



KNOWING JESUS ... MAKING HIM KNOWN

**Application for Membership in the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches:**

General Instructions: Fill out this application form and send it with your membership fee to the FELLOWSHIP OF GRACE BRETHREN CHURCHES, P.O. Box 384, WINONA LAKE, IN 46590 and send a file copy as an attachment to [tomavey@fgbc.org](mailto:tomavey@fgbc.org). The deadline for application is January 1st in order to be considered in the following annual conference. If you wish to request an extension of this deadline, include a letter of reference from a cooperating district missions board, a sponsoring church that is already a member of the FGBC, or Grace Brethren Missions.

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Official Name of Church Menominee Grace Brethren Church

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Church Mailing Address P. O. Box 901

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City Menominee State Michigan Zip 49858

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Phone (715) 330-9066 Email

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Meeting Place 2436 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Menominee MI Web Site

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Pastor or principle leader  
James J. Burke

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Address 2436 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue

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City Menominee State MI Zip 49858

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Phone (715) 330-9066 Email bigburkefamily7@gmail.com

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**Tell Us about Your Church and Its People . . .**

Attach or give a brief history or testimony about your churches ministry, including any pictures that capture the heart of the congregation and mission.

Document Attached. Our first public service will be held July 1<sup>st</sup>.

List the present responsible officers (or leaders) of the congregation with titles:

James J. Burke Pastor

Sandra Clarke Treasurer

Danielle Burke Secretary

**Tell Us About Your Current and Future Connections to the FGBC Family . . .**

The FGBC is committed to biblical relationships . . .

Is there another Grace Brethren Church, ministry or district that is helping you connect with the FGBC and process this membership application? If so, which one? Please describe your relationship with that church, ministry, or district.

We are a daughter church of the Riner Grace Brethren Church in Riner, VA. We are in partnership with the Blue Ridge Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches and Go2 Ministries.

Why does your church desire membership in the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches?

We are firmly Grace Brethren in doctrine and practice and we desire to partner with like churches for fellowship and mutual cooperation in fulfilling the Great Commission.

To the best of your knowledge, does your church or any leadership of your church have unresolved problems with another Grace Brethren church, leader, district or cooperating organization? If so, who can we contact for clarification?

No.

In what ways does your church intend to continue its cooperation with other churches in the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches? (For example, cooperative activities such as National Conference, District Ministerium, Focus Retreats, etc.)

We will faithfully be represented at National Conference and District Conference. Pastor Burke has committed to attend Ministerium meetings via Skype. We trust to find many avenues of cooperation and connection through our association with Go2 and support of Encompass World Partners missionaries.

In seeking membership in the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches, does your church recognize the obligation of mutual encouragement and cooperation with other congregations and agree to fulfill the membership requirements as stated in the Constitution and Manual of Procedure?

We do.

### **Tell Us About Your Church's Commitment to the Bible . . .**

The FGBC is committed to biblical truth . . .

Please review the Constitution and Manual of Procedure for the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches. Note carefully ARTICLE III and ARTICLE IV of the Constitution and ARTICLE I of the Manual of Procedure that deal with the membership requirements new FGBC churches are to meet. (see [www.fgbc.org/constitution](http://www.fgbc.org/constitution) and [www.fgbc.org/manualofprocedure](http://www.fgbc.org/manualofprocedure)) ***What questions does this raise for you and your church that we should discuss together?***

None.

Have you already officially aligned with the Statement of Faith and are people in your church aware of this alignment?

Yes.

### **The Mission We Commit To Pursue Together . . .**

The FGBC is committed to biblical mission . . .

Please read the Commitment to Common Mission ([www.fgbc.org/files/OurCommitmentToCommonMission.pdf](http://www.fgbc.org/files/OurCommitmentToCommonMission.pdf)). Please comment on any ideas or dreams your church has in any of the three areas of ministry:

Developing Leaders

Our region is as unreached as any in the world, and it is our dream to train leaders from children up to reach out from our congregation and evangelize the Upper Peninsula.

Planting a new church

We dream of establishing a daughter church in Marinette Wisconsin in five years, and then at least a new church every 3 years after that.

Engaging in integrated ministry in your community?

Our motto is, "A Church Family for Your Family". Half the households with children in our city are single parent households. We are involving in several different strategies for ministering to these homes such as low cost preschool and day care, Moms encouragement groups, homework clubs and tutoring, teen/child mentoring programs.

We encourage you to consider reading "Restoring the Household" by Todd Scoles in order to become more familiar with the FGBC family. We welcome the opportunity to discuss any questions you might have as a result of what you learn.

How many people are presently members of this church? \_\_\_\_\_7\_\_\_\_\_

A check payable to FGBC based on the chart below for the current year membership fee should be included with this application. Use your church's average attendance multiplied by \$3.90

How will you identify your affiliation with the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches? (ie: on a church sign, letterhead, church bulletin, etc).

In our name, on our signage, letterhead, business cards and regular communication with the congregation.

Describe your practice of Triune Immersion and the Threefold Communion Service.

We practice baptism by triune immersion only, following the procedure outlined in the FGBC Minister's Handbook.

We practice Threefold Communion quarterly, following the Foot-washing, Love Feast and Bread and Cup formula.

## Tom Avey

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**From:** Zach Doppelt  
**Sent:** Monday, May 07, 2012 1:11 PM  
**To:** Tom Avey  
**Subject:** Menominee Grace Brethren

Fellowship Council,

The Blue Ridge District, as the sponsoring entity for the Menominee Grace Brethren Church, wishes to have the deadline for application to the fellowship be extended for this new church plant. We desire to see this new work join the National Fellowship during the 2012 National Conference.

If there any questions, please contact either myself or Christian Becker, Moderator.

Zach Doppelt,  
Ministerium Chair and District Church Planting Chair



# *Menominee Grace Brethren Church*

**Sharing the Light of Christ**

P.O. Box 901  
Menominee, MI 49858

(715) 330-9066  
[menomineegracebrethrenchurch@gmail.com](mailto:menomineegracebrethrenchurch@gmail.com)



## *Who We Are:*

I grew up the oldest of four children in a family where Jesus Christ was honored and the Word of God central. Having given my life to Christ at the age of five, I very early felt a call to ministry. As a child, I would lead the song service when my father would preach in nursing homes and served in any other way I found, leading many of my friends to Christ.



When I was 15, my family went to Singapore as church planting missionaries. My father gave me many great opportunities to participate in establishing Victory Baptist Church in Hougang, Singapore. I led the worship music, a large bus ministry, helped to develop a puppet ministry, taught Sunday School and Children's Church.

I returned to the States to pursue a Bible degree at Piedmont Baptist College in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. After leaving college, I wandered from the Lord for a few years, but God graciously brought me back into fellowship through the ministry of a former professor who was now pastoring the church where I was a member.

As I began again serving the Lord and fellowshiping with believers, I came to know a young lady who's gracious beauty and kind spirit captured my heart. As I got to know Roxanne and learned the story of her life, I was amazed that God brought two people from such different backgrounds together to serve Him.

Roxanne was not raised in a Christian home, and while her parents were loving, her home life was very unstable. Searching for something but not understanding what, she became heavily involved in a very controlling "Jesus only" cult. An aunt and uncle who knew the Lord were very concerned for her, and invited her to come live with them after she graduated high school. Despite dire warnings and threats of judgment should she leave the cult, Roxanne moved to Virginia, and shortly after, through the witness and care of her relatives, came to know the Lord.

Roxanne studied Early Childhood Education at Piedmont Baptist College, and it was in her last year that we met. We knew very quickly that God had brought us together, and December 11, 1999, we were married. Two years later, we adopted five children, three boys and two girls. Although our oldest son has rejected the Lord, our younger four love Jesus Christ and have a desire to serve Him. Danielle, our 18 year old daughter, has just completed a six-month mission trip to Malaysia and will begin the nursing program at Northeast Wisconsin Technical College this June. She, along with Michael (17), Victoria (16) and Shawn (12) will be helping establish

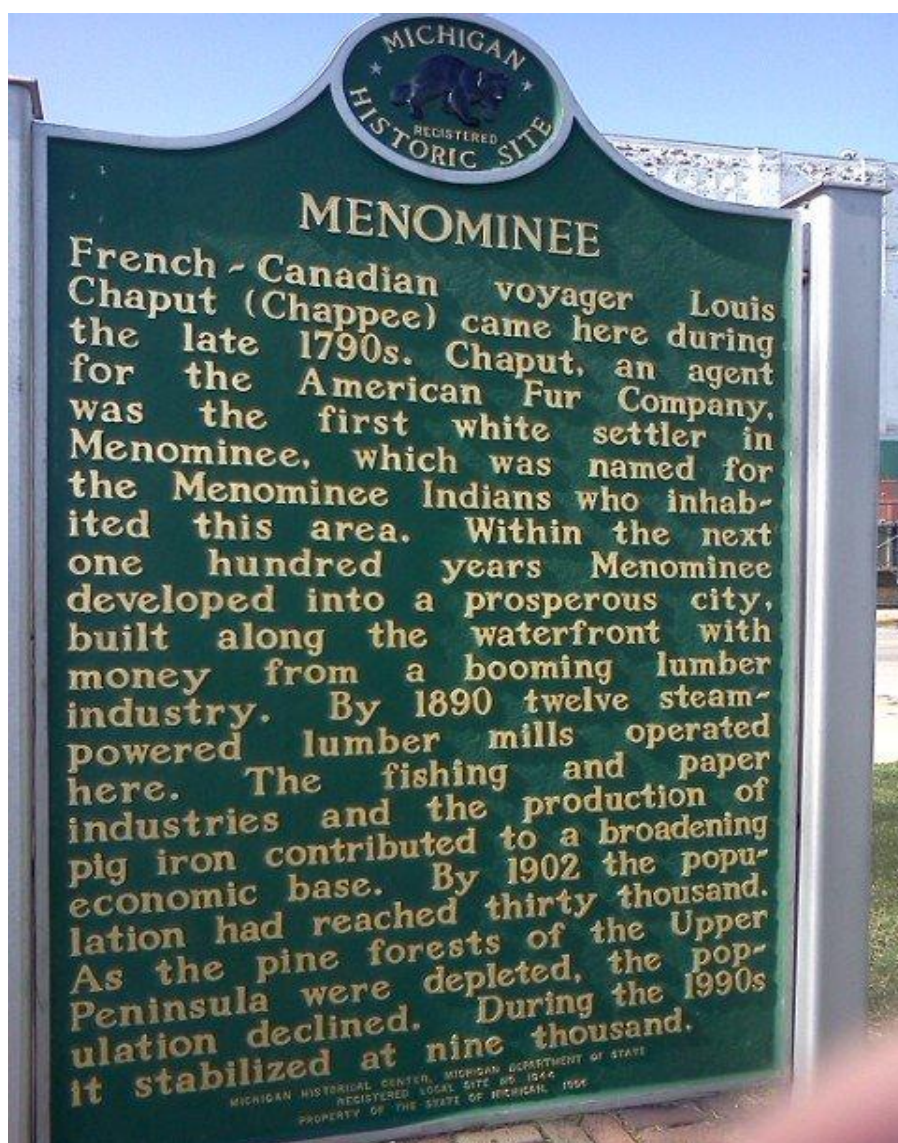


Menominee Grace Brethren Church. In November, 2010 God gave us Violet, a wonderful surprise and amazing gift.

After several successful years in business, the Lord began reminding me of my call to full time service. I became the pastor of Riner Grace Brethren Church in 2003. God has blessed our ministry and we have seen many trust Christ, experienced amazing unity in the body and grown together in the image of Christ. I expected to spend my life serving this church, but God began to burden us for the community of Menominee, Michigan. As our family prayed, "Lord, send someone", it became clearer and clearer God was replying, "You go." Riner Grace Brethren is sending us out to plant a church in a place desperately in need of a Gospel witness.

## *Where We Are Going:*

A little history...





# Michigan

Menominee, Michigan is an industrial city in the Upper Peninsula right on the Wisconsin border. Menominee shares many facilities with Marinette, Wisconsin, such as the hospital and chamber of commerce. Located along the shore of the Green Bay on Lake Michigan, and surrounded by forests, Menominee is an outdoorsman's paradise. The winters can be harsh and the summers are generally cool and pleasant.



Most people are employed in furniture factories or paper mills, but the fastest growing industry is the shipyard, which has recently expanded operations and is in the process of hiring over one thousand new employees. Incomes are low, but the cost of living is also below the national average.



According to the 2010 census, of the 10,000 residents, 65% of the population is Catholic, and 19% are Lutheran. Half the homes with children are single parent families. Alcoholism and drug abuse are severe problems, and continue to grow. This is understandable in a place with no Gospel preaching church – “Where there is no revelation, the people cast off restraint. But happy is he who keeps the Law.” Proverbs 29:18

## *What We Are Doing:*

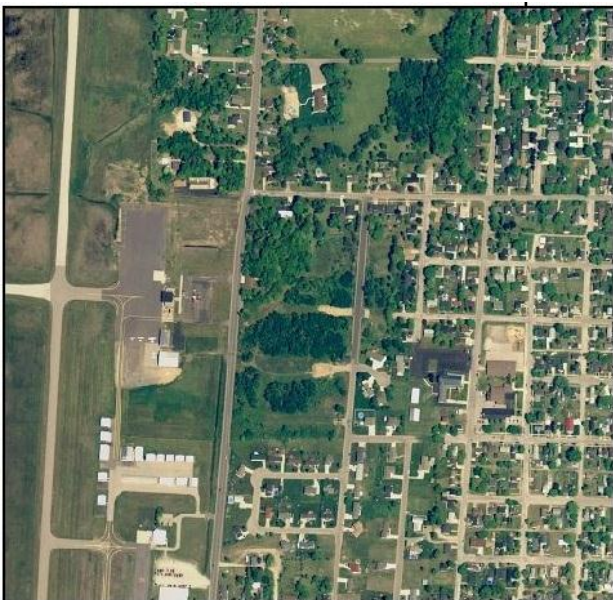
MGBC is a church for new believers. We have a burden to reach lost people with the Gospel and give the hopeless the New Hope in Christ Jesus. Our plan is to change this community by seeing families transformed by the Word of God.

Our strategies include a strong and outgoing children's and youth ministry. We are praying and planning for:

- ✓ A Backyard Bible Club every 4 blocks in the city
- ✓ A strong youth outreach program, beginning with community activities such as sports and outings that allow us to connect with young people and bring them into a relationship with Christ then mature them into spiritual warriors
- ✓ A low cost, high quality preschool program and childcare to minister to single mothers and their children
- ✓ Community penetration and service, such as water and ice cream distribution at the beach and along the fishing pier and participation in community fairs and festivals



We will be known as the church that cares for families.



### *Mission Statement*

*Menominee Grace Brethren Church exists to follow the Holy Spirit in leading men, women and children to a relationship with Jesus Christ, Scripturally baptizing new believers into a Bible believing and practicing church and teaching them to walk with Christ in such a way they habitually lead others to Him.*

## *How You Can Help!*

### **Pray**

For the soil of souls to be prepared for the Gospel

For our family as we adjust to a new life

For boldness and opportunities

Sign up for our monthly prayer email!



### **Encourage**



“Like” our Facebook page and keep in touch with us!

Call, write or email and let us know you are praying

Come visit or move up and join in!

### **Give**

Commit to support this work on a regular basis

Make a one-time gift

Donate needed items such as:

Bibles

Chairs

Musical instruments

Curriculum or other printed materials

*Partnering With:*

