**A DAY IN THE LIFE OF MITCHELL COMMUNITY CHURCH**

Several things become very clear to the visitor of “Mitchell Church”.  One is the lack of traffic in the last few miles in approaching the site.  We are in a decidedly rural environment and the surroundings are a combination of dairy, orchard and pastureland.  The church plant is well tended by a team of trustees. The visitor will be encouraged to join us for coffee and cake in the fellowship hall after Sunday School and before the service.  Homemade items are there to make the coffee taste even better. Upon entering for the service you will be greeted at the door and personally given a program. Relationships are on display as you enter the sanctuary as very few people are merely sitting in the pew and looking straight ahead.  There is the buzz of catching up with each other as news is traded and people are doing a lot of head nodding. The service opens pretty much on time and after an opening prayer and a number from the worship team there is an opportunity to greet those around you. Bringing this phase of the service to a close is a challenge as people continue to visit completely unaware of the time. Once order is restored, the service continues with prayer requests from the pews and announcements. The worship team leads music in a blend of traditional and contemporary with piano, drums and guitar. The pastor speaks from the aisle and without notes, relying on handouts with scripture and main headings in the hands of the congregation.  In the course of a month of Sundays, the pastor may ask the congregation four or five questions having to do with the subject of the sermon, but possibly of a theological, not just a factual nature. He is not hesitant to use examples of a personal nature or even from the congregation to enliven the discourse. Following the service, there is a knot of people outside on the porch talking about the hot topics of the day.  This is where information essential for maintaining relations gets exchanged as well as information that’s not very essential for anything. Leaving the property, one notices that people are leaving individually and not en masse. Many will stay for a half hour until the janitor gets the keys out and locks up. We are conservative in our beliefs, but very liberal in our welcomes.

**OUR HISTORY**

Mitchell Community Church was born in 1927 as part of the American Sunday School movement.  The property we are now on was donated to the church in 1947. A small building was moved onto the property and was added to later.  In 1985 the fellowship hall was added. We are presently researching and praying about a major renovation to the current sanctuary. This would increase our seating, open up the worship area, and provide additional room in the entryway for the fellowship that inevitably occurs there.  Our attendance is between seventy five and ninety adults depending on the time of year. “Developing passionate followers of Jesus Christ” is the mission statement of Mitchell Church. We believe that all scripture is breathed from God through the Holy Spirit and is without error. Our staff consists of Sr. Pastor, Visitation Pastor and Children’s Director. Mitchell Church hosts an annual bazaar for missions that raises thousands to bless works all over the world.  We are actively participating in the lives of local students by hosting Bible studies during the school day where students at our district neighbor schools are allowed to study the Bible as an elective. We have recently added a Spanish Sunday School class for those not conversant with English. We are a country church that God has blessed and preserved over the years.