

*Parents and Campers,*

*We welcome you to the 2022 Hocking Hills Liberty Camp.*

*Our number one goal is to teach the campers that God's Divine Providence shaped the structure and creation of the United States of America and our Constitution. The Christian Heritage we have is often excluded from the teaching of our American history. However, the full truth of our history must be taught, the bad as well as the good. To exclude God's guiding hand in the birth of our nation is to fail to understand what has set us apart from other nations on earth. America was and is special, designed for a purpose. It is the understanding of the uniqueness of the United States that must be passed on to the next generations of Americans if we are to retain our freedom and our greatness.*

*Therefore, in order to emphasize God's providence in the establishment of our nation we will begin our Liberty Camp with the story of the Magna Carta, possibly the most unappreciated document, besides the Bible, to have been written. Rulers of nations blatantly ignored it but over hundreds of years the Magna Carta and its truth about the "Laws of Nature and Nature's God" kept popping up again and again.*

*History tells us that John Wyclif translated the Bible into the language commonly used by the people, which then allowed the masses to read and hear for themselves the wonderful truths the Bible held. John Guttenberg invented his moveable alphabet and the first book to be printed on this printing press was John Wyclif's translation of the Bible. As the truth of God's Word spread, millions of people began to believe in God's given freedoms for themselves and they were persecuted by their rulers because of these beliefs. The desire to live free and in accordance to God's word drove many of our early settlers to come to a new land. These new settlers then wrote the Mayflower Compact based on their understanding of the scriptures and the concept of "Laws of Nature and Nature's God". Our Founders, then, at the birth of our nation carried this concept into all our founding documents and effectively established, for the first time in the history of man, a free self-governing nation established by the people and for the people!*

*Because of this... the designers of Liberty Camp unanimously agreed that "the Laws of Nature and Nature's God" had to be the foundation of the camp. This foundation will flow thru the topics of "Colonial Life" on Monday, "The Rebellion" on Tuesday, "The Revolution" on Wednesday and Thursday, and the American View of government on Friday.*

*On Saturday we are planning a family event and special activities. We will be presenting certificates and joining together for an old fashioned Potluck Picnic. The kids will also be able to visit the Liberty Store and purchase items with the gold coins they have earned during the week! (That is if King George has not taken them all!) This will be a great ending to a wonderful, event filled week*

*While we cannot possibly teach all there is to know about our Founding in one week's time, it is our hope to spark interest in our upcoming generations and a desire to read, research, and learn more about the birth of America. Some of the topics and activities will be repeated from year to year, as they are foundational to understanding our nation and its government. Other topics and activities will be rotated to maintain interest for those campers who return to camp from previous years.*

*We look forward to spending the week with our campers and families as we explore and learn more about our great nation of America and what makes it unique in the history of mankind.*

*Sincerely,*

*Denise Whalen, Director*

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