement. If we thought how much some good word would do for someone, we would search and love to do.

A doctor who was planning anesthesia on the morrow came to a little one in the lobby. He described it as a little mosquito bite, then the little one wouldn't have to smell it. It is very important to tailor our words to something they easily grasp in their understanding.

Nov. 9 . . . Snow . . . beautiful . . . on bushes, barn . . . There's the more beautiful white clothing ahead . . . Dreams or visions: first of Kalisa, dying or dead. Then she was in a place (I was going to take her?) and Grandpa (who passed on in '69) took her in his arm. I tickled or touched her and she smiled.

Jan. 8, 1972, she was again taken

THE SILVER LINING Grabill, Indiana 46741

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Amt. suggested for a year, \$2.00. Send zip No. with address. Remember to send change of address. to the hospital . . . she would come home again . . . but for a little. Jan. 19, a note was found in the office: Dwight would not be in . . . the doctor put in the iv . . . I took her a present, and read a little to her . . .

She was a girl of trust. Her mommy and her could not attend church of late, and the talk was of attending church. Kalisa said, I'll have to go too, or they will think I don't believe.

The sands were running out . . . There was the little girl, with trembling hand, "Daddy, I'm afraid". Are we alert to this often unspoken need in another? She saw Someone who would make unafraid.

3:05, Jan. 26... Dwight called on the phone ... "She's gone" ...

about 10 minutes ago. Kalisa found joy, is radiantly happy, and not afraid.

She thought about the legs she would have. She can get around beautifully now. That host of dear, familiar faces, all home, how must they welcomed her, and love her. What a treasure that waits there, through the open gate!

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED GIFT SHOP

The cooperation and help given during the past few months to the Gift Shop, luncheon, and bake sale has made this venture a very worthwhile project. Thanks to each of you who contributed your time and your talents.

With the proceeds we have been able to supply the Home with equipment for the kitchen, activity equipment for the residents, furnish the grooming room, and additional equipment for the nursing station. Each item will contribute to the well-being and ease of care of the residents.

With your continued help and support, we look forward to another successful year.

In Christian love, Sisters, Oleta Menold, Virginia Hunzicker, Ruth Krantz.

REMINGTON Anna M. Waibel and Sisters

In our struggle to build (Christlike) lives, we find soul strength as we pause to nourish our spirits by prayer.

Our annual meeting was held Jan. 4, with a goodly number in attendance. Bro. Wendell Gudeman was with us. May we all do our part to live and work together in peace and unity.

Howard Schaibley, 73, passed away Jan. 11 at Frankfort Ind. of a heart attack. His wife is Tillie (Bahler), sister of Mary (Bahler) Nussbaum (deceased). Her parents were Bro. Robert and Sis. Mathilda (Waibel) Bahler. Tillie is not very well. A number of cousins from here and Fairbury went to visitation the day before.

Bro. Kurt Bahler, Bro. Edwin and Sis. Lois' son, arrived home safely Fri. Jan. 28, and is permanently discharged from armed services duties. We are happy to have him in our midst again.

Bro. Roger Steffen's (son of Bro. Ray and Sis. Lucile) engagement was announced Jan. 23 to Sis. Vicki Sutter, daughter of Bro. James and Sis. Lois of Taylor.

We had the pleasure of witnessing baptismal services for Chester and Lydia (Bachtold) Maier Jan. 9. He is our second cousin . . . are very happy for them, as it has been their desire for many years. They can be a shining light to many in the congregation, friends and relatives, when they can see what God hath wrought.

TUCSON Mrs. Loren Knapp

We were so grateful for our visiting ministers, Bro. Carl Hartman of Sabetha and Bro. Elmer Schrenk of Alto. Bro. Noah Herman and family have returned to Tucson after a stay in Illinois, following Bro. Noah's surgery. We are so thankful to have our ministering brother with us again.

It was announced that Friend Alana Schrenk has received peace and wishes to be baptized in the near future. May the Lord continue to be with her along the pathway of life

The weather in Tucson has returned to its old self, with warm sunny days and cool nights. Since our winter visitors have been with us in the last few weeks, we have enjoyed many evenings of fellowship and singing together.

Sis. Ora Schrenk, who was hospitalized, is again in our midst. We thank God for being near her during this stay.

January marks the third anniversary for the church building. How thankful we are that we have such a blessed place to worship each week.

A thought for the day: "Courage, brother; do not stumble, though the path be dark as night. There is a star to guide the humble. Trust in God and do the right."

WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY Mary Lynn Unsicker

Our small Bible Study Group has been blessed to hear God's precious words brought to us through Bro. Bob Pohl. We were reminded of the times, and the preparation that is necessary in order that we can spend eternity with our loving Father.

Wilt thou follow Me?
The Saviour asked.
The road looked bright and fair,
And filled with youthful hope and
zeal
I answered, "Anywhere."

Wilt thou follow Me?
Again He asked.
The road looked dim ahead,
But I gave one glance at His
glowing face
"To the end, dear Lord," I said.

Wilt thou follow Me?
I almost blanched,
For the road was rough and new,
But I felt the grip of His steady
Hand,
And it thrilled me through and

through.

Still followest thou?
'Twas a tender tone,
And it thrilled my inmost heart.
I answered not, but He drew me close,
And I knew we would never part.

It is truly a blessing to be able to hold services here at Macomb. The Lord has provided; the Lord never leaves his own. Our next meeting will be held at eight o'clock on March 1 in the New Salem Room of the Union. Everyone is welcome to come and worship with us.

CONGERVILLE
Norma Stahl — Linda Knapp
"Likewise, I say unto you, there
is joy in the presence of the angels
of God over one sinner that repen-

teth." We also rejoice over our four new converts: Vern and Judy Wettstein (Vern is the son of Bro. John Wettstein; Judy is the daughter of Bro. Simon and Sis. Louise Wagenbach of Tremont) . . . Donna Knapp, daughter of Bro. Glen and Sis. Jeannette Knapp . . . Stan Knapp, son of Bro. Willis and Sis. Bernice Knapp. We wish them all God's grace.

We are glad to have Dennis Knapp home from Germany and assembling with us again. We are thankful, too, that while serving in Germany, Dennis did feel the need to turn to God and live a life for

Him.

We enjoyed meeting and greeting Sis. Doris Knapp, who was home for two weeks from Ecuador.

Our visiting ministers were Bro. John Rokey—Goodfield, Bro. Joshua Broquard—Fairbury, and Bro. Earl Gerber—Forrest. We thank these brothers for coming and lending themselves so freely to the service of God.

Lynda Schrock, daughter of Bro. Allen and Sis. Carol Schrock, and Sis. Mary Steffen were hospitalized, but both are doing much better.

Our summary of 1971 is: 4 births, 1 death, 2 converts, 1 marriage, 1 50th Anniversary, and 1 60th Anniversary. We do not know what is in store for us for 1972. All we can do is trust and have faith in God, for He knows best.

Thank you: I would like to thank everyone that remembered me with prayers, cards, gifts and visits while in the hospital and while convalescing at home. All was much appreciated, and may God bless

each one. Jake Miller.

GRIDLEY, ILL. Dixie Ringger

So long as there are homes to which men turn At the close of day, So long as there are homes where children are, Where women stay, If love and loyalty and faith be found Across these sills, A stricken nation can recover from Its grave ills.

So long as there are homes where fires burn
And there is bread,
So long as there are homes where lamps are lit

And prayers are said;
Although people falter through
the dark
And nations grope,
With God Himself back of these
little homes,

We can still hope.

And as long as souls are taken into the fold, as we experienced, there is still hope! Christine Meiss (Bro. Elmer and Sis. Hulda), Karen Gramm (Bro. Herb and Sis. Jane), Diane Gramm (Bro. Ed and Sis. Loretta) and Sally Gramm (Bro. Art and Sis. Ruth) gave their testimonies, and were baptized the following day. Elders Bros. Ezra Feller and Eugene Bertschi assisted in this blessed work.

Elder Bro. Ed Hohulin came to assist in the reading of the Memorandum. It was a precious evening for all, and we were greatly lifted up, knowing that our church is still following in the faith of our fath-

ers

Sis. Bernice Yergler, Bro. Ed Gramm, and George Witzig were surgical patients, but all are recovering.

Trent Aaron Kaupp was born to Bro. Harold and Sis. Waiva Kaupp on Jan. 4. His brothers, Tony, Tim, and Troy welcomed him home.

IOWA CITY Patty Stoller — Beverly Mogler

"And Jesus said unto him, Why callest thou me good? none is good, save one, that is God." Although Jesus was with God in spirit, He still gave God credit. Let us strive to follow this perfect example and also give God the praise and honor He deserves.

We appreciate the efforts of Bros. Bob Pohl, Uriel Gehring, Ed Lanz, Dale Moore and Bert Butikofer in bringing God's word to us

at our last meetings.

It is with sad hearts we bid Bro. Dan and Sis. Diane Stoller farewell, as they have moved to Rockville. Dan has completed his education, and found employment there. We rejoice that they can be with believers of like faith and wish them many rich blessings in their new endeavors.

NEUHUTTEN GERMANY Jon Zeller

Our faith is so often tried in the furnace that Satan has prepared to confound and mislead us. We are often beset with trials that bring us to the very edge of his pit. The righteous souls are tempered for the battles yet to come in life, but the unrighteous and those that yet cling to the ways of the world are charred, that they see not the errors of their ways. Such as these only set a stumbling-block before us and seek to draw us away with them. Let us seek His favor and strive for true humility and holy simplicity, that the cares of this world vanish from us.

David Hughes has completed his tour of service and has returned to Phoenix. Mrs. Robert (Jeannie) Shambach and their son, Eric, have also returned home to Elgin and await Bob's return in the near future. Our prayers go out to them and all.

LA CROSSE
Pearl Nuest — Gwen Bucher

We were richly blest Sunday, Jan. 23 by the visit of Bro. Edward Alt from Cissna Park. We heard many timely warnings of the crafty foe, and how we should be a living testimony by our walk of life.

Bro. Don and Sis. Mary Gudeman were blessed with their first son, Owen David, born Jan. 10. He has two sisters to welcome him home. Paternal grandparents are Bro. Art and Sis. Mary Gudeman, and maternal grandparents are Bro. Eli and Sis. Ella Schlatter of Bay City.

Carl and Teresa Melcher have a new daughter, Wendy Sue, born Jan. 27. Grandparents are Fern and Bart Antrim, Don & Jean Melcher. Great-grandmother, Alice Heinold, is in Florida for the winter months. Wendy was born on her grandmother (Fern's) birthday.

Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Carol Bucher have a new son, Lance Jay, born Jan. 30. Grandparents are Bro. Bert and Sis. Marie Bucher, & Bro. John Wettstein from Congerville. He has two sisters and one brother.

Happy to report . . . Bro. Ben Hitz has had major surgery and is able to be among us again. Our Elder Bro. George Yergler has returned home, after having major surgery. Sis. Melva (Vernon) Bucher is a medical patient; she is showing improvement.

Bro. Richard Nuest is new trustee; Sis. Leona Bucher on dinner Committee; Sis. Gwen Bucher, assistant Silver Lining reporter.

Faye Troxel, daughter of Bro.

Phil and Sis. Mary, and Mark Zohn, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Zohn, were married Jan. 29. They are making their first home in Lafayette, Ind., where Mark is attending Purdue. May God bless this union of hearts.

Sunday, Jan. 30, our afternoon services were opened by Bro. Elmer Bucher of Francesville with the question, "Why are we here?" The answer was found in the message; to receive comfort and encouragement from His word and by fellowshipping with the brethren. God is no respecter of persons and wants all to come and be saved. May many take advantage of His marvelous grace and seek their soul's salvation.

Bro. Arden Bucher has been discharged from the Army. He and his wife, Sis. LeAnn are making their home at Anderson, Ind., where he is employed.

PURDUE UNIVERSITY Norma Schini — Lois Kipfer

Our lives may be short or long—this we do not know. One thing we do know is that God put us here for some purpose. If we have been fortunate to have been brought up in Christian homes and have learned to know Christ as our Saviour, surely we must say our purpose is to draw others to this same saving knowledge. Are we really making this our main purpose in life? Let us each consider our duties and remember these words of guidance:

Take a Little Time

Take a little time today To mend a broken heart Or gather up the pieces Of a dream that's torn apart . . . Take a little time today To graciously extend An outstretched hand to some one Who really needs a friend . . . Take a little time today To help make life worthwhile For a stranger who can use An understanding smile . . . Reach for heaven and reflect The sunshine from above; Take a little time today To radiate God's love.

Many in our group have felt the blessings of taking a little time out of our busy days to share with others. We have visited a couple nursing homes in the Lafayette area. The songs and words of encouragement are certainly appreciated by these elderly people.

We were blessed with words of instruction and encouragement by Bro. Earl Kilgus from Remington on Jan. 12. This was our only midweek service this month. The students had a break for semesters from Jan. 26 to Feb. 6.

FRANCESVILLE Mrs. Herman (Chris) Wuethrich Mrs. Otto Wuethrich

Sometime We'll Understand why Bro. John Anliker was taken so suddenly. As Bro. Wendell Gudeman started his services he said, "We trust that through your tears, Sis. Louise, your son Myrtis, and the 6 grandchildren, that you can see your loved one, as the choir will sing "Joyfully, Joyfully, Safely At Home". Just a few days before his death when Wendell visited him. John kept showing pictures to him of his grandchildren, and said how he appreciated Myrtis and his wife. He then talked of how much the Lord Jesus meant to them during their married life. Bro. John would read the Bible until his last days, then Sis. Louise read to him. Sure makes us feel we always want to read the Bible as long as life is ours. Very comforting words were then spoken to all by the loved brothers, Joshua Broquard and Perry Zimmerman. God has promised not to put more on a person than they can bear, by looking up to Him.

We have two loved ones in the hospital: Leon Wuethrich's daughter, Cheryl Scheffer, and Bro. Sidney Leman (surgery on his right arm). We really hope and pray all good for those loved ones.

Now is joyful news—Bro. Edwin Bahler brought us such neighborly love of good words, as we feel his church is our neighbor. Then from far-away Winthrop came Bro. Elmer Schmidt for forenoon service, but gave us such blessings that could have counted for two services. A Brother then prayed, "Surely it would not be pleasing to Thee, if we would not bow in thanks of prayer after such a blessed hour".

At our last visit to dear Aunt Lydia Schlatter, of Latty, she said this little verse:

A little word in kindness spoken A motion or a cup of tea Has often healed a heart that's broken And made a friend sincere. Aunt Lydia then said that the last Sunday she was able to attend church, someone gave her a pat on the back that made her tears come, and the person came back and apologized for making her cry, but she told her, "I love you now more than before". That's why we do not want to neglect our dear aged people, if it is just a "Love Tap".

MORTON Mrs. John Oberlander Mrs. Kenneth Getz

Our congregation has been saddened by the loss of three dear souls: Sis. Emma Zobrist, 74, died Jan. 6 at Restmor Nursing Home. She is survived by her niece, Mrs. Paul (Fern) Grieder, and four brothers, Theodore, David, Caleb and Albert; five sisters, Elizabeth Zobrist, Mrs. Louise Tovis, Mrs. Albert (Lena) Knapp, Mrs. Clarence (Idella) Fry, and Mrs. Edwin (Amelia) Kock. Bro. John Teubel, 70, passed away Jan. 9. He is survived by his wife, Sis. Rose Schambach Teubel; three sons, Bros. Richard, Edward, and David; one daughter, Mrs. Walter (Doris) Christ; two brothers, Henry and Karl; one sister, Mrs. Pauline Russel. Edward Wanner, 82, died Jan. 23. He is survived by five daughters. Mrs. Harold (Blanche) Schwinn, Mrs. Dayton (Goldie) Russell, Mrs. Orville (Hazel) Christ, Mrs. Loren (Grace) Blair, and Mrs. Leon (Gertrude) Grimes; three sons, Russell, Edward and Robert; one sister, Sis. Lydia Huette.

Those in the hospital or convalesing are: Sisters Bernice Rinkenberger Rapp, Kathi Roeschley, Emma Strunk Paluska, Rachel Bauman, and Janet Kilgus Simpson, Beverly Aberle Beyer, Emma Bernhardt, and Bro. Robert Taufer.

Bro. Mike Schmidgall and Sis. Sylvia Klein Schmidgall celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. May God bless them.

Visiting ministers were: Bros. Edward Frank, Joe Zimmerman Sr., Simon Wagenbach, Albert Aberle, Frederich Knapp, Willis Wiegand, Eli Somerhalder, Edmund Kloter & Don Sauder. Our congregation is so thankful for their words of truth.

The engagement and forthcoming marriage of Kathy Kent, daughter of Richard and Carol Rein Kent, to Dennis McClain of Washington has been announced. Janet

Kay Staker, daughter of Bro. Sam and Sis. Clara Staker, plans to marry Keith Fiedler, son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Fiedler in August.

Bro. Douglas Kruse and Sis. Gerry Domnick were united in marriage Jan. 30. We wish God's grace

in their future.

Sis. Rachel Bauman wishes to thank everyone who remembered her with cards and prayers during her illness.

TOLEDO Lydia Meister

Toledo church has received rich blessings from our Lord. Joyce Rehklau and Rolf Kaeppler were baptized Jan. 16. We are happy to have them as a sister and brother of faith in the Lord. Elder Loren Stoller of Latty church assisted our Elder Ben Maibach Saturday evening. They also read and explained the Conference Letter. Those of us who were confined to our homes with the flu feel we missed a very blessed and spiritually important week-end.

Is it not a Christian pleasure to turn back the pages of our life and feel again the warmth and love of our conversion and baptism. It was for me on this Sunday the 16th. In the year 1916 on this day, my two sisters and I were baptized. Our elder then was dear brother Henry Souder of Leo. His love and deep spiritual concern for us, and his wise and gentle counseling has been my guide thru the many years. How very precious all our dear shepherds must be to our Heavenly Father.

Sis. Irene Haggermaker has moved to Mississippi. We are so sorry to have Irene leave us. We shall miss her and hope, God willing, some day she can come back to us. Her husband's work took them. Their address is 804 Payne, Moss

Point Miss. 39563.

"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path."

KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY Libby Meyer

"For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God? And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear?"

These were the words that Bro. Al Langhofer from Wichita shared

with us at our last gathering. These sincere words are quite stunning and should be impressive to every individual heart, the sinner and the righteous alike. Let's not forget to watch and pray, so that we may be able to inherit that glorious Home, where we'll never have to part, and where we can rejoice, praising our heavenly Father forever and ever.

TAMAHATA, JAPAN Akito and Marie Inoue

The way has opened that we could add a Bible class to our Sunday meetings. We usually had a morning service only, and now are beginning to study in the book of Galatians in our small Bible class. We entreat the Lord for His blessing on all our undertakings, that we may grow not only in number, but in quality of those who seek to serve the Lord.

We missed Sis. Shinkai while she was in Tokyo, visiting her daughter, and are happy to have her back.

As we were leaving Yokohama last Sunday morning for church at Tamahata the sun, which looked like a large red ball, was just rising above the horizon. One does not often see this in Japan, as most of the horizon in this country is hidden by the mountains. To think this marvelous aspect of God's creation provides light for the entire world . . . But greater yet is the thought that there is even a greater light, yes, that outshines the sun, which is truly the light of the world for those who are interested and avail themselves. May this light, Jesus our resurrected Saviour, which is reflected in us shine forth daily to our neighbors and friends. To anyone visiting Japan our address is Mr. and Mrs Akito Inoue. Nishisugeta Danchi 2-2-302, Nishiideto, Sugeta Cho, Kanagawa Ku, Yokohama 221 Japan.

ELGIN, IOWA Mrs. George Butikofer

This morning we were greeted with the lovliest spectacles of winter-time; it is that of beholding every bush and tree covered with ice and snow, and in the sunlight glistening as so many crystal jewels. At the moment, a group of purple finches are seen at the feeding station. This is the first winter this specie has been seen frequenting this area. Feeding the birds when the earth is snow-covered is very interesting and rewarding.

We miss seeing Sis. Bertha Pulfer. She passed away on the sixth day of January. On the 15th of November she had reached her 88th birthday. Bertha was born in barou bei Langnau in Emmenthal, Canton Bern, Switzerland.

It was in 1921 that Bertha left Switzerland to visit her cousins, the Schupbachs and Grimms in Elgin. Bertha found employment in the community, and also West Bend. In March 1923 she was united in marriage to Gottlieb Pulfer, who survives. They engaged in farming for 28 years, after which they resided in Elgin (In 1951 they left the farm).

Two children were born to this union, Paul, who resides on the home farm, and Marion, who died at

13.

Bertha will be remembered for a sincere fondness for her grandchildren, her Christian principles, and her love of growing flowers.

He Loves You

It's amazing and incredible
But it's as true as it can be,
God loves and understands us all
And that means You and Me—
His love knows no exceptions,
So never feel excluded,
No matter who or what you are
Your name has been included—
And no matter what your past has

been,
Trust God to understand,
And no matter what your problem

Just place it in His hand-

PEORIA Emily Tanner Mrs. Michael Weyeneth

On Jan. 2, Louise Tieman and Norvin Schneider were united in marriage. Her parents are Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Caulkins, and his parents are Bro. Ernie and Sis. Anna Schneider, both families of Peoria Heights. United in holy matrimony on Jan. 30 were Sis. Dorothy Hodel and Bro. Mike Meister. Her parents are Bro. Sam and Sis. Gertrude Hodel of Cissna Park, and he is the son of Mrs. Jean Meister Lockhart of Peoria. We welcome both these couples in our assembly and pray God's blessings be upon them and their households.

It was so nice to have Bro. Dan Koch and quite a number of the Tremont congregation, also visitors from various congregations come and assemble with us to worship and give praise to God the day of the Hodel-Meister wedding.

Mr. and Mrs. John B. Slinkard of Florissant, Mo. announce the engagement of their daughter, Christy Sue, to Ronald Eugene Joos, son of Bro. Bob and Sis. Lorene Joos of our Peoria congregation. Both young people are attending Northeast Missouri State College.

David and Joyce Haefli Snider are the parents of a son, David Britton, born Jan. 14. Maternal grandparents are Bro. Ernie and Sis.

Dorothy Haefli.

Sis. Freda Kipfer is a hospital patient. Bro. Dave Hoerr spent some time in the hospital, but is

home now, recuperating.

Bro. Henry Staub, 64, died Jan. 9 at Methodist Hospital. He had been a patient a month. Born in Germany, the son of Henry and Anna Schaefer Staub, he was married to Grace Fehr in 1934. Surviving are his widow: two daughters, Mrs. Reuben (Yvonne) Coulter of Peoria, Miss Maureen Staub at home; one son, Henry Staub III of Morton; two brothers, Bro. Edwin and Emil both of Peoria; two sisters, Mrs. Earl Stoecker and Mrs. Arturo Guzman, both of Peoria: two sisters and one brother in Germany. Services were held at Gauss Memorial Chapel.

Funeral services were held at Wright and Salmon Mortuary for Pearl F. Streitmatter, 71. He had lived at the Apostolic Christian Home on Skyline Dr. since July 1971; he died there Jan. 21. He was born at Princeville, the son of Fred C. and Katherine Wieland Streitmatter, and married Selma Eberle in 1929. She died here Sept. 7, 1970. Surviving are four sisters, Mrs. Nellie Woertz, Mrs. Clara Berchtold and Mrs. Edward (Lucy) Woertz, all of Princeville, and Mrs. Edna Streitmatter of Parkhill Nursing Home, Chillicothe.

Bro. Jonathan L. Schumacher, 89, died Jan. 28 in Methodist Hospital, where he had been a patient two months. Born at Roanoke, the son of Isaac and Bena Fehr Schumacher, he came to Peoria in 1930. On April 14, 1960, he married Sis. Margaret Alt Honegger. Surviving are his widow; two daughters, Mrs. Joe (Viola) Schlupp and Mrs. Tillie Johnson, both of Eureka; two sons, Ora of Minneapolis, and Emery of Columbus, Ohio; three stepsons;

one stepdaughter; two brothers, Andrew of Roanoke, and Henry of Metamora; and two sisters, Mrs. Elizabeth Hodel of Eureka and Miss Anna Schumacher of Roanoke.

Note of thanks: Sis. Margaret Schumacher wishes to express her thanks for all the prayers, kind deeds, cards and gifts extended to her and her husband, Bro. Jonathan during his illness, hospitalization and death.

CHICAGO

We have discontinued midweek service thru the middle of March, because of the inclement weather and the long distances many have to travel.

We were blessed by visits by Bros. Roy Wieland, Bay City; Robert Pohl, Burlington; and Floyd Schmidgall, Morris. Their words of

truth will be remembered.

Bro. Bob and Sis. Doris Meiss of Gridley, Ill., have moved to Darien, Ill. Bob is teaching at Proviso East High School, Maywood. Friend Jim Emch of Girard is now attending the chiropractic school in Lombard, Ill. We welcome them into our midst.

Sis. Helen Kittl fell and broke her wrist in a fall. She was walking to a bus which she was going to take to church.

With the completion of the installation of the roofing, the new church building is enclosed. Now the interior work can proceed regardless of the weather.

BLUFFTON Imogene Steffen — Pat Isch

It was indeed strengthening to hear testimonies of ten dear souls who have turned from their sinful past to begin anew. The following were added to the fold and are now our brothers and sisters in the Lord: Janice (Neuenschwander) Schwartz, Susan Schladenhauffen (Bro. Harold and Sis. Dorothy), Ronald Hilton, Wanita Frauhiger (Bro. Earl and Sis. Ann), Mike and Becky (Tonner) Leyse, Lyle and Connie (Gerber) Kaehr, Von and Diane (Aschliman) Heyerly.

We were very pleased that Bro. Loren Stoller was with us to help our elders with the provings. Each testimony was as a little sermon. It was so inspiring to hear each experience and the kind instructions given to each one. It is always a blessing to sit in such quiteness and think back on our own past-time of

repentance. Have we made spiritual progress?

Several have been confined to hospitals for a short time due to various reasons. Those include Sis. Tina Reinhard, eye surgery; Bro. Jack Gerber, hip surgery; Sis. Frieda Schaefer; Bro. Joel Schaefer; Bro. Charles Drayer; Bro. Fred Gerber; and Sis. Leah (Calvin) Rauch. Many in our community have been afflicted by the flu epidemic.

Bro. Phil and Sis. Maureen (Frank) Stettner are the happy parents of little Maura Sue. A girl, Grace Marie was born to Tom and Becky (Pfister) Edington. "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it."

God meant it unto good—O blest assurance,

Falling like sunshine all across life's way,

Touching with Heaven's gold, earth's darkest storm clouds, Bringing fresh peace and comfort

day by day.

'Twas not by chance the hands of faithless brethren

Sold Joseph captive to a foreign land;

Nor was it chance which, after years of suffering,

Brought him before the monarch's throne to stand.

One Eye, all-seeing saw the need of thousands,

And planned to meet it through that one lone soul,

And through the weary days of prison bondage

Was working towards the great and glorious goal.

As yet the end was hidden from the captive;

The iron entered even to his soul. His eye could scan the present path of sorrow.

Not yet his gaze might rest upon the whole.

Faith failed not through those long, dark days of waiting;

His trust in God was recompensed at last.

The moment came when God led forth his servant
To succour many, all his

sufferings past.

God means it unto good for thee, beloved;

The God of Joseph is the same

His love permits afflictions strange and bitter:

His hand is guiding through the unknown way.

Thy Lord, who sees the end from the beginning

Hath purposes for thee of love untold.

Then place thy hand in His and follow fearless,

Till thou the riches of His grace behold.

There, when thou standest in the Home of glory,

And all life's path lies open to thy gaze,

Thine eyes shall SEE the hand which now thou trustest,

And magnify His love through endless days.

"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God . . ."

CISSNA PARK

Mary Young - Margaret Rudin

It is a fairy land this morning as I sit looking over the newly-fallen snow, with the sun shining on it. We treasure the sunshine, but the sun can't always shine. We need the dark clouds too, so we are blessed with both.

Our general election was held Jan. 13. A goodly number turned out for mid-week service. We are thankful brothers are found to accept these duties.

Bro. Daniel Koch of Tremont assisted Bro. Ezra Feller in reading the deliberations of the conference. May we accept the admonitions, that we ever may walk closer to the Lord and be a true witness for him. Bro. William Gudeman was also our guest minister; we thank them for sharing the message with us.

Sis. Edith (Melvin) Stock, Sis. Lily Walbeser, Bro. Elmer Hari were hospital patients, having had surgery. Bro. John Farney and our friend, Norman Knapp were medical patients. May the Lord bless each one in all their needs.

Funeral services were held Jan. 15 for our friend, Wayne Walker, age 34, who passed away at Americana Nursing Home in Champaign. Survivors include his wife, Virginia and daughter, Brenda; one brother; and his mother, Mrs. Brooksie Walker of Decatur. Our ministers

officiated. Wayne was a teacher in the East Lynn school. Our sympathy is extended to the family. Burial was at Decatur Ill.

Our sympathy is extended to Sis. Esther Siegle, over the loss of her brother, Levi Keidel, who passed away unexpectedly at Phoenix from a heart attack.

Born to Michael and Donita Knake was a son, Glen Michael, Jan. 8. Grandparents are Bro. Ed Jr. and Sis. Betty Feller, and Mr. and Mrs Warren Knake

The engagement of Sis. Eileen Schlipf was announced to Bro. Robert Greiner. Eileen is the daughter of Sis. Helen Knapp. Our best wishes are extended to them.

ELGIN ILLINOIS Louise Steffen—Katie Kachelmuss

The soul who lives with Christ the Lord
When earthly toil is done

Goes home to rest forevermore As sets life's evening sun.

Bro. Albert, husband of Sis. Sarah Bolliger Schmidgall, departed this life at the age of 75 years. Services were held Jan. 13. Their address is 721 Diane, Elgin Ill 60120.

Friend Ezra, husband of Frieda Greiner Eisenmann, passed away at the age of 69 years. Services were held Jan. 26. Their address is R. 2, Hampshire Ill 60140. May God comfort the widows in their lonely hours

Joy here alternates with woe. We have another brother and sister in faith, Larry and Bernetta Metzger, who were taken into the fold Jan. 9. Bro. Geo. Gramm of Gridley was with us to take part in this joyful event. The Metzgers live at 389 Prairie St., Elgin Ill 60120.

We are sorry to have Eddie and Judy Feucht Martin leave us to make their home at Lester, but we wish them God's blessings in their future home.

We were happy to have Jean Schock Schambach with us again, with little Eric Stephan who was born in Germany, where Robert was stationed. He hopes to return to the States soon.

Bro. Dan Koch of Tremont was with us for the Conference Memorandum. Bro. Maurice Frank of Leo was also with us that day, ministering the word unto us.

Our elder expressed his feelings that he should have help in his duties; the congregation agreed, and Bro. Nathan Steffen was chosen. Bro. Joshua Broquard was with us, and the duties of ordained deacon were placed upon Bro. Nathan. May God give him faith and courage to carry on according to His will and for the welfare of our church.

We have some friends assembling with us who are natives of Morton, Marlene (Frank and Marlene Milazzo, 20 W. 417 JoAnn Lane, Addison, Ill. 60101) and little daughter Marie Ann. Marlene is the daughter of Bro. Carl Schick of Morton . . . Sylvia is daughter of Sis. Florence and the late Bro. George Schmidgall of Morton. Sylvia lives at 486 Stella St., Elgin Ill 60120. We're always glad to see them in our midst.

Bro. Robert Greiner was announced to be married to Sis. Eileen Schlipf of Cissna Park. Robert lives at 656 Park St., Elgin Ill 60120. We wish them God's blessings in their future life together.

FT SAM HOUSTON Steve Elsasser

Blessed, holy is the hour that we, Lord, draw night to Thee. The hours that are spent for the Lord in his worship are truly a great source of spiritual energy. Even when we are few in number, the Lord will be with us and bless, because He has promised that whenever two or three gather together in His holy name, He will be there also

We were exceedingly glad to have with us Bro. Earl Kilgus from the Remington congregation. God's Spirit is manifested in all who trust in him, and surely we could feel the Spirit as the word was spoken to us.

Due to the "early out" program set up by the Army, our group has gotten much smaller. Those who were separated from active duty in January were Bros. Arden Bucher (and wife, Sis. Leann), Kurt Bahler and Charles Sinn. It is a good experience to see the time of separation from the Army come, as it was witnessed in these brothers. Many miles were walked and many storms were weathered, but one thing is for sure: they trusted in the almighty God and knew that He would give power and strength in all things. . . but how swiftly doth time pass; it is but a vapor . . . we see it, and then it is gone. It is the prayer of us all that God might richly bless

them for their support, guidance and labors which were done for others. I remember an older brother once told me, "A brother should strive to promote unity in all things among the brethren, but never at the expense of losing holiness." The Apostle Paul writes, Be eager in pursuit of this love.

We encourage anyone planning a vacation in the South to visit us at San Antonio. Ph. 512-824-9803.

LAMAR Mrs. Charles Marti Mrs. Arthur Banwart

With the coming of the new year came our annual business meeting and new duties in the church . . . Bro. Carl Engle was chosen for the board of trustees. Other members are Bros. Fred Braker and Noah Schlupp. New Sunday School teachers are Bro. Leonard Marti & Sis. Alice (Charles) Marti. Surely the Lord strengthens and blesses those who give of themselves to teach the youth of today (who are hopefully the church of tomorrow), for their responsibility is very great.

Our aged Sis. Lizzie Remm, who has been an invalid for many months, is still confined to her home, where she is tenderly cared for by her two sisters, Sis. Caroline Lehman and Sis. Leona Kraft. Carrie says, "We have much to be thankful for; Lizzie doesn't suffer". Our aged friend, Louisa Rentsch is another shut-in of long duration. Her daughter, Sis. Lydia stays with her and lovingly attends to her needs. Sis. Marie Stewart has been unable to attend church services for several weeks, but we are thankful to learn that she is improving.

The love of God is made manifest in many ways. Sis. Anna Frieden was shown love when neighbors and sisters-in-faith called at her home to wish her well on her 80th birthday. She was looking for a few friends to come, but was surprised when 17 arrived. She also received many nice cards through the mail. It was indeed a happy and blessed day for her and for all who shared it with her.

After 4 months of studies at L. P.N. school, Sisters Bonnie (Leonard) Braker and Evelyn (Leonard) Marti were rewarded by receiving their caps. They will continue studies and hospital training until they graduate next fall.

The snowflakes are gently falling to the earth—only yesterday the

sun was shining warm and brightly; it seemed spring was not far off. This has been the pattern of our weather the past two months. We were reminded by a ministering brother that God's might is shown through the weather. Even though man has become wise in much, God still controls the sunshine and the storm. Do we remember to thank Him for the beautiful days He gives us, or do we complain when the weather is bad? Remember the thankless and murmuring children of Israel!

A sister in faith was very discouraged; she felt everyone was against her and her husband (because of unkind words that someone had said.) She dreaded going to church, but dutifully went. When she was greeted by the sisters, she did not see frowns of disapproval; instead she was greeted with smiles! Smiles of love! The love of God smiling through! Oh how it lifted her up. How happy she now felt, how thankful to God that things were not as they seemed. Who knows how many souls we may help along the way when we let the love of God shine through us with a smile of love and a warm Christian greeting.

LAMONT Betty Wernli

Meekness is the noblest virtue Every Christian's honor bright; It adorns the youthful member And the aged with its might.

During one of our meditations, we were reminded how we as God's children can lose our first love. This did prompt one brother to make mention to another that we can so easily lose too this humility, that to Jesus is "more than precious gold, more than fame and wealth untold."

How thankful one is that God does provide watchmen on Zion's walls to encourage His children to more faithfulness to Him. Elder Bro. Noah Schrock of Oakville in a mid-week visit did warn that the race is not yet won at the beginning or the middle but only at the end. as overcomers. Other visiting ministers were Bros. George Lambert and Al Langhofer of Wichita and Bros. Loren Strahm and Lloyd Kraft of Gridley. Might we ever encourage our dear ministering brothers to expound God's holy word, as we realize their deep concern in fulfilling this duty.

Sis. Leah Fechtor and Friend Martha Hughes are recovering in the hospital from injuries sustained in an auto accident . . . also, Sis. Hulda Jacobs and Friend Sarah Somerhalder, who received cuts and bruises from this same mishap.

Our friend, Max Burnham, is seeking the Lord in repentance. May God grant him grace to come out from among the world and serve Him. Max and his wife, Cathy, have been attending our church for several months, and on Jan. 16 they were blessed with their first child, Jason Scott.

LATTY Connie Stoller

Now that the new year has begun, let us all strive to grow more

fully in the Lord.

On New Year's Day, Elder Bro. Theo. Beer of Milford assisted Elder Bro. Loren Stoller in making known the contents of the Memorandum. Obedience to God and to the advice shared from the memorandum would surely lighten the duties of our elders.

The World Relief Sewing group began its weekly sewing meetings on Jan. 4. All are encouraged to support this worthwhile cause.

Hospital patients were Sis. Marie Stoller (Bro. Irvin's); Bro. Roy Stoller of Oakwood, Ohio; Bro. Jake Stoller and Bro. Ben Schlatter. They are all at home, recuperating.

We were happy that Bruce Stoller could be home for two weeks on leave from Germany. We wish him much strength and grace for his remaining months in the armed service.

The Latty young group enjoyed spending Jan. 23 and Jan. 30 fellowshipping at Junction.

LESTER

Alice Metzger - Paulette Meyer

"Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me." We were privileged to partake of the Lord's Supper, when Elder Bros. Noah Schrock and Paul Fehr were here to assist Elder Bro. Leo Moser in serving Communion. It was a precious and memorable week-end, as the brothers also read the memorandum for the benefit of our undying soul. May God bless them for their untiring and inspiring mes-

We have experienced some ex-

tremely cold weather, but just moderate snowfall the past few weeks. The farm animals look to their master for daily food and a comfortable place to rest. The Lord provides for all his creatures—how much more he provides the manna for body and spirit which we need.

Bro. George and Sis. Charlyn (Bauman) Meyer are the parents of a baby boy, Clark David. He was welcomed home by Sid and Sandi. Bro. Bob and Sis. Nancy (Wysong) Gerber are the parents of a girl, Jill Marie. She was welcomed home by three brothers and a sister. Ernie and Sharon (DeHaan) Gerber are the parents of a girl, Wendy Dawn. She was welcomed home by her twin brothers.

Calvin Kellenberger, son of Bro. Henry and Sis. Elaine, was hospitalized for knee surgery and is recuperating at home.

NEW MARTINSVILLE Mrs. Gus Weltz Miss Della Witschey

We are in a grip of very cold weather, temperature down to three above zero on Feb. 5, with some snow and heavy winds.

There is much sickness here, many cases of flu, the local hospital has curtailed its visiting hours to prevent more sickness.

Jimmy Wade, grandson of Mr. and Mrs. C. O. Wade, arrived home on Jan. 16 from a 13-month tour of duty in Viet Nam. He looks fine, altho' life was not too easy at times; he spent the last three months of duty in the field, at times eating was not the best, and bath and laundry conditions were bad.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Berger have been patients in the local hospital; Mrs. Berger has been at the home of their son for several days; Mr. Berger is hoping to be released soon, so they can both get home again.

Roy Riggenbach of Limestone Ridge is a patient in the local hospital, being treated for a heart condition. Marry Burton was a patient in the hospital for several days, but is home again; Mrs. Emma Schupbach has been a patient in the hospital for several days.

Gus Weltz, who has not been very good for some time, remains about the same, still able to care for himself, and quietly observed his 82nd birthday on Jan. 29.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Berger were called to Tennessee the last of Jan-

uary by the death of her mother; her father is hospitalized at this time.

Mr. and Mrs. C. O. Wade and Grandson Jimmy Wade spent the week-end of Feb. 5 with relatives in Reynoldsburg, Ohio.

Mrs. William Emch is confined to her home by illness and is being cared for by her son, Bob.

MILFORD Marguerite Hoerr

We've had some extreme cold weather in northern Indiana, twenty below zero, and today schools are all closed because of drifting snow. We're grateful for warm houses as we look out on the beautiful white winter landscape.

Bro. Mike Reuter has not been able to worship with us recently because of health problems. We miss him and Sis. Marie.

Bro. Fred Schori was stricken with illness during our worship services one Sunday. He was taken by ambulance to the hospital, where he remained for treatment for several days. Reports are that he's fine again, and we are happy to be able to report this.

Bob's mother, Sis. Aline Hoerr, has been confined to her home for a number of weeks because of a severe bout with the flu. She's gaining her strength back, and we're looking forward to seeing her in church again.

Our sympathy is extended to Gwen (Mr. Herman) Weisser, whose mother, Mrs. Guy Fisher was taken in death.

Various ones from our congregation have been fortunate in enjoying the lovely warm weather in Florida. We ask God to watch over everyone who travels.

Pledge cards have been turned back to the building committee for our proposed Fellowship Center. We especially ask God's presence in this project, that it can be a blessing to our young people and to our entire congregation, that it can be used to His honor at all times.

PHOENIX Mrs. Allan Freed

Our congregation was saddened to hear of the death of Bro. Albert Schmidgall of Elgin. He and his wife had just returned home from Phoenix, after visiting here with their son and his wife, Al and Kathy Schmidgall, for several weeks.

Teddy Knochel, young son of Bro.

Ted and Sis. Madeline, has been getting around on crutches for several weeks. He broke a bone in his foot and has his leg in a cast to the knee. We hope it won't be long until the bone is completely healed.

Jody Knochel, daughter of Bro. Herb and Sis. Joan, was a shut-in for awhile, with a bad case of the measles. Others of our congregation have been confined with the flu and colds, but most are able to be out and around again.

We have appreciated having visiting ministers again. Bro. Albert Scheitlin and his wife of Elgin have been spending some time here with relatives. Bro. Elmer Schrenk of Alto was with us one Wednesday evening for services. We thank them for their messages.

We are happy that Sally Wullschleger has found the grace to answer God's call to repentance. Sally moved here sometime ago from Wichita. Her parents are Bro. Arthur and Sis. Augusta, who live in Wichita.

Brethren from many congregations have visited us, and are enjoying our warm winter weather in the Valley of the Sun. We appreciate having them assemble with us and the wonderful Christian fellowship we share.

What Christ is to Us

The Shield from every dart; The Balm for every smart; The Sharer of each load; Companion on the road.

The Door into the fold; The Anchor that will hold; The Shepherd of the sheep; The Guardian of my sleep.

The Friend with whom I talk; The Way by which I walk; The Light to show the way; The Strength for every day.

The Source of my delight; The Song to cheer the night; The Thought that fills my mind; The Best of All to find—is Jesus!

RITTMAN

Florence Hartzler—Janette Blough

The Akron congregation joined us one Sunday morning, when the furnace did not heat properly. We especially want to thank the ministers for bringing us the wonderful words of life.

The engagement of Bro. Marvin

Ramsier and Sis. Terri Gerber was announced. We pray the Lord will bless these dear ones as they make their plans for the future.

A baby girl was made welcome at the home of Bro. Dale and Sis. Joyce Hartzler. She has been named Amy Lynn, and has two sisters and two brothers. Bro. Lawrence and Sis. Mary Stoller, Bro. Reuben and Sis. Velma Hartzler are the grand-

parents.

Sis. Doris Gasser is home from the hospital and, though she is still on crutches, she is able to attend church. Bernie Hilty is back in school, after spending some time in the hospital. Sis. Martha Dotterer spent a few days in the hospital. We are thankful for the healing power of God, both for soul and body.

The funeral of Sis. Ida Powell was held Saturday, Jan. 30. She is survived by two sisters. Even though she could not always attend church, she was happy in her faith and love for God that she found in her late years. The last few years of her life were spent at the Mennonite Home, Rittman.

Our Relief Sewing is now held in the Fellowship Hall. Anyone who is interested in helping the needy are welcome to attend. "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

I wish to again thank everyone for the many prayers, visits, flowers, cards and gifts while I was in the hospital. May God bless you for your deeds of kindness. All were very much appreciated. Sis. Doris

Gasser.

UNION CITY Gail Gasser

We are happy to have two new couples fellowship with us. They are Bro. Ron and Sis. Kay Meiss and Troy, and Bro. John and Sis. Kathy Clough. The Meiss' are finishing their tour of duty in the service at Ft. Meade, Md., after spending the past year in Seoul, Korea. Bro. and Sis. Clough are now living in Quakertown, Pa. We heartily welcome each one of them.

On Jan. 23 we were privileged to have Bro. John Bahler and Bro. Ernest Luginbuhl to share the memorandum with us. Bro. John Bahler announced that our friend, Kay Weidman, now has peace and wishes to erect a covenant with the

Lord in holy baptism. We rejoice with her and her loved ones.

We wish to extend an invitation to anyone passing through the Philadelphia area during the week to stop and have midweek services with us. Each Wednesday or Thurs. evening at 7:30, as many as eleven of us who live in this area listen to a taped sermon in one of our homes. All are welcome to join us.

VALPARAISO Irene Nuest

Throw out the lifeline across the dark wave:

There is a brother someone should save...

Somebody's brother, oh who then will dare

To throw out the lifeline His peril to share.

On Jan. 9 we were privileged to have with us our elder, Bro. George Yergler of LaCrosse. By reading St. John 15 he was inspired to really throw out the lifeline. May God bless the message that was sounded loud and clear, so many will take heed and seek their soul's salvation.

Deep In My Soul

Father, look deep in my soul today; Cast all the sin and evil away. Make me kind, humble and true, Not for this earth, but my Father for you.

Our mother, Sis. Lena Nuest, who is still in good health and attends church every Sunday, will have her 88th birthday March 5. Anyone that cares to send her a card, address: Mrs. Lena Nuest, LaCrosse, Ind. 46348.

WINTHROP Delores Messerli — Carol Messner

Thought for the day: Someone is always within my reach who needs

such help as I can give.

We extend our heartfelt thank you to the dear elders who journeyed here and so kindly explained their concern for our earthly life and our soul salvation. Bros. Noah Schrock came with Bro. Leo Moser, and returned with Bro. Paul Fehr to Morris. They left a warm feeling of love and understanding among the members here.

Our annual business meeting was held, with Bro. Cornelius Messerli elected trustee and Bro. Dennis Messner to the personal property committee.

Sis. Mary Lou Schmidt (Dick) was hospitalized with pneumonia. She has returned home to her family.

Sis. Geraldine Messner (Harold) wishes to extend her thanks for all kindness shown during her recovery. May God bless you.

A sudden snowstorm stranded some of us at others' homes. The storm is comparable to our souls repentance—the hours of anguish and turmoil . . . Then peace, beautiful peace which only our God can bestow upon us, as the morning following the storm dawned clear, beautiful and still.

Friend, to forgive is wondrous fine, But to forget is like Christ, divine, So when someone has injured you. Take the Lord's way and forget it

He who cannot forgive others breaks the bridge over which he himself must pass.

AKRON Katherine Ries

"Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: And see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting." When David sang the words of Psalm 139:23-24, one can believe his prayer for sincerity was so great that even today when we repeat them, we too want God to know our hearts, to try us, to know our thoughts: And to see if there be any wicked way within us, and to lead us in the way everlasting.

On Jan. 9 Bro. John Schamback, Sis. Kathy Bako and Sis. Edith Graf were elected Sunday School teachers; Sis. Martha Palitto, Kitchen committee; and Bro. Carl

Graf, usher.

On Jan. 16, Christina Mary was born to John and Margaret (Graf) Gallagher. Sis. Betti Graf (grandmother) informs us the baby is doing well, after being hospitalized a few days. Jennifer Lois arrived Feb. 1, daughter of Bro. John and Sis. Joyce Schamback. Grandparents are Bro. David and Sis. Lois Schambeck of Naumberg, and Bro. Melvin and Sis. Elizabeth Beery of Rittman. Congratulations to the happy parents.

Sis. Katherine Tooker had been moved to a Mansfield hospital, and is now at the Mansfield Memorial Home Inc., Geriatrics Center, 50 Blymeyer Ave. W, Mansfield. She is improving, and her condition is re-

ported satisfactory.

Many have been absent due to the flu. Among them are Bro. Paul and Sis. Rose Pamer and Bro. Stanley Francis, who are still absent. Friend Fred Burr (Helen) is recuperating at the hospital, after undergoing surgery again.

We miss her when we don't see her. We wonder if she is well, for she doesn't miss services if she can help it. We miss her smile, the twinkle in her eye. Then we learn she is on a trip to visit her great grandchildren in California.

In Bluffton, Ohio, on Wed. March 13, 1878, a baby girl was born to parents who named her Lena, and as she looks forward to her birthday next month, we've got to say

she is 94 years young.

The changes of life for Lena have been many and varied, and altho' she has had many crosses to bear during her lifetime, she has borne them with deep fortitude. After repentance she was baptized, on Feb. 26 1926, and to us who know her and have known her we are happy to call her Sis. Lena (Tschantz) Wright. She has been a widow 46 years, has 2 daughters. She keeps busy sewing and baking . . . and the cookie jar filled. She has 8 grandchildren and 17 greatgrandchildren, and she has made several trips by air to visit those in California, where after spending a month there she returned here Jan. 27. She makes her home with a daughter at 1018 N. Cleveland-Massillon Rd., Akron 44313.

We are sure her faith in the Lord and her service to Him while serving others has been the source of her strength, which has made her a truly beloved sister. Happy birth-

day, dear Sis. Lena.

LEO Mrs. Elias Souder

"Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God."
... "Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones; for I say unto you, That in heaven their angels do always behold the face of my Father which is in heaven."

So with saddened hearts we write of our little Kalisa, whose angel took her to her Father in Heaven. Kalisa was 10 years old and left us Jan. 26. Her parents are Dwig's and Betty Souder; one brother, Kevin, and two sisters, Kim and Beth are left to mourn her passing. Services were held at the Leo church by Bros. David Bertsch and John Bollier. Burial was in the Leo Cemetery beside her grandfather, Elias Souder.

We were privileged to have three visiting ministers: Bro. Merle Kaisner from Fairbury one Sunday. Bros. Ben Stavenik and Robert Beer from Mansfield, for midweek service. The Ohio brothers brought things here for to help the needy and poor.

In our business meeting there were some Sunday School teachers elected, a new trustee. and ushers.

BERN Esther and Stella Moser

May we in perfect love be found When we Thy table, Lord, surround. Keep soul and body purified; Thy blessings, Lord, be multiplied Upon this feast.

In love and unity we were privileged to partake of Holy Communion in our old church building for the last time. Bro. Gene Marti assisted Bro. Lester Hartter. Other visiting ministers that day were Bro. Wayne Miller, Ft Scott; Bro. Sam Huber, Sabetha. Bro. Carl Hartman was also our guest minister on a Sunday afternoon.

Jan. 30 was our first Sunday in our new church building. It was with mixed emotions (Ezra 3-Bro. Lester read this chapter as the first forereading) we assembled therein, as I think, without exception, no one in our congregation worshiped in any building but the one now torn away. Many memories are entwined, happy occasions, baptisms, marriages, new babies . . . also many sad ones, as the nearby cemetery gives mute testimony. As was brought out by Bro. Lester Hartter, we have no cause to be proud, as it was the same God, the same word, only a different building. Let us ever remember: "Except the LORD build the house, they labour in vain that build it: except the LORD keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain." May the Lord continue His blessing as we feel He has in time past. May the Lord bless all that helped make this new place of worship possible . . . Those that labored

many long hours, gave of their material blessings, the different committees . . . To all we add our thanks and appreciation.

Sis. Louise Esslinger (Pete) is a

hospital patient.

BREMEN Mrs. Karen Feldman

What a wonderful opportunity we have as we begin the new year, to make it count for Christ. We were reminded that this could be the year of our Lord's return. Are we joyfully awaiting His returning —or do we hope He will tarry awhile?

One Sunday evening our young people planned a Singspiration, with several special songs and poems. Their theme was "Little Things." The biggest blessings often come from the little things we do or say. A blessed evening was enjoyed by all.

We are happy to report that Ed Germann is home again.

May God grant each of us a closer walk with Him this year.

Bremen subscribers: Please get your Silver Lining money to me in February.

BURLINGTON, OKLAHOMA Janice Frieden—Janice Springer

His Yoke Is Easy—A man was carrying a heavy basket. His son asked to help him. The father cut a stick and placed it through the handle of the basket so that the end toward himself was very short, while the end toward the boy was three or four times as long. Each took hold of his end of the stick, and the basket was lifted and easily carried. The son was bearing the burden with the father, but he found his work easy and light, because his father assumed the heavy end of the stick. Just so it is when we bear the yoke with Christ; He sees to it that the burden laid on us is light; He carries the heavy end.

Next time we feel that our burden is so heavy we can't go on, let us look to the Cross, where the heavy burden of our sin and shame was laid upon Christ, who committed no sin. In the midst of any burden, this thought should bring peace.

Our first Sunday of the month singing of praises to our Lord and fellowship with those of like faith was held in the home of Bro. Elmer and Sis. Mary Kisling. When we look upon the hate and evil of a world without God, and compare it to the peace and joy of a world with God, we wonder how anyone can fail to acknowledge Him and love Him.

Many of our people have been down with the flu. Sis. Elizabeth Otti was hospitalized because of a backset.

We were happy to learn that a baby boy was born to our friends, Larry and Brenda Miller. The maternal grandparents are Wilmer and Sis. | Elizabeth Diel. May God be with Larry and Brenda in bringing up their child to love his Maker.

Silver Lining dues are due in February.

EUREKA Cathryn Wettstein Salome Schumacher

Our good news is that that three souls have found it worthwhile to turn to the Lord in repentance. They are Madolyn Hartter, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Dan and Dorothy; Rosemary Klaus, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Joe and Miriam; and Steve Martin, son of Bro. and Sis. Nelson and Maryellen.

Our guest ministers were Bro. Al Aberle, Tremont; Bro. Eli Somer-

halder, Burlington.

Caesar Klaus II, age 65, passed away at the Carle Clinic Jan. 12. His wife, Mary Elizabeth; 2 sons; and 3 daughters survive: Caesar III Dallas, Tex.; Terry, Eureka; Mrs. Gary Burton, Stavanger; Mrs. Lonny Kupferschmid, Eureka; and Mrs. Lou Esteppe, Potomac. Also 3 brothers and 7 sisters survive. Bro. Joe Zimmerman conducted the services on Sat. Jan. 15 at the church. Burial was in the Roanoke Cemetery.

Sis. Leah Bowald, age 71, passed away Jan. 24 at the Eureka Hospital, after being a patient for one day. She had been a resident of the Home for three years. She is survived by 4 sons and 3 daughters: Alfred, Cincinnati; William, Eureka; David, Normal; Benjamin, Grand Rapids; Mrs. Rosemary Vinkenmulder, Battle Creek; Sis. Irma Walder, Hoopeston; and Sis. Naomi Vogel, Normal; 2 brothers and 3 sisters. Bro. Leroy Huber had the services and burial was in the Roanoke Cemetery.

Sis. Audrey Rocke, age 50, passed away Feb. 1 in the Eureka Hospital, after being a patient for two weeks. She was the wife of Bro. Norman. He, and 2 sons and 2 daughters survive: Randell, Oregon, Ill.; Kevin,

Joyce and Linda at home. Her parents, 3 sisters and 2 brothers also survive. Her funeral was held Friday morning at the church, conducted by Bro. LeRoy Huber. Burial was in the Roanoke Cemetery.

May God comfort in their sorrow as only He can comfort. We can see how the death angel has visited so many homes in the past few weeks, so let us all be ready

when the call does come.

Among the sick folk are the following: Bro. Paul Rocke was a patient in an Ottowa Ill. Hospital; Sis. Edna Martin was a patient in Eureka Hospital, after hurting her back in a fall; Sis. Marjorie Stoller is in Eureka Hospital with a broken leg, she is the wife of Bro. Melvin . . . Sis. Martha Grusy, wife of Bro. Alf, is a patient in the Methodist Hospital. Sis. Martha Wettstein, wife of Bro. Charles, is a medical patient in Eureka Hospital.

At our business meeting, three new Sunday School teachers were elected; they are Bros. Richard Eastman, Robert Schumacher and Ervin Knecht, also one new trustee.

Bro. Dan Hartter.

FAIRBURY Joyce Huber

With praise and thanks to God, we heard Chester and Lydia (Bachtold) Maier and George and Rachel (Steidinger) Saathoff give their testimonies of their faith in the Saviour, Jesus Christ, for their salvation. We rejoice that they were baptized and added to the fold.

Dale and Sandy Stoller became parents as a new baby son was born to them, Byron Matthew. Grandparents are Alton and Sis. Sally Schieler and Bro. Orie and Sis. Ernestine

Stoller.

We had a blessed evening when we assembled to hear Bro. Josh Broquard, Bro. Perry Zimmerman, and Bro. Ezra Feller read and ex-

plain the memorandum.

Sis. Mary Nussbaum, age 80, formerly of Forrest, passed away at the hospital, where she had been a patient 17 days and in failing health two years. Funeral services were held by Bro. Joe Kaisner. She had been a resident of Fairview Haven since 1965. Surviving are a brother, Bro. Silas.

Sis. Elsie Peter's son, Jimmy, age 42, passed away at the Lincoln State School, where he had been a resident 2 years. Surviving are his mother; a brother, Earl; 3 sisters,

Irma Hill, Darrell Soper, and Marilyn Grant.

We enjoyed visiting ministers, Bro. Vernon Leman and Bro. Merle Laukhuf.

We are sorry Sis. Amelia Zimmerman is hospitalized from a blood clot in her leg, Sis. Sally Schieler is in the hospital as she fell and fractured her leg; and Sis. Pat Hartman was hospitalized.

FORREST Juanita Schneider Eleanor Honegger

He who loves is blessed indeed; He who sows this tender seed That grows, matures, and then behold . . .

Returns to him a thousandfold.

Our Ministering Bro. Joseph and Sis. Ida (Sutter) Kaisner plan to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on Feb. 6. They are the parents of Bro. Merle, Fairbury; Bro. Hartzell, Detroit; Bro. Leon, Peoria; Helen Follmer, Galetz, Calif.; Bro. Larry, Sis. Alma Jean Schmidgall, Sis. Janet Farney and Sis. Lou Ida Steffen, all of the Forrest congregation. They also have 30 grand-children and 5 great-grandchildren.

Bro. Paul and Sis. Martha (Waibel) Honegger plan to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary Feb. 11. They are the parents of seven children: Sis. Eileen Getz, Reynolds, Ind.; Evelyn Zorn, Bloomington; Sis. Viola Bachtold, Fairbury; Sis. Mildred Zimmerman, Sis. Nancy, Bro. Wayne and Gary of Forrest. They have 22 grandchildren and one great-grandson.

Even though these couples have had their share of sickness, they are now enjoying good health to assemble with us regularly.

Kyra Janel was born to Warren and Sis. Betty Ifft on Jan. 30. She has four brothers and sisters to welcome her home. Bro. William and Sis. Nettie Kupferschmid are the grandparents. May God bless this little bundle of joy. Sis. Luella Sohn is a surgical patient at Carle Clinic, Urbana; she is doing quite well. Sis. Mary Yergler has re-entered the Fairbury Hospital; Bro. Henry Kilgus is also a patient at Fairbury Hospital. Bro. Duane Schneider had surgery on his hand at Mermonite Hospital.

We want to thank Bro. Earl Banwart, who spent a Sunday with us and expounded God's word in abundance.

INDIANAPOLIS Tom and Carolyn Frank

January visiting ministers were Bros. Edwin Bahler, Remington; Elmer Hartter and Walter Steffen, Milford; Ken Honegger, Ft. Wayne. May God bless them for bringing messages of spiritual inspiration to us.

Better than gold is a peaceful home Where all the fireside characters come.

The shrine of love, the heaven of life,

Hallowed by mother, or sister, or wife.

However humble the home may be, Or tried with sorrow by heaven's decree,

The blessings that never were bought or sold,

And center there are better than gold.

MANSFIELD Aaron A. Sauder

Love should be apparent at all times, not limited to one month, even though the month of February seems to be especially designated to love... We can show our love by the way we give; We can show our love by the way we forgive; And we can show our love by the way we live... Our Saviour says, "By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another."

Two homes have been blessed with the arrival of baby boys during January. Dave and Sis. Jeri Beard have named their son Jesse Daniel; born Jan. 7, he has a oneyear-old brother, Aaron; his paternal grandmother is Sis. Kelly Domka Beard, and great-grandmother is Sis. Hazel Domka; George Beard of Toledo is his grandfather. On Jan. 18, Douglas Wayne was born to Dave and Elaine Bocka Tuttle; little Douglas is their first child; his maternal grandmother is Sis. Leora Gasser Bocka (Emil), his great-grandmother Sis. Katherine Bocka (Martin), and great-grand-father is Bro. Albert Gasser Sr.

Those who have been hospitalized but have been able to return to their homes are Sis. Mary Fuhrer Sauder, (Wm.), Sis. Clara Grossenbacher, and Carol Ramsier (daughter of Bro. Wally and Sis. Helen). Chris-

tina Beer (Chas.) and Bro. David Roberts remain in the hospital. Sis. Katherine Wise Tooker, who has made her home in Akron for a number of years, was admitted to the Mansfield Hospital several weeks ago, and has now been transferred to the Geriatric Center, 60 Blymyer Ave., Mansfield, Ohio.

Thank you Bro. Harold Emch for worshipping with us on Jan. 9 and

bringing us God's word.

When we assemble on Sunday mornings, another seat is now vacant. On Jan. 25 our friend William Bidinger observed his 54th birthday; the next day his life was over! Bill had been an active citizen in our community, and on Jan. 26 he had received the Man of the Year award and was credited with saving a man's life a month prior. Just a few hours after receiving this honor, he unexpectedly collapsed. As a child, Bill attended Sunday School and has worshipped with us regularly; we will miss his friendly greetings. Our heartfelt love and sympathy are extended to his mother, Sis. Theresa Wentz Bidinger (Fred); his wife, Mary; his two daughters, sister, and two brothers. To these dear ones, we would repeat the words of the poet:

Jesus knows thy sorrow, Knows thine every care;

Knows thy deep contrition, Hears thy feeblest pray'rs;

Do not fear to trust Him, Tell Him all thy grief;

Cast on Him thy burden, He will bring relief.

"Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you."

ROANOKE Marilyn Weyeneth—Norene Herbst

Bro. Ralph Knepp was elected a trustee at our annual business meeting Wed. evening, Jan. 20.

Melvin and Marty Fischer are the parents of a son, Todd Edward, born Jan. 7. Grandparents are Bro. Fred and Sis. Wilma Fischer, Mary Stansbury, and Martin Stansbury. A son, Phillip, was born Dec. 30 to Larry and Sharon (Hodel) Neukomm of Portsmouth, Virginia. Bro. Ralph and Sis. Thelma Hodel and the Ervin Neukomms are grandparents.

Bro. Dick Hoffman, son of Bro. Rudie and Sis. Mary, returned home Jan. 12 from Okinawa, where

he had been serving for the past 16 months.

Our visiting ministers were Bros. Vernon Leman (Eureka) and Everett Hari (Normal).

The engagement of Janie Knapp of Morton to Doug Fehr has been announced. Their parents are Bro. and Sis. Chris Knapp and Bro. Richard and Sis. Madelyn Fehr. Doug returned to Viet Nam, after being home on a short leave.

Bro. Ralph Hodel is a patient at the Jewish Hospital, Room 372, St. Louis, Ill, where he underwent

surgery Feb. 4.

Our congregation and community was saddened with the passing of five loved ones within two weeks: Sis. Viola (Wuethrich) Belsley, 61, passed away Jan. 21. Her funeral was Monday, Jan. 24. She married Bro. Mike Belsley Nov. 10, 1932. He passed away March 21, 1969. Surviving are three brothers, John, Merle and Howard, and two sisters, Mrs. Glen (Edith) Eilers and Mrs. William (Helen) Ladendorf.

On Jan. 24, Sis. Anne (Klaus) Sorg of Bloomington, age 66, passed away. Her funeral was at the Roanoke church Wed., Jan. 26. Surviving are her husband, Bro. Melvin; a daughter, Mrs. Richard (Sue) Crawford; a son, Roger. Also surviving are six sisters, Sis. Emma Somerhalder, Sis. Elizabeth Herbst, Sis. Marie Klaus, Sis. Wilhemina Anliker, Mrs. Kathryn Weyeneth, Mrs. Lillian Frerichs, and three brothers, Henry, Bro. Joe and Benjamin.

Sis. Eunice Steffen, 86, passed away Jan. 28 at the Eureka Apostolic Christian Home, where she resided the last five years. Her funeral was Jan. 30. Survivors include a brother, Bro. Charles E., and three sisters, Sis. Persida Rocke, Sis. Alice Funk, and Sis. Lillian

Hartter.

Bro. Silas J. Hodel, 81, passed away Feb. 3 at his home. His funeral will be Sunday, Feb. 6. Surviving are his wife, Sis. Caroline (Huber), whom he married Feb. 10, 1915; five daughters, Sis. Mildred Aeschleman, Sis. Malinda Gerber, Sis. Norma Bauman, Sis. Varda Blunier, Sis. Dorothy Schmidgall; five sons, Bro. Ralph, Bro. James, Bro. William, Bro. Roy, and Gerald; a sister, Sis. Emma Weyeneth; two brothers, Bro. Joseph and Bro. David B. A daughter, Sis. Irene Legel, preceded him in death.

Sis. Elizabeth (Hangartner) Luginbuhl, 75, passed away Fri. morning at St. Francis Hospital in Peoria. Her funeral was Monday afternoon, Feb. 7. Surviving are her husband, Bro. Herman; a daughter, Sis. Louella Pelsy; three sons, Bros. Robert, Leslie, and Raymond; three brothers, Joe, William, Bro. Chris; a sister, Sis. Anna Sauder.

SABETHA Mrs. Joe Steiner

We are well into the new year. The weather has been very changeable, going from one extreme to an other. It has also brought the usual winter colds, flu, etc. . . . but we know that all things work together for good to them that love the Lord.

Sis. Susan and Bro. Daryl Meyer are the parents of a son, their first child. He was born Jan. 6, and has been named Lance Adrian. His grandparents are Sis. Loree and Bro. Henry Plattner, Sis. Vila and Bro. Velmer Meyer, all of Sabetha.

Colleen Diane was born Jan. 24 to Sis. Ilene and Bro. Roger Hartter. She is welcomed home by her parents and two sisters, Connie Marie and Karen Rose.

TOKYO (Tsutsujiga-Oka) Yoshio Yamazaki

Greetings to the brethren in faith of the Saviour, and the readers of the Silver Lining. We certainly appreciate it for your love and prayer in Christ Jesus our Lord. We surely thank God our Heavenly Father, which sent us His Son Christ Jesus to save us from all sins.

We are very thankful that He blessed us here and pretty good attendance for Sunday morning services and the Sunday School. Sis. Hiroko Utsuki is continuously teaching for our Tokyo Church Sunday School since near ten years ago. Sis. Yoshiko Asano is very faithful to teach the children, and I believe that she is really wonderful to the kindergarten children, and they like her very much. We have 23-25 children every Sunday morning.

One of Japanese Army soldiers who was found on Guam on 24th January was staying in the jungle for 28 years or so. It was very great shock to us Japanese and it is very sensational news coming these days. I'm surely sorry for him to stay in jungle as his precious time there, and sometimes I also felt that the

education is very wonderful, but if we learned it wrong way, it'll became very dangerous thing. It is very difficult to say about it, and also we shouldn't say any simple way about it. However, only one thing I can tell, that we Christians should be awake and talk more about Him and His wonderful salvation toward many people as possible.

I have really wonderful happy news for you. When I visited at Shioda Church in Yamanashi-Ken, one young lady who was coming to Shioda Church over 8 years came to me and said. "Mr. Yamazaki, I would like to talk with you personally. I married two years ago and had one baby boy, but I still in my heart don't have any happiness. I want to repent and turn to the Lord immediately. Please help me! However, the first of all I should ask you for your forgiveness to my bad attitude. I tried to tell you about it, but I didn't have courage and also didn't have a chance to talk with you. Please forgive me." She asked my forgiveness with tears in her eyes. I really surprised and also had big schock, because I didn't have bad feeling with her. But she said, "Yes, but I should apologize to you and other people also before I will turn to the Lord." It is very wonderful thing and suddenly I really thanked God and pray for her in my heart, and said to her, "It is really wonderful and I'm very happy and I believe that the Ehnles and other brethren also. Please tell to Bro. Willis Ehnle when you see him next time." I guess and believe she will tell Bro. Willis next Sunday. She said, "Thank you Mr. Yamaziki and now I feel a little bid free in my heart." Isn't that wonderful! The Lord always accepts our prayer even in little things. Please pray for her and many seekers here in our small congregations also. Thank you very much for your love, prayer and many warm kindness and loving support.

TREMONT Lydia Rassi Mary Jane Leuthold

What a fellowship, What a joy divine.

Leaning on the everlasting arm; What a blessedness, What a peace is mine.

Leaning on the everlasting arm.

How we all need to lean on Jesus everyday! Our friend, Simon Wagonbach, son of Bro. Simon and Sis. Louise has found it so, as he has answered the call to repentance. We rejoice with them and his wife, Sis. Yvonne.

We were filled to overflowing with so many precious teachings and timely warnings for our edification, to strengthen, renew, and remind us of God's will and His great love for us, as we were privileged to listen to the tapes of the conference two Wed. evenings, Jan. 5 and 12.

Out of His storehouse God does truly send many blessings down upon us, as He sent Bro. Art Gudeman to us Jan.16 and Bro. Everett Hari Feb. 2. We are thankful for

the precious messages.

We have dear ones in the hospital. Surgical patients were Bro. Cleo Koch, who is home again; Sis. June (Curtis) Zuercher, who is home and improving; Sis. Lena (Elmer) Sauder, who is home and improving. Bro. John Huette, Bro. Reuben Schweigert and Don Roberts are surgical patients. They are gaining strength each day and hope to be home soon. Sis. Ida (Chris) Schweigert is hospitalized. Sis. Emma Getz had the misfortune to fall and break her kneecap, and is getting along well. Sis. Rose Kahler has not been well. Sis. Mary Schweigert has had much pain and suffering. May the Lord comfort and care for her. May He bless and care for all of our dear ones; and may we all remember them in our prayers.

A little girl, Jody LeAnn born Feb. 2, came to live with Bro. Dale and Sis. Jane Kaufman. She has a sister, Andrea to welcome her. Her grandparents are Bro. David and Sis. Mary Kaeb and Bro. Robert and Sis. Marie Kaufman.

We wish the blessings of the Lord upon Bro. Alan Schweigert and Sis. Sue Knobloch, who were united in Holy Matrimony Jan. 23 by Bro. Dave Kieser. May the Lord bind their marriage in happiness and unity, that it might stand through all tests of life.

We wish the blessings of the Lord upon Bro. Michael Meister and Sis. Dorothy Hodel, who were united in Holy Matrimony Jan. 30 by Bro. Roy Sauder. May the Lord be their guide.

Thank you notes: . . . Want to thank everyone for the gifts, cards,

prayers and kindness shown to me during my stay at the hospital and at home. Bro. Edward Sauder . . . We wish to express our thanks and appreciation to all for their kindness and love thru prayers, food, flowers, gifts, cards, and acts of kindness during our misfortune May God bless you. Bro. Curt and Sis. June Zurcher.

WOLCOTT Arles Kropf Marjean Lehman

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." On February 6, we had with us Elder Brethren Joshua Broquard -Fairbury, Joe Waibel-Bay City, and Wendell Gudeman-Francesville. We experienced many blessings this day, beginning with the testimony of our dear friend, Lowell Bahler. Following afternoon services was held the baptismal services. Now we greet our dear loved one as Bro. Lowell Bahler, a brother now to the children of God.

We enjoyed the fellowship and efforts of our many visitors. A sup-

per was held at church.

In the evening, communion services were held. What a very rich experience and wonderful blessing it is for the members of Christ's body. Following communion services. Bro. Alfred Bahler was chosen to shepherd the flock of believers at Wolcott. May the Lord strengthen us all to a further service for him.

Our dear friends, Diane and Ken Hopkins have chosen to heed the call and have turned their hearts to God in repentance. What a wonder-

ful choice is the Lord!

On Jan. 23, dedication services and open house was held for the new Sunday School addition. The Bible Class sang, to begin the service. Bro. Wendell Gudeman was with us for the dedication. We were reminded, "Except the LORD build the house, they labor in vain that build it . ." We were glad to have many visitors. Refreshments were served in the kitchen, following the dedication.

WEST BEND Mrs. Melvin Fehr Mrs. A. Banwart

May we ever be mindful of those with bodily afflictions and thank the Lord when we are blessed with a reasonable measure of health. We rejoice that our hospital patients are able to be home and showing improvement. Surgical patients were Sis. Kathy (Wayne) Fehr, and Sis. Marvella (Larry) Wickman; medical were Marla Bruellman, daughter of Bro. Eugene and Sis. Evie; and Sis. Ida (Chris) Schmidt.

Among our many visitors for the happy occasion of a brother and sister in faith was Bro. Albert Wuthrich of Pulaski. We thank him for his words of wisdom from above, and do always appreciate visiting ministers. Bro. Silas and Sis. Ida Banwart have enjoyed many blessings during their fifty years of marriage. In honor of their Golden Wedding Anniversary, their children hosted an open house at the James Banwart home. All of their children and grandchildren were present except the Leslie Banwart family.

Thank yous: We sincerely wish to thank our relatives and many friends for the lovely gifts and cards sent to us on our Golden Anniversary. May God bless you. We truly can say God has been very good to us these many years. Bro. Silas and Sis. Ida Banwart . . . I want to thank everyone for the prayers, letters, cards and gifts while I was in the hospital for hand surgery and since returning home. After being at my son's home for four weeks, I am getting along fine. It was all appreciated. May God bless you. Sis. Anna Schmidt.

A Thank you: My sincere thank you to each one for your prayers, cards, gifts and letters which helped so much during my hospital stay and recovery. May the Lord bless you. Sis. Ida (Chris) Schmidt.

BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL Virgil and Shirley Funk

We regret the passing of our dear Sis. Ann Sorg, wife of Bro. Melvin. The entire church sympathizes with the bereft.

Shall I pass through waves of sorrow?

Then I know it will be best;
Though I cannot tell the reason,
I can trust, and so am blest.
God is love, and God is faithful.
So in perfect peace I rest.

BRADFORD Rebecca Endress

One of our ministers gave us what I thought was a timely warn-

ing. He was speaking of the various dangers which we recognize; those things which we see usually impress us the most, but the Bible says "faith cometh by hearing". Are the things we hear, by radio or other means, damaging to our faith? We can be ever so careful and concentrate our efforts on one danger, and then be overtaken by something we overlooked. Let us be careful what we allow ourselves to listen to, that we don't become persuaded in the wrong direction.

We enjoyed the visits of Elder Bros. Dan Koch (Tremont) and Dave Kieser. They spent Sun., Jan. 23 with us—the wedding day of Sis. Sue Knobloch and Bro. Alan Schweigert of Tremont. They will make their home in Champaign, where Alan is a college student. Their parents are Bro. Clarence and Sis. Emma Knobloch and Bro. Les and Sis. Betty Schweigert.

The Bradford members assembled with Princeville to hear the conclusions of the conference.

There have been many from our congregation ill with flu and measles.

FORT SCOTT Ida Sinn

Today, Feb. 6, marks the 62nd wedding anniversary of Bro. Jacob and Sis. Anna Pfister. They give the Lord credit for all the blessings and long life they have shared together. They are enjoying fair health and assemble with us every Sunday.

Bro. Lester Harter was with us today. He brought us many gospel teachings, enough for the day and some to take with us in the coming

week.

Bro. Charles Sinn was separated from the Army on Jan. 20. After spending 2 years and 2 months in the Service, he is thankful to be back home. We are all happy and thank God that he has been allowed to return into our midst.

Our annual election was held on Jan. 12. Those elected were Bro. Lyle Fischer for trustee; Bro. Harvey Smith, Sis. Juanita Sinn, and Sis. Linda to fill the respective vacancies in Sunday School; and Sis. Ethel Smith to the foods committee

GOODFIELD Elna Grimm

We've had many sick folks this winter. Those hospitalized, but hav-

ing returned home are Kim Steffen. 4-year-old son of Bro. and Sis. Jerry and Alline of R.R. Congerville; Daren Plattner, 3-year-old son of Bro. and Sis. Dan and Jane Plattner of Morton; Bro. Sam Scheiler of Deer Creek: and Mrs. Dave (Janet) Wiegand of R.R. Deer Creek. Janet is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Don Yoder of Danvers. Dave is the son of Bro. and Sis. Simon and Mary Ellen of R.R. Deer Creek. Janet broke her ankle in three different places when she fell on the ice. She must remain in a cast for several more weeks.

Benjie Tanner, son of Bro. and Sis. Ben and Leona of Goodfield was discharged from the armed service in December. The first week in January, he was driving over the railroad in Goodfield when he was struck by a train and knocked unconscious. He was taken to the St. Francis Hospital in Peoria, where remained unconscious and in critical condition for about 3 weeks. He is now conscious and improving very slowly.

Sis. Nettie Knapp, wife of Bro. Kores, and Sis. Lydia Holliger are both in the Eureka Hospital. Lydia will soon be moved to the Eureka Home. Our friend, George C. Knapp has been allowed to return home, after spending some weeks in Eureka Hospital.

Bro. and Sis. Ivan and Pearl Nohl suffered the loss of several sows with their broods, when their barn burned to the ground one cold Saturday night in January.

Stephen Reeser, son of Bro. and Sis. Harold and Vi of R.R. Deer Creek, was married to Susan Braden, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Braden of Goodfield on Fri.

evening Jan. 7.

A baby girl, Melody Rose, was born to Bro. and Sis. Alfred and Marie Kieser of RR. Morton on Dec. 31. The grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Fehr of Fairbury and Mr. and Mrs. Carl Kieser of Morton. A baby boy, Christopher Michael, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Tom and Margie Helgoth of Peoria on Feb. 4. The grandparents are Bro. and Sis. Lawrence and Laura Hohulin of Goodfield and Mr. and Mrs. Ed Helgoth of St. Louis. A baby girl, Holly, was born to Bro. and Sis. George W. and Fern Knapp of Goodfield on Feb. 6. The grandparents are Sis. Marie Goetzinger of Goodfield, and Mr. and Mrs. George C. Knapp of R.R. Deer Creek.

Our Bro. Sam Plattner was sent to Viet Nam, where he is now working in a hospital. His wife, the former Sis. Pat Ehnle and their daughter Heide are living with her parents, Bro. and Sis. Ben and Audrey of Bradford while he is gone.

ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY Sandy Paffmann

Greetings to all! Things have been very busy for us studying up for finals. Although the schedule may have been rather full, we are truly thankful that the brothers have taken time out of their busy schedules to come and minister unto us. It is truly a blessing when we can gather in His name.

On the 6th of January we had Bro. Everett Hari from Normal. It was our first time to gather again after Christmas. We read in Romans 14:10-19. When we think back in the past year and measure our spiritual growth, then we must realize that this is a new, untouched and unblemished year, and that as we walk each day we are putting the pages in the book of our lives.

The 13th of January we had Bro. Eugene Bertschi. He read in Matthew 17:1-14. Bro. Gene brought out how the word of God and the teachings of God must be our firm foundation. Then at our last meeting of this month we were happy to have Bro. Gerald Sutter from Taylor. Bro. Sutter read the entire chapter in Matthew 4. "Does God understand our temptations?" This is a question that may have come into one's mind before. Jesus endured the trials and temptations, but always used the word of God to overcome. Satan immediately and constantly attacks our weakest spot, but we must remember that there's always a way to escape; all we must do is to read and find out. Satan quotes scriptures too and trys to mislead us in any way that he

On the 27th of January due to finals we did not meet. Again many thanks to the brothers that came and were with us.

MORRIS Ann Meiss — Helen Joos

I am thinking today of that beautiful land

I shall reach when the sun goeth down;

When thro' wonderful grace by my Saviour I stand

Will there be any stars in my crown?

We feel fortunate that so far this winter our roads have remained in good driving condition, and we've been able to assemble in God's house on Sundays and Wednesday evenings. We are grateful to Bro. Noah Schrock that he remembered us and ministered on Wed. evening. We thank our dear Father in heaven that He did protect our dear brother on his journey.

Bro. Bob Haas met with a farm accident and broke his ankle; after several days in the hospital he was able to return to his home. Bro. Carl Joos is in Fairview Hospital in Minneapolis: he is improving nicely, after having surgery on a hip which he injured in a cave-in several years ago. Sis. Mary Luthi spent sometime in the hospital, but is able to assemble with us again. Bertha Goll remains in the hospital and is guite ill. Many prayers have ascended to the Father in heaven for these dear ones and especially for Shane, the infant son of Jerry and Cathy Joos, who was transferred to the Willmar Hospital when his condition became critical; at present he is much improved.

On Jan. 29 Charlotte Sauder, daughter of Virgil and Mildred Sauder, became the bride of Aldean Luthi, son of Albert and Myrtle Luthi Bro. Paul Fehr married the couple in the Sauder home.

In the strength of the Lord let me labor and pray

Let me watch as a winner of souls, That bright stars may be mine in the glorious day.

When His praise like the sea billows rolls.

Will there be any stars in my crown, or in yours?

Note of Thanks: I wish to express my heartfelt thanks to my many relatives and friends who so lovingly remembered me with birthday greetings, cards and gifts, and their kindness of love unto me on my 80th birthday. God bless you. Wm. Luthi

PORTLAND Judith Knecht

O Saviour, might I thus as Thee, Likeminded, pure and humble be! With Thee, O Lord, I'll walk aright, A child and servant in Thy light! Our friend, Joe Steffen has been announced for baptism. He is the son of Bro. Garth and Sis. Connie Steffen. May the Lord grant young

Joe much grace.

Sis. Elva Unsicker (Bro. Ed Unsicker's wife) underwent major surgery. She is home and able to assemble with us again. How thankful we can be to have our Lord and Saviour to help us bare our cross at times like these... And how thankful we can be for the prayers of our brothers and sisters in faith.

We will miss our friends, John and Ann Kaufmann and their two children. We pray the Lord has granted them a safe journey to Nor-

mal, Ill.

TAYLOR

Elizabeth Sutter — Naomi Heimer

Our annual business meeting was held in January. Bro. Richard Sutter was elected trustee, and Bro. Robert Hoerr is the new member on the cemetery committee.

We appreciate having our Elder Bro. Noah Shrock and Bro. Harvey Heiniger, Oakville come on Wed. evening, Jan. 19, to read and explain

the memorandum.

The engagement of Sis. Vicky Sutter and Bro. Roger Steffen was announced on Jan. 23. Vicky is the daughter of Bro. James and Sis. Lois Sutter, and Roger is the son of Bro. Ray and Sis. Lucille Steffen of Remington.

Bro. Will Butikofer is quite ill in the hospital and may have surgery soon. Sis. Rosie Hoerr is also in the

hospital for tests.

Fire destroyed the building that housed Dr. Michael Stratton's Choropractic Clinic. We sympathize with him in his loss. His wife is the former Cheryl Hodel.

URBANA Teresa Hufford

Many sincere thanks go to our visiting ministers. We have had visits from Bro. John Rokey, Bro. Ben Fehr, Bro. Edmund Kloter, Bro. Charles Hemmer, Bro. Nathan Stoller, and Bro. Ernie Gerber. We were richly blessed with the teachings these brothers delivered to us.

We wish to extend congratulations to Bro. Alan and Sis. Susan (Knobloch) Schweigert upon their marriage. They are residing in Urbana, while Alan finishes school at the U. of I.

Friends Howard and Diane Leman have turned to our Lord in repentance. Howard and Diane reside in Urbana and are attending school here. They are in our prayers.

Several visits have been made by some of us to the Americana Nursing Home, in order to bring a few moments of cheer to our shut-ins. There is singing and talking with the older folks, of which they seem to enjoy.

Each person has a particular role in life to which he is assigned. It is good to see many students back at the beginning of a new semester in order to fill their own designated

stations

Why am I where I am, and not in another part of the world?

Because God appointed me to this time, this place, this work.

this name.

He gave me this body and this personality,

this work to do and these things to do it

with because He chose them as best for me.

If the choosing had been mine I would always wonder if it had been right.

Since God chose,

All I need to do is put it to work.

FT. WAYNE Mary Eisenmann

Fifty years ago, February 5, 1922, my mother was baptized and my Dad two months later. When home at Christmas, Dad showed me a record mother had kept of this, and in looking thru it we found a verse in German at the bottom of the page. Interpretating it, Dad said it went something like this:

Sing when you are happy; Pray when things go wrong. In both give God the praise, Hold fast to His love.

Our annual election was held Jan. 9. May God grant His help and grace to all to carry out their responsibilities in the church.

Bro. Oscar (Dick) Getz slipped from this life into eternity early Saturday morning. Jan. 22, at his home. His funeral services were conducted by Bros. Norman an Verlin Stoller on Tuesday afternoon, Jan. 25, He is survived by his wife, Sis. Mayme (Levy) Getz; one

daughter and husband, Sis. Sharon and Bro. Dave Pfister, all of our congregation; one brother, John, of Ft. Wayne; and 2 sisters of the Leo congregation. He will be deeply missed by one and all. His family wishes to express their deep thanks and appreciation for all deeds of kindness and love and the many prayers offered for them in their bereavement.

Why Lord, why! So often comes to mind.

As our dear one departs and leaves us behind.

We needed him too, but that You know,

And our hearts do ache, for we loved him so.

Why Lord, why! That vacant place! For we no longer can see his face... And how we miss that friendly greeting

He had for us with every meeting.

But, Lord we know he was prepared;

From the Trials of life he has been spared.

May we, yet, listen to your tender call,

That we meet again, yes, one and all.

Yes, Lord, yes! Some days will be dreary

As we look to Thee, with hearts that are weary.

But Thou can bring sweet comfort and rest,

And Lord we find, Thou knowest best.

Why, Lord, why! Thou knowest, 'tis true,

And someday, we will understand, too!

So we'll cast on Thee our every care And await that meeting, Thy GLORIES to share.

A number from our congregation have been ill at home or in the hospital: Sisters Lillian Levy and Nettie Drayer, at home; Bro. Elmore Schlatter, surgical, Parkview Hospital; and Bro. Jack Gerber, surgical, Lutheran Hospital. The Myron Hackenjos family was involved in an accident when they came upon a loaded semi-tractortruck crosswise on the highway, with no lights nor warning flares, on Mon. evening, Jan. 24, when returning to Ft. Wayne from visiting

his invalid father at Berne. Indiana. Bro. Myron was not hospitalized, but received chest bruises when thrown against the steering wheel; Sis. Lorene and their oldest daughter, Melanie, were hospitalized at Parkview Hospital with cuts and bruises. Annette was uninjured and fourteen-month-old Heidi was thought to be unharmed. Two days later little Heidi was found to have a fracture both below and above the knee of her left leg, so was hospitalized for the application of a cast. But how thankful they are that they escaped without more serious injuries! They are much improved and are happy and thankful to be home again.

We thank Elder Bros. Sam Aeschliman and John Yergler, who so lovingly brought to us the results of the brother meeting. May we ever strive for peace and harmony and to be obedient children of God.

And in closing, precious thoughts from the morning prayer of Bro. Henry Beer: "We know, Lord, Thou loves THE GREATEST SINNER, but hates THE SMALLEST SIN!"

BAY CITY Carolyn Knochel

"I believe" . . . how we rejoice when another soul turns to the Lord in repentance and shows a desire to live for Him! Much is heard in the world of "believe and be saved"—yet there is so much more to becoming a child of God; for, as we heard, faith without works is not enough. We must bring forth fruits of repentance, and then live a life dedicated to our Saviour.

The engagement was announced between Sis. Sandra Schlatter of our congregation and Bro. Don Schneider of the Rockville congregation. Sandy is the daughter of Bro. Dave and Sis. Margaret, and Don is the son of Bro. Albert and Sis. Gladys. We wish them God's richest blessings as they plan for their life together.

There have been many illnesses in our congregation. Those hospitalized were Sis. Mildred Wieland (Bro. Howard) for surgery and little Timmy Jones, son of Bro. Cliff and Sis. Cathy. Sis. Emma Zimmerman has been unable to assemble with us for some weeks.

Though troubles assail, And dangers affright, 'Though friends should all fail, And foes all unite, Yet one thing secures us, Whatever betide—His promise assures us, The Lord will provide!

BURLINGTON
Edna Pohl — Elaine Eisenmann
Storms make a strong tree; suffer-

ings make a strong saint!

We miss seeing Sis. Sara Gerst in our midst, as she is still unable to attend services, but pray that God is with her through trials and suffering. She is now living with her son George in Wapello, and is getting along as well as can be expected.

We were happy to have Bro. Al Langhofer from Wichita here to minister to us. Many of the Oakville brethren joined us, for which we are thankful and hope they will do more often.

We held our annual election for trustees. Paul Eisenmann was the new one chosen for a five-year term

Four-year-old Keith Massner, son of Bro. Dale and Sis. Evelyn, is recuperating nicely after a tonsillectomy. He plans to be back in church soon.

Let me no wrong or idle word, Unthinking say; Set Thou a seal upon my lips, Just for today.

CROGHAN-NAUMBURG Alice G. Virkler—Eleanor J. Herzig

A little girl, Lora Lee, was welcomed into the home of Frank and Janet Tulley, Streator, Ill. on Jan. 22. She has a sister, Barbara Kay. Her grandparents are Norman and Alice Lehman, and her great-grandmother is Sis. Barbara Bachman.

We are thankful that Bro. Ezra Lehman has been able to return to his home and is improving each day, after having been hospitalized for two weeks, having cataract surgery on both eyes.

Funeral services were held at the Virkler Funeral Home by Bro. Robert Beyer for Grace Merz on Dec. 10. She is survived by her husband, Wilson; one brother, Bro. Theodore Virkler Sr.; and three sisters, Sis. Lillian (Amos) Virkler, Sis. Pearl (Ezra) Lehman, and Lucy (Arthur) Wollschlager.

Sis. Clara Virkler was called out of this life into eternity with our Heavenly Father. Funeral services were held by Bro. John Widrick on Jan. 31. She leaves two sisters, Minnie Virkler, with whom she resided, and Sis. Barbara Virkler. Those who attended the funeral from a distance were her neices, Betty (Leon) Schulz, Ft. Wayne, and Bro. and Sis. Earl and Mary Ramseyer, Bay City, and her nephews, Bro. Andrew and Raymond Virkler, Bay City, and Frank and Eleanor Virkler of Illion, N.Y.

Our deepest sympathy is extended to these families. Sympathy is also extended to Bro. Lawrence and Sis. Leona Farney at the passing from this life of her sister, Mrs.

Lunette (Jesse) Farney.

In the last issue of the SILVER LINING we reported funeral services for Michael Virkler. The services were held by Bro. John Widrick.

DETROIT Bonnie Popp

On Sat., Jan. 8, we welcomed the teachers of the Alto, Bay City and Toledo Sunday Schools. Bros. James Leman of Roanoke and Charles Sauder of Tremont presented the materials used in the Sunday Schools. These materials were brought forth by much effort and prayer on the part of many of our laboring brethren. We were all reminded this day of the importance of teaching the little ones . . . and may we always do this willingly.

He giveth us all proper lessons and tasks:

May each one learn gladly and do what he asks.

Life's summer draws near, and then harvest, to show

That all who sow well His great blessings shall know!

We were privileged to have Bro. James Ramseyer of Bay City with us on Wed. Jan. 12. We are a blessed people to be able to sit and hear the true word and sound teachings of the holy scriptures.

May God watch o'er Bro. Ben and Sis. Lorene Maibach and their family while they are absent from us. They plan to spend a few months in Sarasota. Lord willing, we look forward to their return in early May.

FT. LAUDERDALE Henry H. Schwartz

The church of Ft. Lauderdale held our annual meeting for the election of various duties of the church, Richard Sutter was elected . . . Kenneth Troxel was re-elected treasurer. Robert Yergler was reelected Sunday School superintendent. Rodger Sauder and Geo. Bollinger were re-elected as ushers.

We have been enjoying many visitors since Christmas, especially the visiting ministers, Bro. Al Fisher from Chicago, Bro. Robert W. Pohl from Burlington Iowa, and Simon C. Wagenbach from Tremont.

Mr. John Schladenhauffen, age 91, passed away at Boca Raton and services were held at the Kneer Funeral Home by Bro. Al Fisher from Chicago. Mr. Schladenhauffen was born in Cissna Park, son of former Elder Eugene Schladenhauffen. His wife, Helen; two daughters; one brother, Paul of Watseka; and a sister, Ruth of California survive

JUNCTION Betty Manz — Henrietta Manz

A number of our congregation gathered at the Paulding Rest Home, holding services for the aged and those who are unable to be out and around as we. They surely enjoyed it, and it gives a good feeling to us as brothers and sisters in the Lord to share with them the perfect food

"Now it is accomplished! I'm no longer mine; Lord, I will forever and always be Thine. . ." Sunday, Jan. 23 our four dear young friends, Timothy Schlatter, son of Sis. Juliet; Ralph and Benita Schlatter. children of Sis. Esther; and Paul Manz, son of Bro. Emmanuel were baptized with water and Spirit, having given their testimonies the night before. It was a glorious day, for we had many dear ones with us, Elder Bros. Loren Stoller-Latty and Noah Bauman of Rittman, Bros. Eugene Fetter of Toledo. Henry Dotterer of Rittman, Merrill Laukhuf of Latty, and Bro. Ernest Graf of Akron. We surely welcome them into our fellowship and wish them grace for their heavenward journey.

Many young folks from Bluffton, Milford and Latty visited us the last Sunday in January. It is uplifting to gather ourselves together for fellowship and singing the beautiful spiritual songs of praise and honor to our Lord and Saviour.

Bro. Kenneth, son of Bro. Elias and Sis. Evelyn Manz is home for his mid-term vacation. It is so good to have him back among us, as we certainly do appreciate our young members.

Several of our number have had the flu and colds but most are again enjoying the services. Sis. Martha Laukhuf is still unable to attend, and also friend Margaret AuFrance.

"When pure and upright hearts, By flames of love ignited, Are by the bond of Faith more firmly yet united, The light of hope beams forth in radiance far and night. Invites us to partake the blessings from on high." . . . These words were sung at the marriage of our dear Bro James Spangler and Sis. Carolyn Manz, Sunday Feb. 6. Bro. Sam Aeschliman of Bluffton performed the marriage ceremony. Also with us were our Elder Bro. Loren Stoller, Latty; Bros. Carl Kipfer and Wendell Gerber, of Bluffton, Bro. Henry Beer of Milford, and Bro. Eugene Fetter of Toledo. James and Carolyn will be making their home beside his father. Bro. Oliver, and their address will be Route 2. Oakwood Ohio 45873.

OAKVILLE Martha Steiner

We rejoice with our new ones in faith, Bro. Ervin and Sis. Teresa (Wagenbach) Marti, who gave their testimonies and were baptized. We appreciated the messages brought to us by Bro. Al Langhofer from Wichita.

Bro. Ed and Sis. Patty Stoller are the happy parents of their first child, born Feb. 6. Christina Lynn's grandparents are Bro. Earl and Sis. Ione Heiniger Stoller and Mr and Mrs. James Kelly.

We were sorry to bid farewell to Bro. Dan and Sis. Diane Stoller, but we know they will be welcomed in their new congregation at Rockville. Dan is also the son of Bro. Earl and Sis. Ione.

Our annual election resulted in the following appointments: Trustee, Bro Robert Lanz; Sisters' committee, Sis. Ada Massner; Cemetery Committee, Bros. Richard Gerst and William Cordill; and permanent Secretary-Treasurer of the Cemetery Committee, Bro. Earnest Frank.

Rosa Gerst was taken out of this life at the age of 84 years. She had been residing in the Morning Sun Nursing Home and was preceded in death by her husband, Bro. Eugene Gerst Sr. Her seven sons all live in this area: Eugene (Ted) Jr., Lester, Allan, William, Raymond, Edward, and Lawrence.

Announcement was made of the

engagement of Sis. Gail Eisenmann, daughter of Bro. David and Sis. Kay Malloy Eisenmann, to Bro. Dennis Massner, son of Bro. Earl and Sis. Ada Wagenbach Massner. We wish them a blessed life together, walking in close communion with God.

SARASOTA Phil Wingeier

"Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life. . . . To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. . ."

We are glad for the many traveling members and friends who come to worship with us. Our visiting ministers were Elder Bro. Theo. Beer, Milford, Bro. Simon Wagenbach, Tremont. We sincerely want to thank them for the precious word of life. May the word at all times encourage us to be more faithful.

Bro. Joe and Sis. Esther Schrock, who were here for some time, have returned to their home at Congerville. Bro. Joe brought us very inspiring messages from the gospels. We were grateful to have them here.

Sis. Ferne Wingeier wishes to express her thanks and appreciation for cards, letters and gifts received by mail during her sickness.

WICHITA George Lambert

Beyond The Clouds, Jesus

Beyond the clouds I see his face, His hands outstretched, His offered grace.

I hear him say, Look unto Me, I'll be thy stay eternally.

Beyond the clouds He intercedes; He pleads my cause, supplies my needs.

I hear him say, It was for thee, My blood was shed on Calvary.

Beyond the clouds His glory shines; There light comes down thru love divine.

Though storms may rage, I fear no ill;

There's safety walking in His will.

Beyond the clouds my Saviour waits; Some day he'll open wide the gates. I'll enter heaven bright and fair, And dwell with him forever more.

We appreciated the visit of Elder Bro. Noah Schrock, who held evening services. It was really refreshing to have him with us again, and bring to all of us the wonderful words of life. May the Lord bless

him for coming.

We are so thankful that another dear soul has given his heart to the one that can save him and give peace. He is Dick Payton, son-inlaw of Bro. Al and Sis. Judy Langhofer. We hope he will give his all to the one that purchased him on the cross of Calvary. The Lord is not satisfied with a mite less, and we must be willing to comply. We all wish him God's richest blessings.

Bro. and Sis. Max Reimshisel have announced the arrival of a healthy baby girl, and we are all so

thankful all went well.

Bro. and Sis. Larry Farney have a new baby boy, and we are thankful that all is well with them. May the Lord bless them also. We are glad for every addition to our little church, even if they are infants.

SHIODA, JAPAN Willis R. Ehnle

On the evening of Jan. 4, Sisters Junko Hatsumi, Hiroko Natori, and Eiko Nozawa were visiting in our home, as well as Sisters Sue Schock and Judy Bauer, who live in an apartment in our church building beside our house. Junko told us about her experience in attending an elementary school class reunion. A number of her former classmates urged her to get married, as she is past what is normally considered marriageable age. One young man, however, who is married and has children, came to her and said, "I can see in your face that you have something that makes you content without getting married." Junko was extremely pleased by his comment. It is good not only to tell people verbally that we are living for the Lord Jesus Christ, but to have a peace in our heart that shows on our face.

Sis. Hiroko Natori said that one of our sisters who had married an unbeliever discouraged her from doing so. In the past I have said the Japanese girls are geared for marriage, but it appears that at least some of our sisters are changing and are deciding that if both parties are not of the same faith

and experience it is not worth it.

At 7:42 A.M. on January 6, Lois and I were standing in our kitchen, when the house gave a sudden lurch. Our dog began to bark in helplessness at this situation over which he had no control. I moved to stand under the partition between our kitchen and living room but Lois dashed to turn off our kerosene space heater before joining me in my relatively safe position. By that time it was all over, but sometimes there are recurring shocks. There shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places.

The first part of January, Sis. Ito's husband's mother died. Bro. Uchida and I visited her home two days after the funeral. Ito and her husband told us that the Buddhist priests had charged Y150,000, about \$475, to write a new name for grandmother on a white piece of paper to hang in the family home. This is supposed to assure grandmother more honor and position now that she has become a Buddha. or a Hotoke Sama, as they say. They were not a little perturbed about it, including Mr. Ito who said, "Money should not be mixed with faith." Apparently the family had to borrow the money. Sis. Ito also volunteered the information that not once did she offer incense during the funeral proceedings, and I respect her for taking a stand in spite of what neighbors and relatives might think. "I will utter my judgments gainst them . . . who have . . burned incense unto other gods. .

Mr. Kazuo Yamamura, formerly of the Japan Bible Society and a gentleman of about 70 years of age, was very helpful to our visiting brothers from the States and to our church as an interpreter and translator during our early years in Japan. He has suffered a stroke and is confined to his hospital bed. Anyone who knows him or feels so inclined should address cards or letters to him at his home address, 4-19, 5 Chome, Midori-Cho, Koganei-Shi, Tokyo-To, 148, Japan.

Jan. 24, on the train, some of the girl students standing in the isle screamed, and turning my head to look I saw two of the boy students fighting. Their fellow students finally got them apart, but one of the two had a bad gash on his upper lip and was bleeding profusely. All of the train passengers looked on

passively or ignored the situation completely, but I decided I should offer some assistance. I arose from my seat and went to the students, offering some kleenex to the one who was bleeding, which he accepted with appreciation. I told them gently, to please not fight. One of the fellow students expressed his regrets and the two who had been fighting gradually cooled down. We should try to follow the example of the good Samaritan.

On Jan. 26, Japan heard the news that Shoichi Yokoi, a soldier who escaped to the hills when the Americans landed on Guam in 1944, had been found and captured. He had followed orders for 28 years not to surrender to the enemy. He was extremely loyal to his group and to his orders. We should not surrender to Satan, the enemy of our souls,

under any circumstances.

I went to the office of the Mainichi Newspaper in Kofu City, which has a population of over 150,000 people. This newspaper published a story about our elementary school, saying that I use almost all the wages from my parttime job with a company to operate the school, and that I had started it about 18 years ago. I asked them to write a correction, saying I do not spend any of my personal income on the school, but that we charge tuition and the balance comes from the American church; further, that the school started 6 years ago, not 18 years ago. That is when the church building was built. The man replied that nothing bad about me was written and I said, "True, you praised me too much. But the living God hates a lie and this causes the pain in my heart and guilty conscience.'

GRIDLEY, KANSAS Edna Somerhalder—Wilma Young

The death angel made an unexpected visit when he called our dear sister Rosa (Esslinger) Bahr from this life. She was in her usual health up to the last day... busy sewing for World Relief, aiding neighbors, visiting the aged etc. Her husband, Bro. Joseph preceded her in death in 1925—leaving her with five small children. Four sons survive: Chris of Gridley, Arthur and Harold of Phoenix, Harry of Topeka; a daughter, Louella Povenmire of Independence, Mo. She is also survived by two sisters and five brothers.

Cory Wayne Metzger is the new son born to Bro. Eldon and Sis. Dorene. He was welcomed home by one sister, Wendy, and four brothers, Paige, Shawn, Philip and Barry.

Our appreciation to Elder Bro. Samuel Anliker, Bro. Samuel Huber and Bro. Roy Wernli for their in-

spired messages.

Hospital patients: Mathias (Bud) Ŝtrahm, eleven days in K.C. for gallbladder surgery; Ungela Strahm, fourteen days in Wichita for two major surgeries; they are recuperating at their mother's home, Sis. Lena Strahm, in Yates Center; Sis. Lydia Young, wife of Bro. Andy Sr., spent seven days for tests and observation; Jon Bahr, son of Bro. Rudy and Sis. Eileen, spent two days due to a broken arm; Sis. Edna Somerhalder, wife of Bro. Joseph, six days due to complications, following the flu: Mary (Bahr) Bowen, five days, following an appendectomy. Her sister, Judy is on crutches, recuperating from a fractured ankle. They are granddaughters of Sis. Lydia Bahr. Emma Ott, wife of Aaron (sister of Bro. Sam Kraft and Sis. Ada Beyer) is now hospitalized in K.C., following open heart surgery for an artificial valve.

We are thankful to the Great Physician that all patients seem to be recuperating. This has been a wintry month, with many cases of influenza, some quite severe.

Written in memory of Sis. Rosa

Bahr:

Dear Rosie from us was taken Why . . . not for us to know. Faith that God is never mistaken Keeps us trudging along below.

She was ever doing for others Concerned for the rich or poor; A kind word here, a kind deed there Is the way she went from door to door,

Her kind and quiet manner
Shall be missed by young and old.
Her church she faithfully attended,
Washing dishes in weather hot or
cold.

Oftimes she expressed a desire
For a better Home above:
"I never wish to burden my family"—
Her heart was filled with love.

To work up to her last day God granted that request;

Fond tho'ts of Rosie e'er shall linger,

Yet we praise the Lord, who knows best.

PRINCEVILLE Ruth Ricketts

Doubt sees the obstacles; Faith sees the way.

Doubt sees the darkest night; Faith sees the day!

Doubt dreads to take a step, Faith soars on high.

Doubt questions Who believes? Faith answers I!

After a short confinement in the hospital, Bro. George Miller was called out of this life on Jan. 3. He had recently gone to the AC Home on Skyline Drive, Peoria, but it wasn't his home for long. Local ministers conducted services on Jan. 5, with burial in the church cemetery, where his beloved wife, Sis. Julia and a son, Charles, are buried. George was born near Tremont Feb. 20, 1888, a son of Chris and Rosene Schieber Miller, and married Julia Streitmatter Feb. 3, 1814. She died Aug. 12, 1970. Surviving are two sons, LeRoy and Lloyd of Chillicothe; five daughters, Sis. Caroline (Walter) Joos of our congregation; Sis. Rosene (Clifford) Grimm of West Bend; Marilyn (Arlo) Grimm of Algona, Ia.; Lorene and Loretta of Peoria; one sister, Sis. Louise (John) Baurer of Princeville. Bro. George was always a quiet man and will be missed by his loved ones, yet are thankful he can be at rest.

The following day, Jan. 6, funeral services were conducted by the Bradford ministers in our church for Sophie Hunsicker, who used to attend our church. Often her voice was heard in singing. She was born in Switzerland, June 4, 1881, the daughter of Arnold and Sophie Ulrich, and married Fritz Hunziker April 29, 1907. He died in 1969. She is survived by one son, Fritz Jr.; a half sister, Mrs. Emma Hausen of Peoria. She was laid to rest in the church cemetery, beside her husband and near a son who preceded her in death.

On Jan. 24, funeral services for Pearl Streitmatter were held in Peoria, and burial was in the church cemetery. Three sisters survive: Sisters Nellie Woertz, Lucy Woertz, and Clara Berchtold, all of our congregation.

Our sympathy is extended to all

the bereaved families and trust they will find comfort in knowing others share their sorrow. "Cast thy burden upon the LORD, and . . . he shall never suffer the righteous to be moved." Psalm 55:22

We were glad to see Bro. Phillip Musselmann in church again after recent surgery. Bro. Ray Martin is anxiously waiting for three more weeks to pass until his body cast will be removed. He has been very patient throughout his long confinement, and all will be happy for him and his family when he can get out of bed and stand up again. Phillip Elsasser is still in the hospital and shows little improvement from several strokes. We know these are trying days for his family and trust they will find comfort in prayer. Sis. Vera Martin spent several days in the hospital for tests and has now returned to work.

We have experienced some very cold weather. One very cold morning, Sis. Mary Martin's car stalled on the street, and a large truck was unable to stop and struck a car behind her, pushing it into hers. Mary and Sis. Linda Endress, her passenger, both received whiplashes. They have returned to work and feel a higher hand was protecting them

from severe injury.

The first Wednesday of January, our annual business meeting was held, at which time the various reports were read and new appointments made for trustee and usher.

The following Wednesday evening, Bros. Noah Schrock and Joshua Broquard came to assist Bro. Silas in reading and deliberating on the conference findings. We were pleased to have a large number gather, including the Bradford congregation. May we all take to heart the admonitions, and may we all strive a little harder to keep the true faith so that our church may flourish and be separate from the world. Following this, we all witnessed a solemn act, when Bro. Dave Kieser was ordained an elder by the laying on of hands by the elders present. It was the wish of our Elder Bro. Silas Leuthold to have a younger brother assume the duties and relieve him of some responsibility. We are very thankful to have him as a counselling elder. Silas had been a very faithful shepherd. We also pray for our new elder, that he too will have full support of the congregation. Bro. Joe Stoller was elected as deacon and

will care for the Charity Fund. Arthur Baurer has agreed to assist wherever he can. We have confidence in all our brothers and feel they have God's help and guidance.

We were so glad to have Bro. Harvey Grimm spend a Sunday with us, for we enjoy his humble teachings. We heard so much of true love and the blessings derived from sharing with one another.

ALTO Joyleen Blough

Over the winter season, two of our ministers have journeyed to a warmer climate. Upon their absence we have been richly blessed by the words of Bros. Floyd Wieland from Detroit, Verdon Feldman from Bremen and Walt Rager from Toledo

Bro. Walt Rager told us a story about a couple of young boys who noticed that a flock of ducks came to the same pond every evening. Being boys, they decided to catch them. The next evening and every evening thereafter, they put pump-kins into the pond which floated out amongst the ducks. At first the ducks were frightened and flew away, but soon they became accustomed to the pumpkins and ignored the floating objects. The boys knew that their time had come. They hollowed two of the pumpkins out, put them over their heads, and went into the pond toward the ducks. All they had to do was reach out and grab the unsuspecting ducks by the feet. Satan, too, works slowly and gradually. This way, he can capture.

We welcome Bro. Walter Gerst of Oakville and Cary and Kathy Lanz of Latty to our congregation. We wish them the Lord's blessings in their new jobs in Grand Rapids.

PULASKI Mary Wiegand—Nancy Musselman

On Jan. 8 our Elder Bro. Noah Schrock assisted by Bro. Harvey Heiniger read and expounded upon the conference report. Then, on Sunday we were served the Lord's supper, being reminded of the agony and suffering of our Saviour. We were so happy to have our dear Sis. Minnie Getz with us to partake of this holy sacrament. It brought joy to our hearts to see her sitting in her usual place, as it has been more than a year since she has been able to assemble with us.

ROCKVILLE Carlton J. Lanz

At our annual business meeting, which was held on the third week in January, Bro. Wilbur Kloter was named as trustee. Other offices as treasurer, Sunday School superintendent, usher and auditor were filled with the renaming of each brother to succeed himself to another term. Bro. Eric Kloter acted as secretary. Somewhat reluctant to continue as chairman, Bro. John Bahler submitted to the persuasion by the meeting and acted as its head. A closing prayer was offered.

Announcement was made of the engagement of Sis. Sandy Schlatter, daughter of Sis. Margaret and Bro. David Schlatter of Bay City to Bro. Donald Schneider, son of Sis. Gladys and Bro. Albert Schneider. They have our best wishes. A spring wedding is planned.

Births: A girl, Kristen Lori, Dec. 17, to Sis. Harriet and Bro. Dale Zahner. Grandparents of the infant are Walter and Sis. Ida Welti and Sis. Madeline & Bro. Walter Zahner. Jan. 26, a son, Bruce Eric, to Sis. Sharon and Bro. Eric Kloter; grandparents of Bruce are Sis. Charlotte and Bro. Urban Luginbuhl, and Sis. Helen and Bro. Emanuel Kloter. . . a son, Chad Allen, on Jan 28, to Sis. Pamela (Pam) and Bro. Chester Luginbuhl. His grandparents are Sis. Viola (Vi) Luginbuhl and Bro. Ervin Luginbuhl, and Mrs. Elois Wheeler.

In hearing the impressive testimonies of the conversions of the dear young converts, Heidi Aberle and Michael Hoffman, and to witness their baptisms, many tear-filled eyes were in evidence. It cannot be otherwise but a reminder of the time when we, too, first had our burden of guilt lifted and were confident that we were at peace with God and man. One of these converts said joyfully, "I was never happier in all my life than I am today!" Bro. Rudolph Graf of Akron spent sometime with us and very ably assisted our Elder Bro. John Bahler.

Sis. Kay Kloter and Bro. Kenneth Luginbuhl were united in Holy Matrimony, with the solemnizing of their vows by Elder John Bahler, witnessed by the church. The services were simple and impressive, with the singing of the beautiful hymn, "Union of Hearts", in the Zion's Harp. A wedding supper was served at the home of Bro. Keith and Sis. Mary Kloter, followed by a

reception at Sis. Helen and Emanuel Kloters, home of the bride. Ken's parents are Sis. Florine and Bro. Emanuel Luginbuhl. May God's Spirit find an abode in their home.

And when beneath some heavy cross you faint

And say, I cannot bear this load alone,

You say the truth, Christ made it purposely

So heavy that you must return to Him.

The bitter grief that no one understands

Conveys a secret message from the King,

Entreating you to come to Him again.

The Man of Sorrows understands it well.

In all points tempted He can feel with you;

You cannot come too often or too near.

The Son of God is infinite in grace; His presence satisfies the longing soul,

And those who walk with Him from day to day

Can never have a solitary way.

What is Charity?

It's silence when your words would hurt.

It's patience when your neighbor's curt.

It's deafness when a scandal flows. It's thoughtfulness for others woes. It's promptness when stern duty calls.

It's courage when misfortune falls.

I do not ask that He must prove His word is true to me,

And that before I can believe He first must let me see. It is enough for me to know

'Tis true because He says 'tis so. On His unchanging word I'll stand, And trust till I can understand!

Time is edging ever closer to conclusion. A friend is dear to our hearts. Here we have a nice day. The sun comes up. Breath is given. If it was too late, if the gate, the beautiful gate was beyond ever reaching, how sad. Ah soon, how soon approaching night.

Because it shines with God's love, The Silver Lining is good to send your loved one... Once this way we

The Silver Lining, Box 167, Grabill, Indiana 46741

Two dollars is suggested to be given per year, for The Silver Lining.

A New Year's Promise

Another year I enter, its history unknown:

Oh how my feet would tremble to tread its paths alone! But I have heard a whisper: I know

I shall be blest;

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

What will the new year bring me? I may not, must not know; Will it be love and rapture, or loneliness and woe?

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

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

But hasten: tarry not, Lest you should be forsaken! If you would find the cure From sinful sleep awaken. The Lord has conquered death, And with His mighty hand He'll wash you from your sin, With Him in grace to stand.

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ON THINGS ABOVE

Henry Souder Jr.

Our thoughts and our life live in a marvellous home. Imagination may take its flights here. In the wonderful word, we live in a place far far above: "If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God."

Now to what things does this refer? When we think of where Christ is, we should rejoice with exceeding joy. The things that distract, annoyance, irritation, any such grievance are on the underside. There is a pure love so wonderful it passes all knowledge and all thought. This is the constant, never changing character of God.

His heavenly emotions carry life in the Beauty of Everlasting. The Bible lets us see those beautiful scenes, even expects us to live up there in them. Now. There is no place in between where we must wait. Loved ones go on before, live there. They are absent from the body, present with the Lord. We learn from Paul, it is far far better to be with Christ. Where I am, said our Lord, there shall my servant be. Of little ones, His mind is still the same: Let them come unto me . . .

Tell me, what does your mind wish? No matter how wisely carried out are the plays of this time, they tell nothing of the heavenly. The applause of this world drowns out the beautiful sounds of the upper sphere. Nor does the light shine so radiant as he who thus obeys in glory of the Home. "Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth."

The old man is buried. His nerves were strung from the centers of this world. Those things still hum. They can be heard over the world's lines. The lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life are still present. The assortment is varied, and very cleverly masqued. Those lines THROB. There is danger, even death in their voltage. We have buried all that, never to be remembered, if we listen. "For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God."

Not just a glimpse . . . not a space trip beyond the stars . . . but our life is hid with Christ in God.

Great teachers implant the desire to learn. Eminent presidents skillfully guide the ship of state. Artists, poets, painters have influ-

ence. What wonders do we come to. when we are "hid with Christ in God." Dividing the Red Sea and feeding the five thousand were His matters. At every turn, at every cost, Calvary is seen a life spent in love. Never has love reached as in those imponderable depths.

Take your little turn in the world? Let the path skirt close, where the burning desires fan the flame of worldly emotion? Not if you want to soar in the health of heavenly skies. Not if you want to feel that making of your calling and election sure. Not if you want the full beauty of the lovely Saviour's personality to fill you with heavenly ways.

Really living with Christ in God. Calendar page after calendar page is torn off. One of those pages God has marked. Soon it will come. "When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.'

Face to face. Together forever with loved ones, and with a body that is fashioned like His glorious body. What emotions and thoughts will glow. Perfect satisfaction!