

2019

REVELATION... INVITATION...  
PARTICIPATION... TRANSFORMATION

January 6, 2019

first  
friends  
CHURCH



**Vision:**

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

5455 Market Avenue North, Canton, Ohio 44714  
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**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.

## 2019

### Revelation... Invitation... Participation... Transformation

Welcome to the first worship gathering of our church family in 2019! In one way January 1 is just another day in our lives but in another it also serves as a "marker" that symbolizes completion and new beginnings. On this first Sunday of 2019 we are gathering to experience God's personal and powerful presence so we are more and more transformed into the spiritual family He has created us to become.

Today my message is a challenge to all of us to say, "yes," to participating in God's plans for us individually in 2019, and participating in the new things God has for us together as a church family.

*Isaiah 43:19 See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.*

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 AND NATIONS

A Prayer Overview of 2019 from David Thomas (EFM)

- In January, in Thailand, David and 2 other Discipling for Development (D4D) mentors will help the Lahu leaders choose the specific communities God is leading them to disciple in the next 3-5 years. It is essential that they choose the right communities, which will become tangible examples of what *God's Kingdom* come looks like in their unique Lahu culture.
- David will return to Thailand two more times to coach the team through their next steps in the Mobilization Phase. This phase covers all of 2019 and possibly some of 2020. The focus of Mobilization is to generate a compelling, hope-filled, community-wide vision of a transforming community.
- In February and March, David will facilitate two workshops in the US on raising effective intercession for the work in Thailand and in Rwanda, Burundi, and DR Congo.
- The Rwanda D4D teams will focus on five churches and their surrounding communities leading them through the Mobilization Phase. David will visit them 1-2 times.
- In April David will return to La Paz, Bolivia, with his parents (Hal and Nancy Thomas) and his sister, Kristin Gault, to participate in INELA's centennial celebration. (The National Evangelical Friends Church was planted by Northwest Yearly Meeting; David grew up in Bolivia.) He will help facilitate a vision-casting workshop that could potentially impact the future of INELA.

## PRAYER & CHURCH NEWS

### Have a Prayer Need?

Call Greg Roth at 330-454-4100 or  
groth@neo.rr.com

### Hospital and Rehab

Renny Gibbons, Christopher Marx

### Newcomers Lunch

**Sundays, January 20, 12:00 pm (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 our church. Families are welcome!

### Senior Adult Lunch

**Saturday, January 12, 11:30 am (L-42,43)**

Cost - \$8 per person

Join us for Canton historian Richard Haldi as he shares about the history of Andrew Meyer, and his namesake lake and park. Sign up and pay at either Welcome Center by Tuesday, January 8.

### Renew '19

**Wednesday, January 15, 6:30pm (E-111)**

Pastor Stan is inviting our church family to participate in prayer, fasting and worship for spiritual renewal as we begin 2019. Wednesday, January 15 at 6:30pm we will join together to experience God's personal and powerful presence in prayer ministry and worship. This will be the culmination of three days of prayer with fasting for spiritual renewal in our church and community. Join us!

# SUNDAY SCHOOL

9:00 am

All Children:

All children may go to their Sunday School Classes

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

## Preschool/ Kindergarten Verse:

"Lord, you are my God; I will exalt you and praise your name, for in perfect faithfulness you have done wonderful things, things planned long ago." Isaiah 25:1

## Elementary Verse:

"Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, because he has come to his people and redeemed them." Luke 1:68

# CHILDREN'S CHURCH

10:30 am

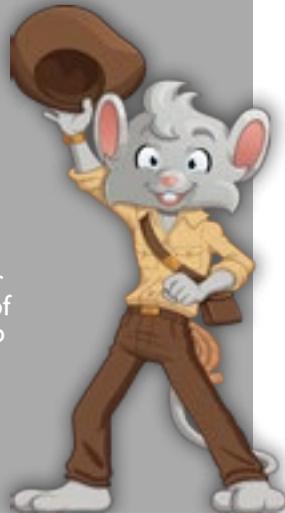
Children in the nursery through kindergarten may go directly to their classrooms.

Lord, you are my God; I will exalt you and praise your name, for in perfect faithfulness you have done wonderful things, things planned long ago. Isaiah 25:1

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

## Elementary Children's Church

Today we begin a new series in Children's Church called "Live Like A King". Over the next four weeks we will follow the story of King David and Mephibosheth to learn how God seeks to restore our hearts and lives to where they were meant to be.



# CHILDREN

Contact Tammy Forsythe at [tforsythe@firstfriends.org](mailto:tforsythe@firstfriends.org)

## Choirs and CLC

Choirs (6:00 pm) and CLC (7:00 pm) will resume Wednesday, January 23rd.

## Child Care Opportunities

Would you like to be a part of our Child Care Team? This is a paid position. We need workers for Monday and Wednesday evenings and Tuesday and Wednesday mornings. If you are interested, please contact Kris Lackey at [klackey@firstfriends.org](mailto:klackey@firstfriends.org) or call the church office 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 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.

# MIDDLE SCHOOL

Website: [www.greenhouse242.com](http://www.greenhouse242.com)

Contact Ben Croston at [bcroston@firstfriends.org](mailto:bcroston@firstfriends.org)  
Follow us on facebook at: [facebook.com/greenhouse242/](https://facebook.com/greenhouse242/)  
website: [www.greenhouse242.com](http://www.greenhouse242.com)



## Wednesday Nights

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

We will be picking back up THIS Wednesday, January 9th. Join us for a time of fun, friendships, and fellowship with God.

## 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.

# MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL

The Landing – Celebrate Recovery For Students Grades 6-12

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](mailto:bcroston@firstfriends.org) for more information.

# HIGH SCHOOL

Website: [www.warehouse514.org](http://www.warehouse514.org)

Contact Scott Calhoun at [scalhoun@firstfriends.org](mailto: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 Night Kick Off

Wednesday, January 9th, 7:00 – 8:30pm (E-111)

Join us on January 9th as we kick off our new year and reconnect with friends. We will be having a special game night

## Winter Retreat at Camp Gideon

January 25-27

Join us for a great weekend full of friends, worship, and of course food and games. Turn in your permission slip by January 20. More information to come. And don't forget to bring your sled!

## WOMEN'S MINISTRY

### 4th Annual Swap Not Shop

Saturday, February 2, 9:00 am - Noon

Women of all ages are invited for brunch and an opportunity to swap like-new accessories they do not use. This is a FREE event, but due to space limitations, registration is REQUIRED.

## MEN'S MINISTRY

### Men of Action Breakfast

Saturday, January 26, 8:00 - 9:30 am (E-101)

Enjoy a free breakfast and a message from our guest speaker, Brian Ziegler. Brian's college basketball dreams were dashed by poor grades in school. Then a drunk driving accident left him paralyzed. Through the challenges, he was able to discover renewed hope. Come hear Brian's remarkable story about God's ultimate plan to rebuild each one of us in His image! Please contact Shawn Yost for any questions at [syost@firstfriends.org](mailto:syost@firstfriends.org).

## MARRIAGE AND FAMILY

### Before You Say I Do Class

Sundays, January 13 - February 3, 8:00 am - 9:00 am (room E-102)

This 4-week class is for couples who are engaged or seriously dating and is a requirement for those being married by a First Friends pastor. Call the church for more information or to register. You can also register on our church website.

### Marriage Retreat Weekend - Save the Date

February 22-24, 2019

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.

## SPORTS

Call the Sports Office at 330.966.6868 Registrations available in the church brochure racks and on our website: [www.firstfriendssports.com](http://www.firstfriendssports.com).



### Men's Basketball

Men's Legend's Basketball Age 40+ Jan 3 - Mar 28

Men's Open Basketball Age 18+ Jan 3 - March 21

### Volleyball

Adult Co-ed Volleyball Age 18+ Jan 8 - April 9

### Spring Soccer

Age 4,5,6 Apr 27-June 21

Age 7-15 Apr 13-June 21

### Arts Academy

Jan 7 - Feb 28 NEW Adult Flag class for age 18+ (focus on exercise)

Traditional Dance Classes (Age 3-17)

Hip Hop Dance Classes (Age 6-17)

Flag Classes (Age 10-17)

Stage Acting (Age 6-17)

Drawing Class (Age 6-17)

## YOUNG ADULTS



Contact [info@firstfriends.org](mailto:info@firstfriends.org) or follow us on Facebook at First Friends Young Adults.

### Altitude

Sundays, 9:00 am (E-106)

Join us for a study on the End Times every Sunday. We will look at Revelations, Ezekiel, Daniel and Matthew.

### Connect

Wednesdays, 8:30 pm (L-6)

Join us every Wednesday as we study "Missional Essentials: A Guide For Experiencing God's Mission In Your Life". Our next time to meet is January 9th.

## CELEBRATE RECOVERY

Kathleen Dungan [kdungan@firstfriends.org](mailto:kdungan@firstfriends.org)

Celebrate Recovery Thursdays, 6:30 - 8:30 pm. Join us for this biblically based and Jesus centered recovery ministry. By working and applying the biblical principles and 12 Steps we grow spiritually. Programs for youth are also available: The Landing Grades 6-12, Nursery/infant and Kindergarten.

## STEWARDSHIP

### Biblical Wisdom:

- Come join in giving blessings to others by posting some gently used items on the Blessing Board on Facebook.
- Take the guess-work and stress out of your weekly giving by giving on line. Go to the First Friends website and click on the E-giving button; <https://secure.firstfriends.org/give/egiving>

## CONNECT GROUPS

### Winter 2019 Connect Group

Winter 2019 directories have arrived! Pick up your copy today and prayerfully consider which group you should join.

### What is Worship Anyway

Wednesdays, 7:00 pm (L-42)

If you are interested in learning how to practice Biblical worship to experience the presence of God, then this is the class for you. Open to all.

## FFC Financial Update

General Ministries & Missions

2018 Budget \$2,300,000

Received as of 12/23/18 \$2,153,904

Thank you for your generosity. God has abundantly blessed us this past year.

# Men of Action Breakfast

January 26th  
8:00am - 10:00 am



SUNDAY, JANUARY 20  
12:00 pm  
L-42, 43

Meet and Greet with Staff and Elders

## Newcomers Luncheon



### 2019 Fall Mission Trip Opportunities Grace & Peace Missionary Fellowship – Dominican Republic



MEET THE RUMPLE'S

**February 3, 2019**

Informational meeting for both trips with Bill & Karen Rumple in L-42. Immediately following the 10:30 service. RSVP [gwallace@fristfriends.org](mailto:gwallace@fristfriends.org)



MEDICAL TEAM

**TRIP A**

**September 28 - October 5, 2019**

Team Leaders: Gina Shamblen / Lois Ferrel



WOMEN'S TEAM

**TRIP B**

**October 19 - 26, 2019**

Team Leader: Theresa Maxim

APPLICATIONS LOCATED AT THE WELCOME CENTER