

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



Pastor Keith is on vacation during the printing of this newsletter; his article will be back next month.



- ~ Grand Prairie:
Sunday, December 11 at 7pm
- ~ Bonfield Evangelical:
Sunday, December 18 during the
10am service
- ~ Christmas Eve: at Bonfield
Evangelical at 4pm

- ~ Advent Services:
 - Sunday, November 27
 - Sunday, December 4
 - Sunday, December 11
 - Sunday, December 18



Don't forget to "Fall Back" on
Sunday, November 6.



Hanging of the Greens

Both on Saturday, November 26

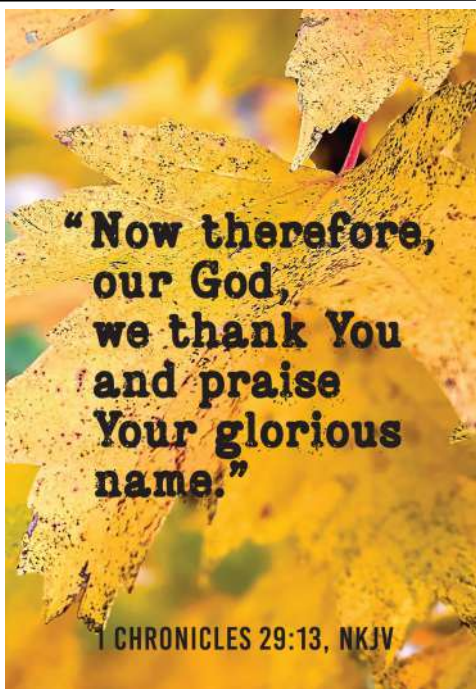
Grand Prairie: at 8am

Evan: at 9am



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The Family of Reuben Riegel is grateful to the Evangelical UWF for the memorial gift sent to UWF's missions fund in his memory. It means a lot that he is remembered by the church that meant so much to him.

November Memory Verse

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."
~ 1 Thessalonians 5:18

Bible Quiz

Which of the following is not called a "fruit of the Spirit" — but probably could be?

- A. love
- B. faithfulness
- C. self-control
- D. gratitude
- E. gentleness



Answer: D (See Galatians 5:22-23.)

Puzzle!

Although the Bible doesn't mention turkey feasts, the gospels do describe a miracle dinner that made thousands of hungry people thankful (see Matthew 14:13-21). Fill in the words to complete a poem about that meal.

Hint: Each pair of line endings should rhyme.



ate	faces	quest	then
began	late	ran	ton
bunch	lunch	rest	true
done	men	spaces	you

Jesus was tired and went to find _____.
So away from the crowd he started his _____.
It came to an end before it _____.
The crowd followed Jesus; they walked and they _____.
His boat pulled ashore, and he looked at their _____.
Five thousand men, plus families, filled all open _____.
And so Jesus spoke, and he taught until _____.
The disciples told him it was time they all _____.
Jesus said, "Yes, that is certainly _____.
And feeding this crowd is now up to _____."
Feeding five thousand! It could not be _____.
What would they do? They'd need a whole _____.
But then a young boy came and offered his _____.
Five loaves and two fish to feed this big _____?
Jesus gave thanks and blessed it and _____ ...
it fed all the women, the children and _____.

Answer: rest, quest, began, ran, faces, spaces, late, ate, true, you, done, ton, lunch, bunch, then, men



A veteran's service:

American hero Eddie Rickenbacker (1890-1973) led a life of daring and risk, from racing cars as a teen to piloting warplanes. Throughout his experiences, Rickenbacker grew in faith while discovering that "life had no meaning except in terms of helping others."

In the first issue of *Guideposts* magazine, Rickenbacker described spending four agonizing months of 1941 in the hospital after an accident. While recovering, he pondered life and death, concluding that he couldn't give up because he still "had work to do, others to serve."

Less than two years later, that ordeal came in handy. After crashing in the South Pacific, Rickenbacker and "seven other starving men" were adrift on a raft for 21 days. Most were "so young they needed the strength and understanding of a man who had been down in the valley of the shadow, who had suffered and made sense out of his suffering," he said. "It was clear to me that God had a purpose in keeping me alive. ... I had been saved to serve."

YOUR GIVING MATTERS!

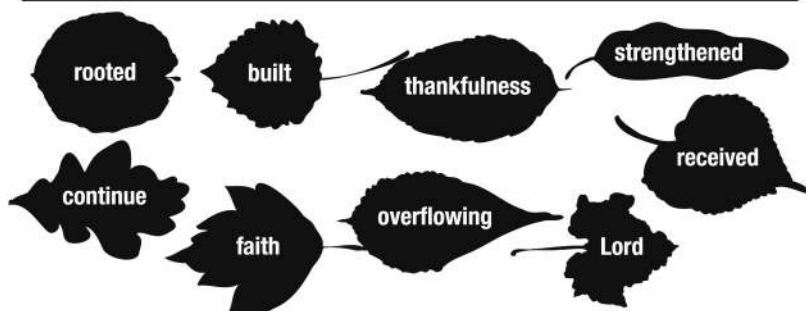
Offerings can be mailed to:
PO Box 66 Bonfield, IL
60913 and they will be
given to the church
designated on the envelope or offerings can be
dropped off at the Parish office during business
hours. We appreciate your gifts and
tithes during this unprecedented time.



Piles of praise

Every autumn, the ground is overflowing with leaves.
What does Paul encourage us to overflow with?

Directions: Use the key to match the leaves and complete the Bible passage.



So then, just as you _____ Christ Jesus as _____,

_____ to live your lives in him, _____ and

_____ up in him, _____ in the _____ as you

were taught, and _____ with _____.

COLOSSIANS 2:6-7, NIV



Answer: received, Lord, continue, rooted, built, strengthened, faith, overflowing, thankfulness



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, 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

Manteno Veterans

Mary Grace Brinkman Bob Grob

Becca Coffman

Jenna Kenning

Heritage Woods

Nickolas Kirchner Vi Morse

Kylie & Kamden Lockwood

Isabell Lowey

Compassion International Kids

Ebenezer Forson.....Ghana
Melany Samantha.....Aguilera
Sonaton Soren.....Bangladesh
Janny Boya.....Ecuador
Witney Juarez.....Guatemala
Janny Boya.....Ecuador
Lucky Hubiagbe.....Ghana

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.



Thankful for the saints

In our day of Thanksgiving one psalm let us offer for the saints who before us have found their reward. When the shadow of death fell upon them, we sorrowed, but now we rejoice that they rest in the Lord.

...

These stones that have echoed their praises are holy, and dear is the ground where their feet have once trod. Yet here they confessed they were strangers and pilgrims, and still they were seeking the city of God.

—William H. Draper (1916)



+Christian Symbol+

TRUMPET

In the Old Testament, trumpets, often made from ram's horns, called people to worship or war (and often promised victory). Joshua and the Israelites used trumpets to fell the walls of Jericho. Under Gideon, the small Israelite army blew trumpets and smashed jars to confuse the Midianites into surrender. The New Testament says trumpets will sound at the Last Judgment and the resurrection of the dead. In Revelation 11, a seventh trumpet proclaims God's final and complete triumph.



SEPTEMBER 2022 ATTENDANCE

	9/4	9/11	9/18	9/25
Evangelical	26	37	38	41
Grand Prairie	23	25	25	20
Total	49	62	63	61



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 United Women of Faith met on October 6, 2022 at The Bonfield United Methodist Church in the upper room. There were 7 members present who made 14 visitations and send many thinking of you cards. The meeting was open with a devotional on Forgiveness based on Matthew 5:16. Jesus is the light of the world and we as His followers need to remember that anger breeds bitterness and we need to follow Jesus example by forgiving others and letting His light shine through us. The lesson was given by Dayle Seitz "Am I staying useful for the Lord". We talked about the turmoil in the world today and our role as mature Christians is. To be faithful daily we need to follow 10 guidelines given to us by Jesus. We need to learn new things, we need to love God and our neighbors, we need to laugh, we need to leave our cares on God, we need to keep longing, we need to look ahead, we need to look our best, we need to keep laboring, we need to lean on Him that saved us and the most important is to listen to GOD! Verses Deut. 6:5, 1Peter 5:7. Closing in prayer Christine Meyer talked about Debbie Void a Deaconess working with youth in Mount Eagle. We need to pray for her. Joyce Riegel read from Response. We partner with other women in charity and justice. Faith as small as a mustard seed can grown into world wide people of Faith The Secretary's report was given by Dayle Seitz and it was accepted as read. The treasurers report was given by Ardis Messer and accepted as read. We made \$624.68 on the pork chop dinner. We gave Cunningham Children's Home \$50.00 and Lessie Bates \$50.00. The meeting was closed with prayer and Diane Well served a fall favorite pumpkin squares and maple sugar cookies.

Upcoming: Make a Difference Day on October 22, 9:00am to 12:00pm. Anyone can come will tie quilts and make baby blankets for Lessie Bates. Next meeting will be November 3, in EVAN's upper room at 1:30pm. All are welcome Thanksgiving service November 13 at 4:00 pm with a thank offering for United Women In Faith

Evan UWF Meetings

November : 3rd - EVAN UWF Meeting at 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



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

A good contagion:

Thanksgiving is key in Christian prayer, but often our requests outweigh our thanks. By contrast, 85% of prayers in the Jewish prayerbook are blessings of thanks, according to Rabbi Evan Moffic. Noting that the Hebrew word for a Jewish person — *Yehudah* — means “one who is grateful,” he states, “Gratitude is at the core of how Jews pray.”

Someone once asked Moffic if he might know about a blessing he’d overheard at a restaurant. After a man proposed to his girlfriend and she said yes, he walked quietly to a corner, put on a yarmulke (a sacred Jewish head covering worn in prayer) and spoke a blessing. His fiancé teared up. The rabbi said the prayer was surely this: “Blessed are you, O God, sovereign of the universe, for giving us life, for sustaining us and for enabling us to reach this joy-filled moment.” Why was this person so interested? “I am planning to propose to my girlfriend,” he shared with Moffic, “and I want to say this prayer with her.” Unbeknown to the newly engaged pair, their gratitude transformed another couple’s life. When we give thanks to God, not only is our faith strengthened but our thanksgiving may inspire others. Gratitude is contagious!

—Heidi Hyland Mann

**Gratitude galore:**

If you’ve ever kept a gratitude journal, you know they’re fairly easy to fill. Edward King, an English bishop known for working with the poor, may not have had a fancy journal. But these words evoke such a list: “I will thank God ... for the glory of the thunder, for the mystery of music, the singing of birds and the laughter of children. ... for the awe of the sunset, the beauty of flowers, the smile of friendship and the look of love ... for the leaves on the trees in spring and autumn, for the witness of the leafless trees through the winter, teaching us that death is sleep and not destruction, for the sweetness of flowers and the scent of hay. Truly, oh Lord, the earth is full of thy riches!”

King concludes: “And yet how much more I will thank and praise God for the strength of my body enabling me to work, for the refreshment of sleep, for my daily bread, for the days of painless health, for the gift of my mind and the gift of my conscience, for his loving guidance of my mind ever since it first began to think, and of my heart ever since it first began to love.”

The journey begins at Advent: When Advent begins on November 27 this year, so does a new church year for liturgical congregations. The church seasons, which correspond to key events in Jesus’ life, begin with the four-week Advent period of preparation for our coming Savior at Christmas. After the 12-day season of Christmas is Epiphany, which begins January 6 and continues through Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent. That period of preparation culminates in Holy Week, and then Easter marks the pinnacle of every church year. Forty days after the Resurrection we celebrate Ascension, and 10 days after that, the Pentecost season begins; it lasts until Advent, when the cycle begins again.



“Like a great waterwheel,” writes Joan Chittister, “the liturgical year goes on relentlessly irrigating our souls, softening the ground of our hearts, nourishing the soil of our lives until the seed of the Word of God itself begins to grow in us, comes to fruit in us, ripens in us the spiritual journey of a lifetime.”



November 1 Taylor Heath, Ron Jensen
 Betsy (Butler) Meyer, Allen Messer
 November 2 Pastor Mel Nielsen, Nicholes Davis,
 Cindy (Rieke) Colston, Larrin J. Nottke,
 Betty (Nepras) Diefenbach
 November 3 Scott Morse, Christi Young
 November 4 Andrea Wilson, Patricia Smith,
 Steven Hoffman, Hunter Michell
 November 5 Abigale Berns, Scott Hansen,
 Kristen Voigt
 November 6 Chuck Meyer-Marrietta,
 Marion (Kirchner) Wenzelman
 November 7 Jonathan Overacker,
 Benjamin Diefenbach, Jack H. Machaj
 November 8 Gertie (Schumaker) Buente,
 Stuart Kuipers, Madelyn Kuipers
 November 9 Dennis Wilson, Connor Lowey,
 Chad Hertz, Tom Grant
 November 10 Chuck Bradford, Cheryl (Dahn) Weber,
 Karen Noxon
 November 11 John Cross, Lyle Meyer, Craig Hansen,
 Rhonda Dahn, Cru Sikes
 November 12 Wendy (Metzka) Pastorel, Clay Melhorn
 November 13 Roger Boyer, Kevin Kirchner,
 Monique (Bardou-welch) Brunner
 November 15 Paula (Riegel) Pangle, Randy Mau
 November 16 Amanda Sue Wulff, Pearl (Batdorf)
 Evans, Doris Williamson, Rae Anna Buente
 November 17 Kai Tapp
 November 19 Hailey Charter, Sunshine Powell,
 Cheryl Young
 November 20 Cathy (Rivard) Messer
 November 21 Andrea Werner, Andrew Ward
 November 22 Marjorie Kersch
 November 25 Allison Hansen, Brandon Charter,
 Beth Davis, Tina (Shreffler) Wells
 November 27 Stacey Bonnell
 November 30 Gary Orwig, Matthew Willibey

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

Our disarming God: We want the war horse.
 Jesus rides a donkey.
 We want the eagle. The Holy Spirit descends as
 a dove.
 We want to take up swords. Jesus takes up a
 cross.
 We want the roaring lion. God comes as a
 slaughtered lamb.
 We keep trying to arm God. God keeps trying to
 disarm us.
 —Rev. Benjamin Cremer (via Twitter)





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.

NOVEMBER 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 - All Saints Day - IHOP Fellowship Breakfast at 8:30AM	2	3 -Evan UWF at Evan at 1:30pm in the upper room	4	5
6 - All Saints Sunday Special Service - Daylight Saving Time Ends	7 - Journey Prayer Group at Evan at 10AM	8 - Ad Board at Grand Prairie at 7pm	9	10	11 	12
13 - Community Thanksgiving Service at Evan at 4pm	14 - Journey Prayer Group at Evan at 10AM	15 - Newsletter Article Deadline 9AM	16	17 - Printing the Newsletter	18	19
20 - Christ the King Sunday	21 - Journey Prayer Group at Evan at 10AM	22	23	24 	25	26 - Hanging of the Greens: Grand Prairie at 8am & Evan at 9am
27 - First Sunday of Advent - Lectionary Year A	28 - Journey Prayer Group at Evan at 10AM	29 -Fold Newsletters at Evan at 8AM	30			



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

"Thankfulness is a soil in which pride does not
easily grow."

—Michael Ramsey

* * *

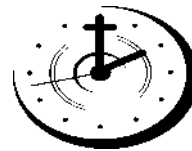
"I can't be a Christian on my own. I need a
community. I need the church."

—Rachel Held Evans

* * *

"When it comes to life, the critical thing is
whether you take things for granted or take them
with gratitude."

—G.K. Chesterton



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:
November 1 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



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bonfieldgpparish](https://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
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Bonfield, IL 60913

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Bonfield Box Holder

Bonfield, IL 60913

COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE

Hosted by the Bonfield-Grand Prairie UMC Parish



**Sunday, November 13, 2022 at 4:00pm
at Bonfield Evangelical UM Church**

At 348 E Smith St. Bonfield, IL 60913

Speaker: Pastor Kevin Boesen

Pastor of Herscher UMC, Reddick UMC & South Wilmington UMC

EVERYONE WELCOME!

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

