

2018

Where is God taking
us this year?



January 7, 2018

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.

Welcome!

I'm so glad you're here with us to worship our God of new beginnings!

Today we are celebrating what God has done in our church and community in 2017, and looking forward to what we believe He is calling us to in 2018!

I am praying you are called to join us in His mission!

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

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

Cary and Reny Clifton – SALT* (Hong Kong)

Cliftons are excited to share the news of a strategic change in Cary's role effective January 2018. His new SALT role as Senior Researcher positions Cary to act on four core areas of ministry focus toward minimally educated leaders:

- Research and develop best approaches and practices including use of new skills in academic research gained through Oxford Center for Mission Studies (OCMS)
- Train globally using customized approaches in target areas; through existing and new partnerships
- Consult and initiate research and training ventures to maximize resources in training leaders
- Network to build a platform for advocacy on behalf of forgotten leaders.

Let's join the Cliftons in prayer...

- As they seek to "mind the gap" through researching, training, consulting, and networking.
- For Cary in his new role as he works to discern all that God has and to be brave in pressing on both in areas of skills and gifts as well as those outside his comfort zone.
- For God's presence at the January training as in-country leaders focus discussions on hindrances to their ministries.
- For Reny's relationships with Sons and Daughters as they welcome new arrivals.
- For their continued good health and Reny's recovery from a disc injury.

* SALT = Systematic Asian Leadership Training

PRAYER & CHURCH NEWS

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 or email Greg Roth at 330.454.4100 or groth@neo.rr.com. Our faithful prayer warriors will lift your request before the Lord.

Congregational Meeting

January 7, 6:30 pm, Room L-42-43

Mark your calendars for our annual Congregational Meeting. Members will be voting on new elders and the 2018 budget. All are welcome and encouraged to attend! Childcare will be available.

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. This trip is open to adults of any age. Registration deadline is February 28, 2018.

Newcomers Lunch

January 14, 11:45 am, Room L-42-43

Are you new to First Friends in the past six months? Join us for lunch! Meet our staff and elders, and learn more about the church. Families are welcome!

Our Love & Sympathy to

Keith & Brenda Houseknecht in the death of Keith's mother, Letha Houseknecht.

Hospitals & Rehab

Nan Rearick

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

"The Lord your God is with you, the Mighty Warrior who saves." Zephaniah 3:17a

Elementary Verse

The Lord your God is with you, the Mighty Warrior who saves. He will take great delight in you; in his love he will no longer rebuke you, but will rejoice over you with singing. Zephaniah 3:17

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.

Preschool – Kindergarten Verse

"The Lord Your God is with you, the Mighty Warrior who saves." Zephaniah 3:17a

Elementary Children's Church will have a lesson based on the passage of scripture from 1 John 2:7-14



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.

4&5 Year olds are so much fun!

Wouldn't you love to teach them about Jesus? Beginning in January they will need someone to teach them at the 10:30 am service. Don't miss out on this awesome opportunity. Give Tammy a call at 330.966.2800.

CLC - Wednesday Evening

January 17 - April 25 our 5th grade class will need a teacher and assistant. If you would be interested or have questions please give Tammy or Kris a call 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

January

17 **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 Mornings

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. We invite you to bring a snack to donate for the snack cabinet.

Wednesday Nights

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.

Snow Camp

February 9-11 (\$80)

Come join us for our winter retreat in Somerset, Pennsylvania. It is a great weekend to grow in your relationship with GOD and other middle schoolers. There will be a powerful speaker, time to hang out with friends, paint balling, snow-tubing, nine-square in the air, horse-back riding, group games, archery, a climbing wall, and more.



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.

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

Wednesdays, 7:00 - 8:30 pm (E-111)

Join us for a high energy night of worship, games, and a relevant teaching, followed by a small group study time.

SENT - Warehouse 514 Service Project

Saturday, January 20, 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Locations to be announced. Meet at the church at 8:45 am. Wear work clothes. Permission slip/Medical form required.

High School Mission Trips

We will be taking mission trips to the Dominican Republic and also Philippi, West Virginia this summer. Information is available in room E-111.

CONNECT GROUPS

Contact Theresa Maxin at tmaxin@firstfriends.org

Winter 2018 Connect Group Directories

Winter 2018 Connect Group Directories are available today! Stop by the table to pick up a copy and sign up for a group at the kiosk.

MARRIAGE & FAMILY

Before You Say "I Do"

Sundays, January 14 - February 4, 8:00 - 9:00 am (E-108)

This 4 week class is for couples who are engaged or seriously dating and a requirement for those being married by a First Friends pastor. Call the church for more info and to register.

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.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Contact Theresa Maxin at tmaxin@firstfriends.org

For encouragement and all the latest information about Women's studies and events, follow All Things Women on Facebook.



Women's Medical Clinic Mission Trip

April 14-21, Barahona, Dominican Republic

This outreach to a women's clinic is open to women only. Nurses and medical professionals are needed for this outreach. Informational packets and applications are available from Scott Calhoun-Missions Pastor or from Theresa Maxin-Director of Women's Ministry and Connect Groups. For questions, contact Lois Ferrel-Team Leader (330-280-2502) or Theresa Maxin (330-966-2800).

SENIOR MINISTRY

Senior Luncheon

Saturday, January 13, 11:00 am (E-111)

Join us for a time of fellowship and music as we hear the stories and history behind the original music of Stan Hinshaw through the years. Sign ups are available at both Welcome Center's.

MEN'S MINISTRY

Men of Action Breakfast

Saturday, January 27, 8:00 - 10:00 am

Join us for breakfast, enjoy fellowship with other men & listen to an encouraging message that will build your faith.

FFC Financial Update 2018

| | Revised Weekly Need* | Received 12/31/2017 | YTD Weekly Average |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| General Ministries | \$41,250 | \$44,286 | \$40,902 |
| Missions/ Faith Promise | \$2,019 | \$2,045 | \$1,510 |
| Total | \$43,269 | \$46,331 | \$42,412 |
| Home Improvement Received in 2017 | | | \$76,889 |
| Project 51 Offering | \$60,48 | | |



STEWARDSHIP

Biblical Wisdom:

Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy. 1 Cor 4:2

Question: Does stewardship only apply to my money?

No, we at First Friends believe we are called to be the best stewards of our time, talents and testimony as well as our treasures. Visit the First Friends Blessing board on Facebook if you have some items you would like to bless someone else with..

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



The winter season is upon us, and our Sports Ministry is accepting registrations for our Winter Leagues and Classes. See below:

Adult

- Men's Open Basketball (18-39)
- Men's Bring Your Own Team Basketball (18+)
- Men's Legends Basketball (40+)
- Women's Basketball (18+)
- Adult Coed Volleyball (18+)



Youth

- Girls Volleyball Clinic (Gr 2-3)
- Girls Volleyball League (Gr 4-12) **Assessments were completed week of Nov 27, check website for schedule**
- Basketball Clinic (Gr K-1)
- Boys Basketball League (Gr 7-8)
- Youth Arts Academy (Dance, Drama, Drawing, Praise and Standard Flag)
- Ages vary based on program

Celebrate Recovery®

A CHRIST-CENTERED
RECOVERY PROGRAM
All Welcome

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



TONIGHT!



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

January 7, 6:30 pm, Room L-42/43

Mark your calendars for our annual Congregational Meeting. Members will be voting on new elders and the 2018 budget. All are welcome and encouraged to attend! Childcare will be available.

Newcomers Lunch

JANUARY 14
11:45 AM ROOM L-42/43

Are you new to First Friends in the past six months? Join us for lunch! Meet our staff and elders, and learn more about the church.

Families are welcome!

