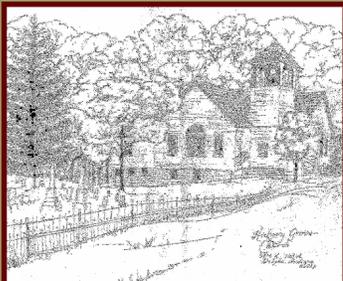


# Hickory Switch



### Upcoming Events

## October

- 1st-Retirement party for Pastor Ken & Trina
- 3rd-Youth Group
- 4th-Golden Agers
- 4th-Women's Fellowship
- 10th-Youth Group
- 11th-Bible Study
- 14th-Craft Day
- 15th-Nursing Home Service
- 16th-Deacons Meeting
- 17th-Youth Group
- 18th-Bible Study
- 24th-Youth Group
- 25th-Bible Study
- 31st-Youth Group



## Saying Good-Bye ~ Saying Thank You

Picture and article submitted by Brenda White-Johns

The last few months have been a whirlwind of activity since Pastor Ken and Trina announced their retirement! I admit I've tried not to focus on it as it wasn't a day I was looking forward to. One would think we had plenty of time to get used to the idea of saying good bye. This past Sunday, when Pastor Ken and Trina's family joined us for church (pictured below), it brought the finality of it a little closer to home. Many of us have had the pleasure of watching some of their grandkids grow up, share in the memories being made and even to watch the family grow in numbers! Much like Pastor Ken and Trina have been watching our young ones grow up, participating in their birthdays, marriages and yes, even some funerals along the way. Many of our children know no other pastor at Hickory Grove. What a blessing! In a world where the average term of a pastor at a church is less than 4 years, we were given a rare opportunity. In the past 14 plus years, our church has grown, in numbers, even in structure, but I'm really talking about our spiritual growth. I think every aspect of the church can say this but I can speak personally about our Sunday school class. The Dreamers class was something that Ken and Trina started and took under their wing, encouraging us through parenting issues, marriage issues, lost jobs, new jobs and getting us through the loss of loved ones. Now we, as individuals and as a class, are very strong in our faith and in our love for the church and more importantly, our love for Jesus. You don't just get this by hearing a sermon on Sundays, you get it by being "in the trenches" with them. Whether loading a trailer of life giving food and medical equipment bound for Haiti or raking leaves in the church park on a brisk fall day. Singing Christmas carols in the nursing home or hanging out before youth group starts on a Tuesday evening. Having them attend the wedding of one of your children or being with you as you get the tragic news of the death of your child or grandchild. Being taught by example will last far longer than hearing it from the pulpit. The things we will take away from our time spent with both of them is irreplaceable. Thank you, thank you, thank you Ken and Trina for all of the wonderful years that you have shared of yourselves and shared in our lives. May your retirement years be blessed with good health and much happiness! Thank you Jesus!



## Golden Agers

September 6th brought 12 Golden Agers to the USA Family Restaurant. Ruth Crown asked the blessing for our lunch.

Sherry Hantschel had Devotions. She read from a booklet titled "God's Blessing For You" authored by Billy Graham and Max Lucado. The first reading was God's Unfailing Love by Billy Graham.

'God's love is unchangeable. He knows exactly what we are and loves us anyway. No one can grasp the love of God of the universe without knowing His Son!'

The second reading was The Message of the Two Crosses by Max Lucado. "Jesus' forgiveness is a done deal, accomplished at Calvary. However, "Calvary's trio" of the crosses reminds us we must personally accept that and embrace this gift in our lives.

Ever wonder why there were two crosses next to Christ? Why not six or ten? Ever wonder why Jesus was in the center? Why not on the far right or far left? Could it be that the two crosses on the hill symbolize one of God's greatest gifts? The gift of choice.

The two criminals have so much in common. Convicted by the same system. Condemned to the same death. Surrounded by the same crowd. Equally close to the same Jesus. In fact, they begin with the same sarcasm: "The two criminals also said cruel things to Jesus."

But one changed.

One of the criminals on a cross began to shout insults at Jesus: "Aren't you the Christ? Then save yourself and us." But the other criminal stopped him and said "You should fear God! You are getting the same punishment he is. We are punished justly, getting what we deserve for what we did. But this man has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." Jesus said to him, "*I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in paradise.*"

There are times when God sends blessings to lure us. But there are times when God sends us nothing but silence as he honors us with the freedom to choose where we spend eternity.

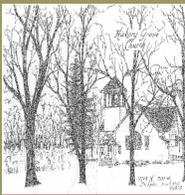
No matter how many bad choices you have made in the past, they are redeemed by one good choice to follow Jesus. Will you make that choice now? Not only will your life be impacted for eternity but your life on earth will have a purpose.

Jesus says, "*Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in...*" (Revelation 3:20 NIV)

Why don't you start with your bad moments? Those bad habits? Leave them at the Cross. Your selfish moods and white lies? Give them to God. Your binges and bigotries? God wants them all. Every flop, every failure. He wants every single one. Why? Because he knows we can't live with them.

The next luncheon will be held at the "Stonehouse" in Delphi. On October 4th at 12:00 noon.





# October '17

## Hickory Grove Church

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 Retirement Party for Pastor Ken & Trina	2	3 Youth Group	4 Thomas Thompson  Golden Agers Women's Fellowship	5 Lily Jacob Nicholas Schroeder	6 Sara Felz	7
8	9 Brice Crowel	10 Youth Group	11 Ron & Lonetta Felz  Bible Study	12 Jo White	13	14 Craft Day
15 Sue Armstrong  Nursing Home Service	16 Deacon Meeting	17 Youth Group	18 Bible Study	19	20	21
22	23	24 Youth Group	25 Bryan & Stephanie Felz Judy Crowel  Bible Study	26	27	28 Bud & Arleen Stangle Paul Cotner Luke Jacob
29 Amy White-Spitzer Brenda White-Johns	30	31 Youth Group	1 Golden Agers Women's Fellowship	2 Bill Chanley	3	4

*November*

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)

## Women's Fellowship September 6th, 2017

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Minutes submitted by Leisha Hill

Women's Fellowship meeting September 6, 2017  
 President Leisha Hill opened the meeting with prayer. Lonetta Felz and Brenda Johns provided refreshments. Lonetta Felz provided devotions "Inviting Colors of Fall." What color do you portray as a Christian? Gloria Heber passed cards to be signed for sick and shut-ins.

Minutes were provided and read and approved from the August 2, 2017 meeting.

Gloria Heber made a motion to accept the minutes and Gloria Wharff seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Treasurer's report was given with a balance of \$274.05.

The Material Aid committee has some suggestions that they will present at the November meeting. Brunch and Bazaar will be

Saturday October 21, 2017 from 8:00 am to 11:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. We will finalize the menu at our October meeting. Keep working on your projects ladies. Craft Day is cancelled for September and will resume on Saturday October 14, 2017 from 9:00 am to 9:00 pm.

Secret Sister Reveal was held in the Fellowship Hall on Saturday August 26, 2017

and was a great afternoon of tea and treats.

Hostesses were Pat Cotner and Susan Hill....great job ladies.

Our meeting was closed with Gloria Heber giving prayer.

Reminder of the Retirement Reception for Pastor Ken and Trina will be Sunday

October 1, 2017 in the Fellowship Hall directly after church service.



## Hickory House News

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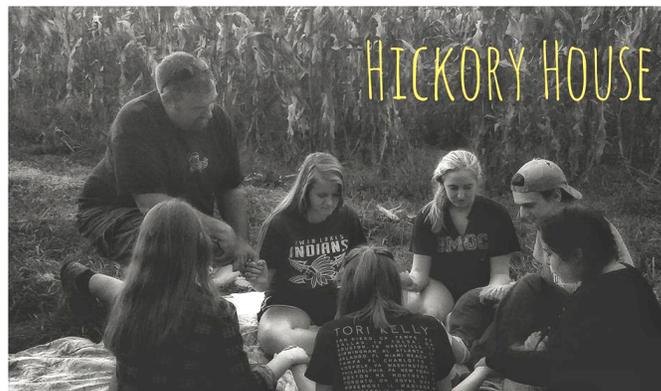
As the congregation bids farewell to Pastor Ken and Trina, Hickory House would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude for the Smiths. Without their encouragement and support, our youth group could not exist. Let alone thrive.

From the beginning, Pastor Ken has been nothing but supportive of the youth leadership. We are not trained in ministry. We are not licensed in youth counseling or psychology. We had no experience leading a church group. But we care about kids, and that was enough for Pastor Ken. Our lack of experience would have been a red flag in some churches. A deal breaker for some pastors. Here at Hickory Grove however, interest and commitment held more importance than experience.

In the church, at the Hickory House, in the schools, and out in our communities, the Smiths are champions of our young people. We have been blessed to have been guided by them and wish them the very best as they enter in to retirement.

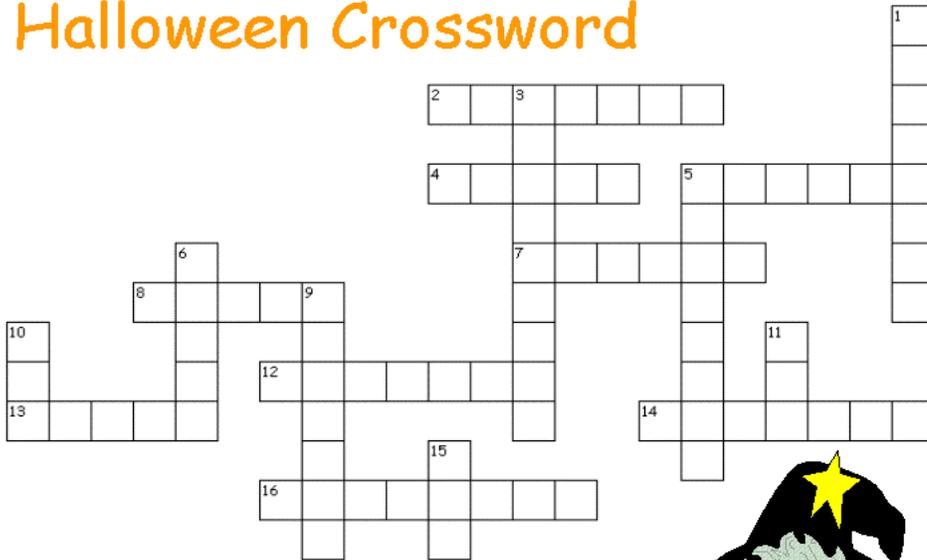
Thank you, Pastor Ken.  
 Thank you, Trina.

With Love,  
 Hickory House



# For The Young At Heart

## Halloween Crossword

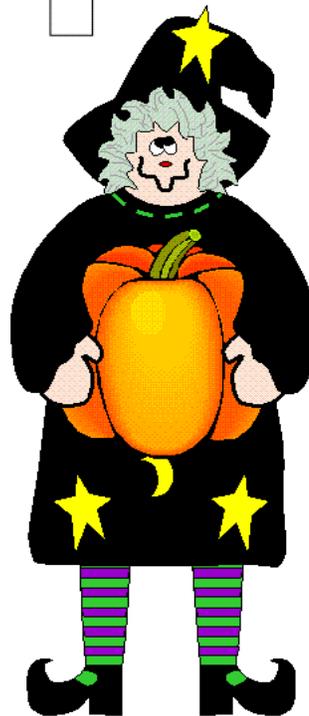


**Across**

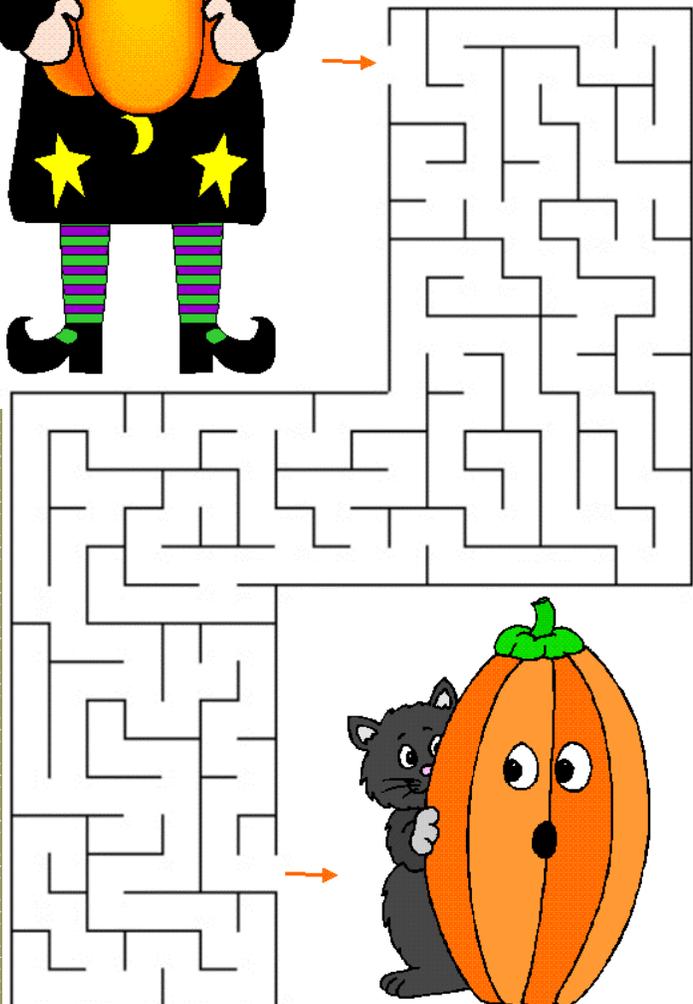
- 2. Halloween month.
- 4. Need a bandaid? Go ask your \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5. Look both ways before you cross the \_\_\_\_\_.
- 7. She catches bugs in her web.
- 8. Rides a broom in the moonlight.
- 12. Something to carve.
- 13. Trick or \_\_\_\_\_
- 14. Are you going to make it or buy it?
- 16. Someone who turns into a wolf when the moon is full.

**Down**

- 1. Ghoulies and \_\_\_\_\_ and long legged beasts.
- 3. You find these stones in a graveyard.
- 5. Mr. Bones
- 6. Things that go bump in the \_\_\_\_\_.
- 9. Spooky house with ghosts.
- 10. black \_\_\_\_\_
- 11. Flying nocturnal mammal.
- 15. Wise, old \_\_\_\_\_.

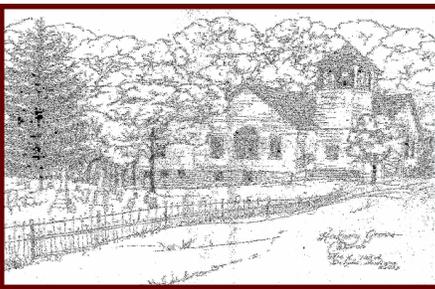


## Halloween Maze



### YOUTH GROUP

Submitted by Melanie Campbell  
 Youth Group will meet the following Tuesdays 6:30-8:00pm at Hickory House: October 3, 10, 17, and 31 (no meeting October 24).  
 College-age welcome on October 3 and October 31.  
 For more information contact Melanie Campbell  
[hickoryhouse46923@gmail.com](mailto:hickoryhouse46923@gmail.com) or (574) 601-8189.



**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:

**Ann Conrad**  
111S Wayne St.  
Flora, In 46929-1362

**Bud & Arlene Stangle**  
1104 Foxwood Ct # 105  
Monticello, IN 47960

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

**Roger Stewart**  
322 South East Street  
Tipton, IN 46072

**Wanda Gayer**  
Parkview Haven,  
101 Constitution Dr.  
Francesville, IN 47946  
574- 583-6533

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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:**

Ron Felz 574-965-4239  
Rob Hill 574-686-2092  
Alan Sickler 574-943-3236  
Ron Simons 574-943-3382  
Gloria Heber 765-564-4386

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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 St, Monticello, IN  
47960  
574-870-0793  
[whispi@comcast.net](mailto:whispi@comcast.net)

Brenda White-Johns  
9457 W 650 N, Delphi, IN  
46923  
574-965-2795  
[johns4@ytci.com](mailto: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!

