

Dance Classes
Frequently Asked Questions

Are we allowed to watch the classes?

There are observation windows to the classroom. Parents are allowed to peek in as long as they are not distracting the students. We will work with each child to help them transition to taking a dance class. Parents within the classroom may make your child feel better, but other children become anxious because their own parents are not available. There is certainly not enough room for all parents to watch. For this reason please help your child understand you are looking forward to seeing them show what they've learned at the upcoming dance festival.

How often would my child attend class?

This is very dependent on the age of your child. Most children under the age of six come once a week for 30 minutes. Children, ages six and seven, usually come once a week for an hour; those ages eight and up come for about 1.5 - 3 hrs each week which is sometimes split into two classes. Students who have aspirations of becoming a dancer usually dance more often.

What happens when we miss a class?

The best thing to do is to check with the teacher about what class would be best for a make-up class.

How often do you have a recital?

The Dance Classes at First Friends Church do not have a traditional recital at the end of the year. Our alternative to recitals and the competitions that most studios host is a DANCE FESTIVAL at the end of each session. Family and Friends are welcome to attend these free dance festivals.

Is performing mandatory?

Yes, each class will share a performance piece at the dance festival. The festival is a non-threatening environment meant to increase the esteem and confidence of every student. Performing also teaches invaluable lessons on team work and perseverance. We advocate these values.

What do students wear to dance class?

The uniform is:

- Black Cap-Sleeve Leotard
- Or Child's Black Skirted Leotard
- Classic Pink Convertible Tights, Black Footless Tights (see req for class)
- Pink Ballet Slippers
- Black Wrap Skirt (Required for age 6+), to be worn with leotard.
- Cover-ups must be worn to and from classes for ages 6+.
- No midriff, tank tops or words/illustrations on the derriere.
- Students with long hair must pull the hair back.

You may purchase dance attire and shoes through First Friends. Parents can place orders at the Parent Meetings or during 1st week of classes.

- Black Shorts for Older Beginners and Intermediate Classes

Will my child have to wear a revealing costume?

No, students must wear dancewear to class, however, we will always choose honorable costuming that is age appropriate and modest.

What kind of music do you use?

We use all forms of clean music. There will not be any questionable lyrics or profanity in the music played in classes. Most songs are Christian, inspirational, and/or instrumental.

Do you have a competitive dance team?

No, we do not. Our performance groups provide plenty of performance opportunities throughout the year in non-competitive venues. "There is no such thing as "best" in a world of individuals." Dance Classes at First Friends teaches students how to communicate what is inside of them through dancing. "Dancing from the Inside-Out"

Do you have classes for boys?

We welcome boys into all our dance classes.

Do you offer adult classes?

Please check the website for classes offered.

Do you offer morning classes?

There are no dance classes currently being offered in the morning. There are Pilates-based fitness classes available Tuesdays and Thursdays at 9:00am at First Friends.

What is the commitment when signing up for a class?

Our classes are offered in 8 or 10 week sessions. Payment must be made at the time of registration.

When is the tuition due?

Tuition is due at time of registration prior to the beginning of the session.

Do you offer family or multi-class discounts?

There are no discounts because we are committed to bringing you the best dance education at the most economic price.

Are there scholarships available?

Scholarships are available once a year for a family in need. There are currently limited scholarships available.

What are your teacher's qualifications?

Teacher certification, education, and discipleship are very important to us at First Friends Church. Our teachers are advanced dancers and adults with degrees, professional certifications, or hours of hands on training in dance. We also value continuing education so you can be confident that you and your family are learning in a current and physiologically safe dance class from a mature Christian.

Are you a Christian Dance Studio?

Yes, First Friends Church is an Evangelical Friends Church. We teach dance from the inside-out as a form of communication and worship. We stress the importance of work ethic, positive behavior and the development of critical thinking skills. Our classes are a part of First Friends All Out Sports & Recreation Ministry.

Overwhelming Victory

The Sports and Recreation ministry at First Friends Church (FFC) is rooted in our belief that all areas of life are sacred and everything we do must be under the Lordship of Christ (Colossians 3:17-23). We believe God is delighted when we pray but also when we play. He has created us with abilities and desires to play and compete and thus we "*worship*" Him in our activity (Romans 12:1).

The Sports and Recreation Ministry of FFC gives the whole family opportunities for health, fitness, friendship, fun, competition, venue for outreach, and spiritual development in an inviting, Christ-centered atmosphere.

*"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, working for the Lord, not for human masters."
- Colossians 3:23*

Philosophy

It is the hope and prayer of the FFC Sports Ministry that we provide excellent opportunities for fellowship and inter-personal relationships to occur and grow through our various sports and recreational opportunities.

In communicating a proper Christian ethic of sport and competition, we seek to improve the overall physical, emotional, mental and spiritual health of each player. We seek to encourage each participant who does not know Christ to establish a personal relationship with Him. For those who already do know, we hope to help deepen their walk with Christ in fellowship with others.

Finally, we seek to increase each participant's athletic skills that they may be able to participate on an outreach team and minister to others involved in sports/rec throughout the community and the world.

The Bible tells us that we are supposed to work at ALL we do with ALL of our hearts as if working for the Lord. At First Friends Church, we believe this truth can be applied to Arts as well. Just as with any gift or ability that God has given us, we should seek to use the Arts to glorify Him!

Do you have more questions?

Please call us at 330-966-6868 or email sports@firstfriends.org and we will answer your question promptly.