



Volume 28 // Issue 6 // December 2025

Newsletter

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
Isaiah 9:6

Merry Christmas

WE ARE SINCERELY GRATEFUL FOR OUR CLIENTS ALLOWING US TO BE PART OF THEIR LIVES. THANK YOU PRAYER WARRIORS, FOR YOUR DAILY PRAYERS; TO OUR FINANCIAL SUPPORTERS, YOUR DONATIONS ENABLE THIS MINISTRY TO OPERATE EFFECTIVELY; AND TO OUR VOLUNTEERS, YOUR ASSISTANCE IN VARIOUS WAYS THROUGHOUT THIS YEAR HAS BEEN INVALUABLE. MAY EACH OF YOU RECEIVE ABUNDANT BLESSINGS FROM JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD AND SAVIOUR. ENJOY THE CHRISTMAS SEASON!

FROM THE STAFF AT
FREEDOM HILLS MINISTRIES

Upcoming Events

Understanding the Heart Relationship Conference

January 28, 29, & 30
at Heritage Community Center

Breakfast Fundraiser

Saturday March 7, 2026
at Heritage Community Center

Sing Fest

Ben & Rose, Conrad Fisher & Liberated
more info in next newsletter

May 16, 2026
at Harvest Ridge / Fairgrounds

Heart Encounter

May 19, 20, & 21, 2026
at Freedom Hills Ministries

Dinner & Auction

Friday June 12, 2026
at Heritage Community Center

To sign up for an event at Freedom Hills, please call the office at 330-893-3857

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If you are in need of lodging for any of the events listed, Comfort Suites in Berlin will give discounted rates when you mention you are coming for a Freedom Hills event. Their phone number is 330.893.7400

Understanding the Heart

Relationship Conference

You Are Invited To

Join us as we look into the Biblical Principles of Caring For The Heart. Jesus taught us the importance of relationships as the very core of our life on earth. For three nights we will focus on understanding, connecting, healing and finding resolution in our relationships.

Schedule

6:30 - Music
7:00 - Opening
7:15 - Session
8:00 - Break + Song
8:15 - Session
9:00 - Closing

Topics

Wednesday

Music by - Paul Mark Miller
-The Gift of Life, A Foundational Truth
-The Created Heart

Thursday

Music - to be announced
-The Damaged Heart
-Speaking to the Hearts of Children

Friday

Music - to be announced
-Finding Healing For the Wounded Heart
-Finding Power in Relationships



Kevin Troyer // Harlan Miller // Guest Speaker - to be announced



January
28, 29, 30, 2026



Heritage Community Center
3558 US 62 Millersburg, OH



6:30 PM - 9:00 PM

Christmas Thoughts

Christmas, it really is a wonderful time of the year. I love Christmas and so many of the things that come with the Christmas Holiday. The colder weather, the get togethers, the special family times, the food, the Christmas carols and all the other things that happen as we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, God's gift to us.

Why write a poem for the Christmas newsletter? Maybe because sometimes I just feel like writing my version of a poem. Maybe because a poem has the tendency to just say the important things. To take what we tend to make complicated and make it simple.

This Christmas, like this poem, may we all be able to strip away the things that obscure the complexity that Christmas can become, and see it for what it really is. A faithful couple, some lowly shepherds, wise men and most of all God's wonderful plan for the best gift ever!

I wonder how it would have been, to experience the very 1st Christmas Day
With large crowds traveling to Jerusalem, and taxation on the way
The donkey was slow, the journey hard, the road very rough
Joseph and Mary tried to hurry, but her condition made it tough

The busy Bethlehem streets were crowded, rooms were hard to find
Joseph felt stressed, they were running out of time
Again & again he heard, sorry we have no room
Alone in a busy city and with darkness beginning to loom

Beggars can't be choosers, Joseph took what he could get
He did his best to stay positive, so Mary would not fret
A shabby little stable, a rough manger and some hay
What a strange place for a Heavenly King to lay

What a city our Saviour left, to visit this humble place
What immense value, He must put on the human race
He stepped away from Glory, from Majesty on High
Came down to us on earth,
and ultimately for all mankind, went to the cross and died

Who would celebrate, who would announce His birth?
What would that look like for someone of His worth?
Perhaps in a Kingly court with a messenger in gold
Would that be the way, the world would be told

God had a perfect plan, to announce the birth of His Son
First one angel, then a multitude, gathered all around
The shepherds heard amazing news, the angels began to say
The prophesy has been fulfilled, your Saviour is here today

The shepherds did not loiter, they quickly covered ground
To find the lowly stable, where baby Jesus could be found
They didn't keep it to themselves, they quickly spread the word
God knew exactly how, the good news would be heard

From the east the wise men came, their gaze fixed on a star
It was not wisdom that they sought, and traveled from afar
They sought a King, and came to Him,
bearing gifts myrrh, frankincense and gold
God warned them in a dream, that Herod should not be told

Joseph and Mary, raised their son, with love and care
Knowing that the whole world, would their blessing share
From a lowly manger, all the way to the cross
Jesus Christ, walked the journey, for the hurting, and the lost

Christmas today is different than the 1st one so long ago
The day comes and goes so fast, we hardly even know
Today it's glitz and glitter, parties, food and gifts
We would not think of celebrating in a stable, or with any kind of thrift

Perhaps we need to slow down and find a quiet place
To meditate, and remember, how God saved the human race
To honor and praise the righteous One, who from heaven came down
And in Him Salvation, and eternal life, for us could be found

As I stop and compare the two
The 1st Christmas, and Christmas today
I have come to the conclusion that if I had a choice
I would pick the 1st Christmas Day

I'd listen with the shepherds, and travel with the wise men
And take sometime to celebrate, the birthday of our best friend

We really can't go back
But we can still celebrate, the first Christmas day
By loving others as He did, remembering, He died our debts to pay
The amazing Gift that was given, should not be kept apart
Let us to others give, the gift of love, from our heart.

Wishing you a
Merry Christmas,

Kevin & Carolyn



God's Plan

God had a plan for His Son, King Jesus.

A plan that He leaves the splendor and glories of heaven for a season.

God's plan included that He would experience pain and suffering.

King Jesus was conceived by the Holy Spirit and was borne by a virgin. How impossible did that appear to the public during that time? **It was God's plan.**

Our way of describing the stable where King Jesus was born, would be plain, common, and unsuitable, not fit for a King. **But it was God's plan.**

A commandment was issued that every boy child 2 years and under should be killed. God informed Joseph in a dream to take Mary and his Son Jesus, and travel to another area to get away from the commandment. **It was God's plan to spare His Son from death at that time.**

Joseph and Mary did not know all the details of **God's plan** when they were on this earth, they had a daily life just like you and I, making a living to implement food and clothing for their family.

Annually Jesus and His family traveled to Jerusalem for the Passover festival. On their journey home, they discovered Jesus was missing. After 3 days they found Him in the temple listening and asking the teachers questions. Mary, His mother, asked Him, "Son why have you treated us like this? Your Father and I have been anxiously searching for you." **They did not know God's plan for their Son Jesus.**

Why were you searching for me? Jesus asked. "Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's House?"

Joseph and Mary did not understand what Jesus meant. However, Mary treasured all these things in her heart, even though, **she did not know God's plan.**

If given a choice on how King Jesus should be born, I believe that none of us would have chosen for Him to be born in a stable. **But that was God's plan.**

How would you have chosen the plan of Salvation? **God had a plan.**

God's plan is so much higher, than our thoughts. Perhaps some of you would not have chosen the journey you are on or have been in the past, could it be that **it is God's plan?** So it will help you mature emotionally and spiritually? So you can become an encourager and inspiration to others?

I believe **God's plan** for you is to **cast all your cares to King Jesus, because He cares for you. 1 Peter 5:7**

I believe **God's plan** for you is to **have faith and believe King Jesus will never leave or forsake you. Hebrews 13:5.**

I believe God's plan for you is to **seek King Jesus with all you heart, mind, soul and strength. Mark 12:30**

As you worship King Jesus this Christmas Season, may your hearts be overflowing with gratitude and joy, because **His plan is best.**

Seeking **God's plan** for our life, *Nelson & Betty*

We would like to welcome Arlyn & Carrie Hershberger to our staff. They are serving as staff advisors, with Arlyn also supplying tech support and Carrie involved in event planning and preparation. Arlyn & Carrie will also be leading our small group follow up program, "Building Blocks For Relationships." We are grateful for God's call on Arlyn & Carrie's lives and their willingness to serve. If you get an opportunity please lift Arlyn & Carrie and their family up in prayer and with encouraging words.

Welcome



Building Blocks For Relationships - BBFR

Is a seven week workbook, 3 hours once a week, designed by Haven of Hope (a Caring For The Heart Ministry.) To be a follow up group, for The Caring For The Heart program. We were part of this group program and it was very beneficial for us to meet on a regular basis and work through situations as they come up week to week, and go deeper in our relationship.

If you have been through The Caring For

The Heart program and are interested in joining a group please call the ministry at 330-893-3857.

Blessings,
Arlyn & Carrie
Hershberger



Haystack & Sausage **BREAKFAST**

SATURDAY MARCH 7, 2026

6:30 AM - 10:30AM



HERITAGE COMMUNITY CENTER

3558 US 62 // MILLERSBURG, OH 44654

Thank you

for joining us at the
Celebration Banquet!





5510 Township Road 419
Sugarcreek, OH 44681
330.893.3857
Return Service Requested

Oh Come

LET US ADORE HIM

Christ

THE LORD



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Vice Chairman- Ron Miller, Killbuck, OH
Secretary- Allen Raber, Killbuck, OH
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Mt. Eaton, OH

Freedom Hills Ministries is a non profit organization and exists as an arm of the church of Jesus Christ to glorify God in all things through Him. Our purpose is to equip believers through biblically based counseling and training so they might stand firm in the faith in the midst of the spiritual battles of life.

We offer short term intense Christ centered counseling for marriages and individuals who are seeking freedom and emotional healing from God. If you would like to apply please fill out an application found on our website or you may call the office at 330.893.3857. Following is an outline for couples and individuals: Married Couples 5 days, includes a fully furnished cabin, (married couples only) Premarital Couples for 3 days, Dating Couples for 1 day, Single Boys for 3 days, Single Girls for 3 days.

We encourage each one of you to come back for a follow up, for Married Couples we offer a Heart Encounter twice a year and a Marriage Retreat bi-annually for anyone who has gone through a Caring For the Heart program.

20 minute phone slots are available for anyone who desires to speak with a counselor.

We are located at
5510 Township Road 419 Sugarcreek, OH 44681

- Website: freedomhillsministriesohio.com
- Email: office@freedomhillsministries.com
- Phone: 330.893.3857
- Fax: 330.893.4044
- Facebook
- Monetary donations send to:
5510 TR 419 Sugarcreek, OH 44681

