

The background features a stylized design with three fish in grey outlines. Two fish are in the upper left, and one is in the lower right. They are connected by thick red lines that form a partial frame around the central text. There are also two solid red circles: one in the top left and one in the bottom right.

# ATHENS FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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AUGUST 13, 2017  
8:30, 9:45, & 11:00 a.m.

# Welcome

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We are glad you are here! Thank you for joining us for worship this Sunday. Members of this congregation have been gathering here to worship since 1804. 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.”

## *Attendance*

Please let us know of your attendance this morning by completing the pew pad.

## *Newcomer Orientation*

We invite you to learn about the life of our church, ways you can get involved, and how to become a member by attending Newcomer Orientation. Our next orientation is today at 9:45 a.m. in the Hospitality Room.

## *Sunday School*

We offer Sunday school for children age 2 through adult each Sunday from 9:45-10:45 a.m.

## *Children*

At Athens First United Methodist Church, we invite families to worship together. Children’s Church is held for children in kindergarten through grade 2 most Sundays during the 11:00 a.m. service.

## *Financial Report*

Budget for 2017 | \$3,038,381  
Amount Given YTD | \$1,836,939  
Goal for July | \$192,268  
Amount after 5 Sundays | \$247,143

## *Attendance on August 6*

Total Worship | 1287  
8:30 a.m. | 164  
9:45 a.m. | 518  
11:00 a.m. | 468  
Online | 137  
Sunday School | 399

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## *Ministers and Directors*

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**Betsy Butler** Minister of Missions

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**Sarah Lawing** Director of Children’s Music Ministry &

8:30 a.m. Worship Leader

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## *Contact Us*

Office hours: Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Facebook: @Athens First United Methodist Church  
[athensfirstumc.org](http://athensfirstumc.org) | 706-543-1442

# The Worship of God

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8:30 a.m.

## PRELUDE

“With You, O Lord” | Jacques Berthier

### *Flowers*

The flowers on the altar  
are given to the glory  
of God and in loving  
memory of Anne and  
Branch Howe by their  
children.

The flowers in the  
narthex are given to the  
glory of God and in loving  
memory of Chester  
Witherington by Nancy  
Witherington and family.

The flowers on the chest  
in the Adult Sunday  
school hallway and on  
the chest at the Hancock  
Avenue entrance are  
given to the glory of God  
and in loving memory  
of Robert Christopher  
Whatley, Billy Donald  
Parrott, Thomas McKey  
Tillman, Jr., and Mrs.  
William Crumbly Byrd by  
Sarah and Walker Byrd,  
who were married in our  
sanctuary on Saturday,  
August 12.

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Betsy Butler

PSALM 90:1-6; 17 | p.517 OLD TESTAMENT

Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.

**Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.**

You turn us back to the dust, and say, “Turn back, O mortal ones!”

**For a thousand years in your sight are but as yesterday when it is past, or as a watch in the night.**

You sweep them away; they are like a dream, like grass which is renewed in the morning.

**In the morning it flourishes and is renewed; in the evening it fades and withers.**

Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us, and establish the work of our hands;

**Yes, establish the work of our hands.**

## \*HYMN OF PRAISE

UMH 117 “O God, Our Help in Ages Past” | ST. ANNE

## \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH | The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;**

**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;  
the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;  
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**\*GLORIA PATRI**

UMH 71 "Glory Be to the Father"

**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.**

**\*PASSING OF THE PEACE**

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

Robin Stewart

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Bob Winstead

**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.**

**OFFERING AND OFFERTORY ANTHEM**

"O Love That Will Not Let Me Go" | arr. Christopher Miner

**\*DOXOLOGY**

UMH 95 "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow" | THE OLD 100TH

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below; praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

**SCRIPTURE READING**

ACTS 17:22-34 | p.129 NEW TESTAMENT

The word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**

"You Were Made for This" | Martha Aenchenbacher

**HYMN OF PREPARATION**

UMH 397 "I Need Thee Every Hour" | NEED

Verses 1-2

*Anthem Lyrics*

The text for this song  
can be found on page  
480 of your hymnal.

## SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

### Prayer of Confession

**Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.**

### *Song Lyrics*

In Christ alone my hope  
is found. He is my light,  
my strength, my song.  
This Cornerstone, this  
solid ground, firm through  
the fiercest drought and  
storm. What heights  
of love, what depths of  
peace, when fears are  
stilled, when strivings  
cease. My Comforter,  
my All in All, here in the  
love of Christ I stand. In  
Christ alone, who took on  
flesh, fullness of God in  
helpless babe. This gift of  
love and righteousness,  
scorned by the ones He  
came to save. 'Til on  
that cross as Jesus died,  
the wrath of God was  
satisfied, for every sin on  
Him was laid. Here in the  
death of Christ I live, I live.  
There in the ground His  
body lay, light of the  
world by darkness slain.  
Then bursting forth in  
glorious day, up from the  
grave He rose again. And  
as He stands in victory,  
sin's curse has lost its  
grip on me. For I am His  
and He is mine, bought  
with the precious blood  
of Christ. No guilt in life,  
no fear in death, this is  
the power of Christ in me.  
From life's first cry to final  
breath Jesus commands  
my destiny. No power of  
hell, no scheme of man  
Can ever pluck me from  
His hand. Till He returns  
or calls me home, here in  
the power of Christ  
I'll stand.

### Scripture Reading

MATTHEW 26:17-19, 26-29

### Receiving of the Elements

At Athens First United Methodist Church, all are invited to commune at Christ's table. If you need to be served in your pew, please call this to the attention of an usher. Gluten-free elements are available at the center station in the front of the sanctuary.

### Music During Holy Communion

"In Christ Alone" | Keith Getty and Stuart Townend

### Prayer After Receiving

### \*CLOSING HYMN

UMH 666 "Shalom to You" | SHALOM

### \*BLESSING

### \* POSTLUDE

"A Mighty Fortress" | Cherwien

# The Worship of God

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9:45 &  
11:00 a.m.

## *Gathering*

### *Flowers*

The flowers on the altar  
are given to the glory  
of God and in loving  
memory of Anne and  
Branch Howe by their  
children.

The flowers in the  
narthex are given to the  
glory of God and in loving  
memory of Chester  
Witherington by Nancy  
Witherington and family.

The flowers on the chest  
in the Adult Sunday  
school hallway and on  
the chest at the Hancock  
Avenue entrance are  
given to the glory of God  
and in loving memory  
of Robert Christopher  
Whatley, Billy Donald  
Parrott, Thomas McKey  
Tillman, Jr., and Mrs.  
William Crumbly Byrd by  
Sarah and Walker Byrd,  
who were married in our  
sanctuary on Saturday,  
August 12.

### THE PRELUDE

“The Fifers” | Dandrieu

### THE CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

“Come, Christians, Join to Sing”

*Sung by the Sanctuary Choir*

## *Praise & Thanksgiving*

### \*THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN

UMH 103 “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise” | ST. DENIO

### \*THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH | The Apostles' Creed

Betsy Butler

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;**

**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,**

**suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;**

**the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven,**

**and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;**

**from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,**

**the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,**

**the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

### \*THE GLORIA PATRI

UMH 71 “Glory Be to the Father”

**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 SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

9:45 a.m. | Luca Timothy Adams, son of Kim and Tim

**Luca, Luca, God claims you, God helps you, protects you, and loves you too. We this day do all agree a child of God you'll always be. Luca, Luca, God claims you, God helps you, protects you, and loves you too.**

11:00 a.m. | Henry Garrett Williams, son of Megan and Garrett

**Henry, Henry, God claims you, God helps you, protects you, and loves you too. We this day do all agree a child of God you'll always be. Henry, Henry, God claims you, God helps you, protects you, and loves you too.**

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Bob Winstead

**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 | 11:00 a.m.

Robin Stewart

At the 11:00 a.m. service, children in kindergarten through grade 2 will go to Children's Church on the third floor where they may be picked up at the end of the service.

## THE OFFERING AND THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM

"Shout for Joy" | Dan Goeller

*Sung by the Sanctuary Choir*

## \*THE DOXOLOGY

UMH 94 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" | LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**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.**

### *Anthem Lyrics*

Shout for joy to the Lord  
all the earth. Shout for  
joy to the Lord; serve the  
Lord with gladness. Shout  
for joy to the Lord all the  
earth. Come before him  
with joyful song. Know  
the Lord is God. He made  
us, and we are His. We  
are His people, the sheep  
of His pasture. Enter His  
gates with thanksgiving.  
Enter His courts with  
praise. Give thanks to  
Him and praise His name.

**THE SCRIPTURE READING**

ACTS 17:22-34 | p.129 NEW TESTAMENT

The word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

**THE SERMON**

“You Were Made for This” | Martha Aenkbacher

## *Response to the Word*

**\*THE HYMN**

“Jesus, Where'er Thy People Meet” | THE GIFT OF LOVE

**Jesus, where'er thy people meet,  
there they behold thy mercy-seat;  
where'er they seek thee thou art found,  
and every place is hallowed ground.**

**Here may we prove the power of prayer  
to strengthen faith and sweeten care,  
to teach our faint desires to rise,  
and bring all heaven before our eyes.**

**Lord, we are few, but thou art near;  
nor short thine arm, nor deaf thine ear:  
O rend the heavens, come quickly down,  
and make a thousand hearts thine own!**

## *Sending Forth*

**\*THE BLESSING AND CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

“We Receive Your Blessing”

**We receive your blessing, we receive your grace as we walk in the  
light shining from your face. May the peace that you give change the  
way that we live. We receive your blessing as we leave this place.**

**\* THE POSTLUDE**

“A Mighty Fortress” | Cherwien



## PARENTING WITH **PURPOSE** PRESENTS



Mothers of preschoolers, you are invited to a presentation by the Moms on Call team on Friday, September 15, at 9:30 a.m. in Hancock Hall. Moms on Call is an Atlanta-based Christian organization known for providing parents with tools of hope and encouragement. In this digital age, there are more voices than ever and it can feel like we are trying to find our way through the wilderness. Join us as we journey through the foundational elements of successful parenting and find our way through the forest of voices. Let's talk and laugh as we learn how to navigate the toddler years. This event will be geared towards parenting children ages 1-4. Registration is encouraged. Child care is available with registration.

[athensfirstumc.org/pwp](http://athensfirstumc.org/pwp)

# Open CHURCH AUGUST 23

Open church is an invitational experience to explore fall opportunities here at Athens First United Methodist Church. We hope you'll come and see all that we have to offer and find new ways to participate in the life of our church.

## **Wednesday Night Meals Preview**

Enjoy a sample of our Wednesday Night meals in Hancock Hall anytime from 5:00-6:30 p.m. Dinner is FREE this night, but please register online so we can plan accordingly. Barberitos, Fresh Air BBQ, Taziki's Mediterranean Café, and Weaver D's will each have samples available. This is the perfect time to preview the fall menu for Wednesday Night Meals.

## **Discipleship BINGO | Adult Small Group Preview**

This fall we are offering many ways to connect with God and with others through sharing our faith walks and by studying the Bible together. Join in Discipleship BINGO (not your "normal" BINGO) in Hancock Hall from 5:00-6:30 p.m. to learn about the numerous small group studies available. There will be a drawing at 6:15 p.m. and prizes for Discipleship BINGO winners. Materials will be available for you to review. Come find the right small group for you this fall!

## **Sanctuary Choir**

The Sanctuary Choir, which began rehearsals on August 9, will rehearse every Wednesday, from 6:30-8:00 p.m. in the choir room. New members are welcome as we start a new year of music making. Auditions are not required for the sanctuary choir.

## **Engage | Grades 7-12**

Engage is our Wednesday evening youth Bible study. We meet in the youth area for food and fellowship at 6:00 p.m., then we have middle school (grades 7-8) and high school (grades 9-12) Bible study until 7:30 p.m.



**Route 56 GPS | Grades 5-6**

GPS (God's Positioning System) is a small group Bible study designed for students in grades 5-6 to go deeper into the scriptures and learn how these words are His voice in our daily lives. We meet in the Route 56 room 120, from 5:00-6:00 p.m. on Wednesday evenings. A light snack is provided.

**Passport to Worship | Kindergarten through Grade 4**

All children in kindergarten through grade 4 and a parent or caregiver are invited to spend time in the Sanctuary with ministry leaders for a look behind the scenes of worship in our church. All first-time participants will receive a worship milestone ornament. Repeat participants will receive a special tassel to add to their ornament.

**Kids Music and Arts | Age 3 through Grade 4**

During Open Church, children interested in participating in Kids Music and Arts are invited to drop by their classrooms to meet their teachers, explore instruments, and get a calendar card! Regular classes will begin the following week, August 30. Classroom locations will be posted on signs when you arrive.

**Fun Gym**

Recreation will be offering Fun Gym on Wednesday nights from 3:30-7:30 p.m. for all who are involved in the Wednesday night programs of the church. The purpose of this program is to allow your children time to burn up some energy as they begin their evening of different programs throughout the church. All children grade 4 and under must be accompanied in the gym by an adult. We will be offering Fun Gym throughout the school year; hope to see you and your children on Wednesday nights!

**Fun Gym** | 3:30-5:00 and 6:00-7:30 p.m. | Gym

**Kids Music and Arts** | 4:30-6:00 p.m. | Classroom Drop-in

**Passport to Worship** | 5:00-6:00 p.m. | Sanctuary

**Wednesday Night Meals** | 5:00-6:30 p.m. | Hancock Hall

**Discipleship BINGO** | 5:00-6:30 p.m. | Hancock Hall

**Route 56 GPS** | 5:00-6:00 p.m. | Room 120

**Youth Engage** | 6:00-7:30 p.m. | Room 119

**Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal** | 6:30-8:00 p.m. | Room 148

## Sympathy

Heartfelt Christian sympathy is extended to Barbara McConnell and her family in the loss of her mother, Alice Cromer, on August 4.

## New Arrival

Congratulations to Allison and Josh Solomon on the birth of their son, Campbell Lane, on July 5. Campbell is the grandson of Gary and Barbara Guyer and the great-grandson of Jerry Guyer.

## WFRC Radio Broadcast

During the football season, WFRC will broadcast the 8:30 a.m. sermon live. A recording of the 11:00 a.m. service will play at 12:00 p.m. following a UGA football program during the 11:00 a.m. slot. Please make note that these changes will go into effect Sunday, September 3, and continue for the duration of the football season. We apologize for any inconvenience.

## Foster Care

Impact training has begun for our families who have responded to the call to open their homes to children in our community. Please be in prayer for these families and for the children who will enter their homes. If you would like more information about how you can support foster care families in this congregation, please contact Betsy Butler. Betsy Butler | [betsy@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:betsy@athensfirstumc.org) | 706-543-1442

## Youth Parent Night | Tonight

Hey youth parents! We love you and we need your help for this ministry of the church to thrive! On Sunday evening, August 13, we are holding a Youth Parent Night at the church. This program will run from 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the music suite. Our hosts will be other youth parents, and this will be a great opportunity to meet, mingle, and gain knowledge of the mindset for the upcoming school year in youth ministry. A light supper is provided, and we'll end in time for you to pick up your student(s) from youth group! Childcare is provided at the church. For more information and to RSVP, please contact Kayla Thomason. Kayla Thomason | [kayla@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:kayla@athensfirstumc.org) | 706-543-1442

## GriefShare

Join us Wednesday, August 16, as we explore why moving forward is a necessity and why it's a process. The GriefShare group will meet in room 100 at 6:00 p.m. This faith-based curriculum for those grieving the death of a friend or family member features nationally recognized experts on grief and recovery topics. New participants are welcome to join at any time. Please register online; there is a \$20 cost to cover the workbook.

Register | [athensfirstumc.org/griefshare](http://athensfirstumc.org/griefshare)  
Martha Aenchbacher | [martha@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:martha@athensfirstumc.org)  
706-543-1442

## Senior Fun Luncheon

This month's Senior Fun Luncheon is on Thursday, August 24, at 12:30 p.m. in Hancock Hall. Ray Goff, former UGA coach and quarterback, will lead the program. Ray was an outstanding quarterback during his football career at UGA. He led the Bulldogs to the SEC Championship and was named the SEC Player of the Year in 1976. In 1989, he became UGA's head football coach. Currently, Ray owns Zaxby's franchises in Georgia and Alabama. Jason Nichols, one of the finest collegiate tenors, will perform three Broadway solos and one opera number. Register by calling the church office by 12:00 p.m. Wednesday, August 23. For more information, contact Dan Maxey. Church office | 706-543-1442  
Dan Maxey | 706-613-1562

## Pickleball

Join us Tuesdays and Thursdays at 1:30 p.m. in the gym to play Pickleball. Pickleball will continue weekly throughout the fall; we hope you will join us! Rusty Wood | [rusty@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:rusty@athensfirstumc.org) | 706-543-1442

## Churchwide BBQ | August 27

You don't want to miss the Churchwide BBQ! We will enjoy excellent music, great barbecue, and fellowship with our church family. We hope you've marked your calendar to join us Sunday, August 27, at 3:00 p.m. at Sandy Creek Park.

## Wednesday Night Meals

Registration is now available! Wednesday Night Meals will resume on August 30. Our vendors this year include Barberitos, Fresh Air BBQ, Taziki's Mediterranean Cafe, and Weaver D's. Dinner will be served from 5:00-6:30 p.m. in Hancock Hall. Each meal is \$6. All orders must be placed by Tuesday at noon. If you have trouble ordering online, church staff can help you order your meal. Registration is now open for the semester option, the month of September, and also August 30. For more information, contact Cindy.

Register | [athensfirstumc.org/wednesdaynightmeals](https://athensfirstumc.org/wednesdaynightmeals)

Cindy McKoy | [cindy@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:cindy@athensfirstumc.org) | 706-543-1442

## Disciple IV: Under the Tree of Life

Join Don Griner and Mary Lynn Lane from August 30-December 20 on Wednesday evenings from 6:30-8:30 p.m. for *Disciple IV: Under the Tree of Life* (part 2). Part 2 of this study concentrates on the Gospel of John, the Epistles of John, James, Jude, and finally, the book of Revelation. This study will be held in room 229, and materials cost \$40. For more information, contact Susan or Cindy.

Register | [athensfirstumc.org/registration](https://athensfirstumc.org/registration)

Susan Taylor | [susan@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:susan@athensfirstumc.org) | 706-543-1442

Cindy McKoy | [cindy@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:cindy@athensfirstumc.org) | 706-543-1442

## Discerning the Voice of God

Join Susie Thrasher for a seven-week study this fall entitled *Discerning the Voice of God*. Discover the way to clear and daily communication with God—humble obedience. Learn how surrender unlocks His many blessings, centers us in His will, and helps us discern His voice in everyday life. This study will meet on Wednesday mornings, September 6-October 18, from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., in room 229. All women are invited to join. The cost is \$13. For more information, contact Susan or Cindy.

Register | [athensfirstumc.org/registration](https://athensfirstumc.org/registration)

Susan Taylor | [susan@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:susan@athensfirstumc.org) | 706-543-1442

Cindy McKoy | [cindy@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:cindy@athensfirstumc.org) | 706-543-1442

## Enough

Join Martha Aenchbacher and Susan Taylor for a four-week stewardship study this fall entitled *Enough* by Adam Hamilton. This study is an invitation to rediscover the

keys to experiencing contentment, overcoming fear, and discovering joy through simplicity and generosity. The study will meet on Wednesday evenings, September 6-September 27, from 6:30-7:30 p.m. in room 222. All are invited to join. The cost is \$8. For more information, contact Susan or Cindy. Please register online.

Register | [athensfirstumc.org/registration](https://athensfirstumc.org/registration)

Susan Taylor | [susan@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:susan@athensfirstumc.org) | 706-543-1442

Cindy McKoy | [cindy@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:cindy@athensfirstumc.org) | 706-543-1442

## Route 56 Fall Retreat

Parents of students in grades 5 and 6, don't forget to register your child for the Route 56 fall retreat, Walk in It. Our theme is taken from our guiding verse for Route 56 in Jeremiah 30:21, "And when you turn to the right or when you turn to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, 'This is the way; walk in it.'" This year, we will travel to Look Up Lodge in Traveler's Rest, SC, on September 29-October 1. This is a great opportunity for our Route 56 students to get to know one another as we focus on our walk with Christ. Registration is now open. The deadline to register is September 5 and the cost is \$140.

Register | [athensfirstumc.org/route56/fallretreat](https://athensfirstumc.org/route56/fallretreat)

Kayla Thomason | [kayla@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:kayla@athensfirstumc.org) | 706-543-1442

Leslie Rogers | [leslie@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:leslie@athensfirstumc.org) | 706-543-1442

## Elijah Project

John Wesley said "Prayer is where the action is." We encourage you to join us in the divine activity of the Elijah Project! ONE Student Ministries will soon begin the fifth year of this inter-generational prayer ministry that has impacted youth and adults through consistent, expectant prayer. Registration is open through September 10! For more information and to register, please visit our webpage.

Learn more | [athensfirstumc.org/elijahproject](https://athensfirstumc.org/elijahproject)

Laney Jones | [laney@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:laney@athensfirstumc.org) | 706-543-1442

## iRest Yoga Nidra Workshop

Based on the ancient teaching of meditation, iRest is an evidence-based, transformative practice that leads to psychological, physical, and spiritual healing and wellbeing. iRest provides you with tools to help you relax deeply, release stress, increase resiliency, improve your

interpersonal relationships, and provide you with greater mastery and control in your life. This eight-week workshop will meet on Monday evenings, September 11-October 30, from 6:00-6:45 p.m. in room 200. All are invited to join. Materials cost \$30. For more information, contact Susan. Register | [athensfirstumc.org/registration](http://athensfirstumc.org/registration)  
Susan Taylor | [susan@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:susan@athensfirstumc.org) | 706-543-1442

## The Love Languages of God

Join Bob Winstead in an eight-week study of how we experience God's love in our lives. This study will meet on Mondays, September 11-October 30, from 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., in room 222. All are invited to join. The cost is \$10. For more information, contact Susan or Cindy. Register | [athensfirstumc.org/registration](http://athensfirstumc.org/registration)  
Susan Taylor | [susan@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:susan@athensfirstumc.org) | 706-543-1442  
Cindy McKoy | [cindy@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:cindy@athensfirstumc.org) | 706-543-1442

## Sack Lunch Ministry

Please consider volunteering to prepare and distribute sack lunches on Sunday mornings with our Sack Lunch Ministry! This is a great way to serve our community with your family or friends. Please contact Mary Young or Betsy Butler for more information and available dates. Learn more | [athensfirstumc.org/sacklunchministry](http://athensfirstumc.org/sacklunchministry)  
Betsy Butler | [betsy@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:betsy@athensfirstumc.org) | 706-543-1442  
Mary Young | [young.macy@gmail.com](mailto:young.macy@gmail.com)

## Meet the Band

The Early Service band leads music for 8:30 a.m. worship and communion throughout the year. In May of this year the band recorded an EP entitled "Songs for Tirreno," so-named in celebration of the marriage of two of the band members. Through this project, they hope to promote local music education. We invite you to visit the website to download the album and find out more about how you can help our church partner with local organizations to provide opportunities for children in our community in need. Learn more | [athensfirstumc.org/earlyserviceband](http://athensfirstumc.org/earlyserviceband)

## Financial Peace University

Join Tom Foster for *Financial Peace University*, which presents biblical, practical steps to get you from where you are to where you've dreamed you could be. In only nine lessons, you will learn how to get rid of debt, take control of your money, spend and save wisely, give generously, and much more! On average, families save \$2,300 and pay off \$5,700 in debt in the first 90 days! Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University will be offered on Tuesday nights, September 12-November 14, 6:30-8:00 p.m. in room 222. The materials for this course cost \$100; couples share one kit. Childcare is available with registration. Register | [athensfirstumc.org/registration](http://athensfirstumc.org/registration)  
Susan Taylor | [susan@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:susan@athensfirstumc.org) | 706-543-1442  
Cindy McKoy | [cindy@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:cindy@athensfirstumc.org) | 706-543-1442

## Soul Feast

Join Dianne Morrison for a new study by Marjorie J. Thompson. *Soul Feast* offers a framework for understanding the spiritual disciplines and instruction for developing and nurturing those practices. This study begins with an introductory meeting on September 6 and will continue on Wednesdays from September 13 through November 9, from 6:30-8:00 p.m., in room 200. All are invited to join. The cost is \$15. For more information, contact Susan or Cindy. Register | [athensfirstumc.org/registration](http://athensfirstumc.org/registration)  
Susan Taylor | [susan@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:susan@athensfirstumc.org) | 706-543-1442  
Cindy McKoy | [cindy@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:cindy@athensfirstumc.org) | 706-543-1442

## International Mission Trips

We have several opportunities for international mission trips coming up. If you are interested in serving on a mission team to Africa, you are invited to attend an informational meeting immediately following the 11:00 a.m. service on Sunday, September 24. If you are interested in serving in Costa Rica, our next trip is scheduled in October 2017. We are looking for a few more team members to join us. Our Tijuana mission trip is scheduled as an extended Martin Luther King holiday weekend in January 2018. For any information about serving internationally with any of these teams, please contact Betsy Butler. Betsy Butler | [betsy@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:betsy@athensfirstumc.org) | 706-543-1442



# This Week

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## SUNDAY, AUGUST 13 | ROMANS 10:14-15

- 8:30 a.m. **Worship Service** SANCTUARY  
**Preschool Nursery** FIRST FLOOR
- 9:00 a.m. **Fun Gym** GYM
- 9:45 a.m. **Worship Service** SANCTUARY  
**Adult Sunday School** SECOND FLOOR AND SAYE BUILDING  
**Preschool Nursery & Sunday School** FIRST FLOOR  
**Youth Sunday School: First Word** 119  
**Route 56: Fuel** ROOM 120  
**Elementary Sunday School: Holy Ground** CHAPEL  
**Kindergarten Sunday School: City on a Hill** ROOM 311 & 313  
**Newcomer Orientation** HOSPITALITY ROOM
- 10:00 a.m. **Sack Lunch Ministry** HOSPITALITY ROOM
- 11:00 a.m. **Worship Service** SANCTUARY  
**Preschool Nursery** FIRST FLOOR
- 1:00 p.m. **Cub Scouts Parent Meeting** GYM
- 4:30 p.m. **Wesleyan Youth Choir** ROOM 148  
**Route 56 Open Road + Octane** ROOM 120
- 4:45 p.m. **Connect & Grow Group** ROOM 200
- 5:45 p.m. **Youth: Encounter** ROOM 119
- 6:30 p.m. **Youth Parent Night** ROOM 148

## MONDAY, AUGUST 14 | GENESIS 45:1-8

- 9:00 a.m. **Community Bible Study Leadership Training**

## TUESDAY, AUGUST 15 | GENESIS 45:8-15

- 9:00 a.m. **Community Bible Study Leadership Training**
- 9:15 a.m. **Wesley Leadership Meeting** HULL CONFERENCE ROOM
- 10:30 a.m. **Prayer Shawl Ministry** PANERA BREAD
- 1:30 p.m. **Pickleball** GYM
- 5:30 p.m. **Fashion Fitness** ROOM 120
- 7:00 p.m. **Boy Scouts Troop 1** SCOUT HUT  
**Connect & Grow Group** ROOM 229

## WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16 | PSALM 133

- 12:00 p.m. **Kids Music & Arts Teacher Workday** ROOM 151
- 5:30 p.m. **66 Love Letters** JOHN WESLEY PARLOR
- 6:00 p.m. **Youth Bible Study: Engage** ROOM 119  
**GriefShare** ROOM 100
- 6:30 p.m. **Questions God Asks Us** ROOM 222  
**Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal** ROOM 148
- 8:00 p.m. **Chamber Ensemble Rehearsal** ROOM 148

## THURSDAY, AUGUST 17 | ROMANS 11:1-2a

- 1:30 p.m. **Pickleball** GYM
- 5:30 p.m. **Fashion Fitness** ROOM 120

## FRIDAY, AUGUST 18 | ROMANS 11:29-32

- 6:00 p.m. **Community Bible Study Leadership Evening Training**

## SATURDAY, AUGUST 19 | MATTHEW 15:10-28

- 8:30 a.m. **Community Bible Study Leadership Training**

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