

## WHERE TO TURN TO FOR HELP & ANSWERS

**Card Ministry** | Barbara Florence

**Change of Contact Information** | Janine Miller

**Children's Church** | Sarah White

**Church Calendar** | Janine Miller

**Deacons** | Fred Berge, Jim Lightle, Steve Paugh, Christy Routzahn, Dan Smith, Brad Timmons, Paul Webb, Bob Entler

**Events** | Katie Mitchell

**Food Pantry** | Jim Lightle, Fred Berge, Dan Smith

**Membership** | Pastor Aaron White

**Music Ministry** | Carol Wildman, Deanna Mattinson

**Newsletter** | Janine Miller

**Nursery** | Ashley Woods

**Pioneer Clubs** | Jodi Smith

**Prayer Chain** | Janine Miller

**Rental, Church Facilities** | Janine Miller

**Session** | Pastor Aaron White, Rob Vaughn, Jim Hildebrand, Greg Rice, Todd Severt, Chris Cain, Jeff Miller

**Small Groups** | Don Grigorenko, Aaron Baldauff

**Thursday Morning Breakfast Club** | A. J. Woods

**Technology & Website** | Mindy Wildman

## HOW TO RECEIVE CHRIST

ADMIT YOUR NEED.  
"I am a sinner."

BE WILLING TO TURN FROM YOUR SINS.  
"I am sorry for my sins, Lord. Please forgive me."

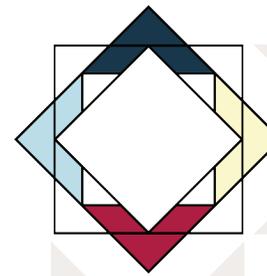
BELIEVE THAT JESUS CHRIST DIED FOR YOU ON THE CROSS AND ROSE FROM THE GRAVE.  
"I believe you did what you said you did—that you died on the cross then rose from the dead and have the power to save me."

THROUGH PRAYER, INVITE JESUS CHRIST TO COME IN AND CONTROL YOUR LIFE THROUGH THE HOLY SPIRIT.  
"Please come into my life and change me. Make me a new person."

IF YOU HAVE RECENTLY RECEIVED CHRIST, WE WOULD LIKE TO GIVE YOU A BIBLE. CONTACT PASTOR AARON IF YOU ARE INTERESTED.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN  
15 N. Chillicothe St.  
PO Box P  
South Charleston, OH 45368

Phone: 937-462-8479  
Email: [scharlestonfirst@sbcglobal.net](mailto:scharlestonfirst@sbcglobal.net)  
[www.FPCconnect.org](http://www.FPCconnect.org)



# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER



## HOW'D I GET MY BIBLE? SUMMER SEMINAR SERIES

One of the causes of biblical illiteracy in our modern church culture is an ignorance of the history of the Bible, its origin, accuracy, transmission and translation. We hope to address that problem with a summer seminar series entitled "How'd I Get My Bible?"

Each Sunday evening, May 30-July 25th at 6pm, Pastor Aaron & Don Grigorenko will facilitate this series with a leading scholar present through Zoom who will answer questions on particular topics.

### BEGINNING TONIGHT!

May 30 | What is the Bible? | Robert Yarbrough

June 6 | Did the Bible Exist Before it was Written? | David Wenham

June 13 | Who Wrote the Old Testament? | Aaron W. White & Scott Redd

June 20 | Who Wrote the New Testament? | Stanley Porter

June 27 | Who Put the Bible Together? | Pete Gurry & John Meade

July 4 | No Meeting

July 11 | Why Are There So Many Translations? | Paul R. House

July 18 | What Were the Early Translations of the Bible? | Mark Strauss

July 25 | Are We Still Translating the Bible? | Don Grigorenko

May 30, 2021

Written By

# Veggie Straws & Counterfeit Churchy Things

THE Rev. Aaron W. White, Ph.D.

The other day I was eating a snack called Veggie Straws. I was proud of myself. Veggies! I was nailing it. I thought to myself, I could be like one of those guys eating potato chips or pork rinds, but no, I am eating healthy. Well... you know what's coming. "Veggie" in the title is a bit of a stretch. These snacks may have been colored like a vegetable, called a vegetable, but the closest they've come to a vegetable is that they are a potato and made with corn starch, etc.

It's a well-worn story. We fall for the counterfeit because to go for the real thing would be too hard; oftentimes because the marketing for the counterfeit is so much more compelling!

The same is true for our Evangelical Christian culture.

I encounter it very often as a pastor as I am being pressured to "coach" other pastors or "be coached" by another pastor. Or I am being told that I should "do contemporary worship or die." I have nothing against a contemporary form of worship; in fact, I love the form as much I embrace the traditional expression, but will my congregation in fact die if I don't have that form of worship? It's unlikely. Or if I don't preach "hopeful" or "upbeat" sermons that don't speak of the real problem of sin in our lives, will I lose people? No, not if the gospel is the center. You get the picture. There is very purposeful and calculated marketing that is as aimed at your church life as there is at your snack life!

In fact, God knew that this would happen. In His word He says, "For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions" (2 Tim 4:3). Don't believe it is just "that wayward guy" who can have passions that would lead him from the gospel. No, each of us on this side of glory can be tempted away from God's path to a path that looks an awful lot like God's path.

We are called as Christians to be watchful for these sorts of counterfeits, but the reality is that the marketing and pressure to conform can be such that we do not see the error, or we just go with the flow.

One way we see this is in slick publishing. The most pervasive example of this is in the Christian Living book and devotional market. One very alarming example, but also one that has been widely accepted as a standard among some as the Christian devotional, is Jesus Calling. This devotional says many things that can appear soul-feeding, encouraging towards gospel living and growth, but it is a well-marketed counterfeit. One trustworthy critic has pointed out how this book actually is upheld by convictions that you and I would not hold, such as the author speaking for God — not speaking God's Word. Additionally, this author proclaims the insufficiency of Scripture, saying, "I did all the talking. I knew that God communicated with me through the Bible, but I yearned for more. Increasingly, I wanted to hear what God had to say to me personally on a given day." Most shockingly, I was surprised to find she actually mimics a Ouija-board-esque occultism! As she says, "...[I would] listen to God with pen in hand, writing down whatever I believe He was saying. I felt awkward the first time I tried this, but I received a message. It was short, biblical, and appropriate. It addressed topics that were current in my life: trust, fear, and closeness to God. I responded by writing in my prayer journal." This is called

## Events in Our Church Family COME JOIN US!

<b>TODAY</b>	
8:30AM	WORSHIP SERVICE
10:00AM	DONUTS
11:00AM	WORSHIP SERVICE
6:00PM	HOW'D I GET MY BIBLE?

### MONDAY | MEMORIAL DAY

<b>TUESDAY</b>	
9:00AM	STAFF MEETING (VILLAGE CUP)

<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	
7:00AM	IRONMEN FELLOWSHIP (FELLOWSHIP HALL)

<b>SUNDAY (6/6)</b>	
8:30AM	WORSHIP SERVICE
10:00AM	SUNDAY SCHOOL
11:00AM	WORSHIP SERVICE
6:00PM	HOW'D I GET MY BIBLE?

## Upcoming Events

Church Office Closed | June 21-26  
General Assembly | June 21-25 | Memphis, TN  
VBS | July 11-12 | More info. coming soon.

## Blessings In A Bottle

Each year the Pregnancy Resource Clinic of Clark County raises funds with their Blessings in A Bottle campaign. These donations go to provide services to women who are faced with an unwanted or unplanned pregnancy.

You may pick up a bottle from the table in the Fellowship Hall and take it home. Fill it with loose change or bills and then bring it back on Father's Day.

All donations will go directly to the PRC.

## Teachers Needed

It's that time of year when we seek to have volunteers cover our summer Sunday School classes. (Our regular teachers would love a break!) There are different grade levels and multiple dates to choose from. Feel free to sign up for one or more! We will provide the curriculum if you need it or you can create your own.

Sign up through the emailed link or by contacting Rob Vaughn.

## Directory Update

The church directory has been updated with recent changes to members' information. The directory is available through the Instant Church Directory app on Google Play or the App Store, it can be downloaded in pdf form from our website ([fpcconnect.org/](http://fpcconnect.org/) FPC Connection), or you may contact Janine for a paper copy.

“automatic writing”, an occultist practice! Yikes! Anyhow, this is just one example; there are many more that fly under the radar.

In fact, as I write this, one of your elders alerted me to a recent Joel Osteen sermon (yes, he is a common punching bag on this topic, but regardless people still listen to him and believe he is a Christian pastor!) wherein he likens God to a spare tire for when the day runs flat despite our greatest efforts to “make it a good day!” Sounds like “crutch theology” doesn't it? That's because it is!

These are blatant examples. But we are also called to watch for the lesser-seen instances. I encountered one the other day in a rather unassuming book that was overall passable, but suggested that because I follow Jesus, I am a “New Testament Christian” and that the Old Testament has no application for my life. Oops. Wrong... Stay watchful!

Your Ruling Elders are called to “guard against false teaching.” They will charitably lead the charge and assist me in rooting out bad teachings and practices that will influence those in our flock, all for the glory of God and the health of His people. But you too must stay watchful.

Here are two ways we can stay watchful and know we are in God's will.

1: Practice the ordinary means of grace. That is, submit to the Word of God preached, be baptized if you aren't already, be nourished by the body and blood, and pray with your sisters and brothers.

2: Read God's Word daily. Yes, there are some good devotionals out there, but nothing substitutes just reading God's Word alone. If you don't know where to start, pick up and read John's Gospel, and when you're done, just keep reading the rest of the gospels and then finish the New Testament. If you have questions about what to read then, read the Old Testament, or ask an elder for their advice. A good way to stay in God's Word in a bite-sized way is also to simply follow along in Meeting with Jesus.

God loves you and wants the best for you, and that is why He gave His one and only Son for your life now and for your eternity! He will nourish your spiritual health in your process of salvation, from regeneration and effectual calling to glory, by what is tried and true. A thousand tasty Veggie Straws can never fill you like one square meal of God's Word and His ordinary means of grace. In fact, those spiritual Veggie Straws do not only insufficiently nourish you, but they also actually do harm to you long-term, just as a regular diet of the real thing might. Rather, feast on God's veggies, not the counterfeit snacks.

God bless you.

PA

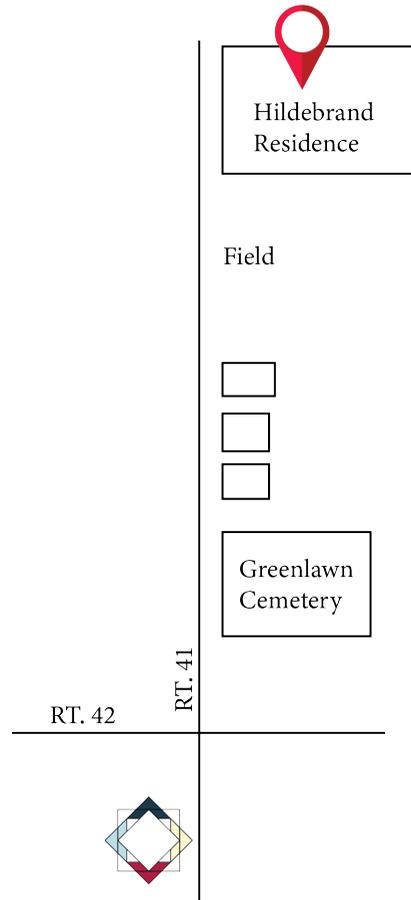
## Father's Day Breakfast & Service

June 20, 2021

We are excited for the return of the annual Father's Day pancake breakfast and combined outdoor service! Bring a lawn chair (seating may be limited) and enjoy a unique time of fellowship and worship.

The Hildebrand's have graciously offered the use of their property for this beloved tradition.  
10550 S. Charleston Pk.  
S. Charleston, OH 45368

Pancakes | 9:00a  
Service | 10:00a



### THANK YOU TO OUR NURSERY VOLUNTEERS

May 30 Diana Timmons

June 6 Becky Mohler

June 13 Rachel Baldauff

June 20 April Entler

TO VOLUNTEER CONTACT  
ASHLEY WOODS: 740-505-2331

## YOU'RE INVITED

Everyone is invited to celebrate  
the graduation of

### Simon Wildman

June 12th, 4-6pm at  
Gilbert's Youth Center.

## Meeting with Jesus Books and Devotion Videos

Meeting with Jesus devotional books are available in the Fellowship Hall. If you or anyone you know would enjoy a copy, pick one up today!

If anyone has signed up recently through the website to receive Daily Devotionals from Pastor Aaron, please let Janine Miller know or sign up again. The requester's email addresses weren't recorded and so we don't know to whom to send the devotionals!

## Pioneer Club Day Camp 2021



All students entering 4th-7th grade are invited to come to Pioneer Club Day Camp on July 19th-20th at Camp Hazel (Hazel residence). Registration is open now through July 1st and is \$35/student. Register online by scanning this QR code or by contacting Jodi Smith.