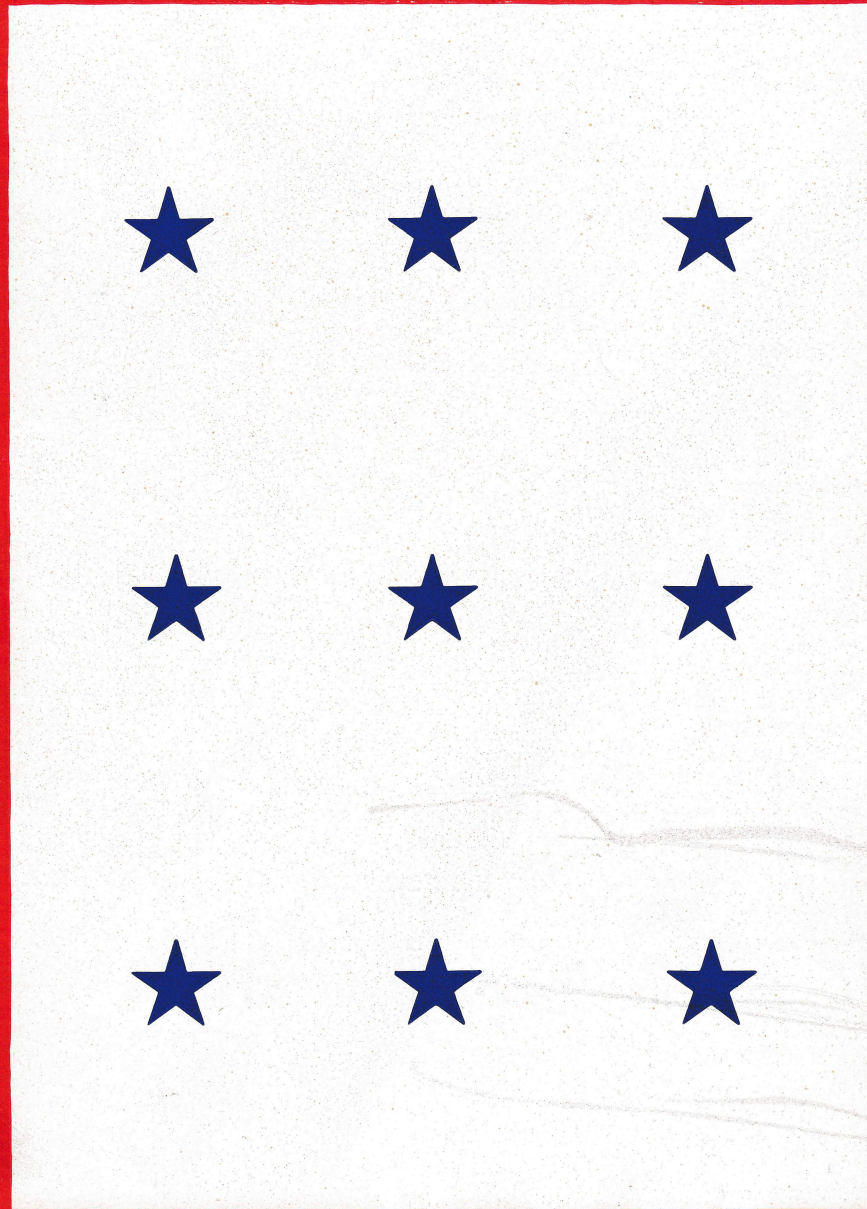


Volume 2 No. 5

CHRISTMAS
PUBLIC LIBRARY



STARS

IN THE SERVICE

DECEMBER, 1944

Christmas Greetings

This is Stars' second Christmas and a message from the editor appropriate to the season appears to be in order. We could tell you something about the way in which this magazine of yours has grown during the last twelve months, something of the loyal support it has received from the pastors and congregations of the 35 or more participating churches, of the way in which groups of interested girls and women have rallied to do the addressing . . . and of many other facts and figures and anecdotes.

But we won't. Instead, there is a little story that carries in its familiar lines our Christmas wish to all who read Stars.

The tale is this:

It was just such a cold, snowy, blustery night as we all have known. Busy throngs streamed past the great church, whose towering spires thrust heavenward into the skies, and whose chimes rang in the cold, clear air with crystal clarity. Now and again a shaft of light struck across the pavement as some worshipper entered, opening the door to step into the candle-lit brightness.

The child stood on the church steps, shivering in the cold wind, thin hands clutching her meagre shawl about her shoulders, snow whitening her hair. Now and then, through the opened door, she caught a glimpse of the brightly illuminated altar where candles burned beside the golden cross at the feet of the Holy Mother and The Babe. It was as if, in those fleeting seconds, she glimpsed some cherished part of Heaven.

How she longed to go in! But she was afraid, because she had nothing to lay at the Christ Child's feet. So she stood amid the hurrying throngs, a pitiful waif, content with the occasional share of festive glory that stole now and then through the doors.

Of a sudden, through the whirling snow, a splendid carriage drew up and stopped before the church. From it alighted a mother and her little son. The mother, intent upon her worship, passed through the door, but the little boy, seeing the child there on the step, paused an instant.

"Here," he said, darting to her side, "I was going to eat this, but you may have it." And he thrust into her hand a round, red, shiny apple. Then he opened the door and disappeared into the church.

The child put the apple to her lips to bite it, but as she did so, the church door opened. From within floated the strains of children's voices singing, clear and sweet, a Christmas carol.

She looked again at the apple and then, with great courage, slipped through the door into the church. The bright lights dazzled her eyes,

the swelling music of the organ seemed to surround and enclose her, the throngs of people, intent on their prayers, frightened her; but withal there was a great joy in her heart.

The Babe in his Mother's arms smiled down upon her.

When the gifts of the people were gathered, two thin hands placed reverently upon the plate a shiny, red apple.

Trembling, the little girl watched as the apple was borne toward the altar. Trembling, she saw it lifted high, shining in splendid beauty, above all the other gifts, toward the Christ Child.

That is the story.

This is our Christmas wish:—

May you, in the troubled, perilous days that lie ahead, remember the charity of the one child, who shared his treasure, and the simple faith of the other, who gave her little mite in joyfulness of heart.

GRIFFITH R. PULLINGER,
Editor.
Christmas, 1944.



Adeste Fideles



Come hither, ye faithful, triumphantly sing;
Come see in the manger the angel's dread King!
To Bethlehem hasten, with joyful accord;
O come ye, come hither, to worship the Lord!

True Son of the Father, He comes from the skies;
To be born of a Virgin He does not despise;
To Bethlehem hasten, with joyful accord;
O come ye, come hither, to worship the Lord!

Emmanuel!



Men plumb the deeps,
They scan the skies;
All nations look
For Paradise.
To Arms and Men
Whose piercing eyes
Search all the earth,
We add our cries . . .
"Emmanuel!"
His Peace our Prize.

by John R. Waser

A Mother's Prayer

DEAR FATHER IN HEAVEN:
We come to Thee for comfort and to ask the safety of our Sons. Thou, O God, can understand how dear these sons are to a mother's heart. As babes we held them in our arms; raised them to worship Thee. Now, dear Father, we ask that thou wilt protect them from hurt of body and from sin. May they not forget their God in time of service for their country. Thou knowest every mother's wish is to be with her sons, to protect them; but we can only wait and hope and pray, leaving them to Thy tender care. Give our sons strength to be good soldiers, brave in action for our country; and we pray that, if it be Thy will, they may return to us whole in body and pure in soul. We pray thee, Father, to give all mothers strength to be good soldiers at home. All these things we ask of thee, dear Father, in Jesus' name. Amen.

(Written by Mrs. William Ruth, mother of two sons, both of whom have seen action overseas.)

Hark, hark, to the angels, all singing in heaven,
"To God in the highest all glory be given!"
To Bethlehem hasten, with joyful accord:
O come ye, come hither, to worship the Lord!

To Thee, then O Jesus, this day of Thy birth,
Be glory and honor through heaven and earth;
True Godhead incarnate, omnipotent Word!
O come, let us hasten to worship the Lord!

"Joy To The World, The Lord Is Come, Let Earth Receive Her King"



The Nativity of Our Lord as set forth in St. Luke 2:1-20

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.)

And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city.

And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:)

To be taxed with Mary, his espoused wife, being great with child.

And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.

And she brought forth her first-born son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

And lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.

And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for behold I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

And this shall be a sign unto you: Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying.

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men.

And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.

And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.

And when they had seen it they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning the child.

And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds.

But Mary kept all these things and pondered them in her heart.

And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had seen as it was told unto them.

Hear Our Prayers, O Lord And Be Merciful Unto Thy Servants

Prayer For Peace

ETERNAL Father, Who in the sending of Thy Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, didst speak Peace to the world, and in the Blood of His Cross hast opened to all mankind the Way to peace with Thee; turn all men to the Cross and fire every heart with Thy Holy Spirit that all may accept in Christ the way of life that following His holy example and burning with His zeal of service, all men may become one brotherhood in Him and Thy peace possess every heart and rule in all the nations of the world; through the same Jesus Christ, Our Lord, Amen.

—(Common Service Book, United Lutheran Church)

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For All Who Suffer

BE MERCIFUL, O God, unto all who need thy mercy, and let the angel of Thy presence save the afflicted, the exiled and imprisoned; Be thou the strength of the weary, the comfort of the sorrowful, the friend of the desolate, the light of the wandering, the hope of the dying, the Saviour of the lost, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

—(Wartime Prayers of Protestant Episcopal Church)

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For Our Country

ALmighty God, who by Thy Providence didst lead our forefathers to this land wherein they found refuge from oppression and freedom to worship Thee: We beseech Thee ever to guide Our Nation in the way of Thy truth and peace so that we may never fail in the blessing which Thou hast promised to that people whose God is the Lord; through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Our Lord. Amen.

—(Common Service Book, United Lutheran Church)

For Our Women

GRACIOUS GOD, be pleased to bestow upon the young women now serving beside their brothers in the uniform of their country strength and the will to accomplish the tasks to which they have set their hands. Let not their sacrifices be in vain nor their endeavors without reward. Give to them that sure sense of high calling which only service in Thy name can bring; through Our Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.

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For the Navy

ETERNAL Lord God, who alone spreadest out the heavens and rulest the raging of the sea; vouchsafe to take into thy almighty and most gracious protection our country's Navy, and all who serve therein. Preserve them from the dangers of the sea, and from the violence of the enemy; that they may be a safeguard unto the United States of America, and a security for such as pass on the seas upon their lawful occasions; that the inhabitants of our land may in peace and quietness serve thee our God, to the Glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen.

—(Book of Common Prayer, Protestant Episcopal Church)

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For the Army

LORD God of Hosts, stretch forth, we pray thee, thine almighty arm to strengthen and protect the soldiers of our country. Support them in the day of battle, and in the time of peace keep them safe from all evil; endue them with courage and loyalty; and grant that in all things they may serve without reproach; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

—(Book of Common Prayer, Protestant Episcopal Church)

ISSUE INSPIRATION

★ Here's the inspiration behind this issue of Stars in The Service. It's *Ed Faust's* idea entirely and if you get any pleasure from seeing the pictures of your families and loved ones, credit Ed with it.

Way back on August 11 he wrote:

"I just received the Spring and Summer issues of Stars in The Service . . . I, virtually a stranger in Bethlehem, am proud to be on your mailing list.

"Here's a suggestion for the Winter or Christmas number—that is, if we're over here at that time—instead of pictures of the boys, why not give us pictures of our wives or sweethearts. I'm sure some of us away from home so long would be happy to see recent photos of our loved ones."

So here they are, all bringing their best wishes for a "Merry Christmas," wherever you may be, and with earnest prayers for your safe keeping in God's hands, and your swift return when the Victory for the Right is yours . . . and ours. "God Bless You, One and All."

For Our Airmen

Ⓖ GOD, the strength of all those who put their trust in Thee; bless we pray Thee our Airmen of all the services, particularly those who have gone forth from this community. Grant that they, being armed with Thy defense, may be preserved evermore in all perils; and being filled with wisdom and girded with strength, may do their duty to Thy honour and glory; through Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen.

—(Adapted from Wartime Prayers of Protestant Episcopal Church)



For the Marines

ⒽEAVENLY FATHER, whose sons are these, our brothers of the United States Marines, stand by their side in battle; gird them with the sword of courage; and if it be Thy will, let them emerge with honour and victory from their encounters with the enemy. In life give them hope; in death, repose within the bosom of Thy dear Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.



Read down: First row, **Doris**, wife of M/Sgt. Henry O. Albright, overseas with the AAF two years; **Mrs. Richard S. Hill**, whose husband is in the Navy at Solomons, Md.; **June**, wife of Sgt. Marvin Cook, now in Germany with the American forces; **Mrs. Lawrence Werkheiser**, wife of Pfc. L. E. Werkheiser, Camp Pickett, and mother of Charles R.; 2nd row, **Rose**, wife of T/5 Russell Hawk, overseas, and mother of Russell, Jr.; **Mrs. Jack Conrad**, whose husband, Sgt. Conrad, is in France; (**Mrs.**) **Emma Jenny**; **Mrs. Charles Schuler**, wife of Ens. C. W. Schuler, Plattsburg, N. Y.; **Claire**, wife of Richard C. Frederick, in Naval aviation overhaul unit in the New Hebrides; **Mrs. W. George Hein**, mother of little Betty Hein, whose husband is overseas; 3rd row, **Mrs. Eugene H. Kessler**, whose husband is serving in Europe with an infantry unit; **Marion**, wife of Lt. (Sr. G.) Charles S. Redline, presently on sea duty; **Mrs. George S. Prokop**, wife of Captain G. S. Prokop, stationed with the Army Ordnance in Hawaii; **Mrs. George F. Hocker, Jr.**, wife of Lt. G. F. Hocker, serving in North Africa with the U. S. Navy.



Read down, left to right: First row, Mrs. William J. Brader and son, William, Jr., 12 weeks old; Martin, Jr., son of Seaman and Mrs. Martin Simsak; Mrs. Richard Reynolds and son, Bruce, wife and child of Coast Guardsman Dick Reynolds; Virginia F. and Lloyd F. Best, wife and son of Lloyd Best, Jacksonville, Fla.; 2nd row, Jackie, 11-month-old son of Pfc. and Mrs. Wilbur Moser, Daddy being now in France; Mrs. Walter Fink and son, Ned Charles; Mrs. Wilbur D. Miller and daughter Judith Ann, 10 months, wife and daughter of S 1/c Miller; Pamela Joy and Mrs. Lloyd Fatzinger, wife and daughter of Cpl. Fatzinger; 3rd row, Mrs. Franklin Murray and son, Franklin, Jr.; Mrs. Ralph Strook and son Richard, wife and child of Pfc. Ralph Strook; Ned Diehl, small brother of S/Sgt. Robert H. Diehl, holder of the Air Medal; Sleda and Ernest, Jr., 18 months, wife and son of Ernest R. Buss, U.S.N., Patuxent River, Md.; 4th row, Mrs. Woodrow K. Mitman and daughter Joanne, whose daddy last saw her when she was six weeks old; Mrs. Earl A. Christ and John Earl, wife and son of Pvt. E. A. Christ; David Diehl, brother of Ned and S/Sgt. Robert Diehl; Wilbur, Jr., son of Wilbur and Dorothy Grube, daddy now being in the South Pacific.

from "THANATOPSIS"

So live, that when thy summons comes
to join

The innumerable caravan that moves
To that mysterious realm where each
shall take

His chamber in the silent halls of death,
Thou go not like the quarry-slave at
- night,

Scourged to his dungeon; but, sustained
and soothed

By an unfaltering trust, approach thy
grave

Like one who wraps the drapery of his
couch

About him, and lies down to pleasant
dreams.

—William Cullen Bryant

LAST TAPS

★ *Sgt. Roland Lynn*, son of Mr. and Mrs. Roland T. Lynn, Sr., 284 West Fairview Street, laid down his life for his country in Italy on October 13. He was killed in action against the enemy a telegram from the War Department to his parents stated. Sgt. Lynn was a member of College Hill Moravian church.

★ Rev. Milton A. Yaeck conducted Memorial services in College Hill church for *Pvt. John F. Burcaw, Jr.*, killed September 16 while participating in action in France. Members of Johnson Post, American Legion, attended. He was the son of Caroline and the late John F. Burcaw. His mother resides at 131 West Fairview Street.

★ Services were held in memoriam to *Clare VanBilliard*, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles VanBilliard, 213 Spring Street, in Nativity Episcopal church, Very Rev. Roscoe T. Foust, rector, and Rev. W. Robert Webb, associate rector, officiating. VanBilliard was killed in action in France.

★ A memorial service for the late *Pvt. Fred Shuster*, killed in France in August, was held in St. George's Episcopal Chapel, Hellertown.

★ A memorial service for *Captain Jack Herstine* was held in Grace Lutheran church October 8. Jack was killed in China where he had been training a Chinese regiment. In one of his last letters he told of fighting on 11,000 foot high mountains in sleet and snow and of being reduced to eating mule and dog meat when supplies failed to arrive.

Captain Herstine is the first member of Grace Lutheran to be killed in action, although two others, S/Sgt. Raymond Sell and Pvt. Charles Seifert, have been reported missing. Paul Buchold, Bkr. 1/c, assisted the pastor, Dr. J. Howard Worth, in performing the service. Members of Harry F. W. Johnson Post, American Legion, attended in a body.

Greetings from Our Pastors . . .

First Reformed

Once again, Christmas finds us in a world at war. We may wonder how we can say "Merry Christmas" in a period that is so troubled by strife. Yet, right here is the secret of Christmas, bringing to us its greatest meaning.

The first Christmas came in a world just like ours. Christ was born in an occupied land, with nations in constant struggle one with another. Yet he did succeed in bringing a fresh hope, a new ideal of life to suffering mankind. Nothing through all the centuries ever has or ever will destroy the spirit of Christ. To you, the young men and women of our churches, we extend Christmas greetings and pray that another year will find you with us once more, and that we at home may be worthy of your service and sacrifice.

Harry J. Colver, Jr., Pastor



Upper left is *Frank Ronald Krohn*, son of Lt. and Mrs. Herbert F. Krohn; upper right, *Richard J. Frederick*, son of Margaret T. and John C. Frederick, the latter in the South Pacific on Navy duty; lower left, *Mrs. John Mallory, Sr. and son, Johnny*, whose papa is in the fighting in Germany; lower right, *Tommy Reese*, son of Pvt. and Mrs. Truman Reese. Father is in Italy.



Read down, left to right: First row, **Mr. and Mrs. Merrill Paden**, parents of M/Sgt. Gerald and M/Sgt. Merrill Paden; **Mr. and Mrs. Harry Fissel**, parents of Pvt. Robert Fissel, in a hospital in Belgium; **Mrs. Alice Williams**, mother of Pfc. Marden Williams, AAF, Truxax Field; **Mr. and Mrs. W. Erney**, grandparents of Sgt. Charles, T/5 George and William Keeler, F 1/c; second row, **Mr. and Mrs. George Thornburg**, parents of Pfc. Robert Thornburg; **Mr. and Mrs. Homer Lorrab**, parents of Robert, overseas, William, California, and Homer, New York; **Oliver Moyer**, father of Raymond F. Moyer, CMM, South Pacific; **Mr. and Mrs. A. V. Reynolds**, parents of A/C John G. Reynolds, San Marcos, Texas; 3rd row, **Mr. and Mrs. Frank Reynolds**, parents of Donald, S 1/c, Philippine area, and Flight Officer Walter, AAF, European area; **George Miller**, father of Robert J. Miller, S 2/c, Charles H. Miller, S 2/c, and stepfather of Pfc. George Dunbar; **Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Kolesar**, parents of Sgt. Paul D. Kolesar, U.S.M.C., Pacific area; **Mr. and Mrs. John LaBar**, parents of John, Jr., U.S.N.; 4th row, **Mr. and Mrs. George Antollek**, parents of John, AMM 3/c, South America, and George, former Stars reporter for St. Mark's Lutheran church, also in the Navy; **Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hartley**, parents of Roger Hartley, and brother Orville and his wife and daughter, **Kathleen**; **Edwin Grube**, father of Pvt. Earl E. Grube and Pfc. Paul Grube and uncle of Pfc. Robert L. Egner, killed in action in France during October; **Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Kralik, Sr.**, parents of Joseph, Jr., South Pacific; last row, **Mrs. Harry Biekle**, mother of Pvt. Robert Biekle, Pacific area; **Mr. and Mrs. Fred Herbold**, parents of James Herbold, S 1/c, South Pacific; **Mr. and Mrs. Antonio Rotonto**, parents of Pvt. Salvatore, France, and Cpl. Daniel, England; **Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Hartzell**, parents of Pfc. Robert K., gunner on a B-24 Liberator in the European theatre.



Ebenezer Mennonite group. Left to right: Seated, **Mrs. A. Kramer**, mother of Robert H. Kramer, S 1/c, Mediterranean area; **Mrs. William Reidelbach**, whose son, Lt. (j.g.) William, Jr., South Pacific with a construction battalion; **Mrs. H. A. Habrial**, mother of Pvt. Gordon Habrial, glider mechanic, Maston Field, N. D.; **Mrs. Charles Oplinger**, mother of Lt. Harold Oplinger, Florida; **Mrs. William Lasso**, wife of William Lasso, S 2/c, Bainbridge, Md.; standing, **Mrs. F. Transue**, mother of Merlin, Merchant Marine, South Atlantic, and Gilbert, F 1/c, on destroyer escort, South Atlantic; **Irene Lasso**, sister of Pvt. Roland Lasso, amphibian engineers, Dutch East Indies; **Mrs. Erwin Zettlemoyer**, mother of Pfc. Robert J. Zettlemoyer, Medical Corps, Italy; **Mrs. Warren Ungerer**, sister of Harry L. Meek, M.O.M.M. 2/c, Africa; **Mrs. E. O. Gable**, mother of Cpl. Elmer H. Gable, U.S.M.C., fighter squadron mechanic, N. C.

Christ Lutheran, Hellertown

The Christmas Story, though old, is ever new. Though war has brought us severe trials and tribulations, yet if we keep faith with God we will understand more and more the real spiritual meaning of Christ's coming into the world. Christ has come to free us from all evil and to bring peace into our hearts. This thought of a Saviour, this thought of a peace which the world cannot give should fill our hearts with courage, strength, and hope for the future.

Now, may He, Who is the Prince of Peace, dwell richly in your heart this Christmastide and until we meet again.

Byron R. Stauffer, Pastor



Bethany Reformed

The story of the three wise men coming to the end of their long quest before the new-born King is one of the most beautiful in all literature. And yet, between the lines of that gospel story, we must ever read of the perseverance and self-sacrifice which alone brought the Magi to the infant Jesus.

As we now send Christmas greetings to the boys, we are well aware that the going will be rough indeed for many of them before they can fully enjoy what Christmas means to them. They are on a long quest too. And so with our greetings, we include the wish that this Christmas may serve to brighten their hearts and thus be a goodly step on the way to their first Christmas back home. May God bless them, every one.

C. Eugene Blum, Pastor

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Trinity Reformed, Freemansburg

Perhaps no wish is nearer to the hearts of you Stars in the Service this Christmas season than the one first spoken by the angels on the hill-sides of Bethlehem — "Peace on earth, good will toward men." We share that same wish with you, and pray that God may grant it to all men soon.

Paul Strauch, Pastor

Rosemont Lutheran

Long years ago, voices from Heaven broke the silence of the world's dark night in order to proclaim the joyous tidings of a Saviour's Birth. "On earth peace" was the burden of the angels' song.

That night of Heaven's visitation has been hallowed to God's people through all the centuries past.

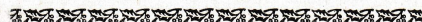
All the blessings of the Christmas Season, we here from your home City sincerely desire to share with you who have gone from our midst to battle for our beloved Land.

We also add the prayer that you may be kept in health, and too, strengthened in soul against the soul-testing situations in which you are placed.

Henry J. Croushore, Pastor



In this picture are, left to right: Top row, **Dorothy Brobst**; **Katherine Kline**, engaged to Raymond A. Dubbs, Qm. 3/c; **Catherine Murray**, fiancée of Curtis Doll, private first class; below, **Leah Heffelfinger**, engaged to Howard R. Sheetz, SM 3/c, on shipboard in Atlantic waters; **Catherine Schrader**, nurse on duty overseas; **Pfc. Louise J. Lamphere**, U.S.M.C., girl friend of Robert P. Danner, Pfm. 3/c; **Judy Ann Kern**, sweetheart of Pvt. Frederick Horning.





IT CAME UPON A MIDNIGHT CLEAR

It came upon a midnight clear,
That glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth
To touch their harps of gold:
"Peace on the earth, good will to men
From heaven's all-gracious King":
The world in solemn stillness lay,
To hear the angels sing.

★

Still through the cloven skies they
come,
With peaceful wings unfurled,
And still their heavenly music floats
O'er all the weary world:
Above its sad and lowly plains
They bend on hovering wing,
And ever o'er its Babel-sounds
The blessed angels sing.

★

For lo, the days are hastening on,
By prophets seen of old,
When with the ever-circling years
Shall come the time foretold,
When the new heaven and earth shall
own
The Prince of Peace their King,
And the whole world send back the
song
Which now the angels sing.



Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Wida, parents of Pvt. Andrew Wida, now on active duty in France. Mr. Wida is a veteran of World War I.



Read down, left to right: First row, **Mrs. Walter C. Miller**, whose husband, Pfc. Miller, is at Davis Monthon Field, Tucson, Arizona; S/Sgt. William Peters, husband of this young lady, is overseas with the AAF; **Catherine**, wife of Norman F. Simpson, now at Grande Island, Neb.; center, top, **Rosemarie**, wife of Franklin L. Weaver, shipfitter, stationed at Norfolk, Va.; center, left, **Annabelle Maye**, wife of William B. Christman, AMM 1/c, aviation repair unit, South Pacific; right, **Jean**, wife of Elwood F. Clewell, MoMM 2/c, in England; below, left, **Marguerite D. Hildt**, fiancée of Cpl. Robert Kennedy, in England; right, **Mrs. William E. Wolfram, 3rd**, whose husband is in the South Pacific on a P.C.E.; lower center, **Mrs. Donald F. Bachman**, a Jackson, Miss., girl who married Lt. Bachman last April; last row, **Dorothy**, wife of Lester D. Himmelwright, F 2/c, Pacific area; **Jean**, wife of Jack Powers, who is stationed on Guadalcanal; **Patsy**, recent bride of Seaman Lester Henn, overseas, enjoys the swing at the Henn reunion.

Ebenezer Mennonite

For intelligent greeting this time of the year we ask "What is its meaning?"

To God the Father it meant the giving of His Son. John 3:16.

To God the Son it meant the giving of His life. Phil. 2:8.

To God's creation, ruined by sin, it means a Saviour. Luke 2:11.

To you and me it means the offer of a life that is triumphant and eternal, unaffected by sin and death. Rom. 8:10.

To all therefore in Christ Jesus, regardless of religious affiliation, at home or abroad, we say "Be of good cheer."

P. T. Stengele, Pastor

Emmanuel Evangelical Congregational

We celebrate the Festival of the Father's Love in a world that has been much in pain and travail. You have shared in the deep agony of spirit that has gripped the whole of mankind. The language of the hurt heart cannot ever again be strange to you. Just remember that God's heart hurt, too, when his plans for a happy world were broken into fragments by stubborn, selfish, willful ways of man. And God's answer was an outpouring of redeeming love wrapped up in a Child whose name was Jesus. May His Presence be the answer to every asking of yours.

John R. Waser, Pastor



The three children across the top are **Barbara, Charles and Phyllis Klass**, daughters and son of Fred A. Klass, Mus. 3/c. Others in the picture are, reading top to bottom: First row, **Helen S. Richards and son, David Burton**, wife and son of Sgt. Donald B. Richards, now overseas; **June Darlene Savitz**, daughter of Olive and Pvt. John W. A. Savitz; **Sandra Faye Bickert and mother**, daughter and wife of Pvt. Clarence N. Bickert, in France; 2nd row, **Frankie Yost**, whose daddy is F. F. Yost, S 2/c; **Betty Hein**, whose father, Walter George Hein, is overseas; **Mrs. D. A. Medel and son, Bernard** (Father is in the Pacific area); **Gary Robert Brader**, 4½ months, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Brader; 3rd row, **Roger A. Frey**, son of T/5 and Mrs. Leavitt Frey, the former in France; **Russell Hawk, Jr.**, whose father is overseas; **James McKnight**, brother of Pfc. George McKnight; **Kenneth Smale**, son of Seaman and Mrs. Kenneth Smale, Sr.; 4th row, **Carolee Mae**, one year, and **Helen**, daughter and wife of LeRoy Huber, F 2/c; **Larry Strohl**, son of Pfc. and Mrs. Henry Strohl; **Eunice and Marie**, wife and daughter of Sgt. Maurice Hippenstell.

Holy Trinity Lutheran

Selma Lagerlöf tells of a man who came to a shepherd asking for a light to kindle a fire for his wife and newborn child. The shepherd from whom he asked it was a cruel, disagreeable man but the unwillingness of his dogs to show any resentment to the stranger attracted him.

He followed the father to the place where the newborn babe lay. In the presence of the child, he found that his heart was touched and he proffered his gift—a soft lambskin to keep the babe snug and warm. It is the old, familiar story of the appeal of the Christmas Child, haunting in its exquisite loveliness. It is the story of the Babe born in a manger that promises peace and goodwill to a war-torn world.

Benjamin Lotz, Pastor

St. Thomas Lutheran, Macada

A Babe was born at Bethlehem. In this age of world-wide unrest, it is good to reflect upon the object and mission of the Christ whose birth into earth life we celebrate. He, of whom the angels sang in the heavenly choir, is our only hope for peace and good will. He it is whom we must proclaim to the world if we would have this glorious song ring in our present world.

The Babe in the manger is God's Son, come to save men from their sins.

Therefore we, too, hasten to Bethlehem and adore the gracious Babe.

Your Church and your pastor pray that you may share in all the joys which the Christ-child has brought to this sad world.

Daniel M. Latshaw, Pastor

Olivet Evangelical Congregational

The Star that shone o'er Bethlehem has ushered in the Light that will not go out. That Light, the Christ-child, Emmanuel, "God with us," shines as brightly today as at any time in history. Just as the wise-men of old sought until they found the place where He was, so today the really wise men seek the true Light Whom we worship in our celebration of Christmas. Through the Light of Him we pray:

" 'May the dear God guide you'
Is ever in my prayer—
May you always be
In His loving care;
Wherever you are—
Wherever you go
May you His gracious
Goodness know;
And faith and love
And Christmas cheer,
Bless you today
And through the year."

R. S. Wolfgang, Pastor



Read across, left to right: Top row, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Makos, parents of S/Sgt. Richard Makos, Infantry, England; Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Hartzell, parents of Sgt. Earl Hartzell and Ray Hartzell, S 1/c; small insert, Mrs. Charles Hagey, mother of Pfc. Charles Hagey, France; next row below, Mrs. George Davis, mother of Pfc. George Davis, Army Engineers, overseas; Mrs. George Lichtenwalner, mother of Pfc. George Lichtenwalner, Germany; Anna Bremmer, Hellertown, "sweet-heart" of Pvt. Lichtenwalner; bottom row, Mrs. and Mr. Andrew Hudak, parents of John E. Hudak, aboard a Medical Corps hospital ship; Mr. and Mrs. Charles Fritz, parents of Charles Fritz, Jr., S 1/c.

St. John's Evangelical

May this gracious season be for you the occasion to receive the greatest gift of God! The gift of Jesus Christ is offered to us all: A gift forever and wondrously new. Recall again the scenes of the Holy Nativity: The chorus of angels, the attendant glory, the announcement of the Saviour's birth. In company with the humble shepherds, worship and adore the infinite majesty of the Blessed Incarnation. God is manifest in the flesh! With the wise men from the East, dedicate your choicest gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh to the Christ Child. We wish for all of you in uniform a renewed sense of awe and wonder and praise. A blessed Christmas to you!

A. M. Gottschalk, Pastor

Acknowledgment



Stars acknowledges with gratitude the generosity of the following persons whose gifts have materially assisted in defraying incidental expenses: Mr. and Mrs. J. B. McNear, Mr. and Mrs. J. Ray Ulrich, Mrs. Peacock, Mrs. Joseph Reichard, Mrs. A. R. Himmelwright, Sr., Mrs. Francis Klein, Harold Burg, Mrs. William Gieske, Mr. and Mrs. William Stoneback and the Young Peoples' Society of Grace Reformed Church.

Nativity Episcopal

Merry Christmas!

The hearts of all of us are a little lighter this year because we seem at long last to have reached the beginning of the end of the war. Once again the Christmas promise of Peace on Earth to men of good will is something more than a remote hope.

For the part all of you are taking to hasten the return of peace we at home want to say "Thank you." We long for your return and pray that God will keep your courage strong and your faith in the triumph of the things you fight for undismayed.

Roscoe T. Foust, Dean and Rector

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Fritz Memorial Methodist

Fritz Memorial Methodist Church extends to all the men and women their warmest Christmas greetings and hope that wherever they are there will be a Merry Christmas for them. We never forget you and you are often in our prayers. We hope you will be able to finish your job soon. There's a royal welcome awaiting you in this church.

J. H. Barnes, Pastor

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St. Matthew's Lutheran

This Christmas Eve, wherever we are, let us lift our eyes to the oldest Christmas symbol, the star-lit sky which covers us all and from which we can still hear, if we listen, the song of the angel-chorus. True, there is little "peace on earth" today, save deep in the hearts of those who give "Glory to God," the God Who came to earth in Bethlehem's manger. May



Ebenezer Mennonite group. Left to right: Seated, Mrs. C. Sauerwein, mother of S/Sgt. James Sauerwein, Medical Corps, Italy; Mrs. George Hinnerscheltz, mother of Pfc. George Hinnerscheltz, anti-aircraft, England; J. L. Hinnerscheltz, Rm 3/c, amphibian forces, South Pacific; Pvt. Leon Hinnerscheltz, U.S.M.C., Lakehurst, N. J.; Mrs. John Custer, mother of Cpl. Gerald Custer, AAF bomber crew, France; Mrs. Harvey Musselman, mother of Lt. LeRoy Musselman, bombardier instructor, AAF, Texas; Mrs. Harold Williams, mother of Cpl. Robert Williams, Medical Corps, Cleveland, Ohio; standing, Mrs. E. O. Mann, mother of Pfc. Arthur Mann, Medical Corps, U. of P.; Mrs. Joseph Reichard, mother of S/Sgt. Frederick Reichard, AAF, England; Mrs. Robert Jones, mother of Pvt. Robert P. Jones, and Mrs. Robert Jones, his wife. Pvt. Jones is in California.

the living spirit of that Christ set the candle of your heart glowing with His love and "good will" that yours may be one of these hearts from which permanent peace can be kindled.

William C. Berkemeyer, Pastor

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West Side Moravian

"Glory to God in the highest, and peace to men of good will."

Those who are even now in the midst of battle may well find it hard

to say, "And on earth, peace, good will toward men." It hardly seems to fit the facts as we know them. Some Bible students have pointed out, however, that a more accurate translation is, "peace to men of good will." And in those words there is a challenge for every one of us. Are we able to rise above our natural feelings, and have good will toward all men? Through Christ, it is possible.

"Father, forgive them." That's the spirit of Christ. May it dwell in our hearts this Christmastime, and during every day of the coming year.

John S. Groenfeldt, Pastor

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St. John's Slovak

For you, our members and friends, who are far from home and loved ones on this Christmastide, I pray that the love of God in Christ may sustain you, that the comfort of His Word may be yours in the lonesome and dark hours, that your prayers, which bind you in spirit together with us at home may be a bridge of common need and desires, hopes and supplications, leading us all to the Blessed Presence.

At the throne of God we have the final peace through Christ Jesus. This is our glorious and sustaining faith. May this peace be yours for which we pray in the words of the ancient liturgical prayer for peace: "O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed, give unto Thy servants that peace which the world cannot give."

In this Peace may your Christmas be bright.

John Daniel, Pastor



Ebenezer Mennonite group. Left to right: Seated, Mrs. R. E. Evans, mother of Pfc. Ray Evans, Medical detachment, England; Mrs. Henry Gemberling, wife of Pvt. Henry Gemberling, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md.; Katherine Neiser and Mrs. Mark Neiser, daughter and wife of Mark Neiser, F 2/c, Gulfport, Miss.; Nancy and Janet Gemberling, daughters of Pvt. Gemberling; standing, Mrs. T. Seifert, mother of Delbert Seifert, F 2/c, North Atlantic destroyer duty; Mrs. Joseph Cressman, mother of Ensign Melvin Cressman, Pittsburgh; Mrs. Stanley Grube, wife of Pvt. Stanley Grube, Egypt; Mrs. Charles Neiser, mother of Mark and Pvt. Paul Neiser, the latter with the Medical Corps in Alaska; Mrs. Benjamin Grube, mother of Cpl. Grube.

Christ Reformed

We, at Christ Evangelical and Reformed Church, are as anxious to have the boys and girls in service feel the thrill and the peace of Christmastide, as was the heavenly host to have the shepherds hear of the birth of the Saviour.

Although limited in service we assure you all that through our prayers and our concern for your loved ones at home we shall do our utmost to bring you that peace so consonant with the season. We send you our good wishes and may God bless you all this Christmas Season.

A. A. Welsh, Pastor



Church of the Nazarene

"For unto you is born this day in the City of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord."

Therefore, remembering this, be of good cheer this Christmastide for, as Christ came then to save the world, so is He born anew to us in this Holy Season that our faith may be renewed and our courage strengthened. In His name may you one and all continue firm in your duty, steadfast in your faith. And may you be returned to the arms of your loved ones safely . . . and soon.

George P. Woodward, Pastor



St. Luke's Evangelical

Men and women in the armed forces of the U. S. A.: I greet you in the name of Him who made Christmas possible to the world. It is the one time of year when the home life becomes more precious and grand. May you where ever you may feel that the Christ who made Christmas is very near.

We at home will be thinking of you, and our prayers will be that the joys of Christmas may in some way be felt and enjoyed by you. May the song of the angels soon be heard all around the earth.

L. H. Yergey, Pastor



These little lads are Andrew, 5, and Robert, 3, sons of M 3/c and Mrs. Andrew Kudlak. They'd like Daddy for a Christmas present.



Read this one across the page, left to right: Top row, Nellie F. and Carol Ann, wife and daughter of Franklin D. Becker now with a railway operating unit in France; Bonnie Joy and Kay Elleen, daughters of Phm. 3/c and Mrs. K. W. Fulmer of Hellertown, whose daddy is in the South Pacific; Eve E. and James J., wife and son of Robert M. Hood; middle row, Carol Ester and William, children of Pvt. William Smale, U.S.M.C.; Nancy May Risser, daughter of S 1/c and Mrs. Paul P. Risser; Richard E. Ammann, son of Ernest and Helen Ammann; Susan Emilie Rajock, 5 months, daughter of Lt. and Mrs. Paul Rajock; lower row, Mrs. Stephen Beaudry and son, Stephen, Jr., whose husband and father, Captain Beaudry, is in Italy; America A., Richard Allan and Harold David, wife and children of Harold A. Landis.

First Presbyterian, South Side

Your friends think of you at this season of the year. We turn our thoughts back to the days that are no more. While you are scattered over the face of the whole earth, remember all of us can celebrate the birth of Christ in our hearts. You are fighting to preserve our nation and its Christian ideals. In our churches and in our homes you will be in our thoughts and in our prayers.

The darkness and bitterness of war shall pass, the dawn shall come and reunited we shall celebrate Christmas in peace with our loved ones.

Henry Baker, Pastor



St. Peter's Lutheran

It is a privilege to send a Christmas greeting to our sons and daughters, through this very excellent medium of "Stars in the Service."

Back in the Home Church we are

grateful for the service and sacrifice you give in our behalf.

Our sincerest Christmas greetings go to you and all who serve in the Armed Forces of Our Country. A common love for the Christ, born long years ago in Judea, binds us all together in Him. Despite the external evidences of war and destruction, may you and we find the true joy in the Christ whom we serve.

Corson C. Snyder, D.D., Pastor



Edgeboro Moravian

Greetings in the Name of the Babe of Bethlehem, who was born to bring joy into a world sadly in need of it. We all, over nineteen hundred years later, still need the joy and peace which only He can instill in the hearts of those who believe in Him no matter where they may be or with whatever circumstances they may have to cope. He is the Day-Star on high, and those who follow it find that hope springs eternal in their breasts.

Reuben H. Gross, Pastor



Upper left, **Mrs. Albert Strohl**; below, **Mrs. Francis J. Phillippi**, mother of Pvt. Francis J. Phillippi, Jr., who is now recuperating in a hospital in Italy from injuries; upper right, **Mrs. Edward Kunkle**, mother of Cpl. Dorothy Kunkle, WAC, Camp Atterbury, Ind.; lower right, **Mrs. L. B. McNear**, mother of Grant and Bill McNear.

St. Mark's Lutheran

May "the foretaste of heaven," experienced on Christmas Day, never cease to lengthen until its horizon embraces Eternity itself; that is the prayer, the hope and the perpetual objective of every child of God.

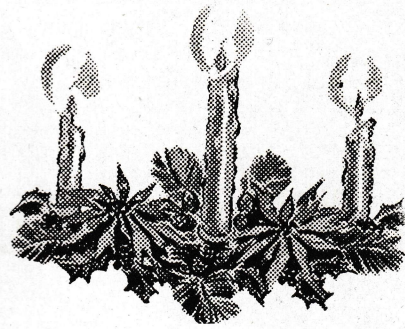
That you may fully realize the close communion of Heaven and earth on Christmas Day, do not fail to look up for in so doing Mary saw God, the shepherds saw the angels and the Wise Men saw the Star.

Do not fail to look about for in so doing you will find the Christ as did the shepherds; you will give your gifts as did the wise men and you will find the peace of God which passeth all understanding as did Joseph and Mary.

Melvin A. Kurtz, S.T.M., Pastor



Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Bastian, daughters Evelyn and Naomi, send Yuletide greetings to Pvt. Wilbur Bastian, son and brother.



JOY TO THE WORLD

Joy to the world! The Lord is come:
Let earth receive her King:
Let every heart prepare Him room,
And Heaven and nature sing.

★

No more let sin and sorrows grow,
Nor thorns infest the ground:
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found.

★

Joy to the earth! the Saviour reigns;
Let men their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills
and plains
Repeat the sounding joy.

★

He rules the world with truth and
grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness,
And wonders of His love.

First Moravian

As Christmas, 1944, approaches, we at First Moravian are still without a permanent pastor. But we pledge to you, our service men and women, that we will carry on, strong in the strength of Christ, Our Lord. We believe that you expect us to keep up the faith and the work here until you come back. This we promise to strive to do. We will look forward steadfastly to your return when we can join hands in promoting the work of Christ, the King. We take the uplifting words of Jesus as our Christmas message: "Be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."

Joint Board, First Moravian

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St. Stephen's Lutheran

The song announcing the birth of Jesus, Luke 2:8-15, is the grandest and sweetest story ever told. These "good-tidings" breathe a song of love in a hating world, serve as the cry of victory for a despairing world and offer the only lasting peace to a bleeding world.

My greeting and prayer at this Christmas Season is that the Christ who filled the hearts of the Shepherds with joy as they saw Him in the manger may live in your lives as you labor to bring "peace and good will among men."

David H. Frederick, Pastor



Mrs. Harry A. Snyder and son, Harry Jr., whose husband and father has been overseas in the South Pacific for the past 22 months.



First Baptist

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea many centuries ago, the world was destined to feel the effect of that great, yet humble event in many different ways. The coming of Jesus into the world, together with His life, teachings, ministry, death, and resurrection has brought the light of hope and cheer into the faces of men throughout the ages.

Despite wars and rumors of wars, with their agony and suffering, the Spirit of Jesus still lives, and His love and salvation still shine forth into this troubled world.

At this Christmas time we greet all of you in the Service in His Name, with the prayer that peace rather than war may accompany Christmas 1945.

Edwin H. Frey, Pastor



Mrs. William S. Hutchinson, Jr. and son, William 3rd, wife and son of Lt. Col. W. S. Hutchinson. Colonel Hutchinson was home recently and saw his son for the first time.



Read down: First row, left, **Mildred**, wife of S/Sgt. Donald Jacobs, AAF, China Wing; **Mrs. Milton Minster**, wife of M. W. Minster, Y 1/c, U.S.N.R., Pacific area; **Beatrice F.**, wife of Capt. Fred M. Hageter, now in this country after completing 36 missions as pilot of a B-17 over Europe; **Betty**, wife of Pvt. Walter Lowright; 2nd row, **Mrs. Norman Yocum**, whose husband is rated BM 2/c; **Mrs. Andrew Kudlak**, wife of M 3/c Kudlak; **Mrs. Oliver Longaberger**, whose husband is with the Medical Corps at Camp Rucker, Ala.; **Mrs. Maynard Washeim**, whose husband is in Hawaii; 3rd row, **Mrs. William G. Seacrest**, whose staff sergeant hubby is in France with a Radar outfit; **Shirley**, wife of Pvt. John R. Ulrich, in Belgium; **Mrs. Bruce Hagey**, wife of Cpl. Hagey, Camp Pickett, Va.; **Mrs. William Guest**, wife of W. Guest, S 2/c, on battleship duty; 4th row, **Mrs. Edward K. Ettwein**, wife of E. K. Ettwein, S 2/c; **Olga**, wife of Carl S. Nichol, now at Camp Siebert, Ala.; **Mrs. Charles M. Ritter**, wife of Lt. C. M. Ritter, now overseas; **Mrs. Carl Wied**, wife of Pfc. Wied, U.S.M.C.; 5th row, **Mrs. John Godfrey, Jr.**, wife of Cpl. Godfrey, Camp Childress, Texas; **Alma**, wife of William S. Erwin, in France since D-Day with the Medics; **Margery**, wife of Pfc. Charles M. Wolf, mechanic, air transport command; **Eleanor**, wife of Joseph Rayan, now with the Engineers in Australia.



In this picture are, reading top to bottom: First row, **Orlanna Jean Frye and mother**, wife and daughter of Pvt. Orlan Frye; **Marian B. Montz and daughter Karen Louise**, wife and child of William R. Montz; **Virginia Gail Roth and mother, Mrs. Saul Roth** (Virginia was 17 weeks old when the picture was taken); **Marie and Judith Ann Hahn**, wife and daughter of John Hahn, S 2/c; **Mrs. Lester Feist, sons Leonard C., 3, and Albert C., 2**; 2nd row, the family of Capt. David O. Helms, **Gertrude** (wife), **Vida** (daughter) and **Peter** (son); **Mrs. Joseph Rehm and daughter, Doris Lee**, 8 months; **Mrs. Grant McNear and son, Grant, Jr.**; **Jean S. Schaffer and daughter, Betty Jane**, wife and daughter of Fvt. Amandus Schaffer, now in France; 3rd row, **Mrs. Kenneth L. Pearson and daughter, Beverly Jean**, whose daddy is overseas; **Mrs. Robert Wartman and son, Robert, Jr.**, whose father is at sea; **Sandra Naegley**, one year, daughter of Lt. and Mrs. Laurence R. Naegley, tries out a few steps; **Dorothy M. Hosler and son, Richard C.**, 7 months, wife and son of Myron C. Hosler, Jr.; **Mrs. Norman Dullenkopf and son, Andrew**, 7 months, whose father is in France; **Mrs. Kenneth Bloss and daughter, Regina**, 17 months; 4th row, **Mrs. Donald Renner and daughter, Patricia Ann**, whose father is overseas; **Fred Bond, Jr. and his mother**, son and wife of Cpl. Fred Bond, who is in New Guinea; **Mrs. C. Edward Bees and son, Jack Edward**, wife and son of C. E. Bees, MM 3/c; **Terry Crouthamel and his mother**, son and wife of Warren Crouthamel, Sk 2/c.

Pilgrim Holiness

While thinking of the dauntless courage of you men who are fighting for Peace, I recalled the words of "The First Christmas Greeting." It is found in Luke, Chapter Two and verses ten and eleven: "And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord." The first Christmas presented us with one who is termed: Saviour, Christ, Lord. As a Saviour He died for us, as Christ He interceeds for us, as Lord, He shall reign over us. May this Christmas season mean to you the conscious presence of our Lord.

J. A. Byrd, Pastor



Grace Reformed

The pastor and the members of the Grace Evangelical and Reformed Congregation send their heartiest greetings to you who are in the service of our country.

In our prayers we commend you into the care of our Heavenly Father. "For I am convinced that neither death nor life, nor angels nor sovereignties, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is Christ Jesus Our Lord," Romans 8:38-39.

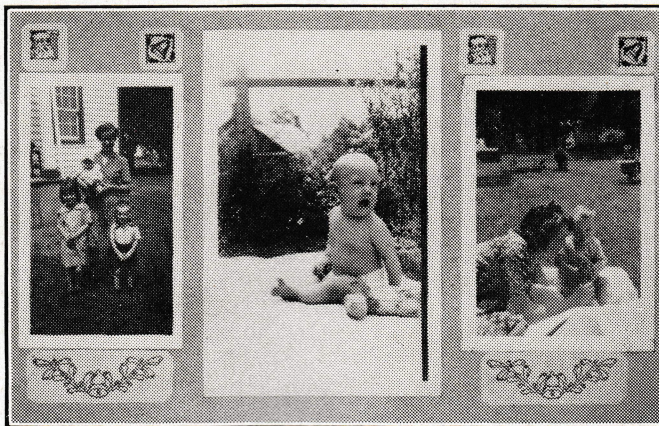
It is our sincere prayer that you may have a blessed Christmas.

T. C. Brown, Pastor



St. Paul's Reformed

Today we seem to live around the word "hope." We hope the war will



Left, **Helen**, wife of Pvt. Kenneth Eckert, and their three children, **Dorothy**, 6, **Kenneth, Jr.**, 3, and **Daniel**, 8 months. Daddy is now in Texas. Center, **Sandra Ann Minnich**, daughter of Pfc. and Mrs. Oliver P. Minnich. Her father is at Thomasville, Ga. Right, **Mrs. Andrew Baldwin and son Drew**, wife and child of Lt. Andrew Baldwin.



soon be over and that you will be coming home. We hope a Christian peace will be made. That hope is renewed as we observe another Christmas Day, which marks the birthday of our Lord. He is our peace and He is the hope of the world. In Him all the differences of race and nationality fade away.

May you each one have that inner peace on Christmas Day, even though you are unable to enjoy outward peace. Let us continue to hope through Him.

C. L. Brachman, Pastor



Calvary Reformed

It would be small indeed for a pastor to send Christmas greetings only to his own men—others who read this know that members of a church are precious to a pastor, but

the Christian thing to do is to include all within the scope of this publication.

As we commonly celebrate Christmas it appears to be a thing of the home, with our family and friends, and we wish that all of you could be in the family circle on December 25. Our Christian requirements are greater than our personal desires, so that in the performance of your duties you will be pleasing your Master more than if your personal wishes prevailed. May I express the desire that the Christ of Christmas may be in your hearts.

Joseph S. Peters, D.D., Pastor



Grace Lutheran

Greetings and blessings to all, in the name of that child, who was born in Bethlehem of Judea, our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. He was born to set us free from our sins. And when He took upon himself the robe of our flesh, as a little babe, the future did not look very bright.

When you put on that uniform and started in to save the world from autocracy and slavery, the future may not have looked too bright either. But keep your eyes on the future, and know that there is a new world being born, wherein there shall be freedom and democracy.

J. Howard Worth, D.D., Pastor



Left, **Margaret**, wife of John C. Frederick, U.S.N., South Pacific, and mother of little Richard J. Frederick. Center, **Jean**, wife of Cpl. Harold Eckert, and **Mrs. Stanley Readler**, his mother. Harold is at Walla Walla, Wash. Right, **Mrs. John Savitz**, wife of John W. A. Savitz, now at Camp VanDorn, and mother of June Darlene.





College Hill Moravian

Your fellow-worshippers all join in sending warmest greetings to you on this festival season in which are blended divine and human love and joy. We will be listening to the same story—that a Child is born, a Son is given — the Prince of Peace our Saviour. We will be singing the same lovely Christmas carols which make human hearts throb with the universal joy of all peoples of the earth and which come as gentle echoes of heaven to our souls. And in these things we will not be so far apart after all, but you will be linked with your homes and church and we will be linked with you. We are grateful for your preservation and hopeful of your return to us to celebrate the next Christmas together.

Milton A. Yaeck, Pastor



St. Thomas Reformed, Macada

To the service men of St. Thomas Reformed Church in particular and to all service men and women of Bethlehem in general we extend greetings.

The Christmas star on the top of South Mountain is again blacked out at this festive season and probably will be until peace on earth among men of good will again prevails.

The Star of Bethlehem, however, still shines. There is still much of the Christmas spirit of cheer and good will in the human heart, and whether at home or abroad, on land, sea, or in the air, we are confident that the joy of this blessed season also abounds in your heart.

The folks back home are thinking of you. You are in their minds and hearts and they are praying that this war may soon cease and peace return.

H. J. Ehret, D.D., Pastor



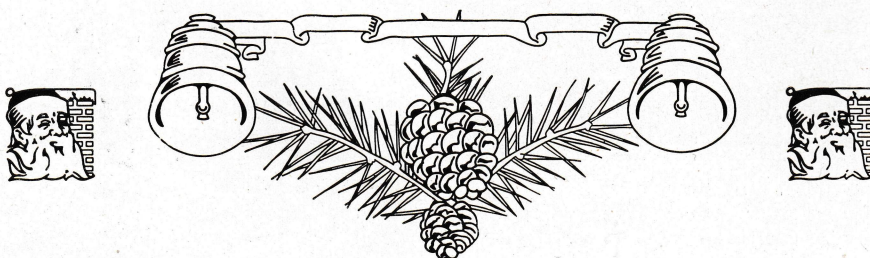
Zion Reformed

"Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to men of good will!" Thus sang the angels on that happy Christmas night, when Jesus was born. We hope that the joyful announcement will have deeper significance than ever before. Let us prepare Him room in our hearts and pray that the Joyful News may be made known among all nations. May the peace of God rule your hearts. May He speed the day when "Home Sweet Home" will mean a happy reunion with the folks at home.

C. A. Butz, D.D., Pastor



Read down, left to right: First row, **Margaret**, wife of Horace A. Butz, Y 2/c, Atlantic theatre; **Vera Clark**, of Portadown, Ireland, engaged to James Beil, son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Beil, Hellertown (James is with Patton's men near Metz); **Evelyn Hess**, fiancée of Thurlow Mosebach; **Betty Trexler**, fiancée of Pfc. Robert F. Kramer, overseas; **Carolyn Woodring**, fiancée of Truman L. Frey, CPO, Central Pacific; 2nd row, **Mrs. William Rehm**, mother of Pfc. Joseph and Pfc. Robert Rehm; **Elizabeth**, wife of Curtis E. Riesing, now in France; **Mary Irene**, wife of A/C Burton G. Rudolph; **Dorothy**, wife of Warren Wilkie, who is now in Paris; last row, **Margaret**, wife of Warren Yeager, now in Burma; **Betty Seyfried**, engaged to Paul G. Neumeyer, S 1/c; **Mrs. D. A. Achey**, wife of Sgt. Delbert A. Achey, in France; **Abigail McCauley**, fiancée of LeRohn Deysler, Mus. 2/c, South Pacific; **Madeline Rowe**, engaged to Raymond W. Hinkle, T/4, overseas for 2½ years.



NOTES ON OUR COMRADES IN THE SERVICE

A MERRY CHRISTMAS



★ *Pfc. Henry Trumbower* is surprised that so many Marines go to church (he's a member of the famous Corps). Trumbower, who is stationed on a tropical Pacific isle, writes of the unusually large turnouts for services. He says you wouldn't believe it unless you saw it with your own eyes. "Just like the attendance at home," says he . . . ?

★ *Sgt. Anthony Schaedler*, like Don Byington, has seen Paris. He describes the beauties of the city, which he toured in an Army truck, and tells of a trip through famed Versailles palace in company with a guide. His biggest problem, he admits, is making the French understand his French!

★ Word has been received that *Leavitt F. Frey* has been advanced to the grade of top sergeant. He is fighting in the Luxembourg area and has received the Purple Heart for wounds sustained August 7. The medal was sent to his wife.

★ *John E. Nolf* is now hospital apprentice first class at National Medical Center, Bethesda, Md.



Mothers of Zion E & R Church servicemen: Left to right, front row, Mrs. Emory Sieger, Mrs. Clayton Davies, Sr., Mrs. Albert Minnich, Sr., Mrs. Titus Flurer, Mrs. Thomas Boehm and Mrs. John Amey; in back, Mrs. George Hahn, Mrs. Lester Compton, Sr., Mrs. John Horning, Mrs. Elwood Clewell, Sr., Mrs. C. A. Butz, Mrs. Howard Host, Sr., and Mrs. Maurice Deysler.

★ It's a little hard to imagine a tough, gruff master sergeant like *Gerald Paden* enjoying jitterbugging, not to mention concerts! But Gerald, who is in Wales, puts in his spare time at both. And his mother keeps him supplied with Lolly Pops, which he takes by the bagful to concerts for lunch. When he goes along the streets the children cry, "Any sweets or gum, Mister?" Needless to say, Gerald has, for them. He's on the lookout for his brother, M/Sgt. Merrill, who recently left for overseas.

★ *Pfc. Gordon Halteman*, his brother, is in the Medical Corps, graduating as a surgical technician from Fitzsimmons General Hospital, Denver, Colo. He spent nine months in the Aleutians and was returned to the U. S. in May of this year and assigned to Ft. Benning, Ga. Donald and Gordon and *Pfc. Walter Edelman*, New York APO, are grandsons of Mrs. Lillie Edelman of St. Thomas, Macada, congregation.

★ *John D. Pefter*, RM 3/c, wrote on November 6, "I'd like to say 'hello' to all my buddies in the service and I wish them all the luck in the world." John is somewhere at sea with an LSM.

★ *Pvt. Frederick Horning* wrote recently to his parents of the hurricane which hit Lakeland, Fla. where he is in training with a Signal Corps unit. "This is the worst blow I was ever in," his letter said. In September Fred was home on a ten day visit and while in town put his hours to good use, for he became engaged to pretty Judy Ann Kern, daughter of Mrs. Frank Kern and the late Mr. Kern, 308 Fifth Street.

★ Latest word of *Pvt. William R. Bastian, Jr.*, stationed in England for some time, is that he has been sent to Germany.

★ *Pvt. David Carson, Jr.*, is taking advanced training with the Signal Corps at Camp Crowder, Mo.



Wives of men in service from Zion E & R Church: left to right, front row, Mrs. Albert Minnich, Mrs. Wilfred Kramer, Mrs. Oliver Minnich, Mrs. Walter Diefenderfer; second row, Mrs. Harry Snyder, Mrs. Paul Hahn, Mrs. Gilbert Dickert and Mrs. Robert Compton.

Salem Lutheran

God sent His Son to earth to give us "Peace and good-will among men." For this precious heritage He gave His life, as He said: "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends."

So in the midst of our world struggles, we celebrate Christmas—Christmas, the Festival of the Christ. In this celebration, we declare our hearts filled with His heavenly LOVE for all men. So let us sing again the world around:

And we with the triumphant,
Repeat the hymn again;
"To God on High be glory,
And peace on earth to men"!

Amen.

G. Franklin Gehr, D.D., Pastor

★ The Purple Heart has been given to *Pvt. Francis Phillippi, Jr.* for wounds received in Italy in August. *Pvt. Phillippi* is recuperating in a hospital in Italy. He also holds the Meritorious Service badge.

★ Word has been received that *Pvt. William C. Bauer, Jr.*, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Bauer, Dellwood Street, has been wounded in action. He is a member of the Medical detachment of an infantry unit and has seen action in Belgium, Holland and Germany.

★ *Richard D. Klotz* has been promoted to the rank of Captain, somewhere in France. On the 3rd of January he will have been four years in the Army. He marked his 27th birthday in September while in England.



HARK THE HERALD ANGELS SING

Hark the herald Angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled";
Joyful all ye nations rise,
Join the triumph of the skies,
With angelic host proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem."

★

Christ, by highest heaven adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord;
Late in time behold Him come,
Offspring of a virgin's womb!
Veiled in flesh, the Godhead see,
Hail th' incarnate Deity!
Pleased as Man with men to appear,
Jesus, our Immanuel here!

★

Come, Desire of nations, come,
Fix in us Thy humble home;
O, to all Thyself impart,
Formed in every believing heart!
Hark! the herald Angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!"

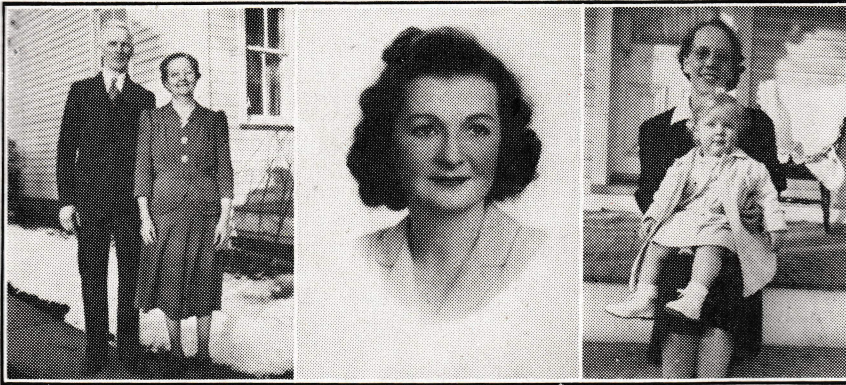


★ *Charles W. Morgan, Jr.*, S 2/c, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Morgan, 47 East Goepf Street recently spent a nine-day leave with his parents upon the completion of "boot" training at Bainbridge, Md. Charles left for service on July 31, '44 after graduating from Liberty High school on June 15 where he was manager of basketball and track. After his leave he returned to his base for further assignment. He is a member of St. Paul's Evangelical and Reformed Church where he had been treasurer of the Sunday School.

★ The first girl entered the service from the St. Paul's church several weeks ago. *Pvt. Marion Gottschall*, 53 East Goepf St. enlisted in the WAC's and is located at Fort Oglethorpe, Ga. Marion was assistant organist at St. Paul's.



Read down, left to right: First row, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer P. Rice, parents of Lt. Carl F. Rice, AAF, England; Mr. and Mrs. William Stoneback, parents of Lt. (J.G.) Paul Stoneback, U.S.N.R. Leyte; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Breisch, parents of Corp. Howard, overseas, and Sgt. Robert, Florida; second row, Mrs. James Venninger, mother of Elizabeth M. Venninger, AMM 3/c, WAVES, Florida, and Pfc. James G. Venninger, U.S.M.C., Southwest Pacific; Mr. and Mrs. Stuard Frankenfield, parents of Pvt. S. Stanley Frankenfield, Hawaiian Islands; (left) Mr. and Mrs. Jack Lantz and daughter Jean, parents and sister of Pfc. Robert H. and Pvt. John E. Lantz; (right) Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Nonnemaker, parents of Pfc. Albert R. Nonnemaker, AAF, Netherlands East Indies (the dog is "Skeeter"); Mrs. Eugene Meixsell, mother of Pvt. Robert Eyer, England; last row, Mr. and Mrs. Roland Bauer, parents of Pvt. Allison Bauer, AAF, Belgium; Mrs. Herman Landrock, mother of Cpl. Robert, U.S.M.C., Peleliu, and aunt of Robert Trembath, S 2/c, torpedoman school, Great Lakes, Ill.; and Mrs. Fred Kemmerle, mother of Elwood P., S 1/c, in New Guinea.



Left to right: First picture, **Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Kleppinger**, parents of Pvt. Arthur Kleppinger, overseas; Sgt. Robert J. Kleppinger, Belgium, and Willard D. Kleppinger, A/S, Asbury Park, N. J. Center, **Mrs. Paul Fehr**, wife of Pvt. Paul Fehr, in Missouri. Right, **Mrs. Arthur Kleppinger, Jr.**, and daughter **Gloria Rae**, wife and child of Pvt. A. J. Kleppinger, overseas. Gloria is 21 months old in this picture.

★ **J. E. Hersh**, a graduate of F. and M. College has completed his course and is now Lieutenant J. E. Hersh in the U. S. Marine Corps and is located at Quantico, Va.

★ We can think of no pleasanter pastime for a young wife than that of **Mrs. William McCarroll**, whose husband is somewhere in England, for according to our informant, Mrs. McCarroll spends all her spare time writing to **Bill**, keeping him informed of the home town doings. It goes without saying, we make bold to remark, that Bill thinks its a pretty nice sort of pastime, too. Mrs. McCarroll came here from Bridgeport, Conn. and she and Bill were married in Texas September 12, 1943.

★ Mr. and Mrs. Albert Hawk, 523 First Avenue, announced the marriage of their daughter, **Jean Elizabeth**, to **Pvt. Walter M. Creitz, Sr.**, of 3327 Linden Street. The couple were married October 18th by the Rev. Hopkins at Elkton, Maryland. Mrs. Creitz, who is a graduate of Liberty H. S. class of '44 is in training at St. Luke's Hospital as a member of the U. S. Cadet Nurse Corps. Pvt. Creitz, also a graduate of Liberty H. S., class of '42 is now on his way overseas.

★ Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Wellman, Bradford, Arkansas, announced the marriage of their daughter, **Mary Irene**, to **P. A. C. Burton G. Rudolph**, of 710 Hawthorne Rd., Bethlehem. The couple were married at Bradford on September 9th. P. A. C. Rudolph, who is a graduate of Liberty H. S. class of '44 is stationed at Stuttgart, Arkansas.

★ **Sgt. William Gottschall** is now on his way overseas. **John Hahn S/Sc** and **Paul Risser S/1c** have been assigned to ships and are now sailing the high seas. Both are married and have one daughter each. **Staff Sgt. Ted Oswald** is now in the Dutch East Indies.

★ **Charlie Fritz, S 1/c**, is based in England with an amphibious outfit and has so far made 18 trips between England and France. News has been flashed home that there are some pretty girls in the former country . . . one especially! Recently he spent a seven-day leave in London.

★ **Pfc. Donald Halteman** has been at Camp Patrick Henry, Va. for some time past. He entered the Army in November of '42 and received his training at Ft. Meade, Md. Afterwards he was assigned to the Military Police and sent to Henry.

★ **Lt. Wm. A. Buchecker** returned to this country after completing 35 missions over Europe and from the decorations and citations he brought back with him we are sure he earned a well deserved rest.

★ Imagine the thrill when **Llewellyn L. Iobst** had the opportunity to have dinner with his brother, **Lt.(j.g.) Robert M. Iobst** in California. They had not seen each other for a few years. Both are sons of Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Iobst, 533 4th Avenue. Lew is a Signalman 1/c in Navy and has been in the service since January, 1941. Robert has been in the Naval Air Force since September, 1942.

★ We are informed by **Edwin J. Bitting's** wife that he is in Hawaii, after two years in New Guinea, awaiting his turn to return to the States.

★ **Charles W. Purcell, M 2/c**, Seabees, somewhere in New Guinea, had a furlough which gave him an opportunity to fly to Australia to see his wife who is a WAC. Imagine that happy reunion after not seeing each other for over a year.

★ **Robert W. Moyer** writes to say that he was fortunate enough to meet **Raymond I. Unangst** in Corsica and they had a swell week end together reminiscing about the good old days in Bethlehem.



Christmas Greetings from: Upper left, **Gloria Iasiello**, sweet-heart of Sgt. Charles Keeler; upper right, **Mary Konkus**, "best girl" of Pfc. Dick Ackerman (Dick is in France); lower left, **Mary Grace Jordan**, fiancée of Delbert K. Hinkle, MM 2/c, serving in Pacific waters; lower right, **Doris E. Grant**, engaged to Ensign Ray E. Scholl, on battleship duty; center, **Grace Rowe**, girl friend of Pfc. R. Ramsom, who is recovering from injuries in a Texas hospital.



★ *Kenneth P. Remaley, MM 3/c, Seabees*, writes from the Admiralty Islands that he met a Bethlehemite in the person of *Donald Kocher*, formerly of R. D. 1, Macada.

★ We hear that *Gilbert T. Schaffer, USMC*, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Schaffer, 702 West Union Blvd., is due to return to the States after two years in the South Pacific Area.

★ The number of members of Bethany Ev. & Ref. Church in the service hit the 101 mark with *Robt. Hoffert*, son of Mr. and Mrs. Geo. W. Hoffert, 301 Spring St.; *Wm. R. Montz*, son of Mr. and Mrs. William R. Montz, 431 E. North St.; *Harry W. Montz*, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Montz, 1234 West Broad St., and *Paul M. W. Sterner*, son of Dr. and Mrs. Paul F. Sterner, 1134 West Union Blvd., being the latest sons to go. This also includes 56 in the Army; two in the Coast Guard; 36 in the Navy, and four in the Marines. There are 16 sets of brothers; three sets of three in one family; one brother and sister, and one father and son. However, *Anne Lehr Bigelow* has been discharged from the WAVES in order to be with her husband who is a Lieutenant in the Navy. This breaks up the brother and sister combination in active service. There were two who received medical discharges.

★ *Paul E. Urffer, F 1/c*, is on minesweeper duty, following training at Sampson, N. Y., graduation from electrician's school at Moorehead, Ky., and later from Naval Mine Warfare school at Yorktown, Va. Son of Mrs. Florence Urffer, Freemansburg, he was 18 years old on October 29. So, although belated—Happy birthday! And, in advance, Merry Christmas!

★ We learn that *Pvt. Donald A. Frey*, son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul C. Frey, Main Street, is helping repair battle-



damaged planes of a combat air force in France.

★ *Owen Kurtz* of Bethany E & R church turned over an interesting letter from *Jack W. Pursell, WT 4/c*, who is serving aboard a destroyer escort at sea. He says: "Here is some news for Stars in the Service

I have a buddy on here from Bethlehem. His name is *Moyer*, from the South Side. He is a gunner's mate 3rd class. We were comparing letters and pictures from home when I brought out our magazine, Stars in The Service, and you should have seen his face light up when he saw his buddies and neighbors and even his cousins. He never heard of the magazine but he sure would like to get one. I told him I'll share mine with him until he can get one. He says it is a great magazine . . ."

Jack—perhaps your friend doesn't belong to one of the cooperating churches listed on the back page. That's why no magazine is coming to him direct. We'll be glad to have a picture of yourself and Moyer.

★ The beauties of Paris (sic) were extolled by *Pfc. Donald Byington* in a letter from the French capital. He saw the Eiffel Tower and Notre Dame cathedral; also the towns of Rheims and St. Lo during his travels. His best gal, *Dorothy Brobst*, received not only letters but gifts, perfume, et al. from "Gay Patee."

★ We are glad to hear that *Maurice E. Cavey*, whose parents live at 1121 Orchard Street and who was reported wounded in the India-Burma theatre, has recovered and is back with his outfit again.

★ It was swell to see *Lt. Fred M. Hagerter* who returned to this country in September after completing 36 missions over Europe as a pilot of a heavy bomber. We are sure he deserved a well earned rest after many exciting experiences while in the European theatre of war.

★ "Glad to see all the old gang from 'Main and Laurel,'" writes *Bob Ettwein, SC 3/c*, after receiving a recent copy of Stars. "I'm not in the states any more, fellows, but Stars sure peps a guy up. I'm in the land of 'Champaigne' now. Here is Hello to 'Ed' Bauder, 'Mike' Kemmerer and the rest; oh yes, 'Curt' Beidelman, too.

"Well, so long 'till I see Stars again,
Your pal, Bob."

P.S. I'm doing fine over here, and I hope I'll be doing better at home, soon. North Africa isn't bad."

★ *T/Sgt. Paul C. Frey, Jr.*, was home for ten days in October, bringing along the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Air Medal, a Presidential citation, several Oak Leaf clusters and—a new wife. The medals were received for meritorious service during his air missions over Germany in the capacity of radio operator and gunner. The wife, well,—he won her too, but no details are available. She is the former *Grace Novak* of Hopewell, Va. They were married there on October 5. After a furlough stay in Bethlehem, Sgt. Frey reported at an Army airbase in Miami Beach, Fla.

★ *Sgt. Rodney J. Marshall* is in Holland, having been in England, France and Belgium with his armored outfit. Recently he and 12 buddies were cited for their skill and efficiency in unloading Liberty ships, thus enabling his company to keep ahead of schedule on D-Day. Rod, former Bethlehem Steel employee, is engaged to *Wanda Williams* of Fountain Hill. He received his basic training at Camp Polk and was subsequently at Ft. Knox and Ft. Benning and went through specialized training in Texas, New Mexico and California. He wears the Good Conduct medal.

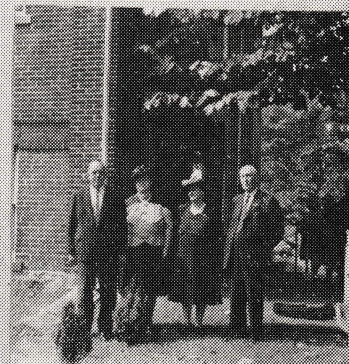
★ Latest word of *Samuel Asber, Cox*, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph E. Asber, East 4th Street, is that he is stationed near Marsielle, France, with the crew of an LST and does a lot of traveling from France to Italy and back. His brother, *John*, is in the Merchant Marine service.



Left to right: First picture, *Rachael, Charles* and *Mrs. William Schaffner* and *Mrs. Charles Miller*, mother, two sisters and brother of *Pvt. William Schaffner, Jr.*, now in Missouri, and of *Pvt. Paul Schaffner*, in France. *Rachael* is a cadet nurse. Center picture, *Carl Wagner*, father of *Paul, A/S*, and of *Carl, Jr., S 1/c*. *Paul* is in the U. S., *Carl* in the South Pacific. Left, *Mrs. Raymond DeLong* and twin daughters, *Sarah Helen* and *Rebecca Estella*, 13 months old. Their daddy is in Italy.



Here we have, reading top to bottom: First row, Dorothy and Elwood Grube, wife and son of Pvt. Elwood Grube, Sr.; Mrs. John Jaxhelmer and son, Johnnie, wife and son of Pvt. Jaxhelmer; Mrs. Donald A. Buss and Carol Ann, age 2, Daddy is at Sampson, N. Y.; Billy Anthes, son of Sgt. and Mrs. Lawrence Anthes; 2nd row, Sumner Lee Bossler, 10 months, daughter of Lt. and Mrs. S. F. Bossler, Jr.; Mrs. George Keeler and son, Jack, wife and son of T/5 George Keeler; Beth-Ann Frey, daughter of Pvt. and Mrs. Roger Frey, waving to Daddy, who is in Eng and; Mrs. William Clewell and children James Leslie and Judy Ann; Tommy Smoyer and mother, wife and child of Pvt. Walter Smoyer; 3rd row, Dale Henn, 14, brother of Lester, in Italy, and Donald Henn; Mrs. Mary E. Kunsman, mother, Miss Erma L. Kunsman, sister, and Judith Fredericks, niece of Pvt. Eugene E. Kunsman; Barbara Jane Kilpatrick and mother, Mrs. Samuel R. Kilpatrick whose husband is in the Peleliu islands; Karen Frances Duh, daughter of Frank H. and Marian Campbell Duh; Grace O. Halteman and son, Edward Halteman, Jr., wife of E. W. Halteman, S 1/c. in the South Pacific; 4th row, Joy and Dorothy Hayes, wee daughter and wife of Pvt. Albert Hayes; Barbaraann Naomi Macey, 16 months, and "friend," daughter of Michael Macey, S 2/c; Jackie, 5 1/2, and Jerry, 4, sons of Cpl. and Mrs. John Hodges, the former overseas; Mrs. Paul Keller and children, Betty and Wayne; Mrs. Harry Hydusik and infant son, aged two months, wife and child of Lt. Hydusik.



Christmas Best Wishes from all whose pictures appear on this page. In group in upper left hand corner are left to right: **William Bachman, Mrs. Edgar Bachman, William Bachman 2nd., Mrs. William Bachman, father, wife, son and mother of Pfc. Edgar H. Bachman; Mrs. William Stecker, Mrs. William Stecker, Jr., and William Stecker, Sr., mother, wife and father of Pvt. William B. Stecker, Jr.**

Upper center, left to right: **Front row, Yvonne Saeger, sister of Bertram Saeger, Far East; Emily Evans, sister of David E. Evans, infantry; Wayne Tycholis, nephew of Clarence and Stanley Dillard; Gerald Lahr, son of Roy Lahr, Seattle; back row, Gwinneth Evans, sister of David E. Evans; Grace Borghi, wife of Angelo V. Borghi, Mus. 2/c; Mrs. Mary Steidinger, sister-in-law of John H. Steidinger, New Guinea; Mrs. William Steers, sister of the Dillard boys; Verna Lerch, friend of Russell Grantz, in Paris; Ruth Lahr, wife of Roy Lahr.**

Upper right: **Left to right, Mrs. Susan Young, 79, Mrs. Cassie Keiper, 72, and Mrs. Lillie Edelman, 73, grandmothers of: Cpl. Robert S. Young, Cpl. Walter A. P. Young and Sgt. Frank E. Young, all overseas; Richard S. Keiper, RM 2/c, Africa, and Charles Keiper; Pfc. Donald Halteman, Pfc. Gordon Halteman and Pfc. Walter Edelman, respectively.**

★ *Captain Douglas W. Edwards*, stationed at Richmond, Va., spent a two-day visit with his parents here recently. He is an inspector of laundries and dry cleaning plants for the army and that should certainly be a clean business!

★ *Lieut. Donald S. Wright* has been transferred from Carlsbad, N. M., to Columbia, S. C., where his wife has joined him. He was home to see his parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Wright, a short while ago.

★ Mr. and Mrs. Roland Bachman had a pleasant visit from their son, *S/Sgt. Gerald H. Bachman*, recently when he was home for 15 days. He is at the Lincoln, Neb., army air field.

★ Word of *Franklin T. Marshall*, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Marshall, of Fountain Hill, comes from Hawaii, where he is stationed as *SF 2/c* in the SeaBees. He went through the usual boot training at Camp Perry, Va., and saw service at Camps LeJeune, Pendleton and at Fort Huachuca, Calif. His wife and son, Terry, are living with Mrs. Marshall's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Anderson.

★ *Pvt. John Jaxheimer, Jr.*, is in active service in France.

★ Burma is the present address of *Sgt. Charles H. Keeler*. His brother, *T/Sgt. George H. Keeler* is at Camp Lee, Va. while the third Keeler, *William O. R.*, fireman first class, U.S.N., is in Pacific waters. The trio, whose parents died when they were quite young, were cared for by their maternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Erney, East Ettwein Street.

★ *Pfc. Ralph H. Strock* married Eleanor Keeler, sister to the three brothers. He is now in Italy. He and Eleanor have a son, Dick.

★ Three members of St. Stephen's Lutheran Church are at Ft. Belvoir, Va. for overseas training. One is *Pvt. James Buck*, returned to Belvoir from study in electricity at New York Trade School on November 1.

Another is a neighbor of Jim's, *Arthur Feist*.

★ *Arthur and Charles Feist*, sons of Mr. and Mrs. George Feist, Montrose Avenue, are both in service. Charles is a lieutenant junior grade in the Navy, serving in the air force aboard a carrier. He has seen action in the Pacific theatre of war operations, and has been in the combat area since June, 1943. Arthur is a comparative newcomer to the service, having been inducted September 15, 1944. He is now taking basic training in engineering at Ft. Belvoir, Va. Before entering the service he was manager of Suter's Dairy and was active in baseball circles. He was a member of the Municipal band for seven years and served as its treasurer. He is married to the former Margaret McGeady.

★ News of the *Hartzell* brothers, *Earl and Raymond*, informs Stars that the former is convalescing from injuries received in France in a hospital in England and that Ray is somewhere in the South Pacific.

★ *Pvt. Walter Smoyer*, brother-in-law of the Hartzell boys (he married sister Mildred), is stationed at Amarillo, Texas with the Air Forces and going to Mechanics' school.

★ *Pvt. Norman L. Moser*, son of Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Moser, is in England. Brother *Pfc. Wilbur Moser* is in France.

★ Of *Kenneth Smale, S 1/c*, the latest news is that he has been in England for the past eight or nine months. He is married to the former Ruth Dauh and is the father of two children, Jean Marie and Kenneth, Jr.

★ *Pvt. William Smale, U.S.M.C.*, brother of Kenneth, is presently at Camp LeJeune, N. C. Like Ken, William has two children, Carol Ester and William, Jr. His wife is the former Carolyn Kagen.

★ *Pfc. Henry Strohl*, married to Irene Smale, is at Geneva, Nebraska. Mrs. Strohl and their son, Larry, were recently with him at camp. The



other two children are Henry, Jr., and Jackson.

★ Right now *Robert C. Wartman, Y 2/c*, is on duty in Panama. He has been in service since July 1942. His wife, the former Geraldine Stuber, and son, Robert, are living at 504 Fourth Avenue.

★ The third is *Pvt. Robert Beers*, son of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Beers of Iron Street. He's driving a truck now but used to be a member of a popular hotel orchestra in "the good old days."

★ *Thurlow Mosebach*, son of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Mosebach, Centre Street, now holds the Purple Heart, received for wounds sustained while in the European war area. Mosebach took part in the invasion of France. He is now at Camp Blanding, Fla. He is the first member of Emmanuel E-C Church to be wounded.

★ *FC 3/C James B. Moyer*, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Moyer, 121 East Goepf Street, rounded out one year in the service of his country on October 7. He enlisted in the Coast Guard and was sent to Manhattan Beach Training Station, Manhattan Beach, N. Y. for his "boot" training on October 7, 1943. Upon completion of training was sent to Whales Head Island, N. C. After graduating at Newport, Jim was sent to Advanced Fire Control School, Washington, D. C. from which place he graduated on October 7th, receiving the rating of third class petty officer. He then received three weeks in a Destroyer Escort course. He left Washington on October 30th for further assignment. He is a member of St. Paul's Evan. and Reformed Church.

Next row below: Left, the family of *S/Sgt. Charles W. Johnson* and *Sgt. Albert S. Johnson*; underneath, left to right, *Verne Reynolds, Jr.*, and *Mrs. Reynolds*, Mr. and Mrs. *A. V. Reynolds* and *Mrs. John G. Reynolds*, brother, sister-in-law, mother, father and wife, respectively, of *A/C John G. Reynolds*. At right, *Young Women's Bible Class of Emmanuel E-C Church* (whose pens, by the way, have addressed many a Stars envelope!), left to right, Seated, *Virginia*, wife of *Cpl. Kermit Judd*, Camp Berkeley, Texas; *Anna Mae Dimmick*, fiancée of *Lt. Warren Bradford*, Aberdeen, Md.; *Mary Yoder* and daughter of *T/5 J. D. Yoder*, overseas; *Virginia*, wife of *Pfc. Clarence S. Williams*, Camp Bell, N. Y.; *Ruth*, wife of *Pvt. Joseph Allam*, overseas; standing, *Arlene*, wife of *Cpl. Kenneth Wesner*, Rapid City, S. D.; *Virginia*, wife of *Sgt. Edwin Faust*, Italy; *Betty*, wife of *Richard Gosztonyi S 2/c*, Lakehurst, N. J.; *Marion Horner*, fiancée of *Cpl. Floyd Mastellar*, India; *Marion*, wife of *Pvt. Donald Stahl*, Charleston, S. C.; and *Irene*, wife of *Cpl. Paul Schreiber*, Alaska.

Third row from top: At left, *Mrs. T. C. Brown*, mother of *Louis*, Navy overseas; *Nevin*, Infantry OGD, and *T/5 William*, Ft. Sheridan, Ill.; *Mrs. Charles Marshall*, mother of *Franklin T.*, at sea, and *Sgt. Rodney J.*, in France; *Mrs. James Fatzinger*, mother of *Pvt. James A. S. Fatzinger*, overseas; *Mrs. Harold Hippensteel*, mother of *Sgt. Maurice Hippensteel*, overseas, pictured on the steps of Grace Reformed church. The children are not identified. Center picture, *Virginia*, wife of *John Fatzinger*; *Ruby*, wife of *David Brown*; *Joyce Ueberroth*, sister of *Arlene Ueberroth S 1/c* and of *Mrs. John Fatzinger*; *Mrs. Arlene Wolfe*, sister of *Cpl. Robert "Reds" Bishop*, Drew Field, Tampa, Fla. Right, *Mrs. Peter Hay*, *Peter Hay*, *Charles Long*, *Charles Long, Jr.*, *U.S.M.C.* (wounded), and *Mrs. Charles Long*. Mr. Long, *Pvt. Long* and *Mrs. Long* are father, brother and mother of *Cpl. Paul Long*, New York APO, and *Pvt. Harold G. Long*, San Francisco FPO.

Lower row: Left, Mr. and Mrs. *George Handelong*, parents of *Bruce Handelong, S 2/c*, Great Lakes, Ill., and Mr. and Mrs. *Wilbert C. Best*, parents of *Pfc. William H. Best*, Camp Livingston, La. Center, the family of *Pvt. Alpheus Mack* and the late *Jeanette Brown Mack*. The two little girls are *Pvt. Mack's* daughters. *Mrs. Fred Mack*, his mother, holds *Betty B.* and *Mr. Mack*, his father, holds *Cynthia Ann*. *Pvt. Mack's* grandfather (and great-grandfather to the two youngsters), *A. C. Portzer*, stands between. Right, Mr. and Mrs. *William Kichline*, parents of *Cpl. William P. Kichline, Jr.*, overseas from San Francisco, and *Rev. Dr. and Mrs. H. J. Ehret*, parents of *Lt. Robley Ehret*, New York APO.



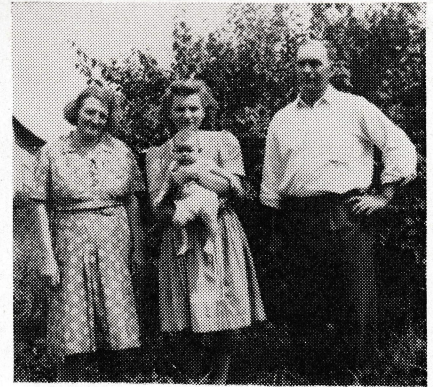
These Couldn't Be There

Nearest of kin of other men in service from Ebenezer Mennonite Church unable for one reason or another to be present when the group pictures for this issue of "Stars" were taken are Mrs. Russell Moore and Mrs. William Moore, wife and mother, respectively, of Lt. Russell Moore, Ft. Knox, Ky; Charles Edelman, father of Willard and Charles Edelman, both with the Navy in the South Pacific; Charles Worsley, father of Pvt. Charles Worsley, AAF, whereabouts unknown; Miss Mildred Henninger, sister of George Henninger, AMM 3/c, Navy Air, South Pacific; Mrs. Thomas Williams, mother of Thomas D. Williams, Merchant Marine, South Atlantic; Mrs. Russell Reiss, mother of Pvt. Donald Reiss, Fort Sill, Okla.; Mrs. E. Brown, mother of Edward

F. Brown, MM 3/c, North Atlantic; Mrs. A. Farkas, mother of Anthony Farkas, Bainbridge, Md.; Mrs. James Sauerwein, wife of S/Sgt. James Sauerwein, Italy; Mrs. Stanley Musselman, mother of S/Sgt. William Musselman, Medical Corps, Italy; Adelbert Ellis, father of Cpl. Adelbert Ellis, France; Mrs. Stelly Schuyler and Mrs. David Schuyler, mother and wife of S/Sgt. David Schuyler, England; Mrs. Lulu Engle, mother of Theodore Engle, France; Richard Gemberling, son of Pvt. Henry Gemberling.

LETTERS

★ From on board ship in Pacific waters comes a letter from *Charles "Chuck" Wesner, RM 1/c*, who says: "Just received the October issue of your magazine and each one seems to be better than the last. I've had quite a nice time this past summer, but now I'm back at the old grind again. It's swell to read about the fellows and I enjoy reading the letters you print. (A hint to you fellows! Letters are always welcome!) Some of them have had some pretty thrilling experiences. It makes a fellow



Here are **Mr. and Mrs. Owen Linsenbigler** and daughter **Grace**, parents and sister of Pfc. LeRoy Linsenbigler, who is now somewhere in the Pacific area. The baby was visiting the day the picture was taken.

feel good to hear about the wonderful things the guys you used to go to school with are doing.

"I've gotten married since the last time I wrote to you. She is about the sweetest girl you've ever seen. (Pardonable pride, Chuck! We're all anxious to meet her. Best wishes.) You've really got something on that page you devote to newly married couples." (Send us a picture for it.)

DECLARATION

"Stars in The Service" is a non-profit, non-sectarian, purely hometown publication. It is supported entirely through voluntary contributions and is mailed to all men and women from Bethlehem and nearby communities whose names are listed on church service rosters.

For information, please get in touch with—

Griffith R. Pullinger, Editor
1300 Main St., Bethlehem, Pa.

PLEASE, servicemen and women, wherever you may be or are going, if you have a change of address, notify your pastor or your family with instructions to pass the change along to your church service roster committee. Don't send address changes to "Stars" direct. We keep no file of addresses but each church submits a new list of service addresses at mailing time. This saves us the expense of clerical help, for which we have no money available. Address changes should be forwarded promptly, otherwise the magazine is delayed or prevented from getting to the addressee. Your interest and cooperation will be appreciated.



Upper left, **Charles Robert Werkheiser**, son of Pfc. and Mrs. Lawrence E. Werkheiser; upper right, **Mrs. William F. Bratsch** and daughter, **Cynthia M.**, wife and child of Cpl. William Bratsch, overseas for two years; lower left, **Marie I. and Rose Marie Unangst**, wife and daughter of Raymond I. Unangst, who has been in the European war theatre since 1942; center, **Mrs. Edward Sterner** and daughter, **Judith Louise**, 3; lower right, **Mary Hawk** and son, **Craig**, wife and son of Pvt. Lloyd Hawk.



★ A nice letter from *Arlene Wesner* (formerly Druckenmiller) to say "thank you" for the picture and write-up of her wedding. At the time, November 11, she and her husband, *Kenny*, were in Rapid City, S. D., together, happy as happy could be.

★ *Dick Frey*, F 1/c, happened to be in port on November 16 so he took time out to write Stars a letter, acknowledging receipt of his copies and saying how much he enjoys the magazine. That's good reading! Glad to know it's reaching you, Dick.

★ *Ray Neipert*, H.A. 2/c, writes from his FPO address: "I received Stars magazine and was much surprised to see it. I knew many of the fellows and thought perhaps I'd see my own picture, but it wasn't there. (Ray, if your mother will turn your picture in through her church when the next call goes out, we are sure it will appear). I guess you can count me in with the fellows who can't wait to get home. (Must be millions of 'em, Ray. You have lots and lots of company!) I am in the Central Pacific. Will be looking for another issue of Stars very soon."

★ Dated Fresno, Calif., a letter from *Pvt. Roy E. Christ* reads: "I've just received my fall issue of Stars, so I thought I would write and tell you of my change of address. (Be sure you let your pastor or church service committee know, Roy.) I don't know how long I'll be here but, as they say, 'this is it.' I've been going through some very tough training. I enclose a letter from my brother, now overseas. I guess us guys over here don't know how good we do have it! But I'll write and let you know how I find everything on the other side of the world. (That's a promise.) As yet I haven't met anyone from home, but I do consider myself pretty lucky to have stayed in the good old U. S. for 32 months. Wishing everybody in Bethlehem a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!"

★ This is an excerpt of brother *Herb Christ's* V-mail letter to Roy: "So you really think Langley Field is no worse than we have over here. Listen, brother, you should say a prayer every night and thank God you are where you are. You have probably never waded through a foot (12 inches!) of mud for weeks on end, slept in mud, and ate in mud. When you get soaking wet and it is cold outside, you can go into a warm place and either dry out or change your clothing. Over here you go to bed with your wet clothes on, hoping the heat from your body will partially dry them. You don't have to wonder when you go to sleep whether you will wake up where you



SPORTS GLEANINGS

As a sports writer this editor is pretty much of a novice. We lack that inimitable touch of our old friend Fred Nonnamacher of Globe-Times days, but then, Fred has been taking his daily "Swing Along Athletic Row" since we were in knee pants! And he's still going strong. Most likely he will be doing business at the old stand when GI Joe from Bethlehem comes marching home with the Axis scalps at his belt.

Well, Carl Snavely, grid coach at Cornell U., came to town the night of November 30 and gave 400 hearers an earful about the good old days of football. The occasion was a testimonial dinner to the Liberty High Eleven, cheer leaders, band and officials, tendered by the Volunteer Firemen of the city in the Masonic Temple.

Suave Earl Schaffer, city treasurer, was toastmaster; "Rip" Wear was the city's official representative in place of Mayor Bob. Rev. "Gus" Welsh performed the clerical duties. Among the long list of guests introduced was Pfc. Tony Kovacs, veteran of 25 months' service overseas. Coach Johnny Butler gave the 1944 Hurricane the final accolade when he said the team was the best he ever had coached at LHS!

★ Hardest pill of the 1944 gridiron season for Bethlehem High to swallow was the Turkey Day defeat at the hands of the Allentown Canaries. The final score was 12-0. Well, perhaps

went to sleep at or in a hospital, or not at all . . ." He makes it sound mighty uncomfortable, and gives us who live securely, snug and warm in our comfortable homes something to think about when that irritated feeling at "no butter" comes over us. Come to think of it, we here in the U. S. are pretty lucky at that, thanks to Herb and his millions of buddies on land, on sea, in the air who are enduring General Sherman's version of Hell, with modern variations!

this is old news to most of you, but there may be some who have not heard the sad details.

The field was a sea of mud, Allentown mud! Cottingham stadium was just a morass. In spite of the hard going, there were thrills aplenty, and Bethlehem stuck gamely to the bitter end and Leo Barth made a little personal history, turning in the outstanding ball-carrying performance of the day.

Thirteen thousand spectators watched as the Liberty High band put on a spectacular drill in compliment to the host's school.

★

You Keglers will be interested to learn that the bowling fraternity is going great guns this winter. Teams in the City League include the Palace Theatre, Morris SD Jewelers, Alexy Shoe Stores, Pep Boys, Colonial Grill, Egan's, Morrison's Esso Servicars, Belmont Bar Supply, George's, Messner Coal & Ice, Neff Bros., Haber's Jewelers, Refowich and Sons, Glazier Furniture, Belletti Tailors, "Let Bill Do It."

As of December 1, Egan's topped the league with 33 points. Morrison's came second with 32 and in third spot was Messner, with 30. Individual high was held by A. Farrell, of Haber's, with 186. W. Lee, of George's, E. Green, of Palace, and W. Jenkins of Glazier's, were tied in second, with 185 each. G. Wartman of Pep Boys was in third place, with 184.

★

Deer hunters had a fine tracking snow for the opening day of the season, and apparently the hunting was pretty good, if cars laden with spoils of the chase were any criterion. A number passed through Bethlehem with nice looking bucks tied on the fenders. Our espionage agents in the Poconos have not reported, but we learned grape-vine-wise that there was 16 inches of snow around Pocono and Canadensis and on up through Pike and Wayne counties. The weather has been right cold, with a brisk wind.





"Stars in the Service" has been made possible through the cooperation of the following Churches:

First Baptist

St. John's Evangelical

St. Luke's Evangelical

Emmanuel Evangelical Congregational

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Bethany Evangelical and Reformed

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First Evangelical and Reformed

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St. John's Windish Evangel. Lutheran

St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran

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St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran

St. Stephen's Evangelical Lutheran

St. Thomas' Evangelical Lutheran
(Macada)

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College Hill Moravian

Edgeboro Moravian

First Moravian

West Side Moravian

First Presbyterian (South Side)

First Nazarene

First Pilgrim Holiness

* Inadvertently omitted in the last issue.