

BIBLE FUN FACTS

The Bible has 66 books!

The Bible has 1,189 chapters!

The Bible has 31,173 verses!

The Bible has over 774,000 words!

The middle of the Bible is
Psalm 118:8!



Winter Retreat 2023 is in the books! 45 Students were able to fellowship and get ministered to prophetically. We had an extended retreat due to the holiday weekend and we are thankful for that! Each day we had workshop lessons and free time, and each evening we had a great worship time, and a message. Saturday night we had special guests from New Life come and minister to the students. We are very grateful for their time and passion! Our theme for the Winter Retreat was “Being God’s Friend.” Many times we talk and know how great of a friend God is to us, but we don’t live with the expectation of reciprocating. We are blessed to have such great amenities nearby as well as adults willing to facilitate and volunteer! A big thank you to all parents for allowing us to impart spiritual truth to your children. As always, we love hearing from you so let us know if you have any questions!



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The Connection

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WORSHIP CENTER

7015 Havemann Road

Celina, OH 45822

OFFICES & FAMILY CENTER

529 North Walnut Street

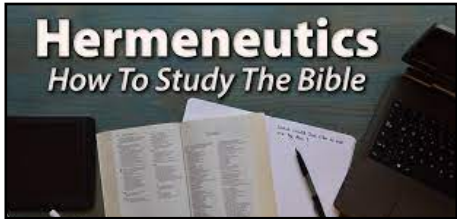
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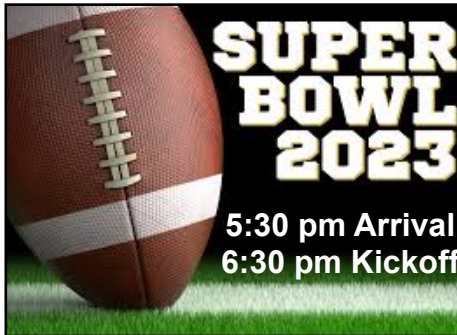
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**February 7,
6:00 pm - 9:00 pm**

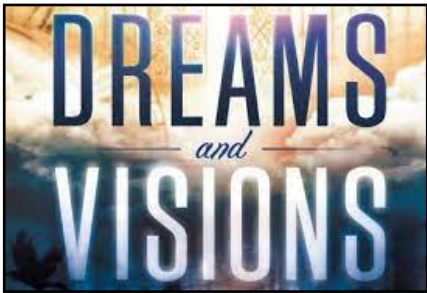
Would you like to learn how to dive deeper into the Word of God? All are invited to join this 4 week class to better understand how to rightly divide the Word of Truth. The cost is \$20. Go to our Facebook page to sign up. Contact Pastor Justin for more information.



Join us at the Youth Center for our annual Super Bowl Party. Please arrive at 5:30 pm with kickoff beginning at 6:30 pm. Bring a side to share and your favorite game to play.



Just a reminder that during the winter months you may want to bring a sweater or jacket to wear in the sanctuary before we begin our service. We purposely do not heat the room up to a comfortably warm temperature because once worship begins it warms up quickly and if we heated it before hand we would have to run the AC in the winter! Thank you for taking this into consideration!



March 23 - 25

Mark your calendars and plan on attending this outstanding 3 day conference with Roger Pugh. Tickets are priced at \$75 for individuals with reduced rates for youth or groups of 10. Sign up at: <https://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/5705519>



**Band of Brothers
Fishing Event**

We will be chartering the Irish Drifter in Port Clinton on Saturday, May 20. We are planning to leave Celina at 4:30 am. The cost per person will be \$75 - \$80, plus van rental and gas. This is a private charter and capacity is limited to 20 people. You must have your fishing license before leaving town. There will be a sign up sheet in the church foyer. See Dave Thompson for any questions.

DON'T INDULGE IN THE "I HATES..."
Pastor Jason

Many of us wonder why we as Believers are not walking in the fulness of what God has for us in this present hour. The Lord spoke to be very clearly that 2023 would be a "Year of Blessing" and when I heard that, I immediately began to question the Lord. How can this be when so much chaos and catastrophe lies on the horizon? God then answered and declared that even in the midst of trials and lamentation, His blessings can be realized and received.

He then asked me what it would take in order for me to feel like the year was a blessing when it comes to an end. Would it take financial blessings or perhaps an increase in our investments? Would it be some material wealth or blessing that would gauge whether or not we are truly blessed? It was then that I realized that my own definition of "blessing" was off. Would you consider it a greater blessing to have great increase in material and financial wealth or would having a Prodigal son or daughter return to the Lord be the greater blessing? I'm sure we all would agree on the latter! God is answering prayers and calling home the Prodigals. He wants to heal the hurting, the sick, and the broken-hearted. Would this not be a better blessing to hope for?

But there is still something holding the Church up from receiving such a blessing. The Lord has clearly spoken in His Word of many things that "I HATE...", and we have indulged ourselves in some of those very things. (Read Malachi). We have polluted our altars of sacrifice. We have been guilty of the 7 Abominations that God hates in Proverbs 6. We have entertained the thought of divorcing our spouse and even given ourselves excuse to do so when God clearly states that He HATES it. We lack a Fear of the Lord that robs us of blessings and invites evil to live in our homes. We have been leavened and infected by a godless culture, and even a false pretense of religion that Jesus himself spoke against in His day.

We MUST Return, Rest, Relent, Repent, and be Refreshed in the days ahead. Then God will use us to bring glory to His name once and for all! This is a sobering word but one worth heeding!

DISCIPLESHIP CLASSES

Discipleship 1: February 19, 5 - 7 pm
Discipleship 3: February 12, 19, 8:00 - 9:15 am



HEAVENLY VISION
Pastor Justin

Do you have a heavenly vision for your life?

In Acts 26:19, Paul tells King Agrippa that he was obedient to the heavenly vision that God gave him. What exactly is a heavenly vision?

In the following verses, the Apostle Paul tells us his heavenly vision. His vision from God was to proclaim the gospel to the Gentiles. This vision that Paul had was unique to him. Throughout the Word of God, we can find stories of God giving a vision to His people for a s p e c i f i c purpose. One such story is found in Numbers 13. God had promised the people a land flowing with milk and honey. The 12 spies even found some delicious grapes they brought back for all to enjoy. But all was not well with them as they also found giants of great size. Scripture tells us that ten spies passed on an evil report of unbelief to the children of Israel. Numbers 13:33, "there we saw the giants, and we were

like grasshoppers in our own sight, and so we were in their sight." WOW! The image the ten spies carried within themselves was that of a grasshopper. They defeated themselves before they even stepped on the battlefield.

This past weekend, Pastor Kerry shared the importance of our imagination and carrying the right image within ourselves. He shared many times in Proverbs 23:7, "as a man thinks in his heart, so is he." Pastor Kerry shared how our thoughts directly correlate to our lives' outcomes.

When we dwell and think upon the negative thoughts, we produce in ourselves death. We kill ourselves off, just like the children of Israel did.

I want to encourage you to get a heavenly vision of what God has called you to. What image or vision are you currently holding onto? Is it time to refresh your web browser? God has a great plan for all of us; it's time to get on with His plan and purposes for our lives.

*Is it time
to refresh
your web
browser?*