

THE SILVER LINING

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WHAT CHURCH SHOULD I JOIN?

Where, and with whom can I have Christian fellowship?

Your decision in this will have an abiding effect on your after-life, either for good or evil. Many seem to think it does not matter much where they go, or with whom they have fellowship, provided they get on smoothly. Consequently, they make it a matter of their own choice . . . Now this would be all right if God had left it an open question, a thing to please themselves about. If He has given His will on the matter, it surely becomes everyone of His people to find out what that is.

The word of God, and that alone, must answer the question. This makes it simple and easy, for if God has told in His word where and with whom to have fellowship, it ceases to be a question of what I think or what my friends think, or what any man says . . . **What saith the Lord?** Where does He say I am to be, and where does He forbid me to go? . . .

And what can be put into the balance against this? If you have the witness you are pleasing God, and that He is on your side, it will make you as bold as a lion, even if earth and hell be engaged against you.

The word **church** is never used in the Scriptures as the name of a building, used for religious purposes, as many of us from our childhood have been accustomed to use it. It is always used in connection with persons, and signifies **called out ones**. Turn to Acts 20:28. There we read of "the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood". Again, "Christ . . . loved the church, and gave Himself for it" (Eph. 5:25). Here we see whose the church is, and at what a cost it was purchased. It is the **church of God**. The Lord Jesus gave Himself to obtain the church for His Bride, to be the sharer of His glory forever.

The unity is God-made and God-sustained. Man never formed it. He can never break it, because its keeping is in the hands of God. It is divine. They are all redeemed by the same precious blood, sealed and indwelt by the same Spirit, encircled and enlocked by the same almighty arms of love, to be in the same glorious home. These are everlasting links between saint and saint—they shall know no decay, though they are oftimes disowned here.

This is the church as spoken of in the Scriptures, begun on the day of Pentecost by the descent of the Holy Ghost, being gathered out from the nations of the earth through the preaching of the Gospel, having no earthly inheritance or potentate . . . one new man, one holy church—the Bride of Christ—to be completed and presented to Him when He comes.

Part of the members of this church are now absent from the Body and "present with the Lord." Others are living in the world among men, and must needs live in some city, town, or country. It is not the will of God that they should remain isolated one from another, for His word has said: "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is". The Christ life within each of them craves for fellowship with other members in whom the same life dwells, for we are "members one of another".

Their association must therefore be one of life, and not mere outward uniformity. The unconverted cannot have any share in it, for what fellowship has life with death, or light with darkness? God distinctly forbids that such should be. In the church of the living God, the unsaved should have no place; they ought to be "without" (see I Thess. 4:12, Col. 4:5).

It was so at the beginning. We find in the New Testament there

were local churches, such as the church at Jerusalem, the church at Corinth, the churches of Galatia, the church in the house of Nymphas. These consisted of believers, and believers only. They were gathered into a divinely constituted fellowship in subjection to Christ as Lord, the pattern of which remains for us to follow. They received all whom the Lord had received, "weak" and required "support" (see Rom. 14:1; I Thess. 5:14). The only warrant for the rejection or exclusion of a believer from church fellowship is that he be guilty of any of those sins specified in Scripture, for which God excludes him.

In their assemblies they worshipped God, guided by the Spirit. They observed the Lord's Supper on the first day of the week (Acts 20:7). These churches owned and obeyed those whom God had fitted to rule (Heb. 13:7-17). They exercised godly discipline towards the erring, and if anyone among them became guilty of holding and teaching evil doctrine or immoral practice, they put away the offender. I have no more right to devise a new order in the church of God than I have to make a new way of salvation. God has given both in His word, and it endureth forever.

There were no unconverted young communicants, no dead members in that Church. They **durst not join themselves to them**. Like Saul of Tarsus, you would have gone to the disciples and been received to their fellowship.

Numerous sects are spread over the face of the earth; the church and the world are mixed up together. Which of them is according to the word of God? Which of them answers to the pattern given in the Book?

The leading churches are far from the mark. They allow the unconverted to sit at the Lord's Table—there can be no doubt about that.

If you question this, just go up to some of them and ask the plain and legitimate question, "Is your soul saved?" They have one man set up, who acts as evangelist, pastor, and teacher, and for this he receives a stated salary—in short is "hired" to do the people's religion. He says the prayers, gives out the hymns, and does the preaching. No matter who else may be called of God to speak or pray while they are public worship, they dare not do it, else

they would be turned out.

Find out if there are any believers gathering in the name of the Lord Jesus and having Him in their midst, according to Matt. 18:20, who have left all sects and parties contrary to Scripture, have returned to the first principles of the church of God; who are gathered according to the divine pattern; who have room for the exercise of all His gifts, liberty for all the operations of His Spirit, and

have His word alone for their creed.

This is what is commanded in the Book. This is what we see was practiced in the early churches, and **THIS IS YOUR PLACE.** Shrink not from taking it, and, when you have taken it, continue steadfastly in it. Hold it fast. Jesus says,

Where two or three are gathered together in My name, there am I in the midst. Surely it is better to be where He is, than in the crowd without Him.

CONGERVILLE

Linda Knapp — Arlene Banwart

Many teachings were brought to us by Bros. Ken Schneider (Remington), Marvin Schmidgal (Eureka), and Ed Hohulin (Goodfield).

When we hear rumors about us, answer not a thing. Take an example from Jesus. He only answered when necessary.

God's grace is by far sufficient to help us to the end. If we wouldn't believe this, it would be like a fish in the bottom of the ocean or big river, worrying that there wouldn't be enough water.

A father told his sons to gather sticks. Then he told them to break them, and they all did with no trouble. Than he said, Gather more sticks, but this time he gave all the sticks to one son, together. He told him to break them, but could not. Thus there is strength in unity.

We're related through the blood of Jesus: It's a close love, a feeling of mutual understanding, a warm glowing for each other. When one has joy, all should rejoice; when one suffers, all suffer.

Our dear Sis. Marge Knapp has been suffering from hepatitis and mononucleoses. Her mother, Sis. Elsie (Ben) Knapp spent several weeks caring for her. She would enjoy any mail: Miss Marjorie Knapp, 1783 Ridgewood Dr. NE, Atlanta Georgia 30307.

Thank you to the Goodfield congregation for inviting us to their new fellowship hall, to hear Dr. Shantwan's interesting presentation of India.

Our thought turns to harvest, and we have so much to be thankful, for we have had a bountiful harvest and beautiful fall weather. The trees are so pretty in their different shades of colors. We can't imagine how beautiful heaven must

be, when we look at nature and all its beauty. This should make us strive harder for our heavenly goal.

Correction on last month's news: It should have read, The love of money is the root of all evil.

DETROIT Bonnie Popp

Let us be even more aware of the countless blessings our Heavenly Father bestows upon us. It is a time to reflect upon God's love to all mankind, and His gifts which seem so evident at this colorful time of year.

The children in Sunday School were asked what God does for them that makes them love Him so. Some were sure it was the pretty birds and flowers; others, the sunshine, food and home . . . But one little one, thinking about this, finally answered, "He doesn't have to give me anything. I love God just because in my heart I know He loves me."

We are grateful to Bro. Uriel Gehring of Burlington for visiting with us, and ministering words of truth and encouragement. He reminded us what a privilege it is to dwell in Christ in unity, and how blessed we are to be able to greet one another, from far and near, as brother and sister in Christ Jesus. As the time draws nigh, let us ever be mindful of the special blessings we share as children of God.

Oct. 7 was the day Sis. Evelyn Polk and Bro. Rodney Wieland were united as husband and wife. Bro. Ben Maibach performed the ceremony. May their home be woven as a many textured cloth:

stitched together with prayer,
dyed through and through with
truth and kindness,
hemmed by a love that understands
all shortcomings, and

patterned by a variety and yet a oneness, because they support one another.

Bro. Hartzell and Sis. Mary Kaisner are the happy parents of a baby girl, Jane Anne. Kenneth, Joanne, Karen and Diane welcome baby sister, too.

"A merry heart doeth good like a medicine . . ." Recuperating from a hospital stay are: Bros. Ben Maibach, Homer Polk, Sis. Helen Shaw and her daughter, Sis. Linda Shaw. Little Diane Kaisner is back home with her parents, Bro. Hartzell and Sis. Mary. Let's remember to have an encouraging word or show a little kindness to the sick and aged.

Lighten the heart of a friend
today;
Brighten a life that's dim . . .
For when you're kind to Christ's
brethren,
You show your love for Him.

TOLEDO Lydia Meister

"For all things are for your sakes, that the abundant grace might through the thanksgiving of many redound to the glory of God."

Come, ye thankful people come;
Raise the song of harvest home.
All is gathered safely in,
Ere the winter storms begin.
God, the Maker, doth provide
For our wants to be supplied.
Come, to God's own temple come;
Raise the song of harvest home.

. . . thankful for the earthly gifts, but hearts uplift in deeper thankfulness when dear souls are gathered into His fold. Thanks be to God for His wonderful gift of salvation.

We received many blessings

from the mid-week visit of Bro. Harold Emch of Girard. Bro. Harold's sermon renewed our courage to go onward on our pilgrim journey. We hope they will come again.

The engagement of our Bro. Rolf Kaeppler to Sis. Verena Schneider of Peoria was announced Oct. 28. May the Lord's grace be theirs to guide them always.

Our dear little Kurt Rager has been ill in the hospital. He is home again, we are thankful to report. Kurt is the baby son of Bro. Walt and Sharon Rager.

Bro. Homer and Sis. Josephine Reineck are the happy grandparents of their first grandchild, Kathleen Rose. Kathleen's parents are Diane (Reineck) and Mike Hughes. Oct. 21 was a very happy day for them.

Arthur and Betty Frautschi celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary Oct. 14. Relatives came from Leo (Ind.) and Bloomington (Ill.), to join their many relatives and friends to wish them many more years together.

TOKYO

Yoshio Yamazaki

It is real blessed time to our Tokyo Church fellowship since Bro. Akito and Sis. Marie Inoue moved to our Tokyo church house, and Bro. Akito helps ministry for twice a month at least.

We had quite a lot Sunday School children to our Sunday School till past spring, but we have only a few last couple of weeks. Of course there are several reason for why they don't come to Sunday School. We have pretty many children around here in this area, but they move in and move out so often because their father's occupations. Also the parents push them into "juku" on Sunday, which means a private studies place beside general school activities. Another reason, TV programs influenced them. One more biggest problem is the neighbor groups have many sports activities, for instance of baseball, basketball, volleyball, badminton, and ballet dance, etc. Therefore, the children aren't come to church on Sunday. We should pray for such important matters and also ask you to pray for us. We really have responsibility toward them especially. "Then were there brought unto him little children, that he should put his hands on them, and

pray: and the disciples rebuked them. But Jesus said, Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven. And he laid his hands on them, and departed thence."

We extend our best wishes to Bro. Saburo Utsuki and his wife upon their 45th wedding anniversary. We appreciate our brother's presence in our assembly and wish for them the continued grace and guidance of our Heavenly Father.

It was a pleasure to meet our dear sisters, Anna Haas and Freida Shock from the States, visiting Anna's daughter and family, Bro. John and Sis. Betty Klaus. We pray for a safe homeward journey for them.

LAMAR

Mrs. Art Banwart
Mrs. Raymond Braker

Bro. Pete Fankhauser has been here for some time with his daughter, Sis. Edna Frieden. We enjoy having him worship with us, and remember the many times he has brought us the word of truth during his years of ministering the Gospel.

Sis. Lydia Rentsch is again able to be up, after being confined to bed for several weeks with a blood clot. She wishes to express her thanks for the many prayers, cards, flowers and other acts of kindness shown during her illness.

Our elder, Bro. Sam Anliker, spent a Sunday with us and brought many teachings and admonitions from the word of God. May God bless him for his sincere efforts to help us walk the straight and narrow pathway that leads to Heaven's gates.

As Thanksgiving rapidly approaches, we give thanks to a Heavenly Father for the many blessings this year has brought to our families and our congregation. May we never forget the greatest one of all that He gave us, our Lord who died to bring us our salvation.

BLUFFTON

Melanie Gerber — Donna Drayer
Starla Baumgartner became the wife of Donald Bowman on the Sunday afternoon of Oct. 21. Parents are Bro. Chester and Sis. Betty Baumgartner. Debra Gerber and Dennis Pulfer were united in mar-

riage recently. Parents are Bro. and Sis. Luther Gerber and Bro. and Sis. Raymond Pulfer. May the Lord shower their homes with many rich blessings.

A first son, Ked Allen, was born on Oct. 19 to Bro. Dwight and Sis. Pat Moser. Two little sisters welcome their new brother. Bro. Russell and Sis. Susie Gerber have received another blessing into their home. Chad Eric was born on Oct. 31, and is the second son.

Bro. Eli Dubach, 85, has laid down his armor, to rest peacefully with the Lord. He is survived by a son, Robert; two daughters, Berniece Dubach and Mrs. James (June) Meyer; and one sister, Sis. Emma Heyerly.

After many months of bodily afflictions, our Sis. Leah (Calvin) Rauch, 74, has passed away. Those of her family who remain are her husband, Bro. Calvin, and five daughters, Mrs. Gerald (Geraldine) Aschliman, Mrs. Roy (Evelyn) Meyer, Mrs. Charles (Frieda) Lamott, Mrs. Frederick (Doris) Jost, and Mrs. John (Garnett) Martin.

We sympathize with Sis. Janet Morris in the passing away of her mother, Mrs. Martha Morris. May each of these families feel the Lord's presence, as they continue on in this life without their loved ones.

Bro. John Diggelman joined us on one of our Wednesday evening services. As our government was in turmoil, we peacefully worshipped our Father in Heaven.

Several sisters in our congregation are hospitalized. They are Sis. Kay (Tom) Fairchild, Sis. Effie (Herman) Bertsch, and Sis. Dorothy (Vernon) Gerber.

Many from here spent a Sunday

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worshiping and fellowshiping with the Bremen congregation. We want to thank them for inviting our choir into their midst.

We have approached the time of the year that our government sets aside for all to pause and thank our Creator, for His countless blessings that He so freely bestows.

"Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name."

BREMEN

Pauline Laidig

Thanks

Thanks for prayers that Thou hast answered;

Thanks for what Thou dost deny!

Thanks for storms that I have weathered;

Thanks for all Thou dost supply!

Thanks for pain and thanks for pleasure;

Thanks for comfort in despair.

Thanks for grace that none can measure;

Thanks for love beyond compare.

Thanks for roses by the wayside;
Thanks for thorns their stems contain!

Thanks for home and thanks for fireside;

Thanks for hope, that sweet refrain.

Thanks for heav'nly peace with Thee

Thanks for hope in the tomorrow;

Thanks for joy and thanks for sorrow,

Thanks through all ETERNITY!

I unexpectedly found this poem of thanks which was sent to our sewing group last Christmas by Sis. Clara Heiniger, Hillsboro. I felt it not only expressed her feelings, but also will help us to accept what the Lord allows to come our way, and to be able to thank Him, even if the going is rough at times.

We are also very grateful for the wonderful weather we have had this fall. The Lord has surely provided a bountiful harvest, and we praise Him for it.

Our congregation was richly blessed with spiritual food provided by the Lord's servants, Bros. Bob Meyer and Wendell Gerber of

Bluffton, and for an extra measure, we were privileged to listen to the beautiful singing of their choir after the services were over. A church supper was served, so everyone could have the opportunity to fellowship with one another. We thank the Bluffton brethren for this time of refreshing.

It has appeared for some time that Marian Germann has been leaning toward the Lord, and we are happy to know she is now fully surrendering her life to Him and is looking forward to giving her testimony and being baptized. Kenny and Mary are her parents.

It was good to see Sis. Hazel Clauss in church again Sunday. Sis. Leah Souder was laid up for a few weeks with a back ailment, which occurs from time to time, but she too is able to be out again. Sis. Pauline Clauss has been moved to the Lu Ann Nursing Home in Napanee Ind. 46550. It is heart-warming to see the concern her neices and nephews have for her well-being. It is sad to see the neglect other aged people must endure. We should surely try to take more time to visit them or send a card now and then, to help brighten their days.

ELGIN, ILLINOIS

Louise Steffen—Katie Kachelmuss

Our ministering brothers were Earl Banwart, Jesse Schrock and Harold Messner, and we thank them for the inspiring messages given through God's Holy Spirit.

Hospitalized for observation were Bros. Joel Gudeman and Albert Wewetzer, and Sis. Elizabeth (Beth) Anliker . . . and still confined is Sis. Bertha Weichert.

Joseph Banwart, who lived with his daughter at 1427 Flora Drive, Elgin Ill 60120, passed away at home. Services were at the church. Our sympathy is extended to the family.

Bro. Herman and Sis. Della Kellenberger will celebrate their golden wedding anniversary on Dec. 11. There will be an open house for them at their son Lloyd's home, 50 River Bluff Rd., Elgin, Ill., Sunday Dec. 9, between 2:30 and 5:30 p.m. Anyone interested in extending their well-wishes is invited.

We had with us a group of young people from the Roanoke and Peoria congregations, accompanied

by Ministering Bros. Ben Fehr and Kenneth Knapp. We enjoyed the Christian fellowship and the spiritual blessings, and thank them for their visit.

Sis. Lydia Messerschmidt wishes to thank all for the cards, gifts and prayers on her 88th birthday.

FRANCESVILLE

Mrs. Herman (Chris) Wuethrich
Mrs. Otto Wuethrich

"Does Jesus Care, Oh Yes He Cares" was sang for Sis. Connie Gutwein, as she had to give her husband, Craig, to her Heavenly Father. They were of the Indianapolis church, and his parents are Bro. James and Sis. Marion Gutwein of here. Two little sons, James and Joseph, will be a comfort to their dear loving mother. Bro. Wendell Gudeman expressed that the life of dear Craig will always be a precious memory, and pleaded that if just one soul could be saved by his passing? Yes, two have sought their Saviour since his passing away.

"Asleep In Jesus" is always a comfort to hear, as it was for our dear Sis. Ida Tyler, who could go to meet her husband, Bro. Ben, who passed away eight years ago. She was always able to live alone, Bro. Elmer Bucher read, "In every thing give thanks", and this really showed in her, as she was always so appreciative of all little and big deeds done for her.

A special thanks to Bro. George Lambert, of Wichita, for visiting us with much godly love.

The Harvey Bob and Gordon Gutwein families have been made thankful by a baby daughter and son, for them to love and cherish.

So sad Sis. Eilene Boehning and Debbie Bucher had to be in the hospital . . . now so glad they can be home again.

A real thankful closing—Eighteen precious souls have been announced, that they answered God's calling, have peace in their hearts, and are awaiting baptism, when the Lord opens up the time.

GRIDLEY

Edna Somerhalder — Wilma Young

All praise, thanks and honor to the Almighty, for another year of blessings.

Midweek services begin at Thanksgiving time, alternating with the Lamont congregation.

How fortunate we are to have freedom of worship.

Our appreciation to Bro. Henry Beer for a timely message he shared with us one evening. Also thanks to other ministers present, Elder Bro. Samuel Anliker, Bro. Al Langhofer and Bro. Roy Wernli. In times like these, we need much to sustain our spiritual needs.

Bro. Frank and Sis. Elizabeth Beyer have moved into their new home in Gridley, leaving their farm where they have shared 53 years together. May God's richest blessings be upon them in their declining years, as we wish all our aged.

Sis. Eileen (Bro. Rudy) Bahr spent over two weeks in a Topeka hospital. She has been released . . . glad to see her back in our assembly.

Brian Kraft, son of Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Nadine, is in K.U. Medical Center, has undergone surgery, many tests and X-rays, remains quite ill. As the Great Physician has given last month's patients the necessary health to return to their homes, and our assembly . . . we intercede in behalf of the sick, especially little Brian who has experienced much pain, though only 2½ years of age. A few days after surgery he began singing, "Jesus loves me".

Sis. Donna Lu Somerhalder graduated LPN training, has full-time employment at Newman's Hospital in Emporia.

LATTY

LeAnn Laukhuf

We are so happy to report that two souls have turned their backs on the world to follow the calling of their Lord. They are Mrs. Glenna Stoller (Wendell) and Dennis Rager (Bro. Roy and Sis. June). May they find much grace to continue walking with the Lord.

On Oct. 13-14, five friends gave their testimonies of faith and were baptized. They are Elizabeth Dunham and her brother, Dale (Bro. Charles and Sis. Laura); Lillian Schlatter (John); and Roy and June Rager.

We enjoyed the many visitors that week-end, including Elder Bro. Ed Hohulin (Goodfield), and Ministering Bros. Walter Rehkla, Walter Rager (Toledo); Elmer Schrenk, Aaron Steffen (Alto); and Jesse Schrock (Congerville).

Such week-ends bring out the true value of our faith.

The engagement of Sis. Connie Stoller and Bro. Steven Bauman (Rittman) was announced on Oct. 28. Connie is the daughter of Bro. Glenn and Sis. Edith. The whole congregation wishes them God's blessings.

Bro. Eugene Fetter from Toledo was with us on Oct. 28. We always appreciate hearing the words of our visiting ministering brothers.

Dale and Marcia Laukhuf are the happy parents of their first child, Jeremy Dale. The grandparents are Bro. Lester and Sis. Vera Laukhuf.

LESTER

Alice Metzger — Donna Metzger

"It is a good thing to give thanks unto the LORD, and to sing praises unto thy name, O most High", we read in the Psalms. Our forefathers deemed it worthwhile to set aside a day to give thanks to the Lord, and our government eventually proclaimed a special Thursday in November as a day to be devoted to giving humble thanks to God. We, today, still have many reasons to be thankful. Our blessings are many, but we are also thankful for the cross we bear and the sorrow we endure, for we know all will be right when the Lord's elect will experience the joy of heaven.

"I've been misled in sin; In chains of death I languish. I may turn where I will, Nothing relieves my anguish. I stood exalted here, Must now lie in the dust. The fame I would have shared Has now been turned to rust." We rejoice that Audrey Metzger, daughter of Bro. Roy and Sis. Evelyn, and Karen Knobloch, daughter of Bro. Dale and Sis. Mary Ellen, have found grace to turn to the Lord in repentance. He never tires of listening for one more soul to cry unto Him for help.

Bro. Noah Miller was our visiting minister. He so kindly reminded us that no matter how much we do for the Lord, we cannot match the love He has for us.

A large crowd was present to witness the beautiful and impressive ceremony conducted by Elder Bro. Leo Moser for the wedding of Sis. Gail Knobloch and Bro. Jerome Hartter of Sabetha on Oct. 7. She is the daughter of Bro. Martin and Sis. Zelma, and along with her parents we all miss having her in

our midst. We know she will be welcomed into the Sabetha congregation.

Lloyd Metzger, son of Bro. Don and Sis. Mary Jane, was an overnight patient at the hospital. He suffered a slight concussion from a fall, but is feeling fine again.

Beth Ann and Gary Metzger were blest with their first child, Aaron Jon, Oct. 11. Paternal grandparents are Bro. Elmer and Sis. Mariann Metzger; the precious bundle was born on Grandpa Elmer's birthday. Maternal grandmother is our co-reporter, Sis. Donna, and although she is step-grandma to quite a few, this is the first grandchild of her very own.

The World Relief sewers have resumed their monthly meetings, after a summer recess. They meet the last Friday evening of each month. Bro. Andy and Sis. Frieda Mogler have generously donated the use of their basement for this worthy cause.

Sis. Carrie Metzger wishes to express her thanks for prayers in her behalf and kindnesses shown to her while she was sick. She is slowly improving, and we were thankful to see her in church again.

RITTMAN

Florence Hartzler

"Take and eat, my body I do offer, as unto the death for you I suffer; Drink this cup, as a token of my blood divine, which for many sinners I have shed" . . . Holy Communion was given us by Bros. Loren Stoller, Rudy Graf and Joe Ramsier. We are reminded to dedicate our lives anew to Christ, and to remember His suffering. Also, on this day, we received four new members into our church. We rejoice with these dear ones who have become brothers and sisters of our Lord. They are Dan and Diane Gasser, Elaine Rufener, and Marlene Dotterer. "I claim a place, though weak and lowly among Thy seed, Thy chosen host. Immersed with Christ, I'm dead to sin; Thy Spirit now shall live within."

Bill Maibach, son of Bro. Roy and Sis. Mabel, has become engaged to Elizabeth Banks of Avon Lake. The engagement of Bro. Steve Bauman and Sis. Connie Stoller of Latty was announced. Steve's parents are Bro. Herbert and Sis. Bernice Bauman. Dale and Marilyn Jaquet are living on a

farm near Creston, following their marriage.

Bro. Noah and Sis. Bertha Bauman and daughters, Sis. Mary Ellen and Sis. Jean have moved from their farm near Sterling to 385 Hilty Drive, Rittman. Noah is still house-bound, unable to attend church. In the hospital are Bros. Fred Marty and John Winkler. Those that were confined to the hospital, but are now home again are Sisters Lydia Steiner, Mary Zollinger, Mildred Christian, Bro. Maynard Gasser, and Michelle Rigenbach. Blanche Ritzman had the misfortune of falling and breaking her ankle, needing hospital care. Bro. Carl Stoller has been ill for quite some time, and is confined to his home. Sis. Lula Bachman is now at Mennonite Home near Rittman.

Thanksgiving 1973! Another year has rolled around, and we put aside this day to remember why we have this day of thanks. Is it mostly just to thank God for earthly possessions? Or is it more than that? Our thanks to God is for our freedom we have to worship God in the way we desire, and above all, to thank Him for giving his son to die for our sins, that we have a hope of life eternal.

T—is for "thanks" for blessings received,

H—for the harvest with hunger appeased.

A—for another grand, bountiful year.

N—is for neighbors with help ever near,

K—for the knowledge to labor and prosper.

S—for this season when families all gather.

G—is for grace, our thanksgiving prayer,

I—for God's infinite mercy and care.

V—is for visions of a world even greater,

I—for the instinct to do ever better.

N—is for nature's unending treasures.

G—is for giving; life's greatest pleasure.

ROANOKE

Doris Mangold — Erma Moser

As we view the hills and countryside, we are enjoying one of the most beautiful Fall seasons we have had for some time. We can see the miracle of God's handiwork

in the beautiful colors, as we look about us. We are so thankful for all His many blessings.

Our wishes for a happy and blessed life together go to Joan and Russel Lemman, who were united in marriage by Bro. Gene Bertschi. Joan is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Kaeb and Russ, the son of Don and Sis. Pearl.

We again enjoyed having visiting ministers: Ed Frank of La-Crosse, Eli Somerhalder of Burlington (Okla.), Al Fisher from Chicago.

On Tuesday evening the 10th, Dr. Shantwan showed his slides. It was very interesting to see his pictures and hear of living conditions in India.

On Oct. 12, a little son, Jeffrey Scott, came to bless the home of Bro. Ken and Sis. Kathy Hodel. He is the first grandchild of Bro. Glen and Sis. Margaret Hodel. Maternal grandparents are Bro. Ira and Sis. Doris Farney of Eureka.

There have been many who have been hospitalized: Sis. Vi Schafer underwent eye surgery and is now home again; Bro. David Fehr, Sis. Anna Mangold, and Bro. Morris Wiegand have all returned home. Cheryl, infant daughter of Bro. Dick and Sis. Ann Hoffman, was brought home from the hospital, where she had surgery. Two dear sisters who are still in the hospital are Anna Sauder (John) and Leah Moser.

Funeral services were held for Bro. Ben P. Martin by Bro. Al Fisher, Sunday the 28th. Surviving are his wife, Sis. Martha; one son, Bro. Jim; and three daughters, Sisters Winifred, Annabelle Blunier and Nancy Herman (of Peoria).

Note of thanks: I wish to express my sincere thanks and appreciation for the prayers, cards and visits while in the hospital and since returning home. Sis. Anna Mangold.

SHIODA

Willis R. Ehnle

On this particular autumn day, at the breakfast table, I had read a short passage of Scripture, as is our custom, and had prayer in which I asked God to help our two children in elementary school to be a good example and to obey their teacher. (Our two older children are away from home during the week to attend high school in

Tokyo.) As I finished the prayer, one of the children remarked, "Did you have to say that?" and I retorted, "Say what? About obeying your teacher?" The answer was, "No, about being a good example." In thinking about this, I reasoned there must be something especially significant about being a good example. This eliminates the self-comfort found in telling yourself, "This isn't sin so I can do it," and compels one to ask the question, "Is this being a good example and is it something I would teach others to do?"

The Apostle Paul wrote to Timothy, "Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity." The exhortation is to be a good example, which results in being respected, even though you are young.

Every child of God should be careful what he eats and how much he eats. Lots of fruit and vegetables which God has created for man's good and less of the unnatural foods would no doubt make us healthier. We are taught in God's word, "Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost . . .?" and "Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth."

One of the sisters from America who is teaching at our schools here in Shioda, when asked if it isn't a terrible chore to care for such long hair, replied, "No, this is something I can do for the Lord." A highly commendable philosophy, I would say ". . . if a woman have long hair, it is a glory to her . . ."

Our autumn fellowship meeting for our two churches was held on Oct. 12, a Japanese holiday, at a farm home which has facilities for keeping many guests overnight. This kind of place is called "Minshuku" or "People's Stopping Place". We stayed there the night of the 11th. Service by the farm wife was superb. If those who know not Jesus Christ can be so kind, how much more should those who know Him fulfill the Scripture, "Use hospitality one to another without grudging."

Sis. Linda Morrison will be returning to the States next summer, and we need a replacement teacher in Elementary School. Any-

one willing to come should contact Bro. Ben Maibach through the home elder.

TAYLOR

Marie Butikofer—Eleanor Yackley
He enjoys much who is thankful for a little.

Thanksgiving reminds us to be thankful for everything, not only for joys and blessings, but also for adversities or things not so pleasant, which come over us all: they are also an act of God and often a blessing in disguise.

We are especially thankful for the five souls that have been added to the family of God so far this year. Our prayers are for Showers of Blessings, that more souls would find the true light.

A little son came to gladden the home of Mike and Cheryl Stratton. Jason Reeb was born on Oct. 22. Michael and Missy welcome him. Sis. Loida and Henry Hodel and Walter and Pansy Stratton are the grandparents.

A new little daughter, Dana Nicole, was born to Danny and Jody Meyers on Oct. 25. Grandparents are Bro. Dick and Sis. Charlene Sutter and Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Meyers.

Bro. James and Sis. Lois Sutter became grandparents for the first time, when Dana Leah was born to Bro. Randy and Sis. Pam Sutter, who now live in Morris.

Bro. Leroy Huber was our visiting minister. How we appreciated the words that were spoken to us! May we not so soon forget. May God bless him for coming.

Farmers are making good use of the nice weather for harvesting. The land which had been flooded is yielding a fair bean harvest, but some acres were too wet to be planted.

TUCSON

Mrs. Loren Knapp

We've again approached autumn. Although we do not see many leaves changing color and falling to the ground, we can feel it in the air. The Lord has provided us all with the four seasons, no matter where we live. In Tucson, you can tell by the cool nights and scattered clouds throughout each day, although it is still pleasantly warm. Our gardens seem to do the best this time of year, and it's so refreshing. We are indeed thankful for all.

Some of our loved ones have been in and out of the hospital, and we're glad to report they are now home and both doing as well as expected. They are Sis. Grace Haller and Friend Bill Griener.

The marriage of Bro. Glen Funk and Sis. Sally Wullschleger was solemnized on Oct. 21 in the Wichita Church. We were sorry more of us could not make it, due to distance. Our prayers and thoughts were with them both that day. We wish them much happiness, setting up a new Christian home here in Tucson.

The adults and Sunday School have enjoyed many dinners and picnics together in the new fellowship Hall and look forward to many more in the coming months. We invite all friends and brethren, passing through, to stop and visit us, anytime.

Visiting minister was Bro. Richard Schupbach of Phoenix.

We're all aware, it's again the time of year in which we celebrate Thanksgiving. We have to just stop for a moment and realize how fortunate we've all been in this past year. Not only should we be thankful now, but every day of our lives. Then we must stop and think of those who are alone, older in years, widows and orphans. Do we, as Christians, take time out from our own selfish motives and visit one of these loved ones off and on? We know how much it means to them, and it reminds me of a wise saying I once read: "Those who bring sunshine to the lives of others cannot keep it from themselves."

WICHITA

Glennis Allenbach

It is accomplished in part! We moved into our new sanctuary, Oct. 21. It was not finished, but we were thankful to be able to hold morning service and the afternoon wedding there.

Sis. Sally Wullschleger and Bro. Glen Funk were united in holy matrimony. Many out-of-town guests attended from Gridley, Illinois, Glen's hometown. He is much loved, for so many to come so far to be with him. His uncle, Bro. William Funk gave the morning message. They were married by Elder Sam Anliker. Other visiting ministers were Elder Raymond Banwart and Bro. Loren Strahm.

Wonderful fellowship was enjoyed afterward at a lovely reception and buffet.

An enjoyable evening was spent preceding the wedding with a dinner, and later a singing at Bro. Dick and Sis. Joslin Payton's home.

Bro. Al and Sis. Judy Langhofer have had their prayers answered when their son Eric, who is stationed with the air force in Spain, told them he had given his life to the Lord. He has asked that he be remembered in prayer, and says that he feels he needs the prayers of those he loves. I'm sure it will be a comfort to him, to know that we are praying for him, and I know he would appreciate any of your letters of encouragement. He has found a quiet place by a stream nearby, where he can be alone with the Lord and study his word.

Since this is the season for Thanksgiving, I have tried to recall an act of thankfulness that stands out in my memory.

Many years ago I knew a consecrated Christian lady. She didn't have an easy life, with a large family, and not too much to do with, but she always had a ready smile and loved to talk of salvation. As her family grew up, they were able to own a nice home. As I recall, they didn't live there long, when it burned so badly that I don't believe they ever moved back. This was in a small town, and as people often do, they held a get-together at the schoolhouse, and everyone brought things for them. I recall her standing by her things, and very humbly thanking all of us for our help, and she also included thanks to the Lord.

At that time I could not begin to comprehend how she had anything to be thankful for, after what had happened, but I was not considering the really important things. I feel she was like Job, when he lost most everything, and could still praise the Lord and be thankful.

In closing, I would share a pleasant thought with you. I read a poem that spoke of magnificent Autumn burning itself out in beautiful flames of red and gold, that leave it burned brown.

How beautiful is God's handiwork.

FAIRBURY

Joyce Huber

Sis. Mary Beth Maurer was in

the tour group that was following the Apostle Paul's missionary travels, getting to see many interesting sights of Greece, Turkey, Isle of Patmos, the Greek Island, etc., when their ship was intercepted by the Arabs. Although their ship was detained and they did not get to Jerusalem, they did get to see many things mentioned in the Bible, and the tour headquarters plan to make another Holy Land trip available to them. They were grateful for the prayers for their safety, and Mary Beth returned home as scheduled, having had a most enlightening and inspirational trip.

Sis. Hermina Zimmerman, 84, passed away at the hospital. Her husband, Bro. Joe, died April 1954. Surviving are seven sons: Bro. Lloyd, Ralph, Eugene, John, Robert, Ronald, Harold; three daughters: Helen Tate, Ruth King, Pauline Franz.

Sis. Amelia Zimmerman, 77, passed away suddenly; funeral services were held Nov. 1. Her husband, Bro. C. Edward Zimmerman died in 1961. Her parents were Lewis and Margaret Metz. Surviving are three sons: Melvin, Maurice, Edward; six daughters: Evelyn Rigsby, Mary Ellen Nylander, Arlene Walter, Alene Perkins, Donna Gadberry, Shirley Lutrell. . . **Note of Thanks:** The Lord has found that mother's work here on earth is completed and has called her Home to rest. What precious memories we have of her. We want to thank each one for the kind deeds and expressions of sympathy shown to us at the time of our dear mother's passing. The Family of Amelia Zimmerman.

Samuel Furrer, Sis. Kate Zehr, and Sis. Salome Zimmerman were hospitalized.

We enjoyed visiting ministers: Bro. Carl Westfall, Bro. Joe Braker, Bro. Art Bauer, Bro. Bob Walder.

ALTADENA Judy Cremer

We read in the word when Jesus "saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd. Then saith he unto his disciples, The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest." As we

read these words in church last Wednesday night, we were made more aware of the great need for laborers in these latter days. Then in John 4, Jesus points out further, "Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest. And he that reapeth receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto life eternal . . ." At this time of year, the harvest-time, these words are even more impressive, and we realize the urgency of serving our Lord. Let us be a witness and shining light for this dark world to see, and pray for an ingathering of souls.

It truly was a blessing having Dr. Shantwan here from the mission in India. He shared his testimony of faith, as well as his slides of India. How thankful it makes us be for the little things we take for granted. How blessed we are!

Bro. Virgil Graf is the new superintendent of our Sunday School. Bro. Bill Witzig is the new member of the board of trustees.

In this season of Thanksgiving, let us thank and praise our Lord, who has given us all perfect gifts and manifold blessings.

CISSNA PARK

Margaret Rudin — Grace Bauer

The men of noble spirit, the
Pilgrims are at rest;
The treasures we inherit Proclaim
the memory blest.
From every valley lowly, from
mountain tops above,
Let grateful thoughts, and holy,
rise to the God above.

We are again beholding the beautiful autumn, with colored leaves and trees. We have been blessed with wonderful weather for our harvest. Let us thank our great God for the many blessings He has bestowed upon us.

The 40th wedding anniversary of Bro. Henry and Sis. Laura Hodel and the 25th wedding anniversary of Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Loretta Bauer was observed.

Bro. Emil Schmitt is a hospital patient, having had surgery.

Bros. Roy Grimm and Bob Grimm were guest ministers.

A group of our young people en-

joyed the week-end of Oct. 27 and 28 in Elgin, Illinois.

Even the angels in heaven rejoice over one sinner that repents . . . and we also rejoice that we have four more dear souls who have repented, found peace, and have been announced for proving in the near future. They are Gayle Hari, daughter of Al and Sis. Til; Barbara Hoffmann, daughter of Bro. Harry and Sis. Helen; Marla Bauer, daughter of Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Loretta; and Bonita Stock, daughter of Bro. Melvin and Sis. Edith.

Bro. Walter Hari, age 73, passed away Oct. 12 at the Paxton Hospital, after a short illness. Funeral services were held Oct. 14. Survivors include his wife, Sis. Bena; one son, Bro. Everett; one daughter, Sis. Glenda Meyer; three brothers, Bros. Sam, Albert, Elmer. Bro. Walter was in charge of the church maintenance and sexton of the church cemetery. We will miss him very much. Several weeks ago, he still got things ready for the baptisms. Our sympathy is extended to the family . . . **Note of thanks:** We want to express our thanks and gratitude for all the love shown to us during the illness and since the passing away of our loved one. The many kind deeds will never be forgotten. The family of Walter Hari.

God plucked a tiny flower for His Garden. Three-month-old David William Lackey Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. David Lackey Sr., was taken away Oct. 26. It was a crib death. Survivors are his parents and grandparents. Funeral services were held Oct. 28. Our sympathy is extended to his parents.

In Memoriam of our dear mother, Sis. Anna Rudin, who passed away one year ago Nov. 26.

She is gone but not forgotten,
And as dawns another year
In our hours of lonely thinking
Thoughts of her are always near.
Her children.

ELGIN, IOWA

Eleanor Butikofer

Autumn has arrived in reality. Some of the trees are already bare of their foliage. The farmers are very busy, harvesting their bean and corn crops. We are thankful to God for a bountiful yield.

Walking the one half mile to reach our rural mail box recently

... gave the opportunity to observe sights and sounds of nature. In the way of sounds, a robin was heard, also the song of a gold finch which was winging its way across a field of corn, and the rustling of the leaves on the corn stalks, as the wind took its way through the field. As to sights, a ring-necked pheasant flew up with a whir, and winged its way across the meadow, the azure blue of the sky and the somber yellow and brown colors of a nearby forest came to view. May God be praised for His many gifts to mankind.

We are looking forward with joy in our hearts to this coming weekend. It is then that Elder Leo Moser plans to be with us to hear Wilmer Moore's testimony of his repentance and peace with God. He will assist our elder, Paul Butikofer, with the baptism.

We are happy to learn of others who are giving their hearts to the Lord. Will write more about this next time the Elgin report is sent.

Bro. Henry Beer was a visitor. It was indeed a blessed evening at our church. Bro. Henry read the 16th chapter in the Proverbs and the 13th chapter in the Revelation, expounding on the latter. He made it very important to all of us to be ready for the rapture, or the end of our lives, for when either takes place, it would be too late for us to change our course. We thank the Beers for coming and do hope to see them here another time.

We enjoyed having Bro. Noah Gerber spend a Sunday with us and sharing God's word.

We have learned of Kathy Banwart's engagement to Tim Butikofer. They plan to be married on 30th day of December. The former is the daughter of Bro. Alvin and Sis. Phyllis of West Bend, and the latter is the son of Bro. Paul and Sis. Mildred Butikofer.

EUREKA

Cathryn Wettstein
Salome Schumacher

Our guest ministers were very scarce, as we had only one, Bro. Eli Somerhalder from Burlington, Oklahoma.

We had a wedding announced on Oct. 14. It was Sis. Debra Lynn Rocke and Harvey Joos (from Hancock). Her parents are Bro. and Sis. Harry and Lydia Rocke; his folks are the Gottlieb Joos. A Jan-

uary wedding is planned.

In the hospital: Sis. Lena Leman (Bro. Alf's wife) is a patient in Eureka Hospital for tests. Jonathan, 8-month-old son of Bro. and Sis. Si and Lavonne Wagenbach, is a patient in St. Francis Hospital. He shows improvement from meningitis. Bro. Joe Klaus is still in St. Francis Hospital but is improving, and we are all hoping that he will soon be able to return to his home.

As this is the month of Thanksgiving Day, we should all try to be thankful to God for all things. However, many of us have had sorrow come into our homes, by the hand of God taking a loved one out of our midst, and yet we must believe that what God does is well done.

Thanksgiving Day will soon be here With its golden harvest-time.

Our season's handiwork is blest, As we enjoy these gifts of Thine.

Oh God, we give Thee Thanks.

May we remember those in poverty

Whose blessings are so few,
May we with them our bounty share,

And think of those in sorrow too.
Oh God, we give Thee thanks!

HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

Elmer Bucher

The family at the home has grown to 38, with the coming of Sis. Edith Wagenbach from Oakville. We trust that she will feel the same love and compassion that has been felt by the many who have come to make this their home.

Willis Belsley (the brother of Sis. Loreen Maibach) said, "It's so peaceful here—it's almost like heaven." Peggy Full's mother said, "I can sleep nights now, knowing Peg is here". Such comments should be a great comfort and source of encouragement to Bro. Bob, as well as the staff and the many who have helped in any way to make the Home possible.

The luncheon and bake sale is to be held the 7th of December, with serving from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. This provides an opportunity for any who would like to become better acquainted with the home and its functions, as well as helping out by bringing baked goods, hand-made crafts, etc.

Whatsoever ye have done unto the least of these my little ones, ye have done unto me.

MANSFIELD

Aaron A. Sauder

Precious new souls have blessed two homes with their arrivals. On Oct. 1, Blake David was born to Dave and Elaine Bocka Tuttle; little Douglas is also busy with his baby brother; maternal grandmother is Sis. Leora Gasser Bocka (Emil), great-grandmother, Sis. Katie Bocka (Martin), and great-grandfather, Bro. Albert Gasser Sr. . . . Bro. Jim Jr and Sis. Cheryl Zimmer are the parents of a son, Bradley James, born Oct. 14; two sisters join in the joy of the new baby; paternal grandparents are Bro. Jim Sr. and Sis. Clara Sabo Zimmer; great-grandmothers, Sis. Louise Sabo (Henry) and Mae Zimmer (Clarence).

May God's blessings be on the home established by the new Mr. and Mrs. Chester Allen Stacy, who exchanged wedding vows Oct. 13. The bride is the former Kathy Sue Beer, daughter of Bro. Robert and Sis. Kathryn Beer.

We are thankful our hospital patients this past month have all been released; they are: Bro. Albert Gasser Sr., Raymond Enderle, Ricky Sauder (son of Bro. Dick and Sis. Carolyn), and Claudia Dolce Gadd (Jerry).

Sympathy to Sis. Kathryn Beer (Robert) and her family, in the death of her step-mother. We also extend sympathy to Martin Erhart, on the death of his sister, Christine Erhart Johnson.

Thank you to our visiting ministers, Bro. Gary Maibach, on Oct. 7, and Bro. Joe Kaisner Oct. 19; also to Bro. John Dapper, as he and his wife, Sis. Julia, and Sis. Eva Fuhrer were unexpectedly called to our community by the death of Christine Johnson, who was also a sister of Julia and Eva.

PRINCEVILLE

Ruth Ricketts

We have been enjoying beautiful autumn weather. The farmers have been busy gathering in the harvest. Much of the grain has been garnered in, and we have many reasons for thanksgiving. A most rewarding sight is found looking about, the trees in their many colored splendor. The con-

trast is so lovely, brown, rust, red, yellow and shades of green, and sometimes when the sun is shining on a golden tree, looks like gold. I wonder how we look in the sight of those around us, or especially to God. Do we radiate an inner peace and show the beauty we possess by walking close to God? It would be sad if we would be as one without color, drab and not pleasing to look upon.

We had a number of visitors from the Roanoke congregation, and were happy to have Bros. Eugene Bertchi and Jim Leman minister to us. Many kindly admonitions were given and much food for thought.

This month held much sadness for our congregation; we laid three dear souls to rest.

Bro. Christian J. Elsasser died Oct. 9 in the St. Francis Hospital, where he had been a patient for several weeks. He was born June 4, 1906, the son of William and Marie Hoerr Elsasser, and lived in this community all his life. He is survived by his faithful wife, Sis. Leila (Streitmatter) and two sons; Bros. Duane and Jordon, both of the Bradford congregation; two brothers, Bros. William of Bradford and John of our congregation; three sisters; Sisters Anna Streitmatter and Marie Seidel of our congregation and Emma Knobloch of Bradford. He was preceded in death by one son and two brothers. (These three brothers died shortly more than a year apart.) Funeral services were held Oct. 12, with our local ministers officiating. He was laid to rest in the church cemetery.

We were again saddened to learn of the passing of our dear Sis. Elizabeth Wagenbach, in the Proctor Hospital on Oct. 13. Sis. Elizabeth will be sorely missed, not only by her family, but by all who knew her. She crocheted many shawls and lap robes for the less fortunate. She always enjoyed doing for others. She had been in the hospital only three days, suffered a heart attack, and was suddenly taken out of this life.

She was born near Morton Aug. 12, 1895, to Wm. and Louise Yeutter Aberle, and married George Wagenbach. She will be missed by her beloved husband, Bro. George, who suffered a stroke a few months ago and is still not

able to fully care for himself. Other survivors are two sons: Bros. Raymond and Lawrence, both of our congregation; two daughters: Sisters Bernice Stoller of our congregation and Mary Ellen Martin of Eureka; three brothers: John of Washington, Henry of Morton, and Elmer of Eureka; and six sisters; Sisters Rose Schlipf of Gridley, Lena Wiegand of Eureka; Nettie Huette, Ruth, Esther, and Mary Aberle, all of Morton. Services were held Oct. 16, with local minister officiating. She was laid to rest in the church cemetery.

The Elsasser and Wagenbach families wish to thank everyone for the deeds of kindness shown during the illnesses and during the bereavement. The visits, cards, flowers and prayers and other acts of love will not be forgotten.

Bro. George Wagenbach has been staying in the home of Bro. Vernon and Sis. Bernice Stoller since the illness and passing of Sis. Elizabeth.

We again assembled to pay our respects to a dear departed friend who worshipped with us many times. Rudolph Scheurer was called out of this life a few days after suffering a massive stroke on Oct. 23. He was born Sept. 28, 1888 in Bern, Switzerland to Alfred and Lena Witschi Scheurer. He came to the United States in 1909 and made his home with the William Feucht family for a number of years, later living with the William Streitmatter family. He attended our church quite regularly, and the last six years he lived at the Apostolic Christian Home in Peoria. As long as he could, he still came here to church. He was very active at the home and very interested in crafts. He had a quiet nature and loved by all those who knew him. Funeral services were held Oct. 25, with our local ministers officiating. Burial was in the church cemetery.

The Feucht and Streitmatter families thank all those who remembered Rudy in any way. Likewise our ministers wish to thank those who tenderly cared for him during his sunset years. He had no relatives here in this country, and we feel he was grateful for any kindness from his friends.

Two Brothers are gravely ill. Bro. Chris Martin has been moved to the A.C. Home in Peoria, after being in the hospital for five weeks.

He is very sick and remains very weak. We know he will have tender, loving care among those of like faith, for which we are most grateful . . . Bro. Emil Lauber is very sick, in the Methodist Hospital in Peoria. He is very weak and needs much rest. How comforting to know these brothers and their families can place their trust in a loving God who promises to be with them.

The infant daughter of Bro. and Sis. Donna Gehrig spent some time in the hospital for tests, but was again brought home, and we trust she will soon be all right.

Sis. Edith Stahl, who spent four weeks in the hospital, wishes to thank everyone for the cards, visits, flowers, prayers and other acts of love rendered during her illness. We are so glad she is able to be about and doing her regular duties.

Bro. Harvey Grimm is an ever welcome visitor, and we were thankful to have him occupy the pulpit one Sunday morning.

Following afternoon services Oct. 21, many heard the testimony of Judy Schaefer, daughter of Bro. Fred and Sis. Esther (Baer) Schaefer. It is truly humbling when one can hear how the Lord works in the hearts of these young souls, and see the love of God radiating from their beaming face. Judy said how she heard how you must loose yourself from everything and give up all, and the Lord can give you peace. As she went about her work the following day, she felt so very heavy and couldn't understand why, as she was praying to be loosed from all earthly ties. She had a most wonderful experience of seeing the Lord Jesus, Himself, with angels all about, and then she could feel the peace flowing within her heart. We are happy for Judy, who became our sister in faith.

Our friend, Loui Baer, is a hospital patient, following surgery, and is looking forward to going home soon.

We thank our loving God for the bountiful blessings enjoyed the past year, but most thankful for the most important thing, the wonderful plan of salvation. We can never be thankful enough for the suffering of our dear Lord Jesus on the cross, who shed His precious blood as a ransom for our sins, and through believing His word and living in faith can hope to receive

eternal Life with Him. Perhaps this may be our last Thanksgiving Day on this earth; let us be ever thankful.

AKRON Katherine Ries

"It is a good thing to give thanks unto the LORD, and to sing praises unto thy name, O most High: To shew forth thy lovingkindness in the morning, and thy faithfulness every night . . ." we are so grateful for all His blessings, especially for our elders and ministers that serve us so richly with God's word, and also our visiting ministers, Bros. Joe Kaisner of Forrest and Gary Maibach of Rittman.

Sept. 8, Friend Eric Ritzman and Mary Hoban were united in marriage. Eric is the son of Sis. Marie and the late Bro. Forrest, and Mary's parents are Mr. and Mrs. Albert Hoban of Dayton. The newlyweds address is 428 E. Tuscarawas Ave., Barberton, O. 44203. We wish them the Lord's blessing and much happiness as they walk life's pathway together.

We pray for those who have been patients in hospitals, and are now reported satisfactory: Bro. Stanley Francis and Friend Janice Greenback, daughter of Bro. Gordon and Sis. Emily.

CHICAGO

Mrs. Perry Klopfenstein

In this land of freedom, we have so very much to be thankful for. This was particularly impressed on me in talking with a friend in our church, who told me about conditions in Yugoslavia, her home country. As a young child she accompanied her believing mother to church, and was instructed in the way of righteousness. However, she related that such is not the case for children in that country today. Although the government allows church worship, and is apparently the least restrictive of all Communist countries in this regard, social pressure and atheistic instruction in the schools have produced a new generation of people who have virtually no regard for religion, but rather consider it an object of scorn. In Yugoslavia, it is very difficult to obtain employment if you attend a church or profess a belief in God. This is a serious problem, since living standards are for the most part comparatively

low and jobs scarce. The friend I spoke to had employment, but would have lost her job had she continued to attend church.

Conditions in our country are much different. She expressed her appreciation of our worship services, and is glad to see so many young people in our congregation. "In Yugoslavia," she said sadly, "The older ones are almost the only ones who attend church. Soon the churches will die out and belief in God will be forgotten."

In conjunction with the sad state of spiritual affairs in Yugoslavia and other repressed European countries as well, an important question arises . . . Do we appreciate the freedom we have? For many years we have been free to assemble in the house of worship and fellowship with God's people. In our Sunday Schools, our children are taught to reverence and honor God and His Son, recognizing Him as the Creator and Master of all things. As they grow older and become converted, it is apparent that here in our circles, Christ's church is not dying out. During this Thanksgiving season, let us especially appreciate these blessings of freedom we enjoy. It would be well for us to remember Jesus' words: "For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required".

We were glad to have Ministering Bros. Russell Rapp from Morton and Earl Zeltwanger from Bremen with us.

Oct. 21, Bro. Lonnie Steffen and Sis. Susan Stoller were united in marriage in the Lord. We wish them God's blessings in their new life together.

FORT WAYNE

Pam Steffen — Eleanor Steiglitz

There is beauty all around . . . there is joy in every sound . . . peace and plenty here abide, smiling sweetly on every side, time doth softly, sweetly glide, when there's love at home.

Love was in the hearts of Sis. Lenore Stoller and Bro. Melvin Sorg as they were united in marriage. Their new home will overflow with love.

The hand of the Lord is surely upon all that trust and believe on Him. This was demonstrated to us through an automobile accident involving Sis. Vonnie, Jane, Charla,

and Stan Stoller. The car was totally demolished, but Vonnie, Jane, Charla, and Stan had only a few cuts and bruises. The Lord, through His saving grace and love, protected them.

Marty Pence was a surgical patient at the St. Joe Hospital.

Thanks to God

Thanks to God for my Redeemer;
Thanks for all Thou dost provide!
Thanks for prayers that Thou has answered;
Thanks for storms that we have weathered;
Thanks for pain, and thanks for pleasure;
Thanks for grace that none can measure;
Thanks for comfort and despair!
Thanks for love beyond compare!

GOODFIELD Elna Grimm

Tears of love and sympathy flow again for the dear Knapp family. Three times in less than one month they were met with the death angel. On Wed. Oct. 24, George A. Knapp from Goodfield passed from this life into eternity. He was critically injured on Mon., Oct. 15, when his pickup truck rolled over several times. He remained unconscious until the time he passed away. Surviving are his wife, Wilma Klopfenstein Knapp, Goodfield; four sons: David, Eureka; Kenneth, St. Louis; Bruce and Mark at home; and one daughter, Barbara, also at home.

Our hospital patients have been Sis. Laura Steffen, Washington, and Friend Linda Heinold Melton.

We were pleased to have Bro. Harvey Heiniger, Oakville, minister to us on Sun. Oct. 14.

Cendra Lynn, a little baby girl, was born to Dennis and Sis. Carol Martin of Eureka on Oct. 9. Bro. and Sis. Henry and Perceda Wiegand of Goodfield are the maternal grandparents.

Jacob Bauman, son of Bro. and Sis. Elmer and Mildred, R. R. Congerville, was married to Crystal Christopherson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dewey Christopherson, Roanoke, on Oct. 20. Bruce Knapp, son of the late George A. and Wilma of Goodfield, was married to Mary Zook, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Zook of Washburn, also on Oct. 20.

KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY Libby Meyer

A young sister was teaching her Sunday School class the song, "Jesus wants me for a Sunbeam." This happened to be only a few days after the death of one young child's little sister. Upon hearing the words of the song, this child, in sweet realization, exclaimed, "My little sister's a Sunbeam now!"

Visiting ministers Bro. Gene Marti, Bros. Bob and Henry Grimm, and Bro. Loren Strahm served us. Again we felt blessed with abundance from the messages spoken.

LA CROSSE

Gwen Bucher — Lorene Moser

"I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth."

By this we know there is joy in heaven for our new Bro. Albert Sinn. He was baptized in his home by our elder brothers, as his health is very poor.

We are glad to welcome back from California Mr. and Mrs. Allen Hitz and their three sons. Allen is the son of Bro. Ben and Sis. Lena Hitz and has been in the Air Force.

Our shut-ins from last month, Bro. Sam Frank and Linda Albrecht are in church with us again. Little Lance Bucher (Bro. Ken and Sis. Carol) had surgery, spent 11 days in the hospital, and is again recovered.

On Oct. 21, we were blessed by the visit of Bro. George Lambert of Wichita, and on Oct. 28, by Bro. Gene Lehman of Wolcott.

Bro. Elvin and Sis. Janet Nuest are the parents of Karen Sue, born on Oct. 25. She has four brothers and three sisters. Sis. Jan had surgery following the birth, and is slowly regaining her strength at home.

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY Bev Maibach

This year on campus we welcome our new students, who are Bruce Wingeier from Alto and Trudy Schlatter from Bay City. May God's grace and blessings be theirs as they pursue their academic endeavors and walk of life.

Our hearts were deeply moved and refreshed seeing so many friends, students and brethren as-

semble with us for our first fall services, held Oct. 11 at our campus chapel. Bro. Aaron Steffen from Alto shared with us teachings from Hebrews, and humbly entreated us to prayerfully and carefully live our lives daily for the Lord. After services, Alto hosted the fellowship hour with refreshments, as many gathered yet to sing. We sincerely extend our appreciation to the many loved ones for their deeds of kindness and continued support. Other visiting ministers were Bros. Elmer Schrenk from Alto, Ben Maibach, and Floyd Wieland from Detroit. We continue to covet your prayers in our spiritual endeavors, and most heartily extend an invitation for any to worship with us.

MILFORD

Sandee Price — Sue Schieler

The beautiful fall weather has permitted the farmers to finish harvesting quite early in the season, and we all thank God for the bountiful harvest.

The Lord has again called one dear soul, and Noah Clauss has answered the call.

Hospitalized were Marlene Steffen, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Walter; Joshua Beer, son of Bro. and Sis. Joe; Sis. Sandee Price and Sis. Marguerite Hoerr.

Ministering the word to us recently have been Bro. Bob Walders, Congerville; Bro. Art Bahler, Fairbury, Bro. Edwin Ringger—Gridley, and Bro. Dave Weigand—Champaign.

The high school and Junior high Sunday School classes chartered a bus to Mansfield, where they enjoyed fellowshiping with the young people from there.

MINNEAPOLIS Kathryn Olson

Thank you, God, for everything,
the big things and the small,
For every good gift comes from
God,
the giver of them all.

And give us new awareness of our
many gifts from Thee,
and help us to remember that a
key to life and living.
Is to make each prayer, a prayer of
thanks,
and everyday, Thanksgiving.

Visiting ministers were Bros. Herman Kellenberger, Elgin; El-

mer Schmidt, Winthrop. If we as brethren obey the teachings and lessons given by our ministers, our trials and temptations shall be few.

We have again experienced a wonderful weekend with a young and tender soul being gathered into the fold. We were refreshed and encouraged as we listened to the testimony of Timothy Esterling. Baptismal services was witnessed by many loved ones.

We are sorry to see Karen Metzger leave our congregation. Karen is going back to her hometown, West Bend, where she will be employed. We know our loss will be their gain, and we hope she will come back and visit us often.

Mrs. Allan Nelson, mother of Mrs. Richard Miller, has been hospitalized due to a fall.

INDIANAPOLIS Eric and Ginny Zeller

"I will sing a new song unto thee,
O God: upon the psaltery and an
instrument of ten strings will I sing
praises unto thee."

The brothers and sisters of Indianapolis have much to be thankful for. With the help of the Lord, we have been able to complete our church and are planning our dedication to be the Sunday of Jan. 19.

Visiting ministers were: Wendell Gudeman, Francesville, Al Bahler, Wolcott; Clarence Kachelmuss, Forrest; Joe Aberle, Sabetha; Earl Zeltwanger, Bremen; Francis Rother, Morton; Don Sauder, Ronoake; Carl Kipfer, Sam Aeschliman, Bluffton.

We were all deeply grieved at the loss of our friend, Craig Gutwein, but we praise the Lord that he was able to find his salvation before going to be with his Saviour. Christ said: "Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions . . ."

MORRIS

Ann Meiss — Esther Schaefer

"I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the LORD."

As we count our many blessings, being able to go to church and hear the precious word and enjoy the fellowship is a blessing we are truly thankful for. We have enjoyed many happy hours as we assemble in our house of worship.

Four souls gave their testimonies of faith and were baptized. Doris Kay Koehl, daughter of Bro. Edward and Sis. Lillian; Kathy Dogotch, daughter of Bro. Leo and Sis. Thelma; Connie Zeltwanger, daughter of Bro. John and Sis. Mabel; and Tim Esterling, son of Don and Josie of Minneapolis. Elder Bro. Roy Sauder of Peoria was here to help our elder, Bro. Paul Fehr with this important work and Bro. Roy, along with Bro. Noah Miller of Minneapolis so wonderfully shared God's word with us.

On Oct. 14, Diane Fehr and Mike Schmidgall were united in marriage by Diane's father, Elder Bro. Paul Fehr. Mike is the son of Bro. Don and Sis. Virginia. We wish Mike and Diane God's blessings. Among our visitors for this happy occasion was Elder Bro. Leo Moser of Lester, who ministered to us, and gave us much food for thought.

The engagement of Bro. Harvey Joos and Sis. Debra Rocke of Tremont was made known. A December wedding is being planned for Paul Fehr Jr. (Bro. Paul and Sis. Anna) and Marie Staples. We wish these two couples God's blessings.

Otto Greiner is recovering from surgery. Kathy Wulf spent several days in the Morris Hospital, the result of an automobile accident.

On October 6, Karen Luthi and Marvin Schultz were united in marriage by Karen's uncle, Bro. Paul Fehr. The wedding was at the home of the bride's parents, George and Ruby Luthi, with the reception at the fellowship center. We wish them much happiness and God's blessings.

Five families were blest with babies in the month of October. On the 17th, a son, Kevin Allen was born to Bro. Harvey and Sis. Wilda Koehl. The grandparents are Bro. and Sis. Charlie Koehl and Bro. and Sis. Paul Fehr. On Oct. 18, Christopher Allen was born to Len and Beverly Minke. Bro. and Sis. Frank Messner are the grandparents. Melanie Ann is the name chosen by Howard and Edna Goll for their first child. He was born on Oct. 19. Bertha Goll is the grandmother. On Oct. 26, Bro. Don and Sis. Della Luthi welcomed another son, Galen David. Grandparents are Bro. and Sis. Wm. Luthi and Bro. and Sis. Ernest Metzger of Lester. Bro. Randy and Sis. Pam Sutter are the happy parents of a little girl, Dana

Leigh, born on Oct. 28. Bro. Floyd and Sis. Vila Schmidgall are first-time grandparents. Bro. and Sis. James Sutter of Taylor are the paternal grandparents.

We were happy to have Bro. Joe Braker with us on Oct. 28. We thank Bro. Joe for sharing God's word in such a sincere way.

We rejoice with the three friends who have turned to the Lord in repentance: Cheryl Koehl (daughter of Bro. and Sis. Ernest) and Kenneth and Karen Koehl. Ken is the son of Bro. and Sis. Charlie Koehl, and Karen is the daughter of Bro. and Sis. Ben Griener. We wish them much grace.

Henry Goll passed away, after an illness of several months. He is survived by his wife, Millie; his mother, Sis. Rose Goll of the Elgin, Ill., congregation; and several brothers and sisters, also of Elgin. Burial will be at Elgin. Millie wishes to thank everyone for their kindness and sympathy.

NEW MARTINSVILLE

Mrs. Gus Weltz
Miss Della Witschey

October was a beautiful month here in the valley, quite dry, but we had four days of rain, Oct. 28 through Oct. 31. The ground was well filled with water and much of the beauty of the leaves was damaged, but the rain was more worthwhile. As of Nov. 3, we have had no freezing weather and very little frost.

Many visitors have been here, and all attended services at the Sardis church on Sunday and visited with friends in Sardis and here in New Martinsville. Mr. and Mrs. Delbert Indermuhle and daughter Joyce and son Allen accompanied them. On Oct. 7 Mr. and Mrs. Loren Stoller from Latty; Oct. 14 Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Kaiser from Forrest; on Oct. 28, Ben and Dorothy Stavenik from Mansfield.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Berger, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Berger and Howard Riggenbach attended services at the Sardis church on Oct. 7.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Durig, Miss Della Witschey, Mr. and Mrs. C. O. Wade, Mrs. Elza Ritz and Mrs. Gus Weltz attended the afternoon service at the Sardis church on Oct. 14.

Mr. and Mrs. Elza Ritz will celebrate their golden wedding anni-

versary on Dec. 12; there are no plans for any observance by them.

Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Williams of Akron were guests of the Barth families on Oct. 24, 25, and 26.

Mrs. L. W. Witschey and family visited with Miss Della Witschey during the month.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Mullett and daughters spent a Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Timmis in Warwood, W. Va. Mrs. Timmis is the former Lizzie Hassig of Limestone Ridge.

Jerry Wade, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. O. Wade, suffered a heart attack on Oct. 19. There was no damage to the heart, and he will soon be able to return to work.

Mrs. Lydia Hassig of Sterling, O., Mr. and Mrs. Henry Hassig of Detroit, Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Lantz of Bluffton., Mr. and Mrs. John Lantz of Fort Wayne were visitors with Mrs. John Froelich and family. Thanksgiving will have come and gone by the time most of us read the November issue of Silver Lining; we trust all have been very thankful for the many blessings given us the past year.

Christmas will have come and gone by the time we read the December issue of the Silver Lining, so we wish for one and all a happy and joyous Christmas season. WE SAW HIS STAR (Matthew 2:2). Christ, whose birth we celebrate, makes us radiantly aware of the new life. Joy to the world, the Lord has come.

PHOENIX

Mrs. Allan Freed

"And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh."

Sis. Lois Elsasser was in church last Sunday for the first time since August, when she had surgery in Rochester, Minnesota. It was good to see her walk into the assembly room, after such a long absence . . . Thank you: I would like to express my sincere thanks to all who remembered me in prayer and for the many cards, letters, visits and gifts I received during my illness. A special thank you for the gift of money from the anonymous giver. Sis. Lois Elsasser.

Sis. Cathy Emch (wife of Bro. Don) is feeling better, after being homebound for a number of weeks. We were glad to see her in church

again.

Our beloved Elder Bro. Roy Farny was hospitalized the first part of October, after a heart attack. He is home now, and the latest word we have is that he is gaining strength daily. His absence is surely felt by our congregation, and we're truly thankful that God is answering our prayers in his behalf.

Bro. Joe Heinold has recovered from a heart spell he had while he and his wife, Sis. Hulda, were in LaCrosse this past summer, but he has to take life somewhat easier now.

Bro. Wayne Kircher was hospitalized for tests. Many of our small flock have been absent with flu and colds.

We miss Sis. Lena Vege, who moved back to Elgin, Ill., to be near her children and grandchildren.

Also moving to Elgin was Sis. Emma Moser, who is still feeling the effects of breaking her hip last spring. She is making her home with her daughter there for the present time.

Sis. Eileen Yackley was one of the group from our various congregations who took a boat tour of the Mediterranean, visiting many of the places where the Apostle Paul preached. She and we are thankful for God's protection, as their ship was held for a number of hours by the Syrians. Sis. Eileen said it was spiritually upbuilding to actually visit some of the places mentioned in the Bible.

Welcome to Beverly Schmidgall, who moved here from Minneapolis. Her address is 3301 N. 10th Ave., Phoenix 85013.

PURDUE

Linda Pfladderer—Lynell Bahler

We are in the Thanksgiving season, when men are thankful for their blessings. We, too, are thankful that God has called our friend, Marian Germann into repentance. We wish her much grace, peace, and happiness.

We're also thankful for the wonderful fellowship we could enjoy at college week-end, on October 13 and 14, in which Purdue was host. Bros. Ed Alt, Cissna Park; Ed Frank, LaCrosse; Earl Zeltwanger, Bremen; Dale Eisenmann, Chicago; Bob Meyer, Bluffton; Walt Steffen, Milford; Wendell Gudeman, Francesville; Alfred Bahler and Gene

Lehman, Wolcott; and Edwin Bahler, Remington, were with us on Saturday. We appreciate their efforts to come and be with us. We had a blessed Sunday together, as Bro. Elmer Bucher from Francesville and Bro. Edwin Bahler from Remington ministered with us.

Remington was host on Oct. 17. Bro. Gene Bertschi from Roanoke was our guest minister. We were reminded that we are living in latter times, and we must watch and pray, for we know not when the Lord will come again.

On Oct. 31, Bro. Edwin Ringger labored with us, as Gridley was host. He had many encouraging and inspiring words to offer.

As we are giving thanks at this time of year, it should remind us that we have much to be thankful for throughout the whole year, for the many blessings that God bestows on us from day to day.

UNION CITY

Karen Martin

Each perfect autumn day has been a true gift from God. The past month has been so lovely, with the fall colors and crisp fresh air, making each day a blessing.

We are happy to have Bro. John and Sis. Kathy Clough with us again, after their absence due to business travels.

We felt privileged to hear the ministry of Bro. Ernest Luginbuhl and Bro. John Bahler from Rockville. We were reminded that if we are unprepared to take part in Communion, we are also unprepared to meet our Maker.

Walter Rumpf has expressed his desire to be baptized, and we are happy for him and wish him God's blessings.

We are thankful for a time of the year especially put aside to be thankful. How rewarding to be among friends and relatives on Thanksgiving Day, sharing with one another.

VALPARAISO

Camille and Wm. Feller

A man of authority under severe criticism for past failures was asked, "On what do you base your misfortunes?"

He replied, "As I walked the corridors of a hospital this week, one could see much affliction. Listen to me, my troubles are few, thanks be to God."

We often enough are not thankful for that which God has bestowed upon us. Yet on the Cross, our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ complained not. This truly is a season of thanksgiving.

Our small flock was joyed on Oct. 14, for we were blessed with the ministry of Bro. Walt Anliker from Eureka. We thank the many other brethren for their fellowship.

Our dear friend, Mary Stump has been released from the hospital and is at home, feeling well.

WOLCOTT

Marjean Lehman — Arles Kropf

Now thank we all our God
With heart and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things has done,
In whom the world rejoices;
Who from our mothers arms
Has blest us on our way
With countless gifts of love,
And still is ours today.

Although news is scarce, we bring you Christian greetings at this Thanksgiving-time. We in this area have been blest with beautiful fall weather, and the farmers are nearly finished with a bountiful harvest.

It was brought to our attention in a sermon, how that predictions had been made that we would have no beautiful color in the leaves this year due to weather conditions, but that as we can see, God's handiwork has come through in the beautiful reds and golds for us to enjoy. With God all things are possible.

We are glad to see Clyde Hitz able to be out and assemble with us again, after his surgery.

SARDIS

Karen Indermuhle

On the past few Sundays, the Good News was brought forth in spirit and in truth by Bros. Joe Kaisner (Forrest), Loren Stoller (Latty), Eugene Pamer (Akron), Ben Stavenik (Mansfield), Ernest Graf (Akron), and Gary Maibach (Rittman).

In September, Sisters Caroline Emch, Jesse Winkler, and Elda Hartzler (Rittman) were kind enough to show us sewing projects for World Relief. Since that time, the ladies here have enjoyed the fellowship and blessing of meeting together. Our sewing meetings are held in my home every other Tuesday evening. We invite anyone

to come and join us.

We have already experienced the return blessings received when anyone gives of themselves to those in need. There are many "giving" opportunities here in our own community nursing homes.

Thanksgiving arrives again to remind us of our many earthly and spiritual blessings. Let's be truly thankful and praise the Lord every day, for all we have so undeservingly received from our loving Father in Heaven.

BERN

Esther and Stella Moser

My Lord, an offering do I bring;
My heart I give to thee.

On Nov. 3, Leland Esslinger (Bro. Martin and Sis. Arlene) and Shirley Strahm (Bro. Ephraim) brought their testimony before the congregation. The following day they were baptized. Many visitors were present, among them Bro. Roy Wernli, Lamont, who gave the messages. Bro. Gene Marti helped with the work. Bro. Carl Hartman was also a visitor, as was Bro. Joe Aberle earlier last month. These young souls now took the most important step in life. We welcome them into the fold. May the Lord ever bless and keep them in His love and care.

Made known to us on this blessed day was the engagement of Sis. Ada Jean Strahm and Bro. Don Plattner. We wish them much happiness. Parents are Bro. Alpha Jr. and Sis. Mayme—Bro. John and Sis. Marie Plattner, Sabetha.

Bro. Louis Baumgartner brings greetings from Switzerland, and especially from those who have relatives and visited in the States.

Among the sick and hospitalized have been Sis. Sarah Meyer, for eye surgery; Albert Plattner (surgery); Lila Plattner (Bro. Lee and Sis. Mary), pneumonia. Sis. Lydia Marti is still hospitalized, due to a fall. Sis. Leola Lehman is now able to be at home.

The entire community was saddened by the tragic death of Lori, two-year-old daughter of Robert and Janet (Nelson) Meyer. She had climbed unnoticed into a hopperwagon, and 200 bushels of milo was dumped into the wagon. Lori was a happy, lively little girl, and is sadly missed by her parents, a brother James, and sister, Kimber-

ly. God had a special need for the choice little bud in His heavenly kingdom, and her beckoning love has now turned her parents to the Lord in repentance.

James and Jeannie (Metzger) Meyer, Leroy and Helen (Menold) Meyer have also felt the need of repentance. We rejoice over these dear souls. May the Lord grant much grace and His blessing as they start their journey to Zion.

BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL

Eunice Schupbach
Kayleen Heiniger

Those who have a second birth shall never experience the "second death."

Two couples, Jim and Ann Kachelmuss and Charles and Paula Knapp are praising God for giving them this hope through repentance. When seeking forgiveness of their sins, they visualized themselves as the unconverted souls they spoke with, and their hearts yearned for them. Although the "change seemed as a mountain, it was far easier than expected." Each was surprised to find their partner desired conversion as much as they did.

Lanae Kieser, daughter of Bro. Charles and Sis. Marie, had her tonsils removed, Sis. Pat Ebach submitted to foot surgery, and Sis. Mary Hohulin injured her ankle and is wearing a cast.

Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to Walton and Mida Fehr in the sudden death of her brother, George A. Knapp of Goodfield. To experience two tragedies in the space of a month is difficult; may you be comforted knowing others are praying for you.

Joy and sorrow have come in one week's time to Bro. Everett and Sis. Beverly Hari. Everett's father, Walter, of Cissna Park, passed away Oct. 12. We trust that God will be at your side as He heals your heartache. Seven days later, on Oct. 19, Shawn Ellen was born, joining her happy sister and brothers, Gale, Steve and Jim. Grandparents are Sis. Bena Hari and Mrs. Linda Seggebruch of Cissna Park.

We welcomed three visiting ministers, Eli Somerhalder (Burlington), Leroy Hartman and Chuck Hemmer (Peoria). We want to express how greatly we have appreciated the visits of ministers from

the surrounding churches for the past four and one-half years. Having been blessed with the election of two brothers for the ministry, we no longer have a schedule of visiting churches, but we do invite all to return and again share God's word with us.

After much thought and prayer, our congregation has united in the election of two brothers for the ministry. Bro. Bill Kupferschmid and Bro. Ron Heiniger began laboring for the Lord on Oct. 21. We wish them much grace to become vessels fit for the Master's use.

A Thanksgiving thought:

When thou has thanked God for every blessing sent,
What time will then remain for murmurs or lament?

BRADFORD

Rebecca Endress

A new little son was born Oct. 13 to David and Carol Heinz of Sparland. He was named Kyle Mitchell. Bro. Carl and Sis. Velma Hancher are the maternal grandparents.

We sympathize with Bros. Duane and Jordan Elsasser and their families in the loss of their father and grandfather, Bro. Chris Elsasser of Princeville.

We thank our elder, Bro. Dave Kieser for his visit one Sunday. Our Bible class hosted the Tremont Bible class and their teachers the week-end of Oct. 28. They had a wiener roast on Saturday evening, and then spent the day with us in church on Sunday. We all enjoyed having them with us.

With the change back to standard time, we have resumed mid-week services. We assemble on Wednesday evenings at 7:30 p.m. Visitors are welcome!

BURLINGTON, IOWA

Edna Pohl — Elaine Eisenmann

"Know ye that the LORD he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: . . . For the LORD is good; . . . and his truth endureth to all generations."

Our greatest thanks to God is our redemption from sin, and the many blessings he adds to us when we walk obediently in his word.

Again God has blest good weather to man for another harvest of grain, to provide food for all people.

Our congregation rejoices with two young souls, in turning their hearts to the Lord, a good time, while yet in their youth, 18 and 19 years of age. Christine (Tina), daughter of Bro. Robert and Sis. Joyce Pohl, also Kim Oberman Salek, daughter of Bro. Wm. and Rose Massner Oberman.

We hope and pray for our other friends assembling with us regularly. Time of grace is drawing near the end, and we pray fervently for yet a great awakening of souls.

Wishing to express their thanks is Sis. Tillie Wagler Frank and her husband, Lewis, for all who remembered them with cards, gifts, calls and thoughts on their 50th anniversary.

Our sympathy goes out to Sis. Martha Perdlewitz of our congregation, in the sudden tractor death of her grandson, James Perdlewitz, 22 . . . an ever-present reminder to be prepared to meet our God.

CHAMPAIGN-URBANA Howie and Diane Leman

We have been blessed with many visitors. Every Sunday our small church is usually at least half-filled with visiting friends and brethren. We certainly welcome the fellowship of those who share our precious faith. It is so wonderful to meet these strangers who are immediately accepted as our friends, because we are all seeking the same goal of life eternal with our Lord.

Dec. 9 is the date Sis. Mary Schneider and Bro. Virgil Metzger have chosen as their wedding day. They will be married in Forrest, and will then reside in Champaign.

Our dear friend, Ed Scott, who has been assembling with us for over a year, will be married Dec. 19 to Jane Busey of Champaign. We wish them much happiness in their new life together.

We have enjoyed hearing visiting ministers, Bros. Walt Anliker, LeRoy Huber, LeRoy Hartman, Harold Schmidgall, Ken Dietz, and Al Aberle.

As Thanksgiving draws near, we have to stop and really thank the Lord for our Champaign church. It is indeed a haven of rest and spiritual nourishment among the many temptations of the university com-

munity. It is so great to have a place to go, to be encouraged in this Christian walk of life.

JUNCTION

Betty Manz — Henrietta Manz

We were blest much this past month; we had visiting ministers every Sunday! Henry Dotterer, Rittman; Elmer Schrenk, Alto; Jesse Schrock, Congerville; Kenneth Sauder, Mansfield; Joe Kaiser, Forrest; Eugene Feters, Toledo; Merle Laukhuf, Irvin Stoller, and Loren Stoller, Latty.

Elder Bro. Loren Stoller was also with us to hear the testimony of our dear friend, Ray Schlatter, son of Sis. Esther and our loved departed Ministering Bro. Ben, who lost his life in the highway tragedy just four years before the day Ray was baptized. We rejoice with Bro. Ray, and wish him many blessings in his earthly walk of life. God is still with us.

A new baby has come to bless the home of Bro. David and Sis. Kathy Manz Oct. 17. He has been named Mark David and was welcomed at home by little Jennifer.

John, 17-year-old son of Bro. Alvin and Sis. Betty Manz, suffered a bad fall, about 20 or 25 feet at a local elevator, and had only scrapes and bruises, no broken bones. It was a terrible scare, and we thank God for his loving care to John, for he could have been killed; had he missed the silo, he'd have fallen another 125 feet.

Ministering Bro. Henry Manz, who has been ill since August, is about the same. He was surprised by a visit from his aunt, Sis. Martha Laukhuf, who has been in a Van Wert rest home for some time now. We were glad to hear that Martha felt able to be out, and hope she continues to improve.

FORT LAUDERALE

Kathy Sutter—Henry H. Schwartz

"Then shall the earth yield her increase; and God, even our own God, shall bless us." We can trace this spirit of thanksgiving across the years, and find it in the hearts of the Pilgrims, in the midst of the adversity and hardship of that first year in a strange country. Although they faced another long winter, on that day that they gave thanks God had blessed them with a bountiful harvest, and they felt his love.

They had known sorrow, suffering, pain, yet their hearts were filled with gratitude. Although as individuals we have known countless blessings, these are troubled times for our nation and the world. We can look beyond these adversities and give thanks, as did the pilgrims, knowing with a certainty there is an unseen God at work.

We rejoice that Beverly Kaeb, at present a student in Miami, has yielded her life to the Lord. She is the daughter of Bro. Dave and Sis. Mary of Fairbury.

We enjoyed the visit of Bro. Al Schneider of Rockville, and thank him for bringing messages of inspiration and encouragement to us.

We look forward to our approaching tourist season, and again extend a warm welcome to anyone who is planning a trip to Florida. We have been enjoying beautiful weather, and anticipate more. We worship at 850 N.W. 46th Ave., Plantation Fla. 33313.

GARDEN GROVE

Don Clark

At this time of year, when harvest is in full bloom, it seems we often turn our thoughts unto God's harvest.

Many men stand in this lifetime and behold the wonderful work of salvation that is possible through the Lord Jesus. These men stand and look, but they cannot see. They sit and listen, as the word of God is brought forth. They listen, but they cannot hear.

We believers truly have a feeling of thanksgiving in our hearts, when we realize that the Lord has given us grace to see and to hear. We can surely have a warm feeling within, to know that he who remains faithful in this lifetime can join in the harvest of God.

Our congregation at Garden Grove has been blessed with increase at this harvest time. Another soul has found grace unto repentance. Gene Smith was called, and did find grace to follow the way of the Lord. Gene is a son-in-law of Bro. William and Sis. Verle Funk.

MORTON

Mrs. Keith Stevig Mrs. Harry Kaiser

How thankful we are to have two more dear souls added to the fold. Richard and Norma Weeks have re-

pented and were baptized Oct. 14. They are the parents of two small children.

Our visiting ministers were Bro. Henry Beer and Bro. Bob Grimm.

The Bible Class had as their guests the Bible classes from Roanoke, Taylor and Burlington on the week-end of Oct. 27 and 28.

Announcement was made on Nov. 4 of the engagement of Sis. Marla Witzig to Bro. Rick Ringger of Gridley. Their parents are Bro. Gene and Sis. Mary Ann Witzig and Bro. Ray and Sis. Nadine Ringger.

A baby girl, Sheri Lynn, was born to Sis. Mary Kay and Bro. Gary Rumbold on Oct. 26. Becky and Alan welcome her home. Grandparents are Bro. and Sis. Walter Anliker of Eureka and Bro. Leo and Sis. Beulah Funk of Gridley.

Funeral services were held Oct. 20 for John B. Getz. Surviving is a daughter, Mrs. Robert (Margie) Eisele.

Those sick or convalescing are: Sis. Marie Moser, Sis. Edna Kahler, Bro. Joe Witzig, Geneva Sullivan, Helen Strunk (who is now residing at Queenswood Nursing home), and Sis. Rose Hoffman, who is now living with her daughter, Mrs. Wm. S. Johnson, 916 W. Hanssler, Peoria, Ill.

Thought for Thanksgiving: Thou that hast given so much to us, give one thing more, a grateful heart.

PEORIA

Mrs. R. J. Miller

Thanksgiving, a whole free day to do what we should do every day, give thanks to God. Every morning we should thank Him for the night's rest, the dawning of another day, for life itself. As we get dressed and make our beds, we should thank Him for clothes and the ability to put them on (or for whoever helps us do so), and for our beds and blankets. As we prepare and eat breakfast, we should thank Him for appliances, dishes, water, food, and drink. All through the day and evening, we should thank God for all He provides for us, both the everlasting gifts and the things that are just for now.

"In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you." It is good for us to remember God's great

goodness, and He does want to be thanked.

Two young couples have baby girls to be thankful for. Bro. Marvin and Sis. Gail Hodel's was born Oct. 17; they named her Amy Renee. She is their first child. They moved to 110 Jadewood, Morton, but still plan to attend Peoria church. Bro. Tom and Sis. Nancy Sinn and son Tommy welcome Christina Lynne ("Tina"), born Oct. 29. Sis. "Aunt Tina" Schwind is quite happy over her little namesake.

Bro. Irvin and Sis. Sharon Hodel are thankful for the 6-month-old Korean baby boy they are adopting. His name is Eric Dean, and he joins Andrea and Teresa at home.

Tremont Bible Class visited us Oct. 14. Bro. Charles Sauder had a very nice sermon, which, though directed mainly toward the young people, was beneficial to all. Bro. Henry Beer of Indiana, who had been at Fellowship Hall the previous Friday evening, had the afternoon service.

We were blessed with the presence of seven visiting ministers the last Sunday of October. Perry Zimmerman of Forrest had the morning service, and Joe Kaisner preached in the afternoon. Each was followed by some pertinent words from Dave Kieser of Princeville. From Pulaski we had Albert Wuethrich and Cleo Rinkenberger. Joe Schrock was here from Congerville, and Roy Ehnle, from Bradford.

We are thankful for the shepherds of the flock and for the lambs that were added to the fold that afternoon. Tom and Jessica Martin and Ron and Christie Joos were baptized by Bro. Roy Sauder and Bro. Charles Hemmer. They had given their testimony the night before.

Sis. Verena Schneider, daughter of Bro. Ernest and Sis. Anna, is engaged to be married to Bro. Ralph Kepler of Toledo.

Bro. Ernest and Sis. Dorothy Haefli's daughter, Cynthia was married to Richard Hodel Oct. 19. Oct. 20, Norman and Sis. Emma Rocke's son, Ronald was wed to Barbara Schwendenman. On Oct. 28, Al Heiniger's daughter, Eldora Pomeroy, was united in holy matrimony to Kenneth Young. Bro. Charles Hemmer had the wedding service in her daughter's home. We

wish God's blessing upon all the marriages, including that of Bro. David and Sis. Christine Zeller, newlyweds whom we welcome to Peoria. They were married in Gridley Oct. 7.

Bro. Jacob Bear passed away Oct. 18. He is survived by his wife, Sis. Sarah, who was his helpmate for almost 53 years; one son; seven daughters; three sisters; three brothers.

Our heartfelt sympathy goes to Sis. Nancy (Mrs. Bro. Howard) Herman over the death of her father, Bro. Benjamin Martin of Roanoke. He died Oct. 25, just 12 days before his 76th birthday.

Sis. Carrie Gehrig was sick and in the hospital. Bro. Pete Hoerr is in the hospital. Mary (Mrs. Dave) Meister and Sis. Verna (Mrs. Clarence) Schurter are very ill and in need of our prayers.

Grown-ups aren't the only ones who suffered. Nathan Hoerr, son of Bro. James and Sis. Virginia, was hospitalized due to illness, and "Chip" Unsicker, son of Bro. Wayne and Sis. Lucille, was hospitalized due to injuries sustained in an accident. Both are better now.

Whether you are traveling on Thanksgiving Day or staying home or even confined to bed . . . make a list of everything you have to be thankful for. From "a" (for the air you breathe) to "z" (for your zeal toward God), you will find you have truly been blessed.

I shall conclude this Thanksgiving time report with a very nice **Thank-you** note from Sis. Verna Schurter: I would like to thank everyone for the prayers offered, visits, cards, and gifts sent to me during my illness also for the many deeds of kindness shown my family, and the food that was sent. Verna Schurter.

PORTLAND

Arthur and Betty Metz

"It is a good thing to give thanks unto the LORD, and to sing praises unto thy name, O most High: To shew forth thy lovingkindness in the morning, and thy faithfulness every night."

As the Psalmist recognized, we need to be thankful daily for the many gifts we receive from Him, above all, the gift of salvation.

We are thankful that we were blessed with visitors from several churches, and for the fellowship we can enjoy in our Lord Jesus. We

also bring thanks that our Bro. Paul Rumbold is again able to assemble with us. Truly our prayers have been answered.

A Thank You Note: I wish to extend my sincere thanks for the many cards, letters, visits, flowers, gifts and the prayers offered in my behalf during my recent hospital stay. We truly need the prayers of those we love. Paul N. Rumbold.

ROCKVILLE

Carlton J. Lanz

We look on, as the fading of our colorful foliage and beautiful autumn passes on for another year. As we enter the month of November, we think of the harvest past and our duty to our nation in which we live and founded by the first Pilgrims. As citizens of the richest and most powerful nation in the world, we should be most particularly thankful that we can and will gather in our homes with our families on Thanksgiving Day. This nation was founded on a basic faith in Almighty God. What is most acceptable to God, we believe, comes from a thankful and cheerful heart. It is also well when discussing this faith to include courage along with it, for it took both faith and courage for the Pilgrim fathers to venture out upon such a voyage.

We hear much of the Pilgrim fathers, yet so little of the Pilgrim mothers. Was their faith and suffering, and their courage any less? If the trials and tribulations of the fathers were difficult for them, what of the privations, the almost total absence of the simplest conveniences (think of ours today in comparison), and the prospect and actuality of being adrift on an almost unknown sea; and a ship deemed to be unseaworthy by its previous owners? These women landed on a "stern and rock-bound coast," in the midst of a violent and bitter winter. They looked at the prospect of a life in an unknown land inhabited by primitive Indians. In addition, they cared for their men, nurtured and raised their young children, transmitting to them the distinction of their own faith and courage.

And so down through the years of history, our mothers and many good women have been a glorious inspiration for momentous decisions, the fearful struggles and

heroic deeds of our families and forefathers.

The wedding engagement of Sis. Erva Jean Luginbuhl and Bro. Scott Wheeler was announced on Oct. 21, following the morning service. Erva Jean's parents are Bro. Ervin and Sis. Viola (Vi) Luginbuhl, and Scott's mother, Mrs. Elois Wheeler.

Wedding vows were exchanged at the home of our elder, Bro. John Bahler, between Rebecca (Becky) Luginbuhl and William Ellert. Her father and mother are Bro. Urban and Sis. Charlotte: her grandfather, Paul Lanz. Bro. Paul commented, with a bit of gratification, that it took place on their 58th wedding anniversary. Paul and his wife, Sis. Bertha, have always been very active and have enjoyed many years of their compatible life together.

Bro. Dale Eisenmann of Chicago, visited at the time when the foliage was at its best and spent a Sunday with us. Bro. Ed Ringger, elder at the Gridley Ill. church, spent a week-end here. It was a pleasure and very edifying to receive such meaningful messages as God inspired them with to bring to us.

Bro. Dennis Bucher, with his wife Sis. Diann and young son, moved here some months ago from Akron. He has charge, as general manager, of all stores of the Firestone Tire and Rubber Company for the New England states. Although well oriented in this community, we say to the family, "Welcome."

We have several hospital patients here recently, Bro. Ted Scheitlin, who was stricken and hospitalized, has been discharged, and is able to worship with us. Sis. Frieda (Fred) Zahner has been a patient, off and on, and is at this writing at her home. Sis. Frieda Zutter has had surgery on her hips, due to a deficiency that developed.

SABETHA

Mrs. Joe Steiner

We welcome Sis. Gail (Knobloch) Harter into our midst. Sis. Gail and Bro. Jerome Harter were married in Lester on Oct. 7. They are now at home in Sabetha.

Glenna Wenger and James Aberle were united in marriage by Bro. Eugene Marti on Oct. 20, at the Fellowship Hall. Glenna is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Wenger of Powhattan, Kansas.

James is the son of Bro. Ben and Sis. Liseten Aberle of Sabetha.

The engagement of Sis. Ada Strahm and Bro. Don Plattner was made known. Ada is the daughter of Sis. Mayme and Bro. Alpha Strahm Jr. of Bern. Don is the son of Sis. Marie and Bro. John Plattner.

We wish all three couples much happiness in their future lives.

Bro. Henry Beer and his wife spent an evening in our community. We thank Bro. Henry for the words of Life he shared with us, also for bringing his books and records, so we can see what is available.

WINTHROP

Delores Messerle — Carol Messner

Friends Mark and Linda Schmidt, Tony, Dixie, and Le Ann Messner have been announced having peace with their God and are looking forward to provings and baptism on the week-end of Nov. 24 and 25.

A little daughter, Nichole Terese, was born to the family of Jerry and Sis. Candy Pederson. Her brother, Jeremy welcomed her home.

Truly we in the Winthrop area have had a wonderful farming season. How we praise God for it, when we hear of the adverse weather conditions around us. All the world chaos only makes us lift our eyes heavenward, for we know our redemption draweth nigh. For such an hour as ye think not the Son of Man cometh. Praise God for the hope that burns in our hearts to meet Him face to face someday.

As we take inventory of our many material bounties and spiritual advantages, may these words of David be our grateful testimony: "Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits".

CROGHAN-NAUMBURG

Alice Virkler — Eleanor Herzig

Give us, Lord, from day to day,
The strength to follow in Your way.
Give us kindness, patience, too,
In everything we say and do.
Then give us, Lord, in each day's
living,
The grace to offer You thanks-
giving.

May each of us find the grace to offer thanks to our Heavenly Father for the many blessings He has shared unto us throughout the past

year. And, may He give us strength and grace to continue . . .

A blessed week-end was spent by all who assembled, when our elder Bros. Rudy Graf and John Bahler were with them. Many thanks to them and their traveling companions for the love and fellowship we could enjoy together, and the many teachings shared with us.

Two little baby boys have come to bless the homes of two of our young families. Louis Frederick was born on Oct. 13 to Louis and Janet Beck. He has been welcomed home by his sisters, Chris and Kim, and his grandparents, Larry and Sis. Louise Purvines, and Walt and Harriett Lasher. Terry Jason was welcomed on Oct. 30 by his brother, Todd, and his parents, Duane and Karen Farney. Terry's grandparents are Bro. Niles and Sis. Polly Farney, and Mr. and Mrs. Clem Briot. Sis. Huldah Farney is a great-grandmother to both Louis and Terry.

Our sympathy is extended to Sis. Minnie Farney at the time of the death of her sister, Lizzie Zehr. Minnie is spending the winter months with her son in California.

We are happy to report that Sis. Sarah Virkler has gained sufficient strength to be able to return to the home of her son, Bro. Lowell and Sis. Celia Virkler. Bro. Ron Herzig has returned home from the hospital and has his cast removed. He has been able to assemble with us again, after an absence of several weeks. Sis. Sarah Farney has been able to assemble with us, as has Sis. Betty Herzig, who was a medical patient. Don Petzoldt has returned home from the hospital, after being in traction for a back injury.

Michael Virkler, son of Nat and Sheila, was a hospital patient for several days, when he had tubes put into his ears. Little Travis Petzoldt was a hospital patient for a few days. Bro. James Farney has returned home from the hospital, but Bro. Lawrence Farney remains a patient.

FORT SCOTT Ida Sinn

Oct. 9 was the day set aside at the World Relief Center in Newton, Kansas, for our area churches to gather to help with what needed to be done. Three of our sisters made the trip with a pick-up load

of clothing, etc., that had been made ready by the local workers.

Jeffrey Fischer, son of Bro. Lyle and Sis. Lillian, has again been hospitalized, this time for an appendectomy.

Little 15-month-old Tommy Sinn is spending several weeks with his grandparents, Bro. Harold and Sis. Wanda Kraft. Bro. Gus and Sis. Ruth Sinn are the paternal grandparents. Tommy will return to his home in Peoria next week, to make the acquaintance of a baby sister, born to Bro. Tom and Sis. Nancy Sinn.

Bro. Sam Huber and Bro. Henry Beer were our visiting ministers. Bro. Beer's display of religious material was quite interesting. Many were pleased to have the opportunity to have the chance to order some of the same.

IOWA CITY

Twila Whipple — Joan Mogler

What would we feel like if we knew we only had a few days left to live? An experience with a terminal cancer patient has made our salvation seem more precious. An elderly man lay in bed, gasping for breath as he realized that he had only a few days to live. As he spoke, he talked of the utter loneliness he felt while facing death. He said, "As I lay here, my whole life keeps running through my head. I wish I could go back and change it all, but it's too late now. I have not led a good life, and now it all haunts me." This man was not ready to meet his Maker, even as death knocked at his door. How thankful we can be that God has mercifully answered our pleading and has given us peace here, and the wonderful hope of eternal life in heaven.

God has again blessed our small congregation with His living word. We are grateful to Bros. Bob Grimm (Goodfield), Henry Grimm, (Morton), and John Steiner, (Oakville) for the inspiring message and loving invitation of God's word.

LAMONT Betty Wernli

Due to the weather and nature, our church building roof was in dire need of repair, so the brothers and friends gathered together, and in just two days it looked real fine, with a new covering of shingles.

In a short time, the sisters and

friends, too, came together for a good, thorough church cleaning. It was so uplifting to work and visit together, as for some of us the week days are filled with looking about the needs of our family and not enough time for brothers and sisters in Christ. This seems symbolic that if we as one body in our Lord unite together daily in our battles against the evil one, we shall surely be victorious.

Bro. Bill and Sis. Susan Emch are the parents of Brandon Lynn, born Nov. 2. He has a brother, Brent, who is looking forward to welcoming him in the home.

AMES

Sue Banwart

Bro. Noah Gerber of West Bend brought us the inspired word of God at our October meeting. May the Lord bless the ministering brothers who so willingly give us to drink of the "living water", spoken of in St. John 4.

Convert Georgia Griffith is home from the hospital and recuperating nicely, after having undergone surgery for bone grafting. Even as she has so recently experienced, our Lord is the Divine Healer, able to heal wounds of our soul, as well as those of the mortal body.

Jesus, I come; I cannot stay
From Thee another precious day.

Our hearts were gladdened to learn that Kathy Banwart (Bro. Alvin and Sis. Phyllis) of West Bend has heeded the call to repentance.

As this Thanksgiving season has left our hearts so overwhelmed, yet so humbled at God's gracious blessings, far beyond our worthiness, I am reminded of the words of a ministering brother. As we intercede for the Lord's blessings throughout our walk of faith, it may be well to think on this . . . Rather than asking the Lord to bless what we do, we should ask that He lead us to do what He can bless.

BAY CITY Carolyn Schamback

"Snow flurries and colder" . . . as winter approaches, we get ready, in various ways, to keep warm. We're supposed to have a fuel shortage, and are asked to conserve as much as we can; let's make sure we conserve and use wisely our

spiritual fuel, so it will last us just as long as we need it!

Tom and Connie Schlatter are the new parents of their first baby, Amy Beth. Paternal grandparents are Bro. Dave and Sis. Margaret Schlatter. Lee, Nate, and Marge Wieland have a new little sister, Marlisse Marie; Bro. Roger and Sis. Sandra welcome their fourth. Grandparents are Bro. Emery and Sis. Margaret Molner and Bro. Henry and Sis. Marie Wieland.

Bro. Henry Wieland was hospitalized for therapy.

Two of our elderly souls have passed on to eternity. Sis. Adele Amman, 85, after being ill for sometime has gone to rest. She is survived by her two daughters, Sis. Della Erisman and Sis. Lena Wieland. Bro. John Wackerle, 84, passed away after being bedridden for a long period. He is survived by his wife, Sis. Julia; three sons, Wesley, Albert and George; seven daughters, Sisters Eldine and Maybelle Wackerle, Mrs. Elda LaMere, Mrs. Madeline Streu, Mrs. Johanna Tanner, Mrs. Charline Compton and Mrs. Bernice Fritz. Sis. Lena Lambert and Sis. Anna Ruegsegger are his sisters. Even as we mourn the loss of loved ones, we can rejoice that our Saviour died for us, that we can have the hope that these dear ones are with Him in Heaven.

BURLINGTON, OKLAHOMA Janice Frieden

Our monthly singing, to glorify our Lord, was held in the church on Oct. 7. It is such a joy to be able to repay God in this small way for all He does for us . . . But it is sad how many times we become too busy or too tired to give a little of this time to Him. He's always there to give His time to us. He listens to our prayers, helps us through our trials, comforts us in our sorrows, and smiles with us in our joys. He's never too busy to listen or too tired to show the way.

World Relief workers from Burlington, Lamont, Gridley, Wichita, and Ft. Scott gathered at Newton to pack the articles they had been making, to be sent to those in need. They had a very blessed day, and packed about 55 one hundred pound bales of clothing and other articles.

Bro. Pete Farney, who resides in the Kiowa Manor, fell and in doing so, fractured one of his ribs, and injured his wrist. We are thankful

that he is now feeling much better.

Oct. 27-28 was a blessed weekend for us, when Friend Danny Frieden was taken into the fold. Elder Bro. Sam Anliker of Lamont and Elder Bro. Raymond Banwart of Ft. Scott joined us for this joyful occasion. We listened to Danny's testimony on Saturday night, and relived the time when we first knew the wonder, peace and joy of knowing the Lord. On Sunday, after two inspiring messages from God's word, Danny was baptized and arose a newborn child of God. We shed tears of joy as we greeted Danny as our brother in faith, and had a prayer in our hearts that many more might find place for repentance, before the day of grace is closed forever.

The carpeting has been laid in most of the church, and the benches should be arriving soon. The ladies are working on the curtains and are washing windows. We are getting so anxious to move into the church, and are humbled when we consider God's never-ending blessings throughout the building of His church.

We were saddened to hear that Elder Bro. Roy Farney of Phoenix suffered a heart attack, and wish him to know that our thoughts and prayers are with him always.

GRIDLEY, ILLINOIS Ruth Gramm

"Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you . . ." Isn't this a wonderful hope and strength for God's children in times like these, when there is so much turmoil, uncertainty and fear in this world? Do we thank God often enough for His inner peace and strength? Do we worry needlessly, instead of trusting in His promises?

We appreciated our visiting ministers, Al Fisher, Henry Grimm, Vernon Leman, Harold Gramm and Lenny Meyer. We also enjoyed the Morris Sunday School class and those teachers who made the effort.

A special thank you to the group of young members from ISU who brought us God's message in song for our monthly singing. It was a real inspiration.

We are again happy to report

two new converts. Mary Ann Ringger and Patty Klopfenstein. May they always feel God's love and guidance in their lives. Mary Ann is the daughter of Bro. Ray and Sis. Nadine, and Patty is Bro. Carsh and Sis. Betty's daughter.

Gridley had two weddings: Sis. Cris Meiss to Bro. Dave Zeller from Morton. Cris is the daughter of Bro. Elmer and Sis. Hulda Meiss . . . Elma Lou Schliof, daughter of Bro. Emil and Sis. Ella Schipf, and Bro. Curt Fleming of Gridley. We wish these couples much happiness in their lives together. May they always look to God for every need.

Bro. Harold and Sis. Betty Schmidgall are both getting along fine, after their accident. We are thankful God spared them. Bro. George Gramm is home again and able to assemble with us, since his surgery.

LEO

Mrs. Elias Souder

Thanksgiving will be past when this edition is mailed. May we all praise God and be thankful for the many blessings He has given us. We always have a church service on Thanksgiving Day. The Sunday School is planning a Thanksgiving program for the evening of 18th of November. The Sunday School had guests from La Crosse.

We very much enjoyed and appreciated the visit of Elmer Bucher and his ministry.

Sun., Oct. 28, Bro. Edwin Bahler was our guest speaker, which was appreciated and enjoyed. Some of the other brothers who had attended the meeting for the childrens home on Saturday stayed over Sunday.

We are sorry Sis. Leah Conrad (Mrs. Jos.) is still very ill. Bro. John Bollier also has been very ill but is improved.

Bro. Maurice Frank and others from here were in Muncie for church services.

We visited the three Rest Homes at Butler Sunday, Nov. 3. Some of those dear people just glow when a little love is shown to them.

Albert and Marjorie Frautschi left for California. They plan on spending the winter with their son, Edward and family, who attends the Altadena congregation.

Moving? Drop a card. Tell both old and new address.

OAKVILLE Martha Steiner

In the midst of these troublesome times, how precious it is to pause in reflection and thanksgiving, to appreciate our high and heavenly calling. Nothing is more important than to keep our thoughts on those things which are above. They are more lasting than anything this world can offer, even at this Thanksgiving season.

We have enjoyed the visits of Ministering Bros. Albert Wuthrich (Pulaski), Bert Butikofer (Elgin, Iowa), and Nathan Steffen (Elgin, Illinois). Bro. Steffen accompanied the Bible Class from Elgin.

We, too, were privileged to visit with Dr. Shantwan from India and view his sides of his country and people.

When harvest-time is in full force, we are always prayerful that the crops will be gathered without accident or injury. We have not been so fortunate this year, and hope that all will exercise even more caution than before.

James Edward Perdelwitz, 22, son of Bro. John and Sis. Viola (Ackerman) Perdelwitz, was called from this life Oct. 16. Jim was hauling a wagonload of corn down a hillside, and the tractor and wagon jack-knifed, pinning him under the tractor. He was married just four months previous to Susan Schuler, who survives along with his parents; a brother, Robert; a sister, Mrs. Alice Mabeus; and his grandmother, Sis. Martha Perdelwitz. Our sympathy is with the family in their sorrow.

TREMONT Mary Jane Leuthold Lydia Rassi

Autumn is in the air, the trees are losing their leaves, fields are bringing forth their fruit. The time is soon coming when we will be called to bring forth our lifetime works. Will it be in abundant measure, as the fruit of the fields, and gain us rest in heaven, or will it be as chaff, and yield nothing of measure in the eyes of the Lord?

Bro. Gary Post, son of the Koert Posts of Emden, and Sis. Kathy Sinn, daughter of Bro. Emanuel and Sis. Elsie, have announced their engagement.

Bro. Nelson Rocke and Sis. Kathy Wagenbach were united in marriage Nov. 4. We welcome Bro.

Nelson, as they plan to make their home in Tremont.

Many ministering brethren were with us on this occasion: John Steiner, Oakville; Leroy Huber, Eureka; Edmund Kloter, Fairbury; and Bob Walder, Congerville. We are thankful the Holy Spirit could work through them to feed us the heavenly manna, the food for the soul. We were told not to pray for earthly wealth, honor, or a good earthly name, but for grace, faith and humbleness of heart. Bro. Joe Schrock was also in our midst this past month.

Bro. Henry Dill is in his own home again, but is suffering much pain. If we endure this pain, but our soul is clean, in peace, and not suffering from sin, it is well with us. We believe this is our brother's lot. Bro. Chris Frank is home from Barnes in St. Louis, somewhat improved. Sis. Louise Aberle is confined to the hospital, but we hope her improvement continues. Betty Hild had surgery, as did Sisters Ida (Chris) Schweigert and Doris (Weldon) Staker.

Thank you: We wish to express our heartfelt thanks to our many friends and relatives for the kind deeds shown during the illness and passing of our loved one. The family of Peter A. Winzeler.

WEST BEND Mrs. Melvin Fehr Mrs. A. Banwart

Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices.

Indeed we do feel indebted to render our heartfelt thanks for our many blessings. Spiritual blessings have been multiplied by the surrender of three more souls unto their Saviour. Mrs. Ruth (Bruellman) Seigsbee, Kathy Banwart (daughter of Bro. Alvin and Sis. Phyllis), and Connie Gress (daughter of Bro. Fahye and Sis. Marie) need no words to express the joy they've found, as it is reflected in their very countenance.

Babies are blessings from heaven. Oct. 6, Clark Lewis was born to Leonard and Helen Anliker. He has two sisters and one brother to welcome him home. Blessings came in twos to Bro. Leland and Sis. Kathy Metzger. Wendal Lee and Randal Dean, twin boys, were born on Oct. 25. To welcome them were two little sisters.

Our Sunday was brightened by

a surprise visit from Bro. Bert Butikofer of Elgin, Iowa.

SILVERTON Judith Knecht

May we ever thank our great God on Thanksgiving, as well as every day of the year . . . For all things are a blessing from our Creator.

We were thankful to have with us Ministering Bro. Noah Herman (Tucson). We wish to thank Bro. Herman for his labors.

SARASOTA Philip Wingeier

"Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit."

Bro. Philip and Sis. Ferne Wingeier are in their new home in Sarasota; we do enjoy it very much.

We are having services in our homes. We have no definite time when the church will be complete. Hopefully, if the good Lord permits, it could be complete by Christmas-time. Our time of service 1:00; song service 12:30.

We do want to invite all who come into this area to come and worship with us . . . a special invitation to ministers who travel this way. The best way to our new church from highway 41 and Bahia Vista St., four miles east, until you come to Honore Ave., turn north ½ mile . . . 333 North Honore Ave., Sarasota Florida 33580. For your convenience, you may call Philip Wingeier, 959-3244 . . . Edward Getz, 756-4346 . . . Robert Reiman, 355-6767 for time and place of worship.

ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY Rosemary Klaus

The visiting ministers have been Henry Grimm, Bob Pohl and Don Sauder. In every sermon a believer hears, he can always find wisdom and instruction. We were encouraged to be more thankful for our health, the fact that we have eyes to see God's wonderful creation. Something else to be thankful for—we have several new converts in our group, and a newly-engaged couple, Sis. Marla Witzig and Bro. Rick Ringger.

We're glad for all who worship with us on Thursday nights. We

meet at 8:00 p.m. in the new student union—first floor.

REMINGTON

Anna M. Waibel

Bro. Mickey and Coleen Culp of Chenoa, Ill. are the parents of a son, Benjamin Clark. They have two sons to welcome him. Bro. Robert and Sis. Mildred Clauss are the maternal grandparents (of here). They attend church at Gridley, Illinois.

We've had beautiful weather this fall . . . so a large percent of the harvest is in, for which everyone is very thankful, as everyone remembers how wet it was last fall. The past few days, it has been dark and rainy, but was getting dangerously dry. Two cornfields caught on fire. Elmer Beckley lost two acres and another man five . . . so were very thankful it was not worse.

We are very thankful the community at large has been blessed with good health. So often this time of year brings all sorts of diseases.

A number from here went to Brown County and to Rockville, Ind. to see the beauty of the trees and enjoy seeing the covered bridges and how they used to make sorghum, soap, apple butter, cider. The art of making these things is lost, due to our modern machinery. It is good to go see how other people live and enjoy God's handiwork, which we all too often take for granted.

ALTO

Joyleen Blough

Our Sunday School classes spent a Sunday with the Toledo Sunday School. The children enjoyed the day very much. Thank you, Toledo.

Many of us spent a blessed weekend in Latty Oct. 14, as we witnessed the proving and baptism of Dale Dunham. Bro. Dale lives in our area.

Bro. Phil and Sis. Ferne Wingeier have moved to their new home in Florida. We wish them God's blessings in their new abode.

FORREST

Juanita Schneider
Kathryn Steidinger

We have enjoyed many blessings. The Lord has showered us with sunshine, so that we could gather

in an abundant crop again. We are all grateful for this, but realize that our spiritual blessings are God's greatest gift to us.

Every life we touch is a field; everything we do and all the words we speak are seed. What will the harvest be?

On Oct. 7, four dear souls were added to the fold. Bros. Alfred Bahler and Bro. Josh Broquard helped Bro. Perry with the provings and baptisms of Mary Wenger (Bro. Albert and Sis. Nathalia), Sandra Gerber (Bro. Earl and Sis. Esther), Sherri Ifft (Bro. Harvey and Sis. Velma), and Shelly Zimmerman (Bro. Allen and Sis. Carolyn). Two weeks later we were again uplifted, when Elaine, Beth Ann and Fred Leman (Bro. Robert and Sis. Donna) and Sherri Anliker (Bro. Wayne and Sis. Judy) brought their testimonies before the congregation, and were baptized on Oct. 21. Bros. Dan Koch and Josh Broquard were with us for this blessed week-end. We wish each one that He has called the grace to remain sincere and humble, as they were on that day. Five young friends have been announced for proving and are awaiting baptism in the near future.

Other visiting ministers were Ken Schneider, Art Bahler, Merle Kaisner, Dave Wiegand and Walter Anliker. We enjoyed each one and thank them for bringing us God's word.

On Oct. 7, the engagement of Sis. Mary Schneider to Bro. Virgil Metzger of Champaign was announced. Parents are Bro. Oscar and Sis. Kathryn Schneider and Bro. & Sis. Ernst and Ella Metzger of Lester. Gene and Sis. Velma Schladenhauffen have announced the engagement of their daughter, Kathy Lynne, to Garry J. Knauer, all of Forrest. A December wedding is being planned.

Several have been in the hospital. Bro. Sam Zimmerman had gall bladder surgery in Carle Hospital in Urbana; he is now recovering at home, and hope that he can soon assemble with us again. Sis. Olga Schmidt had the misfortune to fall and break her wrist and was in the hospital for several days. Sis. Olga is getting up in years, and we miss her cheery smile and friendly greeting. Wayne Zimmerman (Bro. Perry and Sis. Dorothy) had the tip of a finger cut off in an acci-

dent at home. Ed Plattner was in an accident, but was not injured seriously. Sis. Nettie Kupferschmid, Sis. Jan Bachtold, and Jeffery Kaisner (Bro. Larry and Sis. Cynthia) were patients for a few days. Sis. Ida Kaisner had surgery on Nov. 2, but seems to be getting along well. Scotty Fellers, son of the Glenn Fellers, received a head injury in a fall and is a hospital patient.

I wish to express my sincere thanks and appreciation for the prayers, cards, gifts and many deeds of kindness while I was in the hospital and since returning home. Sis. Anita Sohn . . . Anita is now able to walk with the aid of a cane, for which she is thankful.

SERVICE ADDRESSES

(If a change, a new address, or one is home, is known, please give to a reporter or send to Grabill.)

Terry and Sharon Adams
1209 Palmer Rd No 7
Oxon Hill Maryland 20022 **Forrest**

Sp5 Thomas G Batt 328-42-0157
HQ 210th SA GP (S-1)
APO New York 09352 **Elgin II**

Pvt Ricky Bauer 347-38-1631
2nd MP 2nd Inf Div
APO San Francisco 96224 **Cassna Pk**

Sgt Michael R Bender 515-46-8941
6950th Scty GP Box 1822
APO New York 09193 **Alto**

Pfc Jeff A Blume 307624246
Echo Co 2nd BN 2nd Marine
Camp Lejeune No Carolina 28542 **Wolcott**

Pfc Francis J Bonnesen 484686885
B-btry 3rd BN
61st ADA 34d Arm Div
APO New York 09091
Budigen Germany

Lcdr and Mrs Lee B Cargill
120 Catalina Ave NAS
Lemoore Calif 93245

Richard L Clark
San Antonio, SAC
San Marcos, Guatemala
Central America **Bluffton**

R G Colclasure
US Naval Station Box 6
FPO New York 09597 **Eureka**

SP-4 Frederick M Dinger RA52511988
C Btry 2nd How Bn 6th Arty
APO New York 09039 **Mansfield**

Pvt John H Dotterer 1163 Letterman GEN HOSP San Francisco CA 94129	Phoenix	Sgt Eric Langhofer 52nd Ams Box 2724 APO New York 09123	Wichita	Sgt William Richards CMR Box 1136 APO New York 09132
MSGT Earl J Ebersol 26 FMS (USAFE) APO New York 09012		Sp4 Russell A Lanz 043-44-0380 HHC 1st 37th Armor Div APO New York 09326	Rockville	Pfc Roger Roeschley 342-40-4459 Imperial Colonnades 8219 Perrin Bertel Rd Apt 307 San Antonio Texas 78218
Mr and Mrs Virgil J Eisenmann Kings Cliffe Tr Pk Lot 65 Dover Delaware 19901	Burlington	Pvt 2 James A Laukhuf 276501944 D-Battery 1st Bn (CV) (SP) 62ADA 25th Inf Div APO San Francisco 96557	Rittman	Pfc Leon D Rufener 274-44-5488 31st Combat Support Hospital APO New York 09077
En I M F Emch USCG Lt Sta Passage Isl Coast Guard Sta Portage Hancock Mich 49930	Girard	Capt Roger C Locher 511489189 Box 1638 Litchfield Park Ariz 85340	Sabetha	Pfc George Sauder 471 680 853 Headquarters & Co A 45 Med Battalion APO New York 09165
STG3 Thos. A Emch USS Belknap OLG 26 A S Div FPO New York 09501	Girard	Gary MacDonald 31st NCR DETAIL ICELAND Box 11 NAVSTA KEFLAVIK FPO New York 09571	Altadena	Mr and Mrs Tom Schambach Bel Air Trailer Park RR 2 Box 20 Waynesville Mo 65583
Lt Col Frederick Farney 1210 Westway McAllen Texas 78501	Croghan-Naumburg	Pvt 2 Stephen A Maller 304-62-9510 Box 882 Building 406 Ft Meyer Virginia 22211	Bluffton	Pfc David G Schneider 483 62 9579 93rd Med EVAC Hosp Ft Leonard Wood Missouri 65473
EN3 Thomas L Fiechter 314-58-8402 R Division USS Luce DLG7 FPO New York 09051	Bluffton	Lt. Col. and Mrs Everett Martin 6361 Kingsbury Dr Dayton Ohio 45424		Sgt Ernest L Schwartz 307-56-3798 1915 Comm Sq Box 1629 Grissom AFB Ind 46970
Pfc David L Frank 323-506-456 Hedron—Fmflant MAS Norfolk Virginia 23511	Morton	Pvt Steve Meyer 512-60-3346 HHC USDB Ft Leavenworth Kansas 66027	Sabetha	Pvt Tom Speicher 316609336 5th Gen Dispensary APO New York 09050
LCpl James Frank H S Co S-1 1st Marine Brig FMF FPO San Francisco 96602		Sp4 Emil Minger 549-92-2526 EGSMC APO New York 09054	Altadena	Phillip Steffen c/o Postal Agent Kemblocha Hararge Ethiopia teacher in the Peace Corps
SN Richard Gilmore USNB559593 OC Division USS Stribling (DD-867) FPO New York 09501	Gridley II	Pvt 2 Samuel G Mogler 321-48-8372 TRP I 3/2 ACR APO New York 09452 IRST PIT	Eureka	Mr and Mrs Michael Steiner 117 Shelton Circle Wadesboro N Carolina 28170
Pfc James Gramm 353-44-3821 HHC 4th BN 64th Armor APO New York 09162		Pvt Thomas L Moser 328-42-4978 P O Box 1225 Letterman General Hospital San Francisco Calif 94129	Elgin II	Pfc Richard N Steiner 299-48-4794 1197 LGH Presidio San Francisco Calif 94129
Ronald Greenbank Apt 32 2760 Corabel Ln Sacramento Calif 95821	Akron	Sp 3 Charles Allen Mott 557845931 B Baty 1st/36 Artil APO New York 09178 Germany	Altadena	Sp4 Bruce Stoller 207907099 570th MP Plat (RYGD) APO New York 09757
Mr and Mrs Marshall Jorpeland 1200 N Courthouse Rd Apt 515 Arlington Virginia 22201	Forrest	L Cpl E R Mott 557-84-5658 BLT 1/6 DETE H & SCO 1/6 SHIPPLT FPO New York 09502 Spain-France	Altadena	Pfc Wade Stoller 316603278 MATSG-MATCU NAS Glynco Glynco Georgia 31523
Sp/5 Daniel L Kaeb 325-42 3348 B 3/60 ADA APO New York 09173		Pvt David T Peasley 482-70-5483 B BTRY 3181st FA APO San Francisco 96301 Formerly of Garden Grove Ia		Pvt Merle Tobler 337-46-3972 Co A 1st Bn (REINF) 3rd Inf (Old Guard) Ft McNair Washington DC 20315
Mr and Mrs Rollyn Knobloch 920 Elm Ct Apt 410 Denver Colorado 80221	Lester	Mr and Mrs John Reimchisel Sup Dist Rheinland Pfalz APO New York 09227	Bluffton	LCDR David and Dee Unsicker Supply Dept. Naval Administrative Command NTC Great Lakes Ill 60088
Sgt Scott L Koehl 350-44-0594 40 Division FAU COMFAIRWEST PAC FPO Seattle Wash 98767 near Atsugi Japan	Morton	Pvt Randy Reinhard 304-54-1773 USA MEDDAC Ft Sheridan Ill 60038	Bluffton	

Lloyd & Myrna Moser,
Strawn .
Illinois. 61775

Sgt Keith D Weber 384-54-5577
446 ONS Box 50
Dover AFB Delaware 19901

Detroit

SSGT and Mrs Richard E White
3014 Apt B
Hammond Heights Kentucky 42223

Valparaiso

Pfc Richard Wuethrich US55833256
543rd QM Group

Service Branch MHE Shop
APO San Francisco 96243

Capt and Mrs Morris Wiegand Jr
17 November Dr
Big Spring Texas 79720

Roanoke

Sgt and Mrs James L Willert
401 Supply Sq (USAFE)

Box 1694
APO New York 09283

S Sgt Raymond D Young AF17670134
RR 1 Box 20
Herndon West Va 24726

Lamont

AMN and Mrs Tim Zeigler
7513 South 25th St Apt 5
Omaha Nebraska 68147

BUSHEL AND BUSHEL OF LOVE

Henry Souder Jr.

The Lord cares about us. Such beautiful caring. It shows the wonderful love of His heart. He sent some messages of love. One of these seven churches resembles most where we go. We can learn. The obedient can rejoice in His promises.

"And to the angel of the church in Pergamos write; These things saith he which hath the sharp sword with two edges;" It helps so much, His sword, cutting wrong thoughts, exposing error, making clear the facts. Keep, O Lord, Thy mighty word cutting all the obnoxious that endangers and weakens.

"I know thy works, and where thou dwellest, even where Satan's seat is:" Real earnest words, coming from One who has all the facts and acts accurately. Satan's throne room is where we dwell. The Bible does not underestimate danger. Arm thyself; take heed, lest thou fall. It's a battle of life and death.

Comforting words are seen, if we write our faith into them; "and thou holdest fast my name, and hast not denied my faith, even in those days wherein Antipas was my faithful martyr, who was slain among you, where Satan dwelleth." Darkness hates the light. If it could, it would get rid of the truth. No one can touch the heart who dwells in the living God.

Love is not rigorous, nor over-demanding. It is tempered with mercy and much kindness. Yet He goes all around in His care for His church. That is really care. The

words call out, for there are quicksands! "But I have a few things against thee," Let us pray that these priceless words would always keep us from defeat and death. We need not only words liked to be heard, but words that jolt in fervent care that we be kept free.

The danger could prove disastrous: "because thou hast there them that hold the doctrine of Balaam, who taught Balac to cast a stumblingblock before the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed unto idols, and to commit fornication." There are bushels and bushels of care for us. At every step of the way.

Balaam told another something wrong, and he acted upon them; it was tragic. Another wavers, totters, falls from the proven way, to strange surroundings, a strange people. It brought ugly taste, contrary to the will of God. The final result was open, plagued sin.

"So hast thou also them that hold the doctrine of the Nicolaitanes, which thing I hate." Don't you be deceived! Wavering, wavering we saw it, and then it happened. There is great risk. It is wrong to partake with one who does not bring the teaching of Christ. The word says if we bid him godspeed, we become partaker of his evil deeds. Outside of known proven hearts is gambling with sin.

How beautifully God cares. His heart yearns, that even those taken in snares and traps would turn. Yet, the whole church needs to be in action when corruption rears its

ugly head. "Repent; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth."

Time goes on. One working out error pursues a horrible fate, the deepest tragedy. Think of having God fighting against us. Once to have the rosy beauty of everlasting life, His hope. Then lose it. It is a terrible thing to fall into the hands of the living God. With only a simple return to loving hearts, to waiting hearts, the bliss is so wonderful.

"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 hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it."

Read all He promised to the churches. It glows with life, light, joy and perfect satisfaction.

A child comes down in the dim light of Christmas morning. There are shapes and feelings that make him very happy. So is hope. In reality we come to mysterious somethings, the reality of eternal morning. There are wonderful things. Like this manna, a delight of good things to come . . . sweetly, always delicious . . . and the new name, giving a glimpse of individual difference, wonderful fulfilling, a worth to God, a meaning of ourself in the world to come.

Surely no other path could even be worth considering.