



Volume 28 // Issue 5 // October 2025

Newsletter

Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name. For the LORD is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations. // Psalm 100:4-5

What is Our Attraction?

Attraction= a quality or feature that evokes interest, liking or desire. Are we satisfied and okay with ourselves as His creation? The way He created us? Do we fully understand our relationship with our Creator? What is our attraction?

I love driving on back roads, away from man-made buildings/structures. I marvel at the beauty in unaltered spaces. The wildflowers I see blooming have always been an attraction to me. I am particularly drawn to one plant every time I see it. This plant is Chicory. I love the periwinkle color of the flower and the fact that it can bloom most anywhere, even through cracks in blacktop and during dry times. Some people look at this plant and see a weed, something that doesn't belong, or is in the way.

I did a little research and found that Chicory is actually a perennial herb. It is native to Europe and was introduced to North America at some point. The leaves and roots can be used for medicine, coffee and more. When Chicory gets mowed down, we might think it is gone, or at the very least, have a hard time to regrow. Nope, the taproot of Chicory can grow deep as it searches for water. It will go as deep as it needs, right where it is, to find what it needs to keep growing and thriving. And the color of the flower is still the same as the day it was first planted by its Creator. Nothing has been altered or changed for Chicory to do what it was created to do.

This plant reminds me of how our lives should be as born-again Christians. After we experienced our transformation, what have we done with our lives? Do we have a relationship with our Creator? A relationship so close that we can be okay to be where we are "planted" as His beautiful creation? We have all been created to reflect Him. When someone sees us, do they see Jesus? We have all been allowed to face different trials, heartaches, sickness etc. When we go through those tough times and get mowed down, what do we do? Are we able to let our roots go deeper, to search for what we need to grow and thrive, right where we are? Chicory does. When we can do that, imagine how God can use us. Deep roots to guide our feet, our hearts, our thoughts and tongue.

Chicory to me, is a beautiful reminder God allowed me to see. A reminder that we can have our lives deeply rooted in Him, to stand against our enemy, no matter what we face in this life. When I see one deep-rooted Chicory plant, I see beauty. But when I see a large amount blooming together, it is even more beautiful and more attractive. Let's all be so attractive and bloom where we are, that we draw people to Jesus. Let's help each other, so that we can stand strong in our struggles.

You are a beautiful creation of Jesus!! Dig deep and find yourself in Him. Allow who you were created to be, shine beautifully. Then others will be drawn to that attraction and have a desire to seek Jesus. Then is when we will be fulfilling the great commission of Jesus.

"Rooting" for you all,

Carolyn





Upcoming Events

Annual Fall Celebration Banquet
Tue. & Wed. October 21 & 22, 2025
at Heritage Community Center

Understanding the Heart Relationship Conference
January 28, 29, & 30
at Heritage Community Center

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

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



**Winesburg
Location
Now Open!**

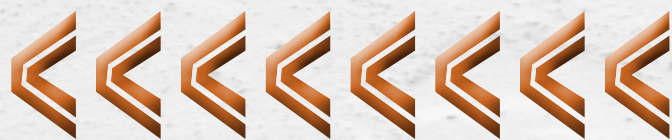
We are excited to announce that we are open in Winesburg located at 2425 US 62 Dundee, OH. Currently we are open Thursday & Friday from 9-5 and Saturday 9-2. We have a great crew of volunteers in the sorting department and are in need of cashier volunteers in hopes of being open more days in the future.

Strasburg location 1120 N Wooster Avenue, Strasburg, OH is open 6 days a week, with new items arriving daily!

If anyone has an interest of volunteering in any department or location please reach out and we will place you where your passion is.

Thank you volunteers and donors, without you we could not exist!

Helping Hearts Thrift Stores serve as an arm of Freedom Hills Ministries to generate monetary funds.



RUNNING THE RACE

Greetings of love to all! These last couple weeks have been very pleasant, with cooler temperatures, and the reminder that fall is right around the corner! I love all the seasons, but fall is just a special time of the year, the farmers are harvesting their hard earned crops, the crispness in the air, the leaves will start to change soon, pumpkin spice lattes are being served like they are going out of style! Ahh! What's not to love! I am also reminded that in a few short weeks we will be hosting a trail run here on the property of Freedom Hills. As we come to the final weeks of preparations I was reminded of a couple of bible verses that parallel this concept. In Hebrews 12:1-2 it says, "therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God." So the same way that the runners who will compete in our trail run will shed everything that is not necessary to carry with them, because they know that those things will slow them down, or hinder them. The same way we should lay aside every weight, and sin that clings so closely, and then we can run with endurance the race that is set before us. So what is weighing us down? If I am being honest, this race has weighed me down at times, just knowing all the prep that will have to go into it. Then I have to remind myself that God is in control and

He's got this, all that's required of me is to stay faithful, and just do what I can. How do we run the race with endurance? Any runner knows that it takes a lot of training to run the race, we have to get into shape and maintain it. We have to run a lot of miles so our body gets used to it, we build up strength and endurance. It's the same way spiritually. When I am running a race it can be painful at times, sometimes its hard to breathe because you are giving it all you got! Isn't that how our spiritual race feels sometimes as well? Sometimes we feel like just giving up. It's hard, we can barely breath, life is chaotic, I am barely hanging on. But I love verse 2! Because when we look to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, He will carry us through to the finish line! See he is waiting at the finish line saying, I am proud of you! I knew you could do it! I want to make everything perfect! I will wipe the tears from your face, there will be no more sorrow, no more sickness, you have run the good race! See that's why we run the race, because we know that at the end of our race there will be a reward, we will wear a crown! Lets fight the good fight, lets run the good race, our father in heaven is waiting with outstretched arms. In our trail race there can only be one winner in each race, but if we put our faith and trust in the founder and perfecter Jesus Christ, we can all be winners! Keep running the race in faith, that God set before you, and be a winner!

Blessings!

Harlan



Annual Fall

Celebration Banquet

October 21 & 22

Heritage Community Center

3558 US 62 Millersburg, OH 44654

Doors open at 5:30pm // Dinner 6:15pm

To reserve your complimentary seat
or sponsor a table of 8 for \$225.

Call 330-893-3857

« Music « Dinner « Testimonies



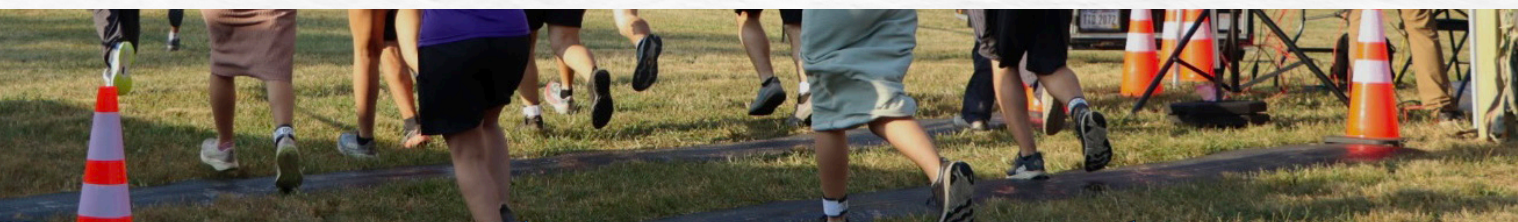
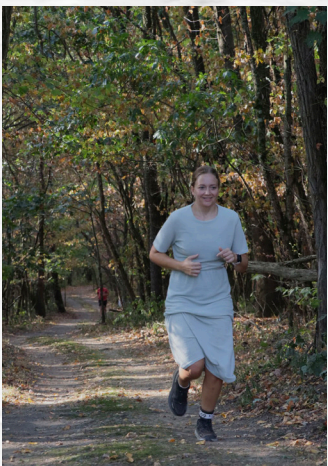
Music presented by

Oasis Rain



Runners and sponsorships for making this a fun and succesfull event!! May God Bless You!

FORGIVENESS DOESN'T EXCUSE THEIR ACTIONS. FORGIVENESS STOPS THEIR ACTIONS FROM DESTROYING YOUR HEART.



First Annual Run For Freedom Race



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



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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
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- Monetary donations send to:
5510 TR 419 Sugarcreek, OH 44681

