

JUNE
2009

HICKORY GROVE CHURCH

Getting to Know You

John Harvey

John Harvey has been attending Hickory Grove for a little under a year now. He is a divorcee and has had a lot of things happen in his life. He is 68 years old and he lives in Delphi.

John loves to help the needy when he is able and thanks God for his ability to do so.

Some of his favorite sports are basketball, baseball, football and NASCAR racing. He also enjoys fishing. Hickory Grove Church is happy to have John as part of our church family.



Memorial Day Ceremony

It was nice to see so many people turn out to support our legion members as they paid tribute to the soldiers who laid down their lives so we may live in freedom. As taps were played, the 21 gun salute sounded in honor.



"Did you know....?"

Hickory Grove Church gave over \$32,000 towards local and worldwide mission projects in 2008? This was done thru tithing of plate collection, special collections and fundraisers. (Source: 2008 Treasurer Report)"

Vacation Bible School

VBS will be held June 14th-18th from 6-8 PM. We will end the week with a program on Sunday, June 21st at 10:00AM.

The community is welcome to attend. If you know of anyone you would like for an invitation to be sent to, please get their name to Shannon Kelly.

Check out our website at www.hickorygrove.info

Hickory Switch



Who Can We Blame Next?

I recently received a call. My friend was quite troubled in spirit. He had been attending a local church and had become confused by the Pastor's Sunday message. His Pastor had been a Political Science Major before entering the ministry. Rather than preaching about the Bible, he focused his message around the political reasons for the mess that this country is in. He stated that the liberal democrats were too liberal and the conservative republicans were too conservative and that they were going to be this nation's downfall. "Pastor Ken", he asked, "is that the problem with our nation?"

My reply was: "No, the problem is not Democrats or Republicans, liberals or conservatives, its not right wing or left; the problem is what it has always been: sin. As people we would rather find someone to place the blame on, than to accept the blame ourselves. As long as we can find someone or something to blame, we feel better.

Ephesians 6:12 tells us: "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, and powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places (places of authority)." We want to blame someone, instead of recognizing the spiritual battle. Being a Democrat or a Republican or a liberal or conservative does not separate us from the love of God; sin is the only thing that separates us from the love of God. James said in Chapter 2:14 "But every man is tempted when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death."

Company executives make millions of dollars annually. As they drive home, they turn a blind eye to the people that have been laid off from the company that pays them. Professional sports players make millions of dollars because people seeking pleasure are willing to pay hundreds of dollars to see them play a game. Sodom and Gomorrah were destroyed because of immorality. We have outdone Sodom and Gomorrah because we have gone one step further; we have legal-

ized immorality. You can go straight to jail for being cruel to an animal and yet go out to lunch after having an abortion. What is the problem? The problem is the same as it has always been; sin.

But there is always good news in God's plan for mankind. II Chronicles 7:14 says: "If my people, that are called by my name, shall humble themselves and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land." Many people are hoping that the President will come up with a solution for our problems. Perhaps Congress will, or maybe the Republicans and Democrats will start getting along. They are not the problem. The problem is what it has always been; sin. God has a solution. It is turning from our sinful ways, repenting, calling on God to forgive us for our sins. "Where sin abounds, grace does much more abound" (Rom 5:20). God loves to pour out His grace when He sees repentance. No political plan can ever erase the stain of sin. No Homeowner Buyout Plan or Financial Stimulus Plan can cover sin; only the blood that Jesus, shed on the Cross of Calvary can do that.

The problem we are in is due to sin: greed, idolatry, lust and immorality. The solution is Jesus. As long as we are looking to blame a person or a political party, we will never see the true problem. If we never see the true problem, we will never see the true solution. Like it or not, Jesus is coming back. When He returns He will be speaking in wrath and judgment; today He is still speaking in grace and mercy. I can do nothing about the sin of this nation, but I can repent of the sin of my own heart. So can you. Perhaps, just perhaps, if enough people do, Republicans and Democrats alike, He will hear our prayers and heal our land.

Father's Day Tribute

Before I Was Myself You Made Me, Me

***Before I was myself you made me, me
With love and patience, discipline and tears,
Then bit by bit stepped back to set me free,***

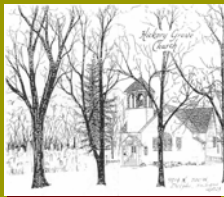
***Allowing me to sail upon my sea,
Though well within the headlands of your fears.
Before I was myself you made me, me***

***With dreams enough of what I was to be
And hopes that would be sculpted by the years,
Then bit by bit stepped back to set me free,***

***Relinquishing your powers gradually
To let me shape myself among my peers.
Before I was myself you made me, me,***

***And being good and wise, you gracefully
As dancers when the last sweet cadence nears
Bit by bit stepped back to set me free.***

***For love inspires learning naturally:
The mind assents to what the heart reveres.
And so it was through love you made me, me
By slowly stepping back to set me free.***



June 2009

Hickory Grove Church

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2 Paula Striegel Mark Crown	3 Jonathan Lantz Jordan Campbell 7:00 Women's Fellowship	4 Chris Robb Chris & Cheryl Robb	5 Alexis Kelly	6
7 Carolyn Pearson Stanley & Susan Wolven	8 Chad Wharff Sydney Wharff Abbie Moyer Jim & Joyce Fouts	9 Jennifer Blackburn	10 Jerry & Rose Dill 7:00 Bible Study	11	12 Deb Hivley	13 Gerald & Linda Stevens
14 Ken & Trina Smith 6:00-8:00 Vacation Bible School	15 Don & Della Dill 6:00-8:00 Vacation Bible School	16 Alan Sickler Alan & Vicki Sickler 6:00-8:00 Vacation Bible School	17 Ian Wharff 6:00-8:00 Vacation Bible School	18 6:00-8:00 Vacation Bible School	19 Dorothy Elston	20 Jeff Crowel Phyllis Wise
21 Judy Miller 10:00 AM Vacation Bible School Program	22	23 Sam Johns	24 Linda Stevens 7:00 Bible Study	25	26	27
28	29 Chad & Pam Barnes	30 Jackie Johns	1 Matt & Heidi Crowel No Women's Fellowship this Month!	2 Chad & Danielle Wharff	3	4

9714 N 700 W
Delphi, IN 46923

Phone:
574-965-2731
Ken Smith, Pastor

Check out our website at www.hickorygrove.info

Women's Fellowship ~ May 8th, 2009

Submitted by Vicki Criswell

Women's Fellowship met on May 8, 2009 at the home of Judy Crowel with Pam Simons as co-hostess. Trina Smith opened with prayer.

Judy Crowel gave devotions from Chicken Soup from the Soul. Hands of Time talked how about our hands transform into our Mothers. Clara Hill shared the list of names that cards are to be sent to. Helen Hanna gave the history of the song Fill My Cup Lord written in 1959.

Twelve ladies shared laughter and tears over the answers to roll call a favorite memory of your Mother.

Secretary and Treasure reports were read and approved.

National Day of Prayer is May 7. Herm and Rosemary Fisher will be celebrating their 68th anniversary. Mother, Daughter, Friend Banquet will be May 9th the program will be presented by Clowns Unlimited.

Our next meeting will be June 3rd at the home of Ruth Crawn with Clara Hill as co-hostess. Janet Hildreth will be our speaker she will talk about her mission work on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota. All ladies of the church are invited to attend.

Trina Smith read The Great Truths Adults Have Learned.

Pam Simons closed in prayer.

Golden Agers

Submitted by Della Dill

Fourteen Golden Agers had lunch at USA Family Restaurant in Monticello on a rainy Wednesday in May. Ruth Crawn had prayer before the meal.

Dieter Hantschel had devotions, using Matthew 18:20. Jesus said, "Where two or three gather together in my name, I am there with them." We were reminded that trials and suffering have purpose in our lives.

The group decided to meet at Solomon's Grille in Delphi on June 10th. Bob Tobey will have devotions then.

All are welcome to attend....hope to see you there!

Life's Garden

To plant a garden for daily living, plant three rows of peas-- peace of mind, peace of heart and peace of soul. Add four rows of squash--squash gossip, squash indifference, squash grumbling and squash selfishness. Add four rows of lettuce -- let us be faithful, let us be kind, let us be patient and let us really love one another. And no garden is complete without turnips -- turn up for meetings, turn up for service and turn up to help those in need. Finally, a garden requires thyme -- time for family time for friends. Water freely with patience and cultivate with love. You'll have much fruit in your garden, because you reap what you sow.

(Unknown Author, shared email)

SHARE THE SAVIOR
with someone you know!

Packing for Haiti Photos



Many people made the long ride to Anderson to help pack the container for Haiti.



The donation of your time is greatly appreciated!



Cultural Arts Winners

EH Cultural Arts winners and their projects are pictured above, 1-r-Doris Walton, first place, star quilt; Margaret Childers, second place, counted cross-stitch pillow; Sara McManus, third place, crocheted lace towel.

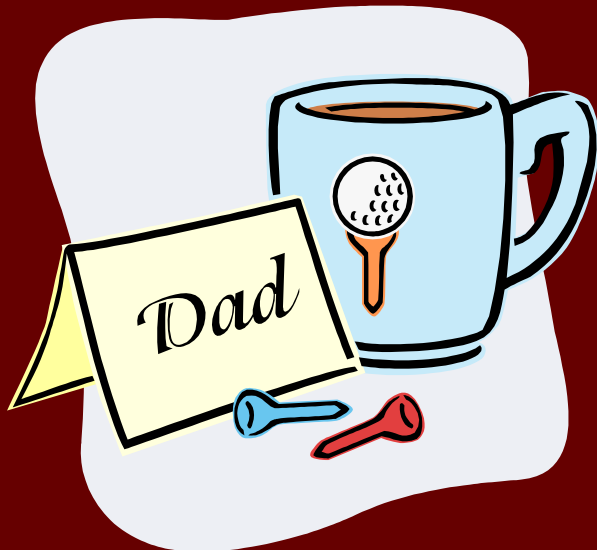
Father's Day Word Search

H L A I C E P S H I L K N A T
 R E S P E C T H O N O R E P N
 C L L A M T H A N K V O T P A
 Y M R P Y E B O P J E W S R T
 S T N E M D N A M M O C I E R
 Y A D I L O H F I X C M L C O
 U N D E R S T A N D I N G I P
 M I N S T R U C T I O N C A M
 E N I L P I C S I D X G Y T I
 F O R G I V E N R A E L T E Y

Appreciate
 Commandments
 Discipline
 Fix
 Forgive
 Help
 Holiday
 Honor
 Important
 Instruction



Learn
 Listen
 Love
 Obey
 Respect
 Special
 Thank
 Understanding
 Work



Lord's Prayer Word Search

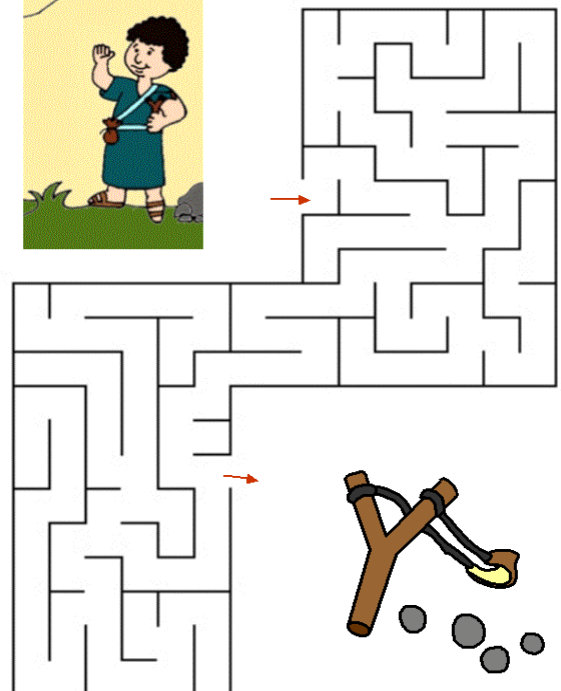
A N L N S S E N E V I G R O F
 N T A L K T D A N L H V O R P
 Y E V E I L E B N H P A E Z R
 T Y A R P B U H E Y E M N Q A
 I L I S T E N S C Y W A A D I
 M U F E E L P M I S E H V X S
 E T E M P T A T I O N S E E E
 C O M M U N I C A T E A S R N
 S R A E H P O W E R G Y S X E
 D A I L Y F I Q Q Y M G U K X

anytime
 anywhere
 ask
 believe
 communicate
 daily
 example
 eyes
 forgiveness
 hands
 hears
 heaven
 listens
 power
 praise
 pray
 simple
 talk
 temptations



David & Goliath Maze

Help David find his slingshot and stones.





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 9714 N 700 W
 Delphi, IN 46923
 Phone: 574-965-2731
 Ken Smith, Pastor



Cards and Visits

People who may appreciate your cards, prayers and visits:

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

Mae Ferrier
 Monticello Healthcare Center
 1120 North Main
 Room 127
 Monticello IN 47960
 (Judy Crowel's mother)

Mary Rishel
 Carroll Manor
 640 W 100 N
 Delphi, IN 46923
 (Marilyn Joseph's mother)

Tad Walkup
 Indiana Veterans Home
 3851 North River Road
 Mitchell 3-AB-Room
 302
 West Lafayette, IN
 47906

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

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@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!



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