



For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only **use** not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another.

For all the law is fulfilled in one word, **even** in this; Thou shalt love thy neigh-

bour as thyself.

But if ye bite and devour one another, take heed that ye be not consumed one of another.

This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.

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

THE SILVER LINING

A LIGHT for BELIEVERS

OUR TRIP TO ISRAEL

Taken by

**Bro. John and Sis. Julia Bahler and
Bro. Harry and Sis. Florence Sutter**

Thursday Oct. 14 1971 . . . We met at the Israel Flight Terminal at Kennedy Airport. At 8:00 we boarded the 747. All 400 seats were filled, plus the crew of 16. The plane took off at 9:00. It took 6 hours to fly to London, where there was a one-hour layover for refueling. It was then 5 more hours to Tel Aviv. After going through immigration inspection, a taxi was provided to take us to Haifa, where Hotel Shulamit was. It was a two-hour drive. This was Friday, the 15th.

Sat. Oct. 16 . . . We took a taxi down to the center of Haifa. Because of the Sabbath, all business establishments were closed except eating places. We had lunch at a sidewalk restaurant, then went sight-seeing . . .

Sunday Oct. 17 . . . At 8:00 the guide met us with the bus and driver. We started out to the old city of Acre, where there are many ruins from many wars. This city is located on the Mediterranean. We then went toward the Golan Heights, where much of the 6-day war was fought. We saw pill boxes, defenses, and an enemy headquarters that was blown up by the Jews. From there we went to a kibbutz for the night (which is a commune where Jewish immigrants live).

Monday Oct. 18 . . . We started towards the Sea of Galilee, driving through cotton and potato country, all being irrigated. We stopped at Capernaum. The Mount of Beatitudes was just above Capernaum, which is just above the Sea of Galilee. Later we drove along the sea through banana groves. We then went to Nazareth, passing through Cana. In Nazareth, we saw the well where Mary drew water. The angel told, she would bring the Saviour into the world. We had lunch, and we could look across the valley.

We passed by Nain, where Christ raised the widow's dead son, as the funeral procession was coming out of town. We passed through Gilgal and saw Megiddo, where many wars have been fought and where the last war will be. We observed the Jericho walls that still remain

(where Elisha cured the bitter water). We viewed the place where King Saul's sons were killed in battle at Gilboa, and then he fell upon his own spear. We went on the Jericho Road to Jerusalem and the King's Hotel.

Tuesday Oct. 19 . . . We went through the Joppa Gate . . . went to the Wailing Wall, where the Jews read and wail. We walked around the Temple court, and later walked up Via Dolorosa. The street is very narrow, and stores and shops line the sides.

Wed. Oct. 20 . . . We took a journey to Hebron, going past Mt. Zion and Bethany to Bethlehem. Soon afterward, we took a tour through a large grape country. The spies found those large grapes. We traveled to Bethlehem, where Christ was born.

Thursday Oct. 21 . . . We passed through Bethany, where Mary and Martha lived, later drove through the Judean Desert down to the Jordan River, where John baptized Jesus. We drove to the Dead Sea, which is about 1219 feet below sea level. This is where many scrolls have been found. We went to Masada, where Herod built a mighty fortress. Here is where 960 Jews, years later, committed suicide rather than being taken by the Romans.

We stopped at the Dead Sea again, which is 30% more salt than the ocean. This now is Israel's greatest natural resource. They make heavy water, which is used for atomic energy, and ship it to all parts of the world, just as salt as well as other chemicals are exported too. Afterward we drove through the desert, where every now and then we saw date groves. They have springs and wells, from which they irrigate and grow beautiful crops. Later we went to Arad, a new city in the desert, where natural gas and good wells were found. We stayed in a new hotel which is part of a kibbutz.

Friday Oct. 22 . . . We started for Beersheba, a long way through much desert where we saw people living in tents as they did four thousand years ago. We stopped at a spring in the desert, where there were donkeys with cans tied to their backs, in order to carry water to the tents. Beersheba was a city

of 4,000 in 1948, but now there are 100,000. This is a very beautiful and modern city, with palms and flowers. On our way to Askelon, we stopped at a kibbutz called Mardacai, where a fierce battle was fought in 1948. We drove through Ashdod and along the Mediterranean, north by Tel Aviv, a very beautiful drive, stopping at our hotel at Herzilia.

Saturday Oct. 23 . . . Since this was the Sabbath, we hired a car and our guide. We went to Jacob's Well and to Joseph's Tomb. We drove through the valley where Joseph's brothers sold him to the Ishmaelites. We went up on the mountain where Elijah contended with the prophets of Baal, and prayed and called the fire down from heaven.

Sunday Oct. 24 . . . This morning we went to Caesarea, an ancient city built by Herod, now a ruin. A huge amphitheater has been uncovered.

We saw several beautiful parks, including Rothchild's (the founder of Haifa). Our group toured Haifa, which is also Israel's largest seaport.

Monday Oct. 25 . . . During our tour of Tel Aviv, we went to the top of the tallest building, which is 40 stories. We went to Joppa, where Simon the Tanner lived, and where Simon Peter abode for some time. We went by a market, where our guide bought some grapes for us.

Tuesday, Oct. 26 . . . Along the way, we passed many trucks that were blown up in the 1948 war. We went across the Valley of Hinnom,

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dry at this time of the year. We saw where Judas betrayed Jesus.

Wed. Oct. 27 . . . After having breakfast, we sat on the terrace, then took a walk along the Mediterranean. We took a bus to Tel Aviv, to shop in the largest depart-

ment store. We took a taxi back to the hotel, had our evening meal, then went to Sutter's room for Scripture reading.

Thursday Oct. 28 . . . We packed our bags. The tour company had two taxis to take us to Lod Airport,

where we boarded a plane, which stopped for refueling at Rome.

We had a most blessed, faith-strengthening, and soul-stirring experience, especially in being able to walk and be where our blessed Saviour was.

HISTORIC TIMES!

The date, June 7, 1967. An Israeli army unit had rushed through St. Stephens gate, old Jerusalem, and down the Via Dolorosa (Way of Sorrows). Two soldiers raised the flag of David at or near the temple site. The sound of the Shofar (Ram's horn) was heard round the world, over the air waves!

Not yet 2,000 years ago, there was another procession. Our Lord was coming. It was Palm Sunday, and it was His triumphal entry, not too far away from where the flag was raised in 1967. The King of Kings was coming. Hosanna!

We are living in historic, exciting times. The ardent yearning of the Jew, Next year Jerusalem is a dream fulfilled. From at least 102 different countries they have come. There are black and white Jews, blond and brunet, tall broad-shouldered and short stocky . . . western and Oriental . . . some with blue eyes and fair hair, others with

dark eyes and black hair. Some 450 villages have been founded since 1948. What is this miracle that has transpired in this century in which we live?

The Jews can now go to the Wailing Wall. Ultra-orthodox Jews, till then, would not recognize the State of Israel. The temple site was not in their possession. Now it is part of Israel. These Jews changed their minds about the State. The Messianic hope thrilled through Judaism.

A quote from the Declaration of Independence, 1948, Israel: "We call upon the Jewish people throughout the Diaspora (scattering of Jews) to join forces with us in immigration and construction . . . With Trust in the Rock of Israel . . ."

We are listening to marvellous moves . . .

The news came over the radio, in Israel, of that historic 1967. The

din and confusion of battle ended. Victory was announced . . . all Judaea reconquered . . . Bethlehem, Hebron, Jericho taken . . . and then with a voice stifled with emotion, the voice announced the unification of Jerusalem.

The sound of the horn, an eyewitness wrote "had a beauty of the centuries that morning."

" . . . and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled." There are some dark times yet ahead for the Jew and Jerusalem. But what our Lord starts, He will finish!

There is time yet. This 1973, we are watching through another gate for another procession. Hosanna! Save us! See, in faith, there the skies, the beautiful, glorious gathering . . . The great glory and power of our Lord is beautiful and wonderful. He comes! He comes! Forever and ever He will reign . . .

A. C. HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED GIFT SHOP

A successful sale was enjoyed Dec. 5 in the Home, made possible by the contributions of many members and friends, who sent gifts for the shop or bakery goods. Our thanks to all who had the heart for this work of love.

Some of the funds realized from the gift shop were used to purchase a mini-bus for transportation of the residents, curtains for the corridor, a screen for the fireplace, and duplicating equipment for the office.

As gifts continue to come in, our

shop looks so inviting, and beckons to visitors at the Home. This will continue to benefit the residents as long as the brethren have a heart for it. . . In Christian love, Sisters Oleta Menold, Virginia Hunziker, and Ruth Krantz.

FRANCESVILLE

Mrs. Herman (Chris) Wuethrich
Mrs. Otto Wuethrich

Bro. Richard Streitmatter was always among the first to be seated in church on Sunday morning and Wednesday evenings, after helping his dear wife, Sis. Zura, up the stairs. Now he was the first of our assembly to get to go to his Heavenly Home in 1973. In his funeral services, Bro. Wendell said the last time he visited him in the hospital, he said to pray with him, as he was

dying of a broken heart for all the dear friends who have not yet yielded to their Saviour. One of his favorite songs was sung, "Oh, To Be Nothing", which we all remember that he often gave out. He so often would announce for another verse of a song yet at church, and it always had such a blessed ending. Often we did not close our song books right away as we waited for him, for another verse, please. We know his dear grandchildren will never forget his Christian-liked

life. His loving wife has two devoted daughters at home with her, whom God will help, as they are so willing to help others. Bro. Henry Beer had a closing poem and said these words, "In the past in our business, Sis. Lois and Edith had worked with them, not for them."

Another dear soul now is our sister-in-faith, Emma Pelsy. Her failing health made it necessary for her to be baptized in their home, and her husband Paul could be present (who must be in the Care

Center). Bro. Wendell told us today in his services, he wished everyone could have seen the radiant glow she had on her face after she was baptized. She now again had to be taken to the hospital, so we certainly pray and pray in Love for her.

The hospital also has to help these sisters, Margaret Gudeman (Willis), Helen (Geyer) Eshleman, and again our dear Julia Boehning. All the loved ones in our church who must go through suffering should never feel they are alone, as everybody they know prays for them, even if they cannot often visit them.

Bro. Carl and Sis. Mary Gutwein were happy for their youngest son, Rodney, whom Donna Steele was given for his loving companion, whom we sincerely wish much Christian happiness all their life.

The first baby in 1973 to be put on the Sunday School Cradle List is our daughter, Mary and Edwin Gutweins' baby son, Stanley. His two brothers and two sisters love him so much.

Now is a letter that Bro. Perry and Sis. Sally Neihouser had our minister read in church today. It will touch your heart. They have two adopted children in school, now a 6-month-old baby girl.

To Our Brothers, Sisters, and Friends,

No doubt everyone is aware of our adoption of a Vietnamese orphan. Since this is unique, it is undoubtedly difficult to understand. For this reason, we would like to share some of our experiences with you. We exhausted all conceivable avenues and found no American child available.

Then we learned the plight of the forgotten victims of the Vietnam war. Their chance for survival is slim if they remain in Vietnam. We were first told that it would be impossible to adopt one of these children; however the Lord has intervened and made it possible.

We also learned that wanting to do something of this nature and doing it are two different things. There have been hours of prayer, paper work, and soul searching—plus consultation with an elder, ministers, parents and close friends.

At times we faced great discouragement and fear, but God always gave us the faith to continue and believe it was His will. We believe He has given us the desire and that

is only by His grace that we have been able to accept His will.

If we can take this one little child into our home and give her love and an opportunity for life and salvation, our prayer will be answered and our purpose accomplished . . . Humbly, Perry and Sally.

St. Matthew Chapter 9 verses 13 and 14.

We are happy to have Sis. Marjorie (Fehr) Clauss to join our Church Circle, as she is now the wife of Tom Clauss.

This is the start of the second most important step in life for Bro. Jerry Gutwein (Harold), as he is engaged to Sis. Janice Schmidt of Winthrop. Wishing them God's loving happiness.

BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL

Kayleen Rumbold
Eunice Schupbach

Time to Pray

I got up quite early one morning
And rushed right into the day;
I had so much to accomplish
I took no time out to pray.

I asked naught of joy or of beauty;
The day sped on gray and bleak.
I asked, Why won't the Lord show
me?
He said, But you didn't seek!

I tried to come into God's presence;
I used all my keys at the lock.
God gently, lovingly chided,
My child, why didn't you knock,

I woke up quite early this morning
And paused ere entering the day;
There was so much to accomplish
I had to take time to pray!

Visiting ministers included Bro. Bob Grimm from Morton, who put God's work first, and came to speak to us when another couldn't come. Jan. 14 we had services at Stevenson School when the church we rent was not available. Jan. 21, Elder Dan Koch, Elder Eugene Bertschi, Bro. Ben Fehr served us in delivering God's message, and on that Sunday we enjoyed the fellowship with a group of Roanoke brethren. Jan. 28, Bro. Francis Rother delivered the message. We appreciate the efforts of these servants of God who work among us, and this includes our own minister, Bro. Everett. We all need so

much love and encouragement in our Christian walk of life.

Sis. Hazel Huette submitted to major surgery, but we are thankful that she is again regaining good health and is back among our little flock of worshippers.

Bros. Duane Witzig and Bill Kupferschmid are recuperating from sprained ankles. We hope they both will soon be able to discard their crutches.

The Adam Maurer family has returned from a flight to Europe, where they visited many friends and relatives in Wustenrot Germany, and Flumserberg Switzerland. Adam's parents are both living and quite well, and we rejoice with them that they were able to take this trip.

Charles and Paula Knapp, Bro. John and Sis. Mary Ellen Gudeman, and Sis. Eunice Schupbach were in Bay City to attend funeral services for Kevin Kaeb, who was taken from this life so unexpectedly. Our sympathetic prayers are surely holding up the Alphonse Kaeb family before the throne of grace.

BRADFORD Rebecca Endress

" . . . for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content." One of our ministering brothers read this and told us, "There are times when we find ourselves in just the opposite position we expected. If we can learn to be content, then God can bless us."

This seems appropriate, since all we have to report this month are those who have been sick. Many have been laid low by the London flu and other illnesses. Matt Elsasser, small son of Jordan and Sharon, was hospitalized with tonsillitis and a gland infection. He is home again and recovering.

Bro. Herman Dietz is still confined to the hospital. He began medication for Parkinson's Disease, and now is receiving intravenous feeding. We hope he will become stronger and see some improvement.

We sympathize with the family of Bro. Dan Siebenthal, who passed away. They had assembled with us until about a year ago, when they moved off the farm and into a new home at Princeville.

If you are moving, have you sent your change of address?

CHAMPAIGN-URBANA**Jan Blunier**

During one quiet evening of fellowship, Bro. Dave Wiegand pointed out an interesting hidden "light" in the gospels. Peter was standing by a fire of coals when he denied Christ three times, and he was standing by a fire of coals when Christ asked him, "... Peter ... lovest thou me more than these? "Dave indicated how this can be applied to our own Christian life. Christ must often bring us back to the time and place of our beginning, to show us His will. Going back reminds us of what we once were ... and what Christ has done to change us ... then serving Him ... loving Him "more than these" comes spontaneously out of the gratitude of our heart for so great a salvation.

Bro. Ben and Sis. Wilma Blunier celebrated their 25th anniversary on Jan. 11.

On Jan. 3, Bro. Ed Hohulin reviewed the memorandum for us.

Visiting ministers were Bros. Jim Hoerr of Peoria, Ed Alt of Cissna, Elmer Witzig of Gridley, Leroy Huber of Eureka, and Dale Eisenmann of Chicago. We appreciate when brothers are willing and glad to share the word with us.

AMES**Carol Schmidgall**

We were blessed to have Bro. Clifford Grimm from West Bend speak to us from God's word at our December meeting. For our January meeting, Bro. Harvey Heiniger from Oakville expounded from I Peter 1. We are always grateful and thankful for the willing ministers who bring the inspired word to us. We are also thankful for and strengthened by the fellowship we enjoy with the visiting brethren who support our meetings.

Bro. Dale Frank is at home, recovering from minor surgery.

EUREKA**Cathryn Wettstein
Salome Schumacher**

Jan. 13, on Saturday evening, four friends were given the chance to tell of their conversion. They were Kari Schmidgall, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Marvin and Dorothy; Mike Schmidgall, son of Fred and Betty; Art Anliker, son of Bro. and Sis. Walter and Mina; and Doris Blunier, daughter of Henry and Sis.

Wilma. The next day they were baptized by Bros. Perry Zimmerman and Leroy Huber before a large crowd of witnesses.

Our visitors were as follows: Bros. Perry Zimmerman, Clarence Kachelmuss, Forrest; Harold Schmidgall, Gridley; Hartzell Kaisner, Detroit; Roy Ehnle, Bradford.

Sis. Kathryn Leman was in Eureka Hospital for a check-up. Sis. Cora Schumacher is still a patient in Methodist Hospital. Bro. Marvin and Sis. Dorothy Schmidgalls' son, Mike, is a surgical patient in Methodist Hospital. Sis. Martha Fehr has been dismissed from Eureka Hospital, and is now at the "Home". Her sister, Bena is also a resident at the "Home".

Births: A son to Larry and Carol Stoller, born Jan. 20. He has been named Jeffrey James. He has a sister and brother who are so happy. ... A daughter to Bro. Robert and Sis. Sharon Stoller, born Jan. 22. Her name is Christine Renee. She also has a sister and brother at home.

The annual Business meeting was held after short services Jan. 17. Bro. William Belsley was elected new trustee. The three new Sunday School teachers are Bros. Joel Banwart, Eldon Rocke, and Gary Huber.

Corrections: During last year there was 4 church weddings, instead of 3; there was 6 babies born during the year, instead of 5.

Bro. Ed Geiger, age 65, died Friday, Jan. 26, at a rest home in Morton. His funeral was Monday, Jan. 29. Bro. Vernon Leman had the services. He is survived by his wife, Sis. Frances; two sons and one daughter; Melvin of Springfield, Garrel of Urbana, and Miss Judith of El Cajon, California. Three brothers and four sisters survive.

PORTLAND**Art and Betty Metz**

Our guest minister was Jesse Schrock from Congerville, the Sunday of Jan. 21. It was a joy to have met them and have them in our midst. We thank them for their visit. Late that afternoon, Silverton congregation was with us for a potluck supper and evening services. Many precious teachings were expounded unto us that day.

Our friend, Tim Miller, son of Bro. Bob and Sis. Pearl, was hos-

pitalized with a painful ear infection. We are happy to report he is home again and has returned to good health.

Sunday, Jan. 14, the Portland and Silverton congregations gathered together at the Community building near Silverton for a potluck supper and singing. Truly it is a blessing when we can gather together and sing to the praise and honor of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

ROANOKE**Doris Mangold — Erma Moser**

The engagement of Sis. Bonnie Wuthrich, daughter of Bro. Willis and Sis. Flo., and Bro. Ed Sauder, son of Bro. Jack and Sis. Marlis, was made known. May the blessings of our Lord be with them.

On January 9, a little girl, Jana Lyn, came to bless the home of Bro. Mike and Sis. Linda Harris and little brother, Todd.

Bro. Emery Getz (Dick) submitted to eye surgery, and we are happy he is able to assemble with us again.

We miss our dear Sis. Anna Mangold, wife of our late Elder David Mangold, who passed away at the Methodist Hospital in Peoria on Jan. 5. Her funeral was held the following Sunday, with Elders John Bahler (Rockville), Ezra Feller (Cissna Park), Leroy Huber (Eureka) and Eugene Bertschi officiating. Survivors include two sons: Bro. Melvin and Charles; two daughters, Sis. Ruth Scherer and Sis. Esther Sauder; one sister, Sis. Emma Scherer.

Services for Sis. Mollie Beer were held Jan. 12 by our local ministers. This dear old sister spent 34 years in the Sunday School teaching the little ones of the love of Jesus. In many families, she taught two generations. Once when visiting her, she said she was so thankful she memorized portions of scripture in her youth, because when she became blind, they still came to memory.

Sis. Mary Ann Hoffman had the misfortune of breaking her leg, but is able to be about.

Those who are on the sick list: Bro. Ben P. Martin was in the hospital, but is home again; Sis. Rachel Leman (Richard) submitted to surgery; Sis. Marjorie Aschliman has been confined to her home because of illness; and Sis. Bina

Bertsch is still in the Eureka Hospital, but is improving slowly.

The annual business meeting was held on Jan. 17, conducted by Bro. Gene Bertschi.

Open house was held for Sis. Alice Funk at the home of her son, Mr. and Mrs. Wilmer Funk, honoring her on her 90th birthday.

Bro. and Sis. Rick Zimmerman and little daughter have moved to Metamora, where he is employed. They will again assemble with us.

The engagement of Eddie Blunier and Chris Wilson was announced by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Wilson of Peoria. He is the son of Bro. Ed and Sis. Annabelle.

Bro. Ben and Sis. Helen Fehr announce the engagement of their daughter, Carrie, to Randy Ferrers, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Ferrers of Roanoke.

Thank You Notes:

Words can never express the appreciation, thankfulness and Christian love that we feel for all who gave to help make this a happier Christmas for us. May we take this opportunity to thank you for the meals, cards, gifts, Christmas caroling and prayers during and since our illnesses. In Christian Love, Marvin and Faye Fischer.

Our sincere thank you to everyone who shared the many gifts of love with Mother and Dad, especially during the holiday season. A very special thank you to those who have visited mother at Restmor . . . also the 8th grade Sunday School class for their lovely gifts to the folks and the Christmas caroling. It means so much to be remembered. Family of J. C. and Anna Zimmerman.

We wish to express our sincere thanks for the sympathy and the many kind deeds extended to us in the loss of our dear mother and sister. The family of Anna Mangold.

My sincere thanks to all who remembered me with prayers, visits, gifts, and cards while I was in the hospital. Bina Bertsch.

TAMAHATA

Akito and Marie Inoue

Jan. 15, six of us attended our Brotherhood Conference held at Shioda church. It was the first of such meetings to be held, and we trust it will be supported each year, that our precious faith may also be carried out in this land. May

each one of us heed the advice and admonitions given, that we may have our hearts in order in these days when we can feel even our redemption drawing nigh. This day was also a national holiday. "Coming of Age Day" was celebrated by those turning 20 years of age this year. With schools and offices being closed, time was available for our meeting.

We have had snow about twice this year. Many say our weather has been mild this winter in comparison to other years. Mt. Fuji has a heavy cap of snow, which is a scenic contrast with the blue skies of January.

The first issue of our church newspaper for our three churches here will soon be printed. Since the title "Silver Lining" cannot be translated to give the same meaning as it does in English, we have chosen "Budoen no Koe" for the title. When translated into English this means, "Voice of the Vineyard."

ALTADENA Judy Hackenjos

The Lord has granted us this new year filled with the promise of His blessings each day. If we follow in His steps and strive to do His will, He will fill our lives anew with His grace.

"And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him . . ." Our new year began with rejoicing, as Suzie Witzig joined the family of God and became our sister in the Lord. On Jan. 14 she gave her testimony of repentance and was baptized outside in the churchyard. It was a gorgeous, sunny day, with weather in the 70's.

We had many visitors for this blessed day. Ministering Bro. Richard Schupbach of Phoenix was with us and shared an inspiring message. Also many of the Phoenix young people spent the week-end with us.

Ministering Bro. Clarence Dietrich from Silverton and his wife and daughter, were with us on Jan. 28. Ministering Bro. Jess Schrock, from Congerville and his wife Lil are spending sometime with us in California. We have found inspiration in the sermons they have

shared with us.

We rejoice with the angels in heaven, that Dale Hackenjos has repented and found the peace that passes all understanding. He is awaiting baptism in the near future. "Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus." May God bless you in 1973.

ALTO Joyleen Blough

We never lose the ones we love
For even though they're gone
Within the hearts of those who care
Their memory lingers on.

Our congregation was shocked at the tragic news that one of our pillars was snatched from his loved ones, to be with his Heavenly Father, on Jan. 3. Bro. Derry Schutte, age 50, complained of chest and arm pains, and not long after was stricken by a heart attack. Derry will be especially missed as Sunday School superintendent and Bible class teacher, also as song leader. His note of good cheer will be greatly missed, too. Derry always took his testimony with him no matter where he went.

Bro. Derry left behind his beloved wife, Sis. Virginia; his mother, Mrs. Tina Schutte; four daughters, Sis. Louise Desotell, Sis. Susan Root, Brenda and Marilyn; three sons, Darrell, Steven, and Rudie, all at home except Sis. Louise. He is also survived by three brothers and five sisters. Comforting words were spoken by Bro. Ben Maibach, assisted by Bros. Henry Beer, Joe Waibel, and Aaron Steffen.

"I will" were the words spoken by Bro. Duane Schrenk and Sis. Cathie Gayheart on Jan. 14, as they spoke their wedding vows.

Together they've put their hopes
and plans
Into a loving Father's hands;
Together they'll start a life that is
new,
Knowing He watches over them,
And may His blessings that wait in
store
Out-number all they have known
before.

The marriage ceremony was conducted by Elder Bro. Joe Waibel. Parents of the groom are Bro. Elmer and Sis. Delila, and the bride made her home with Bro. Aaron & Sis. Loretta Steffen. May God bless the life they share.

Sis. Loretta Steffen was hospitalized for her back, and Sis. Lydia Wingeier was also among the sick.

BERN

Esther and Stella Moser

We welcome the bride of Bro. Darrel Stoller into our congregation and fellowship. Bro. Darrel and Sis. Gloria Grimm were married Jan. 7. They are at home on Rural Route 3, Sabetha, in a mobile home. May the Lord add His blessing and ever keep them under His wings of love and care.

Bro. John Rokey, Goodfield, was our guest minister on a Sunday.

Hospitalized and out again: Sis. Lydia Hanhart (tests), Emma Marti (pneumonia), Apphia Aeschliman (heart condition). Sis. Verona Strahm (Bro. Wilfred) was a patient several times for tests and observation.

Emma Marti and her sister, Apphia Aeschliman are new residents at the A.C. Home. Due to the infirmities of age, they are no longer able to maintain their own home.

Sympathy is extended to Bro. Frank Hertzell and Mrs. Waymer Esslinger. Each lost their father recently.

The face of spring's a splendid scene—

All colors fully blended.
It takes each hue to really do
The artwork God intended.

Our lives are made of every shade
Of red and gold, of dark and light;
Not always gay, it takes the gray
To keep the tones just right.

So keep a smile if for awhile
Your color scheme's too plain.
When God sees fit He'll change it,
To bloom and glow again.

BREMEN

Pauline Laidig

When conducting a short devotional period before proceeding with our annual business meeting, Bro. Verdon Feldman reminded us that sometimes we are chosen to

perform duties for which we feel we have no special talent, but that it's then that we need to turn to the Lord for help and so realize a spiritual gain. May we all serve willingly and in a manner pleasing to the Lord.

We appreciated having Elder Bro. Al Fisher spend a week-end with us. Al, with the assistance of our ministers, lovingly presented the memorandum, and encouraged us to walk close to the teachings of the Lord. We then partook of the Lord's Supper. It truly gives one a feeling of unworthiness when we recall the great sacrifice our Saviour made in our behalf.

It is good to have Marge (Mike) Mangold and Sis. Kate (Gene) Sauder feeling able to assemble with us again. Bro. Lou Gerber returned from Mayos and is convalescing at home. Sis. Sue (Bob) Beebe and Sis. Clara Klopfenstein are surgical patients.

One of our grandmothers told me of a touching incident. Her little granddaughter told her she was afraid of the dog at the home where they were going. As they drove in the yard, the little one said, "Thank you, Jesus". The dog was no where to be seen, so without hesitation she thanked the one to whom she'd been taught to go to in time of trouble and then to remember to be thankful. What a lesson for us all!

Memories of our dear Sis. Lydia Heuberger still linger with us. This poem was written, and given to her mother, Sis. Mary, by a close friend of Lydia's.

Beyond Life's Gateway

There's an open gate at the end of
the road
Through which each must go alone,
And there, in a light we cannot see,
Our Father claims His Own.

Beyond the gate your loved one
Finds happiness and rest,
And there is comfort in the thought
That a loving God knows best.

Sis. Mary and her family, Sis. Emma Unsicker (Ft. Wayne), Sis. Viola Schini, Elsie Berg and Dale Heuberger of Bremen wish to express their gratefulness for the many deeds of kindness shown during Lydia's illness and at the time of her passing away. The many

cards and messages of comfort were especially appreciated.

BURLINGTON, OKLAHOMA

Janice Frieden — Janice Springer

A new year! But what will we do with it? Will we make the same mistakes we did last year, or will our New Year's resolution be to give our lives completely to Christ and let Him make this the **first day of the rest of our lives.**

Our monthly singing was held in the home of Bro. Richard and Sis. Florence Guthrie on Jan. 7. The weather conditions were very treacherous, with snow and ice on the roads, but quite a few came and received the rich blessing of God's love.

Sis. Anna Miller, who is still in Stroud, Oklahoma, received a wonderful New Year's gift this month, when nine out of her ten children gathered with her in Edmund, Oklahoma. She also received a card shower from many of her friends, and she wishes to extend her deepest thanks to everyone for their thoughtfulness.

We had several in our congregation who were hospitalized. They were Sis. Betsy Diel, Wilmer Diel, and Ministering Bro. Raymond Roth, who again submitted to surgery for the second time in three months. We are thankful that they are each home from the hospital and able to worship with us again.

Note of thanks: I wish to thank everyone for their prayers, visits, cards, flowers, gifts, and any acts of kindness during my stay in the hospital and since I'm home. Bro. Raymond Roth.

One Sunday afternoon during church, the lights suddenly flicked off. When they came on again, our ministering brother made a statement that should make us stop and think: He said, "Would you have been ready if that had been the Lord?" When the lights flicked off and on a second time, he said, "Would you have been ready the second time?"

CONGERVILLE

Linda Knapp — Arlene Banwart

Should we think it strange if Satan comes to question our faith? Christ even said among those born of women, there's none greater than John the Baptist; yet Satan caused him to ask if Jesus were the Christ.

John wasn't given a direct answer. Neither will God always give us direct answers, for then where would our growth of love and faith be?

Let us learn from our older brothers and sisters in faith. One older sister said, Living for Christ is a full time occupation, so how could one find time to seek anything else?

Everyday we who are converted need to go through a miniature repentance, to die daily . . . When Jesus hung on the cross, his physical suffering was great, but bearing our sin was even greater. "The Lord is at hand." We should live with this thought ever before us, as if it were written on all the walls. Our lives should be enriched by the experiences we make; every moment of our life is meant for us to grow in grace, faith, and godly wisdom.

These are some of the precious teachings we received this month. We want to thank the following visiting brothers for sharing God's word to us: Lenny Meyer (Chicago), Everett Hari (Normal), Steve Rinkenberger (Cissna), Don Sauder (Roanoke), and Vernon Leman (Eureka).

We're thankful to have Bro. Jerry Knapp with us again, after having been hospitalized for surgery.

Jan. 21, we were blessed with the fellowship of eight of the sisters in nurse's training at Mennonite Hospital, and their parents.

Our sympathy is extended to Sis. Frances Geiger, whose husband, Bro. Ed, passed away Jan. 26.

Note for Congerville readers: March will be the month we collect for Silver Lining.

ELGIN IOWA

Eleanor Butikofer

We have two pleasant news items for our column, the first one being that mother, Sis. Lizzie Schneider has returned to her home, after having spent 15 weeks in Rochester Minn., due to a fractured hip. She is feeling quite well and does get around with the aid of a walker. Sis. Ella Gehring, who lives with mother, and Sis. Marie ordinarily, and who stayed with her brother, Bro. Jacob Gehring, and Sis. Bertha during her absence, has returned to live there.

Here is the second note of happi-

ness. It was announced that Sis. Janet Steiner of Oakville, daughter of Bro. Orel and Sis. Rose, and Bro. John Schupbach, son of George and Mildred, are engaged to be married. They plan an April wedding. May God bless them in every aspect and we wish them much happiness in their undertaking.

At our annual meeting, Bro. Floyd Frieden was voted in as a trustee, and Bro. Dale Moore as our secretary.

We were privileged to have Bro. (Elder) Perry Zimmerman in our midst. He assisted our elder, Paul Butikofer, in reading and explaining the memorandum. We were reminded of how important it is to show by our lives that we are really living the life of a Christian, humbly and sincerely.

We were sorry to learn that our aunt, Sis. Mollie Beer of Roanoke had passed away. She and her family, while her children were young would usually come to Iowa to visit her parents, Grandpa and Grandma Gehring, and her other relatives, in the autumn-time of the year. I shall never forget how we looked forward with eagerness to this visit with our aunt and her children, our cousins. Some are still residing in Illinois, namely, Clarence in Fairbury, Josephine in Eureka and Lee in Roanoke, and William in Aledo. Mary, Fannie and Ruth live in Florida, Robert and Jake in Texas. Her family, church and Sunday School, and Bible were very dear to her heart.

Bro. John Steiner spent last week-end with us. We thank him for his explanations of the scripture and hope he will be able to again visit our congregation.

FAIRBURY

Joyce Huber

In the year of 1972, our congregation rejoiced to witness 7 baptisms, there were 6 new babies born, 1 wedding in the church, and 9 funerals.

The engagement was announced of Sis. Charlotte Meyer and Bro. Alfred Banwart of Lamar. Charlotte is the daughter of Bro. Amos and Sis. Ruth Meyer, and Alfred is the son of Mr. and Sis. Oscar Banwart. They are planning a Feb. 18 wedding. We will miss Charlotte, as she will be leaving our congregation to be joined with her husband, living at Lamar.

Our sympathy goes out to the Zehr family, as three were killed in a tragic accident Jan. 6. Funeral services were held by Bros. Leroy Huber and Ed Kloter. Bro. Joseph (68) and Sis. Alice (Sutter) (64) Zehr and their grandson, Trent Ward Zehr (5), lost their lives when their car skidded around a truck, parked partially on the blacktop just south of Fairbury, and collided with an oncoming car. Surviving are the Zehrs' children: Arlene Farley, Thelma Saathoff, Carol Virkler, and Roger and Richard Zehr. Trent was the son of Richard and Delorah Ward Zehr, and in addition to his parents, is survived by two brothers, Todd and Steven, a sister Kristy, and his maternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Ward.

At our annual meeting, Bro. Ralph Bahler and Bro. Henry Steffen were re-elected to the offices of chairman and secretary.

On a frosty morning, not realizing the walks were slippery, Sis. Ida Hari slipped and fell, breaking her left wrist.

Bro. Alfred Bahler of Wolcott and Bro. Duane Metzger of West Bend ministered inspirationally to us.

John and Nancy Meister were blessed with a new baby boy, and they named him Eric John. They also have two girls to welcome a baby brother.

Ron and Barbara Schaffer have become a new mother and dad, as their first baby was born, a boy, Galen Joe. This also makes Bro. Dick and Sis. Betty Wiegand grandparents.

Funeral services were held for Dan Obergfel (70) of Chicago. Surviving are a brother William; 5 sisters: Katherine Grace, Anna Metz, Sis. Lorene Clauss, Miriam Mehrkens and Sis. Arlene Kilgus.

Mrs. Lillian Clark has not been feeling well, and become bedfast. Sis. Edith Huette has been taking care of her, and reads a lot to her, including the **Silver Lining** which she especially enjoys. She enjoys mail, and her address is 201 E. Oak, Fairbury Ill 61739.

Sis. Kate Zehr celebrated her 58th birthday Feb. 6. Bro. and Sis. Dave Steffen celebrated their Silver Anniversary Feb. 1; and Bro. and Sis. Merle Kaisner will have their Silver Anniversary Feb. 22.

Bro. Silas Clauss wishes to ex-

press his thanks to all who remembered him while in the hospital and through his convalescence at home.

FORREST

**Juanita Schneider
Eleanor Honegger**

Life holds countless blessings, too,
When you have a faith that's true.
Joys are greater, cares are lighter,
Friends are dearer, hopes are
brighter:

Prayers are answered all life long
When you have a faith that's
strong.

On Jan. 28, we had visiting ministers, Bro. Kenneth Schneider and Bro. Earl Kilgus of Remington, minister God's word to us in great humbleness. Kenneth and Earl were both from the Forrest congregation before going to Remington to live. The pilot of an airplane is like unto the one who proclaims God's word. The pilot has his instruments before him to use for his guidance to bring his plane to a safe landing; likewise, the one who proclaims God's word has the Bible before him, and in great humbleness teaches us how we should live, that we also may bring our life to a safe landing on the shores of eternity.

A little blessing, Darla Kay, was born to Bro. John and Sis. Beverly Eisenmann. To welcome her home was Carol, David, Danny and Eric. Grandparents are Bro. and Sis. Emil Anliker of Forrest and Sis. Lydia Eisenmann of Cissna Park. Great-grandparents are Bro. and Sis. Charlie Tyler of Forrest and Bro. John Koehl.

Those who spent time in the hospital were Heather Bachtold, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Herb Bachtold; Sis. Eleanor Honegger and Julie Huette, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Art Huette; Bro. Larry Ifft; Sis. Virginia Huette; Shay Bachtold, daughter of Jerry and Beverly. Sis. Kathryn Schneider was a patient at Brokaw Hospital; all have returned home. Bro. William Kupferschmid remains a medical patient at Gibson City Hospital. Jon Ricketts, son of Bro. and Sis. Meredith, broke his leg in P. E. at school; he is now a patient at Fairbury Hospital.

Funeral services were held at the Culkin Funeral Home for our friend, Lena Blume, formerly of

Wolcott. Graveside rites were at the cemetery at Wolcott. Surviving are two sisters, Mrs. Perceda Herb-erich and Mrs. Kathryn Fahey of Forrest, and one brother, Jesse Steidinger of Decatur.

We rejoice with our Elder Bro. Perry and Sis. Dorothy Zimmerman, that their daughter, Sharon Adams, has found the need for repentance and has found peace with her God. As Sharon is so far from us, may God have his protecting hand over her and bless her with much grace and his love. Their address is: Mr. & Mrs. Terry Adams, 1209 Palmar Road Apt. 7, Oxon Hill Maryland 20022.

Thank You: My sincere thanks and appreciation to all my friends and relatives for cards, visits, gifts and prayers while I was in the hospital and since returning home. Sis. Kathryn Schneider. . . Sis. Kathryn is recovering nicely.

Remember their are no bad days.
Some are just better than others.

GRIDLEY, KANSAS

Edna Somerhalder—Wilma Young

Holy Spirit, faithful guide,
Ever near the Christian's side,
Gently lead us by the hand,
Pilgrims in a desert land.
Weary souls fore'er rejoice,
While they hear the sweetest voice,
Whispering softly, **Wanderer come,
Follow Me, I'll lead thee home.**

We rejoice to hear the possibility of a ceasefire—how wonderful if this can be a lasting peace. The Bible teaches us there will be wars and rumors of wars on this earth.

Sis. Lydia Young, wife of Bro. Andrew Sr., was hospitalized twice for tests and observation. . . thankful she can assemble with us again. Rhonda, two-year-old daughter of Sis. Marilyn and Steve Owens, is hospitalized with pneumonia.

Samuel Somerhalder and Kathy Haehn were united in marriage Jan. 9. Sam is the son of Bro. Joseph and Sis. Edna. They are at home in Gridley, where Sam is engaged in farm and oilfield work. We wish them joy as they walk the path of life together.

Sis. Lydia Bahr is spending some time in Gridley, visiting her children and our congregation. Although she's disabled, must depend on crutches or a wheel chair, she

made rolls and bread for the church lunch this past Sunday. . . Shows what a little determination can do. She's staying at Bro. Rudy and Sis. Eileens'.

We thank Bro. Roy Wernli for bringing us the unadulterated truth. Come again soon.

In spite of snow, ice, and near zero temperatures, we see the welcome signs of spring, early bulbs peeking through the snow, and lawns turning green.

INDIANAPOLIS

Eric and Ginny Zeller

"For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them. Matt. 18:20

Our congregation in Indianapolis has really felt the blessings of God—from a congregation of two or three a few years ago we've now grown to a congregation of almost 40 members and their families. The newest arrival to the congregation was Jeremy Beer, born to Bro. and Sis. Ken and Lyn Beer of Danville on Dec. 13. The footings for the foundation have been poured and drainage equipment installed. Bro. Joe Gray of Francesville has been working for two weeks, building a construction shed for the workers. Contributions for our new house of worship have been overwhelming, and we want to thank everyone and all the churches for their contribution, love and support. May God bless you all. We are looking forward to moving into our new building to assemble in on Sundays, but we have our mid-week services in someone's home every week. We've also started serving for hospitals, World Relief, and homes for the aged and children's homes here in Indianapolis.

We've been blessed in having ministers come every Sunday and proclaim God's love. We want to thank everyone who has served us. We were blessed Dec. 10 to have George Yergler from Francesville. Bro. Gene Leman from Wolcott was here on Dec. 17, and on Dec. 31, Carl Kipfer from Bluffton was with us. On Jan. 14, Earl Kilgus from Remington was with us. We were privileged on Jan. 21 to be able to hear the deliberations of the Brotherhood Conference read by Theo. Beer of Milford and assisted by Carl Kipfer of Bluffton. On Jan.

28, Jack Bollier of Leo was with us.

IOWA CITY

Patty Stoller — Joan Mogler

As we recently sang, let us "Give thanks unto the Father" for our "most wonderful redemption". God has been good to us and has provided wonderful rewards through Jesus, the Saviour of mankind. God has promised us help in this life, and heaven and eternal life if we remain true to Him.

Ministering Bros. Harvey Heiniger, Ed Lanz, John Steiner (Oakville), and Carl Feucht (Lester) brought God's word to us in January. May God bless their efforts.

Love flowing between God's children is marvelous. When we gather together, we can feel that each of us has the same desire to hear the word. Each of us has one sole purpose in life. Only what is done for the Lord has eternal value. What a blessed privilege our fellowship is.

K. S. U.

Libby Meyer

Greetings in His name! We have had some very wintry storms so far this year; there have been beautiful sunny days in between. Life is like this also. As we go along, there are storms that seem to come upon us, and we can't see the way. God, in His love, will continue to guide us if we ask, and before long the light is shining again.

"For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." These are the closing words of Romans chapter 8, which were part of our Bible study.

We are delighted to have a number of friends join us on campus this semester. They are Karen (Geyer) Kellenberger, Sabetha; Rhonda and Kirt Riedell, Kiowa; and Peggy Baumgartner, Bern.

LA CROSSE

Gwen Bucher — Lorene Moser

Visiting ministers during January were Bro. Ed Alt—Cissna Park and Bro. Elmer Bucher, Francesville.

On Jan. 14, we had many young

brothers and sisters from Elgin, Junction, Toledo, Francesville, Wolcott and Remington.

Friends George and Frieda Pfladderer of Kouts celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary on Jan. 14.

Our annual meeting was Jan. 16 at the church. Bro. Don Furrer was elected trustee, and various committee members were replaced.

Bro. Bob and Sis. Diana Gudeman were blessed with a son on Jan. 14. He has been named Matthew Robert. His sisters are Melissa and Michelle. Paternal grandparents are Bro. Art and Sis. Mary Gudeman and Russell and Jean Shape, of Rockford, Ohio.

We are happy to report two new converts: Debbie, daughter of Bro. Ed and Sis. Leah Frank, and Tom Bucher, son of Bro. Merle and Sis. Leona Bucher. We wish them an extra measure of grace for the school yet ahead of them.

LAMONT

Betty Wernli

Our annual church meeting was held the second Sunday in January, and Sis. Lorean Anliker was elected to be the primary teacher for a three-year term.

Sis. Dena Sauder has been confined to her home, suffering from a bruised shoulder, the result of a fall. It has been quite painful, and hope Sis. Dena will again be able to assemble with us. Sis. Clara Ott was ill for several weeks, but is again in our midst.

Martha Hughes has entered a Topeka hospital, to have the pin removed from her knee that was injured a year ago. After some physical therapy, Martha will be able to return home in Emporia.

LATTY

LeAnn Laukhuf — Connie Stoller

The angels in heaven rejoice over one soul who repents. Our congregation is rejoicing with our six new converts. They are Mardel Stoller (Bro. Delmar and Sis. Marguerite), Carol Sinn (Bro. Carl and Sis. Bertha), Joyce Klopfenstein (Bro. Alvin and Sis. Ellen), Karen Klopfenstein (Bro. Marvin and Sis. Mary), Betty Stoller (Bro. Dave and Sis. Irene), and Diane Stoller (Bro. Russell and Sis. Melvane). May God be with them in their conversion.

At our annual business meeting,

the following people were chosen: Bro. Ray Sinn, Sis. Melvane Stoller, Sunday School teacher; Bro. Donald Wenninger, trustee; Bros. Walter Sinn and Eli Rager, song leaders; and Sis. Katherine Klopfenstein, World Relief responsibilities.

Latty young group was happy to be host to Bluffton young group Jan. 13-14.

On Jan. 21, Jim Stoller and Tam Utterback were united in marriage. Jim is the son of Bro. Louis and Sis. Mildred, and Tam is the daughter of Earl and Marilyn. We wish them God's blessings in their life together.

A baby boy, Scot Allen, was born on Jan. 20 to Paul and Charlotte Grant. Bro. Phil and Sis. Gloria Grant were also the happy parents of a daughter, Amy Sue, on Jan. 21. May God's blessings be with them.

We were happy to have Ministering Bro. Sam Schlatter (Junction) with us on Jan. 21, and hope God's Spirit continues to abide with him, as he ministers the word.

Hospital patients were: Bro. Mike Stoller, Sis. Christine Stoller, Wendell Stoller, Tom Laukhuf, Sis. Katie Breitweiser, Sis. Margaret Kupfersmith, and Ruth Stoller.

On Jan. 28, we were privileged to have Elder Bro. Dave Bertsch (Leo) with us, to assist our Elder Bro. Loren Stoller in reading the letter of our Brotherhood Conference. Let us do our part in strengthening.

MINNEAPOLIS

Kathryn Olson — Karen Metzger

Elder Bro. Paul Fehr was assisted by Elder Bro. Leo Moser in reading and meditating on the memorandum. It moves our hearts to see the love and concern shared by our elders, that this, our precious faith be not marred by the many dangers that confront us in these trying times. Then on Sunday, after services, we partook of Holy Communion in remembrance of Christ suffering on the cross.

I wish to be thine, O Lord.
I have heard Thy voice:
And it told Thy love to me,
But I long to rise in the arms of
faith
And be closer drawn to Thee.

We rejoice that Timothy Esterling has surrendered his heart unto

the Lord in true repentance. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Esterling.

MORTON

**Mrs. Keith Stevig
Mrs. Harry Kaiser**

Our Bro. Henry Grimm and his wife, Sis. Kathryn Steiner Grimm, are celebrating their Golden Anniversary. Surely the Lord has been with them through stormy days, as well as having blessed them with much joy and happiness. They lived their 50 years together in the Morton area. They have six children: Mrs. Carolyn (Rex) Easterling, Mexico, Mo.; Sis. Marie (Robert) Taufer, Morton; Bro. Robert Grimm, Goodfield; Sis. Norma (Henry) Zeller, Morton; Bro. Henry D. Grimm, Morton; and Sis. Joyce (Dale) Domnick, Morton. They have 29 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren. An Open house in observance of their Golden Anniversary was held at their home from 2-4 P.M., Sunday, Jan. 14.

How thankful we are that dear souls are surrendering unto the Lord. On Jan. 6 we heard testimony of three dear souls: Mark Peters, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Peters of Morton; Joanne Luttrell, daughter of Bro. Richard and Sis. Mary Ann Luttrell; Mrs. Mike (Linda) Klein, daughter of Bro. Bob and Sis. Lillian Getz of Morton. They were baptized the following day.

On Jan. 31 another dear soul gave her testimony, Mrs. Joann (Frederick) Roecker, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Shelton of Peoria Heights. We were blessed to have in our midst Bro. Dan Koch of Tremont, as our shepherd has had a misfortune and is in the hospital. She will be baptized on Sunday.

Those sick or convalescing are Bro. Russel Rapp, a back injury. We hope his stay will not be for long. We need him as a shepherd. Bro. Chris Knapp, Sis. Francis Sauder, Sis. Ollie Rein, Elmer Rinckenberger, Dan Huette, and Rebecca Rumbold also have been in the hospital.

Bertha Roecker (75) passed away Jan. 15 in her home in Morton. Surviving is one daughter, Mrs. Dayton (Elizabeth) Alt; one granddaughter, Pati Alt; three sisters, Mrs. Anna Hoffman, Mrs. Henry (Lydia) Mathias, both of Morton, and Mrs. Elizabeth Fahrer

of Peoria.

This poem in Remembrance of Bro. Henry Rapp. In Loving Memories from his wife, Sis. Anna Rapp and family.

Your gentle face and patient smile
With sadness we recall;
You had a kindly word for each
And died beloved by all.

The voice is mute and stilled the heart,
That loved us well and true,
Oh bitter was the trial to part
From one so good as you.

You are not forgotten loved one
Nor will you ever be,
As long as life and memory last
We will remember thee.

Our Bible class entertained the Eureka, Tremont, Chicago, and Normal Bible classes on Jan. 27 and 28. It was a great pleasure to see all the young folk attending church and singing. We also were richly blessed with visiting ministers. They were Bro. Robert Grimm, Goodfield; Bro. Chuck Hemmer, Peoria; and Bro. Charles Sauder of Tremont. We are so thankful for their labor of love.

We want to express our grateful appreciation for the many cards we received on our 50th Wedding Anniversary. Bro. Henry and Sis. Kathryn Grimm.

A baby boy, Theodore Fred Jr., was born to Bro. Ted and Sis. Cindy Witzig on Jan. 23. The grandparents are Bro. Joe and Sis. Aldine Witzig and Bro. Soli and Sis. Bertie Rassi of the Morton congregation.

Statistics for 1972: 30 converts, 37 funerals, 5 weddings.

NEW MARTINSVILLE

**Mrs. Gus Weltz
Miss Della Witschey**

Our weather has been very changeable the past few weeks, some very cold weather, with a temperature range of 6 above zero to 65 above, very little snow, with rain at intervals.

Fred Schupbach and sister, Miss Elda, son and daughter of the late Lewis and Mary Schupbach, are both confined to the local hospital. Fred suffered a coronary, and Elda is receiving medical care for a flu and pneumonia condition.

Mrs. L. W. Witschey, daughter Thelma and son Paul of Mounds-

ville, another daughter & husband, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Young of Mannington, W. Va., visited with the Witchey families during the month of January.

Mrs. C. O. Wade was a patient in the local hospital the last week of January for tests and X-rays; she is at home again and doing very well. Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Riggenbach have returned from a two-weeks visit with their daughter and family, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Glies in Alfred, N. Y. Gus Weltz celebrated his 83rd birthday on Jan. 29, and was showered with cards, gifts, flowers and telephone calls and visits by many of his relatives and friends.

Jimmy Wade of Columbus visited here with his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. C. O. Wade.

Mrs. Luella Fankhouser Durig visited with her sister, Mrs. Adella Fankhouser Sweeney in Parkersburg the last of January. Mrs. Sweeney had a hard fall, suffered a broken bone in her thigh, and is a patient in a hospital there.

The entire State of West Virginia joins all others of the Union in rejoicing over the end of the Viet Nam conflict, and looks forward to having all of our boys home real soon.

PEORIA

**Emily Tanner
Mrs. Michael Weyeneth**

Trust

I place my trust within God's
might;
He takes me by the hand,
And guides me safely on the way
Leading to the Promised Land.

Though stormy seas toss me about
I shall not ever fall;
My ship of faith stays on its course,
For God commands the sail!

Though I become discouraged
When sometimes there is doubt,
I turn to God, my source of
strength,
And shadows turn about.

So if you're troubled, turn to God;
Come board the ship of faith.
Sail down the center of the stream
In our Saviour's Precious Path!

Till Jesus calls, at Journey's end,
And guides me safe to shore,

His gentle Hand will take my own,
To that Heavenly Home forevermore.

Sis. Louise Finck

Sis. Rebecca Susan Bossart and Bro. Mark Meister were united in marriage Jan. 14. Their parents are Dr. and Mrs. Peter Bossart of Saddle River, N. J., and Bro. David W. Jr. and Mary Meister. They will reside in Normal.

Bro. Jim and Sis. Virginia Hoerr announced the engagement of their daughter, Nancy to Brian Harvey, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Harvey of Peoria.

A daughter, Mimi was born to Mac and Joyce Hoerr Bradley on Jan. 7. Maternal grandparents are Bro. Jim and Sis. Virginia Hoerr. A son, Gabe Dustin, was born Jan. 6 to William and Paula Schwenk Rogers. Maternal grandparents are Bro. Herb and Sis. Ida Schwenk. Bro. Ronald and Sis. Mary Ann Herman have a new baby boy in their family. Joshua Edward was born Jan. 26. They now have two girls and two boys. Grandparents are the Ed Sutters and the Noah Hermans.

It was nice to see the Eureka Bible Class and the young folks of our Bible Class in our assembly for morning services. That same Sunday, we were privileged to have two guest ministers, Bros. Joe Braker and Bob Pohl. Bro. Ed Hohulin was also a guest minister this past month, and we thank these brothers for their labors of love and fulfilling their duties.

Sisters Louise Simon, Lena Joos and Pauline Knobloch are hospital patients.

Sis. Lillian Hartter, 80, died at St. Francis Hospital on Jan. 9, where she had been admitted a few days before. She was born in Roanoke, a daughter of Nathan and Mary Blunier Steffen; she married William Hartter in Milford, Oct. 12, 1933. He died in 1961. She had lived in Peoria about 10 years. Surviving are four stepsons, Bro. Elmer Hartter of Milford; Lawrence Hartter of South Bend; Earl Hartter of Phoenix; and Harold Hartter of Peoria; a brother, Bro. Ed Steffen of Goodfield; two sisters, Sisters Persida Rocke and Alice Funk, both of Eureka.

Sis. Marie Belsley, 64, died Jan. 28 in Atlanta, Ga., where she had

been visiting her son and his family. She was born in Peoria, a daughter of Fred and Fredericka Rumbold Sauer. She married Henry Schmidgall in Peoria in 1932; he died in 1961. She married Bro. Joe Belsley, in Peoria, in 1964. He died in 1967. Surviving are one son, Robert Henry Schmidgall of Atlanta, Ga.; one daughter, Mrs. David (Carol) Krueger of Buffalo Grove; five brothers, Fred and Roy—both of Peoria, Paul and Robert—both of Tucson, and Charles Sauer of Mor-ton.

Note of thanks: Sis. Lillian Koehl (Mrs. Harold) wishes to express her thanks for the prayers, gifts and well wishes during the time she was in the hospital and since she is home recuperating. She is getting along as well as can be expected.

PHOENIX Mrs. Allan Freed

Bro. John Dotterer left Jan. 5 for the service and is now in basic training at Ft. Sam Houston. His address is: Pvt. John H. Dotterer 527 886682, MBT HQ Class 14-B, Ft. Sam Houston Texas 78234.

Bro. Alphi Fisher underwent plastic surgery. We are thankful that the Lord guided the surgeon's hand, and the operation was quite successful. Bro. Floyd Banwart and Bob Lemons received hand injuries at work, which required emergency treatment, but both are healed nicely.

Bro. Earl and Sis. Emma Sanders were privileged to celebrate their 25th wedding anniversary on Feb. 18. A large group of relatives and friends gathered at the home of Bro. and Sis. Dick Beery that evening at a surprise reception for them. We wish them the continued blessings of the Lord as they look forward, if it is His will, to many more years together.

We have been blessed by the ministry of visiting Bros. Albert Scheitlin and Ken Lawson. Bro. Ken and his family came from Minneapolis to spend a week end with us. Bro. Al and his wife have been visiting here for several weeks. We are all glad when our assembly room is full, as it has been for several Sundays, due to many who are spending some time in our Valley of the Sun. We welcome all, who can find the way open, to visit us.

Bro. Ernest Elsasser was taken to the hospital again last week, and at this time he is very sick. It will be a year in February since he has been able to come to church.

RITTMAN Florence Hartzler

We enjoyed a blessed day with the presence of Bros. Ben Maibach and Rudolph Graf, as Bro. Joe Ramsier was ordained deacon. We were all reminded to pray for these brethren, as they are to help us along the way to heaven. The memorandum was read, and here, too, we were reminded how we should conduct ourselves in this life, so as to be ready for our eternal home. "Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you."

Our sympathy is extended to Sis. Lydia Hassig at the passing away of her husband, Bro. John. They had been married for over 60 years, and Sis. Lydia will miss him, but we know he is at rest, free from all pain. Surviving are eight sons: Carl, Paul, Herman, Don of Ft. Wayne; Henry of Rochester, Mich.; Leroy of Wilmington, Calif.; Arthur of Albuquerque, N. Mex.; and Arch of Mansfield; two daughters: Esther Police of Dalton, and Bertha Martz of Ft. Wayne. One sister and one brother also survive.

Clara Gasser passed away, following a long illness. She had been confined to a wheel chair for the past years at her home, and then spent the last of her life in a nursing home in Millersburg. Surviving are four sisters: Selma Henderlong of Creston, Sis. Grace and Sis. Pearl Marty of Sterling, Sis. Irene Gasser of Wooster; and three brothers: Everett of Creston, Bro. Harvey of Sterling, and Raymond of Elkton, Florida.

Even the angels in heaven rejoice over one sinner that repents . . . and we also rejoice with the families and new converts. Truly we can say the waters are troubled. We are so very happy these dear ones have made this decision to follow the Lord: Matt Steiner, son of Bro. Alvin and Sis. Eldora; Jerry Bauman, son of Sis. Marie; Vic Bauman, son of Bro. Herbert and Sis. Bernice;

Bob Dotterer, son of Bro. Henry and Sis. Martha; Sandra Ramsier, daughter of Bro. Bob and Sis. Inez; Connie Hartzler, daughter of Bro. Dale and Sis. Joyce; Gail Gasser, daughter of Sis. Doris; Martha Dysinger; Ron and Joan Christian; and Ron's folks, Mildred and Ralph Christian. We pray the Lord will give grace to these souls, that they may find true peace with their God. We also pray that many more might heed the call that is going out: "Pass me not oh gentle Saviour, hear my feeble cry; while on others Thou art calling, Do not pass me by . . ."

A daughter was born to Dave and Sis. Mary Ann Zollinger and named Ruth Elise. Paul, Anne, and Becky welcomed a new sister. A son was born to Bro. Rowen and Sis. Judy Schar, and his name is Phillip Matthew. Joni, Jenee, Tim and John are glad for a little brother. We pray the Lord's blessings on these families with their precious bundles from heaven.

Bro. Noah Bauman performed the wedding of Arthur and Bonnie Ingold. Bonnie is the former Bonnie Hartzler, whose parents are Bro. John and Sis. Joan; Art's folks are Bro. Carl and Sis. Erma Ingold.

Diane Dotterer, daughter of Bro. Henry and Sis. Martha, and Dan Gasser, son of Bro. Glenn and Sis. Liz have announced their engagement.

The following was written by Sis. Elizabeth Widmer: Sis. Ella Widmer, 60 South Second St., Rittman, departed this life Jan. 14. She entered the hospital day after Christmas, for the twelfth time since July 1969. She was born to Joseph and Mary Thomas Widmer April 13, 1898, near New Martinsville, and had lived in Rittman since 1920. She was a member of the Aportolic Christian Church for 51 years. Surviving are one sister, Sis. Elizabeth Widmer, with whom she shared their home together; one brother, Bro. Fred Widmer of Rittman. Her parents, two brothers and two sisters preceded her in death. The family wishes to thank all who remembered them during the illness and death of Sis. Ella. Their kindness will always be remembered.

They're gath'ring homeward from ev'ry land, One by one! One by one!

As their weary feet touch the shining strand, Yes, one by one!
They rest with the Saviour, they wait their crown,
Their travel-stained garments are all laid down.
They wait the white raiment the Lord shall prepare
For all who the glory with Him shall share.
Gath'ring home! Gath'ring home!
Fording the river one by one!
Gath'ring home! Gath'ring home,
yes, one by one!

SABETHA Mrs. Joe Steiner

These souls betrothed before Thee stand;
Thy blessing we implore.
Unite Thou them in heart and hand,
And guide them evermore.

As they go forth upon life's way,
Sustain them by Thy grace;
May they Thy holy laws obey
And live in joy and peace.

Sis. Gloria Grimm and Bro. Darrel Stoller were united in bonds of holy matrimony on Jan. 7 by Bro. Gene Marti. A reception was held at the Fellowship Hall following the ceremony. The new couple are now living near Sabetha and attend the Bern church. Gloria is the daughter of Bro. Nathan and Sis. Lois Grimm of Sabetha; Darrel is the son of Bro. Harlan and Sis. Pearl Stoller of Bern. May the Lord bless and be with them in their new home.

Visiting ministers were Bro. Raymond Banwart, Ft. Scott, and Bro. John Rokey, Goodfield. Raymond left with us these closing words, "Will the Gospel be for our redemption and salvation, or will it be for our condemnation? Ask the Lord."

Hospitalized were Sisters Katie Leiser and Louise Stavenik. Bro. Sol Wenger was in a hospital in Topeka, where he had surgery.

UNION CITY Gail Gasser

We are rejoicing with our two new converts, Walter Rumpf, nephew of Sis. Minnie Cook, and David Roberts, who lives in Quakertown, Pa., near Bro. John and Sis. Kathy Clough. We are grateful to God for each one who comes to Him in true repentance.

On Wed. evening, Jan. 10, we

were privileged to have Ministering Bro. Jesse Emch in our midst. He is visiting his son-in-law and daughter, John and Ruth Jardine in Dover, Delaware. They shared in singing and a Bible study with the Philadelphia members and friends at the home of Bro. Ed and Sis. Nancy Aeschleman. A blessed evening was enjoyed by all of us.

WEST BEND Mrs. Melvin Fehr Mrs. A. Banwart

Were you there? Where were you? Never can we be thankful enough that the Lord knows all. Thereby, if our absence or tardiness at anytime was because of other than sheer neglect of effort on our part, we ourselves know and the Lord knows, and that's all that need to know. The Scripture says, "Make a joyful noise unto the LORD". How much more joyful would our song service be if more of us could already be assembled when it begins. Were you there? Where were you?

We were richly blessed as our visiting ministers, Bro. LeRoy Messner—Winthrop, Elder Bros. Paul Fehr—Morris, and Eugene Marti, Sabetha brought God's word to us. As the elder brothers spoke the memorandum conclusions unto us, it makes one stop and pray, and watch upon the path one is treading. We thank these brethren for their efforts put forth in God's work. We were sorry not to have our home Elder Bro. Leo Moser of Lester with us for this reading, due to his parents being involved in a car accident.

Along with our changeable winter weather comes the usual physical illnesses. We are happy all of our hospital patients—Bros. Walter Banwart, Gary Schneider, Levi Banwart, Noah Anliker, and Sis. Edna (Earl) Banwart are able to again assemble with us. Others however are missing, and let us do our part by visiting the shut-ins. Sisters Anna Fehr, Minnie Bruellman and Lydia Reinhart have been confined to their homes for some time.

AKRON Katherine Ries

Thank the Lord for brethren who unselfishly give of their time and talents that we may better understand the true word of God. We are

grateful for our elder and ministers, and visiting Elder Ben Maibach, Detroit, for the inspiring messages brought us.

After a lengthy illness and over 400 days in the hospital, our dear Bro. Fred Burr was called to his eternal home. Services were held by Elder Bro. Rudy Graf, assisted by Bro. Ernest Graf. We extend our deepest sympathy to Sis. Helen and the family.

Friend Howard Dockus (Alice), hospitalized with pneumonia and flu, expects to be released in a few days. Home address: 3383 Albrecht Ave., Akron O. 44312. Bro. Stanley Francis (Ann) after hospitalization, and Sis. Anna Hanla, after surgery, are slowly recovering at their respective homes. Sis. Elizabeth Barna (Peter), after a three-week illness, is able to assemble with us again.

Our oldest active member, Sis. Lena (Tschantz) Wright, who will be 95 March 13, has been enjoying Florida weather the past 6 weeks with her children, grand, and great-grandchildren. Her Akron address where she will soon be returning is 1018 N Cleveland-Massillon Rd., 44313. Happy birthday dear Sis. Lena.

On Jan. 21, Bro. Elsworth Graf was elected Sunday School superintendent; Bro. Carl Graf and Sis. Gail Spangler, Sunday School teachers; Bro. John Schambach, trustee; Bros. Marvin Luginbuhl and David Graf, ushers; and Sis. Kathy Graf, kitchen manager.

SARDIS

Karen Indermuhle

Bro. Bill and Sis. Miriam Brake and their son, Clifford have returned, following discharge from the service in Texas. We praise the Lord for their safe return and for the added support they give our little congregation.

A peace agreement has been signed by our nation. With thankful hearts, let us pray it will be a lasting peace.

Our Lord is called the Prince of Peace. He is our spiritual peace. May we rededicate ourselves to renewed spiritual peace with the Lord, and pray that those who do not know Him may soon find that joy and peace in Christ. "And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are

called in one body; and be ye thankful."

SHIODA, JAPAN

Willis R. Ehle

During the last two months, I have flown to different parts of Japan, mostly on behalf of the company where I have part-time employment. On one flight in the late afternoon, the sinking sun shot its brilliant hues far up and into the sky, over an extremely long distance on the horizon. Men down on the surface of the earth were scurrying around. I could see them in my imagination, preparing for the impending darkness. It was very impressive and beautiful, and I concluded that the time to fly is in the evening, in the evening of your life. When you depart you can just keep on flying, to be with Jesus. "To day shalt thou be with me in Paradise."

The long prayed-for cease fire agreement has been signed, but what is this? The fighting continues furiously after it was supposed to have ceased. I have found it to be so in spiritual life, also. When the conflict is supposedly over and a loved one has apparently finished his course, amazingly the fighting continues between Satan and the Holy Spirit for the possession of the heart and soul of the individual. For this reason we should stay by the side of a loved one as they near death, holding them up in prayer, lest Satan torment them in their last hours. Satan must flee at the sound of the Holy name of Jesus.

At the PTA meeting of the school, which our two older children—Tony and Joy attend, rock and roll music was discussed. It was said that ordinary music has the emphasis on the first and third beat, while rock has the emphasis on the second and fourth. It was also stated that at an experiment at the University of Colorado, plants subjected to constant hard rock music leaned away as far as possible and finally died. I remember that Bro. Phillip Gutwein said that for anything that is genuine, Satan has a counterfeit, and I conclude that the beautiful harmony of music which God has created also has its counterfeit. The lyrics to some of the rock music is definitely drug and sin oriented, and should be shunned like the most dangerous of poisons.

On Jan. 15 we had a Brother Conference at our Shioda Church, with brethren in attendance from our three churches. Bro. Akito Inoue reported on the 1971 U.S. Conference which he attended, and we also covered other subjects, such as the Devil, idolatry, and marriage by prayer and faith.

On Saturday, Jan. 21, my wife Lois cracked her left knee cap in two places. We were giving our car a push, because the battery was low, and she stumbled enough to fall, with too much of her weight on that knee. She has been able to walk on it all along, but must not bend her leg until the knee cap knits together. Our bones are a very important part of our anatomy. Lois says she has been thinking of what the Bible teaches, That every member of the body is important.

BLUFFTON

Imogene Steffen — Pat Isch

On Jan. 13, Bro. William Kaehr was released by death from his earthly life of pain and suffering, into his heavenly reward of peace and joy for eternity. He is survived by his wife, Vendetta; four sons; two brothers, Bro. John and Ervin; and five sisters, Sis. Emma Steffen, Sis. Esther (Olin) Geisel, Mary (Wm.) Steffen, Ida (Amos) Moser, and Sarah (Harold) Barger. His days of pain were many, but Bro. Bill always managed to smile and enjoy the visits.

If this treasure you await,
In the conflict grow not weary.
Peace abounds in Jesus' path,
Though the way seem often dreary.
We must toil through sweat and
pain
If the promised prize we'd gain.

Bro. John Kaehr, Sis. Sophia Gerber, and Bro. Clifford Gerber have been hospital patients for observation and treatment.

On Jan. 21, a marriage engagement was announced of Sis. Lois Kipfer to Bro. Jerry Drayer. Parents of the couple are Bro. Martin and Sis. Marguerite Kipfer and Bro. Herman and Sis. Marie Drayer. May God continue to lead and guide this couple throughout their engagement and married life.

Bro. Mike and Sis. Cheryl (Isch) Gerber have welcomed their third boy, Shane Mitchell, into their fam-

ily circle. Kip and Ked are happy for a little brother. A son, Ryan Leigh, was born to Bro. Charles and Sis. Maxine (Gerber) Fiechter, also their third son. Bro. Lynn and Sis. Valerie (Geisel) Kipfer are the parents of their first child, a boy. They named him Arlo Jason. Bro. Art and Sis. Goldie Kipfer and Bro. Harold and Sis. Ellen Geisel welcome little Arlo as their first grandchild. May each of these little ones be directed in the ways of the Lord.

We gratefully reassembled on Sun. evening, Jan. 21 and welcomed three elder brothers into our midst: Bro. John Bahler from Rockville, Bro. Rudolph Graf from Akron, and Bro. Theo. Beer from Milford. It was so inspiring to gather together again at the end of a Sabbath day, to gather a little more oil for our spiritual lamps, so that we could be burning brightly for the week ahead. We hope that they will all return and visit us again.

Reflection

One day I looked at myself,
At the self that Christ can see;
I saw the person I am today,
And the one I ought to be.
I saw how little I really pray,
How little I really do;
I saw the influence of my life,
How little of it was true!
I saw the bundle of faults and fears
I ought to lay on the shelf;
I had given a little bit to God,
But I hadn't given myself.
I came from seeing myself,
With my mind made up to be
The sort of person that Christ can
use,
With a heart He may always see.

CISSNA PARK

Mary Young — Margaret Rudin

Think on These Things

What to remember, what to forget, that is the question. It seems to me that the good things, the heavenly guidance, the help our brothers have given us to keep on the right path are the things to remember. The mistakes, the false leads, the devilish influences are the things to forget. Recently I spoke with a friend that told me he has peace. What a great gift he has received. May he cherish it, and cling to it. He said, "I feel like a different person."

A goodly number gathered at the church and cleaned and repaired the benches. It was a day well spent. We hope to gather at a later date and finish our work.

We always welcome guest ministers. Bros. Roy Wieland, Duane Metzger, Edwin Bahler, Gene Lehman brought us inspiring messages and left much food for thought. A group of young folks from Champaign and Purdue came and enjoyed a midweek service with us, and enjoyed a fellowship hour afterward.

We have many sick ones and shut-ins. Bro. Joe Waldbeser and our friend, Loren Anderson had surgery. Bro. Joe Hari had eye surgery. Bro. Melven Walder was hospitalized for observation and tests. Sis. Reka Hoerr and little Jill Hofbauer, daughter of Friend Jim and Betty, were medical patients. Sisters Helen Knapp and Bertha Reineke were hospital patients and are home again. Sis. Leah Aeschliman is in the hospital, had a toe amputated. Sis. Emma Reutter has returned to her home. Sisters Mary Schupbach and Elise Maul were able to assemble with us again. Sis. Rachel Samet is in the Hoopeston Nursing Home, Hoopeston Ill 60942. She would like to hear from her friends. On Sunday, the congregation sang Hymn 237 from the Zion's Harp for our shut-ins and and those going to hospitals. Some of the young folks paid some of the shut-ins a visit and sang this song for them.

ELGIN ILL.

Louise Steffen—Katie Kachelmuss

Lord, Thou Creator, glorious is Thy kingdom!
In all the world we sing of Thy great fame.
The hosts of heaven with all the true and faithful
Eternally shall praise Thy holy name.
Thou art exalted there in heaven's splendor,
And kings and powers shall to Thee surrender.

Bro. Maurice Frank of Leo visited us, and we received many good teachings. We thank God that He gives faithful servants ever who have but one endeavor, His Gospel to proclaim.

We had several hospitalized: all have returned to their homes again.

They are Sis. Sarah (Albert) Schmidgall, 721 Diane; Sis. Rose (Carl) Schmidgall, 474 Ann St.; Sis. Cecelia (Herman) Braun, 625 VanNostrand; and Marcy, little daughter of Bro. Ernest and Sis. Carol Kellenberger, 467 Prospect Street. All of these addresses are Elgin Ill., 60120. Edwin, husband of Lydia Clauss Kachelmuss, 2 So. Clifton, Elgin Ill 60120, is still hospitalized after surgery.

Births: A son, Anthony Lee, born Jan. 16 to David and Jean Greiner Martin, R. 1 Box 114, Marengo Ill 60152. Bro. Ben and Sis. Martha Greiner of Morris are grandparents, and Sis. Florence Martin of Marengo is grandmother . . . A daughter Naomi Ruth, born Jan. 16 to Bro. Herman and Sis. Sharon Braun, R. 3 Box 342A, St Charles Ill 60174. Bro. Herman Sr. and Sis. Cecelia Braun of Elgin, and Mr. and Mrs. D. Kenneth Powelson of Aurora are the grandparents. A son, Scott Alan was born Feb. 4 to Bro. Don and Sis. Peg Heiniger, 316 Lilac Ln., Elgin Ill 60120. Bro. Wm. and Sis. Evelyn Gudemann, and Lester and Emma Heiniger are the grandparents. Bro. Albert and Sis. Julia Wewetzer are the great-grandparents.

LAMAR

Mrs. Raymond Braker
Mrs. Arthur Banwart

The engagement of Bro. Alfred Banwart (son of Oscar and Sis. Caroline) and Sis. Charlotte Meyer (daughter of Bro. Amos and Sis. Ruth—Fairbury) was announced Jan. 7. They have chosen Feb. 18 for their wedding day. We wish them God's blessings as they begin a new chapter in their lives together.

Our annual business meeting was held on Tues. evening, Jan. 16, with Bro. Lester Braker as chairman. New Sunday school teachers selected are Bro. William Stefan Sr. and Sr. LuEtta Braker. Bro. Dale Marti was placed on the board of trustees.

Bro. Henry Beer, Milford, visited our congregation on Jan. 19-20. The word of life was abundantly proclaimed in truth and love. With him were Bro. Fred Schori and Sis. Elizabeth Schori Buser, who lived in the Lamar area during their childhood. We have precious memories of the hours of Christian fellowship we were privileged to spend with them.

Praise the Lord! He has awakened two dear souls unto repentance. They are Sam Baker (husband of Sis. Betty) and Fred Marti (son of Bro. Dale and Sis. Corrine). We pray that much grace will be granted them as they take this important step toward becoming a child of God.

Shut-ins with the mumps were Schelli and Kevin Marti, children of Bro. Dale and Sis. Corrine. Later they became victims of the flu, which is prevalent in the surrounding community. Sis. Ruth Banwart (S.L. reporter) had the misfortune of slipping, falling on cellar steps and fracturing a bone in her leg. She will be required to wear a cast until some time in March.

Our hearts were saddened, as we bid farewell to Sis. Olive Marti on her departure for Eureka, where she will reside in an apartment at the church home. We trust that she will find happiness and contentment during her declining years, secure in the knowledge that she will be cared for should her health fail. We will certainly miss her cheerful presence in our church circle.

Someone asked, "What is a Christian?" The first thought was to answer, "One who believes in Christ." But one who believes is not always a Christian, for the Bible tells us that even a devil believes and trembles. Many would define a Christian as a born-again child of God. A fitting definition found in Webster's dictionary is, "One who exemplifies in his life the teachings of Christ."

LESTER

Alice Metzger — Donna Metzger

The first week-end of the new year was a blessed one, as Elder Bro. Paul Butikofer and Bro. Dale Moore of Elgin were in our midst and brought us messages in truth and sincerity. Bro. Butikofer assisted Elder Bro. Leo Moser in sharing the memorandum with us. We believe this should be our guideline for living in this year that is still so new.

Because of the fuel shortage, we regretfully have discontinued our mid-week services for the duration of the cold weather.

Bro. John and Sis. Rose Moser were the innocent victims of a head-on collision, which occurred when a car attempted to pass a truck on

a foggy afternoon. John had minor injuries, but Rose will be hospitalized for quite some time with a fractured jaw and leg. She has been taken out of the intensive care unit and is progressing satisfactorily.

Stan Knobloch, nine-year old son of Bro. Dale and Sis. Mary Ellen, was hospitalized in Rochester several days for tests. Bro. Dale Metzger and Mitchell, tiny son of Bro. Ken and Sis. Joyce Knobloch, were also hospital patients.

As I observe the four and five-year-olds which I come in contact with in Sunday School, I am often reminded "of such is the kingdom of God". We can learn much about love, trust and sincerity from these dear little ones.

Bro. and Sis. Alvin and Estelle Leuthold have announced the engagement of their daughter, Pam, to Tony Bosch. Laura Feucht, daughter of Ernie and Sis. Martha, was married to Paul Pelkola. They are making their home in Minneapolis.

MANSFIELD

Aaron A. Sauder

We were blessed with spiritual showers the week-end of January 27-28, when the Peoria choir were our guests . . . and how we rejoiced as they poured out such beautiful hymns and anthems for our enjoyment, both on Saturday evening, and again on Sunday afternoon after church services. Thank you to each one, and we wish you God-speed in returning to us again. We also thank Bro. James Hoerr of Peoria, Bros. Joe Ramsier and Ben Hartzler of Rittman, who were our visiting ministers in January.

Welcome home, Duane Dotterer and Fred Domka, after completing your tour of duty for our country. Bro. LeVern and Sis. Christine are Duane's parents and Fred is the son of Bro. Steve and Sis. Ruth.

Two of our loved ones have gained eternal rest during this first month of the new year. On Jan. 9, at the age of 81, Sis. Hazel Domka was relieved of her many years of poor health. Her children are Frederick Jones, Bro. Steve Domka, Marjorie Dawson (Clarence), Sis. Caroline Beard, and Rachel Domka, of the Mansfield area, and Sis. Rhea Beery (Harold) of the Rittman area. Bro. Andrew Kissel completed his earthly journey on Jan. 24 at the age of 85, after an illness of 7

weeks. He is survived by his wife, Sis. Theresa Dinger Kissel, and three sons.

We would extend our love and sympathy to those who have so recently felt the sorrow of parting, and would ask God to comfort and bless you.

MILFORD

Sandee Price — Sue Schieler

On Jan. 10, our congregation met for our annual business meeting. The major portion of the meeting was the election of new officers and filling the rotated vacancies for Sunday School teachers. The new Sunday School positions will be effective Oct. 1 of this year. Bro. Robert Hoerr and Bro. Maurice Beer, new teachers. Bro. Nelson Beer will be our new superintendent, and Bro. John Hurd will assist him. Bro. Carlton Beer will fill the position as trustee, Bro. Carlton will be serving with Bro. Richard Kaiser and Bro. Phil Beer . . . Bro. Howard Beer, Treasurer . . . Sis. Clara Kaiser will be church secretary.

None of the sisters and brothers listed above "needed" another job in their hustling lives, but it is our wish that each would feel richly blessed for each great or small task done in Jesus' name.

Bro. John and Sis. Dorothy Martin were blessed with two new grandchildren on Jan. 10. John Jr. and Leona Martin are parents of their first, a son, Spencer Lee. Bob and Joyce (Martin) Wolferman were blessed the same day, as little Betsy Marie met her brand-new cousin and greeted her sisters: Jill, Jennifer and big brother Chris. We all realize that a baby is so special, but to receive two in one family on the same day is sort of like the cherry on the top of the whipped cream of a sundae . . . something extra special!

It seemed so good to have Martha and Wally Wuthrich back with us. They spent two months vacationing in the southern states and visiting their daughter, Jean and family in Phoenix. Bro. Levi and Sis. Kathryn Beer also spent from Jan. 2 to Jan. 18 visiting their daughter, Ginny. Ginny is with Kathryn's sister, Josephine Kupferschmid in Boa Esperanca, South America. It's always a concern when one travels that the mercy of the Lord go with us . . . even to Germany as we think

of our Bro. Tom and Sis. Tammy Speicher, stationed there.

On Jan. 4, Sis. Emma and Oliver Graff celebrated their 62nd wedding Anniversary.

Bro. Frank Beer had major surgery the last part of January and is back with his family, doing fine. Frank's brother, Bro. Robert Beer and Sis. Katherine of Mansfield visited us Sunday, Jan. 21. Accompanying them was Bro. Franks's twin sister, Sis. Francillia Beer. We thank Bro. Robert for his **Labor of Love** as he ministered unto us.

We wish to express our sympathy to our Ministering Bro. Elmer and Sis. Flossie Hartter in the loss of Bro. Elmer's stepmother. Those of us who knew Sis. Lil Hartter of Peoria know the feeling of a **Flower picked for the Master's bouquet.**

How we need the example of the older Christian who has **Weathered the storms of Life . . .** Sis. Mary Armbruster, we are so happy you have been able to get back to church!

MORRIS

Ann Meiss — Esther Schaefer

We extend our sympathy to Bro. Joe Feuchtenberger and Sis. Rose Greiner on the death of their brother, John Feuchtenberger, who passed away at the Morris Hospital on Jan. 4.

On Jan. 7, Marilyn Schaefer, daughter of Emil and Kathryn, became the bride of Robert Nohl, son of Bro. Alvin and Sis. Minnie. The wedding ceremony was performed at the home of the bride's parents by Bro. Paul Fehr. Marilyn and Robert are at home on a farm near Hancock. We wish them God's blessings as they go down life's pathway together.

Cindy Zeltwanger, daughter of Bro. Lyle and Sis. Marilyn, is at home again, after submitting to an emergency appendectomy. Kenneth Nohl, son of Bro. Lawrence and Sis. Sophie, is confined to his home with infectious hepatitis. He seems to be recovering quite well, but it will be some time before he can be out and around again.

Our blessings were many on the week end of Jan. 27. Bro. Noah Schrock was with us to assist Bro. Paul Fehr with the provings of Lyn Zeltwanger, daughter of Bro. Bill Jr. and Betty, and Rose Greiner,

widow of the late Wm. Greiner, on Sat. evening. After they gave their testimonies, Bro. Noah and Bro. Paul shared the memorandum with us. It was truly humbling to have the warnings and exhortations presented to us in such a kind and sincere way. It made us feel so thankful that we have dear shepherd's who are concerned about the salvation of our souls and of the welfare of our church and precious faith. It gave us a desire to be more humble and zealous in our calling. On Sunday, we were richly blest through God's word. After the services, Lyn and Rose were baptized and became our dear sisters in Christ. In the evening we were privileged to partake of Holy Communion. Bro. Schrock remained here Monday and we assembled again in the evening. We were reminded of the fulfillment of the Scriptures and the seriousness of the time in which we live. Again we could feel so thankful for the faith we have within us of a better life after this life is past. We thank Bro. Schrock for spending this time with us and for the many good teachings. Three more souls found the grace to confess a desire to turn to the Lord in repentance. We are thankful He is still calling dear ones to forsake all and follow Him.

Man Cannot Live By Bread Alone

He lived in a palace, on a mountain of gold,
Surrounded by riches and wealth untold,
Priceless possessions and treasures of art,
But he died alone of a **Hungry Heart!**

For man cannot live by bread alone,
No matter what he may have or own . . .

For though he reaches his earthly goal

He'll waste away with a **starving soul!**

But he who eats of holy Bread
Will always find his spirit fed;
Even the poorest of men can afford
To feast at the table prepared by the Lord.

PRINCEVILLE Ruth Ricketts

Life is a measure to be filled, not a cup to be drained.

Our annual business meeting was held, at which time various reports

were read and new appointments made for trustee and usher. Bro. David Ehnle will serve on the board of the Eureka Home.

One Sunday morning we all found we had difficulty getting to church, as it had rained and froze and all was a thin glare of very slick ice. Once inside, we were warmed with the teachings of Bros. Bill Gudeman of Elgin, Ill. and Harvey Grimm of Bern. We should witness every day in being a good example to those with whom we are in contact. No doubt we are watched more closely than we realize, and although we may be able to keep acts hidden from man, we should ever be aware of our Heavenly Father who sees and hears all.

There is a destiny which makes us brothers;
None lives to self alone;
All that we send into the lives of others
Comes back into our own.

Bro. Fred and Sis. Esther Schaefer received word from their son, Bro. Chuck that he arrived safely in Germany. He and one other boy in his company were sent to Bremerhaven in northern Germany on the North Sea. They are stationed in a hospital there. His new address is Pvt Fred C Schaefer 327441984, 2nd Field Hospital, APO New York 09069.

Bro. Richard and Sis. Marie (Elsasser) Seidel have announced the engagement of their daughter, Shirley to Dave Bauman, son of Bro. Elmer and Sis. Mildrel Bauman of Goodfield. A July wedding is planned.

There have been a number of sick folks. Many have been ill with the flu and bad colds, and some have been confined to the hospital. We are so glad and thankful to have Bro. Silas Leuthold able to worship with us again, after surgery on his knee. He is gaining every day, and he does not have the pain he had before surgery. Sis. Lydia Feucht is slowly gaining at her home and is able to move about a bit again. Her arm, which she broke in a fall, seems to be healing nicely, and we hope she will be able to use it again, although it is quite stiff now. Lydia Stisser, sister of Sis. Elizabeth Stoller, who is now living in Princeville, had major

surgery and is slowly recovering in the hospital. Harvey Stahl spent a few days in the hospital and received treatments. He has returned home and is beginning to go about his work again. Bro. Ed Woertz, our faithful janitor for many years, had major surgery and is getting along as well as can be expected. Cards and short visits will help to cheer the shut-ins and make their days brighter.

We can all do more than we have done

And be not one whit the worse.
It never was loving that emptied the heart,
Or giving that emptied the purse.

After several weeks of suffering, Bro. Daniel Siebenthal had to return to the hospital, where he steadily grew worse, until he closed his eyes in death early on the morning of Jan. 24. Although his mind was blurred, he could testify that he was ready to meet his Lord, and once whispered the words, "Beautiful Heaven." These are comforting thoughts for his family. He was the son of Alfred and Emilie Schmidt Siebenthal, born in Cissna Park March 17, 1901. He was united in marriage to Sis. Anna Kieser, who survives. Also surviving are two sons, Bro. Eugene of Wyoming and Kenneth at home; two daughters, Sisters Martha Jane and Marilyn, at home; two brothers, Ben of Peoria, and Bro. Fred of Roanoke; two sisters; Sisters Marie Siebenthal of the Eureka Church Home and Elizabeth Moser of Tremont.

Funeral services were held at the church Friday, Jan. 26 with Bros. Arthur Baurer, Joshua Broquard of Fairbury and Arthur Gudeman of LaCross conducting, assisted by our other ministers. Daniel was laid to rest in the church cemetery near the new grave of his son Lavern, who died in a traffic accident three months ago. Not far away was the new grave of his sister, Sis. Martha Streitmatter, who died in November. **Note of Thanks:** We wish to express our sincere appreciation to our many friends and relatives for the prayers, cards, flowers, food, memorials, the deeds of kindness and expressions of sympathy extended to us during the illness and passing of our husband and father. The family of Dan Siebenthal.

Another note of thanks: I would like to thank all who so kindly remembered me with cards, gifts, and visits during the Christmas Season and for my birthday. Frieda Streitmatter.

Many thanks to the relatives and friends for the prayers, cards and kindness shown while in the hospital and since returning home. Lydia Feucht.

PULASKI Ernestine Wuthrich

Sis. Irene Musselman was a hospital patient for major surgery. Sis. Leah Shaer spent a short time in the hospital for minor surgery.

Sis. Lydia Wuthrich observed her 97th birthday on Jan. 18 and Sis. Minnie Getz observed her 87th birthday on Jan. 13. Lydia and Minnie are residents of a home. Lydia must have some care, but is able to sit in a chair and also feed herself. She cannot talk, but is able to understand. Minnie is able to care for herself, but needs assistance walking. Minnie does attend church, and stated one Sunday when the weather was bad: "If the rest can go, so can I." They enjoy visitors, and Lydia always appreciated a prayer and the singing of a few of her favorite hymns.

Thank you: I wish to thank my relatives and friends for their cards, gifts and visits during my stay in hospital and since returning home. Sis. Irene Musselman.

PURDUE Kris Leman

We were privileged to have Bro. Dave Wiegand from Champaign come to be with us on Jan. 10. He left a very inspiring message with each of us and caused us to search deep in our hearts, even in the hidden closets of our lives. By freeing our hearts for Christ, and Christ alone, we can start this new year by trusting and acting fully upon God's promises, and reap the blessings He has in store for each of His children.

Bro. Henry Manz from Junction was with us on Jan. 24. Henry also told us of the necessity of bringing every hidden thought and evil doing to light so that we may give our all to Christ. We really appreciate the experiences and teachings of our older brothers and sisters in the Lord, for this helps us that are

still young and weak in the faith to be strengthened.

We are very happy and thankful for our five friends that have found it necessary to search their lives and find that they are in need of the True Friend. They are: Loretta Aschliman, Dean Fiechter, Faye Gerber, Terry Longenberger, and John Reinhard. We wish them God's strengthening grace.

REMINGTON Anna M. Waibel

Conscience is the window of the soul which must ever be kept clean by the "water by the word".

Elmer Wasner—Bro. Robert Clauss were hospital patients, also Esther (Schini) Schlipf, who lives at Delphi, Indiana . . . Always thankful when everyone is home again.

We've had many people traveling, including Florida, Arizona, Hawaii . . . My sister Louise, brother Paul and myself were there for three weeks. Most of the time we stayed with our nephew Ken and wife, who teach school, after which we toured three other islands. Each is different and really a miracle, and shows God's handiwork in the way things grow on the black lava—rocky looking substance, but grass, trees, flowers, sugar cane, bananas, pineapples grow. Traveling this distance of 8000 miles in a short time of 8-9 hours on these large planes is another wonder of God's. It's really a wonderful way to travel. One is really thankful when the plane is safely on the ground again with everything under control.

We enjoyed the message brought to us on Sunday a.m. by Bro. Gene Lehman of Wolcott.

Bro. Kellenberger, Bro. Alfred Bahler and many others were here Feb. 3-4 for the proving and baptisms of Lanelle Bahler (Bro. Elmer and Sis. Marilyn) and Alberta Schini (Bro. Albert and Sis. Amelias).

God's treasure house, the Bible, is only unlocked by the Golden Key of Meditation. Oh glorious promises divine . . . Each verse a priceless gem . . . God's word contains rich treasures rare . . . Shall we not gather them?

TREMONT**Lydia Rassi****Mary Jane Leuthold**

"In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

Nelson James is the name chosen by Bro. Jim and Sis. Nancy Koch for their new little son, born Jan. 16. He was welcomed home by sister Rachel and brother Nathan. Grandparents are Sis. Mary Koch and Bro. Will Beutel.

William Carius has been moved from the Queenwood East Sheltered Care Home to Restmor Nursing Home.

Bro. Jay Bolliger had the misfortune to fracture his wrist and is wearing a cast. Little Jon Hangartner, son of Jerry and Sis. Melba, was hospitalized with pneumonia and is home again. Sis. Doris (Weldon) Staker was hospitalized for knee surgery and is recuperating.

We sympathize with Sis. Elizabeth Moser in the loss of her brother, Daniel Siebenthal, Princeville. Also sympathize with Sis. Doris (Orval) Rocke, as Bro. Daniel was her uncle.

Bro. Bruce and Bro. Marvin Sander, sons of Bro. Earl and Sis. Glenna met with an accident. Bruce was in a truck accident and Marvin broke a finger in P. E. Class at school. Dennis Rassi, son of Bro. Arnold and Sis. Lydia, was injured in P.E. Class, requiring stitches at the doctor's office. Sis. Lena (George) Woerner has been sick.

A note of thanks: Bro. John and Sis. Rose Schurter wish to express thanks and appreciation for the cards and deeds of kindness showered upon them on their 65th wedding anniversary.

TUCSON**Mrs. Loren Knapp**

"And when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me." Blessings were shared as we took part in Holy Communion, served by Elder Bros. Roy Farney of Phoenix and Carl Kinsinger of Altadena. We were also blessed by the ministry of Bro. Albert Scheitlin from Elgin, Ill. God bless them for their efforts.

We rejoice again for the fellowship we've been having with our many winter visitors.

Twenty-five years of happiness

in a Christian home to which God added sons was the occasion for which we gathered one Saturday evening, to honor the silver anniversary of our dear Bro. Henry and Sis. Ora Schrenk. Among those present were guests from Tucson and Phoenix, and special guest to gladden the occasion were Bro. and Sis. Joe Rassi of Roanoke, Ora's sister.

When we notice the lasting quality of the marriage band in the Apostolic Christian faith, we are encouraged to follow the teachings of Christ and the Apostles, to consider this. We read that in the State of California last year, there were more divorces than marriages. Let us together consider the first wedding in the beautiful garden of Eden, where God performed the wedding, and the angels were the many witnesses. The peace, gladness, joy, and trust in one another, the inseparable closeness as two people were made one in flesh, thought and spirit cannot be described with human tongue. . . . And surely we know deep in our hearts that our Lord wishes all these things for everyone of us who have entered into this sacred institution of marriage . . . not for one year, not for two years, but till death does us part.

VALPARAISO**Bro. Bill & Sis. Camille Feller**

O Lord, grant us Thy peace. The peace that can conquer the hearts of men. The peace that passes all understanding. Leaders of nations come together and write a temporary peace, and already we have seen violations. We know, dear Father, that true peace can only come from Thee.

"These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world."

We pray the dear souls returning home from the conflict may find rest and comfort in Thee. Help us, O God, to be a helping hand in their time of adjustment, and may we be ever mindful of their needs. O Lord, grant us Thy peace. Amen.

We welcome Bro. Ray and Sis. Marie Heinold and their son Keith and his wife, Sis. Sue Heinold, into our congregation. The Lord willing, we pray we will have many days of

fellowship with each other. We again feel God's rich blessings.

On Jan. 6, our dear friends Wayne and Rosie Moser gave their daughter Donna to Roger Long, to be joined in Holy Matrimony. We join in congratulations for Donna and Roger, and we wish them God's abundance of grace and blessings in their life together.

In the absences of Bro. Harry Bucher, we welcomed our visiting brother, George Yergler with his message from God's word.

WICHITA**Glennis Allenbach**

If I have strength, I owe the service of the strong;
If melody I have, I owe the world a song;
And if my torch can light the dark of any night,
Then I must pay the debt I owe with living light.

May we always be thankful. In our busy world of today, it is easy to overlook our God-given blessings. . . . We thank the Lord that Pricilla and Ruth Bowers will be taken up soon the Lord willing. We are thankful that Sis. Hattie Farney could again worship with us after a long absence. . . . We are thankful our plans for the new addition to our church are progressing.

We are thankful there are still those who will minister and those who will listen.

My husband Oliver and I are very thankful that he is able to return to church and his job after serious surgery. We give the Lord credit for this. Many prayers were given for him .

For any gift God gives to me,
I cannot pay;
Gifts are most mine when
I most give them all away.

I will give thanks unto the Lord.

CROGHAN—NAUMBURG**Alice Virkler — Eleanor Herzig**

Our winter in New York State has not been too severe. We have had much rain and warm weather, instead of the usual cold and snow. It seems that the results of this warmer weather has been much flu-type illness and many colds. This week we had about 15 inches of

snow on Tuesday, and by Saturday the ground was bare again! How quickly the weather changes this time of the year. This only points to us how quickly our life can be changed here upon this earth, and that we should always be prepared for that change and life ahead.

John Rauhe and Sis. Rita Petzoldt were surgical patients and Sis. Celia Virkler was a medical patient. They have all been able to assemble with us again. Dorothy Herzig has returned to her home, but has not been able to assemble with us for several weeks. Sis. Lucy Hany has been a medical patient for several weeks.

We have enjoyed the visits of loved ones from Goodfield and Rockville.

Our deepest sympathy is extended to Sis. Rose Hirschey and her family. Rose's brother, Louis Kohler, was called from this life into eternity. Our sympathy is also extended to Bro. Clyde and Sis. Lois Virkler and their family. Lois's father, James Mattoon, was taken from this life during the past week. May God comfort each of them in their bereavement of loved ones.

DETROIT

Bonnie Popp

"He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God." . . . "But that which ye have already hold fast, till I come."

This month of January . . .

Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman assisted our elder Bro. Ben Maibach in sharing to us the memorandum. It was a privilege and a blessing having Bro. Wendell with us and to minister unto us. His words of truth and humility will remain in our hearts. May God richly bless our elders as they endeavor to spread the tidings 'round, and to shepherd the flock according to God's holy will and pleasure. It is a privilege to be reminded spiritually in these latter days.

Bro. Andy Virkler ministered unto us words of truth and goodness, and we are grateful for his visit.

Bro. Ben and Sis. Lorene Maibach, Cindy, Sheryl and Doug will be spending the remainder of the winter months in Sarasota. We will surely miss them while we are

apart, and look forward to their return.

The Lord must surely be pleased with the willing, humble child. To be quiet, patient, content and grateful are virtues that adorn the soul that relies **completely** on the Lord.

As a little child relies

On a care beyond its own,

Being neither strong nor wise,

Fears to step alone—

Let me thus with thee abide,

As my Father, Friend and Guide.

FT. LAUDERDALE

Henry H. Schwartz

We are rejoicing over the three precious souls from our congregation who have come with repentant hearts and made known their desire to serve the Lord. We so often pray together that the tender hearts of our young people will be touched, and we are so thankful that our prayers have been answered. Sue Gerber, daughter of Bro. Ed and Sis. Vi; Peg Troxel, daughter of Bro. Ken and Sis. Joyce; and Brenda Beer, daughter of Bro. Vic and Sis. Dorothy have begun their Christian walk, and we wish them much grace as they continue to experience the goodness of the Lord.

Our hearts were further gladdened to hear the news that Faye Gerber from Purdue, daughter of Bro. Ed and Sis. Vi, and Karen Aschliman of Bluffton, daughter of Bro. Ken and Sis. Joyce are also repenting. These two souls are dear to us here, and we will be happy to meet them again as children of God.

We were happy to learn that our friend, Patty Meyer has peace in her heart and a desire now to enter into full fellowship with the household of God. We are looking forward to this event. Surely we can look back over this month with joyful hearts, praising the Lord for remembering our little congregation and blessing us so richly.

Visiting ministers were Bros. Wendell Gudeman from Francesville, Floyd Weiland from Detroit, Joe Schrock from Congerville, Eli Somerhalder from Burlington, Carl Hartman from Sabetha, and Roy Luginbuhl from Rockville.

As the new year started, Bro. Bob Sutter was asked to help out in the Sunday School. We pray for him and for Bro. Bob Yergler and Sis. Doris Huber, who will continue

teaching, that the work they do with these young people will be blessed.

FT. WAYNE

Pam Steffen — Eleanor Stieglitz

Twenty-one from our church made a trip to the Holy Land. The tour was organized by Bro. Verlin Stoller. Those who participated received many blessings from visiting the land of our Lord and Saviour.

Bro. Dave and Bob Pfister were involved in an auto accident. Both suffered from cracked ribs. Dave also needed 20 stitches above his eye. Bro. Philip Clauss was a medical patient at Parkview Hospital. Myron (son of Bro. Levi and Sis. Lillian) Pfister and Bro. Gene Stoller were surgical patients.

Our visiting ministers were Bros. Bob Meyer, Henry Beer, and Maurice Frank. We appreciate their kindness in sharing God's word with us.

GOODFIELD

Elna Grimm

Bro. and Sis. Elmer and Mildred Bauman, Goodfield, have announced the engagements of two of their sons; David, to Miss Shirley Seidel, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dick Seidel, Wyoming, Ill.; and Jake, to Miss Crystal Christopherson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dewey Christopherson, Roanoke. David and Shirley are planning to be married in July. Jake and Crystal are planning a fall wedding.

A little girl, Jacqueline Lee, was born to Bro. and Sis. Jim and Joy Hohulin, Morton, on Feb. 3. She is the couple's second child, and second little girl. Grandparents are Bro. and Sis. Ed and Elsie Hohulin, Goodfield, and Bro. and Sis. Walter and Hannah Plattner, Morton.

Our friend, August Knapp—Goodfield, was hospitalized, but is now at home and doing well.

We are so happy to have Bro. and Sis. Sam and Pat Plattner back in our midst. Sam served in Viet Nam for quite some time. We thank God for his safe return.

GRIDLEY, ILL.

Dixie Ringger

How wonderful God is to give those in their "twilight years" the same opportunity to answer to His call. Our friend of many years, George Finck, age 94, has found this to be so. George has repented

and is now a brother in faith. "Why did I wait so long?" was his only regret . . . but how thankful he is that God spared his life these many years and that now is at peace with God. Bro. George is living at the Good Samaritan Home in Flanagan, Ill.

Six more dear souls were added to the fold, those being Byron, Joe and Karen Stoller (Bro. Ed and Sis. Marie), Janell Rinkenberger (Dale and Nadine), and Vicky and Cindy Hodel (Bro. Roy and Sis. Jean).

Bro. Enid and Sis. Lila Schlipf were blessed with their second daughter, Sheila Rae, born Jan. 7.

At our monthly singing, we enjoyed the special songs by our 7th and 8th grade and the Peoria choir.

Several have been hospitalized: Sisters Wilma Kuntz, Beulah Funk, Sis. Sophie Kaupp, Bros. Ben Wettstein, and Floyd Meiss.

We enjoyed as visiting ministers Bros. Ed Hohulin, Wendell Gudeman, Clarence Kachelmuss, Marvin Schmidtgal.

JUNCTION

Betty Manz — Henrietta Manz

Our visiting minister was Bro. Eugene Fetter of the Toledo congregation. We are always glad to have Bro. Eugene and Sis. Marilyn with us and appreciate their help.

Bro. Isaac Dotterer was taken to the hospital the early part of January for an emergency appendectomy. He is doing about as well as can be expected, some days better than others. He is at Ft. Wayne Lutheran Hospital, Ft. Wayne.

Several of our number have been sick with the flu, but most seem over it and back in church. Sis. Mary Sauder is some improved also, but still unable to be out. Her address is P.O. Box 48, Paulding Ohio 45879. Sis. Juliet Schlatter's son, Ed had the misfortune to break his foot and ankle at school. but is back home. Friend Margaret Aufrance is still not able to assemble with us, and Sis. Martha Laukhuf is about the same.

SILVERTON Judith Knecht

If you were busy being kind,
Before you knew it, you would find
You'd soon forget to think 'twas true
That some one was unkind to you.

If you were busy being good
And doing just the best you could.
You'd not have time to blame some man
Who's doing just the best he can.

We were happy to have with us for a Wed. evening service Bro. Jess Shrock and his wife, Sis. Lil. We are thankful the Lord protected them on their journey, and we wish to thank Bro. Jess for ministering to us. In these last and perilous times, may we thank our God that our precious faith has been preserved and that the true Spirit is still among us. . . and may it ever be our heart's desire to keep this precious faith for our children and grandchildren, if the Lord would so tarry.

TAYLOR

Elizabeth Sutter—Marie Butikofer

Several of our congregation spent a Sunday at Pulaski church, also to help Bro. Albert and Sis. Elizabeth Wuthrich celebrate their Golden wedding anniversary.

Elder Bro. Noah Schrock visited our congregation and read the memorandum and reminded us of our duties as children of God. May He give us the necessary grace to live a life pleasing to Him.

Our young students have returned to their studies at their various schools: Becky Hodel to S.I.U.—Carbondale, Kent Heimer to N.E. Mo. University at Kirksville, Sis. Marcia Sutter to Blessing Hospital School of Nursing, Cindy Hoerr and Sandi Cottrell to Methodist Hospital School of Nursing for their last semester.

Our annual business meeting was held in January, and the following brothers were elected: Bro. Robert Hoerr—trustee, Bro. Paul Haab on the cemetery board, and Bro. Don Hoerr as another usher.

There has been a lot of flu around, some in a light form and others were quite sick. Sis. Marcia Sutter spent a few days in the hospital, when she became quite ill with the flu. Sis. Rose Hoerr had major surgery and is slowly recuperating at home. Sis. Ruth Cottrell also submitted to major surgery and is slowly improving in the hospital. Her daughter, Sue Henning, came for a week to take care of her.

Feb. 9. it will be a year that Bro. Will Butikofer went to be with His Lord. He has been missed by his

family, relatives, friends and loved ones in our congregation. How he appreciated the smiles and handshakes of so many of the little ones, as he sat in a chair just inside the assembly room at church.

Somewhere back of the sunset
Away from this world of strife,
Our loved one is sweetly resting
In that land where there is no
night. . .

And we who knew and loved him,
Whose passing has caused many
tears,

Will cherish his memory always
To brighten the coming years.

WOLCOTT

Marjean Lehman — Arles Kropf

Bros. Ed Frank and Wendell Gudeman spent an evening with us early in January, and assisted Bro. Alfred in bringing us the report of the 1972 conference. Our thanks go to them for their efforts.

New Sunday School teachers selected on our rotation plan are Bros. Richard Stoller, Leon Waibel and Lowell Bahler, and Sisters Eileen Furrer and Norma Blume. Our new trustee is Bro. Leon Waibel.

Graveside services were held at our church cemetery for Mrs. Lena Blume, a former resident of this area who passed away at Fairbury, where she had been staying with her sisters.

On Jan. 28, we welcomed into our brotherhood our dear ones, Larry Blume and Glenna Minniear. Bro. Ed Frank was with us for provings and baptisms.

Our friends, Connie and Jana Lou Schieler have found peace with God and are now awaiting to bring testimony and be baptized.

One by one, we see dear friends turning from the way of the world, to a better way with the Lord. Yvonne Schwab has made this step, and we pray that many more may also seek and find.

Feb. 4 was a joyous occasion, as our dear Bro. Sam and Sis. Clara Furrer observed their Golden Wedding Anniversary with a reception and carry-in supper at the Fellowship Hall in Remington. Many relatives and friends gathered with them to share the joy.

The Zion's Harp hymnals. \$2.25 Post-paid. Write Ray Gerber, RR 4 Bluffton, Ind. 46714 or Sam Aeschliman, RR 3 Bluffton, Ind. 46714.

WINTHROP

Delores Messerli — Carol Messner
Don't worry about tomorrow,
God is already there.

Our annual business meeting was conducted by Bro. Harold Messner. Bro. Roland Messner was re-elected trustee, as was Bro. James Messner to the hail aid. The new building aid committee man is Bro. Gerald Messner.

We have no promise that the road
of life has no detours,
But that the love and grace of God
forevermore endures.
We have no promise that no cross
will be a burdensore,
But that we shall not suffer loss
now and forevermore.
We have no promise that our way
will not be long,
But that at last will dawn the day
of endless joy and song.

Bro. Elmer and Sis. Hazel Schmidt announce the engagement of their daughter, Sis. Janice, to Bro. Jerry Gutwein, son of Bro. and Sis. Harold Gutwien of Francesville. Their son, Mark Schmidt, will marry Linda Webster of here. June weddings are planned for both couples.

BAY CITY
Carolyn Schamback

A whole month into the year 1973 . . . what have you done to make this year one that's a credit in the Lord's eyes? For some, life has just begun; for some it has ended. Always we should be prepared for what our Lord has in His plans for us.

On Jan. 23, we were shocked and saddened to hear of the death of our young friend, Kevin Kaeb. Kevin, 18, was the son of Bro. Alphaes and Sis. Hermeine; he also leaves one brother, Bro. Curt, and a sister, Mary Ann. We don't know why the Lord took Kevin, but we realize He must have had a purpose, and that sometime we'll understand.

On Jan. 26, Bro. Cliff and Sis. Kathy Jones welcomed a son, Jason Kurt. At home to greet him are brothers Tim and Kyle. Maternal grandparents are Jesse and Sis. Mildred Hodder.

Hospitalized for tests was Bro. Merle Wieland, who has since assembled with us.

The Lord has led two families to move away from Bay City because

of job opportunities; we will miss their fellowship, but wish them God's grace and blessings in their new undertakings. Moving to the Elkhart, Indiana area are Bro. Cliff and Sis. Carol Wieland and their children, Karmin, Kip and Mindy. Bro. Roland and Sis. Ardi Manz and Ryan will be moving to the Detroit area. God bless you in your journeys!

ATHENS

Irene Haggemaker

God's joy is an elusive substance.
You cannot lock it or chain it;
You have to share it with others,
If you would always retain it.

Our congregation was saddened by the death of our dear Sis. Zelma Young, on Jan. 24. Zelma in her last days was so very weak she could hardly lift her hands . . . But her voice was heard loud and clear by many, as she prayed to God for His will to be done. Her last words to Bro. Lloyd Moore were, "I'll see you in Heaven." Sis. Zelma left a great testimony for all who loved her so much.

Visitors included Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman. He surely led us off to a good start in our Bible study of speaking in tongues. He reminded us of how very important it is that we aren't persuaded by man-made ways . . . But only what the Bible tells us.

Sis. Mary Tucker is back in church, after a 2-weeks stay in the hospital.

It is always a blessing to see our young people living for the Lord. We enjoyed so very much the singing of Anne Walder, Amy Leman, Becky Gramm, Tom Witzig and Bill Leman. They were from the Illinois churches.

BURLINGTON IOWA

Edna Pohl — Elaine Eisenmann

There are two of our older sisters now spending some time in the hospital. They are Lena Kuntz and Sarah Gerst. We wish them much grace in these trying days.

A few weeks ago, we held our election of a trustee. Bro. Ken Scheitlin was chosen. We also selected a building committee to begin looking into plans for our future church. Bros. Bob Pohl, Paul Wagler, Ken Scheitlin, Gary Anliker

and Marvin Woodward were elected.

Several of our sisters and also some from Oakville who live in the Burlington area continue to meet monthly at Bro. Paul Wagler's upholstery shop for World Relief meetings. It is a wonderful sense of accomplishment to see the items pile up that we make, many from scraps, and it seems that many hands make light work while an enjoyable evening is spent.

OAKVILLE

Martha Steiner

We welcome four new sisters into our fellowship: Sis. JoAnn Schmidgall (Bro. Hartzell and Sis. Marian), Sis. Michelle Wiegand (Bro. Albert), Sis. Linda Dykstra (Mr. and Mrs. John Dykstra), and Sis. Pam Moser (Bro. Roger and Sis. Mary). Here to enjoy this blessed undertaking with us were Elder Bros. Al Fisher (Chicago) and Ed Frank (LaCrosse), and Ministering Bros. Elmer Bucher (Francesville), Merle Bucher (LaCrosse), and Marvin Stieglitz (Leo).

An April wedding is planned for Sis. Janet Steiner (daughter of Bro. Orel and Sis. Rose Thomas Steiner) and Bro. John A. Schupbach (son of George and Mildred Butikofer Schupbach) of Elgin, Iowa, whose engagement was announced.

On the same Sunday, announcement was made of the engagement of Sis. Luanne Gerst (daughter of Bro. Carl and Sis. Hilda Steiner Gerst) and Bro. Peter Beyer (son of Sis. Nina Schieler Beyer and the late Bro. Ralph Beyer) of Naumberg. We are sorry that our sisters will be leaving us, but know they will be welcome additions to the small congregations in which they will find the same fellowship as we enjoy.

At our annual business meeting, the following vacancies were filled by: Bro. Eric Massner, Board of Trustees; Bro. John Perdelwitz, Cemetery Trustees; and Sis. Elizabeth Grimm, Sisters' Committee. We appreciate the efforts put forth by each member who serves in these worthwhile functions.

LEO

Mrs. Elias Souder

There have been many colds and much flu here, so much that we were not able to make our monthly

visit to the one Rest Home in Butler. We did visit the other two.

Marie (Mrs. James Winzeler) has been on our sick list. Dorothy (Mrs. Robert) Norr is doing fine and able to come to church.

Our annual business meeting was held, and Max Hettrick was put in for our new church trustee. One retires every year. Phil Schlatter was put in as usher. Otherwise there were no changes. Reports were given.

Our hearts go out in sympathy to Sis. Jennie Klopfenstein and her family in the passing away of her son, Glen Klopfenstein. He resided in Southington Conn., and died unexpectedly of a heart attack. He is survived by his wife and three daughters, his mother, two brothers and two sisters.

We appreciated the visit and were blessed with the church services Wed. evening held by Bros. Ben Stavenik and Robert Beer of the Mansfield congregation.

FT. SCOTT Ida Sinn

On Jan. 10, we held our annual business meeting. Those elected for the various offices were, Bro. Charles Sinn to teach the Bible class, Sis. Ruth Bahr to the food committee. Bros. Harvey Smith and Harold Kraft are our new ushers.

Bro. Jacob Pfister is again a hospital patient. He is in serious condition. Diana Kraft has had another trip to the hospital for tests.

In the presence of many witnesses, our convert, Everett Beyer, gave his testimony on Jan. 20, and on the following Sunday he was baptized and added to the body of believers. Elder Bro. Sam Anliker was here to help Elder Bro. Raymond Banwart in this work. We welcome Everett as our brother in faith. May God always sustain him.

Other visiting ministers were Henry Beer, Al Langhofer, Sam Huber, Charles Marti, Lester Braker, Lloyd Kraft, Roy Wernle and Loren Strahm.

SARASOTA Philip Wingeier

"Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you." It is always comforting to know that there is one to whom we can flee as a refuge for our soul's deep need. It is indeed a joy when we hear of new converts throughout our churches, that our

Lord is still drawing souls to him, which teaches us to depart from sin and become new creatures in Christ Jesus.

The month of January has indeed been very interesting here, with so many traveling this way, stopping and worshipping. Visitors were with us from many congregations which well-filled our church room. Visiting ministers were Elder Bros. Roy Sauder, Wendell Gudeman, David Kieser, Bro. Eli Somerhalder. They all shared together the good Gospel, each one speaking of the need we have of the Lord; how true it is that God is an incomparable God.

Bro. Joe and Sis. Esther Schrock, who have been with us for a time, have gone to their home in Congerville.

We want to express our sincere thanks and appreciation to each of the ministers for their kindness. Bro. Carl Hartman was with us, and Bro. Henry Grimm Sr. spent some time in the Sarasota area. It really brings a great joy into our community to have so many from afar join us and bring so much happiness into our hearts.

There is a lot of activity it seems in Sarasota this winter. A number of mobile homes have been purchased, also some have bought empty lots for future building, as well as new homes, which makes us feel there is love in Sarasota.

We continue our invitation to all who travel this way, to come and worship with us: The Women's Club Building, located on the corner of Palm Ave. and Cocoanut St., one block off US Highway 41. Time of Service, 1:00 EST.

WESTERN ILL. UNIVERSITY Mary Lynn Unsicker

"He only is my rock and my salvation; he is my defence; I shall not be . . . moved." This is the thought Bro. Uriel Gehring, Burlington, left with us on Feb. 7. As we continued to read in St. Luke, we were reminded of the miracles, which are possible if only we believe.

Dear friend, have faith to believe in Jesus—then you too can witness a miracle—the conversion of your own soul. I've been praying for you. Won't you give your heart to him who died for you? . . . I'll give my life—how wonderful twill be—never more to fear death and judgment!

The following poem was written by a Peoria convert. The poem truly relays the feelings of the soul who has risen from baptism, spotless unto Thee.

Simple words of love sincere
Wet, tear stained, peace eyes
Embraces from sisters dear
After from waters she does arise.

Free at last from Satan's clutches
Now in God's arms she abides
Her sins are now forgiven blotches
With God now she sides.

Words alone cannot describe her
peace
Nor tears or warm smiles
She alone can know and feel the
release
From her sins committed over life's
miles.

And all this because Someone loved
her—
Loved her enough to die in her
place
And all of ours I'm sure
Just stop and listen and feel His
love in your days.

If God wills, we plan to meet again on March 7, in the New Salem Room of the Union at 8:00 p.m.

ROCKVILLE Carlton J. Lanz

Bro. Sherman Lanz and Sis. JoAnn Ballasy were united in holy matrimony, as they took their sacred vows in the presence of the church, and solemnized by our elder, Bro. John Bahler. The wedding supper and reception was at the home of Bro. Ernest and Sis. Aline Ballasy, the bride's parents. Sherman's parents are Otto and Alma Lanz. The couple has our warmest wishes, and many the Spirit of God find a place in their home now as a newly-wedded couple.

We were highly pleased to have visit us Bros. Roy Weiland of Bay City and Ben Zehr of Roanoke and their travelling companions. They helped to enhance our wonderful fellowship in choosing hymns when asked to do so and offering prayers. This is what we consider good fellowship and taking part in this beautiful worship which we have so long been able to cherish and enjoy. We were especially thankful for the sound messages the brothers had

W W Ramsier
RR 2
Jeromesville Ohio 44840

for us, speaking from the pulpit. . . the wonderful and encouraging words for the true Christian and believer and all who work toward this end.

Sis. Esther Heintz has been a patient at the Rockville General

Hospital and is now at her home, recuperating. She has not been able to assemble for worship for several weeks which is, in truth, contrary to her practice.

Bro. Owen Bahler was nominated to become Sunday School superin-

tendent for the ensuing year. Bro. Emanuel Kloter is to be the new usher for two years. A few matters were discussed, followed by a closing prayer and adjournment. Bro. John Bahler acted as chairman, and Bro. Warren Zahner was secretary.

THE CORRECT COURSE

Henry Souder Jr.

The beautiful fruits of the Spirit shine forth. There is the precious light of divine nature. They are radiant, a beauty that is above all precious gems. Of purest ray, they sparkle with the one-of-its-kind light, God's alone.

Listen and look, gaze long. They are appealing and satisfying: "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance. . ."

There is just nothing like it, these fruits of God. If the individual is strong, loving, of sweet personality, then these fruits are in him. If the church is victorious and with power, then they are beautifully present. If there is any shortcoming, erosion or corruption, then the list of God has been set aside or shortchanged.

The correct course is down the middle of the correct lane. The danger was there at Sardis; some white garments were dirty, some souls fallen. A trap of another kind was just as dangerous at Galatia; "I desire to be present with you now, and to change my voice; for I stand in doubt of you. Tell me, ye that desire to be under the law. . ."

It is very important to recognize any imposter or foreign intruder. To the right, to the left grades off, almost imperceptibly, but there is deep ditch and actual tragedy.

Every sin also has its little coun-

terpart. It causes so much disagreeableness. Action and teaching need bear fruit in God's word. This tells without failing: "Prove all things; hold fast that which is good."

We must be sure to give our support to governments in the church. More than one part of the word will point a frowning finger, if we look down on God's servants. Authority is the Great Shepherd's going ahead. There is even need for judging (see I Cor. 5 and 6), if things are to be kept good. The idle man, the unruly brother, the heretic have pictures written in God's word, what to do.

The Lord has a lot of patience with us. He has a lot of mercy for our mistakes and blunders. Likewise, He expects us to leave each other alone in certain ways. "Who art thou that judgest another man's servant? to his own master he standeth or falleth. Yea, he shall be holden up: for God is able to make him stand." There are times when the word says No to judging. The fruits of the Spirit should be in control.

We have to constantly watch. A critical attitude is a disagreeable companion. A grouchy inside is not hard to come. Complain, complain. . . this isn't right, and another thing . . . That is not what God wants. It could make us a busybody, I Peter 4:15, an overseer in other men's matters that don't be-

long to us.

The church has to be careful it does not reach beyond God's word. If it does, it won't be literally written in the sky. It will show up in troubles, lack of some blessings. . . and maybe we wonder why. Of course there's not success if the fruits are side-stepped even some.

To beat time with the world's song takes us from holy rhythm. Again the fruits are bypassed. The Lord hates the deeds of the Nicolaitanes. It is possible to get only a little of the world's ways. It always hurts. It detains and subtracts. The world is a bundle of fleshly nerves. It's desires and feasts are idol worship and fornication. It pays well to know who is getting the glory. Where does the end lead? What kind of feeling does it give? Is there holy enthusiasm and order, tuned to serving God?

"Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him." The roaring lion still roams the wilderness. Let's not love the world and lose the battle.

It is good to hold fast to those things that are proven true. The world casts its doubts, and tempts the church. If we earnestly listen to the word and fervently pray, the discordant jar will be readily seen.

Hold fast. Ring true. Abide in Him.