



THE GOSPEL AS
"SEED" FOR HARVEST



first
friends
CHURCH



March 4, 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.

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.

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 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. 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.

Daylight Savings Time

begins next Sunday, March 11. Be sure to set your clocks **ahead** one hour before retiring for the night Saturday, March 10.

Water Baptism

Our next Water Baptism will be held on Easter Sunday, April 1. A one time class will be held TODAY at 10:30 am in room E-106.

First Friends Job Opportunity

Graphic & Print Designer

This part-time position would prepare graphics and publications for web, social media and print. This position must have a good understanding of Adobe InDesign, and a proficiency in Adobe Photoshop and/or Adobe Illustrator. Qualified and interested parties can get an application at the main Welcome Center.

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

Barry Betz, Christopher Weisse.



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 4:1-6



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

7 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.

Family Potluck Night

Wednesday, March 7, 5:40 - 6:20 pm (E-101)
Bring your favorite dish to share.

Saturday Serve Day

Saturday, March 10, 10:00 am - 3:00 pm
We will be headed to Total Living Center to help serve meals and sort through their resources (food and clothes) for their outreach to the community. Permission Slip is required. Drop off and pick up in church lobby.

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
\$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.

Nerf War

Sunday, March 11, 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. This is money in your pocket for your mission trips.

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 on line.

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.

Save the Date:
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

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.

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

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	\$32,400	\$40,025
Missions/ Faith Promise	\$1,667	\$784	\$1,346
Total	\$45,098	\$33,184	\$41,371
Home Improvement Received in 2018			\$10,153
*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, March 10, 7 pm

Come Worship & Pray with us!



STEWARDSHIP

Biblical Wisdom:

If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? – John 3:17 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 Strebbe
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




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.

