

NEW BEGINNINGS

Jesus looked at them and said. "With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

~ Matthew 19:26 N.I.V.



Bonfield-Grand Prairie Parish UMC



Greetings in the name of the Risen Christ!

It is that time of year..... charge conference forms. As you know charge conference is October 7th at 3pm at Evan. We will be the host site. At least 1 member from each church must attend for the forms to be approved. I will be asking all 3 churches to offer some light refreshments.

I want to thank everyone for their willingness to stay in current positions for 2019. After the first of the year I will be asking members of the nominations teams from each church to meet so that names may be lifted up to fill vacancies and/or to get relief to folks who would like go off.

Please see the schedule of the meetings next to this article for the Bishop to talk with us about the various plans being offered at the Special General Conference being held in St. Louis 2019.

The Parish will have a new lay member to Annual Conference coming from Bonfield Evangelical. That person has yet to be selected for this position. It will be important for whomever is appointed to attend one of the Bishop's meetings. Since we won't know who that person will be I am encouraging everyone to attend at least one of the meetings. I will lead our own meeting for the Parish after the Bishop's. So please stay tune for more information.

God's blessings upon you and yours,

Pastor Julie

Bishop to host meetings on 2019 General Conference

Bishop Frank J. Beard has announced he will host meetings throughout the Illinois Great Rivers Conference discussing the three plans which have been offered as plans for A Way Forward with regard to the issues of human sexuality and unity.

The following dates have been confirmed:

- Sunday, Nov. 11 -- Edwardsville St. Johns UMC, 4 to 6 p.m.
- Monday, Nov. 12 -- Jacksonville Grace UMC, 4 to 6 p.m.
- Thursday, Nov. 15 -- Marion First UMC, 7 to 9 p.m.
- Saturday, Nov. 17 -- Chatsworth UMC, 10 a.m. to noon
- Sunday, Nov. 18 -- Peoria First UMC, 4 to 6 p.m.
- Monday, Nov. 19 -- Arthur UMC, 6 to 8 p.m.

Bishop Beard is asking that you register in advance as a courtesy to our venue host. We are wanting to have adequate seating for those wanting to attend. Register at link below:

<https://igrc-reg.brtapp.com/gc2019briefings>



Bake Sale at Fireman’s Breakfast

The Bonfield Area Historical Society will have a bake sale at the Fireman's Breakfast on October 7th. Donated bake goods for the sale would be much appreciated. Please deliver the baked goods to the fire station on Sunday morning.



Salina Fireman's Breakfast -
 Breakfasts are held on the 1st Sunday of the month from October to March: October 7th 2018, November 4th 2018, December 2nd 2018, January 6th 2019, February 3rd 2019, and March 3rd 2019.

It runs from 8am til Noon.
 They are held at the fire station 144 S. East Ave. Bonfield, IL 60913, phone # (815)935-1411 if any questions.
 Prices are \$8.00 for adults, children \$5.00, and kids under 3 are free.

Menu items include - Pancakes, sausage patties, eggs, biscuit and gravy, French toast, bacon, milk, orange juice and coffee.

Facebook - www.facebook.com/bonfieldgpparish
 Website - <http://bonfieldgrandprairie.org>

If you would like to see the newsletter in color then check out our website at www.bonfieldgrandprairie.org and click on the newsletter tab at the top.

If you would like to receive this newsletter by email, please send an email to bonfieldgp@gmail.com.

“The Current” is a monthly newsletter from the IGRC. If you would like to receive a paper copy or a digital copy, please notify the office at 815-802-9805,

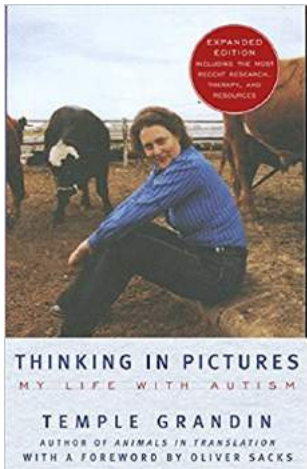
bonfieldgp@gmail.com, or on our social media pages.



"Autumn... the year's last,
loveliest smile."

- William Cullen Bryant

Ladies' Book Club



All women who love to read are invited to the next meeting of the Ladies' Book Club. Each lady is responsible to get their own copy of the book "Thinking in Pictures" by Temple Grandin then come to Janet Boyer's House: 2734 S. 18000 W. Rd. Reddick, IL 60961 on Tuesday, October 16th at 6:30pm to discuss.

Time For Church



Grand Prairie

Rt.17 Bonfield

8:00 am Sunday Services

9:15 am Adult and Youth Sunday School

Bonfield First

172 Church Street

9:15 am Sunday Services

10:30 am Adult and Youth Sunday School

Bonfield Evangelical

348 Smith Street

10:30 am Sunday Service

9:15 am Adult and Youth Sunday School

Upcoming Worship Schedule

The following is a tentative schedule for October 2018 worship.
(Readings & Message may change without notice.)

October 7

Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost

World Communion Sunday
Regional Church Conference
"A Living Sacrifice to God"

Altar Color - Green

Scripture: Mark 10:2-16 &

Job 1:1, 2:1-10

Message: Psalm 25

October 14

Twenty-first Sunday After Pentecost

Pastor Apperception Sunday
"Unstuffing Your Stuff"

Altar Color - Green

Psalm: 90

Scripture: Hebrews 4:12-16

Message: Mark 10:17-31

October 21

Twenty-second Sunday After Pentecost

Laity Sunday
"Humble Pie"

Altar Color - Green

Psalm: 104:1-9,24 & 35c

Scripture: Job 38:1-7

Message: Mark 10:35-45

October 28

Twenty-third Sunday After Pentecost

Reformation Sunday

"Our Past and Our Future"

Altar Color - Green

Psalm: Psalm 34:1-8

Scripture: Job 42:1-6, 10-17

Message: Mark 10:46-52 &

John 8:31-36

Fellowship Breakfast

Come enjoy a great breakfast and fellowship with other Parish members and friends at IHOP in Bourbonnais on Tuesday, October 2, 2018 at 8:30 am. This is a good way to get to know other people. You do not need to be a member to attend. Everyone is invited. Each person pays for their own breakfast. The group orders from the regular menu.



There is POWER in PRAYER

Pastor Julie invites you to join in praying for the following names and

Friends and Family

Heritage Village
Vi Morse & Mary Krieg
Butterfield
Mel Brinkman family,
Don Mau, & Bernice
Schultz
Riverside Senior Living
Jackie Wagner
Harvest View
Roscella Piper & Randy
Riegel
Manteno Veterans
Bob Grob
Miller Marion Panozzo

From Our Church Bulletin

Kurt and Carl Boesen,
Bradley Boor, Shirley
Brunner, Sue Coons,
Ron Cordes, Jean Dunn,
Pearl Evans, Linda
Johnson, Janice & Tom
Logsdon, Allen Messer,
Dorene O'Connor,
Marion Panozzo, Kevin
Reiniche, Rob Reiniche,
Phyllis Riegel, Randy
Riegel, Jackie Wagner,
Richard Wildman, Pam
Wilking.

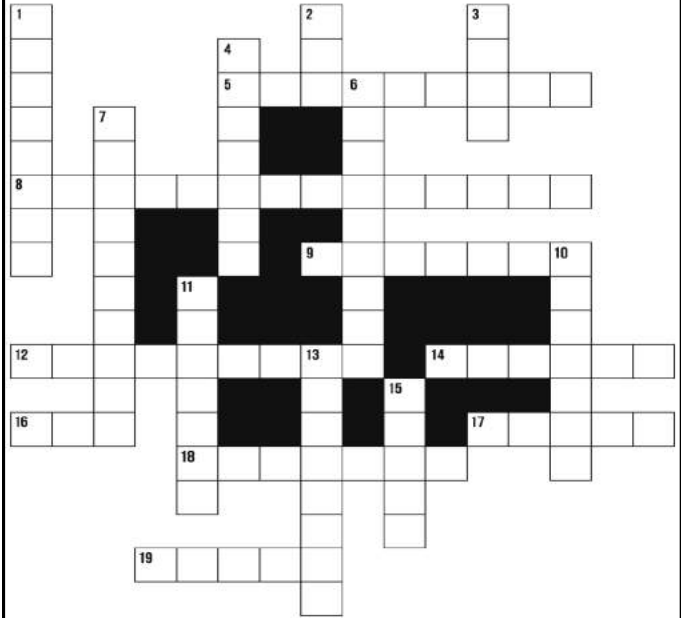
Compassion International Kids

Maria Clara Maciel Da Silva "Clara".....Brazil
Witney Juarez.....Guatemala
Shan Toppo.....India
Junior Okwii Barasa.....Kenya
Genesi Marisol Martinez Vasquez.....Honduras
Samuel Juda Lopez Miranda.....Mexico
Mohini Ahirwar.....India
Cinthia Yolany Carranza Aguila.....Honduras
Sonaton Soren.....Bangladesh
Yeferson David Ortiz Cortez.....Columbia
Nevada Eric.....Rwanda
Anielka Carolina Garcia Roque.....Nicaragua
Schekinah Jean Louis.....Haiti
Salome Vicente Melo.....Mexico
Benjamin Sewu.....Ghana
Lucky Hubiagbe.....Ghana
Rebeca Callapa.....Bolivia
Saray Morales.....Columbia
Janny Boya.....Ecuador

Do you or your family sponsor a compassion international kid? If so, please contact the office if you are still sponsoring a kid, 815-802-9805 or bonfieldgp@gmail.com. Otherwise, if we are not notified we will be removing those names assuming that they are not sponsored.

Puzzle!

Psalm 19:1 says, "The heavens declare the glory of God." Complete this crossword that emphasizes the natural phenomena of God's created world.



- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. windy snowstorm | 12. mass of snow, earth or rocks sliding down a mountain |
| 2. thick, obscuring mist | 13. the degree of moisture in the air |
| 3. frozen rain pellets | 14. a spring that spews boiling water and steam |
| 4. an area's normal weather conditions | 15. condensed water vapor in the atmosphere |
| 5. sudden electrostatic discharge in the sky | 16. frozen water |
| 6. violent tropical storm | 17. deluge |
| 7. shaking of the earth's crust | 18. when day and night are of equal length |
| 8. northern lights | 19. frozen dew or vapor |
| 9. partial or full blockage of the sun or moon | |
| 10. wearing away of the soil | |
| 11. large mass of snow and ice | |

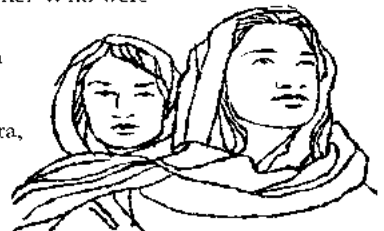
Answer at the Bottom of Page 7

©Newsletter, Newsletter

?? ? Bible Quiz ? ? ?

Though daughters weren't allowed to inherit property, some young women whose father had died appealed to the community's leaders to change the law in their favor — and it was done! Who were these women?

- A. Mary and Martha
- B. The daughters of Zelophehad
- C. Nympha, Sapphira, Claudia, Tabitha and Lydia
- D. Joanna, Susanna and Salome



Answer at the Bottom of Page 7

©Newsletter, Newsletter

United Methodist Women of the Parish

Evangelical UMW

The Bonfield Evangelical UMW met at the home of Ardis Messer on September 6, 2018 with 6 members present having made 25 sick visits during the month. Present was member Jen Spinale.

Ardis Messer gave an interesting lesson of remembering our personal and group legacy. The United Methodist Women will be celebrating the 150th anniversary of their formation in 2019. Our own UMW, first called "The Sister Society" was formed in 1912. Each member told of the legacy passed on to them from their elders and what they hoped their legacy would be to those following them. All agreed that they hoped our good qualities would be remembered, that we had a faith-filled legacy.

Joyce Riegel gave the Response moment concerning how the news affects us. We are to stay informed without becoming overwhelmed with all that is happening around us and in the world. Find strength in our faith.

Ardis brought 2 new UMW books: "On Pluto" and "House in the Sky".

Our Annual District Meeting will be September 22 at the Momence UMC. We are collecting women's white socks for Cunningham. And diaper wipes, blue pens and pull ups size 3T to 6T for Lessie Bates in St. Louis.

Christine Meyer and Dayle Seitz spent a day at the Midwest Mission Distribution Center near Springfield on August 8. It is always good to see the good they do in the world for those in need.

UMW Sunday was discussed. It will not be held on September 16 as previously announced. Plans have not been finalized.

We will again tie quilts for Lessie Bates Neighborhood House. This will be October 27, starting at 9am. All are invited to come and help us for however long you are able. We will serve a light lunch. No sewing experience required. A scissors and a thimble is helpful.

UMW Annual Meeting

The IGRC United Methodist Women's 22nd Annual Meeting Celebration will be held on Oct. 7 at Normal First UMC. The theme is *Participating in God's Mission: A Gift and a Responsibility*.

Rev. Keith Zimmerson will speak about "Our Conference, Our Kids" followed by representatives from the five children and youth agencies; Spero, Baby Fold, Cunningham Children's Home, Lessie Bates Davis Neighborhood House and Chaddock. Fellowship begins at 9 a.m. followed by the program, which will run from 9:40 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Registration deadline is Sept 30 & fee is \$20.00 which includes your meal. Contact your local UMW for more details.

First Church UMW

First Church UMW met Thursday, September 13th, a week earlier than usual to plan for the annual chicken supper, September 29, at the Lions Hall. Much discussion focused upon replenishing supplies, food preparation, donations, and volunteers needed to make the endeavor successful. In addition, members were encouraged to continue reading the UMW books. UMW Sunday was discussed, and it was decided that Dianne Wells and Jill Grant would prepare a short presentation, possibly for each church. The next meeting is planned for October 25th, a week later than usual due to a conflict with the *World Thank Offering* program presenter's schedule.

First UMW October meeting is changed to Thursday, October 25, a week later than usual. It's the annual World Thank Offering program.

Evangelical UMW continued


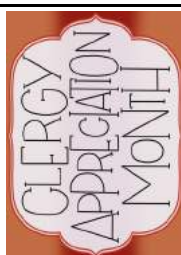
A new organization to help the homeless in Kankakee and immediate area, Fortitude Outreach, was discussed. We will try to arrange a representative from there to speak to our group in the near future.

Meeting adjourned and a delicious dessert was served by Ardis.

Coming Up: October 4th UMW meeting at the home of Joyce Riegel at 1:30pm. We will welcome a special speaker, Dr. Dawn Broers from Fortitude Community Outreach.

This new Outreach Mission is helping to meet the needs of struggling individuals and families in the Kankakee and Bourbonnais area. All are invited to attend. For more info or questions please call Christine Meyer at 815-939-2912.

OCTOBER 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<p>September 2018</p> <p>S M T W T F S</p> <p>1</p> <p>2 3 4 5 6 7 8</p> <p>9 10 11 12 13 14 15</p> <p>16 17 18 19 20 21 22</p> <p>23 24 25 26 27 28 29</p> <p>30</p>	<p>1</p> <p>- Journey Prayer Group @ Evan UMC @ 10am</p>	<p>2</p> <p>- IHOP Fellowship Breakfast @ 8:30am</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>- Evan UMW @ Joyce Riegel's @ 1:30pm</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>
<p>7</p> <p>- World Communion Sunday</p> <p>- Regional Church Conference @ Evan</p> <p>- Firemen's Breakfast</p>	<p>8</p> <p>- Journey Prayer Group @ Evan UMC @ 10am</p> <p>COLUMBUS DAY</p>	<p>9</p> <p>- Evan NOW Meeting @ Evan @ 6pm</p> <p>- Parish NOW Meeting @ Evan @ 6:30pm</p>	<p>10</p> <p>- Sunshine Circle @ Evan Upper Room @ 6:30pm</p> <p>- Martha Circle @ Joyce Cochran's @ 6:30pm</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p> <p>- Herscher UMW Bake and Craft Sale @ Herscher UMW @ 9am - 3pm</p>
<p>14</p> <p>Pastor APPRECIATION DAY</p>	<p>15</p> <p>- Journey Prayer Group @ Evan UMC @ 10am</p>	<p>16</p> <p>- Ladies Book Club</p> <p>HAPPY NATIONAL BOSS DAY!</p>	<p>17</p> <p>- Community Lunch @ Lion's Hall @ Noon</p>	<p>18</p> <p>- First Church UMW @ First Church @ 7pm</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>
<p>21</p> <p>Lady SUNDAY</p>	<p>22</p> <p>- Journey Prayer Group @ Evan UMC @ 10am</p>	<p>23</p> <p>- Ladies' Book Club</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>- Newsletter Deadline @ 8am</p> <p>- First Church UMW @ First Church @ 7pm</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>
<p>28</p> <p>- Grand Prairie 150th Anniversary Celebration 10:30am - 2pm</p>	<p>29</p> <p>- Journey Prayer Group @ Evan UMC @ 10am</p>	<p>30</p> <p>- Folding the Newsletter @ Evan @ 8am</p>	<p>31</p> <p> HAPPY HALLOWEEN</p>	<p></p>	<p></p>	<p>November 2018</p> <p>S M T W T F S</p> <p>1 2 3</p> <p>4 5 6 7 8 9 10</p> <p>11 12 13 14 15 16 17</p> <p>18 19 20 21 22 23 24</p> <p>25 26 27 28 29 30</p>



- October 1 Marilyn (Monk)Pfeiffer, Amanda Hansen, John Filiatraut
- October 2 Nicholas Meyer, Owen Buente, Larry Meyer, Sharon Meyer
- October 4 Dorinda Davis, Glenden Lehnus, Ryan Overacker
- October 5 Nathan Brinkman, Gary Brunner, Marissa (Mickelson) Duffield
- October 6 Kathryn Lade, Ronald R. Metzka, Michael Dahn
- October 7 Brian Lade, Linda (Lehnus-Dahn) Schneider, Adam Overacker, Kevin Kingsland, Bri Ann (Nichols) Danielson
- October 8 Myron Panozzo
- October 9 Jacob Vaughn, Gene Rink, Jodi (Hull) Wildman, Nancy (Boyer) Filiatraut
- October 10 Bonnie (Marcotte) Buckley, Kelly (Metzka) Holohan
- October 11 Brian Lockwood, Franklin Young, Brenda (Meier) Grob
- October 12 Tony Ferguson, Dawn (Bauer) Fritz
- October 13 Susan (Riegel) Duchene
- October 14 Billy Bauer, Rayah Dato
- October 15 Andrew Moore, Megan Reilly, Sherry Meyer, Kristy (Buente Marcotte) Van Doren, John Chip Moore, Miranda Sue Paetsch
- October 16 Bernie Weber
- October 17 Troy Coffman, Scott Voigt, Jeffrey Williamson
- October 18 Lana Schwark, Ellen Meyer, Elizabeth Diefenbach, Debi (Kjeldson) Voigt
- October 19 Shannon Robbins, Garrett Ivan Brunner, Griffin David Brunner
- October 20 Timothy Buente, Gary Dahn, Pat Bland
- October 22 Judy Bolatto, Richard Cochran, Keith Pastorel
- October 23 Lorie (Riegel) Hansen, Ardis (Buente) Messer
- October 24 Adam Moore, Tom Schlenz, Travis Peters, Don Howard, Linda (Wenzelman) Scholl
- October 25 Eric Kirchner, Dana Schwark
- October 26 Sam Kenley, Austin Hawks, Skylar Simbeck
- October 27 Gale Lehnus, Gerald Meyer
- October 28 April Dorsey-Tyler, Andrew Meyer
- October 30 Donna Brunner, Carol (Magruder) Higginbotham, Aaron Jensen
- October 31 Carol (Young) Erazmus, Sally (Stone) Evans, Mathew Brinkman

Please notify the church office of any names and birthdays which need to be added, removed or corrected, 815-802-9805 or bonfieldgp@gmail.com.

Answer: B (See Numbers 27:1-11.)

October Memory Verse

He determines the number of the stars and calls them each by name. ~ Psalm 147:4

<u>AUGUST 2018 ATTENDANCE</u>				
	<u>8/5</u>	<u>8/12</u>	<u>8/19</u>	<u>8/26</u>
Evangelical park	61	35	48	
First park	12	19	19	
Grand Prairie	21	27	29	23
TOTALS park	100	83	90	

Save the Date - The Community

Thanksgiving Service has been scheduled for November 11th, 2018 @ 4pm @ the Bonfield Grade School.

Pastor Julie Smith's Information
 Email: jjas04@aol.com
 Cell: (618) 658-0281
 Office Hours: Monday 10am - 1pm, Tuesday 1pm - 5pm & evenings upon request
 Mailing Address: PO Box 66, Bonfield, IL 60913

Parish Office Information - Hope Raymond, Secretary
 348 E. Smith St., PO Box 66 Bonfield, IL 60913
 Phone: (815) 802-9805, please leave message
 Email: bonfieldgp@gmail.com
 Website: www.bonfieldgrandprairie.org
 Hours: Tues. 1-5 pm & Thurs. 8-12 pm

- Answers: 1. blizzard, 2. fog, 3. hail, 4. climate, 5. lightning, 6. hurricane, 7. earthquake, 8. Aurora Borealis, 9. eclipse, 10. erosion, 11. glacier, 12. avalanche, 13. humidity, 14. geyser, 15. cloud, 16. ice, 17. flood, 18. equinox, 19. frost



This Far By Faith
150 Years
Sesquicentennial Celebration

October 28, 2018

10:30am - Sunday Morning Worship Service
 Potluck following the worship service
 1:00pm - Celebration Service with
 Guest Speaker : Jan Griffith

Dear friends of Grand Prairie United Methodist Church -

We are celebrating 150 years! Please join us to celebrate this milestone in our church congregation's history. Many of you grew up at Grand Prairie and others joined us along the way. You are each an important part of our history and we want you to be a part of this special day as we celebrate our past and look forward to our future.

The celebration will begin with morning worship at 10:30 am followed by a potluck dinner and then an afternoon celebration service at 1:00pm. The speaker at the celebration service will be Jan Griffith, assistant to the Bishop, To keep up-to-date with this event please watch the Bonfield Grand Prairie Parish Face book page, visit our website at www.bonfieldgrandprairie.org, or call Joyce Cochran at 815-671-3003.

At the celebration service, there will be a memorabilia display including photos, documents, and other historical items from years past. If you have any items you would be willing to let us borrow to put on display that day, please bring them to the church or send them to Joyce Cochran at 164 N. Country Lane, PO Box 52 Bonfield, IL 60913. Please write your name clearly on all items needing to be returned.

If you are unable to attend, but have a memory you would like to share , write that memory down and send it to the address above.

To commemorate the sesquicentennial, we are selling Christmas ornaments. Each ornament costs \$8.00 and a portion of this fee will be given to "Our Conference ,Our Kids" which supports "the Baby Fold", "Chaddock", "Cunningham Children's Home", "Lessie Bates Davis Neighborhood House", "Spero Family Services" (formerly the United Methodist Children's Home). If you would like to purchase an ornament you may let us know on our Face book page or call Joyce Cochran at the number listed above. Ornaments will also be available at the celebration on October 28th.

We do not have addresses for everyone so please help us spread the word by sharing this information with your family and friends.

Thank you for all your support through the years and thank you for being a part of Grand Prairie's history. We look forward to what the future brings as we continue to Walk By Faith.

God's Blessings to You ,
 Your Grand Prairie Family

Finding Our Range

While visiting a church, Robert Neff learned a lesson about the body of Christ. As he listened to a tenor's faltering voice, he noticed worshipers pulling out hymnals to locate the soloist's song.

"By the second verse, the congregation had joined the soloist in the hymn," Neff says. "By the third verse, the tenor was beginning to find the range. By the fourth verse, it was beautiful. And on the fifth verse, the congregation was absolutely silent, and the tenor sang the most beautiful solo of his life."

Neff concludes: "This is life in the body of Christ, enabling one another to sing the tune Christ has given us."
—from *Witnesses of a Third Way*

Reflection

- You wrap me in your love, God, like a cozy sweater on a cool fall day. Thank you for being my warmth and protection.
- Dear Jesus, when we are troubled, how reassuring to know you sympathize with us because you lived among us. Thank you for your boundless grace in our times of need.
- "Looking back over a lifetime, you see that love was the answer to everything."
—Ray Bradbury
- "A diamond is merely a lump of coal that did well under pressure."
—Henry Kissinger
- "Change always comes bearing gifts."
—Price Pritchett
- "The more we pray, the more we come to the heartbeat of God."
—Richard J. Foster

Wisdom from John Calvin

- "Whatever a person may be like, we must still love them because we love God."
- "Humility is the beginning of true intelligence."
- "Wherever we see the Word of God purely preached and heard, there a church of God exists, even if it swarms with many faults."
- "It is therefore faith alone which justifies, and yet the faith which justifies is not alone."
- "Scripture is like a pair of spectacles which dispels the darkness and gives us a clear view of God."

Minister to Your Ministers

In honor of Clergy Appreciation Month, use these alphabetical reminders of how to treat your pastors:

Accept them as people.

Build them up. Say "thank you."

Communicate with them.

Defend them when someone tries to run them down.

Entertain them. They like to have fun, too!

Family. Allow them to have a family life.

Genuine. Be honest with them. Be yourself around them.

Honor them. Don't put them on a pedestal, but respect them.

Income. Pay them enough so money isn't a concern.

Judge not! Avoid being critical.

Kind. Treat pastors as you want to be treated.

Love. See 1 Corinthians 13.

Maintain. Their families have the same needs as other families.

Nurture. Help them grow in grace.

Offer to help. The list of things you can do is endless.

Pray for them. Lift up their names to God daily.

Quelch not. Encourage instead!

Rejoice in and with them.

Surprise them — in little and big ways.

Trust them. Believe in them.

Understand them. Put yourself in their place.

Vacation. They need time away.

Welcome them into your home. Don't wait for an invitation.

eXpend yourself, not them.

Yoke. Help them bear their burdens with grace and dignity.

Zap all gossip!

"Pain Pills, A Painful Problem - The Opioid Crisis" - Saint Mark Health and Wellness Team & Wesley UMC Parish Nurses invite you to come on Saturday, October 13, 2018 at 10am - 11:30am at Saint Mark UMC - 1200 W Calista Kankakee, IL. Presenters: Kankakee County Coroner - Bob Gessner, Kankakee County Health Department, & Pledge for Life Partnership. Light refreshments served. If questions please call, 815-933-8621.

Dear Lay Servants and Future Lay

Servants - Registration is now available for the Fall Advanced Course for the Vermilion River District. We had to change the dates to the first weekend in November in order to get a venue. Here is the course info and registration info: Title: Living Our United Methodist Beliefs (UM Heritage) (counts toward Certified Lay Speaker track) Date: Saturday and Sunday, November 3 and 4, 2018 (NEW DATES) Time: Saturday 8:30 AM-5:00 PM, Sunday 2:00-5:00 PM. Location: McDowell UMC, 18156 E 1400 North Rd, Pontiac, IL 61764 Cost: \$40.00 (includes lunch, snacks, and certificate) Registration deadline: October 20. Advance registration is required. Register on-line now!

Instructor: Rev. Kim Stuby

Contact: Amy Smith at SmithAmyL678@gmail.com
 Required text: Living Our Beliefs: The United Methodist Way by Bishop Kenneth Carder (ISBN 9780881775716). Participants are expected to read this text prior to class and complete required assignments, due electronically to instructor by October 22, 2018. Available through Amazon (paperback & kindle), Upper Room, and Cokesbury. Note: assignment besides reading the book will be sent out in a few weeks to those who register. Let me know if you have questions or if you'd like me to send you an application that you can mail in through postal service.

~ Amy L Smith- Director of Lay Servant Ministries - Vermilion River District cell 309.530.6371

Infinite Treasure

The present moment is always full of infinite treasure. It contains far more than you can possibly grasp. Faith is the measure of its riches: what you find in the present moment is according to the measure of your faith. Love also is the measure: the more the heart loves, the more it rejoices in what God provides.

The will of God presents itself at each moment like an immense ocean that the desire of your heart cannot empty; yet you will drink from that ocean according to your faith and love.

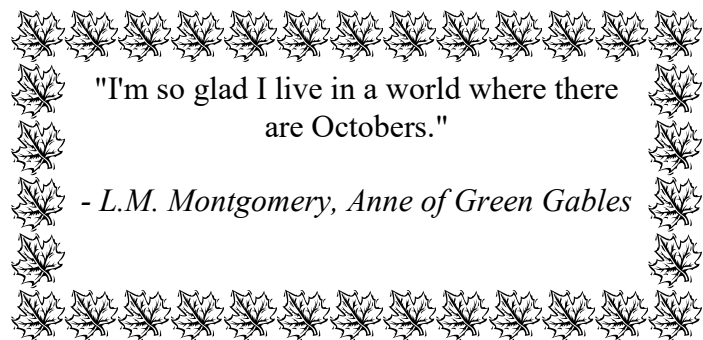
—Jean-Pierre de Caussade

Lay Leaders, Certified Lay Servants, Certified Lay Speakers and CLM) -

I am inviting you to join with me on **Saturday, October 27th at Chatsworth UMC (510 S. 4th St.) from 10:00 am – Noon** for a time to not only get to know you better, but to share with you a new missional effort here in our District. Many times Church Lay Leaders wonder about how they fulfill their role within the church. More often than not, Certified Lay Servants and Lay Speakers feel underutilized (because they are!). I want to share with you an idea which has been weighing on my heart. Please plan to attend as we seek to more broadly impact our region for God's Kingdom. **Please register with the District Office if you plan to attend.** We will be done before lunch time – lunch will be on your own.

~ Jim Barnett - Vermilion River District Superintendent





"I'm so glad I live in a world where there are Octobers."

- L.M. Montgomery, *Anne of Green Gables*

The Illinois Great Rivers Conference Chapter of the Order Of Saint Luke

(OSL) - will start a third local chapter meeting at Peoria Northwest UMC, 3800 W War Memorial Dr., Peoria, 61615. The first meeting will be September 27. In November, the meeting will be on November 29. All other meetings are on the fourth Thursday. We will meet September-May, excluding December. We will study the book Reading to Live: The Evolving Practice of *Lectio Divina*, by Raymond Studzinski. Each meeting begins with Morning Prayer at 10am. Business, the book study, and the celebration of the Eucharist follow. The day concludes with a common meal at noon at a local restaurant, Dutch treat. OSL is dedicated to liturgy, the sacraments, and Wesleyan spirituality. It is open to both laity and clergy. Anyone who would like to learn about or participate in OSL is welcome to attend. ~ Rusty Beals, convener, rbeals@gmail.com, (618)554-1220.



Herscher UMW Craft and Bake Sale Extravaganza

Saturday, October 13, 2018 at 9am - 3pm at Herscher UMC 274 North Elm Street Herscher, IL 60941. There will be: Homemade Craft Items, Craft Supplies, Homemade Baked Goods, & Soup and Sandwich Lunch (Donations). The processed will go to the UMW Missions Programs.

For more info please contact Joyce Goodwin at 815-426-6404.

(this is not a rummage or garage sale)

Servant Leadership

From Christ's perspective, a true leader is a servant, committed to the success of each individual in the group. Jesus did not criticize his disciples' desire to lead; he just showed them how to do it by washing their feet. ... The essence of spiritual leadership, therefore, is following Jesus and serving people. People rebel against controlling leaders, but it is impossible to rebel against a servant.

—Geoff Gorsuch, *Brothers! Calling Men Into Vital Relationships*

Staff Pastor Parish Relations

Chairpersons-

A meeting has been set at the Chenoa UMC (204 S Division St) on Saturday, October 20 from 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm for all Staff Pastor Parish Relations Chairpersons and, if possible, at least 3 members of the committee to meet with District Superintendent, Jim Barnett.

A meeting has been set at the Dwight UMC (701 S Columbia St) on Sunday, October 21 from 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm for all Staff Pastor Parish Relations Chairpersons and, if possible, at least 3 members of the committee to meet with District Superintendent, Jim Barnett.

Here is some information about the meeting (both meetings are the same, you will need to attend only one): Today I am inviting you to join with me to review roles, responsibilities, and process (especially regarding moves) of the Staff Pastor Parish Relations Committees. I am also asking you to bring along with you, if possible, up to 3 additional persons from your Committee to participate in this time of review and discussion. I am looking forward to meeting you! PLEASE register with the District Office if you plan to attend – I will need your name, committee members names and church name.

~ Sandy Shay - Administrative Assistant Vermilion River District, Illinois Great Rivers Conference [210 W Water St Suite 2 Pontiac, IL 61764](http://www.igrc.org) vermilionriver@igrc.org - 815-844-3530, 815-844-6583 - FAX 8:00 am – 2:00 pm Monday thru Thursday, 8:00 am – Noon Friday

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