

Welcome

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.

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 2018 | \$3,231,864 Amount Given YTD | \$1,826,613 Goal for July | \$215,164 Amount after 5 Sundays | \$244,111

Attendance on August 5

Total Worship | 1066 8:30 a.m. | 149 9:45 a.m. | 422 11:00 a.m. | 343 Online | 152 Sunday School | 410

Contact Us

Office hours: Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Facebook: @Athens First United Methodist Church athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442

CCLI License No.

1097803

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Ministers

Martha Aenchbacher Minister of Congregational Care *martha@athensfirstumc.org* | 678-230-9708

Betsy Butler Minister of Missions betsy@athensfirstumc.org

Chuck Hodges Senior Minister chuck@athensfirstumc.org | 706-206-5529

Josh Miles Minister of Student Life *josh@athensfirstumc.org*

Susan Taylor Minister of Discipleship susan@athensfirstumc.org

Directors

Katie Elder Director of Route 56 *katie@athensfirstumc.org*

Jennifer Golden Assist. Director of Children's Ministry *jennifer@athensfirstumc.org*

Linsey Jarrett Director of Weekday Preschool *linsey@athensfirstumc.org*

Laney Jones Assistant Director of Student Ministries *laney@athensfirstumc.org*

Sarah Lawing Director of Children's Music Ministry & 8:30 a.m. Worship Leader sarah@athensfirstumc.org

Janis Maxwell Director of Youth Music & Organist *janis@athensfirstumc.org*

Stephen Mitchell Director of Music stephen@athensfirstumc.org

Robin Stewart Director of Children's Ministry robin@athensfirstumc.org

Bob Winstead Executive Director of Administration bob@athensfirstumc.org

Rusty Wood Director of Recreation Ministries *rusty@athensfirstumc.org*

The Worship of God

8:30 a.m.

GATHERING SONG

Flowers

"10,000 Reasons" | Matt Redman and Jonas Myrin Refrain

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

Bless the Lord, O my soul. O my soul, worship His holy name. Sing like never before, O my soul. I'll worship Your holy name.

INVOCATION

Josh Miles

*HYMN OF PRAISE

имн 662 "Stand Up and Bless the Lord" | st. міснаец

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Robin Stewart

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Susan Taylor

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.

Anthem Lyrics
Lord, early in the
morning, we cry unto
You. In You, there is
light, when I cannot
see. In you, there is
love, patience, and
peace. Lord, I do not
understand Your ways,
but You know the way

for me.

OFFERING AND OFFERTORY ANTHEM

"Bonhoeffer's Prayer" | Isaac Wardell

The words to this anthem were written by Dietrich Bonhoeffer, a German theologian executed during WWII.

*DOXOLOGY

имн 95 "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow" | тне огд 100тн

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

Proverbs 25:11-15 | p. 573 old testament

SERMON

"The Right Word at the Right Time" | Chuck Hodges

*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING

UMH 600 "Wonderful Words of Life" | WORDS OF LIFE Verses 1 & 3

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH | A Modern Affirmation

Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is the one true church, apostolic and universal, whose holy faith let us now declare:

We believe in God the Father, infinite in wisdom, power, and love, whose mercy is over all his works, and whose will is ever directed to his children's good.

We believe in Jesus Christ, Son of God and Son of man, the gift of the Father's unfailing grace, the ground of our hope, and the promise of our deliverance from sin and death.

We believe in the Holy Spirit as the divine presence in our lives, whereby we are kept in perpetual remembrance of the truth of Christ, and find strength and help in time of need.

We believe that this faith should manifest itself in the service of love as set forth in the example of our blessed Lord, to the end that the kingdom of God may come upon the earth. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Here is the table of the Lord. We are gathered to his supper, a foretaste of things eternal. Come when you are fearful, to be made new in love. Come when you are doubtful, to be made strong in faith. Come when you are regretful, and be made whole. Come, old and young, there is room for all. Let us pray:

God of new beginnings, because you come among us to make us whole, we approach your table with delight and expectation: glad to be comforted, ready to be challenged, knowing your generous love for all.

Amen.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Father of all, we give you thanks and praise, that when we were still far off, you met us in your Son and brought us home. Dying and living, he declared your love, gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory. On the night...

We celebrate your love for us in Jesus Christ. As we remember Christ's sacrifice through communion, we proclaim the mystery of our faith.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

May we who share Christ's body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world. Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name; through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

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 "Peace Like a River" | arr. Latifah Phillips

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

*CLOSING HYMN

имн 463 "Lord, Speak to Me" | санонвику

Lord, speak to me, that I may speak in living echoes of your tone; as you have sought, so let me seek your erring children lost and lone.

O fill me with your fullness, Lord, until my very heart o'erflow. In kindling thought and glowing word, your love to tell, your praise to show.

*BLESSING

*POSTLUDE

"Stand Up and Bless The Lord" | Traditional

Song Lyrics I've got peace like a river in my soul. Come to the river. It will flow from his heart where the leaves won't wither, but grow. I've got love like an ocean in my soul. Come to the waters. Watch them flow with his love where your

heart won't wither, but grow. I've got joy like a

fountain. Come to the

fountain where peace will flow from his blood.

where your soul won't wither but grow.

The Worship of God

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 Chester Witherington by Nancy Witherington and family.

THE PRELUDE

"Voluntary" | John Alcock

THE CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

"Come, Christians, Join to Sing"
Sung by the Sanctuary Choir

THE PRAYER

Betsy Butler

Faithful God, in Jesus you show us a way of humility and hospitality with power to transform our world. Give us the grace to love those things that please you and the courage to live them to your glory. Amen.

Praise & Thanksgiving

*THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN

UMH 549 "Where Charity and Love Prevail" | ST. ANNE

*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

9:45 a.m. | Anne Bright Marti, daughter of Catherine and Jon Marti

Bright, Bright, 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. Bright, Bright, God claims you, God helps you, protects you, and loves you too.

11:00 a.m. | Claudia Marie Luke, daughter of Mackenzie and Josh Luke

Claudia, Claudia, 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. Claudia, Claudia, God claims you, God helps you, protects you, and loves you too.

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

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.

Proclamation

THE OFFERING AND THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM

"The Majesty and Glory of Your Name" | Tom Fettke

*THE DOXOLOGY

имн 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.

THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read and Word proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen

THE SCRIPTURE READING

Proverbs 25:11-15 | p. 573 old testament

THE SERMON

"The Right Word at the Right Time" | Chuck Hodges

Anthem Lyrics When I gaze into the night skies and see the work of your fingers; the moon and stars suspended in space. Oh, what is man that you are mindful of him? You have given man a crown of glory and honor, and have made him a little lower than the angels. You have put him in charge of all creation: beasts of the field, the birds of the air, the fish of the sea. Oh, what is

man? Oh, what is man

that you are mindful of him? O Lord, our God

the majesty and glory of your name transcends

praise You perfectly, and so would we. Alleluia! Alleluia! The majesty and glory of Your name.

the earth and fills the heavens. O Lord, our

God; little children

*THE 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.

Response

*THE HYMN

UMH 390 "Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive" | AMAZING GRACE

Sending Forth

*THE BLESSING AND CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

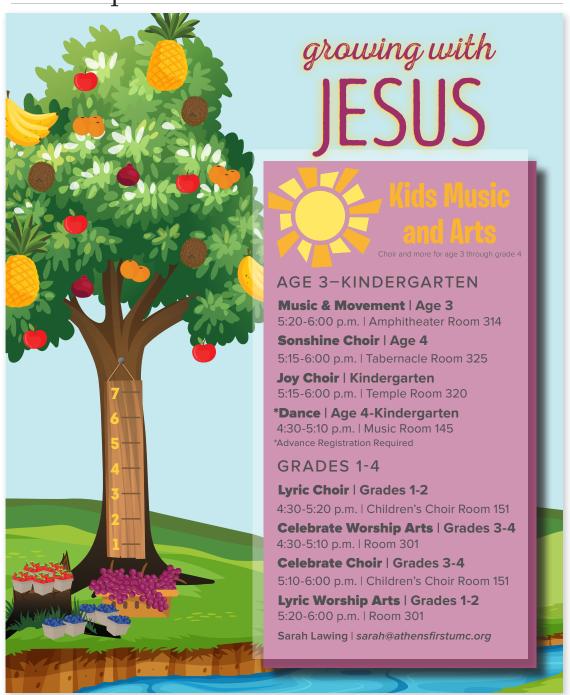
"We Receive Your Blessing"

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

"Rigaudon" | Gordon Young

The Steeple



Sympathy

Heartfelt Christian sympathy is extended to Jessica Nickelsen and her family in the loss of her father, Bruce Tanner, on July 27.

New Arrival

Congratulations to Miriam and Mark Metcalf on the birth of their daughter, Carter McCall, on July 31.

A Special Invitation

You are cordially invited to a reception celebrating Bob and Evelyn Winstead's recent marriage. Join us today at 3:00 p.m. in Hancock Hall. No gifts please—they have two of everything! Hugs and warm wishes gladly received. Light refreshments will be served. No RSVP necessary.

Sunday Night Kick-off

Students in grades 5-12 are invited to our Sunday Night Kickoff tonight! This night will include programming for students in Route 56, the Wesleyan Youth Choir, and the Youth Ministry; including a combined dinner in the back parking lot featuring burgers and hotdogs (we will also have vegetarian options)!

Route 56 Students (Grades 5-6)

Drop-off: 4:30 p.m. Pick-up: 6:30 p.m.

Wesleyan Youth Choir Students (Grades 7-12)

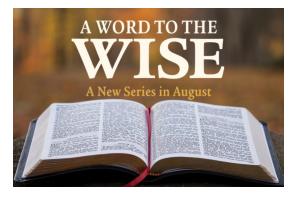
Drop-off: 4:30 p.m. Pick-up: 7:30 p.m.

Youth Ministry Students (Grades 7-12)

Drop-off: 5:45 p.m. Pick-up: 7:30 p.m.

Drop-off and pick-up for all students is at the Hancock Avenue entrance with the brown wooden doors. Please note that the Washington Street entrance will be closed, so plan to enter the back parking lot via Hancock Avenue for drop-off and pick-up. We ask that students bring a picnic blanket or a towel (labeled with name) for our dinner time in the back parking lot!

Josh Miles | josh@athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442



A Word to the Wise

Our sermon series, "A Word to the Wise," continues next Sunday, August 19. Join us at 8:30, 9:45, or 11:00 a.m. for part three, "Say What?"



Elijah Project

John Wesley said "Prayer is where the action is." Join us in the divine activity of the Elijah Project! We will soon begin another year of an inter-generational prayer ministry that has impacted youth and adults through consistent, expectant prayer. Registration for the Elijah Project is open through September 9! For more information and to register, visit our webpage.

Learn more | athensfirstumc.org/elijahproject Laney Jones | laney@athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442

Donate School Supplies

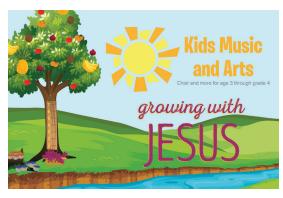
Each week our missions team goes to Bethel Homes and serves and fellowships with our friends who live there. With the school year quickly approaching, many of our neighbors struggle to acquire adequate school supplies for their children. We would love to bless these kids with the school supply boxes sold at Kroger. These uniform and compact boxes of school supplies will allow our friends to set up their children for success this school year! We will be collecting donated Kroger boxes of school supplies until Monday, August 13. You may drop off boxes in room 111. For any questions, please contact Betsy Butler or Sarah Beth Barger.

Betsy Butler | betsy@athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442 Sarah Beth Barger | sarahbeth@athensfirstumc.org 706-543-1442

Wednesday Night Meals

The meal on Wednesday, August 15, is provided by Weaver D's. Join us for fried chicken, mashed potatoes, green beans, and a roll. Order your meal online or by calling the church office by Tuesday at noon. For more information, contact Cindy.

Register | athensfirstumc.org/wednesdaynightmeals Cindy McKoy | cindy@athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442



Kids Music and Arts

Registration for our Kids Music and Arts program is now open for Fall 2018! Choir and more for ages 3 (by September 1, 2018) through grade four will kick off on Wednesday, August 15, with Meet the Teacher (all classes) and Passport to Worship for kindergarten through fourth grade. Be sure to see our web page for descriptions of choirs and electives offered this year. Join us as we learn how we're "Growing with Jesus" together!

Register | athensfirstumc.org/kidsmusicandarts

Sarah Lawing | sarah@athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442

Passport to Worship | August 15

Join us Wednesday, August 15, for Passport to Worship from 5:00–6:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. All children in kindergarten through grade 4 along with parents or caregivers are invited to spend time 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 colored tassel to add to their ornament.

Sarah Lawing | sarah@athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442 Robin Stewart | robin@athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442

GriefShare | Begins August 22

GriefShare will meet again this fall! This thirteen-week faith-based curriculum features nationally recognized experts on grief and recovery topics. GriefShare groups are for people grieving the death of a family member or friend. We will meet each Wednesday morning at 9:30 a.m. in room 100. Martha Aenchbacher will lead the group. GriefShare will begin August 22 and conclude November 14. Please register online so that we will have materials prepared for you. There is a \$20 fee to pay for your workbook. You may pay that fee online when you register, or bring a check with you to the group meeting.

Learn more | athensfirstumc.org/griefshare Martha Aenchbacher | martha@athensfirstumc.org 678-230-9708

Senior Fun Luncheon

This month's Senior Fun luncheon is on Thursday, August 23, at 12:00 p.m. in Hancock Hall. U. S. Representative Jody Hice who serves Georgia's 10th Congressional District will lead the program. The luncheon cost is \$6. All who are over 50 are encouraged to register now by calling the church office. Reservations should be placed by 12:00 p.m., Wednesday, August 22. Call the church office to register. For questions, please contact Dan Maxey.

Dan Maxey | 706-340-5097 Church office | 706-543-1442

New Small Group | The Wesley Challenge

Join Susan Taylor and Bob Winstead in a new Bible study, The Wesley Challenge. The group will utilize the book, *The Wesley Challenge: 21 Days to a More Authentic Faith* by Chris Folmsbee. This study goes beyond words to develop the spiritual habits, practices, and actions that can lead toward a thriving Christian life. Using the 21 questions developed by John and Charles Wesley, you'll be challenged to a new kind of commitment to God and others. This study will meet on Tuesdays, August 28-October 16, from 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. in room 222. The cost is \$11. An opportunity to order lunch will be provided each week or participants are welcome to bring a lunch. Please register online. For more information, contact Susan or Cindy.

Register | athensfirstumc.org/registration Susan Taylor | susan@athensfirstumc.org | 706-542-1442 Cindy McKoy | cindy@athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442

New Bible Study on Gideon

Join Susie Thrasher in *Gideon* by Priscilla Shirer. This seven-week Bible study encourages you to recognize your weakness as the key that the Lord gives you to unlock the full experience of His strength. The study will meet on Wednesday mornings, August 29-October 10, from 9:30-11:30 a.m., in room 229. The cost is \$13. Please register online. For more information, contact Susan or Cindy. Register | athensfirstumc.org/registration
Susan Taylor | susan@athensfirstumc.org | 706-542-1442
Cindy McKoy | cindy@athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442

Join Us at Bethel Homes

Do you have an interest in serving with women and children who are our neighbors? Each Tuesday we go to Bethel Homes and host a Women's Fellowship Group. During the fall, we invite you to join us as we build and deepen relationships while sharing the love of Christ with our neighbors. For more information, contact Betsy Butler or Sarah Beth Barger.

Betsy Butler | betsy@athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442 Sarah Beth Barger | sarahbeth@athensfirstumc.org 706-543-1442

Parenting With Purpose Small Group

Mothers of preschool-aged children are invited to gather each Friday morning beginning September 14 for a time of fellowship, study, and discussion. We will begin with *Follow*, an IF:Gathering study that tackles the question "who is Jesus?" On Fridays we will meet from 9:15-10:45 a.m. to dig into our responses to the message and discuss how to apply it to our everyday lives. Childcare for young children will be available. Please register online to let us know if you will be joining us!

Register | athensfirstumc.org/registration Robin Stewart | robin@athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442

Interfaith Hospitality Network of Athens

The week of September 30–October 7, we are partnering with the Interfaith Hospitality Network of Athens to host displaced families in our community in need of temporary housing. There are numerous ways to serve throughout the week we have guests in our church. These opportunities include driving the IHNA van, preparing a meal, spending time hosting our guests in the evening and overnight, and helping with set-up and take-down at the beginning and end of the host weeks. There is a place for everyone to be involved with this wonderful ministry! For more information and detailed descriptions of these volunteer opportunities, please visit our webpage or contact Betsy Butler or Sarah Beth Barger.

Learn More | athensfirstumc.org/ihn
Betsy Butler | betsy@athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442
Sarah Beth Barger | sarahbeth@athensfirstumc.org
706-543-1442

Churchwide BBQ

Please note that the date and location of our annual Churchwide BBQ has changed from previous years. This year, we will meet on Sunday, October 21, at our church. Please save the date and plan to join us for this event! More details will be available soon!



ADVANCE REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED

5:00-6:30 p.m. | Hancock Hall On Wednesday evenings we offer \$6 meals provided by local restaurants.

Barberitos

soft shell turkey tacos, toppings, chips

Champy's World Famous Fried Chicken

chicken fingers, baked beans, and slaw

Fresh Air BBQ

BBQ pork sandwich, macaroni and cheese, Brunswick stew, and chips

Weaver D's

fried chicken, mashed potatoes, green beans, and a roll

Cindy McKoy cindy@athensfirstumc.org

athensfirstumc.org/wednesdaynightmeals

This Week

	SUNDAY, AUGUST 12 John 6:47-51
8:30 a.m.	Worship Service SANCTUARY
	Preschool Nursery FIRST FLOOR
9:00 a.m.	Fun Gvm GYM
9:45 a.m.	Worship Service SANCTUARY
	Adult Sunday School SECOND FLOOR AND SAYE BUILDING
	Youth Sunday School Youth AREA
	Route 56: Grade 5 & 6 Sunday School ROOM 120
	Elementary Sunday School: Holy Ground CHAPEL
	Kindergarten Sunday School: City on a Hill ROOM 311 & 313
	Preschool Nursery & Sunday School FIRST FLOOR
	Newcomer Orientation Hospitality Room
10:00 a.m.	Sack Lunch Ministry HULL STREET ENTRANCE
11:00 a.m.	Worship Service SANCTUARY
11.00 a.iii.	Preschool Nursery First Floor
3:00 p.m.	Reception for Bob & Evelyn Winstead HANCOCK HALL
4:30 p.m.	Sunday Night Kick-off PARKING LOT
4.50 p.iii.	Wesleyan Youth Choir Rehearsal ROOM 145
	Carillons Ringers ROOM 150
	Connect & Grow Group JOHN WESLEY PARLOR
5:30 p.m.	Alleluia Ringers ROOM 150
3.30 p.iii.	Ancidia Kingers Room 130
	MONDAY, AUGUST 13 I KINGS 2:10-12
9:00 a.m.	Community Bible Study Leadership Training YOUTH AREA
	Tooming too make the state of t
	TUESDAY, AUGUST 14 I KINGS 3:3-14
9:00 a.m.	Community Bible Study Leadership Training YOUTH AREA
10:30 a.m.	Prayer Shawl Ministry PANERA BREAD
1:30 p.m.	Pickleball GYM
5:30 p.m.	Connect & Grow Group ROOM 229
	Fashion Fitness ROOM 120
6:00 p.m.	GriefShare ROOM 100
7:00 p.m.	Boy Scouts Troop 1 SCOUT HUT
	WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15 PSALM III:1-5
4:30 p.m.	Prayer Shawl Ministry ROOM 200
	Kids Music & Arts Open House
5:00 p.m.	Passport to Worship Kindergarten Milestone SANCTUARY
	Route 56 Wednesday Nights ROOM 120
	Wednesday Night Meal HANCOCK HALL
5:30 p.m.	66 Love Letters
6:00 p.m.	Youth Bible Study ROOM 119
6:30 p.m.	Connect & Grow Group ROOM 224
	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal ROOM 148
8:00 p.m.	Chamber Ensemble Rehearsal ROOM 148

THURSDAY, AUGUST 16 | PSALM III:6-10

1:30 p.m. Pickleball GYM

5:30 p.m. Fashion Fitness ROOM 120

7:00 p.m. Connect Group: Young Adult ROOM 222

FRIDAY, AUGUST 17 | EPHESIANS 5:15-17

SATURDAY, AUGUST 18 | EPHESIANS 5:17-20

Worship Bulletin (614-280)

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327 N. Lumpkin Street Athens, GA 30601-2743 Telephone | 706-543-1442 Fax | 706-546-4797 Website | athensfirstumc.org

Postmaster

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