

# Hickory Church of Christ

*Imperfect people learning to love perfectly.*

Sunday, December 6, 2015

## Announcements & Reminders

- **Winterfest Registration** is now open! A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board.
- **College Student December Care Packages:** Please leave candy, cookies, cocoa, tea, small toiletries, books, gift cards, notes, etc. in the donation box in the lobby. See Tim or Debbie Duncan with questions & let them know if you have a student in college.
- **LIFT Meeting:** Today at 5:30.
- **Senior Friends Luncheon:** Tues. 12/8 at 11am at Abernethy Laurels Bistro in Newton. RSVP to Retta by Sun. 12/6 at 5pm.
- **Youth Christmas Party:** Sat. 12/6, 9-11am. Make ornaments, bake cookies, play games & have lots of fun! Invite family & friends! See Janet, Margaret, or Theresa to help. Donate cookie dough, snacks, Christmas cookie cutters, etc.
- **Free Concert:** Barry Smith & his Barbershop Singers, & Hickory High School Singers, at SALT Block Auditorium 12/13 at 2:30pm. Donations benefit Hickory High Music Program & local charities.
- **Conover East Action Team Lunch:** Sun. 12/13 at noon.
- **Ministry Leaders Meeting:** Sun. 12/13 at 6pm.
- **Christmas Fruit Baskets:** Sat. 12/19 at 9am in the fellowship hall. Please donate fruit between 12/16-12/19.
- **Eve of Christmas Eve Devotion:** Wed. 12/23 at 7pm. Invite friends & family!
- **PLEASE NOTE:** We will NOT have Kingdom Kids on Sun. 12/27.

## **When Hope is Born...**

**Prayer of Praise:** Dick Posey  
PB 18 - *I Worship You, Almighty God*  
PB 32 - *There Is None Like You*  
202 - *Joyful, Joyful*  
**Reading:** Philippians 1:3-11, Jorge Pacheco  
700 - *More Love to Thee*  
266 - *Majesty*  
**Communion & Offering:** Cole Hull  
**Reading:** David Watkins  
PB 6 - *Days of Elijah*  
**Dismiss Kingdom Kids Bible Hour**  
**Message:** We See! Luke 2:21-35  
PB 13 - *How Great is Our God*  
**Prayer of Thanksgiving**  
973 - *Everybody Will Be Happy Over There*  
**Song Leader:** Rik Covalinski  
**Communion Servers:** Austin Wallace, Tom Keever, Joey Osborne, Tim Stroud  
**Sitting with the Sisters:** Henrys  
**Nursery Workers:** Mary Nell  
**December Greeters:** Conover East

## Notes from the Lesson:

**Sunday Classes:** 9:30  
**Sunday Assembly:** 10:30  
**Wednesday Classes:** 7:00  
(Wireless receivers are available for the hearing-impaired)

## Sunday Classes

- **Adults:** "Isaiah," Bob Belville, auditorium
- **College:** Tim & Debbie
- **Teens:** Tom & Janet, hut
- **Grades 4-6:** Yoders
- **Grades 1-3:** Kelsie P.
- **Ages 4-K:** Dora
- **Ages 2-3:** Ann Stasny
- **Cradle Roll:** Barbara Gnann

## Wednesday Classes

- **Adults:** "Deuteronomy," Bob Belville, auditorium
- **Adults:** "The Letters," Richard R., fellowship hall
- **College/Young Adults:** Tim & Debbie, library
- **Teens:** Kevin & Kamy, annex
- **Grades 4-6:** Theresa
- **Grades 1-3:** Debbie Killian
- **Preschool-K:** Tim & Missy

**Food Pantry/New 2 You:** 1st & 3rd Tuesdays 4:30-6:00  
**LIME:** Mondays 9:30  
**LIFT:** 1st Sundays 5:30  
**Watkins Small Group:** Tues. 7:00

Preaching Minister: Kevin Bibbee 828.228.1641  
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Prayer requests and announcements: [bulletin@hickorychurch.org](mailto:bulletin@hickorychurch.org)

## Lectionary

**Malachi 3:1-4** See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

**Luke 1:68-79** Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has looked favorably on his people and redeemed them. He has raised up a mighty savior for us in the house of his servant David, as he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets from of old, that we would be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us. Thus he has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors, and has remembered his holy covenant, the oath that he swore to our ancestor Abraham, to grant us that we, being rescued from the hands of our enemies, might serve him without fear, in holiness and righteousness before him all our days. And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways, to give knowledge of salvation to his people by the forgiveness of their sins. By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us, to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.

**Philippians 1:3-11** I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

**Luke 3:1-6** In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

## **Welcome Visitors!**

We're glad you're here today! Please fill out an information card and place it in the collection plate. Thank you!

**Hickory Church of Christ Vision Statement:** We exist to connect people to the power of God. We desire to be a church family that imitates Jesus Christ, so others can find love, service, community, and hope.

## Prayer Requests

**Pray for our elder selection process & elder nominees.**

**Catherine Cunningham**, Cynthia Lipford's cousin, passed away. Her funeral was Wednesday. Pray for her husband, Clarence.

**Donna Covalinski's grandmother** passed away Tues. 11/24.

**Foyle Perkins'** PET scan showed all tumors are gone! Praise God! Doctors will monitor location of largest tumor.

**Brenda Senn**, wife of Jerry, entered dementia rehab unit.

**Lewis Steelman**, Bryan's father, was moved from Baptist to Conover Rehab.

**Dixie Willard, Myra Hill, & Jane Mays** have all been ill recently.

**Tim Stroud** saw a doctor for his heart arrhythmia Thurs. His aunt **Freddie Dunn** has liver cancer.

**Mark Roberts** will have another back injection Monday.

**Murray Davis** is at Brian Center, Rm. 308. More chemo is ahead.

**Suzie Wiles**, Margo's mom, has an abscess in her colon & needs surgery.

**Brandy**, 11-year-old friend of Hulls, has cancer.

**Rose Maria Glass**, Cynthia Lipford's sister, has a spot on her brain.

**Jean Mecrimore**, Judy Cole's customer, is comatose at Frye.

**Mary Mathis**, Watkins' friend, will see doctors 12/7 for acute abdominal pain & other issues.

**Adela Madrigal**, Rosa's mom, began chemo last week for breast cancer.

**Myra Hill's** cyst biopsy came back benign. She'll see a surgeon next week about another area.

**Barbara Pannell** awaits results of lymph node biopsy, no signs of cancer & drs. believe condition is treatable.

**Pray for ongoing work in Haiti & Ilo, Peru.**

**Marvin & Dot Phillips** need prayers as Marvin nears death.

**Karen Rheinbolt's** pain is improving, after surgery on right shoulder.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Dec 6 Tyler Killian

Dec 11 Chester Rainwater

