



Happy Thanksgiving!



November 19, 2017

Vision:

Transform the Heart . . . Transform the Home . . . Transform the World

5455 Market Avenue North, Canton, Ohio 44714
330.966.2800 • info@firstfriends.org

FirstFriends.org

Service Times
9:00 am & 10:30 am

Welcome to Worship at **First Friends!**



**Lead Pastor,
Stan Hinshaw**

Prayer at the Altar

Here at First Friends, God works through prayer. We offer different opportunities for prayer at our altar each Sunday. During our musical worship, if you would like to come and pray at the altar in private, we invite you to come to the left side by our cross. If you would like one of our Prayer Team to pray with you, please come to the opposite side (right) of the altar. We will also continue to offer prayer at the end of each service.

21 Day Gratitude Challenge

As we approach our Thanksgiving holiday there is no better time to practice giving thanks! Commit to join our church in the "21 Day Gratitude Challenge" and let's create the godly discipline of giving thanks in all circumstances.

(See our First Friends mobile App, our website, and the bulletin insert for details)

1 Thessalonians 5:18 "give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

Today Pastor Shawn Yost will be giving a message on "Maturing in Christ". Our mission is to "Build mature followers of Jesus in the church, home, and world."

Reading Plan

Sunday, Nov. 19 – Isaiah 9 (vs. 1-7)

Thursday, Nov. 23 – Luke 1 (vs. 46-55)

Monday, Nov. 20 – Isaiah 42 (vs. 1-17)

Friday, Nov. 24 – John 16 (vs. 16-24)

Tuesday, Nov. 21 – Isaiah 61 (vs. 1-11)

Saturday, Nov. 25 – Romans 12 (vs. 1-21)

Wednesday, Nov. 22 – Zephaniah 3 (vs. 9-20)

Pastor Stan Hinshaw, Lead Pastor

Thank You for Considering Others in Worship

Please silence your cell phones during the worship service. Also, if your child becomes restless and loud, the service can be heard in the hall, the women's restroom nursing room, or you can take your child to one of our excellent church nurseries.

REACHING NEIGHBORS & NATIONS

Report on Central Asia *Jesus Film* trip led by Dave Broadwell (CRU)

Fifteen years ago, 'Sergei,' a college student in Central Asia, was bored and looking for something to watch. His roommate, not a believer, handed him a DVD someone had given him - a copy of the *Jesus Film* in their language. It sat on the shelf for a few weeks, and then Sergei decided to watch it. He heard the story of Jesus, taken from the gospel of Luke, in his own language. Soon afterward he made a decision to become a Christ-follower! Now, Sergei is a pastor, leading and discipling others in how to walk with Christ. In October, Dave had the privilege of meeting him when he was in Central Asia, helping lead a two-week mission trip featuring the *Jesus Film*.

The team spoke at different universities and invited students to come talk with them further. They were able to share their faith with some students who came to a coffee shop. They also worshipped and spent time with local believers and trained them in how to use the *Jesus Film* app to start spiritual conversations. The believers in Central Asia were very hospitable and warm. It was amazing to see the doors that were opened to the team, just by being American.

PRAYER & CHURCH NEWS

Water Baptism

Today we are celebrating with ten individuals from our church family who are publicly professing their faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord through water baptism.

9:00

Michael Dunham

10:30

Carrie Vacha

Leah Wright

Da'sean Burnett

Morgan Wright

Malakee McGuier

Amy Schwitzgale

Liran McGuier

Is this Your First Sunday at FFC?

That's awesome! We are so glad that you are here. Please stop by and visit us at the Guest Central table in the Main Lobby. We'd love to thank you for being with us this morning and answer any questions you might have. God bless! -The FFC Guest Connections Team

Have a Prayer Need?

Call Gerry Bradshaw at 330.499.5575. Our faithful prayer warriors will lift your request before the Lord.

Hospitals & Rehab

Gerry Schroeder, Ralph Elmerick, Eileen Kuluskey

Christmas Night of Worship

December 10, 7:00 pm

Save the date for our Christmas Night of Worship. More details to come!

Celebrate Recovery

Thursdays, 6:30 - 8:30 pm

Join us for this new biblically based and Jesus centered recovery ministry.

Our Love and Sympathy

to the families of: Norma Sutter and Matt & Cindi Sutter, in the death of Herb Sutter, husband, father, grandfather. Also, to Dick & Carolyn Armentrout in the death of Dick's brother, Doug Armentrout.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

9:00 am

All children may go directly to their Sunday School Classes.

Help children hide God's Word in their hearts by memorizing their verses this month:

Preschool – Kindergarten Verse

"As for me, I call to God, and the Lord saves me." Psalm 55:16

Elementary Verse

"With a mighty hand and outstretched arm; His love endures forever." Psalm 136:12

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

10:30 am

Children in the nursery through kindergarten may go directly to their classrooms.

Children in grades 1 through 5 will be dismissed from the service to go to Children's Church in E-110.

Help children hide God's Word in their hearts by memorizing their verses this month:

Preschool – Kindergarten Verse

"As for me, I call to God, and the Lord saves me." Psalm 55:16

Elementary Verse

"You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Leviticus 19:18b



CHILDREN

Contact Tammy Forsythe at tforsythe@firstfriends.org

Parents

If you have a child/children in one of our nurseries, please leave your phone number with us when you drop them off. We will then add you to our Mobile Text Alert System. If we would need you for any reason we could then send you a text message.

Do you love holding babies? Playing with little ones?

We can help you! If you'd like to help us with our little ones in the nurseries on Sunday mornings, Jessica Bosley, our Nursery Coordinator would love to hear from you. You may email her for more information at jbosley@firstfriends.org

It's good news!

Our 1st and 2nd grade classes are overflowing. Would you be willing to serve in this area so we could have more classes? Please call Tammy at 330-966-2800.

Serving in Children's Ministry

We still have a few openings to serve as assistants in preschool and elementary classes at 9:00 and 10:30 services. Would you be willing to serve - even once a month? Please contact Tammy at 330-966-2800.

Safety Doors

Our safety doors will close 10 minutes after each service has started, opening again at the end of each service. If you would need to go to your child's classroom before the service has ended please go to the Welcome Center for assistance.

LOOKING AHEAD

November

- 22 **No Choir or CLC**
- 29 **CHILDREN'S CHOIRS 6 pm**
4 yr olds - 1st grade (Little Praisers)
Room E-122
2nd grade - 6th grade (Glory Gazers)
Room E-110
CLC 7 pm

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Website: www.greenhouse242.com

Contact Ben Croston at bcroston@firstfriends.org
Follow us on facebook at: facebook.com/greenhouse242/

Sunday Morning

Sundays, 9:00 - 10:15 am (E-101)

Join us for a time to grow in your faith, friendships, and giftedness through small groups, games, and encouraging lessons. We hope to see you there.

Dead Serious About Life

Today, November 19, 1:30 pm – 6:30 pm

Drop off and Pick up at First Friends (E-101). the price is \$6. This is a play that helps teenagers develop healthy ways to respond to peer pressure and choices in the society that we live in today. It will be at Louisville Middle School. Transportation is available.

Wednesday Night

Wednesdays, 6:30 - 8:30 pm (E-101)

Join us for a time of fun, friendships, and fellowship with God. We invite you to bring a snack to donate for the snack cabinet. **No Wednesday night programming on November 22. Enjoy time with your family.**



MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL

The Landing

Thursdays 6:30 - 8:30 pm (E-101)

Based on the Beatitudes, The Landing is a safe, healing place where teenagers can live a freer, healthier, and more God-centered life. There will be videos, worship, and great conversations to help develop tools to face life's hurts, habits, and hang-ups. Contact Ben at bcroston@firstfriends.org for more information.

FriendsGiving!

Sunday, November 26, 5:00 – 8:00 pm
E-101 and E-111

Middle School and High School will be celebrating Friendship with an "Attitude of Gratitude". There will be food, games, fun, and fellowship! Bring a side dish or dessert to share with others and bring a friend.

HIGH SCHOOL

Website: www.warehouse514.org

Contact Scott Calhoun at scalhoun@firstfriends.org

Sunday Mornings

Sundays, 9:00 - 10:15 am (E-111)

Come join us for a relevant message to help you grow in your faith along with a student and leader. Bible study time in a friendly, fun, and exciting atmosphere.

Wednesday Nights

We will not be meeting on Wednesday, November 22.

Affordable Christmas Shopping

Sunday, December 3, 12:00 – 3:00 pm

Join us as we shop for gifts for children. Bring money for lunch and for gift purchases. Sign up in our room. If you are getting a gift on your own, please turn in by December 6 to room E-111.

Gear Up Meeting

Today November 19, 12:00 - 2:00 pm (E-111)

If you are interested in being a part of the student leadership team, join us for this meeting. Pack a lunch.

Save the dates

December 3 – Affordable Christmas shopping
December 9 – Affordable Christmas
December 29 & 30 – Up All Night



CONNECT GROUPS

Contact Theresa Maxin at tmaxin@firstfriends.org

If you would like to lead a P.R.A.Y. Scripture group during the winter/spring semester (January 14-April 29, 2018) please contact Theresa Maxin NO LATER than tomorrow, November 20. Groups can meet any day of the week at the church or in your home. **Contact Theresa Maxin at 330-966-2800 or tmaxin@firstfriends.org.**

MARRIAGE & FAMILY

Marriage Retreat Weekend - Save the Date!

February 23-25, 2018

Save the date for this wonderful three day weekend! Enjoy fellowship with other married couples, one-on-one time with your spouse, testimonies from real-life couples and biblical teachings about building a healthy marriage relationship through the seasons of life.

SENIOR MINISTRY

Lancaster, PA Trip

May 4-5, 2018

The Senior Adult Ministry invites you to join them on a trip to Lancaster, PA to see the "Jesus" production at the Sight & Sound Theater. Pick up a flyer at either Welcome Center for more information. Registration deadline is February 28, 2018.

STEWARDSHIP

Contact Dave Williams at dwilliams@firstfriends.org

Biblical Wisdom:

But my God will supply all your needs according to his riches in glory by Jesus Christ. Philippians 4:19

Blessing Board: Visit our Facebook at Blessing Board at First Friends. Enjoy being a blessing for it is better to give than to receive.

FFC Financial Update

| | General Ministries** | Missions/Faith Promise |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| 2017 Approved Budget | \$2,400,000 | \$105,000 |
| 2017 Revised Budget | \$2,250,000 | \$105,000 |
| Received to Date (1/1-11/12) | \$1,914,592** | \$71,327 |
| Remaining Need (11/19-12/31) | \$335,408 | \$33,673 |
| Weekly Need (9 weeks) | \$47,915 | \$4,810 |
| Received Last Week | \$34,608 | \$887 |
| Weekly Average to Date | \$41,622** | \$1,551 |
| Home Improvement Received in 2017 | \$68,437 | |
| Project 51 Offering | \$60,482 | |

** Does not include Project 51 Offering**



YOUNG ADULTS

Contact info@firstfriends.org or follow us on Facebook at First Friends Young Adults.

Altitude

Sundays, 8:30 am (E-106)

Join us as we go through the book *Foundations* by Robby & Kandi Gallaty. *Foundations* will guide us through the Bible as we Seek, to Highlight, Explain, Apply and Respond to Scripture. Join us for discussion every Sunday morning at 9:00 am!

Connect

Wednesdays, 8:30 pm (L-6)

Join us as we study the book of Luke.

ASCENT: The Worship Experience

Saturday, December 2, 7:00 pm

Join us for an upbeat worship gathering.



SPORTS

Call the Sports Office at 330.966.6868 or visit firstfriendssports.com

Registrations available in the church brochure racks and on our website firstfriendssports.com



Please pray for all of our Fall sports programs!



Celebrate Recovery[®]

A CHRIST-CENTERED
RECOVERY PROGRAM

All Welcome

THURSDAYS 6:30-8:30 PM
FIRST FRIENDS CHURCH



CELEBRATE RECOVERY HELPS HEAL THE HURTS, HABITS AND HANG-UPS OF:

| | | | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Abandonment | Divorce | Hurtful Relationships | Phobias | Sexual Abuse |
| Alcohol | Drugs Emotional Abuse | Insecurity Relationship | Physical Abuse | Sexual Addictions |
| Anger Anxiety | Fear | Issues Low self-esteem | Pornography | Shame |
| Chronic Illness/Pain | Financial Issues | Lying Nicotine | Prescription Drugs | Verbal Abuse |
| Co-Dependency | Food Issues | Overworking | Procrastination | AND MORE... |
| Control | Gambling Grief | Overeating | Rage Rejection | |
| Depression | Guilt | People Pleasing | Resentments | |



Christmas Opportunities 2017

Operation Christmas Child - First Friends is partnering with Samaritan's Purse to provide gift-filled shoeboxes to children living in impoverished situations. Pick up your box today at the table in the lobby! **Boxes are due by today, November 19.**

Affordable Christmas Giving Tree - This year we are partnering again with the Affordable Christmas program beginning Sunday, November 19. Take a tag from the tree (located across from L-1,2,3), purchase the gift, and then return it **unwrapped to a Welcome Center by Sunday, December 3.**

Sock and Mitten Tree - Every year we donate hats, scarves, mittens, gloves and socks to the Salvation Army to distribute to those in need during the winter months. **Beginning Sunday, November 19 through December 10, place your donated items on the tree in the hallway by the library.**

Christmas Cards for Shut-Ins - Send a Christmas Greeting to our shut-ins to warm their hearts and encourage them. **Call Janet at the church or stop at the Welcome Center for a list.**

Missionary Christmas - Let's show our appreciation and support for missionary families through a monetary Christmas gift. **Please designate "Missionary Christmas" on your offering envelope.**