



ATHENS FIRST
UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH

Easter Sunday

APRIL 5, 2015
8:30, 9:45 & 11:00 a.m.

Welcome

We're glad you're here! Thank you for joining us today. Members of this congregation have been gathering here to worship since 1804, when our church was formed to minister to the Native American and European settlers in Athens. Over the past two centuries our congregation has changed, but our mission remains the same: to make disciples of Jesus Christ. We are inspired by the words of John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, who encouraged believers to "do all the good you can, in all the ways you can." At Athens First United Methodist, there are many ways to get involved, grow in your faith, and do good in our community.

If you are unable to attend worship in person, each Sunday our 11:00 a.m. service is broadcast on WRFC 960 AM, and our 9:45 and 11:00 a.m. services are live-streamed on our website at athensfirstumc.org/webcast.

Nursery

Our nursery is available for infants through four-year-olds on Sundays from 8:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. The nursery area is located on the first floor of the building, off the Washington Street entrance.

Children

Worship activity bags (age appropriate for all preschool and elementary children) are available every Sunday in the narthex and by the south entrance of the sanctuary. Children's Church is held for children in kindergarten through second grade and follows the Children's Message during 11:00 a.m. worship all Sundays except for Communion Sundays.

Sunday School

We offer Sunday School for all ages, kindergarten through adult, each Sunday from 9:45-10:45 a.m. For a list of adult Sunday School classes and locations, visit athensfirstumc.org/adultsundayschool.

Connect

We are blessed to have a large congregation. Because of this, we offer many programs and ministries. It can be overwhelming trying to decide where to get involved. If you would like a buddy to guide you along this process, please notify a Helper. Helpers serve as part of our Welcome Ministry team. Look for them in the narthex or near the altar. You can also contact a Helper through our website athensfirstumc.org/helper.

Another great way to learn about the life of our church is through attending a Newcomer Orientation held every second Sunday of the month at 9:45 and 11 a.m. We also encourage you to visit our website, athensfirstumc.org, for information about our ministries, to register for events, and to listen to sermons from our sermon archive. Visit athensfirstumc.org/thesteeples to sign up for our weekly newsletter, the eSteeple. You can also connect with us via social media. Find us @athens_firstumc on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and Pinterest.

Our church office is open Monday through Friday, from 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. If you need assistance, please call 706-543-1442.

The Worship of God

*Please stand as you are able. The congregation speaks or sings the text in **bold type**.

Gathering

*The Easter lilies
are given to the glory
of God and
in loving memory
or in honor of
all loved ones.

Booklets of
dedications are
available in
the narthex.*

THE PRELUDE

“All Glory Be to God on High” | Albrecht

THE WELCOME AND OPENING PRAYER

8:30 & 9:45 Betsy Butler | 11:00 Beth Dickinson

THE CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

“Christ the Lord is Ris’n Today” | Daley

Sung by the Sanctuary Choir with the Brass Ensemble

Christ the Lord is ris’n today, sons of men and angels say, Alleluia!

Raise your joys and triumphs high, sing, ye heav’ns, and earth, reply, Alleluia! Vain the stone, the watch, the seal, Christ has burst the gates of Hell, Alleluia! Death in vain forbids His rise, Christ hath opened paradise, Alleluia! Soar we now where Christ hath led, foll’wing our exalted Head, made like Him, like Him we rise, ours the cross, the grave, the skies.

Hail the Lord of earth and heaven, Praise to Thee by both be given, Alleluia!

Thee we greet triumphant now, hail the Resurrection, thou, Alleluia!

Praise and Thanksgiving

* THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN 302

“Christ the Lord Is Risen Today” | EASTER HYMN

(Verses 1 - 4)

* THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

This is the good news
which we have received,
in which we stand,
and by which we are saved:

**Christ died for our sins,
was buried,
was raised on the third day,
and appeared first to the women,
then to Peter and the Twelve,**

**and then to many faithful witnesses.
We believe Jesus is the Christ,
the Anointed One of God,
the firstborn of all creation,
the firstborn from the dead,
in whom all things hold together,
in whom the fullness of God
was pleased to dwell
by the power of the Spirit.
Christ is the head of the body, the church,
and by the blood of the cross
reconciles all things to God. Amen.**

*** THE GLORIA PATRI**

**Glory be to the Father
and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.**

*** THE PASSING OF THE PEACE**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

8:30 Beth Dickinson | 9:45 & 11:00 Martha Aenchbacher

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom
come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day
our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those
who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver
us from evil, for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory,
forever. Amen.**

Proclamation of the Word

THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE | 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

At the 11:00 a.m. service, children in kindergarten through second grade will go to W.O.W. in the children's area on the third floor. Parents are to pick up children at the end of the service.

THE OFFERING

THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“Joy to the Heart” | K.L. Scott

Sung by the Sanctuary Choir with the Brass Ensemble, Brandon Craswell, Director

Look there! The Christ, our Brother, comes resplendent from the gallows tree and what he brings in his hurt hands is life on life for you and me. Joy! Joy! Joy to the heart all in this good day's dawning.

Good Jesus Christ inside his pain looked down Golgotha's stony slope and let the blood flow from his flesh to fill the springs of living hope. Joy! Joy! Joy to the heart and all in this good day's dawning.

Good Jesus Christ, our Brother died in darkest hurt upon the tree to offer us the worlds of light that live inside the Trinity. Joy! Joy! Joy to the heart and all in this good day's dawning. Look there! the Christ, our Brother, comes resplendent from the gallows tree and what he brings in his hurt hands is life on life for you and me. Joy! Joy! Joy to the heart and all in this good day's dawning.

* THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow! Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

THE SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 16:1-8

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. ² And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. ³ They had been saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?” ⁴ When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. ⁵ As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. ⁶ But he said to them, “Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. ⁷ But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.” ⁸ So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

THE SERMON
“Christ is Risen” | Chuck Hodges

Response to the Word

* **THE HYMN 303**
“The Day of Resurrection” | LANCASHIRE

Sending Forth

* **THE BLESSING**

* **THE CHORAL RESPONSE**
“Hallelujah Chorus” from *Messiah* | Handel
Sung by the Sanctuary Choir

* **THE POSTLUDE**
“Hallelujah Chorus” *Reprise* | Bish

Sermon Notes

APRIL USHERS

8:30 a.m. Jim Belger, Ann and Paul Brown, Larry Deal, Hugh Larkey, Mack Lowrey, Jim Lyons, Candler Meadors, Olan Moore, Bob Noble, Grace Rabek, Ken Reece, Keith Wilson, Michael and Sharon Broun

9:45 a.m. Chris Bostdorff, Tom Cooper, David and Jane Disney, Mark Ellison, Mark Firth, Tom Hedges, Dan Lasseter, Jim Lyons, Sharon Milton, Tom Milton, Al Rogers, Bill Trigleth, Michelle and Reeves McNeill

11:00 a.m. Al Hawley, Charles Grimes, Henry Folsom, Tom Henson, Henry Garrard, Jim Lyons, Jake Riley, Frank Thornburg, Mike Scott, Tom Dean

OFFERING STEWARDS

Bob Booth, Charlie Grimes, Jim Lyons, Nat Carmack, Henry Garrard, Nathan King, Al Hawley, Sean Rogers, Charlie Upchurch III

GREETERS

Ben Griffith, Joanne Timberlake, Jacob Hudson, Lee Brinson, Jane Harvey, Shirley Jaegar, Jack Miller, Sharon Sellars, Jennifer Stewart

FIRST LIGHT ACOLYTES

8:30 a.m. Kate Williams, John Knight

9:45 a.m. Margaret Timberlake, Matt & Greer Moseley

11:00 a.m. Annabelle Woodard, Seele Jarrett

ATTENDANCE ON MARCH 29

Total Worship | 1,685

Sunday School | 472

8:30 a.m. | 258

9:45 a.m. | 523

11:00 a.m. | 741

Online | 163

FINANCIAL REPORT

Budget for 2015 | \$2,641,842

Amount Given YTD | \$738,137

Goal for March | \$221,820

Amount after 4 Sundays | \$171,469

OUR MINISTERS AND PROGRAM DIRECTORS

Chuck Hodges Senior Minister

athensfirstumc.org

chuck@athensfirstumc.org | 706-206-5529

Martha Aenchbacher Minister of Congregational Care

athensfirstumc.org/caregroups

martha@athensfirstumc.org | 678-230-9708

Beth Dickinson Minister of Discipleship

athensfirstumc.org/studies

beth@athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442

Betsy Butler Minister of Missions

athensfirstumc.org/missions

betsy@athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442

Josh Miles Director of Student Ministries

athensfirstumc.org/youth

josh@athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442

Robin Stewart Director of Children's Ministry

athensfirstumc.org/sundaymorning

robinafumc@bellsouth.net | 706-543-1442

Sarah Lawing Director of Children's Music Ministry

athensfirstumc.org/childrensmusic

sarah@athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442

Stephen Mitchell Director of Music

athensfirstumc.org/adultmusicministry

stephen@athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442

Janis Maxwell Director of Youth Music & Organist

athensfirstumc.org/wyc

janis@athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442

Lynn Bryant Director of REACH International

athensfirstumc.org/reachinternational

lynn@athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442

Rusty Wood Director of Recreation Ministries

athensfirstumc.org/recreation

rusty@athensfirstumc.org | 706-206-8193

Linsey Jarrett Director of Weekday Preschool

athensfirstumc.org/weekdaypreschool

linsey@athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442

KIDS' HUB

Everyone **Children's Music Spring Program | Creation!**
Sunday, April 19, at 4:00 p.m.
athensfirstumc.org/childrensmusicministry

Older Children **Music and Arts Week | Beats for God**
Current grades K5 - 4 June 9-11, 2015, from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
athensfirstumc.org/childrensmusic

Children **Vacation Bible School | Everest**
Ages 3 by Sept. 1, 2014, - grade 4 June 22-26, 2015, from 9:00 a.m. - noon
athensfirstumc.org/vbs

Young Children **Weekday Preschool Summer Camps**
Ages 2 by Dec. 31, 2014, - pre-K. May 18-22, June 1-5, June 8-12
8:45 a.m. to noon
athensfirstumc.org/weekdaypreschool

Children **Junior Jam Basketball Camp**
Ages 4 - 10 June 15-19, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
athensfirstumc.org/recreationcamps

Visit the Kids' Hub in the Galleria to register for these events!

In Memoriam

Gregg Phelps
March 24, 2015

Great Day of Service | May 2

Help us make this the Greatest Day Of Service yet! Projects are family-friendly and will be located here at Athens First United Methodist and throughout the community. There is a place for everyone to serve!

Learn more | athensfirstumc.org/gdos

Betsy Butler | betsy@athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442

Wednesday Night Meal

The meal on Wednesday, April 8, will be Zaxby's. Meals are \$5 each. Order your meal online or by calling the church office by Tuesday at noon.

Order | athensfirstumc.org/registration

Diana Zylow | diana@athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442

Donate | Children's Consignment Sale

As you are cleaning out closets, please consider donating your gently used children's items to be sold at the third annual Children's Consignment Sale August 14-15. Proceeds from the consignment sale will go towards "Imagine No Malaria," a mission project of the United Methodist Conference. A comprehensive list of items to donate is online. On weekdays please bring donations to the church office and on weekends a drop-box is located near the gym. Donation receipts are available upon request.

Learn more | athensfirstumc.org/childrensconsignmentsale

Diana Zylow | diana@athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442

Women's Study *Breathe* | April 15

All women are invited to join a short spring Bible study using Priscilla Shirer's most recent DVD-driven program entitled *Breathe*. If you are weary, worn out, and exhausted, *Breathe* may change your life. This study will meet on Wednesdays beginning April 15 from 9:30-11:15 a.m. Led by Susie Thrasher, this 5-week study starts after spring break and ends before school is out for the summer. Please pre-register so we may order materials. Cost is \$13. Register Beth Dickinson | beth@athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442

10 Ultimate Truths Girls Should Know

April 19, April 26, May 3

A book study for girls in grades 7, 8, and 9 is starting Sunday, April 19. We will meet in room 103 during the 9:45 Sunday School hour and discuss the topics covered in the book *10 Ultimate Truths Girls Should Know* by Kari Kampakis. Pick up a book before April 19 from the table in the youth hallway (across from the Elijah Project mailbox). This is a 3-week study led by Beth Mahoney and Laney Hunter.

Learn more | athensfirstumc.org/tentruths

Laney Hunter | laney@athensfirstumc.org

Job Openings

We are now accepting applications for two administrative positions that will begin in mid-July. Both positions, the Administrative Assistant to Children and the Administrative Assistant to Adults, are full-time. Work hours are 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Please visit our webpage for more information and to apply. Applications will be accepted through May.

Learn more | athensfirstumc.org/employment

Erika Bates | erika@athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442

Troop 1 Chicken BBQ | April 26

Boy Scout Troop 1 is selling BBQ chicken box lunches for \$9 per plate for carryout on Sunday, April 26, from 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Lunches include a BBQ chicken half, freshly cooked that morning, plus coleslaw, applesauce, bread, and pickles. Tickets will be sold from 9:30-11:00 a.m. in the reception area and at noon outside the sanctuary on April 12 and 19, or can be purchased from any Troop 1 member. Lunches will be available in the kitchen for carryout or you may dine in Hancock Hall. Limited walk-up lunches will be available, so buy a ticket to be sure you get a meal! Thank you for supporting Troop 1 as they raise funds for trips and equipment for our growing and active Scout troop.

Joe Wyrick | joewyrick@icloud.com

This Week

SUNDAY, APRIL 5 | ACTS 10:34-43

- 6:30 a.m. **Easter Sunrise Service** EVERGREEN MEMORIAL PARK
- 8:30 a.m. **Worship Service** SANCTUARY
- Preschool Nursery & Sunday School** FIRST FLOOR
- 9:45 a.m. **Adult Sunday School** SECOND FLOOR AND SAYE BULDING
- Elementary Sunday School** THIRD FLOOR
- Grades 5 & 6 Sunday School: Fuel** YOUTH AREA
- Worship Service** SANCTUARY
- Youth Sunday School: First Word** YOUTH AREA
- 10:00 a.m. **Sack Lunch Ministry** HULL STREET ENTRANCE
- 11:00 a.m. **Worship Service** SANCTUARY
- Young Professional Adult Sunday School Class** ROOM 224

MONDAY, APRIL 6 | PSALM 118: 1-2

- 9:30 a.m. **United Methodist Women Executive Board Meeting** ROOM 226
- 1:15 p.m. **Monday Bible Study** ROOM 235
- 5:30 p.m. **UGA Wesley Foundation Dance** ROOM 301
- 7:00 p.m. **Community Bible Study: Athens Evening Class**

TUESDAY, APRIL 7 | PSALM 118: 14-24

- 8:00 a.m. **Community Bible Study Leaders Council** YOUTH AREA
- 1:00 p.m. **REACH International Leadership Meeting** ROOM 226
- 6:00 p.m. **Girls' Volleyball League** GYM
- 7:00 p.m. **Boy Scouts : Troop 1** SCOUT HUT

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8 | I CORINTHIANS 15:1-11

- 9:30 a.m. **Letters of Paul | Wednesday Morning Bible Study** HULL DINING ROOM
- 3:30 p.m. **Fun Gym** GYM
- 4:30 p.m. **Grades 1 & 2 Choir, Grades 3 & 4 Worship Arts**
- Children's Dance Class** ROOM 145
- Prayer Shawl Ministry** ROOM 200
- 4:45 p.m. **Early Book Group** ROOM 100
- 5:00 p.m. **Route 56 GPS** ROOMS 120-122
- Wednesday Night Meal | April 8 | Zaxby's** HANCOCK HALL
- 5:15 p.m. **Children's Choir: 3 yr old, 4 yr old, Kindergarten, Grades 3 & 4**
- Worship Arts: Grades 1 & 2**
- Power Yoga** ROOM 114
- 5:30 p.m. **Men's Prayer Group** ROOM 307
- Sams Connect Group** ROOM 301
- Trusting the Covenant | C3** ROOM 229
- 6:00 p.m. **The Psalm Trees Connect Group** ROOM 100
- Engage Bible Study** YOUTH AREA
- Immanuel Project** ROOM 125

- 6:30 p.m. **Allen/Anderson Connect Group** ROOM 307
- Lenten Study: The God We Can Know** ROOM 235
- Men's Study: The Truth Project** ROOM 240
- Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal** ROOM 148
- Trusting the Covenant | C3** ROOM 224
- Trusting the Covenant | C3** ROOM 226
- Later Book Group** ROOM 200
- 8:00 p.m. **Chamber Ensemble Rehearsal** ROOM 148

THURSDAY, APRIL 9 | I CORINTHIANS 15:19-26

- 9:30 a.m. **Community Bible Study**
- 5:00 p.m. **Souper Supper** HANCOCK HALL
- 6:00 p.m. **Adult Softball** BISHOP PARK
- Girls' Volleyball League** GYM

FRIDAY, APRIL 10 | JOHN 20:1-18:47

- 5:30 a.m. **Fashion Fitness** GYM
- 6:30 p.m. **REACH International Bible Study & Dinner** YOUTH AREA

SATURDAY, APRIL 11 | MARK 16:1-8

- 9:00 a.m. **Children's Soccer** GYM

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Athens First United Methodist Church

327 N. Lumpkin Street

Athens, GA 30601-2743

Telephone | 706-543-1442

Fax | 706-546-4797

Website | athensfirstumc.org

Postmaster

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