

Attend Church Regularly

...and read your Bible daily



WEEKLY SERMONETTE

By Pastor Kirk Kasson, Almena Congregational Church

Matthew 5:43-48

You have heard that it was said, "Love your neighbor and hate your enemy." But I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be sons of your Father in heaven. He causes His sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Are not even the tax collectors doing that? And if you greet only your brothers, what are you doing more than others? Do not even pagans do that? Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect."

Do you have enemies? I certainly don't seek them out.

These past few weeks I've been studying Jesus' Sermon on the Mount, and as I came upon this passage I reflected on various times in my life when I have had real, identifiable enemies.

What is an enemy? Merriam-Webster's 10th edition says "one that is antagonistic to another; especially: one seeking to injure, overthrow, or confound an opponent".

Ever had one of those? I have, and it's no fun. I tend not to like people who are antagonistic towards me. Or people who seek to injure me, or put me down, or turn others against me.

And Jesus says I'm supposed to love them and pray for them.

Why? Here's what I've come to realize. When God looks at

my enemies, and places them next to me, He really doesn't see that great a difference.

We're both human. We're both his children. We're both sinners. We're both worth sending His Son to die for.

I've got two children of my own, and they don't always get along. One of my least favorite jobs as a parent is playing peacekeeper between my own children. I hate to see them be malicious toward each other. I really don't want them to hate each other.

Once in awhile I get a glimpse of Heaven. I see one of my kids do something gracious, unselfish, even generous to the other one. Maybe it's sharing a treat, or offering sympathy. Sometimes it's giving a compliment. On rare occasion's it's offering forgiveness.

In those moments I have such a feeling of warmth and love. To see my children honoring each other with love and affection makes my heart sing. To see them love each other in spite of flaws and hurts is joy.

What must my Heavenly Father feel when I forgive my enemies? When I pray blessings upon them? When I wish them well, and trust God with my hurts and circumstances?

"Jesus, Jesus, how I trust Him. How I've proved Him o'er and o'er. Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus. O for grace to trust Him more."



A fountain in the hot summertime, what an oasis of relaxation and refreshment! People on their lunch hour take off their shoes and dip their toes in the deliciously cool water. Children run shrieking through the spray. What a source of joy and relief in the midst of chaotic schedules and everyday concerns.

In Psalm 143:6, David cried out to God... "I spread out my hands to you; my soul thirsts for you like a parched land." David knew that God could be his source of joy and relief, just as a gushing fountain can quench the summer heat.

Visit your house of worship this week and learn more about God, your source of joy and relief.

...Like a Parched Land

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Acts 16:1-15	Acts 16:16-40	Acts 17:1-15	Acts 17:16-34	Acts 18:1-28	1 Corinthians 12:1-11	1 Corinthians 12:12-31

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NORCATUR NEWS

By NORCATUR NEWSLETTER VOLUNTEERS

On Friday, May 26, Hollie, Justin and Jared Ricke of Andover came to the Bob Strevey home for the holiday. On Saturday Wendy, Loren, and Ivalea Tien of Andover joined the family. It made for a busy house with two babies 18 months and younger. On Sunday most attended the services at the cemetery and the reception at the Educational Building, and all attended a cookout at the David Hare home. Everyone left for the long trip home on Monday after lunch at the Cardinal Cafe.

Rea and Dee Magers had a great Memorial week. On Tuesday, Glen Alexander and his daughter, Beverly from Syracuse, Ind., came for a visit. Later, Lora Arnold stopped by. On Wednesday, Lou and Norma Hahn from Craig, Colo., and Larry and Sue Hahn from Nampa, Idaho, both brothers of Dee, arrived.

They all went down to Marion and Lorraine Long's, an uncle and aunt who live near New Almelo, on Thursday for lunch. That evening the group went over to Jeff and Joy Magers' for a barbecue. On the following day Larry and Sue went to Denver and Bob and Cheri Pomeroy arrived from Colorado. On Saturday, the Pomeroy and Reas met Jeff and Joy at McCook for an auction. Rea and Dee attended the alumni banquet in Oberlin on Saturday night.

On Sunday, several members of the Magers family were at Rea and Dee's for a barbecue. Bob and Cheri left for Denver on Monday morning, and Rea and Dee went to Memorial services at Lebanon, Neb.

Bob and Kay Strevey drove to Platte City, Mo., on Friday, May 19, where they visited their daughter, Trudi, John and Elissa McCollum. Later that day Hollie, Justin and Jared Ricke, and Wendy, Loren and Ivalea Tien, all of Andover, arrived for a visit. Saturday was spent shopping for furniture and, of course, all kinds of baby things. On Sunday Hollie, Justin and Jared Ricke, and Bob and Kay, and Wendy, Loren and Ivalea Tien all drove to Baldwin where Wendy graduated from Baker University with a master's degree in education administration. Bob and Kay drove home that evening.

Mr. and Mrs. David Johnson and

Zoie of Lenexa were Memorial weekend guests of Beth Johnson and Fred. David attended his 20th class reunion in Oberlin Saturday, and also helped with the Memorial service here in Norcatatur at the cemetery on Sunday. While here, he received word that he had given the position of battalion commander. David was to report to Fort Sill, Okla., the next Tuesday morning for two weeks.

The Norcatatur City Wide Garage Sale was held June 10. Sales were held by Sherri Regal, Twila Forbes, Chris Dempewolf, Linda Hunt, Sheryl Patterson, Virginia Price, Al Sedlmayer, Wava Reames, Judy Jackson, Barbara McCool, Leona Schoenrad, Terry Gade, Dorothy Breiner, Charolette Francis, Jamie Wentz, Donna Warren and Jerry Hill, and Kathryn Van Meter. Shirley Wilcox held a sale at the Norcatatur City Building yard.

Norcatatur Museum

More than 50 guests signed in at the Norcatatur Museum on Sunday, May 28. We now have a replica of St. Mark's Lutheran Church on display.

Congratulations to Kaitlyn Stapp, who has signed at Colby Community College to play basketball and run track.

Now that she has graduated from college, Laci Leichter has accepted a social work position at the Colby Social and Rehabilitation Services. She said it will be good to be back in the area.

Pool tournament winners for May were: first, Josh Kier of Clayton; second, Stan Miller of Norcatatur; and third, Bob Hoover of Norton. The next tournament will be June 19 at 7 p.m. at the Cardinal Bar and Grill.

On Thursday, May 25, Veda Wood enjoyed a visit from sister Sheryl Patterson and her daughter, Carol Moye. Another sister, Bonnie Klein; her daughter, Dena; and Ralph Crim ate lunch at the Cardinal Cafe with Sheryl and Veda. To top it off, Sheryl gave the group a tour of her new house, and her husband, Richard, gave rides on their golf cart.

Dave and Patty Stapp and Sam went to Wichita to watch the DCHS Singers perform the national anthem at the state track meet. Daughter Kaitlyn is a member of the Singers. From there the family went on to Emporia and spent until Monday with Kortney Stapp and Jerrod Poire.

JENNINGS NEWS

By LOUISE CRESSLER

An early 90th birthday party was held for Agnes Wahlmeier over Memorial Day weekend. Eight of her nine children were in attendance, with 23 grandchildren and 37 great-grandchildren, several relatives and friends. Cards can reach her at Box 155, Jennings. Her birthday is July 15.

Claudine Bennett attended Ray's family reunion, at the Huddleston's at Tribune last weekend.

Vendla Tacha and daughter, Cheryl Roberts, Norton drove to Newton Thursday and met her cousins, Donna Hampton and Marilyn Lynn. Mrs. Tacha went on to Wichita with the girls and was a house guest of Donna Hampton over the weekend. Friday they attended Memorial Services for Dan Fagan, son of Dean and Billie Fagan, in Arkansas City, with burial in Mulvane. Cheryl was an overnight guest of Donna on Sunday. Monday they returned home and stopped in Salina to visit Bill Tacha in the nursing home.

The Public Auction of the Jennings school contents will be Saturday. United Methodist

Women will be serving the lunch at the auction. Anyone that can, please bring a pie. Help to serve lunch is also needed.

On Friday, June 2 Julie Carter, Helen Rhodes, Kay Brown, Patty Foster, Lila Jennings, Rachel Carter and Louise Cressler of the United Methodist Women group traveled to Quinter. They ate lunch at a local restaurant and then visited the Thrift Shop of Mary Jane Swihart's. All proceeds from it go to the orphans and families of Romania.

Kurt and Valerie Brown gave the group a tour of their beautiful home which they have added on to and remodeled.

Frances Bader was taken to Hays Hospital Wednesday. Thursday she received a pacemaker. She returned home on Friday and is doing well.

Galen Carper is in the Oberlin hospital. The Housing Board meeting was held Thursday. On Friday June 9, several men from Norton Correctional Facility painted curbs in Jennings. The work they do for the community is appreciated. They returned today to finish the curbs.

NORTON MANOR

By DORIS MIZELL

Lavonne and Frank Otter had Anetta Knapp down to their place Sunday for supper for Gabe's confirmation.

Linda Keith from St. Joseph is visiting several days with her mother, Evalene Schulze.

Vivian Skrdlant came to visit James and Lena Skrdlant Saturday morning.

Lenoard Comstock of Portland, Ore., visited his aunt, Vergie Moser, of the Manor. Lenoard decorated flowers on his

grandparent's graves, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Grabast.

Mrs. Todd Slavik and Torea and Jacob Nesvaras had dinner with Mary Keith Thursday evening. Then all took in the baseball game at the park. Linda Keith spent an evening helping Mary Keith with a chore.

We want to extend our sympathy to Dean Railsback on the death of his grandson.

Doris Mizell received word Sunday night of the death of her daughter Connie Lillch, Atwood, in a car accident.