

# Hickory Switch



## Upcoming Events

### February

1st-Women's Fellowship

2nd-Golden Ager's @ Stangle's

7th-Youth Group

8th-7:00 Bible Study

14th-Youth Group

15th-7:00 Bible Study

18th-Youth Activity (Grades 1-5)

20th-7:00 Deacon's Meeting

21st-Youth Group

22nd-7:00 Bible Study

28th-Youth Group

28th-7:00 Youth Council Meeting

29th-7:00 Bible Study

## Getting to Know You

### Stephen and Sandy Coultas

Sandy and I grew up in southern Indiana on the west side of Evansville. We met in June of 1970 at a public recreation area where I worked part-time as a lifeguard. We were married in April of 1971. We have one grown son who lives in Frankfort, IN where he works and attends the Nazarene church. We moved up to the Lafayette in 1975. We bought a place near Colfax in Clinton county in August 1984 that the Lord provided (per a prayer request made pre-salvation). We were wonderfully saved three months after our move at the Colfax Wesleyan Church, pastored by Rev. Howard Barefoot.

We raised Appaloosa horses and enjoyed traveling, camping and ministering with them. In 2008 we sold the ranch; God provided a place for us in the Buck Creek area, a comfortable place in the woods overlooking the Wildcat Creek valley. Since our salvation we have actively been seeking God, disciples in progress, serving our Lord wherever He leads and whatever He calls us to do. It is our heart's desire to be pleasing in His sight and bring Him glory. We found our way up to the Hickory Grove Church by means of another answer to prayer. We look forward to serving our Lord with you in whatever capacity He sees fit.



## Youth Group Update

We are starting our first full year as a youth group! HOOT, HOOT! We ended the year with lots of jubilee of the past and of what's coming in the future for this growing group.

In December, we wrapped up our study of Hunger with a donation

*(Continued on page 5)*

## Hickory Grove Church Web Site

For those of you who didn't know, Hickory Grove Church has it's own website! It can be found at [www.hickorygrove.info](http://www.hickorygrove.info). The website is in the process of being updated. If you have information you would like to have posted, please e-mail it to Amy White-Spitzer at [alspitzer@ffni.com](mailto:alspitzer@ffni.com) or you may submit it in writing. Our Photos page on the website is in need of photos! Please submit photos via email or burn them to a CD.



## PASTOR'S PEN

### *Specials in February*

It is amazing when we look at the calendar to see all the things that this country celebrates. February has a lot of special dates. The 2<sup>nd</sup> is Groundhog Day. Not a day affecting national security but one that gets a lot of attention. {The last time I celebrated Ground Hog's Day was when I caught the one that had burrowed under my barn and made quite a mess. The groundhog however was not celebrating.} The 12<sup>th</sup> is Lincoln's Birthday. I don't know about you but I usually don't send him a card. Next comes Valentine's Day; a day of many meanings. We talk about love and cupid on that day but also are reminded of the St. Valentine's Day Massacre on Chicago's north side on February 14, 1929. Here comes the 20<sup>th</sup> with President's Day, get your cards out again. These specials are followed by Washington's Birthday on the 22<sup>nd</sup> (what is with all the Presidents thing?). Also, Ash Wednesday is on the 22<sup>nd</sup>.

The thing I find interesting in February is the fact that we find love and repentance in the same month. Saint Valentine's Day, commonly shortened to Valentine's Day, is an annual commemoration held on February 14 celebrating love and affection between intimate companions. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of this forty day liturgical period of prayer and fasting leading up to Easter. Ash Wednesday derives its name from the practice of placing ashes on the foreheads of adherents as a sign of mourning and repentance to God.

In reality every day should be a day to celebrate love and affection and also every day should be a day to practicing repentance. Repentance – being sorry for and turning away from our wrongdoing (sin). You see love leads to repentance. When we hurt someone we love, we are sorry for what happened and want to get back in right standing. If we don't care, we are revealing that love is not present (a dangerous place to be).

When we love God, when we sin against Him, it is our love for Him that leads us to repent. Then repenting leads to right standing and love is restored. It works the same for relationships between people. Love leads to repenting and repenting leads to greater love. The Bible has a lot to say about both love and repentance. Proverbs 10:12 Hatred stirs up dissension, but love covers over all wrongs. Proverbs 17:9 He who covers over an offense promotes love, but whoever repeats the matter separates close friends. I Peter 4:8 Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins.

Love covers a multitude of sins. Interesting it doesn't say who's sins: mine or the one I am loving. If I love someone will that cover up his/her sins or mine. Perhaps herein is the answer. When I love someone deeply, my love for them becomes greater than the sins I can see in them. They are covered up in love, the sins become miniscule. Likewise when I love deeply as God says I should, my sins are covered up in Him. God loved us deeply enough that He blotted out, covered up, all of our transgressions by the blood of Jesus. Shouldn't we then, love each other deeply enough to blot out their transgressions against us.

Peter Summed it up in I Peter 1:22: "Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for your brothers, love one another deeply, from the heart."

P.S. - I don't know what to tell you to do with the Groundhogs and the Presidents.

*~Pastor Ken*



# February 2012

## 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 Andy Kelly Cassie Johns  7:00 Women's Fellowship	2 Leisha Hill  11:30 Golden Ager's@ Stangle's	3 Marlita Joseph	4
5	6 David Veach	7 Megan Kelly Trina Smith  Youth Group	8  7:00 Bible Study	9 Casserra Cain Chester Reagan	10 Marlene Joseph Trevon Cole	11
12 Austin Parsons	13 Kaitlyn Altman	14 Beth Jones  Youth Group	15  7:00 Bible Study	16 Joshua Evans	17 Ron & Mary Long	18  Youth Activi- ties (Grades 1-5)
19 Lonetta Felz Anne Conrad	20 Judy Harker  7:00 Deacon's Meeting	21 Rob Hill  Youth Group	22 TJ Spitzer Nicole Cain  7:00 Bible Study	23 Ron Felz	24 John & Marilyn Crowel Christina Timmons Donna Lewellen	25 Vernie Criswell Jamie Best
26	27	28 Stephanie Felz Jeff & Jennifer Crowel Denise Kelly Lori McClain  Youth Group 7:00 Youth Council Mtg	29  7:00 Bible Study	1 Ben Anderson Jamie Campbell	2	3 Josh White

*March*

Check out our website at [www.hickorygrove.info](http://www.hickorygrove.info)

## WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP-JANUARY 4TH, 2012

### Women's Fellowship January 4, 2012

11 women met at the home of Trina Smith for our January meeting. New president Donna Lewellen opened the meeting by welcoming and thanking those in attendance and Trina for having us in her home. Helen Hanna gave our prayer. Donna read a devotional called "Leaving Room for Cream in your Life". We leave room for cream in our coffee. Cream sweetens, lightens and enriches our coffee and we need to allow room for things in our lives that do the same thing. This may mean not "filling" our cups so full or emptying out a little to save room for the "cream".

Roll call was taken by answering "Why do you attend women's fellowship?" As new president, Donna was interested to find out what brings people, what has changed about women's fellowship over the years and what we would like to get out of it in the future.

Secretary and treasurer reports were read with a balance on hand January 1, 2012 of \$872.52. The new bible study

on Ester will cost \$249.99. We will show DVD promotional at church on the next Sunday and provide signup sheet for books. Cost of books approx \$18.

Ideas are needed for Family Night, March 4<sup>th</sup> for the program. A committee is not in place for this yet. Marilyn is to ask about the bell choir from Methodist Church and if they are not available Lonetta will see if Golden Throats available.

We discussed some exciting ideas for the Mother-Daughter-Friend Banquet program. The theme will be "Fashion-What not to wear". Tables can be decorated by volunteers with this theme. Donna, Pat, Marilyn and Shannon will be on this committee.

Pat passed cards to be signed for sick and shut ins. Since our bible study is to start at February meeting we will be doing things a little differently to expedite the meetings. Cards will be laid out to be signed at end of meeting by anyone wishing to sign them. Refreshments will be enjoyed during the video portion of the bible study. We will not

have devotions other than the bible study.

Donna wondered if we could find a women's retreat, possibly have a fundraiser to offset costs, etc. Shannon recommended we find the retreat and see how many interested and plan the fundraiser then. We discussed possibility of a mixer with the Burnettsville women's group.

Donna closed meeting with prayer. Trina served wonderful refreshments as we shared in fellowship.

### **2012 Women's Fellowship Officers are:**

Donna Lewellen - President  
Danielle Wharff - Vice President  
Lonetta Felz - Treasurer  
Brenda Johns - Secretary  
Shannon Kelly - Assistant Sec/  
Treasurer

**Our next meeting will be February 1<sup>st</sup> at the Church and will be hosted by Jo White.**

## Golden Agers

Submitted by Dieter Hantschel

Teresa Alexander, Martha and Gary Reedy, Sherry and Dieter Hantschel, Ann Conrad, Helen Hanna, Marilyn and John Crowel, Don Dill, Bob Tobey and Jonah Peterson came together at Arleen and Bud Stangle's home to usher in the new year in Christian fellowship.

Arleen had cooked up three pots of scrumptious soups and the rest of us brought along the salads and desserts that would ensure no one would leave hungry. Our nourishment included Arleen's prayer for the Lord's blessings of the food, as well as prayers for the needs of our families and friends, their health and well being. After the meal we gathered to hear Dieter's devotional presentation, composed for this occasion. In it he stressed that sometimes we are asked to perform a Christian duty but feel "we're not up to it." Yet, by and with God "all things are possible" (Matt. 19:26) and he encouraged everyone to step up to the plate when called upon to offer prayer, offer devotions or do

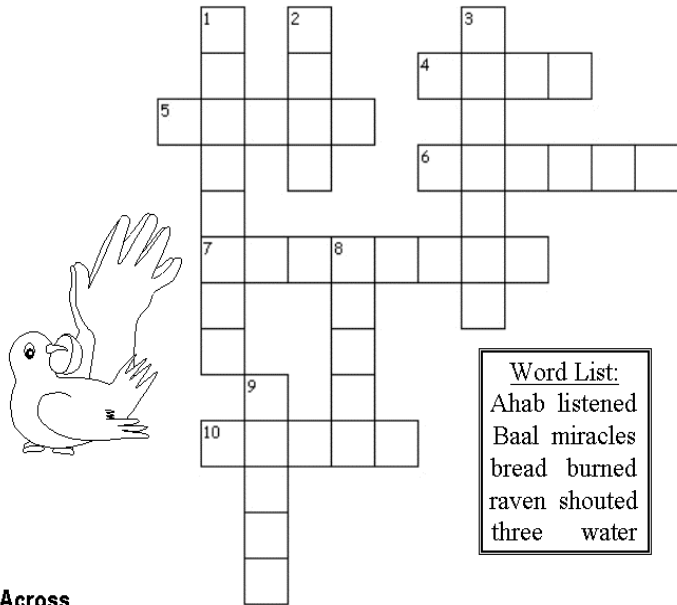
something outside our "comfort zone."

Several enriching conversations followed, many of them based on the great history almost everyone in the group could share due to having deep roots in this church community. Helen called on over 75 years membership in Hickory Grove Church, bringing to mind many a tale of people we remember, some long gone, others still with us. Bob had thoughts on historic events that affected the native Pottawatomie tribe that once resided on these lands.

Another worthwhile discussion centered on the importance and value of all of us to start writing down our own life stories to preserve memories and facts for the benefit of the younger generations to follow.

Arleen and Bud invite everyone, not just the "regulars," to come to their house again for the February 2nd Golden Agers' meeting. Please be ready for "Stangle Sandwiches," along with your salads and desserts. Mainly, though, for the benefit of sharing Christian thoughts and love with one another.

# FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART



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

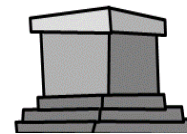
**Across**

- 4. This king didn't obey God but worshipped Baal the weather god.
- 5. The woman who fed Elijah never had to worry about making this again.
- 6. After Elijah only asked God once, his alter completely \_\_\_\_ up.
- 7. This story is full of examples of when Elijah prayed God \_\_\_\_ and answered.
- 10. This is the type of bird that brought food to Elijah.

**Down**

- 1. Try to count all of these in the story, amazing things only God could do.
- 2. This is the name of the made up god most of the Israelites worshipped.
- 3. The prophets of Baal danced and \_\_\_\_ to their god but he couldn't listen.
- 8. There was no rain or dew in Israel for \_\_\_\_ years because God stopped it.
- 9. Elijah drenched his alter full of this to prove that God can do anything.

- |          |          |
|----------|----------|
| Ahab     | fire     |
| answered | listened |
| Baal     | miracles |
| believed | obeyed   |
| bread    | prays    |
| burned   | prophet  |
| Carmel   | raven    |
| clouds   | shouted  |
| drought  | simple   |
| fed      | three    |
|          | water    |



## Youth Group Update ~ con't.

*(Continued from page 1)*

to Emmaus of **175 boxes of Jell-O**, not only did the Jr. High Group organize the bake sale to raise funds (that you provided), and purchase the Jell-O, but they also went to Emmaus and finished packing 175 bags of goodies for the needy in the Logansport area.... hats off to these young missionaries!

We also studied "Is that lady fakin' it?". I'm sure we all saw the woman with sign outside of Wal-Mart. We talked about the average income for a family in Indiana. They each made a grocery list of what they would need to eat for a week... and then we talked about expenses, rent, insurance, utilities, gas, clothing, etc. They quickly found that you can go hungry while having a job.... or in her case, a nice looking coat. I know that this is sounding like a economics lesson... but we then talked about what **God tells US** we are suppose to do when we see people and doubt that they need help. They read and studied Luke 6:30,35-36. After reading this and discussing it, they had a new outlook on how they are to act and follow Jesus. Would you change how you reacted? I would but I never saw her at that sign again....

We pray that you will continue to support your youth and their activities throughout the year. Please don't hesitate to ask us for help, we will be here for you when you need us! God Bless,

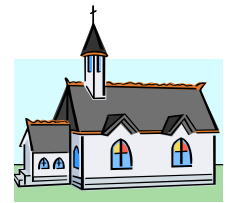
Your Hickory Grove Youth Leaders,  
 Rusty and Rachelle Bird  
 Jamie and Melanie Campbell



**HICKORY GROVE  
CHURCH**

9714 N 700 W  
Delphi, IN 46923

**Phone:**  
**574-965-2731**  
**Ken Smith, Pastor**



The friendly church at the  
side of the road!

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## 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 6<sup>th</sup> Street,  
Monticello IN 47960

**Maxine White**  
106 W Vine Street  
Delphi, IN 46923

**Joan Mikesell**  
White Oak 814 S 6<sup>th</sup> St  
Monticello IN 47960

**Mason Reese**  
1719 S 7th Street  
Tacoma, WA 98405

**College Student**  
**Tammy Veach**  
P.O. Box 895  
Winona Lake, IN 46590

**Sam Lashbrook**  
1602 N 2nd St  
Vincennes, IN 47591

**Cody Koedam**  
543 Indiana Avenue  
Apt. 1208  
Indianapolis, IN 46202

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## 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

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

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

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## 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!

