



My God is a Rock
August 4-25



305 E. Boughton Road
Bolingbrook, IL 60440
630.972.1011 | friendshipchurchumc.org

Worship Service Sundays at 10:00am

Friendship Church is a dynamic, multicultural, multiracial and multigenerational congregation. We see ourselves as people on a journey of faith, helping one another and the world to see the face of God, experience the love of Jesus Christ and live in the freedom and power of the Holy Spirit.

Here at Friendship we celebrate God's gift of diversity and seek to live out our belief that God welcomes all and unconditionally loves all. So with open hearts, open minds, and open doors we welcome all of age, racial and ethnic background, sexual orientation, gender identity, socio-economic conditions, physical and mental ability, and family status. No matter where you have been in life, we invite you to be a part of Friendship Church where you will find many opportunities to grow, love, and serve God and God's people.

Bring your whole family
for fun, food and
fellowship!

Register to Vote!
A representative will be
present to answer
questions and get you
registered!



Games:
Water Balloon Toss
Trivia
Corn Hole (Bags)

Crafts:
Rock Painting
Make a Bookmark



Sunday, August 11
10:00am Worship
11am-2:30pm Picnic Fun!

305 East Boughton Road,
Bolingbrook
friendshipchurchumc.org

Blessing of the Backpacks **Sunday, August 11 10:00am**

Students of all ages are encouraged to bring their backpacks to worship for a special blessing.
Pastor Anna will give the following blessing for students as they return to school:

*Caring God,
we offer these backpacks,
as a sign of our thanks
for all you will do
with us and for us
this year at school.*

*We bless these backpacks
as companions to us
as we learn and grow.*

*May they carry
food for bodies
and food for thought.*

*Let them be a reminder
that you are as close to us
As the backpack on our back.*

Always and forever, Amen!



**Blessing
of the Backpacks**

Students will receive a bookmark with this prayer to help them remember that
God is always by their sides!

Reflections from Pastor Anna Shin

"God made human[man] because he loves stories." –Elie Wiesel

It is August. And we are still in summer. I believe I am not the only one who feels like that summer has just begun. But we know that vacation time has been spent and school will open in two weeks. August is like that. It is still summer but is between time.

Before we jump into 'get-going' mode, in such between time, I'd like to spend some time to reflect what I have experienced this summer: Have I learned something new about me and the world, and God's grace? Are they totally new discoveries or something that keeps coming back? If I could have another chance, how differently I would like to do. Or if someone asks me how and where I have experienced the presence of God, what would I say,-- kind of wonderings.

"We are the stories we tell." Psychologist Dan McAdams once wrote.

We are drawn to stories for many reasons. Stories make us laugh and cry. We learn about different people, new ideas, new discoveries in stories. We are entertained by stories. We learn how to act and live through stories as well. I've learned what is true and meaningful to me would be to others as well. I often wonder what story would it be mine to tell?

We all have a story. A story that tells about how we have become who we are, why we believe what we believe, how we have been doing a certain thing in a certain way, why we live where we live. There might have been heartbreak, sadness, or spirit uplifting and becoming wise. In fact, everyone's story deserves to be listened to and taken seriously because they are all unique. As we come to know a person's story, we often find ourselves in their stories that connect us to one another, and we come to understand the truth in life that heals us, enlightens us, moves us, and gives us hope.

What is your story to tell? During worship, I'll create a space to listen to our stories. The stories that connect us to God's story, the stories that connect us to one another.

Love in Christ,



Pastor Anna



Children, Youth and Family News



August 4 - 10am - Family Sunday;
Young Adult Gathering

August 11, 18, 25 - 10am -
Sunday School

August 11 - 10am - Blessing of the
Backpacks

August 11 - 11:30am - Picnic



10am Elementary Sunday School

Join us this month as
we hear about David's
Family.

Bring your friends!

All students ages 3
through 5th grade are
welcome!

To Mars and Beyond! - VBS was a huge success!

Thanks to the more than 40 volunteers who helped our 37 participants find Faith, Boldness, Kindness, Thankfulness, and Hope!





Thank you for your help, or promise of help, at the Friendship Church booth at this year's Bolingbrook Village Picnic. We were doing really well for the first two and a half hours, giving away free water, snacks, and prizes for our bean bag game. We had plenty of volunteers who talked up our church, gave out brochures and cards, and recommended our Vacation Bible School and First Friends Pre-School.

Dave Lichty and Wayne Feters set up their guitars and sang, playing their hearts out, which the passing crowd enjoyed.

Suddenly, about 2:10 p.m., the sky turned black, the wind gusted, and we had to quickly move everything under the tent. Then the rain came pelting down. Between the wind and rain and threat of lightning, Village Officials declared the picnic over. Some Boy Scouts came along and helped us lower the tent to protect everything underneath and keep the tent from blowing away. We carried as many supplies as we could to our cars.

Later, Pastor Anna, Dave and Wayne and Larry Hilb, who has a pickup truck, returned to rescue the tent, tables and chairs, Dave and Wayne's musical equipment, and everything else left behind.

Until the rains came, I was pleased by the reaction we had from the people who passed by our tent. Many stopped to talk to us, read our signs, enjoy Dave and Wayne's music, play games and eat and drink. The rain soaked "Adventure" we had after the storm arrived was also memorable.

My thanks to the following people: Pastor Anna Shin, Kim Bailey, Chris Bosacki, Dawn Callahan, Joe Callahan, Irene Christian, Fern Deatricks, Marcia Devgun, Kandy Dewitt, Mike Dewitt, Amania Drane, Wayne Feters, Dan Henry, Roy Herman, Larry Hilb, Carolyn Jones, Leonard Jones, Dave Lichty, Theresa Manning-Donahue, Audrey Mikulcik, Jane Pierce, Efren Ramos, Martha Rayburn, and Mila Valdez.

Thank you all!

Susan Varno



Stewardship Update

The Stewardship Committee wants to thank the congregation for your faithful support of our ministries here at Friendship through your generous giving. Those members who made a pledge have given 99% of their pledged amount through June 30th. Loose giving from members who did not turn in a pledge card is also running ahead of budget. Our annual budget from member giving is \$251,000. Through June 30th we have received \$126,750 or more than 50% of our budgeted income.

Without your support, Friendship would not be able to conduct our church programs and our ministries in Bolingbrook. We also support the global Methodist church through our apportionments. Your giving also allows us to support new and emerging ministries.

You will soon receive a quarterly giving statement from our Financial Secretary, Carol Feters, showing your year to date contributions. Please review it carefully.

Again, thank you for your support.
Gene Paquette
Stewardship Committee Recording Secretary

First Friends Christian Preschool

First Friends Preschool is closed for the summer, but I am still answering the phone and emails, so please share our contact information with parents of three- and four-year old children that you know!

We have openings in both classes:
Monday-Wednesday-Friday for four-year-olds and
Tuesday/Thursday for three-year-olds.
We also offer a five-day option.

Classes are from 9:00am to 12 noon.

See our website for details on tuition and curriculum.
www.firstfriendspreschool.info
Phone: 630-739-3010.
Email: chrisbosacki@firstfriendspreschool.info

Registration forms are available in the church office or on the website.

Classes resume on September 3rd!



The Giving Tree

Friendship Church has had a long standing relationship with our local school district, CUSD 365, specifically Wood View School. We have decided to make the Back-To-School backpacks for them. Please visit the Giving Tree in

the front hall and take a "school bus tag". Buy as many of the items as you'd like and return them to the bin below the tree or the front office. You may recycle the tags in the bin, as well, please. The tree will be up through August 11th. At that service, Pastor Anna will bless the backpacks before we send them off.

Quite a lot is required of each student! If you don't have time to pick up a tag, or prefer to shop online from the comfort of your home, any of the items on the school's list would be very welcomed. You may find them at:

<http://www.school-supply-list.com/schools/wood-view-elem-school-bolingbrook-il-school-supplies-list-53066>

We look forward to a successful local mission opportunity! Thank you in advance for your generosity.

LET US PRAY

We're Praying 4U

The Adult Faith Formation Team of Friendship Church extends "Open Hearts" to our neighbors. We may not know their joys and concerns, but we invite you to join us on Sunday, 8/18 after morning worship as we walk in the community surrounding the church and pray for God's will and purposes for the well-being of our neighbors.

All are welcome to join us in prayer.

Contact the church office to sign up or just join us!

UMW To Host Legislative Roundtable

State Senator Pat McGuire will be returning to Friendship Church to follow up with and continue discussions on topics from his previous visit, update us on the last legislative session, and answer any new questions we have.

Please join the UMW for this on Wednesday, August 21, 1:00-2:00pm in the Friendship Center.

Contact Michelle Braxton with any questions.



Friendship Flames Softball Schedule

All games are at 6:30pm at Jamie McGee School

August 6th

August 13

All day Tournament on August 17!

Cheer on your favorite softball team! Bring food and chairs and plan to spend the day!

Contact Larry Hilb for more information:

llhilb@comcast.net



Congratulations to the Newest Eagle Scouts from BSA Bolingbrook Troop 35



Five members of Troop 35
were honored on July 28
with an Eagle Court of
Honor.

Members of the community as well as
past and present Scout leaders were
present to witness (pictured left to right)
Kevin Januska, Voytek Korta, Ryan
Jacobs, Drew McFadyen, Kyle Januska
receive this honor.

A reception was held in our Friendship
Center to further honor the Scouts.



**Southwest Suburban
Immigrant Project**

ssipchicago.org | 630-296-6755

Donations Needed

We are working with the Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights (CIIR) on a project where they are sending volunteers to the greyhound station in Chicago, where many asylum seekers are arriving and they need certain supplies.

Also, CITA (Chicago Immigration Transit Assistance) aims to support asylum seekers leaving detention centers with ground transportation needs. Detained families and individuals mainly from Central America, with credible cases of persecution, are admitted into the U.S. to await the outcome of their asylum application. Asylees are without clothes, food or information on how to navigate ground transportation. CITA has distributed food, clothes, provided phone calls, translation services and other immediate needs. Please consider joining the UMW of Friendship Church in collecting some of the supplies needed by these people.

Donation list

1. Men's and women's shoes
2. Shoe laces and belts-during detention these are confiscated and not given back
3. Crayons and coloring books
4. Summer clothing
5. Medicine-over the counter cold, digestive, or pain medications
6. Travel sized hand sanitizer
7. Baby bottles
8. Backpacks

Donations are being accepted in the church office. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Friendship Community

Prayer Chain

Requests are treated confidentially and shared only with Pastor Anna and the Prayer Chain. The Prayer Chain participants receive weekly prayer requests and pray for submitted requests. You may submit your requests to: 630.972.0268 or churchoffice@friendshipchurchumc.org

Celebration offerings

The tradition of the Celebration Offering came to us from our African Fellowship.



On the first Sunday of each month as we celebrate God's abundant gifts on our lives, a special offering is taken in addition to the general offering. It's a chance to celebrate the blessings God has bestowed upon our lives. Look for the special offering envelope in the bulletin. There is a place to mark if you would like to share your story with the congregation during a Sunday worship.

This month we received 10 envelopes for a total of \$177 in celebration of a passed RN board test, a daughter's safety, and a special birthday.

Blessings, Pastor Anna



Birthdays

Kandy DeWitt-2nd
John Collier, Roger Karns-4th
Efren Ramos, Bryant Taylor-6th
Nisha Bhagat-7th
Tita Galario-8th
Greg Jacobs, Mike Petrick-10th
Myrtle Huizenga-17th
Donna Jacobs, Wendla Pidgeon-19th
Nancy Clark Hansen-20th
Liz Chocian-22nd
Isaac Ansere-23rd
Osiris Bisana-24th
Carolyn Weber-25th
Susan Varno-27th
Greg Hanna-28th
Diane Thoreson-29th
Lester Ampong, Kathryn Bulman, Bryson Taylor-30th
Verna Anker-31st

DAYBREAK

Serving at **Daybreak** is a long standing tradition at Friendship. On the third Friday (and following Saturday morning) we donate food, cook and serve two meals. Watch inserts in 2nd Sunday bulletins for details on how to donate and get involved in serving at the shelter.

Dinner on Friday, August 16 @ 5:30 pm

Breakfast on Saturday, August 17 @ 5:00 am

Richard Guzman, Coordinator

SENIOR BIBLE STUDY & LUNCHEON

Is open to all senior adults. It meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 11:15am. The study is led by Pastor Anna and is followed by a delicious luncheon. If you would like to attend, contact the church office at 630-972-1011.

Study & Lunch @ 11:15am: Thursday, August 15

AA & GA

Friendship is a place of help and hope for those struggling with addictions. Meetings are open to all.

AA Meetings: Saturdays @ 9am

GA Meetings: Fridays @ 7:30 pm

ANXIETY/PANIC ATTACK SUPPORT GROUP

Meets the 2nd & 4th Thursdays of the month from 7—9pm. Open to all.

DONATIONS FOR LOCAL FOOD PANTRIES:

West Suburban Community Pantry
1st Sunday of every month

FIRST FRIENDS CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL MONDAY-FRIDAY

9:00am-12:00pm

Contact Chris Bosacki, Director,
for more information.
chrisbosacki@firstfriendspreschool.info

August 2019 ~ Friendship Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 9:00am Immer- sion Bible Study and Breakfast	2 10am BPF 7pm Movie Night 7:30pm GA	3 9am AA
4 10am Worship 11:30am Team Quest 4pm Young Adult Dinner	5 Parking Lot Closed	6 Parking Lot Closed 6:30pm Softball	7 6:30pm Boy Scouts 7:30pm Men's En- semble	8 9:00am Immer- sion Bible Study and Breakfast 7pm Anxiety Sup- port	9 10am BPF 7:30pm GA	10 9am AA
11 10am Worship & Sunday School 11:30am Church Picnic	12	13 10am BPF 6:30pm Finance 7:30pm SPRC	14 6pm Nominations 6:30pm Boy Scouts 7:30pm Men's En- semble	15 9:00am Im- mersion Bible Study and Break- fast 11:15am Sr. Lunch & Study 7pm Full Inclusion Task Force	16 10am BPF 7:30pm GA	17 9am AA Softball Tourney
18 10am Worship & Sunday School 11:30am Prayer Walk	19	20 10am BPF 6:30pm Council	21 12:30pm Legisla- tive Roundtable 6:30pm Boy Scouts	22 9:00am Im- mersion Bible Study and Break- fast 10:30am Worship Planning 7pm Anxiety Sup- port	23 10am BPF 7:30pm GA	24 9am AA
25 10am Worship & Sunday School	26	27 10am BPF	28	29 9:00am Im- mersion Bible Study and Break- fast	30 10am BPF 7:30pm GA	31 9am AA