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



From
Sastor's
Desk

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. John 3:16-17 NIV

This is a simple Scripture passage, but also one of the powerful and recognizable readings in the Bible in my opinion. In the times of my life when I have needed God's help the most, this Scripture is where I turn to.

This month I want to share something else with you. According to Wikipedia, in 1762 Mary Bacon wrote a story in "Mary Bacon's World, a farmer's wife in eighteenth-century Hampshire", titled "A Deck of Cards". Fast forward to 1948, when David Myrick, better known by his performing name T. Texas Tyler wrote the spoken song of the same name. The song was set in World War II, telling the story of a soldier who arrived in a camp in Northern Africa after a six-day march. He went to a worship service and had no Bible with him, so he spread out a deck of cards he carried. He was arrested and brought before a Provost Marshall where he explained his story about why he spread the cards out during the worship service. With permission I want to share this part of the song with you:

"When I look at the ace in my deck of

Cards, it reminds me that there is but one God,

And the deuce,

Tells me that Bible is divided into

Two parts, the Old and the New Testament.

When I see the Trey, I think of father, the son and the holy ghost.

And when I look at the four,

I think of four evangelists who preached the gospel.

There were Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.

And when I see the five,

It reminds me of the five wise virgins, who trimmed their lamp,

There were ten of them,

Five were wise and were saved, five were foolish and were shut out.

When I look at the six, I know that in six days,

God made this great heaven and earth.

And the seven, tells me that on the seventh day,

He rested from his great work,

And called it holy.

And when I see the eight, I think of the eight righteous person,

God saved when he destroyed this earth.

There were none Noah, his wife their three sons and their wives.

And when I see the nine, I think of the lepers our Savior cleansed,

And nine of the ten, didn't even thank him.

And of course when I see the ten,

I always remembered the ten commandments,

The ten commandments that God handed

Down to Moses on a tablets of stone.

When I see the King Sir, I know there is but one King of heaven.

God the Almighty.

And when I see the Queen, I think of the blessed virgin Mary,

The Queen of heaven,

And the jack of knaves is the devil.

*Continued on page 2



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When I count the spots in a deck of cards, I find 365, the number of days in a year.

There are 52 cards, the number of weeks in a year. There are thirteen tricks, the number of weeks in a quarter.

There a four suits, the number of weeks in a month. And twelve picture cards, the number of months in a year."

I share this because on June 21, 1995, I reached one of the lowest points in my life. While picking up a load to haul as an over-the-road truck driver near Cincinnati, OH I was told to call home. That's when I was told that my 3-year-old son Jesse was found dead in my home.

On my way home to prepare for his funeral, a version of this song played on the radio. A few months after the funeral and burial, I had a 24-hour layover before picking up a load. I didn't have my Bible with me, but this song came to my mind. I had a deck of cards I played solitaire with (before the days of internet), and I spent some of my down time looking at these cards and remembering what the song taught me. In the nearly 30 years since, I occasionally pull out a deck of cards just as a reminder, along with the Scripture at the beginning of this message.

May you remember this if you ever have a time with no Bible and need God's presence.

Blessings, Pastor Keith

October Memory Verse

The LORD will indeed give what is good, and our land will yield its harvest. - Psalm 85:12

?? Bible Quiz ???

Not long before Jesus' arrest, he said: "I did not come to _____ the world, but to _____ the world." Fill in the blanks.

- A. judge; save
- B. hate; love
- C. condemn; teach
- D. disrupt; conform to



Puzzle!

Use the clues to discover the names of some Old Testament prophets.

Then unscramble the circled letters to describe what prophets are.

I was called to preach to the people of Nineveh but ran from God instead. (My book is #32 in the Bible.)



I spoke God's message when the temple was being built. (My book is #37.)



Israel's unfaithfulness to God is compared to my unfaithful wife. (My book is #28.)



My book predicts punishment for wickedness and promises comfort. (It is #23.)



I had dreams and visions. (My book is #27.)



Because of my predictions, I was often in danger and angered officials. (My book is #24.)



I was a shepherd from Judah who called people to turn to God and leave their selfish lives. (My book is #30.)



My book contains descriptions of strange visions. (It is #26.)



PROPHETS ARE

Ezekiel; Messengers

Answer: A (See John 12:47, MIV.)

Answers: Jonah, Haggai, Hosea, Isaiah, Daniel, Jeremiah, Amos,



90th Birthday Open House Party for Allen Messer

Saturday, October 28 1-4pm at Bonfield Evangelical in the fellowship hall

No gifts are needed, your fellowship is present enough.



An important part of missions is prayerfully supporting the church. Use this activity to guide your family's prayer time.

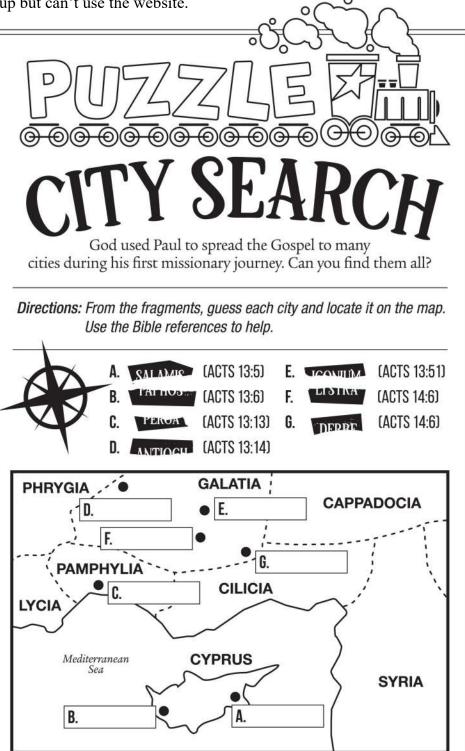
What you need:

- Plastic bag (large zippered)
- Permanent marker
- Bandage
- Toy plane
- Heart-shaped drawing or toy
- Spoon
- Coin
- · Hot-sauce packet

What you do:

- Label the bag with details about the missionaries you'll be praying for (names, location, specific needs).
- Add small prayer-prompt objects to guide your prayer time (bandage = health, plane = travel, heart = relationships, spoon = cultural connection, coin = finances, hot sauce = boldness).
- Include other objects that will prompt prayer for missionaries' specific needs.
- Place the bag where it will remind your family to pray regularly.

Sleep in Heavenly Peace: On October 14th at Grace UMC in Bourbonnais there will be an event to build beds. To sign up to be a part of the event there is an online link www.bit.ly/shpevent follow the prompts for United States, Illinois, Kankakee, Community Church Bed Build. Please contact the parish office if you would like to sign up but can't use the website.



Answers: Salamis, Paphos, Perga, Antioch, Iconium, Lystra, Derbe



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

From Our Church Bulletin: The Ricky Gaffield Family, Candy Bauer, Mel Brinkman, Jay Buente, Ron Cordes, Benny Cruse, Donna Diefenbach, Virginia Dittus, Herb Foltz, Marjorie Kersch, Maggie Maxwell (Bob Nichols' sister), Allen Messer, Marilyn Ohrt, Dave Parks, Harry Pfeiffer, Sunshine Powell, Dorothy Riegel, Stan Stone, Marion Wenzelman, Stan Wenzelman, & Ronald Wildman.

Arden Courts
Mel Brinkman

Courtyard Estate
of Herscher
Marjorie Kersch
Randy Riegel

At College

Jenna Kenning Isabell Lowey Kamden Lockwood

Heritage Woods Vi Morse

Compassion International Kids

Ghana
Aguilera
Bangladesh
Ecuador
Guatemala
Ecuador
Ghana

Do you or your family sponsor a compassion international kid? If so, please contact the office at 815-802-9805 or bonfieldgp@gmail.com.

Ponder how valuable your soul must be for Satan to tirelessly pursue it, and the King to lay down his own life for it.



Oh! how great and glorious a thing it is to have before one the Word of God! With that we may at all times feel joyous and secure; we need

never be in want of consolation, for we see before us, in all its brightness, the pure and right way. He who loses sight of the Word of God, falls into despair; the voice of heaven no longer sustains him; he follows only the disorderly tendency of his heart, and of world vanity, which lead him on to his destruction.

—The Table Talk of Martin Luther



+Christian Symbol+

the Flood, the Red Sea crossing, water springing from a rock to nourish Israelites in the wilderness, the healing of Naaman's leprosy when he washed in the Jordan River, John baptizing Jesus and, chiefly, our baptism into Christ. The water of baptism symbolizes cleansing from sin, the quenching of our spiritual thirst and God raising us from death (drowning in sin) to life everlasting. Just as we cannot live without physical water, neither can we truly live without the living water Jesus gives (see John 4:13-14).

<u> A</u> UGI	JST 20	23 A	TTEN.	DANCE.
	8/6	8/13	8/20	8/27
Evangelical	park	37	35	43
Grand Prairie	park	19	25	25
Total	park	56	60	68



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.

Martha Circle - Grand Prairie UMC – Women of Faith (Martha Circle) Meeting September 13, 2023 Our meeting was held at the home of Joyce and Jenny Cochran with a costume theme. Each attendee was to wear a costume that begins with the first letter of your name! Jenny opened the meeting with devotion at 6:00PM, followed by a prayer from Joyce. Secretary report from July 19, 2023 was given by Cindy Erdmann. Treasurer's report was given by Cheri Dayton. Greeting cards were sent to church members and friends. The UWF Fall Gathering will be Saturday, September 23, in Bloomington. The event is accepting donations to Cunningham Home and Lessie Bates Davis Neighborhood House. Grand Prairie UWF will donate to each charity. Grand Prairie will host a fall brunch after church on October 15.

NEW BUSINESS

United Methodist Women Day will be Sunday, September 17. Taylor, a speaker from Harbor House will speak to the congregation. Church service duties were assigned to UWF members. Drug Free Inc. is hosting their annual fall fundraiser on October 20 to benefit the Kankakee County Drug Court. Grand Prairie UWF will donate a basket to the raffle. Our next meeting is November 15 at Tricia Coffman's home. We will be assembling Operation Christmas Child boxes. Meeting was adjourned at 7:10 PM.

2023 Meetings: November 15 - Hostess Tricia C. December 13 - Hostess Kim O. & Marilyn O.



Sunshine Circle -

2023 Meetings: October 19 Donna Hostess, November 16 Rita, Jodi, & Lorraine Hostess, & December 21 Christmas Party (tba)



United Women in Faith of the Parish

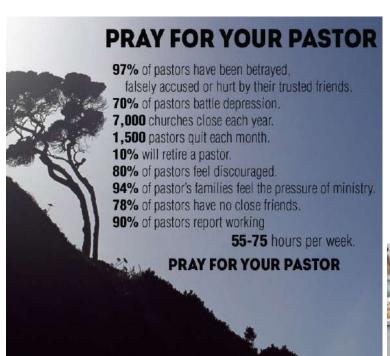
Evan UWF - 2024 Officers - President Carol Buente, Vice President Dianne Wells, Secretary Vickie Gaffield & Treasure Ardis Messer. Remember UWF welcomes anyone to our meetings. You do not need to be a member of the UMC.

The trip to Midwest distribution Center trip was cancelled due to conflicts with other activities. It will be scheduled later in the year.

Upcoming dates: District mini mission is Oct 21 at Roanoak UMC, Make a difference day is 0ct 28, Pork Chop Dinner is set for September 30.

* Do you still have gifts to buy for Christmas, or another special event in your life? Consider giving a gift in honor of this special person to Heifer International. Gifts for a heifer might be \$500 or share the amount with someone would be \$50. A flock of Chicks is \$20. Or give a gift of clean water for \$300. Garden Seeds \$60 or maybe even fish, water Buffalo, Goat, Sheep, Pig or Honeybees too. Call toll-free 877-2heifer (877-243-4337) for more help or contact the Parish office through Pastor Keith or secretary Hope 815-802-9805. *

2023 Meetings: October 5 at 1:30pm at Joyce's house, November 2 at 1:30pm in the upper room, December 14 at 11:30am at Butter & Berries





We will be doing Manteno Veterans cards Saturday, September 30 at Bonfield Evan upper room at 9:00am. We are glad for everyone who comes to help and those who take cards home to finish. Be sure and collect your 2024 calendars for the veterans. Thank you

everyone for your help with our "card" project.

The Veterans thank you also.



Bonfield Lions Club Ham Dinner

Join us for our annual ham dinner on Saturday, October 21 at 4 - 7pm at 148 S. Stanford, Bonfield, IL 60913

All proceeds benefit
Lions activities.
Cost: Adults - \$12 &
Children - \$8 age 10 & under

Salina Fireman's Breakfast

October 1st, WE ARE BACK! Sunday, October 1st is the first pancake breakfast of the season. Here's what you need to know-With increases of food, we have been forced to increase adult all you can eat plates to \$12.

Kids prices remain the same at \$8.

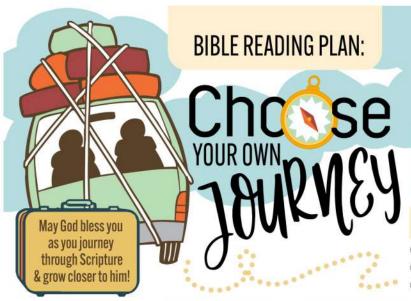
We will have all of the same food as past years -Biscuits & Gravy, Eggs, Bacon, Sausage, Pancakes, French Toast, Toast, OJ, milk, & coffee.



ALL YOU CAN EAT Breakfast at the station from 8am - 11:30am.

And as always - It's the BEST breakfast in town!







Head out on a month-long exploration through God's Word. Each day's quest comes with some options. Choose from a prayer, a parable, a gospel reading or an epistle reading. If you have more time or use this Bible Reading Plan more than once a day, read the rest of the passages too.

1. GRATITUDE

O Prayer: 1 Samuel 2:1-10

O Gospel: Luke 17:11-19

O Epistle: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

2. TRUST

OPrayer: Psalm 28:6-9

OGospel: Mark 5:21-43

3. PRAISE

- O Prayer: Exodus 15:1-18
- O Epistle: 1 Corinthians 15:54-57

4. LOVE

- O Prayer: Philippians 1:9-11
- O Gospel: Mark 12:28-33
- O Epistle: 1 John 4:7-21

5. PRAYER

- O Prayer: Matthew 6:9-13
- O Parable: Luke 18:10-14
- O Epistle: Ephesians 6:17-20

6. OBEDIENCE

- O Parable: Matthew 21:28-32
- OGospel: Luke 5:1-11

7. PATIENCE

- O Parable: James 5:7-11
- O Epistle: Romans 8:22-25

8. WISDOM

- O Prayer: 1 Kings 3:3-9
- O Parable: Matthew 7:24-27
- O Epistle: James 3:13-18

9. CALLING

- O Prayer: Isaiah 6:1-8
- O Epistle: 1 Peter 2:9-10

10. FORGIVENESS

- O Prayer: 1 Kings 8:46-53
- O Parable: Matthew 18:21-35
- O Gospel: Luke 23:32-34

11. JOY

- O Prayer: Psalm 16
- O Parable: Luke 15:1-10 O Epistle: Philippians 4:4-9
- 12. RESTORATION
- O Prayer: Psalm 51:10-19 O Gospel: John 2:19-22

13. STEWARDSHIP

- O Parable: Luke 12:16-21
- O Gospel: Luke 21:1-4
- O Epistle: 1 Timothy 6:17-19

14. HUMILITY

- O Parable: Luke 14:7-14
- O Epistle: Philippians 2:1-11

15. REFUGE

- O Prayer: Psalm 121
- O Gospel: John 17:11-19

16. MIRACLES

- O Prayer: Matthew 14:13-21
- O Gospel: Mark 9:14-24

17. FRUITFULNESS

- O Parable: Matthew 25:14-30
- O Gospel: John 15:1-8
- O Epistle: James 2:14-24

18. UNITY

- O Prayer: John 17:20-23
- O Epistle: 1 Corinthians 1:10-17

19. PROVISION

- O Prayer: Deuteronomy 28:1-14 Prayer: Isaiah 26:1-13
- O Parable: John 10:1-18
- O Gospel: Matthew 6:25-34

20. PEACE

- O Epistle: 2 Corinthians 13:11-14 O Parable: Matthew 20:1-16

21. JUSTICE

- O Prayer: 1 Kings 8:56-61

22. PERSISTENCE

- O Prayer: James 5:13-18
- O Parable: Luke 18:1-8

23. EVANGELISM

- O Prayer: Acts 4:23-31
- O Epistle: Romans 10:9-15

24. FAITHFULNESS

- O Prayer: Nehemiah 8:1-13
- O Parable: Matthew 21:18-22

25. SUFFERING

- O Prayer: Job 19:21-27
- O Epistle: 2 Corinthians 12:7-10

26. GROWTH

- O Prayer: Colossians 1:9-14
- O Parable: Mark 4:26-29

27. MERCY

- O Parable: Luke 10:30-37
- O Epistle: Hebrews 4:14-16

28. SALVATION

- O Prayer: Acts 2:22-36
- O Parable: Luke 16:19-31
- O Gospel: John 3:16-17

29. READINESS

- O Prayer: Luke 1:46-55
- O Parable: Matthew 25:1-13

30. KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

- O Parable: Matthew 13:31-33
- O Gospel: John 14:1-4

31. BLESSING

- O Prayer: Numbers 6:24-27
- O Epistle: 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24





OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

October 1 Marilyn 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 Schneider, Adam Overacker, Kevin Kingsland, Bri Ann Danielson

October 9 Jacob Vaughn, Gene Rink, Jodi Wildman, Nancy Filiatraut

October 10 Bonnie Buckley, Kelly Holohan

October 11 Brian Lockwood, Franklin Young, Brenda Grob

October 12 Tony Ferguson, Dawn Fritz

October 13 Susan Duchene

October 14 Billy Bauer

October 15 Andrew Moore, Megan Reilly, Sherry Meyer, Kristy 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 Voigt

October 19 Shannon Robbins, Garrett Ivan Brunner, Griffin David Brunner

October 20 Gary Dahn

October 22 Judy Bolatto, Richard Cochran

October 23 Lorie Hansen, Ardis Messer

October 24 Adam Moore, Travis Peters, Don Howard, Linda Scholl

October 25 William Ohrt, Dana Schwark

October 26 Sam Kenley, Austin Hawks, Skylar Simbeck

October 27 Gale Lehnus, Gerald Meyer



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 he is a member of Grand Prairie UMC.

Yes, I'm a Christian.

Yes, I make mistakes. Yes, I fail. Yes, I struggle.

But I'm God's mess.

And God can turn a mess into a masterpiece.

October 28 April Dorsey-Tyler, Andrew Meyer October 30 Donna Brunner, Aaron Jensen October 31 Sally 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.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
mmunion	1 - World Communion Group at Evan at 10AM	3 - IHOP Fellowship Breakfast at 8:30AM - Evan NOW meeting at 6pm - Parish NOW meeting at 6:30pm		5 - Evan UWF at Joyce's House at I:30PM	6 - Pastor Keith vacation Oct. 6-13	7
8 - Laity Sunday - Special Speaker Ken Miller	9 - Journey Prayer Group at Evan at 10AM columbus ony	01	П	12	13	14 - Sleep in Heavenly Peace Bed build at Grace UMC
	16 - Journey Prayer Group at Evan at 10AM	71	18 - Martha Circle	19 - Sunshine Circle	20	21 - Bonfield Lions Ham Dinner
22 - Charge Conference at St. Mark UMC	23 - Journey Prayer Group at Evan at 10AM	24 - Newsletter Article Deadline 9AM	25	26 - Printing the Newsletter	27	28 - Evan UWF Make a Difference Day
NEWATION	30 - Journey Prayer Group at Evan at 10AM	3 I -Fold Newsletters at Evan at 8AM - Happy Halloween				Pastol

"Silence roots out the weeds of our souls and levels the rocky ground in which we've grown."

—Sister Joan Chittister

* * *

"The function of prayer is not to influence God but rather to change the nature of the one who prays."

-Søren Kierkegaard

* * *

"I sought to hear the voice of God and climbed the topmost steeple, but God declared: 'Go down again — I dwell among the people.""

—John Henry Newman

* * *

"Old gardeners never die. They just spade away and then throw in the trowel."

—Herbert V. Prochnow



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 3, November 7, & December 5 at 8:30am. The group orders from the regular menu and pays for their own meals.

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.



Facebook www.facebook.com/
bonfieldgpparish
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.



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

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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