

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



What a joy it has been for me to see pictures and hear about the recent graduations. From Eighth grade to high school and colleges/universities, there have been many with ties to members of each church who are taking the next step in life. Some are ready to take their next step, some think they are ready while others might be afraid of their next step. Parents, grandparents and other family members as well as friends can offer advice, but will it be received? For those who are at this stage of life, I offer something simple. FROG (Fully Rely On God). When I was at that point of life, I wish this would have been shared with me. Over the decades since I was at that age, I've been taught how important these four letters are.

Located in this month's newsletter you will find information on Vacation Bible School. We are in need of kids to be a part of this, but we also are in need of volunteers to help make this successful. Please check out the information to find out how to register. We have other events coming up during this summer, look throughout this newsletter to find out more information.

I would like to take the time to thank everyone who reached out to wish me a happy birthday! Whether it was speaking to me, sending me a card or giving me a gift, I am humbled as I get closer to being Medicare eligible. I have said it before, but I will say it again, God blessed me by calling me to Bonfield to serve Him and everyone here. It is hard to believe I am completing my fourth year as your Pastor.

Finally, I appreciate every one of you who has helped me through what thus far has been a challenging year personally. From the passing of my Father, to dealing with the health issues I have, I feel the love from everyone in this Parish. My prayers for everyone in this area continue daily. If you are reading this newsletter and you don't currently have a church home, please come to a service at either church in the Parish. You will be warmly greeted, and you will hear about the love God has for all of His children.

God Bless everyone and please remember to Love Like Jesus!

Blessings,
Pastor Keith



Save the Date:

Join us on Sunday, August 6
at Bonfield Quarry Park for
a parish service.

Bonfield Lions Club on June 17, 2023 in co-operation with the Bonfield

Celebration - Serving breakfast from 7am - 9am: biscuits & gravy \$5,
two biscuits smothered in gravy served with coffee, orange juice or milk.
Lunch served 10am - ???: pork burgers, brats & hotdogs served with chips,
cookies and soda or water.

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Put your tractor in gear...



Harley Buente's 80th Birthday

is almost here!

Sunday
July
23

Dessert Open House
1 - 4:00pm
Bonfield Lions Club
148 Stanford St
Bonfield, IL 60913

RSVP via text to Kris Van Doren
815-955-6958

June Memory Verse

Therefore my heart is glad, and my glory
rejoices; My flesh also will rest in hope.

Psalms 16:9

Bible Quiz

What does God compare to rain "watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater"?

- A. The justice of the nations
- B. The work of God's people
- C. The message of Isaiah the prophet
- D. God's word

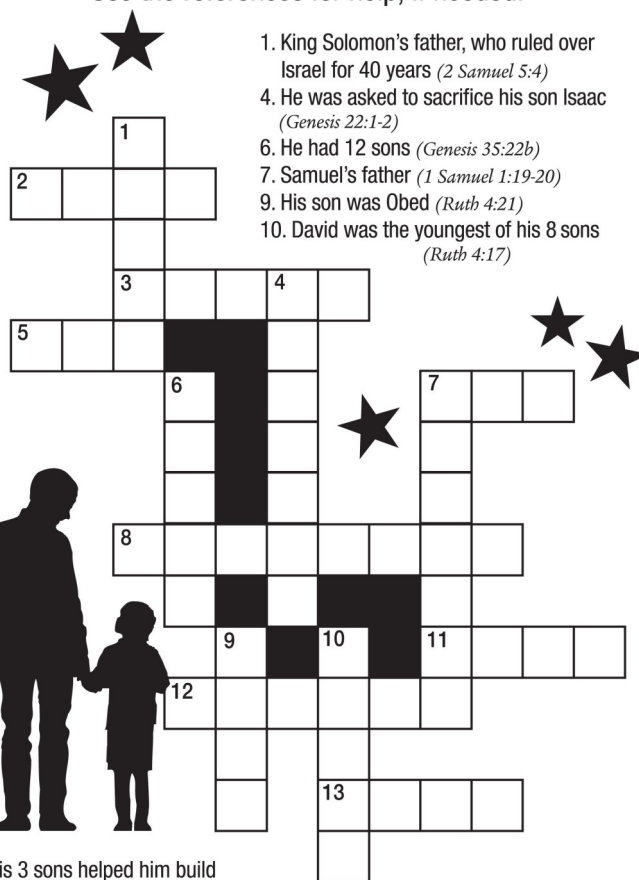


Answer: D (See Isaiah 55:10-11, NIV.)

SUMMER CHURCH
Join us every Sunday

Puzzle!

Complete this crossword with names of biblical fathers.
Use the references for help, if needed.



1. King Solomon's father, who ruled over Israel for 40 years (2 Samuel 5:4)
4. He was asked to sacrifice his son Isaac (Genesis 22:1-2)
6. He had 12 sons (Genesis 35:22b)
7. Samuel's father (1 Samuel 1:19-20)
9. His son was Obed (Ruth 4:21)
10. David was the youngest of his 8 sons (Ruth 4:17)
2. His 3 sons helped him build an ark (Genesis 6:10)
3. His youngest son, Jacob, tricked him into giving away a birthright (Genesis 27:30)
5. The Father of our Lord (Ephesians 1:3)
7. His sons were not like Samuel; they were wicked (1 Samuel 2:12)
8. David's best friend and the father of Mephibosheth (2 Samuel 9:6)
11. Father of Cain, Abel and Seth (Genesis 4:25)
12. He was married to Mary, mother of Jesus (Matthew 1:20-21)
13. Father of Jonathan; Israel chose him as their first king (2 Samuel 9:6)

Answer: DOWN 1. David, 4. Abraham, 6. Jacob, 7. Elkanah, 9. Boaz, 10. Jesse, ACROSS 2. Noah, 3. Isaac, 5. God, 7. Eli,

8. Jonathan, 11. Adam, 12. Joseph, 13. Saul



VBS will be held on July 10, 11, and 12. Watch the newsletter and FB as well as the bulletin for further information.

Seasonal humor

For summer weddings:

- The wedding was so beautiful, even the cake was in tiers.
- Did you hear about the two spiders who got engaged? They met on the web.
- Two cell phones got married. The reception was terrific!
- Why did the King of Hearts and the Queen of Hearts get married? They were perfectly suited.

For baseball season:

- I wondered why the baseball kept getting bigger and bigger. Then it hit me.
- What did the baseball glove say to the ball? "Catch ya later!"
- Why are frogs good baseball players? Because they're good at catching flies.
- Why did Cinderella get kicked off the baseball team? She ran away from the ball.

And for Father's Day, some dad jokes:

- My dream job is to clean mirrors because I can really see myself doing that.
- We're renovating the house. The first floor is going great, but the second floor is another story.

Calling All Cancer Survivors...

WE WANT TO CELEBRATE YOU!

Register to join us at the Relay For Life of Kankakee County on June 10, 2023 @ 2 pm @ Bishop McNamara High School. All registered Survivors will receive a FREE survivor t-shirt mailed directly to their homes. More fun is planned, too. You must register online (www.relayforlife.org/kankakeeil) or call 1-800-227-2345 and select option 4. All Survivors must register every year.



JESUS' FAMILY TREE

Matthew records a timeline of Jesus' family dating back to Abraham.
Do you know who is in Jesus' family tree?

Directions: Use Matthew 1:1-17 to order the genealogy. Then put the letters in order in the boxes to answer the question below.

T. Uziah the father of Jotham
O. Jacob the father of Judah
N. Jacob the father of Joseph
E. Elihud the father of Eleazar
U. Boaz the father of Obed
F. Abraham the father of Isaac
R. Solomon the father of Rehoboam
E. Josiah the father of Jeconiah



How many generations were there from Abraham to David, from David to the Exile, and from the Exile to Jesus, the Messiah?

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8



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



Pastor's Vacation:

Wednesday, June 21-Tuesday, July 4

From Our Church Bulletin:

Candy Bauer, Jay Buente, Ron Cordes, Benny Cruse, Virginia Dittus, Gale Jensen, Marjorie Kersch, Sharon Lowey, Maggie Maxwell (Bob Nichols' sister), Allen Messer, Sunshine Powell, Dorothy Riegel, Stan Stone, & Ronald Wildman.

Arden Courts

Mel Brinkman

Miller

Mary Krieg

Heritage Woods

Vi Morse

Courtyard Estate of Herscher

Marjorie Kersch
Randy Riegel

At College

Mary Grace Brinkman
Jenna Kenning
Isabell Lowey
Kamden Lockwood

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.

The engine of marriage

Being in love is a good thing, but it is not the best thing. Love is a deep unity, maintained by the will and deliberately strengthened by habit; reinforced by the grace which both partners ask and receive from God. On this love the engine of marriage is run; being in love was the explosion that started it.

—C.S. Lewis

Today I will choose love.
Tomorrow I will choose love.
And the day after that,
I will choose love.
If I mistakenly choose
distraction,
perfection,
or negativity
over love,
I will not wallow in regret.

I will choose love
until it becomes who I am.
—Rachel Macy Stafford

www.handsfreemama.com

#handsfreelife

+Christian Symbol+



EYE OF GOD — This symbol represents our “all-seeing” God, who is present everywhere and is always watching over us. (“The eyes of the Lord are in every place,” Proverbs 15:3, NRSV.) The eye is inside an equilateral triangle, which is associated with the Holy Trinity.

APRIL 2023 ATTENDANCE

	4/2	4/9	4/16	4/23	4/30
Evangelical	52	59	31	40	45
Grand Prairie	23	27	15	22	15
Total	75	86	46	62	60



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.

Sunshine Circle - The meeting was hosted by Jan Green April 20, 2023 at her home with nine members present. Blessing was recited by Jan before the meal of soup, salad and sandwiches, Strawberry Angel food cake and celebration punch. Roll call was taken and minutes were read and approved. Tulips were delivered at Easter time. Donna reported, with a thankful heart, that many hands filled 2000 Easter eggs. Next month at least 5 members will be absent for various reasons, so the unanimous vote was to forego the "May" meeting. Kim will host our "dinner out" meeting in June, location TBA. A motion was passed to donate \$100.00 to the Midwest Distribution Mission. Community Outreach projects were also discussed. The date has been confirmed! The Drive-Thru Pork Chop dinner will be Sat. Sept. 23, 2023 More to come! Lastly, devotions... " Lets Celebrate " was the theme! John 11:25-26- Jesus is Risen!! Alleluia! Song of Solomon 2:12 - All is well. Isaiah 66:13 - Bless Mothers everywhere. Meeting Adjourned. Go in peace & celebrate!



Martha Circle

July 12 - Hostess Becky C.

September 13 - Hostess Jenny C. & Joyce C.

November 8 - Hostess Tricia C.

December 13 - Hostess Kim O. & Marilyn O.

- 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.



Grand Prairie UWF - The Grand Prairie United Women of Faith met at the home of Janet Boyer with 9 members present. A delicious meal was prepared by Janet and Rita Overacker. The Secretary and Treasurer reports were given. Donations for Operation Christmas Child are going very well. Grand Prairie is chair for Vacation Bible School this summer. Dates will be July 10, 11, 12, from 6:00-8:00PM, at Grand Prairie Church. There will be a Parish VBS planning meeting at Grand Prairie Church on May 31 at 6:00 PM. Several members will be volunteering at Midwest Mission Distribution on July 25. The group is planning a trip to the Shrine of Christ Passion in St. John, IN on June 16. We will leave from the church at 8:00 AM. Janet closed with devotion. Our next meeting will be rescheduled in July due to VBS. Watch for announcements. Everyone is welcome to attend our events, you need not be a member to participate!

Cindy Erdmann, Secretary

United Women of Faith of the Parish

Evan UWF – The Bonfield United Evangelical UWF met on May 4th in the Upper room for our May Breakfast. There were 9 members and 5 guests present. A devotion was given by Carol Buente. The Breakfast was served by the officers. The speaker was Jesse from Living Alternatives Pregnancy resources Center in Kankakee. They present alternatives to women who are contemplating abortion. In 2021 they had 1,900 visits an increase of 40 % and they feel that this year it will increase. They also have services dealing with pregnancy and if they have had an abortion they can receive ways to deal with the pain. They have curbside care, giving supplies once a month such as diapers, baby formula, baby clothing and other needs. They also provide a retreat for women and men who need therapy after an abortion or loss is a child before birth. They provide counseling and non-judgmental support. They have no federal support, they rely on donations and a fun raiser. All advertising is word of mouth. Fathers are given education on, Birth control. In the Kankakee center no abortions are carried out just compassionate support. You can contact them at www.pregnancyresoucecenter.org. Kankakee number (815) 933-2207. All services are free and confidential.



Just like Dad

At the beginning of his ministry career, Jerry Steen supplemented his income by mixing animal feed. When his two young boys greeted him at home, they laughed at his dusty appearance before he headed to the shower.

“I didn’t think too much of this until I was washing my car and saw my older son doing something very strange,” Steen recalls. “He was picking up the gravel and stones in our drive and rubbing them into his pants.” Curious, the father asked what the boy was doing. “I want to be dusty like you, Dad!” his son replied.

For Steen, that was an eye-opener. “I realized that if a child would look up to his father for being dusty and want to copy his father,” he says, “a child could look up to his father and follow him for anything.” What traits and qualities are you modeling and passing on — to your own kids and to anyone else who looks up to you?

HAPPY FATHER’S DAY!

All God’s children

On the basis of the eternal will of God, we have to think of *every human being*, even the oddest, most villainous or miserable, as one to whom Jesus Christ is Brother and God is Father; and we have to deal with him on this assumption. If the other person knows that already, then we have to strengthen him in the knowledge. If he does not know it yet or no longer knows it, our business is to transmit this knowledge to him.

On the basis of the knowledge of the humanity of God, no other attitude to any kind of fellow man is possible. It is identical with the practical acknowledgment of his human rights and his human dignity. To deny it to him would be for us to renounce having Jesus Christ as Brother and God as Father.

—Karl Barth, *The Humanity of God*



JUNE BIRTHDAYS

June 1 Eric Raymond, Diane (Dittus) Lawrence
 June 2 Laura Gronert, Dana Dittus, Deanndra Dittus
 June 4 Logan Gronert
 June 5 Alyssa Williams, Christine (Meissen) Lade
 June 7 Rita (Wildman) Overacker, Mark Ouellette,
 Justin Vaughn
 June 8 Timothy Holohan, Marcia (Riegel) Jackson,
 Michael Panozzo, Randy Charter
 June 10 Kyle Buente, Peyton Riegel
 June 11 Alan Buckley, Zachary Jensen,
 Denise (O'Connor) Fecke, Jen Spinale
 June 12 Jared Sikes
 June 14 Rick White, James Messer, Jimmy Vilt, Jr.,
 Sarah Meyer, David St. Germaine,
 Lucy Spinale
 June 15 Beth (Faga) Meyer
 June 16 Burt Taylor, Somar Powell,
 Ceri Dorsey-Tyler, Ryan Coffman
 June 17 Leigh Ann (Gagnon) Turro, Lee Ann Kenley,
 Logan Kuipers
 June 19 Annette (Abell) Riegel, Tami Lockwood,
 Michael Kingsland
 June 20 Ruth (Piper) Laird, Mary Katherine Buckman,
 Isabelle Lowey
 June 22 Vanessa Longtin
 June 23 Emmery Rice
 June 24 Paige Meyer, Bryce Overacker
 June 25 Susan (Abell) Diefenbach
 June 26 David Wilson
 June 27 Dale Dittus, Patterson Friese
 June 28 Eric Hawks, Mark Reising, Debbie Nielsen
 June 29 Mike Bland, Lori (Hertz-Kirchner) Marquis
 June 30 Ann Meyer, Mary (Warren) Krieg,
 Derek Brinkman

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



Veterans Cards: The signing of Memorial Day cards in May went well and the cards were given to the veterans. Thank you to all those who came to sign cards. We are collecting Thank You cards for the Veteran's. Manteno Veteran's Home now has 202 veterans. Any questions contact Janet Boyer.








Join us for a Community 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).

JUNE 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 - Evan UWF at Evan at 1:30pm	2	3
4  PEACE WITH JUSTICE Sunday	5 - Journey Prayer Group at Evan at 10AM	6 - IHOP Fellowship Breakfast at 8:30AM	7	8	9	10
11 - Holy Communion - Heritage Sunday	12 - Journey Prayer Group at Evan at 10AM	13 - Evan NOW Meeting at Evan at 6pm - Parish NOW Meeting at Evan at 6:30pm	14 	15 - Sunshine Circle at 6:30pm	16 - Martha Circle trip to Shrine of Christ's Passion	17
18 	19 - Journey Prayer Group at Evan at 10AM 	20 - Newsletter Article Deadline 9AM	21 	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](https://www.facebook.com/bonfieldgpparish)

“Rest is not idle, is not wasteful. Sometimes rest is the most productive thing you can do for body and soul.” —Erica Layne

* * *

“The beginning of love is the will to let those we love be perfectly themselves, the resolution not to twist them to fit our own image.” —Thomas Merton

* * *

“Earn your success based on service to others, not at the expense of others.” —H. Jackson Brown Jr.

* * *

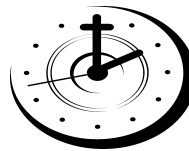
“The [person] who moves a mountain begins by carrying away small stones.” —Confucius

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:
June 6 at 8:30am. The group orders from the regular menu.



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



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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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

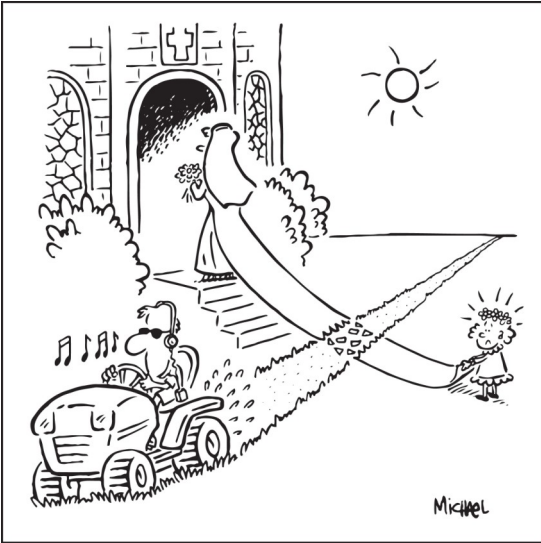
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HAPPY
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DAY