



THE GOSPEL AS
"SEED" FOR HARVEST



February 18, 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! We are so glad you're here today!

Lent 2018 - "Pulling Weeds and Planting Seeds"

This year we are asking God to deepen our experience of the Gospel "Good News" so we can participate in His mission and share it with those around us. The imagery we are using is found in Luke 8. We must prepare the fields of our souls with cultivation, weed pulling, and seed planting for an abundant harvest.

During Lent we are asking everyone to participate in 40 days of prayer with some kind of "fasting" for spiritual renewal in our church, and Gospel harvest in our world. Lent is a season of self-examination, repentance, fasting, and prayer leading up to resurrection Sunday, on April 1st. Lent began Wednesday, February 14 and ends Saturday, March 31.

Instructions for Lent Prayer and Fasting can be found on our website (click on the scroller), on our FFC mobile App, and at our Welcome Center.

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

Save the Date: April 24, 2018!

Refuge of Hope (ROH) will be celebrating their Meal Ministry and Men's Shelter at the Spring Banquet. It begins at 6:00 pm at Hartville Kitchen. Guests will have the opportunity to hear from Scott Schnyders (Director of Men's Shelter), U-Londa Hicks (Meal Ministry Associate), and Tim O'Neill (Director of Operations) as they describe serving God by serving others at ROH. The program will also feature a special testimony from one of the former ROH residents.

There is no cost to attend the banquet. However, it is a fundraising event. So, there will be the opportunity at the end of the evening to financially support the men, women, and children served by ROH. Such funds are what makes it possible for ROH to provide safe, sober shelter; hot, nutritious meals; clothing and hygiene items; and furniture and household items for men who are able to move out of the shelter into their own apartments!

Please mark your calendars for 4/24/18! Call Julia or Carol at 330-453-1785 to make reservations for the banquet. Or email your reservation to jhodson@refugeofhope.org or cgresham@refugeofhope.org

PRAYER & CHURCH NEWS

THANK YOU First Friends!

Our "Homeless Outreach Team" change bank offering raised \$7,550.00 for the temporary shelter directed by Steve Robinson!

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.

Ushers Needed

We need more ushers for both services. If you are able to serve once or twice a month, contact Paul Johnson, Kate Harris, or write "Usher" on your communication card.

Our Love & Sympathy

to Mark & Linda Gamble and family in the death of Mark's father, Glen Gamble.

Water Baptism

Our next Water Baptism will be held on Easter Sunday, April 1. A one time class will be held on Sunday, March 4 at 10:30 am in room E-106. Call Nancy Petroff at the church to register.

First Friends Job Opportunity

Facilities Coordinator

This position is 10-20 hours per week and mainly working on weekends and filling in for various shifts. Interested persons can get an application at the Welcome Center.

Hospitals & Rehab

Dinah Garrett, Christopher Weisse, Linda Shroades.

Child Dedication

9:00 am Vaughn Logan Foraker
Birthday: February 18, 2016
Parents: Vaughn & Michelle Foraker

10:30 am Norah Margaret Weil
Brithday: June 29, 2017
Parents: Adam & Debbie Weil

Kinsella Wren Stout
Birthday: June 14, 2017
Parents: Jason & Aleisha Stout

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

"For the Lord is good and his love endures forever." Psalm 100:5a

Elementary Verse

"Many are the plans in a person's heart, but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails." Proverbs 19:21

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

"For the Lord is good and his love endures forever." Psalm 100:5a

Elementary Children's Church will have a lesson based on the passage of scripture from 1 John 4:7-12



CHILDREN

Contact Tammy Forsythe at tforsythe@firstfriends.org

Kids Open Gym TOMORROW, Feb 19

Join us tomorrow for a day of fun for all ages. We ask parents to stay and enjoy time with their children. It's a great opportunity to meet new people. Meet in the gym with the fun beginning at 10:30 am and ending at Noon.

Easter Egg Candy Donations

Would you like to donate candy for our Easter Egg Hunt? We need small, individually wrapped candy that will fit inside our plastic eggs. Place donations in the red tub near the main Welcome Center by March 18. Thank you!

Children's Choirs

Do your children like to sing? Our Children's Choirs would be the perfect place for them. Join us on Wednesdays at 6:00 pm. Little Praisers: 4 yr old - 1st grade meet with Miss Glenda in room E-122. Glory Gazers: 2nd grade - 6th grade meet with Miss Tammy in room E-110. Questions? Call Tammy at 330.966.2800.

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.

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

LOOKING AHEAD

February

19 **OPEN GYM 10:30 am - 12:00 pm**

21 **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.

Summer Mission Trip

Mission Trip to Long Island June 10 – June 16

A \$50 deposit and application are requested by TODAY. If you are still interested in going and aren't prepared to apply today, or have any questions about the trip, please email bcroston@firstfriends.org.

Girls Study for 7th and 8th Graders

Sunday, February 25, 10:30 am - 12:00 pm

At Leader Allison Harris' house. Transportation provided (meet in room E-101).

Missions Movie Night

TONIGHT, 4:30 - 7:30 pm (E-101)

We will be showing *End of the Spear*. Permission Slip required. The movie is PG-13. Please bring a snack to share.

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 and a 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.

Adult Leadership Meeting

Sunday, February 25, noon - 1:00 pm (E-111)

No lunch provided.

High School Mission Trips

We will be taking mission trips to the Dominican Republic (June 15 – 22) and also Philippi, West Virginia (July 8 – 13) this summer. Information is available in room E-111 and on our website, www.warehouse514.org.

Save the Dates:

Girls Night Out: February 24
Winter Retreat: March 2-4
Love Your City: March 25-27

CONNECT GROUPS

Contact Theresa Maxin at tmaxin@firstfriends.org

It's not too late to join a group!

Registration is not required; all are welcome at any time. Pick up a directory at the church or go to firstfriends.org/connect-groups for times and descriptions.

MARRIAGE & FAMILY

Marriage Retreat Weekend

February 23-25, 2018

The deadline to register is TODAY!

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.



3rd Annual Swap, Not Shop: Muffins & Mugs

Saturday, March 17, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Bring 3-5 accessory items to swap PLUS bring your favorite coffee mug and enjoy coffee and brunch for this FREE event. We will be accepting donations of personal care items for Rahab Ministries. Registration forms available at the church and at firstfriends.org/ministries/women.

Priscilla Shirer Simulcast hosted by First Friends

Saturday, April 28, 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

This event, hosted by First Friends, is open to the entire community. \$20 per person includes coffee/donuts and box lunch. Registration forms available at the church and at firstfriends.org/ministries/women - OR - register online at Eventbrite.com.

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

The Sojourner Quartet

March 25, 6:00 pm in L-42-43

The Senior Adult Ministry invites EVERYONE to join them for a potluck dinner on March 25 to enjoy the music of The Sojourner Quartet. This is a free event and sign-ups will be available at both Welcome Centers starting March 1.

FFC Financial Update 2018

	Weekly Need*	Received Last Week	Weekly Average
General Ministries	\$43,431	\$27,923	\$39,212
Missions/ Faith Promise	\$1,667	\$1,297	\$1,382
Total	\$45,098	\$29,220	\$40,594
Home Improvement Received in 2018			\$8,152
*To fully fund budget - \$ 2,300,000			51

2018 Budget is based on 51 Sundays.

One Sunday General offering will be given to mission projects.

YOUNG ADULTS

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

Altitude

Sundays, 9:00 am (E-106)

Join us as we go through the book *Foundations* by Robby & Kandi Gallaty.

Connect

Wednesdays, 8:30 pm (L-6)

Join us as we study the book of Luke.

ASCENT: The Worship Experience

Saturday, February 24, 7 pm

Come Worship & Pray with us!



STEWARDSHIP

Biblical Wisdom:

Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. – Galatians 6:9 NIV

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



Hey FFC Family! We would appreciate your prayers for our Winter 2018 sports season. Here's some of the needs that we have...

1. Pray for our participants (we have about 1000 this winter!) that God would speak to them and open their hearts to hear what our devotional coordinators have prepared each week.
2. Pray for our devotional coordinators who will be teaching from God's Word each week: Beth Kerlin, Courtney Thoenen, Hannah Thoenen, Jeff Dieringer, Tammy Forsythe and Scott Strebelt
3. Pray for all the families involved... that God would bring about divine appointments and opportunities as they do their P3 Home devotional booklets.



*All Things Women Presents
3rd Annual*

Swap Not Shop

**Saturday, March 17
10:00 am - 12:00 pm
Rooms L-41, 42, 43**



Water

BAPTISM

Easter Sunday, April 1

A one-time, required class, will be held Sunday, March 4 at 10:30 am.

Call Nancy Petroff
at the church
to register.

First Friends Church

Marriage Retreat 2018

February 23 - 25

TO Love
AND TO
Cherish

Pick up a brochure at
either Welcome Center or
in the gym hallway.
**Final registration
TODAY!!**