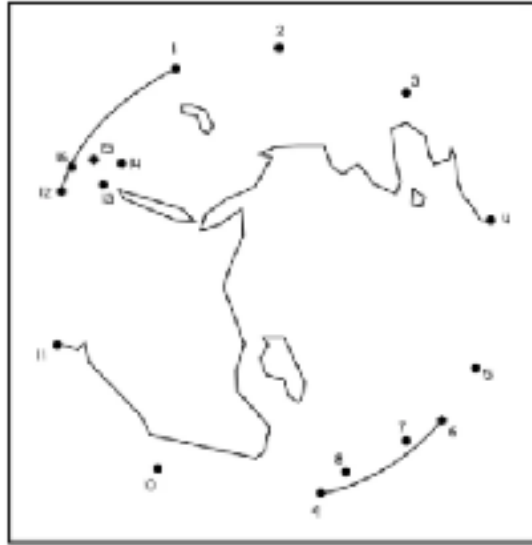


CONNECT the DOTS

John 3:16 shares how God loved the world so much, God sent Jesus for us! Connect the dots to form the world. Inside, write or draw a way you feel God's love.



Get ready for some cleaning! The 127 garage/yard sales are coming up soon on August 7th-9th. Once again, Paster Justin and Elizabeth have been kind enough to open up their garage for Thrive youth to set up and sell items that have been donated, along with having a lemonade stand. Wondering how you can help? That's easy! We want your old stuff! Items that you may not want anymore or no longer use. The week before, you can ask one of the youth leaders to help organize a pick up time if you are unable to drop it off. You are welcome to make a monetary donation, furniture, household items, decorations, and toys. PLEASE NO BOOKS OR CLOTHES! All leftover items that did not sell during the garage sale will be loaded and donated to House of Hope, Call, Agape, or Goodwill. We cannot do this without your help. Thank you in advance!

529 North Walnut Street
Celina, OH 45822



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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

Phone: 419-586-1095

Email: atmoffice@atmintl.org

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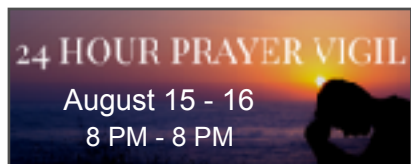
Band of Brothers Event August 26, 5 PM

Join us for our annual night of baseball with fun, food, and fellowship. We have a concourse suite reserved with an all-you-can-eat picnic service in an open-air, private setting, plus a great view of the ballgame. We will be leaving Celina at 5 pm to car pool. The game starts at 6:30 pm. Contact Dave Thompson or Jeff Monfort for more information.



THRIVE Annual Yard Sale August 7, 8, 9

Our annual youth garage sale is coming up soon. We are looking for items in good condition. If you have old furniture, electronics, décor, kitchen appliances, etc., hold on to them until the week before the sale. **Please, no clothing or books!** We cannot do this without your help. More information coming soon.



Join us for this 24 hour prayer vigil, broken down in 2 hour increments. We will be praying for our local communities, our country, for the nations, and revival fire. There is a sign up sheet on the Welcome Center desk.



Guest Speaker, Jim Tegelhutter August 23, 7 PM August 24, 10 AM

We are excited to welcome Jim Tegelhutter from central Florida. Jim has served almost forty years in his full-time ministry "tour of duty", has served as a youth pastor and senior pastor here in the states, and has preached in Guatemala, Ecuador, Africa, and England. He is also an advisor and student mentor at VCBCS. Jim has a passion to see an authentic move of God that changes and transforms the hearts of people. This is evident in his tireless commitment to prayer and intercession. Invite a friend; you won't want to miss these special services!



Volunteers are needed for the coming school year for this awesome time release ministry. If you have a child who will be entering 1st grade through high school, registration is now open. To register your child, sign up to volunteer, or for more information visit: kingdomharvestministries.org

VBS RECAP

Ashley Driggs

Vacation Bible School this year was full of five days of WONDER with a Western-themed adventure where kids discover the wonder of Jesus.



Each day, kids explored a different aspect of Jesus' life and teachings, with a focus on specific Bible passages and memory verses. The

curriculum explores key moments in Jesus' life, including his birth, childhood, ministry, death, and resurrection. Kids rotated through different stations like All Aboard Assembly, Bible Lessons, Snacks, Games, Science & Crafts, and Music & Verses each night.

Throughout the week, we set a goal to raise \$2,000 for One By One to help end exploitation, enabling them to reach, rescue, and restore the vulnerable across the world. We exceeded our goal by raising \$2,160.73; therefore, the volunteers were turned into human sundaes! We are talking chocolate, strawberry, and caramel syrup with sprinkles, cookie crumbles, marshmallows, and gummies. Have we mentioned how much we appreciate our volunteers? We were able to minister to just under 60 kids with the help of nearly 40 volunteers! We had a few first-time students and volunteers. All the incredible decorations were passed on to Faith Alliance



Church in New Bremen, and they will then pass them on to an Ethiopian church in Columbus. We are so thankful for your prayers and commitment to our future generations to be the hands and feet of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

DISCIPLESHIP CLASSES

Discipleship 2 Class for Men July 30, 9:30 - 11:30 AM



WHY WE DANCE IN CHURCH

Joan McPherson

Open the doors to the sanctuary at New Life Christian Center during a worship service and you are swept into the exuberant sounds of piano, drums, electric guitar, and singing. Look a little closer and you will see the dancers in front worshipping through movement using banners, flags, and gestures. Sometimes the movements seem like a choreographed dance and other times they are simple gestures like the lifting of hands. It's not uncommon for the dancers to run down the aisles waving flags or moving in unison.

Did you ever wonder why do we do that? Dance in church? Not all churches participate in this type of worship and across the centuries some churches have even forbidden dancing. So why do we dance in church?

Dancing in church is called liturgical dancing. Liturgical dance aims to deepen the worshipping community's experience of prayer and to express spiritual emotions through movement. One of the first mentions of liturgical dancing is in Exodus when the prophetess Miriam, while shaking the tambourine, led the Israelites in a celebratory dance after safely crossing the Red Sea. It was a

victory dance giving thanks to Almighty God for throwing the horse and rider into the sea, and also a dance of thanksgiving and praise.

Scriptures encourage dancing. David danced with all his might when they brought back the Ark of the Covenant, and the Israelites danced to celebrate the miraculous deeds of God. Psalm 149 says, "Praise His name with the tambourine and dance."

The New Life dance team is named Worshipping Hearts Ministry and that is what is happening when the dancers are up front. They are worshipping with hearts to the Father in heaven and through their body movement leading the congregation to also lift hearts to the Father.

The scripture that all members on the team are encouraged to memorize is John 4:23, "The hour is coming and now is when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship Him."

Perhaps you have felt a nudge to be a part of this worship team, but don't know what that involves. Join the team on Monday, July 28th from 6-8 pm, and get your questions answered while enjoying a time of praise.

