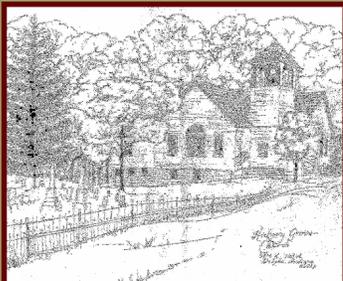


Hickory Switch



Upcoming Events

December

2nd-Salvation Army Bell Ringing
3rd-5:00-7:00 PM
Christmas in the Park
6th-Women's Fellowship
16th-Christmas Dinner and Bingo at Emmaus
17th-Christmas program during church
17th - 1:00-3:00 Christmas Caroling
24th-10:00PM Christmas Eve Service



Getting To Know You

Donna and Erick Riddle

Donna and Erick were born in the same hospital in Portland, Indiana (yes, it is on the map) just 15 days apart. We won't mention who is older.

Erick moved to Fort Wayne when he was four years-old. Donna grew up on a farm outside Redkey, Indiana. (It is also on the map, but you may need a magnifying glass.) Both of Erick's grandmothers attended First Christian Church in Redkey and he sat between them from time to time, even through his high school years. It was during those "formative years" and in that church building that they met.

Before their first date in August of 1977, Erick's path was set for Great Lakes Christian College. They dated by mail (yes, pen, paper and stamps) for two very long years. Donna joined him on campus in 1979 and they were married on June 7, 1980.

During 30 years of full-time pastoral ministry, they followed the Holy Spirit's leading as far away as the Fort Worth, Texas area. They returned to Indiana in 2005 and joined our Hickory Grove Family on November 19. They both enjoy hiking, camping and bonfires! One is the builder the other a pyromaniac.

They also enjoy having people in their home or visiting yours. (Donna cooks and Erick washes dishes). They like to play games, Donna is the competitive one and Erick just likes having a good time. They look forward to getting to know you and your family.

Erick has some physical limitations. He is an insulin dependent diabetic and is allergic to cats.

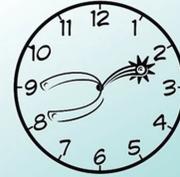


Merry Christmas

A MOMENT TO SPUR

BY PASTOR ERICK RIDDLE

A Moment To Spur



And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. (Hebrews 10:24)

“We will hit the ground running.” Donna and I expressed our excitement about joining the Hickory Grove Church Family with those words in our Search Team interview. The Team invested so much time, energy and prayer into the search for a new full-time Pastor. It seems only reasonable to respond by investing my own time, energy and prayer into our church as quickly as possible.

The entire church provided excellent motivation by voting 100% to hire me. Donna and I were both overwhelmed by your grace and your confidence that we are the right team for Hickory Grove. From our first contact with the Search Team and our first Sunday with the church, you have welcomed us with warmth and affection. Your love is a very strong motivator. I’m going to return that sentiment by preparing the best sermons and lessons I am capable of. I will invest time building personal relationships with you as quickly as I can.

These are the top priorities for the first months of my ministry: Preaching and Visiting. Preaching will always be a top priority (see Romans 10:14). Being in homes and sharing meals is essential to understanding the congregation, discovering needs and then, and only then, setting new priorities. We all have the motivation of Christ’s love to invest our lives in the work of our Savior. 2 Corinthians 5:14 says: “Christ’s love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all.” The love of Christ is the highest motivator of all!

Donna and I have already taken a few steps to be as effective as possible in our new ministry. For example, Ron Felz and I plan to attend an all-day workshop on November 30 that is designed for small church leaders.

I have a plan for sermons through December and will soon begin refining the blueprint for a series from the first 6 chapters of Acts to start in early January.

Donna’s employer has asked her to continue with him by working from home when we relocate. She has been squeezing in an internet search for a house for us to rent. We are locked into a lease in Indianapolis through January, which gives us some time to look. My plan is to be in the Hickory Grove area 2-3 days a week for visits until we make the move.

Technology will allow me to do sermon and lesson preparation, phone calling and emailing from home that I would do in the church office.

Donna and I are excited to begin working side by side with our HGC family. Let’s all pray that God will glorify Himself as we all work together.

You are very welcome to contact us:

Erick’s Phone 260-348-5136; Email: amomenttospur@gmail.com

Donna’s Phone 260-348-8523; Email: d.riddle3bros@gmail.com

In fond memory of

Martha Reedy and Don Dill

*Two lovely people who celebrated their
90th birthdays just days a part in 2016
and then went to be with Jesus just
days a part in 2017.*



December '17

Hickory Grove Church

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2 Salvation Army Bell
3 Sara McManus 5:00-7:00 Christmas in the Park	4 Jo Dill	5 Mark Smerdel	6 Gloria Wharff Women's Fellowship	7	8 Joe Schwartz	9
10	11 Nancy Jacobs	12	13	14 Jennifer Crowel Jim Pickett Audie Bowman	15 Kenny & Judy Miller Dan Foerman	16 Don & Violet Hughes Christmas Dinner & Bingo at Emmaus
17 Christmas Program during Church 1:00-3:00 Christmas Caroling Lakeview Nursing Home Service	18	19	20	21	22 Jackie Schroeder	23
24 Gary Lantz Paul & Pat Cotner 10:00 PM Christmas Eve Service	25 John Bowlin	26	27 Chuck & Sara McManus	28	29	30 Mary Ann Smerdel
31	1 Martin & Donna Lewellen	2 	3	4	5	6

January

Pastor Erick Riddle
9714 N 700 W
Delphi, IN 46923

Phone:
574-965-2731

Check out our website at www.hickorygrove.info

Women's Fellowship October 4th, 2017

Submitted By Brenda Johns

Women's Fellowship meeting November 11, 2017
President Leisha Hill opened meeting with prayer. Alicia Medley and Leisha Hill provided breakfast for us as we shared in fellowship and our roll call of what our fall traditions are. 12 women were present. Alicia shared devotions about the colors of fall and read Psalms 147 4:8 and 16:18.

Lonetta Felz passed cards to be signed for sick and shut ins, as well as college students.

October minutes were provided by Secretary Brenda Johns. Pat Cotner motioned they be approved and Jo White 2nd motion, motion passed.

Treasurer report was provided by Vicki Criswell with a November 1, 2017 balance of \$1,592.23. The fall brunch netted \$126 and the bazaar \$998 for a total of \$1,170.68. Thank you to all of those who participated in any way.

Material aid committee person, Lonetta Felz, motioned that we give \$200 to Eastlawn and \$100 to each Delphi Elementary and Camden Early Education schools for lunch assistant program. Brenda Johns 2nd motion, motion carried. Emmaus Mission Christmas & Bingo night is being planned for December 16th .

Van to leave church at 4. Lonetta Felz and Jo White set up Christmas tree upstairs with tags for items needed for annual bingo with the Emmaus residents. \$30/child to be spent on presents.

Golden Agers

Submitted by Sherry Hantschel

The Community Room at Great Oak Apartments was the location where our luncheon on November 1st, hosted by Arleen and Bud Stangle was held. Ten Golden Agers were in attendance.

Helen Hanna asked the blessing before our meal. Ann Bowman had devotions. She read us an article entitled " A Harvest Accounting" from the Scripture Reading - Luke 20: 9-19. Ann also read from Ezekiel 33 :12-20. God *wants* everyone to turn to him. He looks at what we are and will become, not what we have been. God gives you the opportunity to turn to him, if you will take it. Sincerely follow God, and ask him to forgive you when you fail.

Next, the Golden Agers were asked what sort of Halloween tricks did you pull as a youngster?

Menu will be posted the following Sunday for volunteers to bring items for the December 16th dinner for the Emmaus residents. Jo White mentioned that she would like to see us have a soup dinner in March as a fundraiser. A desert auction was also mentioned but may have at a different time following a luncheon as we have done before.

Ruth Crawn motioned that we give November Thank Offering to Women 2 Women again this year. Angie Altman 2nd motion, motion passed.

Old business: Craft day is being held today, November 11th until 9.

New business: Secret sister info was passed out. Family Nigh will be Sunday, March 4 at 6. We are considering F.R.O.G.S. for entertainment.

Brenda Johns motioned that we give \$200 to each of the White and Carroll County Food Pantries. Jo White 2nd motion, motion carried.

December meeting will be December 6. Please bring 2 dozen cookies and a Christmas ornament exchange if you want to participate in the exchange game.

Brenda Johns won the door prize at today's meeting and will be responsible for next month's prize. Gloria Heber is our host next month.

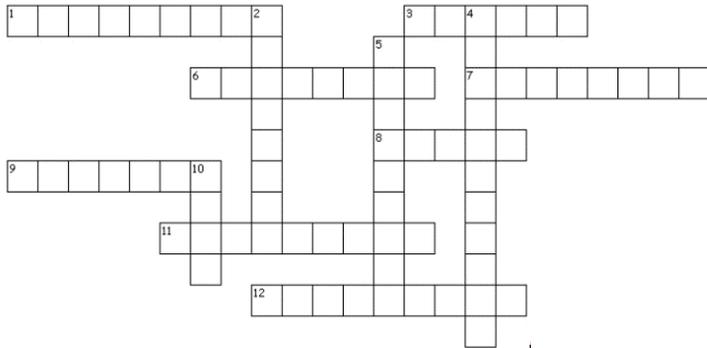
Brenda Johns closed meeting with prayer.

Some were too shy to admit some of their tricks. Others admitted to: putting a wagon on top of the theater roof, moving the 'outhouse' off the hole under it, 'tying' down auto horns and soaping car windows. One of us told about a mean teacher in study hall during their teen years. This person worked at a grocery store after school. Pig's feet were \$.10 cents a piece. So this person bought a pig's foot and took it to school. During study hall the mean teacher left the room for a while. That is when the pig's foot found its way into the mean teacher's purse!!

Our December luncheon will be at Helen Hanna's house. Hosted by Helen, Joyce, and Charlene, Helen's two daughters. The Luncheon will start at **11:30** instead of 12:00 noon.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING to all of you!

For The Young At Heart



Word List: angels, candycane, Christmas, comet, cookies, gingerbread, Nicholas, ornaments, presents, shepherd, star, stockings

Across

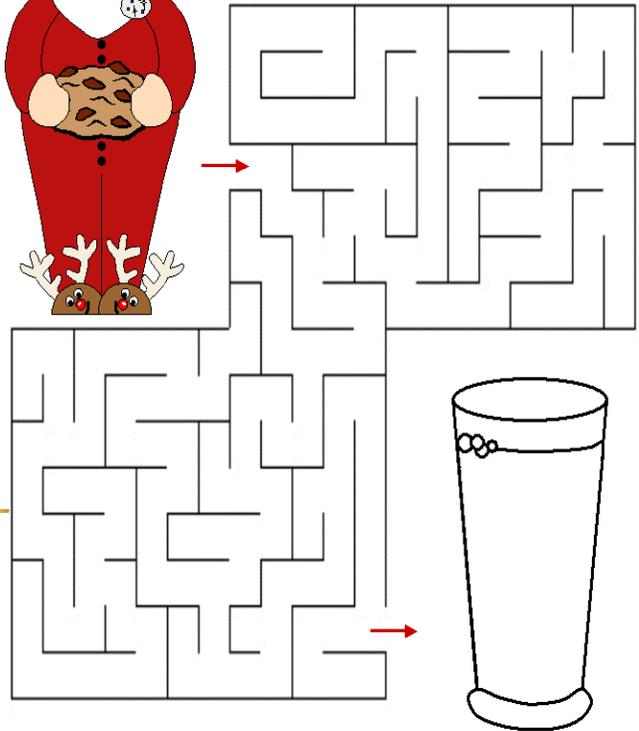
- 1. Pretty baubles to hang on the Christmas tree.
- 3. Guardians who announce the good news.
- 6. Wrapped with love.
- 7. Jolly old Saint _____.
- 8. Dasher, dancer, prancer, vixen, _____, cupid, donner, blitzen
- 9. Warm snacks for Santa.
- 11. Sweet and red and white.
- 12. We wish you a merry _____.

Down

- 2. Keeper of the flocks.
- 4. House made of sweet treats.
- 5. The _____ were hung by the chimney with care.
- 10. Bright light marks the way.



Help Santa find a nice tall glass of milk to drink with his cookie.

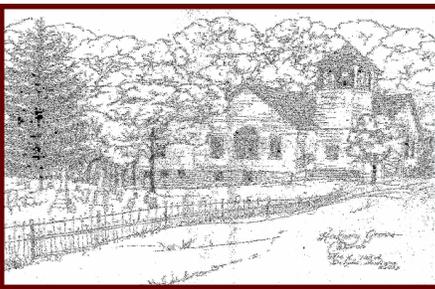


O B E A Y H A R E E S P G L R T
 F R Q N G L E T O B A R N R V I
 C W N I A I I T N Y M E I U S N
 M O E A N C E M E A T S F D T S
 Y L O D M L Y N A U S E F O H E
 S L E K T E M D R F I N U L G L
 O E L S I I N K N U R T T P I C
 R U I O H E E T T A H S S H L A
 F M H C H Y S S T O C K I N G S
 S E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

Word List

- | | | |
|-------------|----------|-----------|
| candycane | ornament | stockings |
| chimney | presents | stuffing |
| Christmas | reindeer | tinsel |
| cookies | Rudolph | turkey |
| cranberries | Santa | |
| elves | sleigh | |
| family | | |
| holly | | |
| lights | | |
| mistletoe | | |





**HICKORY GROVE
CHURCH**

9714 N 700 W
Delphi, IN 46923

Phone:
574-965-2731



The friendly church at the
side of the road!

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

In Your Moment of Need...



In your moment of
need please feel free to
call:

Erick's Phone: 260-348-5136

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

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

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!

