



“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



Can you believe we are starting the final quarter of 2021? This year has sometimes been similar to what we went through in 2020, but we have had glimmers of hope on occasion as well. It seems like a fading memory when we reopened for indoor worship after our second shutdown, but it was only 8 months ago. While I feel there have been times this year where it feels like we have taken one step forward and two steps backward, I’m remaining optimistic that we are closer to the end of the pandemic than falling further back to where we were at one time. God willing, as we close out this year we will be able to have a better idea when we can put all of this into history books for future generations to read and study about.

Be on the lookout for information regarding the Thanksgiving service we will be having next month (yes, next month is November!). Our Parish N.O.W. committee has been working on this and I for one am looking forward to what we will have for anyone wanting to attend. And of course, with thoughts of a Thanksgiving service, that means we are closing in on the beginning of the Church year, better known as the Advent season.

At the time this is written we have not had the final service at Bonfield First UMC yet. But with this church closing we will have new worship times for Evan and Grand Prairie that will begin this month. Grand Prairie’s worship service will move to 8:30 am with Sunday School beginning at 9:45 am. Evan’s Sunday School classes will begin at 8:30 am with their worship service starting at 10 am. There are seats at both churches that are waiting for anyone interesting in worshipping with us.

Finally, I have enjoyed the first two meetings of our Confirmation class! We have seven teenagers who are learning many things about what is in the Bible and in just the first two classes I have had them talk about their feelings and about loving others. We have two Eighth graders, two Freshmen, one Sophomore, one Junior and 1 Senior participating in the classes. I have to thank the parents of these teenagers for helping me out by making sure they show up for each class. I will share more as they go through the school year moving toward completing the class in the Spring.

As we move towards the end of this year, if anyone reading this has a need to talk about something that is troubling them, or someone to turn to for help, I am glad to assist in any way I can. Ways to reach out to me can be found inside the newsletter. Always remember, nothing from meeting with me will be shared with anyone else. God will help anyone willing to reach out in any way, and He will also guide us through the end of this pandemic, offering a life of salvation for EVERYONE seeking it!

Thank you for reading this and God Bless all of you,
Pastor Keith

Inside this issue:	
Bible Quiz & Puzzle	2
Youth Group	3
Prayer List	4
UMW	5
Fall Fest	6
Birthday List	7
Calendar	8
Contact Info & Service Times	9






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.

Join us on Saturday, October 9 at 9am at Evan in the upper room to write cards for Manteno Veterans for Veterans day. Everyone is welcome! We will be sending Christmas cards again, we need cards and need people to write in these cards. Remember to save your 2022 calendars. 170 is the magic number, we did it last year and we can do it again this year! Bring your cards and calendars to church or leave at parish office on Tuesday or Thursday. THANK YOU everyone for your help.
~ Janet Boyer




Puzzle!

Complete this Bible passage by adding the missing vowels.



F_r by gr_c_ y_ _ h_v_ b_ _ n s_v_d thr_ _gh f_ _th, _nd th_s _s n_t y_ _r _wn d_ _ng; _t _s th_ g_ft _f G_d — n_t th_ r_s_lt _f w_rks, s_ th_t n_ _n_ m_y b_ _st.

_ph_s_ _ns 2:8-9, NRSV



Answer: For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God — not the result of works, so that no one may boast. Ephesians 2:8-9, NRSV


October Memory Verse

I Peter 5:8 – “Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.”

Bible Quiz

Hebrews 11 is called the Hall of Faith because it's a partial list of ancestors who lived out their belief in God. Who is named in this chapter?

- A. Adam, Eve and Seth
- B. Abel, Enoch, Noah and Sarah
- C. Moses' parents, Moses and Rahab
- D. Deborah, Bathsheba and Huldah
- E. A and B
- F. B and C
- G. C and D



Community Lunch

Community Lunch at Bonfield Lions Building on Wed., October 21 at Noon. It will be held on every 3rd Wed. of the month.



Time to hit delete?

If we really have too much to do, there are some items on the agenda that God did not put there. Let us submit the list to him and ask him to indicate which items we must delete. There is always time to do the will of God. If we are too busy to do that, we are too busy. —Elisabeth Eliot



Join us on Sunday, October 10 for a Youth Group meeting, Youth Group meets every second Sunday of the month at Evan at 6:30pm. Contact Ryan at coffmanry@gmail.com for more info.

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 (coffmanry@gmail.com). Ryan is a member of Grand Prairie UMC.

Before saying yes

I keep learning the same lesson over and over (so maybe that means I haven't learned it yet). With church, school and community volunteer work, my schedule is packed. I'm exhausted! And to be honest, only about a third of the roles truly excite me.

Of course, service is important and yields blessings. And in a pinch, helpers need to step up. But consider all these benefits of occasionally saying no:

- *You give someone else a chance to shine and thrive.
- *You free up your schedule to be present elsewhere.
- *You protect your mental resources for existing roles.
- *You gain a bit more sleep or rest.

The last time you felt fully alive while volunteering, what were you doing? Who was serving alongside you? Can you do this — or something similar — again?

Before quickly agreeing to a request, see if God is tugging your heart in a certain direction. If he prompts you, by all means, shout yes! If not, "rest" assured that it's okay to say no.

—Janna Firestone



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

From Our Church Bulletin: Bonfield First UMC, Karen Batdorf, Candy Bauer, Janet Boyer’s son Keith Bauer, Rollie Bauer, Pat Bland, Chuck Blankenship, Carol & Chuck Brinkman, Owen Buente, Carl & Kurt Boesen, Joyce Cochran, Ron Cordes, Benny Cruse, Virginia Dittus, Pearl Evans, Herb Foltz, Bob Grob, Anna Hertz, Bill Hertz, Carol Higginbotham, Marjorie Kersch, Peggy Lane, The Logsdons, Mike & Theresa Mau, Maggie Maxwell (Bob Nichol’s sister), Allen Messer, Betty Osenga, Myron Panazzo, Chuck & Kathy Quick and Kurt Quick, Dorothy & Reuben Riegel, Phyllis Riegel, Kevin & Rob Reiniche, Janice Schneider, Jackie Wagner, Jodi, Richard & Ronald Wildman and continuing prayers for those in nursing homes, assisted living, or the home bound.

Arden Courts

Mel Brinkman

Riverside Senior Living

Jackie Wagner

Mary Krieg

At Home

Pat Bland

Pearl Evans

Dorothy &

Reuben Riegel

Harvest View

Marjorie Kersch

Randy Riegel

Manteno Veterans

Bob Grob

At College

Gretchen Brinkman

Becca Coffman

Brianna Dayton

Jenna Kenning

Nickolas Kirchner

Kylie & Kamden Lockwood

Heritage Woods

Vi Morse

Compassion International Kids

Ebenezer Forson.....Ghana

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.



You know what a wonderful difference receiving just one card can make. In these uncertain times, many of us are feeling unsettled, adjusting to new behaviors and redefining

“togetherness.” Sometimes that means connecting online. Sometimes that means phone calls and texts. And sometimes that means finding creative, meaningful ways to show someone how much they mean...like a card. Below are addresses of individuals that would love a card or phone call.

Vi Morse
355 Diversatech Dr. #272
Manteno, IL 60950

Marjorie Kersch
100 Harvest View Lane
Herscher, IL 60941

Roscella Piper
100 Harvest View Lane
Herscher, IL 60941

Randy Riegel
100 Harvest View Lane
Room 172
Herscher, IL 60941

Bob Grob
Unit #1 West 133-1
1 Veterans Dr.
Manteno, IL 60950

Mel Brinkman
2388 Bricher Rd.
Geneva, IL 60134

Pearl Evans
4482 N 8000 W Rd.
Bonfield, IL 60913

Dorothy & Reuben
Riegel
9823 W 1000 N Rd.
Bonfield, IL 60913

Pat Bland
3760 El Camino Dr
Kankakee, IL 60901

The Brinkman’s
3514 N 12000 W Rd
Bonfield, IL 60913

AUGUST 2021 ATTENDANCE

	08/01	08/08	08/15	08/22	08/29
Evangelical	24	park	19	22	21
First	13	park	12	17	50
Grand Prairie	17	19	23	20	23
Total	54	45	54	59	94



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 UMW met on September 2 in the upper room, with 8 members and Pastor present. Carol Buente opened the meeting with a devotional we are being ‘watched always’. Pastor gave the message “Reclaiming Eve”. He spoke about the Jewish word “ezer”. And women in the church. Ezer means strong helper or strong force and UMW women are both. Member made 8 visits this month to shut-ins. Both the minutes and the treasurers report were read and accepted. A report on the Gift Of God street Church was given by Christine Meyer. James Smith is giving the Bible lessons. He is very excited about the gospel and the men showed a good interest. Esther Marcotte reported that she sent 55 Quilts to Honduras with a doctor from our area. Joyce Riegel read “Womb to Tomb” from *Response* about giving help to women in the community. Lorraine served a nice lunch to the group. Next meeting will be October 7 in the upper room.

Other dates to note: September 18 VRD Fall Gathering: Fall gathering will be virtual. We will met in the upper room at 8:45am to watch the presentation. There is no fee for the gathering but a donation can be sent to Maggie Thompson, treasurer or Ardis Messer. September 20 UMW Sunday

Dayle Seitz, Secretary

Evan UMW Meetings & District/Conference Meetings 2021

October 7: Meeting in the upper room at Evan, Dayle hosting & Joyce giving the lesson

October 21: Mini Mission

October 23: Make A Difference Day at Evan at 9:00AM

November 4: Meeting at Chris Meyer’s home at 1:30PM, Chris hosting & Carol giving the lesson

Martha Circle - Martha Circle met on September 8 at the home of Tricia Coffman. She read a beautiful Fall devotion. UMW Sunday was scheduled. The giving season is coming up and we are starting our charitable gifts. The next meeting will be on November 10 at Janet Boyer’s house.

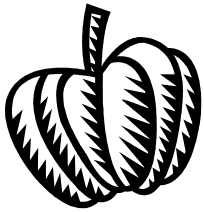
Martha Circle Meetings 2021: December 8 Gift of God Meals:

Oct. 13 Kim & Marilyn, Dec. 8 Janet & Ronda. Other Activities: October - Make pumpkins: Shabby Tree Pumpkins?, November - Blessing Bags Other ideas: Midwest Dist. Day, Shrine of Christ’s Passion, Card Making Day, Prayer Journal Day

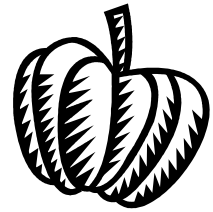
Sunshine Circle - Sunshine Circle met on September 9th in the Upper Room with 6 members present. Rita Overacker was hostess. Rita started the evening with a prayer. Rita then served a delicious meal. Devotions were led by our hostess. She read several scriptures and readings about having guide us in the right direction and to learn self control. Roll call was read. Minutes were read and approved. Treasure report was read and approved. Old business was to pick another mission to help. It was decided on Harbor House. We are sending 4—\$25 gift cards to Harbor House. Next meeting will be in the Upper Room on October 21st. Kim Metzeka is hostess. We would like to invite anyone to join us, we meet every 3rd Thursday. Hostess for that month decides where to meet. Our main goal is to help local and community services and families in need. We would love to have you.

Secretary, Donna Diefenbach

Sunshine Circle Meetings 2021: October 21, November 18, & December 16
Street Church Meals: Nov. 10, 2021 - Kim Metzeka and Ardis Messer



Grand Prairie
UM Church invites you to
FALL FEST 2021



Looking for something fun to do on your Saturday night?
Come join us for an Old Fashioned Fall Festival complete
with a **Bonfire, S'mores, and a Traditional Hayrack Ride!**
We will have great food, games, and fun for all ages! Bring
the whole family and invite your friends too!

Hope to see you there!

When: Saturday, October 23
Starting at 4:00pm

Where:

Troy and Tricia Coffman
3378 N 5500 W Rd
Kankakee, IL 60901

Hotdogs, S'mores, water & hot chocolate
will be provided. Please bring a dish to
share.

Tables and Folding Chairs will also be
provided. Please feel free to bring a lawn
chair to relax around the bonfire.

For More Information Please Call Joyce or Jenny Cochran at 815.671.3004



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 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 William Ohrt, 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, Aaron Jensen

October 31 Sally (Stone) Evans, Mathew Brinkman,
Carol Higginbotham

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

Appreciating your pastor

Many people have complex relationships with their pastors because faith, church and God involve a mix of emotions. We have particular ideas about church practices, congregational priorities, the minister's use of time, money, authority and more.

But most pastors are deeply devoted to Christ and believe that God has called them to serve in a certain place. They have the best of intentions and work hard to share the good news of the gospel. So in honor of Pastor Appreciation Month in October, consider the following:

God doesn't call the qualified; he qualifies the called. Your pastor may need time to learn and develop certain skills. (Everyone does!) Bless pastors with your patience.

We don't change the message; the message changes us. You probably won't like all your pastor's sermons or newsletter columns. But instead of complaining, ponder that something may rub you the wrong way because God is trying to change you. Keep an open mind and heart.

If a church wants a "better" pastor, it just needs to pray for the one it has. Pray often and caringly for your pastors, church leaders and their families. The role is challenging, so support them spiritually and ask God to reveal his love and grace to these special servants.

+Christian Symbol+



RAINBOW—The Rainbow represents God's pardon and his promises. It also symbolizes his reconciliation to faithful Christians. After the Flood, God placed a rainbow in the sky as a symbol of his promise to never destroy the earth that way again (Genesis 9:12-16). A rainbow can also represent the throne of Christ, as well as his glory and final judgment.

OCTOBER 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
October is Pastor Appreciation Month					1	2
3 - Holy Communion - World Communion - Confirmation Class at Evan at 1PM	4 - Journey Prayer Group at Evan at 10AM	5 - IHOP Fellowship Breakfast at 8:30AM	6	7 - Evan UMW at Evan at 1:30PM	8	9
10 - Charge Conference at Manteno UMC at 3-5PM - Youth Group at 6:30PM	11 - Journey Prayer Group at Evan at 10AM	12 - Evan NOW meeting At Evan at 6PM - Parish NOW meeting at Evan at 6:30PM	13	14	15	16
17	18 - Journey Prayer Group at Evan at 10AM	19 - Newsletter Article Deadline 9AM	20	21 - Sunshine Circle at 6:30PM - Printing the Newsletter	22	23 - Fall Fest at 4PM (see page 6) - Make a difference day at Evan at 9-12pm
24 - Confirmation Class at Evan at 1PM 31 - Reformation Sun. - Halloween	25 - Journey Prayer Group at Evan at 10AM	26 - Fold Newsletters at Evan at 8AM	27	28	29	30



Join us for Sunday services online on our Facebook page, www.facebook.com/bonfieldgpparish, or our Parish website, www.bonfieldgrandprairie.org



We are a Parish of 2 United Methodist churches: Bonfield Evangelical (Evan) 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:

“I have so much to do that I shall spend the first three hours in prayer.”

—Martin Luther

* * *

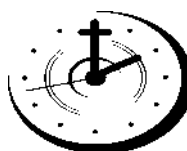
“It's better to be an optimist who is sometimes wrong than a pessimist who is always right.”

—Mark Twain

* * *

“It is in your hands to create a better world for all who live in it.”

—Nelson Mandela



Time For Church

Grand Prairie

At 12408 W Rt.17 Bonfield, IL
8:30 am Sunday Worship Services
9:15am Sunday School

Bonfield First

Bonfield Evangelical

At 348 Smith St. Bonfield, IL
10:00 am Sunday Worship Service
8:30am Sunday School

Fellowship Breakfast

Come enjoy a great breakfast and fellowship with other Parish members and community friends at IHOP in Bourbonnais on the first Tuesday of the month: October 5 & November 2 at 8:30am. The group orders from the regular menu.

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.

Pastor Keith Blankenship's Information

Email: 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
Website - 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

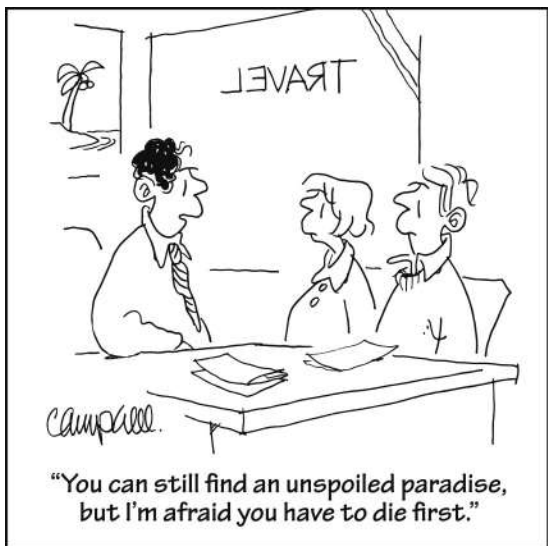
Website: www.bonfieldgrandprairie.org

Hours: Tuesday & Thursday 9AM - 1:30PM

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

Non Profit Organization
US Postage
PAID
Bonfield, IL
Permit #2

Return Service Requested



Bonfield Box Holder

Bonfield, IL 60913



COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE

Hosted by the Bonfield-Grand Prairie UM Church Parish

Sunday, November 14, 2021 - 4:00 p.m.

at Grand Prairie UM Church

On Rte 17 West

Speaker: Dr. Dawn Broers, PhD, LCSW

Executive Director of Fortitude

Fortitude is a grassroots nonprofit in Kankakee County that provides emergency shelter (Oct-May), street outreach transitional housing, and workforce development for the homeless. They serve hundreds of homeless individuals each year with the help of a multitude of volunteers.

They operate primarily with the support of our local community.

EVERYONE WELCOME!

All ages are invited to sing in a
Community Choir

Choir Practices will be held at
Grand Prairie UM Church
At 4 pm on Sunday, October 17
Additional practice times will be
announced at the first practice.
Questions call

Join us as we come together to offer our
Praise and Thanksgiving for all the things
the Lord has done for us!

For more information contact:
Church Office at 815-802-9805