

# 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



Am I the only one amazed that we have already reached the last quarter of 2022? To me it feels like it should be early summer, yet we are already halfway through the high school football season! I guess with everything that we have had happening within the Parish the past few months the time has flown by.

Inside this month's newsletter you will find pictures of the wonderful concert we had that Mother Nature turned into an indoor event. One of the members of the band made a comment that we provided one of the largest crowds they have played for. And thank you for the generosity of those who attended as the love offering collected will be helping people in need.

In September we also had another successful drive-thru pork chop dinner. I want to give my personal thanks to everyone who came and purchased meals and sandwiches, but also to all of those at Evan and beyond who helped with the event. Many hands made the event go very smooth!

A good time was had at Grand Prairie playing games one Sunday in September. Several card games were played by some who were there along with dominoes and my first-hand seeing how accurate the game of Aggravation is named with those who played. This is an event that I'm sure will happen again down the road.

I want to thank everyone who broke open their piggy banks to provide loose change during the month of September that will help the needs of Fortitude. As I prepare this article, I don't have the final total that I will be matching, so look for that information in the November newsletter.

Finally, I would like to thank everyone from both churches who Volunteer their time to be a part of the various committees. We all have many other things going on within our lives but without the work of the committees most, if not all, of the activities that happen along with the day-to-day operations to keep both churches going is well appreciated by me. With our annual Charge Conference taking place on October 9th, I thank all who have filled out reports that have to be turned in.

Keep your eyes open for events that will be taking place over the remainder of this year. If you are still reading this far into the article, and you are not attending any church or are seeking to find a church to attend, please give us a try. At Grand Prairie and at Evan you will find friendly people who do a wonderful job being servants of the Lord. As the Pastor here, I will continue to share the Good News that God continues to love each one of us as His children. You can find the service times for each church inside this newsletter.

Enjoy the autumn season and I wish nothing but blessings for every one of you.

Serving the Lord as His humble servant,  
Pastor Keith



Inside this issue:	
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**Veterans Calendars & Cards:** There are 170 Veterans at the Manteno Veterans Home. We will be sending them cards and calendars to thank them for their service and to lift their spirits. Please come and sign cards on **Saturday, October 8th at 9am at Bonfield**



**Evan** for Veterans day  
November 11th, Christmas, &  
Valentine's day. Thank you for  
all the cards and calendars that  
you donate. Thank You for  
all who come to sign the  
cards. We could not do it  
without you!!  
Janet Boyer 815-263-9566



## A SEASON OF

## Thankfulness

## October Memory Verse

As for God, his way is perfect: The LORD's word is  
flawless; he shields all who take refuge in him.  
2 Samuel 22:31

## Bible Quiz

Which king allowed – even encouraged – the Judean exiles to return to Jerusalem and rebuild the temple?

- A. Cyrus of Persia  
B. Tiglath-pileser of Assyria  
C. Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon  
D. Hiram of Tyre



Answer: A (See Ezra 1:1-4.)

**YOUR GIVING MATTERS!**

Offerings can be mailed to:  
PO Box 66 Bonfield, IL  
60913 and they will be  
given to the church  
envelope or offerings can be  
given in person to the  
church office during business  
hours. We appreciate your gifts and  
prayers during this unprecedented time.

# Puzzle!

Solve this cryptogram to complete Isaiah 40:8,  
a Bible verse that speaks to the autumn season.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
														1				22							

13	12	7																							
6	20	16	22	22																					
26	11	13	12	7	20	22																			
13	12	7																							

2	5	1	26	7	20																				
2	16	18	7	22																					
25	15	13																							
13	12	7																							





  

26	1	20	18																						
1	2																								
1	15	20																							
6	1	18																							
26	11	5	5																						

22	13	16	24	18																					
2	1	20	7	14	7	20																			

ISAIAH 40:8

ISAIAH 40:8

Answer: The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever. Isaiah 40:8, ESV

God will stand forever. Isaiah 40:8, ESV



**NOW MAY OUR  
LORD JESUS CHRIST  
HIMSELF, AND GOD OUR FATHER,  
WHO LOVED US AND GAVE US  
ETERNAL COMFORT AND GOOD HOPE  
THROUGH GRACE,  
COMFORT YOUR HEARTS  
AND ESTABLISH THEM  
IN EVERY GOOD WORK AND WORD.**

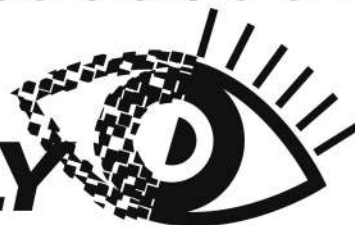
2 THESSALONIANS 2:16-17, ESV

### Be-attitudes

Be understanding of your enemies.  
Be loyal to your friends.  
Be strong enough to face the world each day.  
Be weak enough to know you cannot do everything alone.  
Be generous to those who need your help.  
Be frugal with what you need for yourself.  
Be wise enough to know that you do not know everything.  
Be open enough to believe in miracles.  
Be willing to share your joys.  
Be eager to share the sorrows of others.  
Be a leader when you see a path others have missed.  
Be a follower when you are shrouded by uncertainty.  
Be the first to congratulate an opponent who succeeds.  
Be the last to criticize a colleague who fails.  
Be loving to those who love you.  
Be loving to those who don't love you; they may change.  
Be yourself, above all.



**SEEING  
CLEARLY**



God's character is evident through what he made.

*Directions: Hold up the puzzle to a mirror. Then write the backward words correctly to complete Romans 1:20, NIV.*

FOR SINCE THE NOITAEBO OF THE WORLD

GOD'S ELBIZIVNI QUALITIES — HIS JANRETE

POWER AND ENIVID NATURE — HAVE BEEN

YJRAEJC SEEN, BEING DOOT2REDNU FROM

WHAT HAS BEEN MADE, SO THAT EJOEP ARE

WITHOUT EXCUSE. 2NAMOR 1:20, NIV

Answer: creation, invisible, eternal, divine, clearly, understood, people, Romans



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

### From Our Church Bulletin:

Candy Bauer, Charles Blankenship, Jay Buente, Ron Cordes, Susie Clutter, 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

### Bourbonnais Grove

Mary Krieg

### At Home

Pearl Evans

### Courtyard Estates of Herscher

Marjorie Kersch  
Randy Riegel

### At College

Gretchen Brinkman

Mary Grace Brinkman

Becca Coffman

Jenna Kenning

Nickolas Kirchner

Kylie & Kamden Lockwood

Isabell Lowey

### Manteno Veterans

Bob Grob

### Heritage Woods

Vi Morse

### 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 bonfieldgp@gmail.com.

**Why do we light candles during Worship?** When you bring the light (fire) into the place where people are gathering to worship, and when you light the candles, you are reminding the people that God is with us at home, at school, and at work, as well as in the worship service; lighted candles also remind us that Jesus Christ is the light of the world.



Acolytes: Lucy Raymond & Lucy Spinale

+Christian Symbol+

### **Coins**

The Bible often uses coins to symbolize human greed. During Holy Week, 30 silver coins — usually shown with a bag or purse — represent Jesus' betrayal by his disciple Judas (Matthew 26:14-16). Many of Jesus' teachings are about money, including the parable of the lost coin. Coins also symbolize giving as an act of worship, just as the widow offered her last "mite" (Mark 12:41-44).



### AUGUST 2022 ATTENDANCE

	8/7	8/14	8/21	8/28
Evangelical	park	36	40	42
Grand Prairie	park	29	21	20
Total	park	65	61	62





United  
Women  
in Faith

## 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.

**Evan UWF** - The Bonfield EVAN United Women In Faith met on September 1st at Joyce Riegel's home. Carol Buente, opened the meeting with a devotional "Seek Me". Linda Meyer gave the lesson "For Everything There Is a Session"; based on Ecclesiastes 3:1-8. A discussion on the joys of this year. She talked on how we were not the same? What are some of the needs we may need in our church. Blood pressure checks or to have a nurse questions of health care. Free meals to underprivileged and elderly, we need to be open about new ideas and listen to what others say. A new season for us might have trials, but we need to focus on what God wants us to do. She closed with prayer. Roll call was taken with 7 members & 1 guest. 2 sick calls were made and many thinking of you cards sent out. Minutes were given by Dayle Seitz and were accepted. Treasures report was given by Ardis Messer. It also accepted. Joyce R. gave a reading from "Response". That the UWF is open to all women and men and that each individual unit can be made up of all people. The meeting was closed with prayer by Carol B. We enjoyed good fellowship and the homemade delights served by Joyce R. Remember to plan in our Christmas lunch on December 8th. The meeting will be held at the Herscher restaurant at 11:30. Bring a Friend with you.

Upcoming events: October meeting will be October 6 in the Upper room at 1:30pm. All are welcome! October 22 is make a difference day. With quilt tying and baby blanket making. Come out and have fellowship and a fun morning. It will start at 9 am to noon. Our thank offering will be in November. Sincerely, Dayle Seitz, Secretary

### Evan UWF Meetings

**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, 8th - UMW Christmas Party at the Herscher restaurant at 11:30am

**Sunshine Circle** - The Sunshine Circle met on Sept 15th at the church. 10 members and 3 guests were present. Cookies were baked for the pork Chop meal. A light meal was served. A meeting was led. We are making plans for our missions for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Ardis and Carol were hostesses. Devotions were led by Ardis.

### 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.
- Nov. 9 & Dec. 14 ~Kim & Marilyn Ohrt





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.



What a wonderful night of praise and worship with The Rivers of Life Clergy Band! Thank you all for coming out. We hope you enjoyed it as much as we did!









**Pork Chop Drive Thru Meal:** Thank you to all of the patrons, cooks, bakers, helpers and volunteers who helped make the Pork Chop Drive Thru Meal on Saturday, September 17 at Bonfield Evan a success! The pictures on page 7 are from the event.



**Harvest Prayer:** Father, as we celebrate this season of thanksgiving, we give thanks for the blessings of food, provision and nourishment. Please grow in us a harvest for the world. Come sow a seed of hope within our souls Lord, that we might yield goodness, patience and kindness in abundance. Sow a seed of peace in our lives Lord, that we might bear the fruits of forgiveness, compassion and righteousness. Come sow a seed of love in our hearts Lord, that others would reap the blessings of family, friendship and community. May each seed of hope, peace and love grow within us into a harvest that can be feasted on by all. Amen.

**Game Time:** On Sunday, September 18th there was some friendly competition going on at Grand Prairie. We had a great time just relaxing and playing some games together. If you missed this one we hope you'll join us at the next one!







October 1 Marilyn (Monk) Pfeiffer, Amanda Hansen,  
John Filiatraut  
October 2 Nicholas Meyer, 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  
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.




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.

# OCTOBER 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2 - World Communion	3 - Journey Prayer Group at Evan at 10AM	4 - IHOP Fellowship Breakfast at 8:30AM	5	6 -Evan UWF at Evan at 1:30pm in the upper room	7	1/8
9 - Youth Group at Evan at 6:30pm - Charge Conf. at 3-5pm at Dwight UMC	10 - Journey Prayer Group at Evan at 10AM	11 - Evan NOW meeting at 6pm at Evan - Parish NOW meeting at 6:30pm at Evan	12	13	14	15
16  - Pastor on Vacation	17 - Journey Prayer Group at Evan at 10AM	18 - Newsletter Article Deadline 9AM	19 - Community Lunch at Bonfield Lions at Noon	20 - Printing the Newsletter	21	22 - Evan quilt tying at 9am - 12 in the fellowship hall
23 - Pastor on Vacation	24 - Journey Prayer Group at Evan at 10AM	25 - Fold Newsletters at Evan at 8AM	26	27	28	29
30 - Reformation Sunday	31 - Journey Prayer Group at Evan at 10AM - Happy Halloween					October is Pastor Appreciation Month



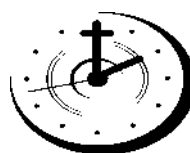


Join us for Sunday services  
online at 11am on our  
Facebook page,  
[www.facebook.com/  
bonfieldgpparish](http://www.facebook.com/bonfieldgpparish)



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.



## 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:  
October 4 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](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).



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Website - [www.  
bonfieldgrandprairie.org](http://www.bonfieldgrandprairie.org)

### 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

### 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 - 1:30PM

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Bonfield, IL 60913

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