

NEW BEGINNINGS

BONFIELD - GRAND
PRAIRIE PARISH

“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



Hard to believe that the final weeks of Summer are now upon us. With the start of school behind us and Labor Day coming up the weekend after this newsletter reaches your mailbox, many of us turn to thoughts of leaves turning, football games from high school to the NFL and I suppose for some, the thought of pumpkin spice lattes (not me personally 😊).

Another busy month is ahead of us in the Parish. You can open the pages of the newsletter to read more about the outdoor concert taking place Sunday September 11th, 6 pm at Quarry Park. It should be a wonderful night of Gospel music from a group of Pastors who serve churches in our Conference. On Saturday September 17th Evan UWF and Sunshine Circle will once again have a drive-thru Pork Chop meal from 4:30-7 pm. And you can read more about the game afternoon happening at Grand Prairie from 3-5 pm. Plenty of events as we move from summer to autumn!

This month also has both churches in the Parish collecting Noisy Change each Sunday during worship services. This time we will be collecting change to help Fortitude in Kankakee. I'm sure many of you have been reading or hearing about the struggles they are having as they try to provide a shelter for those in need. They want to be able to help those who just need a warm place to spend a night in the colder months of the year. It could be someone who is working but doesn't have the money to pay rent, especially as rent prices have gone up at a lot of places this year.

As I write this article Fortitude is trying to figure out their next steps after being denied a zoning change for property they felt would fulfill the needs they want to provide. Our Parish has been involved in providing food for Fortitude as they reach out to those who need a meal. Some have even gone with them around Kankakee as they deliver food to those who need it.

I relate very well with the tireless work that those involved with Fortitude do. I personally know the struggles that those in need face. Having raised three children on my own, sometimes trying to figure out how to feed them and other times trying to figure out how to keep a roof over all of us. With God's help I was able to persevere and become stronger. Their mission at Fortitude is to build relationships with struggling individuals in Kankakee County by meeting them where they are, providing for physical, emotional, and spiritual needs, and connecting to community resources.

Because of the challenges I faced years ago and my belief in all they do, I will be matching what is raised this month through noisy change at both churches. So, your penny will actually be two pennies going to Fortitude.

If you know of anyone searching for a church to call home, please send them to either Evan or Grand Prairie and give us a try. We will show you the love of Jesus as we strive to continue to be Servants of the Lord!

Your Humble Servant of God,
Pastor Keith



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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.



PAYING TRIBUTE TO OUR VETERANS

We need to be thinking about 170 Manteno Veterans cards we will be sending; veterans day November 11th, Christmas cards in December. Then there is Valentine's day February 14th. I know that is 6 months away but doesn't time fly?! Let's set Saturday, October 8th at 9am at Bonfield Evan to get together and sign cards. If you would want some cards to sign at your home, let me know and you will get some cards. Thank you for all that bring cards and Thank You for all who sign the cards. We could not do it without you!! Janet Boyer 815 263 9566



September Memory Verse

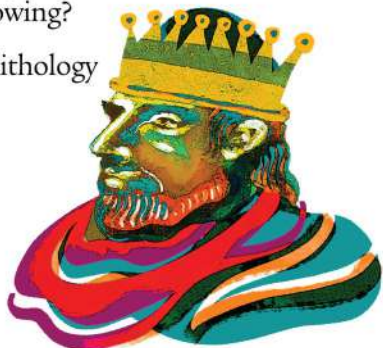
Psalms 128:1

Blessed is every one who fears the Lord,
Who walks in His ways.

Bible Quiz

Besides being known for his proverbs about wise living, King Solomon was knowledgeable in other fields, including which of the following?

- A. zoology, including ornithology and ichthyology
- B. botany
- C. herpetology
- D. songwriting
- E. A and C
- F. B and D
- G. All of the above



Answer: G (See 1 Kings 4:29-34.)

Puzzle!

Look up each verse in an NIV Bible and find a word that fits in that row. Then write the word from the bold vertical column in the blank below to complete Proverbs 24:3-4.

1 Corinthians 8:1		N				
Philippians 1:9					H	
2 Peter 1:5						S
			A			2 Timothy 3:7
Matthew 24:32				S		
John 7:15				R		
					I	Isaiah 33:6
2 Peter 3:18					E	
		W				Proverbs 24:5

By wisdom a house is built, and ...
through _____ its rooms are filled with
rare and beautiful treasures.

PROVERBS 24:3-4, NIV

Answer: know, insight, goodness, always, lesson, learning, foundation, grace, power, knowledge



Read the
Pastor's
article for
some news
from Pastor

Keith about September's noisy
change offering for Fortitude!



Labor Day laughs

Take a break and enjoy this work-related humor!

- My first job was in an orange juice factory. I got canned because I couldn't concentrate.
- When I couldn't hack it as a lumberjack, I got the ax.
- I wasn't suited to being a tailor.
- Working in the muffler factory was too exhausting.
- I was a banker ... until I lost interest.
- I realized there was no future in being a historian.
- Any way I sliced it, I couldn't cut the mustard at the deli.
- I studied to become a doctor but had no patients.
- My job at the coffee shop was always the same old grind.
- When I worked as a plumber, the tasks were too draining.
- I was hired at a gym but wasn't fit for the job.
- Finally, I got a job at a bakery; I kneaded dough!

Keeping the Sabbath

Oh, what a blessing is Sunday, interposed between the waves of worldly business like the divine path of the Israelites through Jordan! There is nothing in which I would advise you to be more strictly conscientious than in keeping the Sabbath day holy. I can truly declare that to me the Sabbath has been invaluable.

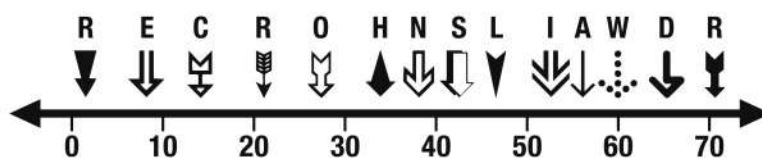
—William Wilberforce



A full Quiver

Our heavenly Father loves families and has a special purpose for each generation.

Directions: Use the key to match the number of each arrow with the correct letter.



Like

56 21 71 28 60 42

in the hands of a warrior are

14 33 52 47 65 2 9 39

born in one's youth. Blessed is the
man whose quiver is full of them.

PSALM 127:4-5, NIV



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

From Our Church Bulletin: The Vilt Family, Candy Bauer, Charles Blankenship, Jay Buente, Ron Cordes, Benny Cruse, Virginia Dittus, Pearl Evans, Judy Gibson, Bob Grob, Marjorie Kersch, Maggie Maxwell (Bob Nichols' sister), Allen Messer, Sunshine Powell, Chuck Quick, Kurt Quick, Dorothy Riegel, Stan Stone, Jackie Wagner, & Ronald Wildman.

Arden Courts

Mel Brinkman

Riverside Senior Living

Mary Krieg

At Home

Pearl Evans

Harvest View

Marjorie Kersch
Randy Riegel

At College

Gretchen Brinkman **Manteno Veterans**

Mary Grace Brinkman

Becca Coffman Bob Grob

Jenna Kenning **Heritage Woods**

Nickolas Kirchner Vi Morse

Kylie & Kamden Lockwood

Compassion International Kids

Ebenezer Forson.....Ghana

Melany Samantha.....Aguilera

Sonaton Soren.....Bangladesh

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



HELP MEET NEEDS IN UKRAINE

Rice Meal Pack EVENT - Springfield, Illinois

September 16-19th

We will have two locations for Rice Meal packing over these four days. We are offering 1-hour shifts. Feel free to sign up for more than one shift and on multiple days. *remember to pay attention to which location and time you sign up for at

www.midwestmission.org/help-ukraine

Rice Meal Pack One

September 16th and 17th will be at Midwest Mission from 8:30am-3:30pm.

Rice Meal Pack Two

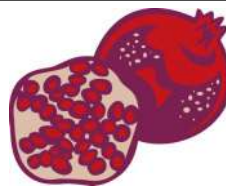
September 18th and 19th will be at Springfield First United Methodist Church from 8am-1pm.



Drive Up Pork Chop Dinner

Saturday, Sept. 17
at Bonfield
Evangelical
at 4:30 -7pm

price \$8.00 - for pork chop,
chips, 2 cookies and a drink.



+Christian Symbol+

POMEGRANATE

Because the pomegranate has an abundance of seeds, the fruit is used to represent hope and future life. It also symbolizes the many believers who are individual members of the universal Christian church

JULY 2022 ATTENDANCE

	7/3	7/10	7/17	7/24	7/31
Evangelical	40	33	45	35	37
Grand Prairie	23	19	18	23	19
Total	63	52	63	58	56



United Women in Faith of the Parish

Purpose of the United Women in Faith -The organized unit of United Women in Faith 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.

The Vermillion River United Women of Faith got together on Saturday August 20 at Evan for their Spiritual Growth Retreat. The retreat was scheduled to meet at the Bonfield Quarry but due to inclement weather was moved to Bonfield Evan. There were over 30 women who attended from all over our district. The theme of our retreat was "It's About Time." The ladies spent the morning digging into scripture, thinking about how they spend their time and where our priorities are, as well as playing some fun games.

The retreat was led by Tricia Coffman~ District Spiritual Growth Coordinator. Thank you to ladies of Evan who provided a wonderful breakfast, to Joyce Cochran, Cheri Dayton, Jenny Cochran and Kim Ohrt who helped with the craft, the games and facilitating the day.

It was a blessed morning.



United
Women
in Faith



United Women of Faith of the Parish continued

Evan UWF – Ardis Messer, Diane Wells, Terry and Linda Meyer, Carol Kuipers And Dayle Seitz worked at the mission for the day (picture). We also took 173 pounds of donations to them.



The Bonfield, United Women in Faith, met in the upper room on August 4, 2022. Carol Buente opened the meeting with a devotional based on Psalm 135 and 139. Magnificent Masterpiece, You are God's Masterpiece. A lively discussion on Roe vs Wade followed. Pastor Keith filled us in on services while he will be on vacation. He would like everyone to fill out the song sheets and return them. October 16 is Laity Sunday and the service will be done by lay persons in the church. Diane Wells gave the lesson from Revelation 21:1-7. "A new heaven and a new earth". She talked about how people learned to use the Bible and which translation did you understand better than others. What were the verses that are important to you. Everyone shared their verse. She asked each member what are the challenges you face with your daily walks. Joyce Riegel read experts from the Response magazine. Are you stressing over the name change from UMW to UWF? There is no right way to be one or the other. The biggest change for some units is to invite any women or man to come to the meetings. Our unit has always accepted women from other churches or the community. The treasures report was read by Ardis Messer and it was accepted. The minutes were read by Dayle Seitz and were accepted as read. The district is short on meeting there goals and their budget was lowered for next year. Do to the environmental disasters the group will send \$200.00 to Midwest distribution Center. A motion was made and carried. We discussed new officers and they will remain the same. Lorraine made the motion and Linda seconded it. There were 8 members present. Our next meeting will be at Joyce Riegel's home on September 1st at 1:30 pm. We will go to Midwest Distribution center on August 17. We have 5 people that are going. We also have school supplies and medical aids to go. If you have anything to go please have at church by August 17. Aug 20 the district spiritual growth retreat will be held at quarry park in Bonfield. Our group will provide breakfast. The pork chop drive through supper will be Sept 17 at Bonfield EVAN Methodist church. Dayle Seitz, Secretary

Evan UWF Meetings September: 1st- at Joyce's at 1:30, 2023 Officers list due, 17th - VDR Annual Fall Meeting, 18th - UMW Sunday, 30th - IGRC UMW leadership Team Meeting

October: 1st- IGRC UMW Annual Meeting , 6th - At EVAN 1:30, 20th - Mini-mission, Lexington UMC, 22th - Make a difference day

November : 3rd - EVAN 1:30, 13th - Thank offering due

December: 1st - VRD Executive Team Meeting/Christmas Gathering at Bradley Wesley UMC, 10th - UMW Christmas Party Place to be announced

Martha Circle - Meeting Schedule 2022

- All meetings will begin at 6pm.
 - Meetings are held at hostesses' homes or other locations.
 - Watch for announcements in the bulletin and text messages
 - The Hostesses will provide the devotional for the evening and small snacks are served.
- Sept. 14 ~ Becky Cruse, Nov. 9, Dec. 14 ~Kim & Marilyn Ohrt

Sunshine Circle - On Sept 17th, the Sunshine Circle and UMW groups will be having their annual Drive Up Pork Chop Meal from 4:30—7pm at Bonfield Evangelical, price \$8.00. For pork Chop, chips, 2 cookies and a drink. Price for extra pork Chop is \$4.00. The Sunshine Circle will meet at Evan on Sept. 15th for a meeting. Ardis and Carol will be hostesses. Time will be posted in bulletin.



The beauty of learning

There is divine beauty in learning. ... To learn means to accept the postulate that life did not begin at my birth. Others have been here before me, and I walk in their footsteps.

The books I have read were composed by generations of fathers and sons, mothers and daughters, teachers and disciples. I am the sum total of their experiences, their quests. And so are you.

—Elie Wiesel



It only takes a spark



Love is the spark that kindles the fire of compassion. Compassion is the fire that flames the candle of service. Service is the candle that ignites the torch of hope. Hope is the torch that lights the beacon of faith. Faith is the beacon that reflects the power of God. God is the power that creates the miracle of love. —William Arthur Ward

Ways to walk

If you think walking is boring or repetitive, read *52 Ways to Walk*. Author Annabel Streets shares dozens of variations on this healthy pastime. From walking in the cold or at altitude to walking along a river or barefoot (or even backward!), each technique offers different benefits and new perspectives. Other ideas include a sensory walk, a silent walk, a foraging walk and singing while strolling. As Christians know, walking can be a great time to connect with God in prayer too.

Scripture speaks often about our spiritual walk: We are to walk “faithfully” with God (Genesis 5:24, NIV), walk “in all his ways” (Joshua 22:5, NRSV), walk “humbly” with God (Micah 6:8), walk “while you have the light” (John 12:35), walk while praising God (Acts 3:8), walk “by faith, not by sight” (2 Corinthians 5:7), walk “by the Spirit” (Galatians 5:16) and walk “in the same way” as Jesus walked (1 John 2:6, NRSV).

As we walk — even through dark valleys — we’re never alone. God promises, “I will walk among you and be your God” (Leviticus 26:12, NIV).

—Stephanie Martin



Vacation Bible School: Thank you to all who participated and those who helped with VBS! Big thanks to leaders-Kim, Ivy, & Jen, snacks-Linda & Carol, music-Jenny & Joyce, sound-Pastor Keith, photos-Jim & Ryan, registration-Angie & Donna, crafts-Hope & Vickie, helpers-Dana, Ean, Susie, Emma, Landon & Brayden! It was a wonderful success! We love leading children to the Lord because God loves them, and sharing God's love with them is the most important thing! Enjoy some pictures on the next page from the 3 days of VBS!







September 2 Jason Graf, Conner Wenzelman,
Becky Sikes
September 3 Jason Adams, Mary (DeCarlo) Robbins,
Ean Meyer-Marrieta
September 4 Sara Davis,
Michelle Ladonna (Hertz) Hobbs
September 5 Victoria Wells, Tim Holohan
September 6 Roger Kuipers
September 7 Ivan Brunner, Devynn Lynn Coffman,
Pete Dato, Timothy Sullivan, Dorothy Powell,
Ralph Sharper
September 8 James Riegel, Emily Metzka, Ivy Metzka
September 9 Michael Smith
September 10 Doreen (Styck) Buza, Linda Lehnus
September 11 Chris Loyd
September 12 Stan Wenzelman, Craig Rice,
Sharon Lowey
September 13 Kristi Davis, Jennifer (Sauer) Davis,
David Dettman, Todd Robinson
September 14 Bryan Knight, Dean Dau,
Rhae Anna Riegel
September 15 Virginia Baker, Jim Davis
September 16 Lois Jensen, Jennifer (Orwig)
Waid, Jason Pfeiffer, Heather (Scholl) Ward
September 17 Ron Fritz
September 18 Melissa White, Linda (Mau) Meyer,
Michael Wells, Michelle (Panozzo) Hanson
September 19 Susan Wilson, Doreen (Foltz) Ouelette,
Deanna Brinkman
September 20 Susanna Wilson, Bill Buckman,
Meredith Weber, Shawn Lawrence,
Debbie (St.Germaine) Norton,
Reuben G. Lehnus
September 21 Donna (Foltz) Diefenbach
September 22 Kevin Buente, Janet Meyer,
Jennifer Cochran
September 23 Edwin Riegel, Adam Kuipers,
Michelle Dettman, Darin Mecklenburg,
Stacy (Patti) Wood
September 24 Jordan Coiston

September 25 Landon Hertz, Troy Riegel,
Ron E. Metzka, Gayle Brunner,
Amy (Lambert) Wenzelman
September 26 Benjamin Grant, David Scholl,
Michael Holmes, John M. Kuipers,
Sheila (Sharper) Berns, Roger Hertz
September 27 Paul Meyer, Steven Robbins,
Christopher Wolch, Chelsea Goodman,
Mary (Saathoff) Hertz
September 28 Donna (Hertz) Sauer, Christine
Brinkman, Payton Overacker
September 29 Tyler Lotton, Marvin Dahn,
Kendra Bouk
September 30 Jerry Fecke, Donna Osenga,
Mary J. Motelith -Anderson

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



Make a joyful noise
unto God, all ye lands.

Psalm 66:1, KJV




Join us 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.

SEPTEMBER 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 -Evan UWF at Joyce Riegel's at 1:30pm	2	3
4	5 	6 - IHOP Fellowship Breakfast at 8:30AM	7 -Evan Finance meeting at 6:30pm	8	9	10
11 - Concert in the Park at 6pm	12 - Journey Prayer Group at Evan at 10AM	13 - Ad Board at Evan at 7pm	14 -Martha Circle	15	16	17 - Pork chop drive-thru dinner at Evan
18 -Youth Group at Evan at 6:30pm - Game Time at Grand Prairie at 3-5pm	19 - Journey Prayer Group at Evan at 10AM	20 - Newsletter Article Deadline 9AM	21 - Community Lunch at Bonfield Lions at Noon	22 - Printing the Newsletter	23	24
25	26 - Journey Prayer Group at Evan at 10AM	27 -Fold Newsletters at Evan at 8AM	28	29	30	



Join us for Sunday services
online at 11am on our
Facebook page,
[www.facebook.com/
bonfieldgpparish](http://www.facebook.com/bonfieldgpparish)



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.

"Prayer is thinking deeply about something in the
presence of God." —Wayne Cordeiro

* * *

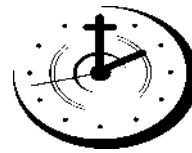
"The beautiful thing about learning is nobody can
take it away from you." —B.B. King

* * *

"God is a busy worker, but he loves help."
— Basque proverb

* * *

"Faith walking in the dark with God only prays him
to clasp its hand more closely, does not even ask him
for the lifting of the darkness." —Phillips Brooks



Time For Church

Grand Prairie

At 12408 W Rt.17 Bonfield, IL
8:30 am Sunday Worship Services
9:45am Sunday School

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:
September 6 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](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

Website: www.bonfieldgrandprairie.org

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

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

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Bonfield Box Holder

Bonfield, IL 60913

Outdoor Concert

featuring

Rivers of Life Clergy Band

Sunday, September 11, 2022 at 6pm

At Bonfield Quarry Park

Bring a Lawn Chair
A Love offering will be
received to help with the
Band's travel expenses.
For more info. contact
Pastor Keith at (815)
802-9805



Tim
Pate

Dan
Perry

Mark
Doane

Annelle
Ruemmler

Joe
Scheets