

Welcome Keith Fox
 Song Leader David Jernigan
 First Prayer Dick Posey
 Scripture Joe Hall
 Lord's Supper Scott Stephenson
 Pass Communion Randy Pannell
 Jude Mayeux
 Carl Henry
 Murray Davis
 ...to the Nursery Ty Stephenson
 Dismissal Prayer Steve Killian

The **Hickory Church of Christ**
 loves to have
Visitors!

Kent Massey Charlotte
Alicia Eller Hickory
 (Kristen's sister, Koen's aunt!)

(There are **visitor cards** in the back of the pews. Please encourage visitors to fill one out! And anyone, guest or member, may use the cards for prayer requests, address changes, email addresses, etc.)

We're delighted to welcome
**Ken and Paige Wright,
 Michael, Zackary, and Taylor**
 to our congregation!
 5826 Lake Hickory Place, Hickory 28601
 ☎ 358-0066
 ☎ Ken 919-601-9833 ☎ Paige 919-280-4487
 They have moved here from Raleigh, where they were members at Brooks Avenue CofC, to be near the Valentines, Paige's parents.
 Michael attends UNCC and Zack ECU.

Happy Birthday

- 1st Jackson Sutton
- 2nd Larry Duncan
- 2nd Harriett Stephenson
- 4th Susan Singleton
- 5th Ann Henry
- 5th Eadie Hopkins
- 7th Roxanna Burkhalter
- 8th Grayson Burton



Happy Anniversary
 6th Murray & Donna Davis (38th)



BULLETIN
 JUNE 1 2008
WELCOME!

"...let him call the elders of the church..." James 5:14

Bob Belville ☎221-0356 ☎430-1711
 Keith Fox ☎322-2121
 Ron Henry ☎256-8437
 Steve Killian ☎256-9142
 Jim Valentine ☎328-6446

While doing my devotional reading this morning, I was reminded of a prayer that was taught to many in my home congregation by a woman named Helen. Helen is that lady in each congregation who loves you, prays for you, remembers your birthday, and reminds you that God is always by your side. The prayer she taught is called the *Five Finger Prayer*.

As you put your hands together to pray, you will notice the finger closest to you is your thumb. The closeness of your thumb reminds you to pray for all those folks who are closest to you; your spouse, children, parents, siblings, and all others with whom you enjoy a close, personal relationship.

The next finger is your index finger. In the children's song *Where is Thumbkin*, this finger is called "pointer." The index finger is the one that points things out; therefore, it reminds us to pray for those who point us to Christ. These people include our Sunday school teachers, youth leaders, and anyone else who points to God's activity in our lives.

Then we come to the middle finger. This finger is the tallest so it represents all those who are in positions of leadership. Our middle finger reminds us to pray for our church leaders such as elders and ministers, leaders in government, police and other law enforcement, and our military.

Next we have our ring finger, which is the weakest of all fingers. This finger reminds us to pray for the sick, homeless, unemployed, those who are forgotten and those who have no one else to pray for them. As we pray for all of these, we are reminded of how we ourselves are often weakened by sadness, illness, or depression and isolation, and so we look to our little finger.

The fifth finger is the smallest of all fingers and it reminds us that we should not think more highly of ourselves than of others. Jesus says that if we are to become the greatest of all, we must become the least and a servant to all. This finger reminds us that we are to live lives in love and service toward others, so we give thanks to God for the gifts he has given us. We ask God for strengthening of our faith, forgiveness of our sins, and that God will empower us to use our lives as a blessing for others.

This is the *Five Finger Prayer*, not a Helen original, but one that she teaches to anyone who will listen. One thing that Helen continues to point out is that, just as it is for all of those whom we pray, we too give thanks and praise to God for the many people who also pray for us.

This anonymous "prayer" has been around the Web in several forms for a while: thanks to Sharon Duncan for sharing

Interim speakers coming to Hickory Church of Christ:
 Invite your family and friends to hear some really special messages:
 ...
 Jun 22 **Frank Sullivan** Missoula MT
 Jun 29 **Dan Hammitt** Waxhaw
 Would you like to speak or suggest a speaker? **Keith Fox** schedules our interim speakers.

Avg. 2007		w/o 5/25/2008
83	Sunday School	43!
125	Assembly	103
46	Wednesday	25
\$3,211	Contribution	\$2,124
73/week (68) 3773	Web visitors, total (unique) Total year to date	252/week (211) 6629

Have news, comments, **pictures** for the bulletin?
 Your contributions are most welcome:
 To the editor: rbelville@hickorychurch.org

Sunday School 9:30 A.M.; Worship 10:30
 Wednesday 7:00 P.M.
www.hickorychurch.org
 Stay in the know, check our calendar regularly



Office: 464 4983 Fax: 464 3747
 1218 Fairgrove Church, Road Hickory 28602
 Pantry Hours: Wed. 6:30-7 P.M.
 Sun. 9-9:30 A.M. 11:30 A.M.-12 P.M.

PRAYER REQUESTS



(Post your prayer requests or download our current prayer list @ www.hickorychurch.org)

[New this week:](#)

Donna and Rik Covalinski lost their unborn baby Thursday. (Donna was about 8 weeks along.) Our hearts ache with theirs.

The family of **Adam Davis** in Monmouth Illinois. Adam, 15, took his own life Thursday. He was the son of Murray's brother, Myron.

Linda Sumner – missed services last Sunday and work last week. She continues to suffer.

Lucille Woodrum – Bill passed away 5/22.

Georgia Adcox – Update: Georgia was in a lot of pain Sunday morning and went to the hospital. Her fall last week resulted in more damage to her back than first thought. She fractured vertebrae in 2 places and surgery was performed Monday. Prayers requested.

Jim & Deane Valentine – it was great to see them out Sunday! Thank you Lord.

Billie and Albert Dennie are both suffering from bronchitis but were able to be in assembly 5/25.

Judy Price – "Judy is undergoing tests to determine what is causing some problems she is experiencing from her cancer treatment. Please pray for a good result as well as lifting her up emotionally."

[Family and friends in our prayers continually:](#)

Wayne Burton – in Iraq.

Frances Cannon – Gloria B.'s aunt, Hospice care.

Jane Cannon – Gloria B.'s mother, Lupus.

Annie Cay – Johnnie Breland's grandmother.

Toni Cay – Johnnie Breland's aunt.

Marsha Cooper – Friend of Linda F. & Eadie.

Hilton Green – Friend of Mary Nell, Lymphoma.

Rusty Hughes – Retta's brother-in-law, ALS.

Sue Ellen Hunter – Donna Davis' first cousin.

Clifton Icard – Barbara Pannell's father.

Ken Jernigan – David's dad.

Brenda Senn – Hendersonville.

Isaac Walker – grandson of the Higbees.

Geraldine Ward – lung cancer.

Mona Wilson – Brooke Heller's grandmother.

Ken Yaussey – the Burtons' doctor.

You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be children of your Father in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous. For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? And if you greet only your brothers and sisters, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect. Matt. 5^{43ff}

Randy Harris, our "guest" speaker today (on DVD), is an Instructor of Bible in the College of Biblical Studies at **Abilene Christian University**, Abilene, Texas. In addition to teaching, The "Man in Black" is a highly sought after speaker and travels most weekends of the year, preaching at various churches across the nation.

This "sermon" on Matthew 5^{43ff}. was a keynote address on April 30 at **Pepperdine Bible Lectures**, Malibu California. (The Belvilles, Kent Massey, Rick Janelle, and Jeff Brown were among the nearly **5000** in attendance in PU's Firestone Fieldhouse.)

[God bless those serving in distant lands:](#)



Robert & Regina Lewis in Chemitz, Germany.

Craig & Theresa Phillips in Mumbai, India – see their March report @

www.hickorychurch.org

Yens Nima & Jesus La Torre

whom we now help support in Ilo, Peru. A new report is posted @ www.hickorychurch.org

Scott & Emily Glisson. friends of the Stephensons, in Uganda.

Teachers

are still needed for the summer quarter. There is a sign-up list on the bulletin board. If you are willing to help or have questions please contact: **Bryan Steelman**: 464-3552; bsteelman@hickorychurch.org

Movie Night on our Big Screen

Friday June 20th 6:30-8:30 hotdog and movie party for kids up to 6th grade and their guests. The featured movie will be Disney's **Enchanted**.

Youth Concert

June 28th, **Faith, Family and Freedom Concert** for teens at Knight's Stadium in Fort Mill, SC. **Britt Nicole** and 'Newsboys' plus a fireworks show. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. Contact: **Bryan Steelman**



VBS 2008 ♀ ♂ August 3-6

Janet Stiles and others are working on what we are confident will be another great VBS. This year's VBS will run from **Sunday to Wednesday** evenings. Your participation will send a message that you care to our own kids and our community.

FirstPlace

And this from **Janet**: "We are about to finish a First Place session..... so far, we have lost a combined 42 pounds! Another informational meeting will be held on **June 23 at 6:00 at the Stiles' home** if anyone is interested in joining the group or getting more information. Please let Janet know if you are interested in attending."

Our Great Friend Dave McClure writes:

"Hey! It's a beautiful cool morning here in Michigan. I love Michigan this time of the year. I hate it in January. I just wanted to let you all know that I have finally received my next assignment. I will be leaving for **Ludington, MI** on June 16. I will be running the **WAL*MART** remodel there. This is truly a blessing from God. I can't think of a better place to be assigned than in northern Michigan for 3 months in the summer. Not only that but I will be able to be home more often and Susan can come and see me more often—Ludington is only 3 hours from Grand Blanc, and right on beautiful Lake Michigan. Anyway, I trust all is well in Hickory and I just wanted to let you all know what's going on here. Tell all I said hi and come visit when you can."



Congratulations Graduates!

Erika Wilfong graduates June 7 from **West Lincoln High**. CVCC and a career in dental hygiene are in her future.

Seth Carter graduates June 7 from **St. Stephens High**. Our Eagle Scout is headed to **Appalachian State University**.

