

Hickory Grove Church

Hickory Switch

August
2012



Upcoming Events

August

2nd-11:30 Golden Agers at Esmeralda's

12th-4:00-6:00 Ice Cream Social

14th-Delphi Community School Corp. Superintendent's Prayer Breakfast

14th-Youth Group Kick-Off

20th-7:00 Deacon Mtg

27th-6:30 Youth Council Mtg

Annual Ice Cream Social is to be held Sunday afternoon, August 12th from 4-6 with free will donations to benefit the Idaville Fire Department. Please come and share in

Schwan's Ice Cream and great fellowship!



Trap Shoot Outing

The much anticipated trap shooting event came to fruition on a very hot Sunday afternoon, July 22nd. 22 people of all ages and gender participated in the trap shooting event held at the Isaac Walton League in Logansport. 1297 targets were thrown. Who knew we had such good trap shooters in our congregation?! Several others joined just to watch and some others came to fish. 7 people representing the Isaac Walton League instructed us in gun safety and gave pointers for better shooting techniques. We really appreciate them volunteering their time! This event was supported by the Mission & Outreach as a means to get people involved in a Christian event who may not be as open to attending a Sunday morning service.



There was a hangin' at the church the other day!

By Gary Reedy and Dieter Hantschel

Yep, there was! No ord'nary hangin', though. It was the tree that was being hung. But we're getting way ahead of the story.

Let's first go back a few years. Once upon a time there was a Heritage Nook installed at the south side of the sanctuary. In it were all sorts of reminders of the history of our beloved Hickory

Grove Church. In 2009, when the southward expansion of our sanctuary began, the Nook and the wall supporting it, had to come out. Thus the contents of the Nook were carefully put into safekeeping.

Along with the walls being taken down, Jim Mikesell was confronted by the task of doing something with a tree that also stood in the way of the build-

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Quote

"Most of the ground that Satan gains in the life of a believer is gained thru the open door of unforgiveness."

~Life Point

PASTOR'S PEN

Pastor's Report Business Meeting July 12th, 2012

A couple of weeks ago, we lost one of our beloved members, Maxine White. Actually we did not lose her, she was promoted to the highest honor any Christian can attain, eternity with God. Her life was exemplary as a Christian. She served this church all of her life. She also felt bad toward the end of her life that she could not be as involved as she would like to. She was ready to give up her life but not ready to give up the fight for Christ. I visited with her often in her later years; I am better for it. She made a graceful departure from this earth. For those that were able to attend her funeral service, one of the men she admired most, Pastor Herm Fisher, was in attendance. Oh how she loved him. He had promised her he would be at her funeral if she died 1st and he was able.

From all of your testimonies of Pastor Herm, and from my being with him on several occasions, I have come to love, admire and respect him deeply. I enjoy talking with him. In his eyes I see the light of much wisdom and love of God and people. When we said our goodbyes on that Tuesday I told him of my love and respect for him. I offered if there was any way I could ever be a blessing to him, to please call on me. He looked me straight in the eyes as he held my hands and said: "Just keep going; just keep going".

I was reminded instantly of a time over 20 some years ago at my ordination service, when another pastor I respected greatly, Pastor Edgar Allen, handed a Bible to me with the instruction: "Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long-suffering and doctrine". II Tim 4:2. Pastor Herm's words still are ringing in my ears, because in his wisdom I know he had a message. I believe it was a message for me as a Pastor and a message for us as a church: "Just keep going; just keep going"

You see, today, we live in a throw away world. We use something till we tire of it; then discard it. When it doesn't work like we want it to, we just get rid of it. We don't worry about taking real good care of it because it isn't going to last very long anyway. No need to invest too much time and energy in it. Our church generation in this society has slowly been becoming throw away churches. Most people are willing to invest Sunday morning into it, but that seems to be the extent of commitment. I believe the doors of the church should be revolving doors because of the number and times of the people going through them. I love it when I come here and find the door unlocked. It says to me some one has been here, for what I do not know nor do I need to know.

I want to encourage you. Ever feel like quitting, pulling back, letting someone else do it? If so "Just keep going; just keep going". You are not responsible for the dedication and involvement of other people, just you. If everyone became a Sunday morning only Christian, where would the ministry of the church be today? It would be far from where God intended it to be. There would be no more dinners prepared for funerals or for people that need help, no more Bible Studies, no more Women's Fellowship, no more Youth Group Meetings, no more taking our Elementary Children on outings, no more helping Missionaries pack supplies, no more events for raising finances to support the local Fire Department, our Missionaries abroad, our Food pantries. There would be no more decorating the church for special occasions, no more Spring or Fall Cleanup Days, no more Family Night. Oh we would still have a building we could come to, but what kind of a body would we have? "Just keep going; just keep going". I pray those words of wisdom will keep ringing in your ears as well. God has entrusted much to us; He paid a debt He did not owe and we owe a debt we cannot pay. I pray we will keep at it though. "Just keep going; just keep going".

Blessings,

Pastor Ken

August 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	2 Bryan Felz Gwenyth Cole 11:30 Golden Agers at Esmeralda's	3	4
5	6 Jeanne Potts	7	8 Sandy Coultas	9 Kevin & Patti Lashbrook	10	11 Dianne Reagan
12 Don Dill 4:00-6:00 Ice Cream Social	13 Vicki Criswell Jean Barnes	14 Youth Group Kick-Off DCSC Superinten- dant's Prayer Breakfast	15	16 Jean Marion Walter Potts Debbie Martin	17 Donna Mikesell Sharon Lantz	18 Danielle Wharff Skip Barnes
19	20 Nicole Shockley 7:00 Deacon Mtg	21 Dick & Jean Marion Larry Jenkins	22	23	24	25
26 Vicki Sickler TJ & Megan Barrett	27 Maci White 6:30 Youth Council Mtg	28 Vernie & Vicki Criswell Paula Foster	29 Ivan Veach	30	31 Charles & Stephanie Shockley	1
2 Rusty & Rachelle Bird	3	4 Justin Wharff	5 Roy Dunn	6	7 Roger Stewart Mason Barrett	8
<i>September</i>						

Check out our website at www.hickorygrove.info

TRAP SHOOT OUTING~CON'T.



Golden Agers

Submitted by Dieter Hantschel

The change of venue to Esmeralda's Restaurant afforded the Golden Agers a nearly private room for the luncheon fellowship and devotions on July 5. With John Harvey having said Grace, we soon enjoyed a varied selection of menu items. Some traditionalist even ventured into unknown territory such as accepting Taco-Lime soup, as the more familiar chicken noodle soup wasn't ready yet. And they enjoyed it!! Others were quite pleased to have some Mexican dishes to choose from but there was ample "normal" food for others to enjoy as well.

The meals finished, Ruth Crown paid a fitting tribute to the founder of the Golden Agers, our recently departed Maxine White. Maxine started this group 29 years ago and, until her health forbade her attendance, she was a lively participant in our doings. This very day we still benefit from her initiative and foresight.

Dieter Hantschel selected for devotions a few statements from *Our Daily Bread*, pertaining to the oft discussed timing of Jesus' return. The Sav-

ior himself said that His return would be "at an hour you do not expect" (Luke 12:40). The lesson being that being prepared is about purifying ourselves and becoming more and more like Jesus. Will we be prepared when it's time for the "real thing?"

Birthday festivities rounded out the gathering, as John Crowel actually had his birthday on July 5, and not to miss the opportunity, we also celebrated Jonah Peterson's July 11 birthday. Gary Reedy's July 12 birthday was noted also. Martha Reedy's July 24 birthday and the Reedy wedding anniversary, as well as Sherry's and Dieter's, received mention and congratulations.

Also in attendance were Marilyn Crowel, Don Dill, Bob Tobey and Brian Winterburg. All of us invite Hickory Grove people and even other believing friends of all ages to come and fellowship with the Golden Agers on August 2, 11:30 a.m. at Esmeralda's on Rickey Road in Monticello. Do you remember the TV commercial? "Try it, you'll like it!!"

There was a hangin' at the church the other day! ~ Con't.

(Continued from page 1)

ing project. That's the tree we're writing about. It was planted probably in the fall of 1973 by Charles Hanna in memory of his mother, Martha Hanna. Over time it grew into a stately Crimson Maple and graced the southeast corner of the "Little Church by the Road."

Jim did everything to salvage as much of the tree as possible, owing to the fact that there was discussion about making it into a bench to sit in front of the church. It soon became apparent that the tree had suffered over the years but really didn't show it. Kinda like some of us, don't you think?

After preserving as much of the trunk as he could, Jim transported the wood to Jonah Peterson in the Spring of 2010 when the assessment was made that there wasn't enough usable wood to make a bench and the idea of making a cabinet started gelling. Jonah's expertise and creativity were on the line. What he had to work with challenged him and his sawmill: the wood was very badly damaged, in part by having been hit by lightning once, perhaps twice.

After a while of studying the grain patterns and the structure of the wood, Jonah came up with a way to extract the maximum amount of boards that would allow another expert in wood, Bob Tobey, to fashion a slim cabinet into the new Heritage Nook. He took the rough sawn boards, planed them, cut them to size. Tobey experienced some very trying times as he tried to make the rough sawn planks into cabinet quality wood. Even after more than two years of drying, the boards displayed minds of their own, warping and splitting right before Tobey's eyes. He and John Crowel spent many hours "taming" some of the uncooperative pieces. Finally, by July 3, 2012, the finished product, lovingly sanded, stained and clear coated found its way onto John's

truck. The Nook made its way from Tobey's Lake Shafer work shop to the church. John and Tobey were met by these reporters. This foursome of "slightly older hunks" (average age: 78 and three months!!) then carefully transported the finished, more than 200 pound, Nook into the church by way of some clever carrying beams, fashioned by John. The Nook's size made it impossible to clear the door openings if carried flat, which would have been the easier way. The Nook had to be carried upright. The beams and handles made this possible. Once around the two turns within the church, the Nook was placed upon temporary support contraption, engineered by Tobey in advance. He then directed the crew to hang the Nook in the spot designated for it. Thus, the truth that **"there was a hangin' at the church the other day."** Yep, there was!

A tree, once lovingly planted in memory of a member of our church, stricken by bolts of lightning, enduring 37 winters and summers, and providing shade, comfort and memories over the years, has again become an enduring memorial to the noble history of Hickory Grove Church and the many who have served it and the Lord.

Again capping the Nook is wooden lettering that was hand cut by James White in 1979 with memorial funds from the death of his granddaughter Pamela J. White.

We encourage all to take a moment or two or three to gaze at the coloring and the grain of the wood, so carefully and skillfully preserved

and crafted, telling its own tales of those long 37 years, as well as the loving memories that once again have a home in the Hickory Grove Heritage Nook.



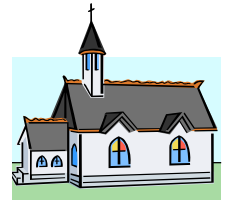


**HICKORY GROVE
CHURCH**

9714 N 700 W
Delphi, IN 46923

Phone:

574-965-2731
Ken Smith, Pastor



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

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

Joan Mikesell

White Oak 814 S 6th St
Monticello IN 47960

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 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

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!

