

THE GOSPEL AS "SEED" FOR HARVEST



March 11, 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**

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.

I hope you will join us as we prepare our hearts for personal Gospel renewal through the power of Jesus' death and resurrection. Please plan on participating in our Good Friday Freedom and Forgiveness Worship service, and our Easter worship services as well. Pray about who you can invite to join you!

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.

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.

REACHING NEIGHBORS & NATIONS

Envelope Offering for Middle School & High School Missions

This year the Middle School will be going to Long Island, New York. The High School will be going to Philippi, West Virginia and also Barahona, Dominican Republic. There will be work projects, community involvement, and evangelism within the communities.

We would love for you to partner with our youth either financially, prayerfully, or both. We will have an opportunity for you to give financially on Sunday mornings, March 11 through March 25, via this year's Envelope Offering.

We will also be offering "Student for A Day" work days on which you can hire students to do some yard work. The work days available are April 7, April 21, and May 5. Work day forms will be available at the Welcome Centers and the Envelope Offering stations.



PRAYER & CHURCH NEWS

Have a Prayer Need?

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

Ushers Needed

We need more ushers for both services. We'd appreciate any man, woman, or teen that is able to serve once or twice a month. Contact Paul Johnson, Kate Harris, or write "Usher" on your communication card.

Food & Fun Game Show Night

Sunday, April 8, 5:30 - 7:30 pm (L- 41, 42, 43)
Save the date! Everyone is invited to come enjoy a night of games, fun, food, and fellowship. Pizza and drinks provided. Bring a main dish, side, or dessert to share!

Good Friday: Freedom & Renewal Worship

Friday, March 30, 7:00 pm
Experience the power of spiritual renewal through applying Christ's death on the cross in deeply personal ways. There will be prayers of confession and forgiveness, the Lord's Supper, prayer with anointing oil, and songs of freedom in worship. Nursery and children's programs will be available.

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 main Welcome Center.

Hospitals & Rehab

Christopher Weisse, Willie Frazier.

Women's Mission Trip Supplies

Help our team of women with supplies still needed for the Dominican mission trip departing April 14. Go to firstfriends.org/ministries/women to sign up to donate.

First Friends Recycle Bins

Help us take care of God's good world and spread the word about our new bins. We accept paper, cardboard, plastic, glass, and cans. Please don't place items in bags outside the bins.

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

"I will sing of the Lord's great love forever; with my mouth I will make your faithfulness known through all generations."
Psalm 89:1

Elementary Verse

"Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting." Psalm 139:23-24

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

"I will sing of the Lord's great love forever; with my mouth I will make your faithfulness known through all generations."
Psalm 89:1

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

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 please go to the Welcome Center for assistance.

LOOKING AHEAD

March

14 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.

Summer Mission Trip

Mission Trip to Long Island June 10 – June 16

\$50 deposit and application. If you are interested in going please email bcroston@firstfriends.org ASAP!! Any questions about the mission trip can be addressed to bcroston@firstfriends.org. Applications can be found outside the Middle School room.

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.

Nerf War

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

Bring a snack to share for an evening of battle with Nerf guns. Please limit what you bring to two Nerf guns. Invite a friend!

MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL

Mission Trip Fundraisers

We will have our Envelope Offering in March and Student Work Days in April and May. Let your leaders know now what days you can serve. Donations for your services go towards your mission trip.

Love Your City

March 25-27 (FFC & Various Ministry Locations)

Join us as we partner with ministries in the Canton community in order to help transform our city for Christ. We will be staying at the church both nights. Look for information in your youth rooms or online. Registration and \$20 payment due March 21.

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.

High School Mission Trips

We still have space available for our Philippi, West Virginia trip (July 8 – 13) and would love to have you join us. Applications and information are in room E-111 and at www.warehouse514.org.

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

CHERISH- New Wednesday Night Study

Wednesdays, Starting March 7, 7:00 pm - 8:15 pm (E-102)

All ages are invited to join us for this six week marriage study led by Shawn and Mary Yost. We will be studying Gary Thomas' book *Cherish*. This simple practice of cherishing- noticing, appreciating, honoring, and encouraging our spouse- can reverse old patterns of "going through the motions" and bringing hope and life into every marriage. Hope to see you there!

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. **TODAY is the LAST DAY to sign up!**

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.

Mission Trip Supplies Needed!

Help our team of women with supplies still needed for the Dominican mission trip departing April 14. Go to firstfriends.org/ministries/women to sign up to donate.

SENIOR MINISTRY

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 and enjoy the music of The Sojourner Quartet. This is a free event and sign-ups are available at both Welcome Centers.



FFC Financial Update 2018

	Weekly Need*	Received Last Week	Weekly Average
General Ministries	\$43,431	\$51,921	\$41,347
Missions/ Faith Promise	\$1,667	\$1,475	\$1,360
Total	\$45,098	\$53,396	\$42,707
Home Improvement Received in 2018			\$12,175
*To fully fund budget - \$ 2,300,000			

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, March 24, 7 pm

Come Worship & Pray with us!



STEWARDSHIP

Biblical Wisdom:

Tell those rich in this world's wealth to quit being so full of themselves and so obsessed with money, which is here today and gone tomorrow. Tell them to go after God, who piles on all the riches we could ever manage—to do good, to be rich in helping others, to be extravagantly generous. — 1 Tim 6:17-18 MSG

Spring is in the air! Are you looking for a new home for a few of those items that you are done with and want to bless someone else with? Take a picture of the item and post it on our First Friends Blessing Board page on Facebook.

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 Strebler

3. Pray for all the families involved... that God would bring about divine appointments and opportunities as they do their P3 Home devotional booklets.



TODAY is the LAST DAY
to register!

All Things Women Presents
3rd Annual

Swap Not Shop

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



The Sojourner Quartet



Sunday March 25, 6:00 pm
Free
Potluck Dinner
Open to All!

Sponsored by the Senior Adult Ministry
Sign up at either Welcome Center

FIRST FRIENDS YOUTH MISSIONS WORK DAYS

Hire students to help out with your spring cleaning, landscaping and more. Cash or check donations can be made out to First Friends Church: **Memo line: Youth 2018 Missions.**

Work day choices are April 7, April 21, and May 5. Shifts are from 9 am – 12 pm or 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm, or both.

Pick up a form at a Welcome Center or download one at our website:
www.warehouse514.org.

You may also email your information/request to
highschool@firstfriends.org.

