

**FEBRUARY
2008**

HICKORY GROVE CHURCH

Packing for Haiti

Our thoughts and prayers are with the mission team as they travel to Haiti. Bryan Felz, Ken & Trina Smith, Pat Cotner, Greg Rubeck, Pam Simons, and her daughter Andrea left Hickory Grove during the wee hours of the morning on January 28th.

Look for stories about their mission work in the March issue of the Hickory Switch!

Hickory Switch



Our Mission Team finished packing the trunks for Haiti on Sunday afternoon. The trunks were then loaded into Ron Simons pick-up truck for transport to the airport where they would accompany the Mission Team to their destination in Haiti.



Upcoming Events:

- February 6th-7:00 Women's Fellowship
- February 10th-Youth Soup Luncheon-immediately following church
- February 13th-7:00 Bible Study
- February 14th-Valentine's Day
- February 16th-7:00AM Sharp-Youth

Toboggan Outing in Pokagon State Park

February 18th-President's Day

February 19th-7:00 Deacon's Meeting

February 20th-7:00 Bible Study

February 27th-7:00 Bible Study

Thou Art Fair, My Love

How is that for a title for a February Hickory Switch Church Newsletter? It is right in style if you remember it will soon be Valentine's Day. And of course you all remember that Valentine's Day is February 14th, don't you? I am sure most every husband and wife, boyfriend and girlfriend alike have been planning for weeks on what special thing you are going to get or do for that special someone. If you don't remember that, remember that American History is also famous for the St. Valentine's Day Massacre; be sure not to choose the latter. Let that be a stimulus to get you thinking ahead. I wonder how many are true romantics at heart?

Romance. It's not a bad thing to have. In fact, in a marriage it had better be there. What is romance anyway? Webster describes it in our context as "a passionate love affair". Right now the kids are saying: "Ooh, that's too gushy" or perhaps as "that's yucky". The title of this letter, "Thou Art Fair, My Love" actually comes from the Bible. In Song of Solomon Chapter 4 it is written (KJV, its more romantic here): "Behold, thou art fair, my love; behold thou art fair; thou hast dove's eyes within thy locks" (curls of hair). In Chapter 2, Christ Himself is referred to as "The Rose of Sharon" and "The Lily of the Valley".

Did you ever think of God as a romantic? Well He is. "God is Love" (I John 4:8). In fact He is so much in love with us that we can never comprehend the depth of His love. He has gone to great lengths to reveal His love to us. He does everything from the little things like making the sun come up (like that is a little thing) to the big things like touching our hearts just when we need Him most. He loves us so much that He sent Jesus to the Cross so that He could once again have a relationship with us. Eventually, He wants you to spend eternity with Him in heaven.

He also created the sacred act of marriage between men and women so that we could enjoy our lives also in a romantic way. Yes even in a gushy kind of way. We have to work at it to have a relationship with God. The same is true in a marriage; we have to work at it. If we don't, the relationship suffers and the romance wanes. I wonder how many marriage counselors have analyzed marriage problems as "having lost the romance"? What about your marriage? Have you still got it? If not, or if it needs some tuning up, you can get it back. Remember that while love is a noun, it is also an action verb. How do you increase your romance? Do romantic things; candlelight dinners, a walk in the moonlight, or whispering I love you softly when it is least expected. You know what got you this far; think back. Then don't wait until next February 14th to be romantic. Tomorrow is another day. Start thinking ahead. God did; He has made arrangements for your eternity. If you are married He wants you to be head over heels in love with him and each other. Song of Solomon 2:4 "He brought me to the banqueting house, and his banner over me was love."



4th Annual Women's Retreat

You are cordially invited to attend the Fourth Annual Women's Spring Retreat on Saturday, March 8th, 2008.

Registration will begin at 8:30 am with muffins, tea, coffee and juices.

The speaker for this years retreat will be Carol Stradling.

Each lady attending is asked to bring their favorite tee or coffee cup.

It can be a favorite one with a story behind it or just one for every day!

There will be door prizes ranging from toothbrushes to

chairs!

Every lady present will take something home with them!

The program starts at 9:00 am and will end after lunch.

Please join us for a kid free day of fun and fellowship.

There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board starting the first Sunday in February. The last day to sign up is March 2nd.

You may call Vicki Criswell (574)965-4127, Brenda Johns (574) 965-2795 , Pam Simons (574) 943-3382 or by signing the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board.



February 2008

Hickory Grove Church

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 Andy Kelly	2
3	4 Cory Robb Kelsi Williams	5	6 David Veach 7:00 Women's Fellowship	7 Megan Kelly Trina Smith	8	9 Chester Reagan Gerald Joiner
10 Youth Chili Lunch (after church)	11	12 Isaiah Craig Eva Gould	13 Barb Smith 7:00 Bible Study	14  Valentine's Day	15	16 7:00AM Sharp Youth Toboggan Outing Danny Marshall
17 Ron & Mary Long Britany Werner	18 Vince & Denise Serpe  President's Day	19 Lonetta Felz 7:00 Deacons Meeting	20 Matt Crowel Sam Crawn Jordan Williams 7:00 Bible Study	21	22 Ron Hivley TJ Spitzer Anna Zile Brad Clemons Bill Marion	23 Ron Felz Angel Brown
24 John & Marilyn Crowel Steve Williams	25	26	27 Brian Winterburg 7:00 Bible Study	28 Stephanie Felz Jeff & Jennifer Crowel	29	March 1 Jamie Campbell

9714 N 700 W
Delphi, IN 46923

Phone: 574-965-2731
Ken Smith, Pastor

Women's Fellowship January 2nd, 2008

Women's Fellowship met at the church on January 2, 2008. President Trina Smith opened the meeting with prayer. Cards were passed to sign to be sent to various people in the church or community. If you have some one you would like for us to send monthly cards to let Pat Cotner know. Hostess Danielle Wharff gave devotions Another Blessed Year. We are blessed with God's love, family, and friends. Roll call was answered by eleven ladies are you a snow person. Our roll calls really let us get to know one another better. Stephanie Felz read the history for the song Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus written by Lousia Streed. Secretary and treasurer were read and approve with balance on hand \$2,565.79. It was decided to give Ronald McDonald House in Indianapolis

a \$100 donation. Material aid committee: Pat Cotner, Pam Simons and Dianna Bailey if you know of any needs let this committee know. Bridal & Baby shower committee: Amy Spitzer, Shannon Kelly & Stephanie Felz. There is still a need for Mother & Daughter Banquet, Harvest Supper/Bazaar committees. See Trina Smith if you would like to serve on any of these committees. We will decide in May what the plans for the Harvest Supper/Bazaar will be. If you have any ideas or would like to serve on the committee let Trina know. March 2nd is Family Night with a carry-in supper at 6:00 and talent show to follow. Arleen Stangle is in charge of the talent show. Come share the talents God has given you.

March 8th will be the annually Women's Mini Retreat. Our program Being Good Stewards of What God Has Given Us will be given by Carol Stradling. Registration begins at 8:30 with muffins and drinks served. Program starts at 9:00. The retreat will end after lunch and door prizes are drawn for. Plan to attend and enjoy a kid free, worry free time with us. Any questions ask Pam Simons, Brenda Johns or Vicki Criswell. Secret pals were drawn for 2008. Trina closed with: If God brings you to it, He will bring you through it. Happy moments, praise God. Difficult moments seek God. Quiet moments, worship God. Painful moments, trust God. Every moment, thank God.

Golden Agers

A dozen Golden Agers got together at USA Family Restaurant for their January meeting. David and Linda Upton were visitors. Bud Stangle's birthday was recognized for Sunday, January 20th. Ruth Crown had prayer before the email. Gary Reedy gave the

"Thought for the Day" about the decisions we make. The world is in a hurry. When we are under pressure and need time to think, delay for a moment. Not deciding is a decision. If you do not decide - someone else will make the decision for you.

Arleen Stangle volunteered to give devotions next month on Wednesday, February 13th at the USA Restaurant again.

Family Night

March 2nd. is Family Night. We will begin the evening with a carry-in supper at 6:00 with a talent show to follow. You are all asked to share the gifts that God has given you. Arleen Stangle is in charge of the talent show. If you would like to participate, please see Arleen.

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

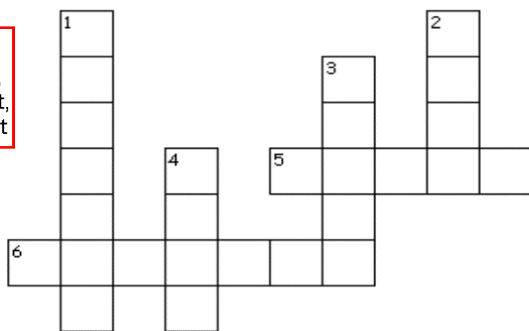
Teresa Alexander 965-4573



For the Young at Heart

Valentine's Day Crossword

Word List:
candy, card,
flower, heart,
kiss, present



Across

5.

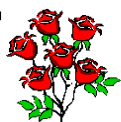


6.



Down

1.



Down

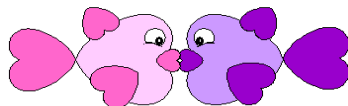
2.



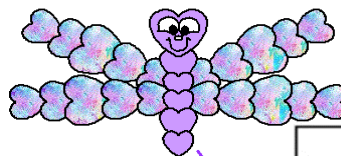
3.



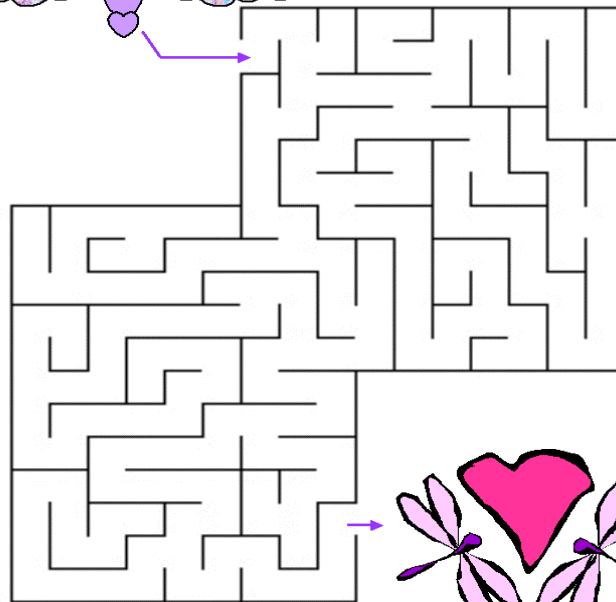
4.



Valentine's Day Maze

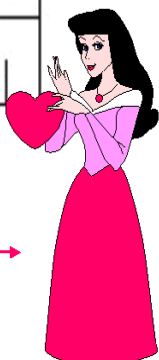
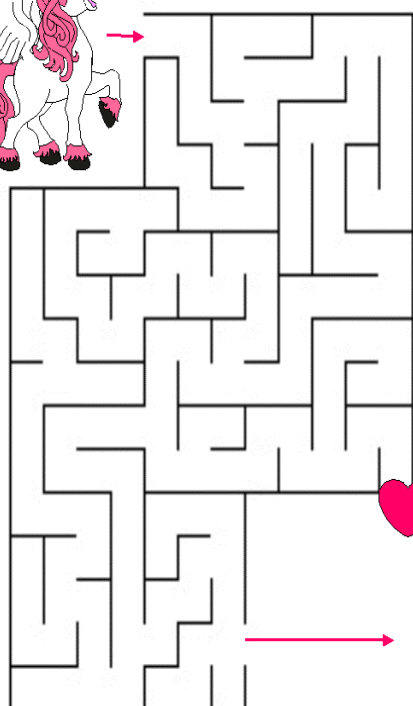
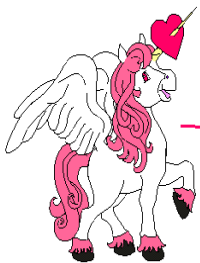


Help the dragonfly find his friends.



Friends Maze

Help the unicorn find the princess.



Jr./Sr. Youth Upcoming Events

Youth Luncheon

The youth will be having a soup lunch on February 10th following church.

A free will donation will be taken with the proceeds going to help with expenses for future youth activities.

Plan on staying after the meal and enjoy games and activities planned by the youth.

If you have any questions feel free to contact: Vicki Sickler 574 943-3236.

Toboggan Outing

Saturday February 16th, 2008. Pokagon State Park- Leaving the church at 7:00 a.m. sharp.-Price is \$10.00 for 4 people per hour, we will decide what the price will be when we have a number of youth attending. -Bring snacks and a sack lunch and money to eat on the way home. -Dress warm -Sign up will be on the Senior high classroom door. Look for more details as it gets closer to time.

Contact persons for this activity are: Vicki Sickler 574-943-3236 and Chad Wharff 574-826-3146

Lock-In

March 15th & 16th...fun... cookies...movies... games...Look for more information to come as the date draws closer!



HICKORY GROVE CHURCH

9714 N 700 W
Delphi, IN 46923

Phone: 574-965-2731
Ken Smith, Pastor

If you wish to no longer receive this please call 574-965-2795 or e-mail Brenda (sbjohns@ytci.com) or Amy (spitzer@ffni.com)

Mary W. Felz, 80

Mary W. Felz, Monticello, formerly of Logansport, died at 7.55 a.m. Saturday, Jan 26, 2008 at the Monticello Assisted Living and Healthcare Center. She was born on May 26, 1927 in Houston Texas to Robert James Martin and Mary Esther Webb. She married Charles M. Felz on Dec. 20, 1946 in Victoria Texas. He passed away April 3, 2005. Survivors include sons Ron (Lonetta) Felz, Delphi and Gerald (Cindy) Felz, Idaville and daughter Kathleen *ed) Wedekind, West Lafayette, Nine grandchildren, 10 great grandchildren and one on the way. She was laid to rest at the Davis Cemetery in Burnettsville.

Cloyd T. Crawn, 83

Cloyd T. Crawn, passed away at 2:48 a.m. Tuesday, January 29, 2008 at St Vincent Hospital Indianapolis. He had been a patient there since last Thursday and died unexpectedly. He was born November 26, 1924 in Newton County to the late Tunis and Charity Brown Crawn. His marriage was to Ruth Coble at the Hickory Grove Church on May 30, 1948. Their children are Sam (Julie) Crawn, Brazil, Vickie (Vern) Criswell, Delphi, Eva (Richard) Gould, Fuquay Varina NC and daughter in law Ruth (Paul) Roller. Cloyd was preceded in death by sons Jerry and Dan. Services were held at Abbott Funeral Home and burial and funeral dinner were held at Hickory Grove Church.

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
5669 W 1100 N
Idaville, IN 47950
574-943-3073
spitzer@ffin.com

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

Cards and Visits

People who may appreciate your cards, prayers and visits:

Shirley Heathcote
701 N Indiana Street
Delphi, IN 46923

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

Mae Ferrier
Monticello Health Care
1120 N Main Street
Monticello, IN 47960
(Judy Crowel's mother)

Greg Long
7076 W 725 N
Delphi, IN 46923
574-965-4733

Mary Rishel
Carroll Manor
640 W 100 N
Delphi, IN 46923

Our Service Men:
Cpl James Speed
Charlie Company 1-151
845 Hase Rd Suite 102
Ft. Stewart, GA 31314

Our College Students:
Nick Spitzer
Lafollette Hall
330 Edwards
Muncie, IN 47306

Tanna Lewellen
Harrison Hall
Mailbox 1822
107 Macarthur Drive
West Lafayette, IN 47906

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!