



newLife THRIVE YOUTH CORNER

Summer is just around the corner and THRIVE Youth Group has many upcoming events planned. We all know life never slows down. In an effort to respect your time, the youth leadership team has scheduled a BRIEF fifteen minute meeting for all parents of youth on Sunday, April 7th, immediately following the service. We will be communicating important dates, informing you about current ministries within the youth group, and answering any questions you have. As parents, we know that you love your children and are desiring for them to have deep and meaningful relationships with Jesus as teenagers and continuing into adulthood. As youth leaders, it is our desire to partner with you and support you in that endeavor. Proverbs 22:6 states, "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it." This is both an exhortation and promise!! Spiritual growth, like natural growth, requires the right environment (the parable of the sower in Matthew 13), nourishment (the "everlasting" water in John 4:14 & "spiritual food" in Hebrews 5:12-14), and nurturing - aka: discipleship! Jesus is our example in the way he incorporated every day life with the disciples with fellowship with the Father. Likewise, we make it our goal for THRIVE Youth group to be strong, practical, and spiritual food for our teenagers. As we often tell them, no one ever regrets pursuing the things of the Lord with earnest and expectation. We pray that all youth and parents alike see the value of seeking first the Kingdom of God in this current age of materialism and external pursuits.

529 North Walnut Street  
Celina, OH 45822



# The Connection

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## WORSHIP CENTER

7015 Havemann Road  
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## OFFICES & FAMILY CENTER

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Check out our Audio and Video Podcasts or Live Stream our services at:

[nlcc-celina.org](http://nlcc-celina.org)



**SPECIAL GUEST**  
**Chuck Porta**  
 Friday, April 19,  
 7:00 pm  
 Sunday, April 21,  
 10:00 am

Chuck brings a powerful prophetic message calling God's people to a deeper level of intimacy with the Lord. He also has a passion to see the move of God come to the body of Christ, releasing them into fruitful lives for the Kingdom of God. Be sure to invite a friend. You won't want to miss these services!



Kingdom Harvest Ministries, a Released Time Bible Education, is growing rapidly in our area. Currently, we are needing volunteers for Celina 1st and 2nd graders. If you are interested in helping out, please sign up at [kingdomharvestministries.org](http://kingdomharvestministries.org) and click on the volunteer tab. See Levi Dahlke for more information.



**Chris Romano**



**April 24**  
**7:00 pm**

The President of VBCS will be ministering on this Wednesday night and updating us on what God is doing through Vision Bible College and Seminary. Be sure to join us for this inspiring evening.



**May 5 10:00 am**

**Scott Frank**, internet safety expert and empowerment speaker, will be sharing the dangers of the internet and social media in our technological world. Scott also will provide a wealth of information, techniques, and tools to help parents ensure their children are making good digital decisions. Parents and teens alike will not want to miss this presentation during our Sunday service.



## GETTING TO KNOW YOU

Sharon Long

I would like to introduce you to a great family who now call *New Life* their home. Mitch and Casey Doty live in St. Marys, and have been married for nearly 13 years. They met at *Only Believe Ministries*. Mitch was praying to the Lord to bring him a wife, and that morning Casey came down the choir risers twirling and dancing. Mitch said it was as if God had put a spotlight on her and said, "that's your wife." God had given Casey a word several years prior about bringing her a husband and a father for her daughter, Vidalia. Mitch continued to sit behind Casey in church until he got the courage to ask her out. After getting together, they were married 7 months later. They have 3 children, Vidalia Dixon, age 20; Tabitha Doty, age 19; and Asher Doty, 10 years old. Vidalia is a cosmetologist, specializing in nails, so if you need your nails done, you know who to ask. Tabitha just graduated high school and loves cooking and drawing/art. Asher is in the 4th grade and is an avid gamer and people laugh. The complete mix). Mitch has recently started a new job working for the city of Wapakoneta, and creating social media commercials for clients. Casey is a self-employed caregiver for the elderly. Some of their hobbies include, for Mitch, gaming on his PC, and for Casey, creating projects on her *Cricut* cutting machine, sewing and cooking/baking. When asked what they would do if they won \$1 million, they both agreed to tithe first, give where God would have them give, then help bless family and friends. If enough was left over, they would build an apartment over the garage for entertaining, gaming, and crafting. Casey said she would buy her dream truck: an extended cab Toyota Tacoma painted fuchsia! Something you may not know about them is they stood in faith for 5 years believing for a mortgage free home, and God gave them a house! This fun loving and creative family is a great asset to *New Life*. If you haven't met them, make sure you greet them at the next service.



## DISCIPLESHIP CLASSES

**Discipleship 1: April 7, 5:00 - 7:00 pm**

**Discipleship 2: April 7, 14, 8:00 - 9:15 am**

**Discipleship 3: April 7, 14, 8:00 - 9:15 am**



## GRACE BURSTING FORTH

Steve Long

In Matthew, chapter 20, Jesus tells this story: "The Kingdom of heaven is like a landowner that went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. When they had agreed on a price, he then sent them out to work. After that the owner went out about the 3rd hour and saw others standing about idle and hired them, saying what ever is right I will give you. So, they went. Again, he went out about the 6th and the 9th hour and did the same. And about the 11th hour he went out and found others standing idle, and said to them, 'Why have you been standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'because no one hired us.' He said

*God knows we need His Grace most when we deserve it least*

to them, 'You also go and work in my vineyard, and whatever is right I will give to you.' So, when evening had come, the owner told the manager to call the workers in and give them their wages." Everyone was content until those who worked in the blazing sun all day long were paid the same wage of those who barely worked an hour and hadn't even worked up a sweat! What employer would do such a thing? This boss was

not fair, they complained! God wants us to learn something about grace, something about our Father. This story Jesus shared makes no economic sense, and that's His point. Grace is not about and can't be calculated like wages! Grace is not about counting; Grace is received as a Gift! It's not toiling to earn, it's receiving. This employer didn't cheat the full day workers, they got what was promised. Their discontent arose from the generosity of grace! Most Christians identify with the workers who put in a full days work, rather than the ones who came in at the last hour. If we are not careful, we will miss the point. God gives gifts, not wages! Not one of us gets paid according to merit, and none of us come close to satisfying God's requirements for a perfect life. If we were paid according to our own worthiness, we would all end up in hell! In a world of ungrace, men say some deserve more than others, but in the realm of grace, the word 'deserve' does not even exist.