

# Hickory Grove Church

## Hickory Switch

September  
2012



### Upcoming Events

#### September

5th 7:00 Women's Fellowship

6th-11:30 Golden Agers at the home of Ruth Crawn

17th-7:00 Deacon's Mtg

19th-6:00 Mission & Outreach Mtg

19th-7:00 Bible Study

22nd-10:00-2:00 Community Booth Day at Burnettsville

26th-7:00 Bible Study

#### October

3rd-7:00 Women's Fellowship

4th-11:30 Golden Agers-TBA



### Ice Cream Social

The Annual Ice Cream Social was held on a beautiful August 12<sup>th</sup> afternoon. We had a wonderful attendance and raised \$890 at the event to benefit the Idaville Fire Department. Mission & Outreach agreed to top it off to \$1000. The Idaville Fire Department brought a fire truck and a tanker and the kids thoroughly enjoyed covering every inch of the trucks, climbing, riding, sitting, pretending to drive. They really had a big day! Thank you to all the guys at the fire department for all of their services to the community throughout the year as well as the fun they provided on this day. Thank you to EVERYONE who ate some ice cream, shared in fellowship and donated to the fire department.



### Fall Bazaar Info

Annual Fall Bazaar October 20th - The fall bazaar is quickly approaching! Crafts, holiday items, baked goods and even gently used items can be donated. Proceeds from the bazaar will go to Women's Fellow-

ship. This is our main fundraiser to help support multiple missions and community needs.

### Quote

*"There is no need to be ashamed of tears, for tears bear witness that a man has the greatest of courage, the courage to suffer." ~ Author unknown*

## PASTOR'S PEN

### *A Drought Has Hit Our Land*

New weather records have been set this year. The high temperatures and the lack of rain have taken a drastic toll and top the charts of conversations. Looking at my yard has revealed some realities to me. Now my yard is mostly sand, it dries out much quicker than other soils; and my lack of grass proves it. James said: (Js 1:11) *"The hot sun rises and the grass withers; the little flower droops and falls, and its beauty fades away. In the same way, the rich will fade away with all of their achievements"*. Isaiah said: (Is 40:7) *"The grass withers and the flowers fall, because the breath of the Lord blows on them. Surely the people are grass"*.

Stop and think how much time, labor and money we put into our lawns and in a couple of month's time a drought wipes them out. These things bring us to the reality that we would have been better off putting our time, labor and money in the work of the Kingdom. Our yard had been a pretty decent looking yard for a sand hill. I was starting to understand that when you get the grass thick enough it crowds out the weeds. I made another observation, as the grass withered, something else appeared in its place: weeds. In places where nothing else will grow, weeds will grow. When the weeds are left to grow, the grass begins to be crowded out. Where did the weeds come from? They came from the lack of grass that resulted from lack of rain.

There is a Spiritual drought in our land. We have shoved God out of our schools and our government and sadly enough out of our churches and homes. We have turned from him as a nation, as churches and as a people. Therefore God has withheld the rain, the rain of His Spirit. When that happens, what comes next? Weeds; weeds that come into our lives unawares. Then one day we look up and ask, where did all the weeds come from? The unsightly vegetation fills our land. They are the weeds of sin. Some of these sins our government has legalized and turned into laws. The laws that we often sit by and say: Well maybe same sex marriage isn't a sin; maybe abortion is ok with God. When you can kick a dog and go to jail but abort a child and then go to lunch, something is very wrong, very sick.

When our churches become lack luster in their faith, when Christians get discouraged and stop going to worship their God, when the things of this earth become more appealing on a Sunday morning than going to worship the creator of the earth and life itself, when we take the fact that Jesus died on a cross that we might have eternal life for granted, when we invest our tithes in entertainment and sports and our stuff.....weeds come in.....the weeds of sin. They come into our schools and our government and sadly enough into our homes and churches. Christian, do you think it is not important that you remain faithful in your commitment to your God? If you don't, get ready for weeds in your life.

BUT, but, but if you are tired of the weeds; God promised through the prophet Isaiah: (Is 35:7) *"The burning sand will become a pool, the thirsty ground bubbling springs. In the haunts where jackals once lay, grass and reeds and papyrus will grow"*. (Is 44:3) *"For I will pour water on the thirsty land, and streams on the dry ground; I will pour out my Spirit on your offspring, and my blessing on your descendants"*. When will that happen? II Chron 7:14 tells us: *"If my people, who are called by my name, will 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"*. It will happen when we turn from our wicked ways and seek Him. Ps 63:1 A psalm of David when he was in the Desert of Judah. *"O God, you are my God, earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you, my body longs for you, in a dry and weary land where there is no water"*.

I pray that we all begin to thirst for God before it is too late and cry out to Him before He unleashes His wrath on this earth. May we cry out to Him in tears of repentance and beg Him for His mercy. Is 55:6 *"Seek the Lord while he may be found; call on him while he is near"*. Today marks the first day of the rest of your life. What are you going to do with it? Will you cry out for an outpouring of God's Spirit? Will you gather with other believers this Sunday or will you give something else priority? Please pray with many that are already praying: "Oh God, we are dry and thirsty, please send the rain. Please refresh us once more with revival in our land."

Blessings,

*Pastor Ken*



# September 2012

## Hickory Grove Church

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 Rusty & Rachelle Bird
2	3	4 Justin Wharff	5 Roy Dunn 7:00 Women's Fellowship	6 11:30 Golden Agers @ Ruth Crown's home	7 Roger Stewart Mason Barrett	8 Lillian Clothier Sam & Brenda Johns
9	10	11 Cody Koedam Jessica Cole	12 Arleen Stangle 7:00 Bible Study	13 Ben Parker	14 Ken Smith	15 Marvin & Judy Harker
16	17 7:00 Deacon's Mtg	18 Marvin Harker	19 6:00 Mission & Outreach 7:00 Bible Study	20 Dick Marion Melissa Nacke	21 Tami Veach	22 10:00-2:00 Community Booth Day at B'ville
23	24 Jim Mikesell Helen Hanna	25	26 Tanna Lewellen Joshua Cain Jamie & Melanie Campbell 7:00 Bible Study	27	28	29 Brice & Judy Crowel Brandon & Shawna Cunningham
30 Kevin Lashbrook Isaac Lashbrook	1	2 Bailee Curts	3 7:00 Women's Fellowship	4 11:30 Golden Agers-TBA	5	6 Sara Felz

*October*

9714 N 700 W  
Delphi, IN 46923

Phone:  
574-965-2731  
Ken Smith, Pastor

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

## Special Grocery List

Louise Redden, a poorly dressed lady with a look of defeat on her face, walked into a grocery store. She approached the owner of the store in a most humble manner and asked if he would let her charge a few groceries.

She softly explained that her husband was very ill and unable to work, they had seven children and they needed food.

John Longhouse, the grocer, scoffed at her and requested that she leave his store at once.

Visualizing the family needs, she said: 'Please, sir! I will bring you the money just as soon as I can.'

John told her he could not give her credit, since she did not have a charge account at his store.

Standing beside the counter was a customer who overheard the conversation between the two. The customer walked forward and told the grocer that he would stand good for whatever she needed for her family. The grocer said in a very reluctant voice, 'Do you have a grocery list?'

Louise replied, 'Yes sir.' 'O.K' he said, 'put your grocery list on the scales and whatever your grocery list weighs, I will give you that amount in groceries.'

Louise hesitated a moment with a bowed head, then she reached into her purse and took out a piece of paper and scribbled something on it. She

then laid the piece of paper on the scale carefully with her head still bowed.

The eyes of the grocer and the customer showed amazement when the scales went down and stayed down.

The grocer, staring at the scales, turned slowly to the customer and said begrudgingly, 'I can't believe it.'

The customer smiled and the grocer started putting the groceries on the other side of the scales. The scale did not balance so he continued to put more and more groceries on them until the scales would hold no more.

The grocer stood there in utter disgust. Finally, he grabbed the piece of paper from the scales and looked at it with greater amazement.

It was not a grocery list, it was a prayer, which said:

**'Dear Lord, you know my needs and I am leaving this in your hands.'**

The grocer gave her the groceries that he had gathered and stood in stunned silence.

Louise thanked him and left the store.... The other customer handed a fifty-dollar bill to the grocer and said; 'It was worth every penny of it. Only God Knows how much a prayer weighs..'

## Golden Agers

Submitted by Dieter Hantschel

Readers of our bulletin announcements and this column will recall that we are delighted to invite everyone without regard to age to fellowship, devotions and Christian love. Our August 2 gathering confirmed this, as Arleen and Bud Stangle brought their five year-old great-granddaughter, Lovaya, and Phyllis Wise was accompanied by her granddaughter, Jenny. They fellowshipped with the Reedys, Crowels, Hantschels, Don Dill, Ruth Crawn, Brian Winterburg and Bob Tobey. Before partaking of the varied menu selections at Esmeralda's, Ruth had everyone join hands and recite the Lord's Prayer. Secular topics then homed in on the devastating drought, the effects on local crops, wells drying up and gardens not doing well this year.

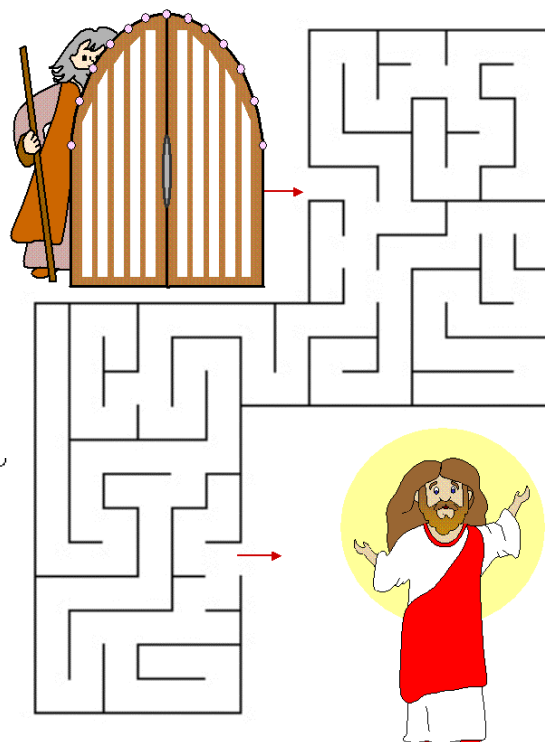
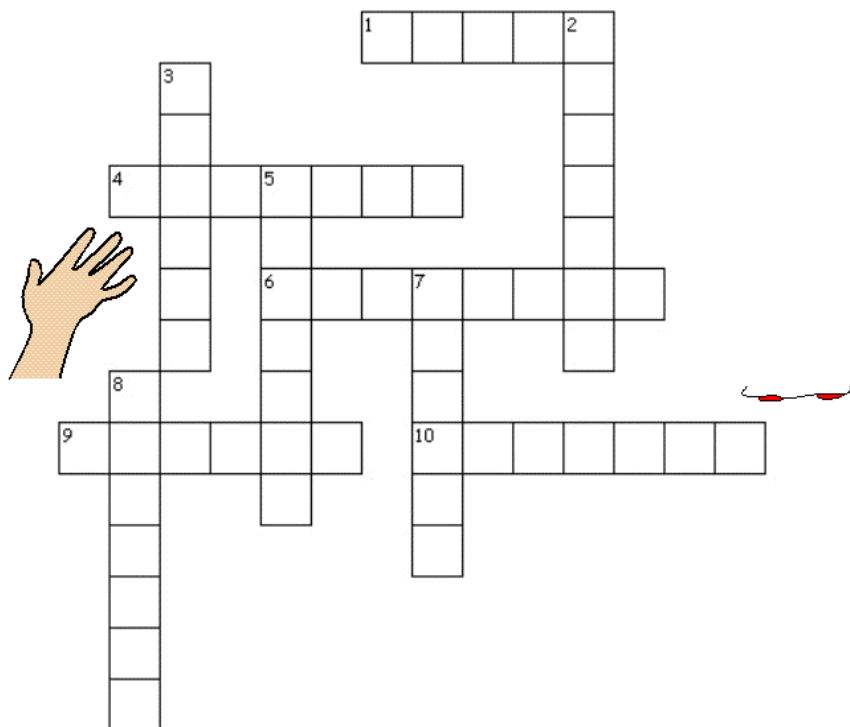
For her devotional topic, Arleen first shared a power point presentation about American free-

dom, which, of course, includes the freedom of religion and the free exercise thereof. Of the many hard hitting messages, we select one to share here: "Only a government that is afraid of its citizens wants to control them." The nation's founders provided the safeguards against that hap-



# FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART

## Jesus Heals Leprosy Crossword



### Across

1. Jesus healed the man by a quick and miraculous \_\_\_\_.
4. Leprosy is a type of bacterial \_\_\_\_.
6. The man with leprosy was not only healed but \_\_\_\_ on the inside as well.
9. Jesus did this for the leper and didn't get sick himself.
10. Lepers felt this because of the disease and because others thought it was caused by sin.

### Down

2. The man was this before Jesus when he fell at his knees.
3. The man went to this person to get permission to live among others again.
5. Jesus asked the man not to tell others of the miracle but he was to \_\_\_\_.
7. Lepers weren't allowed in the city because others were this.
8. This is a disease that can change the way people look.

Word List:	
ashamed	touch
disease	healed
cleansed	priest
excited	leprosy
humbled	afraid

## Golden Agers ~ Con't.

*(Continued from page 4)*

pening. Using that message, Arleen then transitioned the discussion to the recent mayhem at the Colorado movie theatre and then to the biblical guidance we receive in Matthew 5:21-26 and Luke 12:57-59 on the subject of murder. Lively discussion followed, as might be expected.

The next Golden Agers meeting will be on September 6, 11:30 a.m., at the home of Ruth Crawn. She and Teresa Alexander will prepare the meal.

Ruth proposed that the moneys everyone usually spends at a restaurant be donated to Carroll County Religious Education, an organization that provides biblical education to students during the free time of their school day. To aid Ruth and Teresa in the meal planning, it is strongly requested that they be notified of your presence. Please call 574.965.2706 to reserve your place and plate.

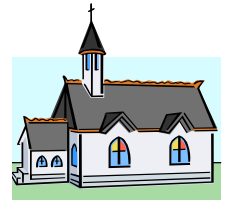


**HICKORY GROVE  
CHURCH**

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

**Joan Mikesell**

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

**Our College Kids:**

**Nicholl Cain and Coral  
Sparks**

508 Michigan Street, Apart-  
ment 3, Plymouth IN 46563

**Ivan Veach**

200 Seminary Drive  
Box 1275  
Winona Lake IN 46590

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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  
**whispi@comcast.net**

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!

