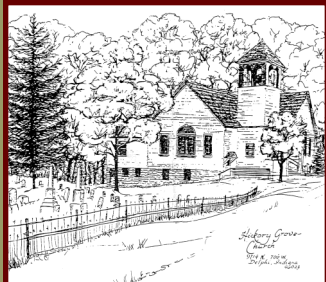


Hickory Switch



Upcoming Events

January

2nd-7:00 Women's Fellowship
3rd-Golden Agers-Angler's Restaurant
9th-7:00 Bible Study
10th-7:00 Business Meeting
16th-7:00 Bible Study
21st-7:00 Deacon's Meeting
23rd-7:00 Bible Study
28th-7:00 Youth Council Meeting
30th-7:00 Bible Study



Psalm 107:1 "Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever."



To **every thing** there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven:

A time to be **born**, and a time to **die**;
a time to **plant**, and a time to **uproot**;

A time to **kill**, and a time to **heal**;
a time to **tear down**, and a time to **build up**;

A time to **weep**, and a time to **laugh**;
a time to **mourn**, and a time to **dance**;

A time to **cast away stones**,
and a time to **gather**;
a time to **embrace**, and a time to **refrain**;

A time to **search**, and a time **give up**;
a time to **keep**, and a time to **throw away**;

A time to **rend**, and a time to **sew**;
a time to keep **silence**, and a time to **speak**;

A time to **love**, and a time to **hate**;
a time of **war**, and a time of **peace**.

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

Did you know... that our Church tithes off of your offering?
Thus 10% of all plate collection goes back out of the Church to local food pantries, special needs and local and foreign missions. This will amount to approximately \$14,000 for 2012!

PASTOR'S PEN

What Changes Will This Year Bring?

OK. So I don't really like New Year's Resolutions. Most of them are about diet anyway and get broken as soon as the guilt of gaining weight over the Christmas Season has passed. I do put a lot of stock in Romans 12:2 "Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is--his good, pleasing and perfect will". I am convinced that in myself, I can change nothing unless I allow the Holy Spirit of God to do the work within me. That is transformation that will last.

So what changes will this New Year bring to you? You will be changed in one way or another. We are constantly changing people in a constantly changing world. Obviously one of the 1st things we must ask ourselves is: "what is His good, pleasing and perfect will"? In most areas God is most clear, He has spelled them out in His Word. You are well read in His Word aren't you? You may want to get one of the "God's Promises" books. They are found in most bookstores even though they may not be Christian Bookstores. Just look in the "religious section". Be careful because you will also find other stuff there (ackey).

God has a definite plan for your life. He spells it out in His Word. He has preferences and boundaries. In some areas He is very concerned in, He makes it quite clear. You probably won't find the answer to "what color of car should I buy". But you will find answers to what God would have you do with your life and how to live it. So what changes will this New Year bring to you?

I pray one will be a turning back to God, as "Individuals" and as "A Body of Believers". I trust it will be one of making God a priority of your time, your attention, your activities, your finances, your pantry, your family and your...everything. I trust you will make decisions based on God's Word. I say making God a priority because of the path the church is taking toward the world and the things of man. While I am quite adamant that church cannot save you, it is still the best avenue in town for Christians to live out their Christian faith. At the rate the churches are going, unless the believers unite in one accord and take a stand to put God 1st, I fear there will be more Christians on ball fields and racetracks, swimming pools and lakes, fields and streams on Sunday morning than in services worshipping the God that saves us and sets us free from sin.

I find it interesting that in the "Revelation" to John, there is not mention of the United States in the end times. There is no reference to "the great nation from the west" that swoops in to save Israel. There is no reference to the faith of the Amazing Americans that inhabit the land of truth, justice and the American way. The American Dream will be only one that our ancestors will vaguely remember.

So I pray you to stir yourselves up into victory in Christ Jesus. Take a stand; make a difference while there is yet today. We've a story to tell to the nations.

We've a story to tell to the nations, that shall turn their hearts to the right, a story of truth and mercy, a story of peace and light.

We've a song to be sung to the nations, that shall lift their hearts to the Lord, a song that shall conquer evil and shatter the spear and sword.

We've a message to give to the nations, that the Lord who reigneth above hath sent us his Son to save us, and show us that God is love.

We've a Savior to show to the nations, who the path of sorrow hath trod, that all of the world's great peoples might come to the truth of God.

For the darkness shall turn to dawning, and the dawning to noonday bright; and Christ's great kingdom shall come on earth, the kingdom of love and light.

Please join me this year in putting the things of God first. Please join other like minded Christians for Sunday Worship, Sunday School, Intercessory Prayer, Women's Fellowship (Outreach), Vacation Bible School (Outreach), Emmaus Work Days (Outreach), Youth Groups (Outreach), Wood Parties (Outreach), Ice Cream Socials (Outreach), Christmas Eve Services (Worship), Ladies Prayer Times (Intercession), Shoveling Snow (Service), Raking Leaves (Service), etc., etc., etc.

God does not need us to fulfill His Work here on earth....but He wants to use us.

Happy New Year,

Pastor Ken



January 2013

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 Martin & Donna Lewellen	2 Nick Spitzer 7:00 Women's Fellowship	3 11:30 Golden Agers	4	5 Dieter Hantschel Kaleb Philo Barbara Humphrey
6	7	8 Rachelle Bird	9 Shannon Kelly 7:00 Bible Study	10 Nolan Yoakum 7:00 Business Mtg.	11	12 Diana Bailey
13	14 Mairi Cunningham Aaron Nacke	15 Susan Hill	16 7:00 Bible Study	17 John Harvey	18	19
20 Bud Stangle	21 Terry & Jo Dill 7:00 Deacon Mtg	22 Bob White	23 7:00 Bible Study	24 Melanie Campbell Walter & Clara Potts Chuck Shockley	25 Tom & Sue Armstrong	26
27	28 Shawna Cunningham 7:00 Youth Council Mtg.	29	30 7:00 Bible Study	31 Charlie Shockley	1 Andy Kelly Cassie Evans	2 Leisha Hill
3 Marlita Joseph	4	5 Matt Heber	6 David Veach Trisha Curts 7:00 Women's Fellowship	7 Megan Kelly Trina Smith	8	9

February

Check out our website at www.hickorygrove.info

Women's Fellowship ~

Submitted by Shannon Kelley

President Donna Lewellen opened our meeting with prayer. Gloria Heber spoke on the customs and traditions of other countries during the Christmas season. We learned that France celebrates St. Nicholas Day on December 6th. Children put shoes out the night before and wake up to small gifts, candies in them. Holland, Russia and Germany also celebrate St. Nicholas Day. Russia had gotten away from this for awhile but is coming back to it. The Advent wreath and Christmas tree custom originated in Germany. Holland is known for "letter cakes". A cake is made in the shape of the letter of your last name. Sometimes a smaller cake with a child's first initial might be given to them. Sinterklass is who the gifts are from. Spain celebrates Christmas starting on December 8th, with a fast on Christmas eve, midnight mass and then a feast on Christmas Day. Israel also starts their Christmas on the 8th which is when Hannukkah is. The 13th is Sweden's start of the season and the oldest child wears a candle head wreath and serves tea ring for breakfast. Sweden is where the word "smorgasbord" comes from. On the 15th Italy starts their season. They are known for the origination of Christmas carols and the manger scenes. They celebrate 3 Kings Day on January 6th by the kids putting their shoes out for treats as well. On December 16th Mexico starts their 9 days of celebrating. They reenact the travels of Joseph and Mary to Bethlehem. On Christmas Eve the children lead the people to Church. Gloria finished up by talking a little about England, China and Japan. England has a Christingle ball made of an orange (world) can-

dle (light) red ribbon (Jesus blood) and grape (fruits of the Spirit). China celebrates the Holy Birth Festival and the Lighting of the Trees. Japan only has 1% population of Christians and Christmas is hardly celebrated. We learned about Boxing Day in England and Australia. Boxing Day originally was when the Church had a box available to put money in and then they distributed on Boxing Day to the poor. Now giving tips to service people (mail carrier, etc) is the custom. Gloria made a tea ring and trifle dish for us to try for refreshments. They were wonderful!

We divided up the cookies that were brought and sent them home with everyone to enjoy.

For the meeting portion, secretary and treasurer reports were read and approved with a balance December 1, 2012 of \$1113.48. Correspondence was read from White County Food Pantry thanking us for recent donation. We discussed the upcoming Emmaus dinner menu and the fact that enough items were donated that we do not need the \$100 from Women's Fellowship to purchase additional prizes. There are 12 men, 8 women and 3 children at the home at this time. Donna recommended passing on a blessing to a local waitress who is in need by visiting the restaurant and leaving a large tip. Some ideas were shared and we agreed to use the \$100 not used for Emmaus for this project. Information will be obtained and plans will be made later. A bank shower will be held for Cassie Evan's and baby Hunter Alan Evans at our January meeting. We will continue study of book of Esther next month. Donna closed our meeting with prayer.

Golden Agers

Submitted by Dieter Hantschel

Christmas decorations, almost from the mailbox out front, through the house and up the chimney, greeted 16 Golden Agers, for the December gathering at Arleen and Bud Stangle's home for the inauguration of the Christmas season. It wasn't long before plates were loaded with delightful hors d'oeuvres to prepare the palates for the entrees to follow.

Men gathered at one table, the ladies at another and soon the kitchen became the center of attention where a bounty of carry-in side dishes and the entree of sliced ham awaited all. A wonderful prayer asked for the Lord's blessings and gave thanks for all the goodness we receive from Him.

Later, as the plates were empty of even the remnants of tempting desserts, all gathered in the living room to hear Arleen read the Christmas Story

(Luke), followed by several other stories befitting the holy season. Included was a variant of "The Night before Christmas," relating the plight of a homeless soldier. The strains of "Jingle Bells" and "Winter Wonderland" reminded

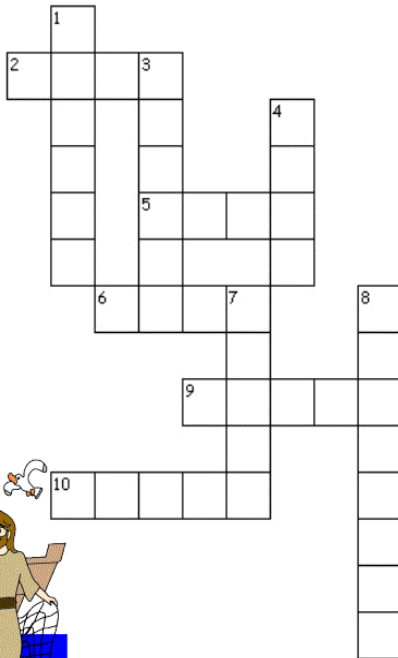
us that some of us need to rehearse these musical evergreens before going public. The words to the latter of these two were a parody, adapted to recall a



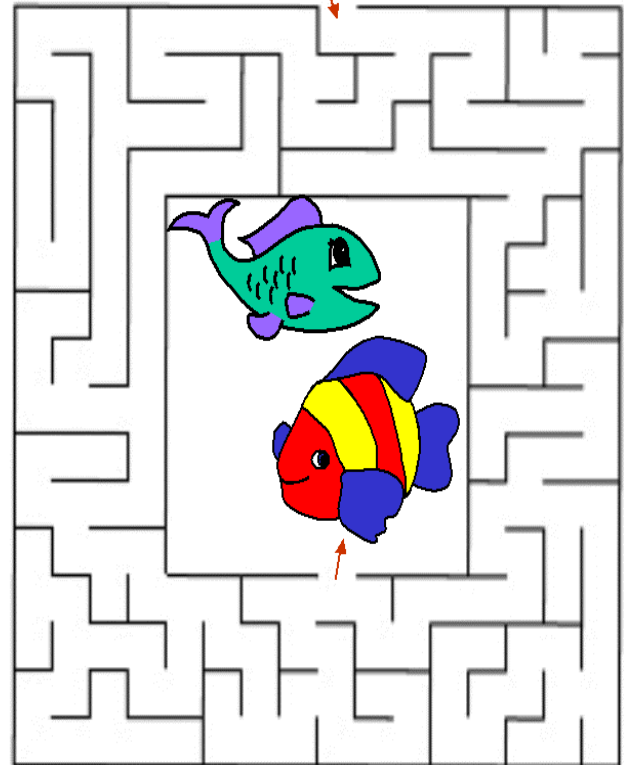
(Continued on page 5)

For the Young at Heart

Twelve Disciples Crossword



Help the Disciples find the fish they caught.



Across

- Jesus sometimes taught from inside this.
- The disciples ____ everything and followed Jesus.
- Jesus gave the disciples authority to drive out evil spirits and ____ every disease.
- John's brothers' name.
- From this disciple's boat Jesus taught and performed a miracle with fish.

Down

- Jesus said, "____ me and I will make you fishers of men".
- This is the number of disciples Jesus chose.
- Jesus told the disciples to let down their ____ and suddenly were able to catch fish.
- We can be Jesus' disciples by trying to ____ all we can about Him.
- The name for follower of Jesus Christ.

Golden Agers-Con't.

(Continued from page 4)

recent personal event experienced by Don Dill. Another matter of personal significance was that Gary Reedy received a surprise gift of a ball cap that had the hair on the outside. This changed his persona somewhat and the nickname "Slick" just doesn't seem fitting anymore.. Other than this gift, we had agreed not to have a gift exchange, rather to take up a collection. Those funds were later forwarded to the Food Finders to feed needy families in the area.

Arleen asked everyone to tell a personal Christmas story. Hearing those, we were able to share in the memories that helped shape each one of us and to understand one another better -- a great blessing.

The beautiful timbre of a 120 year old pump organ, played by Arleen, filled the room with "Silent Night," we sang, bade one another a safe way home and extended thanks to the hosts for opening their home once again to make for a memorable inauguration of the Christmas season.

On January 3, 11:30 a.m., we will gather again at The Anglers Restaurant in Monticello for Christian fellowship, to have devotions and, of course, lunch. Won't you join us?

CHRISTIAN RADIO STATIONS

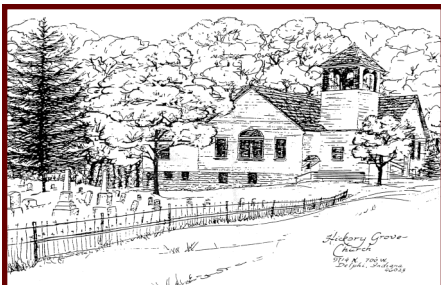
Submitted by Stephanie Felz

For those who may be interested in listening to Christians music or Christian talk radio, here are a few stations you might tune into!

90.7 FM (Christian Talk radio)

100.1 FM (Christian music)

106.7 FM (Christian music).

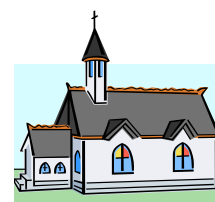


HICKORY GROVE CHURCH

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

Phyllis Wise

Rosewalk Commons
250 Shenandoah Dr Apt 32
Lafayette, IN 47905
(765) 742-8555

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

Sam Lashbrook

730 West 10th Street
Apartment 100
Indianapolis IN 46202

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
whispi@comcast.net

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!

