

## Statements of Our Faith

**We are friends of Jesus**  
 "You are my friends," Jesus said, "if you do what I command you." Then he commanded us to love one another.

**Our life is in Christ**  
 There is one, Christ Jesus, who speaks to our condition, and he came to teach people himself.

**Christ is a living presence**  
 The Bible reveals that our inward experiences are the true reality of Christ's presence. Essential baptism is that of the Holy Spirit.

**The Holy Spirit is the source of truth**  
 Our faith is grounded in our worshiping community and in our own spiritual pilgrimage. Truth is a matter of revelation by God.

**Life is sacred**  
 We take seriously the teachings of Jesus Christ regarding peace and loving all people, including one's neighbors and enemies.

**Integrity is a way of living**  
 Each day we seek to live in a way that is consistent with the teachings of Jesus.

**All are ministers**  
 Ministry takes many forms. Each one of us is expected to exercise the responsibilities and privileges of membership in individual ministries.

—First Friends Discernment Process

## Upcoming Events

2020

**Sunday, 13th.**  
 10:30 am Online Worship Service



**Sunday, 20th.**  
 10:30 am Online Worship Service



**Monday, 14th.**  
 2:00 pm Outreach Committee  
 4:00 pm Trustee Committee

**Monday, 21st.**

**Tuesday, 15th.**

**Tuesday, 22nd**  
 6:30 pm Administrative Committee

**Wednesday, 16th.**

**Wednesday, 23rd.**

**Thursday, 17th.**  
 12:00-6 pm American Red Cross  
 Blood Drive

**Thursday, 24th.**



Office Closed  
 5:30 pm Online Christmas Eve Service

**Friday, 18th.**

**Friday, 25th.**

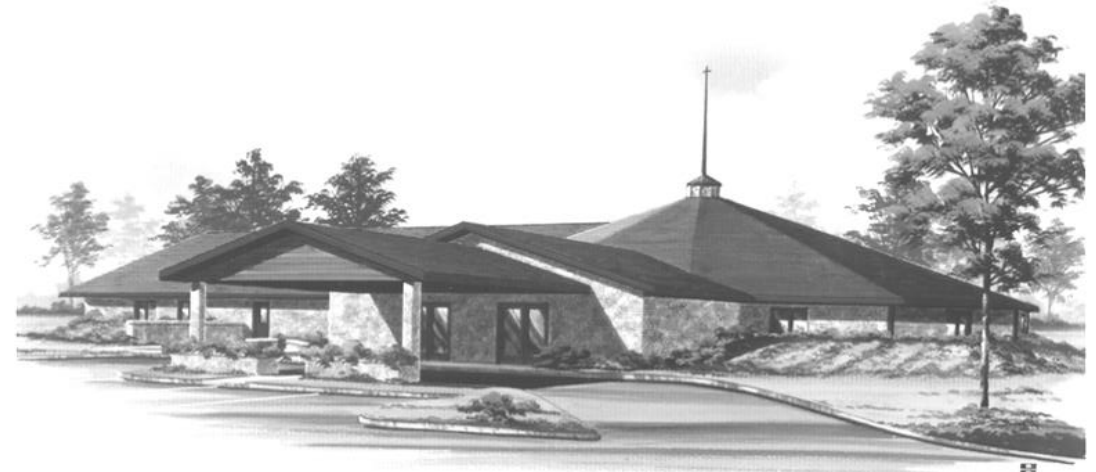
Office Closed



# FIRST FRIENDS

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Jonathan Newton, Pastor  
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### Our Mission:

First Friends exists to *invite* people into a living faith in God through Jesus Christ, to *transform* us into mature disciples by the work of the Holy Spirit, and to *send* us into the world as witnesses of Christ Jesus.

# Welcome

May God's grace touch each worshiper today and may all of us be filled with love. If you have come as a visitor, we hope that you'll leave as a friend who's been blessed by worship.

Please complete the roll call card (located in the back of the pew in front of you) to indicate a specific prayer need or a friendly visit.

The nursery is available for children ages birth to 2 years old during the Sunday School hour and Meeting for Worship. The Godly Play Ministry is available for children ages 3 yrs.-3rd. grade during Meeting for Worship.

*"If we have the reality (of Christ), nothing else is required; if we do not have the reality, nothing else will suffice."* -D. Elton Trueblood

## Meeting For Worship

## December 13, 2020

### Prelude

"How Great Our Joy"  
German Carol

Polly Simmons

### Open Worship

Our "open worship" offers time to wait upon the Lord in *stillness* allowing for an exchange of communication between Christ and ourselves. Confession, repentance, prayer and praise are often experienced as God's Spirit rises up within, renewing our life in His kingdom. (Psalm 46:10, Isaiah 40:28-31, Acts 1:4, 2:1-2).

### Announcements

### Benediction

Jon

### Offertory

"O Holy Child of Bethlehem"  
Arr. Douglas Wagner

Polly

### Postlude

"Christmas Joy"  
Lani Smith

Polly

### Message

Jonathan Newton

(The order of Worship is subject to change by the Holy Spirit.)

### Music Ministry

Music Director.....Michelle Kennedy  
Organist.....Polly Simmons  
Pianist.....Beth Morris



### Prayer Requests

Mendy Boyle  
Erin Cottrell  
Mary Gang  
Terri Maskel-Nixon  
Bea McMurtrey

Dan Sheridan  
Christian Smith  
Susan Tobin  
Alec Wessendorf  
Walt & Joella Wessendorf