

Hickory Grove Church

Hickory Switch

March
2011



Upcoming Events

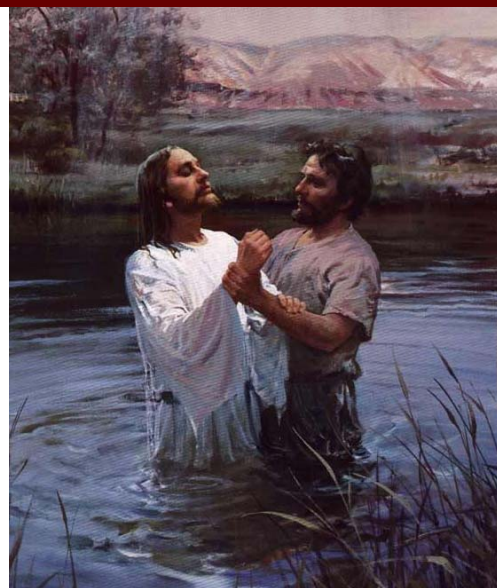
March

Mar. 2nd Women's Fellowship
Mar. 6th Family Night
Mar. 9th 11:30 Golden Agers' Luncheon
Mar. 9th 7:00 Bible Study
Mar. 15th 6:00 Trustee Mtg.
Mar. 16th 7:00 Deacon Mtg.
Mar. 16th 7:00 Bible Study
Mar. 23rd 7:00 Bible Study
Mar. 30th 7:00 Bible Study

Did you know... the 2011 Handbooks are available in the vestibule. This book has a list of membership, committee members, elected officers and the prayer chain phone numbers. Please re-view the book to see where your name is or where it could be in the future!

BAPTISM CELEBRATIONS

We are starting out the year celebrating some wonderful events in people's lives. On January 24th 4 people were baptized: Brian Cain, Coral Sparks, Casserra Cain, and Nicoll Cain. On January 30th Rob and Leisha Hill were baptized and on February 6th Cassidy Kelly. We also celebrate with Jessie O'Farrell, Kevin, Patti and Isaac Lashbrook their baptisms on February 13th. On February 13th Jessie placed her membership with Hickory Grove and on February 20th Kevin and Patti also placed their memberships with us. We are so blessed that God is moving in our services and our hearts, and that people are being obedient to His Spirit and following His leadings.



FAMILY NIGHT



Sunday, March 6th, 2011 at 6:00PM Hickory Grove will host their annual Women's Fellowship Family Night. Join us for a carry-in supper and great entertainment!

GOLDEN AGERS

Golden Agers

by Dieter Hantschel

"Hearts, Flowers and Love" could have been the theme for the February 9 meeting of the Golden Agers. Ruth Crawn led us in prayer for our meals, As the desert spoons ultimately rested next to empty bowls, Arleen Stangle gave devotions, centering on Luke 10:25-37. She added reflections on "Who Is My Neighbor?" and "Do I Show Jesus' Love in my Life's Path?" Arleen also gave a brief historical glimpse into the origins (287 A.D.) and development of Valentine's Day to date. Don Dill brought Helen Steiner Rice poems "It's Such a Busy World" and "Take Time to Be Kind" that fit well with the spirit of the day. A very moving piece, "Queen," written by Don's son Jerry, in respect and tribute to his late Mom, Della Dill, was shared as well. Before adjournment, Gary Reedy and Dieter Hantschel played off each other with a short skit of outrageous court room dialogs. Also attending were: Brian Winterberg, Martha Reedy, Jonah Peterson, Bud Stangle, Sherry Hantschel and, much to our delight, Chester Reagan. The next meeting, open to all, will be March 9, 11:30 a.m. at USA Family Restaurant, Monticello.

PASTOR'S PEN

What Happens to the Offering Money?

Every Sunday morning the offering plates are passed down the rows. Did you ever wonder why it was taken or what happens to it? Malachi 3:10 instructs us to "Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house." In other words, that the needs of God's house may be met. We set aside the tithe, the tenth of our income, to return to God and His work on Sunday morning. In the Old Testament a box was placed at the back of the temple and people dropped their tithes into the box on their way in. Today, as a matter of convenience, we "pass the plate". Some put in cash, others checks, at their discretion.

After the service, the treasurer picks up the plates, takes them into another room, and puts the money in a bank bag for safekeeping. She later counts the money and deposits it at the bank into our church account. If a special offering has been included, for instance building fund or missionaries, the treasurer makes sure it goes where it was designated. The rest goes into what is called a "general fund" on the treasurer's ledger. The treasurer keeps in confidence what was given by those who gave it. That information does not go to the Pastor or anyone else in the church. We are blessed to have a treasurer with the integrity to do this job so professionally.

Well then, what happens? At a business meeting, it was agreed the church should give back a tithe of the "general fund" to missions and outreach projects, both locally and abroad. Therefore 10% of the "general fund" goes into a "Missions and Outreach Fund". A committee meets quarterly to decide what to do with this 10% from the general fund. From this account, money is given to support numerous organizations. Some are Carroll and White County Food Pantries, Emmaus Missions, Real Hope for Haiti, McClain's in Costa Rica, and Carroll and White County Religious Education Programs. The Missions and Outreach fund also helps sponsor outreach events like Movie Night, Love and Respect Seminar, Angel Tree Gifts and Ice Cream Social Benefits.

What happens to the remaining 90%? Mostly the same thing that happens to your checking account: to pay expenses and bills. The Pastor and the Custodian are the only paid positions in the church; the remaining positions are filled with volunteer help. The Pastor's salary and health insurance and other expenses are paid through the "general fund". To give you some for instances, here are what some of the other expenses were in 2010. Property and liability insurance, \$5158; propane, \$3649; electricity, \$2111; telephone, \$983; trash removal, \$217; and Vacation Bible School, \$744. If you take into account cleaning supplies, plates, cups, napkins, coffee, copy paper, toner, staples, pencils, sweeper bags and so on and so on, last year these came to \$5577. That doesn't include many other categories such as special music, advertising, water softener rent, church website and mowing the yard. Capital improvements, like replacing the carpet and replacing the windows, (which happened in 2010) all come from the general fund. Copies of the financial report are made available to all at the quarterly business meeting. The treasurer compiles this report showing what came in and what went out during the past quarter. A special committee audits the treasurer's books annually.

How does it all work? God is faithful. As we are faithful to Him in our giving, He is faithful to us to make sure there is enough. As we grow, our offerings increase to meet our needs and expenses. Last year, through Missions and Outreach and designated special offerings, \$26,752 was given back to the community and missions projects to invest in the Kingdom the message that Jesus Christ is alive and still in the saving business. When we sit back and look at what all God has done with the finances through the church, we excitedly look forward to what all God might do as more and more of God's people are financially faithful to Him.

Have you ever wondered: "how does everything get done around here"? Stay tuned for April's Hickory Switch when we look at: "How Does Everything Get Done Around Here?"

Blessings,

Pastor Ken

March 2011

Hickory Grove Church

9714 N 700 W
Delphi, IN 46923

Phone:
574-965-2731
Ken Smith,
Pastor

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 Ben Anderson Jamie Campbell	2 7:00 Women's Fellowship	3 Josh White	4 Ron & Pam Simons	5 Mary Long
6 Linda Nape Family Night	7	8 Ron Long	9 Oakley Lewellen 11:30 Golden Agers 7:00 Bible Study	10	11 Sam Lashbrook	12 Gwen Conner
13	14	15 6:00 Trustee Mtg. 7:00 Deacon Mtg.	16 Noah Cain 7:00 Bible Study	17 Larry Kreighbaun	18 Joe Clothier	19 Kenny Miller
20 Jesse & Shannon Kelly	21	22 Cassidy Kelly	23 7:00 Bible Study	24 Martin Lewellen Chuck McManus	25 Sherman Sheets	26
27 Gary & Sharon Lantz	28	29 Marilyn Crowel Cindi Anderson	30 7:00 Bible Study	31	1	2
3	4 Rob & Leisha Hill	5	6	7	8 <i>Think Spring</i> 	9

Check out our website at www.hickorygrove.info



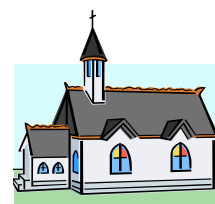
HICKORY GROVE CHURCH

9714 N 700 W

Phone:

574-965-2731

Ken Smith, Pastor



*The friendly church at the
side of the road!*

Cards and Visits

People who may appreciate your cards, prayers and visits:

Dee Davis

306 S Illinois St.
Monticello, IN 47960
574-583-7234

Mary Rishel

Carroll Manor
6409 W 100 N.
Delphi, IN 46923
(Marlene Joseph's
mother)

Irma Jenni

White Oak 814 S 6th Street,
Monticello IN 47960

James Bailey

Whispering Pines, 410
Tioga Road, Room D-3
Monticello, In 47960
(Amy Spitzer and
Brenda Johns grandfa-
ther)

Maxine White

106 W Vine Street
Delphi, IN 46923

Joan Mikesell

White Oak 814 S 6th St
Monticello IN 47960

Our College Students

Tanna Lewellen
2048 Delray Dr
W Lafayette IN 47906

Sam Lashbrook
1602 N. Second St.
Vincennes, IN 47591

Tami Veach
Box 895
200 Seminary Drive
Winona Lake In 46590

In Your Moment of Need...



In your moment of
need please feel free to
call:

Pastor Ken Smith

Phone: 574-826-4307
Pager: 574-722-0173

Or one of our Deacons:

Bryan Felz 574-965-2737
Ron Felz 574-965-4239
Jesse Kelly 765-564-6800
Alan Sickler 574-943-3236
Judy Miller 574-943-3447
Teresa Alexander 965-4573

Have something you want to share...

If you have any minutes to meetings, class party info or anything you think the rest of us might enjoy hearing about, please get it to Amy or Brenda. We can be reached at:

Amy Spitzer
605 Hanawalt Rd, Monticello, IN
47960
574-870-0793
alspitzer@ffni.com

Brenda Johns
9457 W 650 N, Delphi, IN
46923
574-965-2795
johns4@ytci.com

Sundays in Review...

Did you miss a Sunday recently? No problem, you can now borrow a taped copy of the Sunday service! Copies are made every Sunday to be distributed to Shut-ins or those who were absent for whatever reason. Just contact anyone from the church, and they can get you a copy!

