



“Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can.” -- John Wesley



We have made it to the last quarter of a year like none of us have ever experienced. October is a month with not one but two full moons, with the second one on Halloween. The harvest is going on in full force and we have had some chill in the air already. Autumn brings us all kinds of good smells (pumpkin spice for an example) and sitting around a fire roasting marshmallows with friends or family is commonly seen. What are your favorite things to do this time of year?

Because of uncertainties that are still with us, sadly there are things we are not going to be able to do as a community this year. The Halloween Carnival that was so successful last year will be paused this year. The same will happen in November with the Community Thanksgiving Service. It's too early still to know how activities related to Christmas and the Advent season will be affected.

Sounds kind of bleak, doesn't it? But this is not something new. There were hard times written about in the Bible. But you can also find Scriptures that helped during these times and can help us in present times. Psalm 119:65-72 helps us to see difficult times as God's training school. Chapter 5 of 1 Timothy gives us some guidelines to use when going through hard times to help others. Jeremiah 43:1-45:5 gives us a good plan to help stay faithful to God when times seem the worst. There are numerous other Scriptures in the Bible that can help as well. If you have a study Bible you can find these easily.

Remember when God came to Earth in human form as Jesus Christ things were not always good for him. Many in his hometown of Nazareth rejected the teachings He tried to do. There were times when things looked bleak when large crowds showed up and there was very little food to feed them. Storms that even disciples who were experienced fisherman were afraid of. Traveling the countryside knowing that there were many who wanted to find and kill Him because they didn't agree with his teachings. And hanging from a cross like a common criminal to die. But through all of his, Jesus dedicated His life for us as well as taking on all of our sin because he cares for each one of us.

We will get through the uncertain times that face us currently. When you feel that there seems to be no end in sight to what we are facing, remember what Jesus did for each of us. And when hope is going away, remember that you can always turn to God who never gives us any more than we can handle.

Stay safe and God bless all of you!

Pastor Keith Blankenship

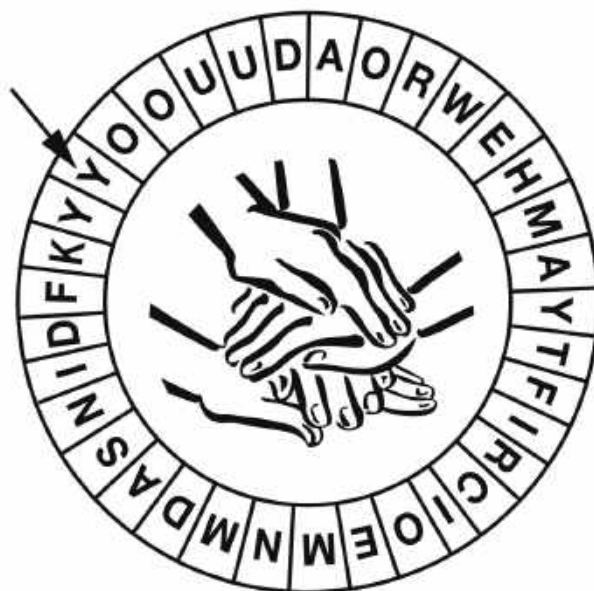


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# Puzzle!

Beginning at the arrow and moving clockwise, write every other letter on the spaces below to discover what Jesus says about his friends.



“ Y \_\_\_\_\_ ”

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_”

JOHN 15:14, NIV

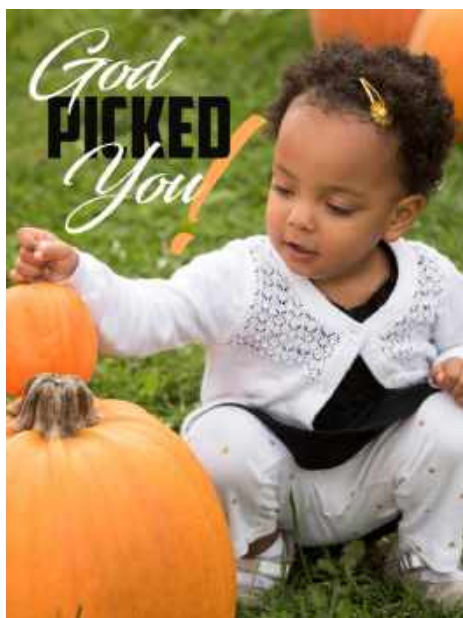
Answer on Page 6

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## YOUR GIVING MATTERS!

Offerings can be mailed to:  
 PO Box 66 Bonfield, IL  
 60913 and they will be given  
 to the church designated on  
 the envelope or offerings can be dropped off at the  
 Parish office during business hours. We appreciate your  
 gifts and tithes during this unprecedented time.



## Bible Quiz

In Jesus' parable about people who hear and live by God's words, on what did the wise man build his house?

- A. rock
- B. sand
- C. grassland
- D. soil that was free of rocks



Answer on Page 6

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### Learning from Autumn Leaves

Every fall, I marvel at the beautiful leaves, studying the intricate shapes and God’s creative, colorful displays. Despite its deterioration, the foliage reveals splendor — mere months after bursting out in spring and providing summer shade

I often think I’m like an autumn leaf. Through many seasons, God has transformed me from a self-absorbed person to one who trusts his steadfast promises. Winter is approaching for me too. Yet the Holy Spirit keeps molding me to reflect God’s goodness and beauty. During the autumn of my life, I pray that God helps me embrace changing seasons while reflecting his love and light to all.

—MaryAnn Sundby

### Loved for Who We Are

When I was a child, my parents loved me not because I was good but because I was ... their child. I loved them, and I wanted to please them, but their love of me did not have to be earned.



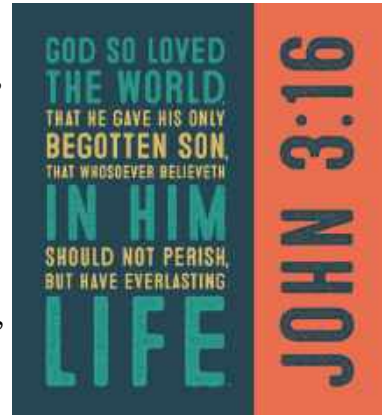
Neither does the love of God. We are loved because we are his children, because we are. If we feel that we ought to be loved because it is our due, or because we deserve it, the less we will truly feel the need of God’s love; the less implicit will be our trust; the less we will cry out, *Abba!*

—Madeleine L’Engle, *Walking on Water*

### The Best Medicine

Near the end of his life, Protestant reformer Martin Luther suffered debilitating headaches. When told about a costly medicine that might offer some relief, Luther smiled and said, “My best prescription for head and heart is

that ‘God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.’”



That Bible verse became a refrain for Luther on his deathbed. “What Spartan saying can be compared with this wonderful brevity,” he said of John 3:16. “It is the Bible itself!” After repeating the words of that Gospel-in-a-nutshell verse three times in Latin, Luther exclaimed, “They are the best prescription for headaches and heartaches!”



### Through the Bible in a year

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Obadiah 1:10-21; Jonah; Mic. 1-3      | 11. <input type="checkbox"/> Matthew 10:16-12:21 | 21. <input type="checkbox"/> Mark 6-7         |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Mic. 4-7; Nah. 1-2                    | 12. <input type="checkbox"/> Matthew 12:22-14:12 | 22. <input type="checkbox"/> Mark 8:1-10:12   |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Nah. 3; Hab.; Zeph. 1:1-13            | 13. <input type="checkbox"/> Matthew 14:13-17:13 | 23. <input type="checkbox"/> Mark 10:13-12:12 |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Zeph. 1:14-3:20; Haggai; Zech. 1:1-11 | 14. <input type="checkbox"/> Matthew 17:14-20:34 | 24. <input type="checkbox"/> Mark 12:13-14:11 |
| 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Zech. 1:12-7:14                       | 15. <input type="checkbox"/> Matthew 21-22       | 25. <input type="checkbox"/> Mark 14:12-15:47 |
| 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Zech. 8-13                            | 16. <input type="checkbox"/> Matthew 23:1-25:13  | 26. <input type="checkbox"/> Mark 16; Luke 1  |
| 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Zech. 14; Malachi                     | 17. <input type="checkbox"/> Matthew 25:14-26:68 | 27. <input type="checkbox"/> Luke 2-3         |
| 8. <input type="checkbox"/> Matthew 1-4                           | 18. <input type="checkbox"/> Matthew 26:69-28:20 | 28. <input type="checkbox"/> Luke 4:1-6:26    |
| 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Matthew 5-7                           | 19. <input type="checkbox"/> Mark 1-3            | 29. <input type="checkbox"/> Luke 6:27-8:25   |
| 10. <input type="checkbox"/> Matthew 8:1-10:15                    | 20. <input type="checkbox"/> Mark 4-5            | 30. <input type="checkbox"/> Luke 8:26-10:16  |
|   |  | 31. <input type="checkbox"/> Luke 10:17-12:12 |



## There is POWER in PRAYER

Pastor Keith invites you to join in praying for the following names and causes.

### Friends and Family

Heritage Village  
Vi Morse  
Mary Krieg

Butterfield Mel  
Brinkman

Riverside Senior Living  
Jackie Wagner

Harvest View  
Roscella Piper  
Randy Riegel

Manteno Veterans  
Bob Grob

### From Our Church Bulletin

Chuck Blankenship, Pat Bland, Candy and Keith Bauer, Janet Boyer's son Keith Bauer, Owen Buente, Carl & Kurt Boesen, Bradley Boor, Shirley Brunner, Joanne Coffman, Carol Buente, Ron Cordes, Benny Cruse, Virginia Dittus, Pearl Evans, Bob Grob, Anna Hertz, Bill Hertz, Marjorie Kersch, Peggy Lane, The Logsdons, Mike & Theresa Mau, Dorene O'Connor, Chuck & Kathy Quick and Kurt Quick, Kevin & Rob Reiniche, Jackie Wagner, Jodi, Richard & Ronald Wildman. and continuing prayers for those in nursing homes, assisted living, or the home bound.

### Compassion International Kids

Melany Samantha.....Aguilera  
Sonaton Soren.....Bangladesh  
Saray Morales.....Columbia  
Janny Boya.....Ecuador  
Witney Juarez.....Guatemala  
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.

### AUGUST 2020 ATTENDANCE

	08/02	08/09	08/16	08/23	08/30
Evangelical	33	24	24	29	25
First	6	11	13	12	12
Grand Prairie	21	25	24	25	27
Total	60	60	61	66	64



### A Lesson in Appreciation

During a church anniversary celebration, a pastor overheard a group discussing various

congregational leaders over the years. Her ears perked up when an older member said, "Whenever someone asks which of our pastors I liked best, my answer is always, 'The one we have at any given time is my favorite.'"

What a relief for the pastor to hear — and what a great lesson for Pastor Appreciation Month. God sends each shepherd to us with a specific set of spiritual gifts and then works through those gifts to bless us.

### October Memory Verse

Hatred stirs up conflict, but love covers all wrong. ~ Proverbs 10-12

### Community Lunch

Cancelled for the rest of 2020.



### Fellowship Breakfast

(subject to change due to regulations)

Come enjoy a great breakfast and fellowship with other Parish members and friends at IHOP in Bourbonnais on the first Tuesday of the month: October 6, November 3 and December 1 at 8:30am. 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.



## **United Methodist Women of the Parish**

Purpose of the United Methodist Women -The organized unit of United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in global ministries of the church.

**Evan UMW** - The Bonfield Evangelical UMW met in the upper room on Sept 3,2020 with Carol Buente as hostess. There were 5 members present. Linda Meyer was the lesson leader, presenting "Light, darkness, and salt". Sept 9 we will serve supper at the Gift of God Street Church. On Sept 12 we will have a pork chop dinner fund raiser at Church. UMW Sunday will be September 27th. October 1st will be a soup and sandwich supper in the upper room with Mary Smith, our representative from Lessie Bates as speaker. Invitations will be sent to First Church and Grand Prairie UMW and Sunshine Circle.

### **Evan UMW Meetings 2020 \*All events are subject to change\***

October 1: meeting in the Upper Room 6PM, soup and sandwiches meal with a guest speaker, November 5: Meeting in the Upper Room at 11:30AM brunch with speaker, November 8: Thank Offering, December 3: Christmas lunch at the Bonfield restaurant at 11:30AM

**First Church UMW** - The group met Thursday, September 17, at the church where Jill Grant introduced a program entitled I am the Light based on John 8:12. The group continues to grasp that our identity as UMW members is deeply rooted within history and propelled by the reach for a bright future. A concluding activity helped all experience connecting to others with a common thread and helped all share identities with UMW sisters. UMW Sunday plans for First Church were discussed with Jill Grant planning to share a short history of UMW during the service, and Dianne Wells explaining worldwide UMW mission work being implemented presently. Members were encouraged to locate and read UMW Reading Program books (and others) and keep track. Ask Jill for a book list if needed. The next meeting is October 15, when Donna Voigt will present the annual World Thank Offering Program. A collection for missions will be taken.

### **First UMW meets the third Thursday at 7PM at the church (not in Jan/Feb/Aug)**

#### **First UMW Meetings 2020**

October 15: *World Thank Offering* program, November 19: Meeting, December 13: Christmas Potluck @ 5, Special dates: September 20 UMW Sunday, October 1 UMW program @ Evan w/soup & sandwiches

**Martha Circle** - The Grand Prairie Martha Circle met on September 9 at Ohrt's house. Joyce and Jenny Cochran were the hosts. Many members were in attendance and many things were discussed. We will be having some soup and sandwich Sundays starting on September 20. We will have 2 more October 18 and Nov. 15. Watch for sign up sheets at church. We also discussed our 5 star programs for this year. Many cards were signed to be sent to some of our parishioners. The next meeting is Nov. 4 at Ohrt's at 6pm.

### **Martha Circle Meetings 2020:**

October 18 & November 15 : Soup and Sandwich Sunday, November 4 : Meeting at 6pm at Ohrt's, December 9: Meeting at 6pm hostesses Kim & Marilyn, Gift of God Street Church Meals: October 14: Marilyn & Kim & December 9: Linda S. & Janet

**Sunshine Circle** - A big thank you note for all those that worked so hard to make our Pork Chop Dinner a success, especially our fine cooks. We thank all those from the community and beyond that supported us to help raise funds to support our mission projects. Thanks again from Bonfield Evangelical United Methodist Women and Sunshine Circle.

Sunshine Circle will meet on October 15 in the Upper Room at Bonfield Evangelical Church at 6:30pm with Donna Diefenbach as hostess.

Set aside November 19 for ladies to meet at the home of Ardis Messer. Look for a time in the November newsletter from Sunshine Circle. We also encourage you to set aside food staples to be taken to Salvation Army. You can drop off the food donations at Evan during office hours on Tuesday and Thursday from 9am - 3pm or on Sundays while open for service.

Answers for Quiz & Puzzle on page 2

Answer: A (See Matthew 7:24-27.)

Answer: "You are my friends if you do what I command." John 15:14, NIV



**Sunshine Circle Meetings 2020**

October 15, November 19, and December 17



Hello everyone, I hope you all are doing well. As many of you know we had our first meeting since we stopped in the early spring. We are going to continue to meet the second Sunday of each month for now. We are meeting in person, but if you would not be comfortable there is a virtual option for those who want it. Please let me know if you have kids who would like to do the virtual option each meeting. Hope you all have a blessed week.

~ Ryan Coffman (coffmanry@gmail.com)

GAMES – SNACKS – FUN  
A TIME TO TALK ABOUT GOD IN AN OPEN, HONEST, AND REAL WAY!

Our Community Youth Group is open to all youth in 6th through 12th grade and all denominations. Our Youth Leader is Ryan Coffman. Ryan is a member of Grand Prairie UMC.



# OCTOBER Birthdays

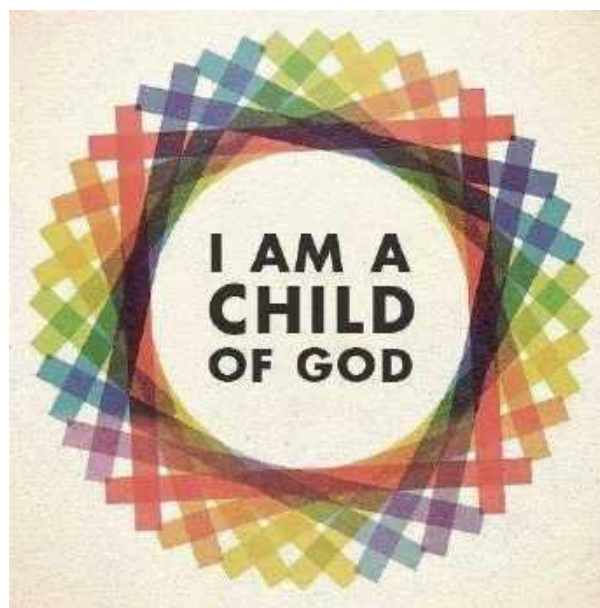
- October 1 Marilyn (Monk) Pfeiffer,  
Amanda Hansen, John Filiatraut
- October 2 Nicholas Meyer, Owen Buente,  
Larry Meyer, Sharon Meyer
- October 4 Dorinda Davis, Glenden Lehnus,  
Ryan Overacker
- October 5 Nathan Brinkman, Gary Brunner,  
Marissa (Mickelson) Duffield
- October 6 Kathryn Lade, Ronald 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) VanDoren,  
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, William Ohrt,  
Dana Schwark

**The Virtual Charge Conference** for our Parish will be on Sunday, October 4 at 7pm. It will be done virtually through Lifesize, the District and Conference form of Zoom. Please contact the office for info to log in, 815-802-9805.

+Christian Symbol+




### Plow

This farming implement is mentioned frequently in the Bible, often in verses about the harvest. Plowing symbolizes preparing the heart to receive God's truth, or the "seed" of God's word. The plow also represents commitment; Jesus says, "No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God" (Luke 9:62, NIV). The prophet Elisha burns his plow to show his commitment to answer God's call (see 1 Kings 19:21).



- 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) Erasmus,  
Sally (Stone) Evans, Mathew Brinkman

# OCTOBER 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>*ALL EVENTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE TO FOLLOW REGULATIONS*</p>	<p>*PLEASE CHECK THE WEBSITE &amp; FACEBOOK FOR UPDATES*</p>			<p>1 - Evan UMW meeting at Evan at 6PM with soup and sandwiches with special speaker</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>
<p>4 - Holy Communion - Virtual Charge Conference at 7PM - World Communion Sunday</p>	<p>5 - Journey Prayer Group at Evan at 10AM</p>	<p>6 - IHOP breakfast at 8:30PM</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8 - Oct 8-10 "I Am Her" Virtual Women's Summit</p>	<p>9 - Oct 8-10 "I Am Her" Virtual Women's Summit</p>	<p>10 - Oct 8-10 "I Am Her" Virtual Women's Summit</p>
<p>11 - Disability Awareness Sunday</p>	<p>12 - Journey Prayer Group at Evan at 10AM - SPPRC meeting at Evan at 6:30PM</p>	<p>13 - Evan NOW meeting at 6PM - Parish NOW meeting at 6:30PM</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15 - First UMW meeting at 7PM at First church - Sunshine Circle meeting at 6:30PM</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17 - Lion's Chicken Dinner *Carry-Out Only* 4-7PM See back page for more info.</p>
<p>18 - Laity Sunday - Martha Circle Soup and Sandwich Sunday</p>	<p>19 - Journey Prayer Group at Evan at 10AM</p>	<p>20 - Newsletter Article Deadline 9AM</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22 - Print Newsletter</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>
<p>25</p> 	<p>26 - Journey Prayer Group at Evan at 10AM</p>	<p>27 - Fold Newsletter at Evan at 8AM</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p> 









Join us for Sunday services online on our Facebook page, [www.facebook.com/bonfieldgpparish](http://www.facebook.com/bonfieldgpparish), or our Parish website, [www.bonfieldgrandprairie.org](http://www.bonfieldgrandprairie.org).



We are a Parish of 3 United Methodist churches: Bonfield Evangelical (Evan) UMC, Bonfield First (First) UMC & Grand Prairie UMC. Our minister is Keith Blankenship. It is our goal to share God's love with the world through our words and actions! We welcome you to visit us for Sunday service that works best for you and/or your family at the times listed.

Reflection:

“One can never consent to creep when one feels an impulse to soar.” —Helen Keller

\* \* \*


“Faith consists in believing what reason cannot.” —Voltaire

\* \* \*

“Start by doing what’s necessary; then do what’s possible; and suddenly you’re doing the impossible.” —Unknown

\* \* \*

“Nothing [is] more truly artistic than to love people.” —Vincent Van Gogh



## Time For Church

**Bonfield First**  
 At 172 Church Street Bonfield, IL  
 8:00 am Sunday Worship Services  
 9:15 am Sunday School

**Bonfield Evangelical**  
 At 348 Smith St. Bonfield, IL  
 9:15 am Sunday Worship Service  
 10:30 am Sunday School

**Grand Prairie**  
 At 12408 W Rt.17 Bonfield, IL  
 10:30 am Sunday Worship Services  
 9:15 am Sunday School



If you would like to see the newsletter in color then check out our website at [www.bonfieldgrandprairie.org](http://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](mailto:bonfieldgp@gmail.com).

Pastor Keith Blankenship’s Information  
 Email: [imredeemed59@gmail.com](mailto:imredeemed59@gmail.com)  
 Cell: (309) 830-0875  
 Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday 11AM - 3PM  
 & evenings upon request  
 Mailing Address: 225 Country Lane  
 Bonfield, IL 60913



Facebook - [www.facebook.com/bonfieldgpparish](http://www.facebook.com/bonfieldgpparish)  
 Website - [www.bonfieldgrandprairie.org](http://www.bonfieldgrandprairie.org)

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](mailto:bonfieldgp@gmail.com)  
 Website: [www.bonfieldgrandprairie.org](http://www.bonfieldgrandprairie.org)  
 Hours: Tuesday & Thursday 9AM - 1:30 PM

Bonfield / Grand Prairie Parish  
prayerful Box 66  
Bonfield, IL 60913

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**Bonfield, IL 60913**



Support the Lions Club



**Bonfield Lions Chicken Dinner**  
**October 17th 2020 at 4-7 PM**

**\* Carry-Out Only \***

**Halves \$9.00 & Quarters \$7.00**

Bonfield Lions Hall  
148 S. Stanford  
Bonfield, IL 60913

All proceeds raised will go to benefit the Bonfield Lions Club and its activities.



Ticket Pre-sales call  
Denise 815-295-5059, JoCarol 815-545-5563 or  
Herb 815-953-5959

