

The background features a stylized design with three fish in grey and black 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 large, abstract shape resembling a stylized 'A' or a cross. Small red circles are placed at the top left and bottom right corners of the design.

# ATHENS FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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*Summer Worship*

JULY 12, 2015  
9:45 & 11:00 a.m.

# Welcome

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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 all of our services are live-streamed on our website at [athensfirstumc.org/webcast](https://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.

## *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](https://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 someone to guide you along this process, please contact Martha Aenchbacher.

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](https://athensfirstumc.org), for information about our ministries, to register for events, and to listen to sermons from our sermon archive. Visit [athensfirstumc.org/thesteeples](https://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

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\*Please stand as you are able.

The congregation speaks or sings the text in **bold type**.

## Gathering

### GATHERING MUSIC

#### \*THE CONGREGATIONAL CALL TO WORSHIP

“Do Lord”

Children are invited to come forward and join in leading this song

**Do Lord, oh, do Lord, oh do remember me.**

**Do Lord, oh, do Lord, oh do remember me.**

**Do Lord, oh, do Lord, oh do remember me,**

**Way beyond the blue.**

**I've got a home in glory land that outshines the sun.**

**I've got a home in glory land that outshines the sun.**

**I've got a home in glory land that outshines the sun,**

**Way beyond the blue.**

**I took Jesus as my Savior, you take him too.**

**I took Jesus as my Savior, you take him too.**

**I took Jesus as my Savior, you take him too,**

**Way beyond the blue.**

## Praise & Thanksgiving

#### \*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

#### WELCOME AND OPENING PRAYER

Beth Dickinson

*The flowers on  
the altar are  
given to the  
glory of God and  
in loving memory of  
his wife, Ernestine,  
and children,  
Wendolyn, Sally,  
Pamela, and Jenny  
by John Henkel.*

## THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Chuck Hodges

*Son of  
Jill and  
Seth Shearer*

9:45 a.m. | James Patrick Shearer

**James, James, 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. James, James, God claims you, God helps you, protects you, and loves you too.**

*Son of  
Allison and  
Jason Hodge*

11:00 a.m. | Weston Alan Hodge

**Weston, Weston, 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. Weston, Weston, God claims you, God helps you, protects you, and loves you too.**

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

**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.**

### \*HYMN MEDLEY

"I Am Thine O Lord"

**I am thine, O Lord, I have heard thy voice, and it told thy love to me; but I long to rise in the arms of faith and be closer drawn to thee.**

### Refrain:

**Draw me nearer, nearer, blessed Lord,  
to the cross where thou hast died.  
Draw me nearer, nearer, nearer, blessed Lord,  
to thy precious, bleeding side.**

**Consecrate me now to thy service, Lord, by the power of grace divine;  
let my soul look up with a steadfast hope, and my will be lost in thine.**

### Refrain

**There are depths of love that I cannot know till I cross the narrow sea;  
there are heights of joy that I may not reach till I rest in peace with thee.**

### Refrain

“The Old Rugged Cross”

**On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross,  
the emblem of suffering and shame;  
and I love that old cross where the dearest and best  
for a world of lost sinners was slain.**

**Refrain:**

**So I'll cherish the old rugged cross, till my trophies at last I lay down;  
I will cling to the old rugged cross, and exchange it some day for a crown.**

**In that old rugged cross, stained with blood so divine,  
a wondrous beauty I see,  
for 'twas on that old cross Jesus suffered and died,  
to pardon and sanctify me.**

**Refrain**

**To that old rugged cross I will ever be true,  
its shame and reproach gladly bear;  
then he'll call me some day to my home far away,  
where his glory forever I'll share.**

**Refrain**

“Jesus Loves Me”

Children are invited to come forward and join in leading this song

**Jesus loves me, this I know,  
for the Bible tells me so.  
Little ones to him belong.  
They are weak, but he is strong.**

**Yes, Jesus loves me.**

**Yes, Jesus loves me.**

**Yes, Jesus loves me.**

**The Bible tells me so.**

**THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE | 11:00 a.m.**

Sarah Lawing, Director of Children's Music

# *Proclamation of the Word*

## THE OFFERING

### THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“Open Up the Window, Noah” | Traditional

Steven Jones and Matthew Lawing, soloists

*The little dove flew in the window and mourned. Open the window, let the dove fly in.*

*Get ready, O Noah, there's comin' a storm. Open the window, let the dove fly in.*

*Open the window, Noah. Open the window, let the dove fly in*

*For forty long days it will be stormy and dark. Open the window, let the dove fly in.*

*Noah, get ready and build you an ark. Open the window, let the dove fly in.*

*Now the water's risin', there's no time to lose. Open the window, let the dove fly in.*

*Gather the creatures all in by twos. Open the window, let the dove fly in.*

### THE SCRIPTURE READING

PSALM 100:5 NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION

“For the Lord is good. His unfailing love continues forever, and his faithfulness continues to each generation.”

### THE SERMON

“What’s Your Theme Song?” | Betsy Butler

# *Response to the Word*

### \*CLOSING HYMN MEDLEY

“I Love To Tell the Story”

**I love to tell the story of unseen things above,  
of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love.**

**I love to tell the story because I know ‘tis true;  
it satisfies my longings as nothing else can do.**

**Refrain:**

**I love to tell the story, ‘twill be my theme in glory,  
to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.**

**I love to tell the story; ‘tis pleasant to repeat what seems,  
each time I tell it, more wonderfully sweet.**

**I love to tell the story, for some have never heard  
the message of salvation from God’s own holy Word.**

**Refrain**

**I love to tell the story, for those who know it best  
seem hungering and thirsting to hear it like the rest.  
And when, in scenes of glory, I sing the new, new song,  
'twill be the old, old story that I have loved so long.  
Refrain**

“Blessed Assurance ”

**Refrain:**

**This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long;  
this is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.**

## *Sending Forth*

**\*THE BLESSING**

**CONGREGATIONAL BENEDICTION RESPONSE**

“I’ll Fly Away”

**Some glad morning when this life is o’er, I’ll fly away!  
To a home on God’s celestial shore: I’ll fly away!**

**Refrain:**

**I’ll fly away, oh Glory, I’ll fly away.  
When I die, hallelujah by and by, I’ll fly away!**

Summer Worship Band

Chris Enghauser, double bass; Hans Holzen, guitar, fiddle, mandolin, tenor; Julie Caldwell, guitar, alto; Sarah Lawing, clarinet, soprano; Janis Maxwell, piano, alto; Matthew Lawing, guitar, tenor; Mason Towe, percussion, baritone; Stan Jackson, Joe Wyrick, Steven Ricks, guitar; Deana Jones, soprano; Steven Jones, tenor

# Sermon Notes

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## JULY USHERS

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

**11:00 a.m.** Mark Graham, Mike McCord, Charlie Upchurch III, Allan Hixon, Mason McWhorter, Gene Deal, Jim Lyons

## OFFERING STEWARDS

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

## GREETERS

Becky and Lee Brinson, Sheri and Doc Eldridge, Frances and Nat Hansford, Hugh Larkey, Charlotte and Hal Northrop, Al Rogers, Ben Griffith, Kerrigan Pruet, Evan Williams

## FIRST LIGHT ACOLYTES

**9:45 a.m.** Cate Hardman

**11:00 a.m.** Meg Chandler, John Knight

## ATTENDANCE ON JULY 5

**Total Worship | 581**

**Sunday School | 193**

9:45 a.m. | 229

11:00 a.m. | 272

Online | 80

## FINANCIAL REPORT

Budget for 2015 | \$2,641,842

Amount Given YTD | \$1,507,669

Goal for June | \$180,197

Amount after 4 Sundays | \$192,990

## OUR MINISTERS AND MINISTRY DIRECTORS

**Chuck Hodges** Senior Minister

[athensfirstumc.org](mailto:athensfirstumc.org)

[chuck@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:chuck@athensfirstumc.org) | 706-206-5529

**Martha Aenchbacher** Minister of Congregational Care

[athensfirstumc.org/congregationalcare](mailto:athensfirstumc.org/congregationalcare)

[martha@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:martha@athensfirstumc.org) | 678-230-9708

**Beth Dickinson** Minister of Discipleship

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**Linsey Jarrett** Director of Weekday Preschool

[athensfirstumc.org/weekdaypreschool](mailto:athensfirstumc.org/weekdaypreschool)

[linsey@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:linsey@athensfirstumc.org) | 706-543-1442

**Julie Caldwell** Director of Summer Worship

[julie@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:julie@athensfirstumc.org) | 706-540-0042

## Church Photo Directory

We are excited to announce that we are creating a new church directory! In order for this tool to be a reliable source of information about our congregation, we are aiming for 100 percent participation. Our goal is to provide you with a comprehensive directory that you can turn to for information.

### Important Dates:

July 19–August 9 | sign up in library

August 25–September 15 | photo sessions

The church directory is like a family photo album.  
It will not be complete if YOU are not in it!



## In Memoriam

Gloria Smith  
July 2, 2015



## Summer Worship | July

Summer Worship will continue throughout the month of July. Join us each Sunday at either the 9:45 or 11:00 a.m. service. We are also offering a special Communion service each Sunday at 9:00 a.m. in the chapel. We look forward to worshipping together and enjoying more of our favorite hymns as Summer Worship continues.



## Newcomer Orientation | Today

Everyone is invited to attend Newcomer Orientation today in the Hospitality Room. Two sessions are offered, 9:45 and 11:00 a.m. You can learn more about Athens First United Methodist, including ways to get involved and how to become a member.

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

## New Church Directory

We need greeters to help greet and check people in during photography times! Please contact Diana if you would be willing to share your time and be a greeter.

Diana Zylow | [diana@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:diana@athensfirstumc.org) | 706-543-1442



## Choir Tour Registration | July 15

The Sanctuary Choir is traveling to Spain and Portugal for a tour of singing and sight-seeing June 20-30, 2016. We will travel to Lisbon, Seville, and Granada. Church members are welcome to join us. If you are interested, please contact Stephen Mitchell. Deposits are \$500 and will be accepted through July 15, 2015. If you would like to register, please bring a check made payable to AFUMC to the church office. Stephen Mitchell | [smitchell@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:smitchell@athensfirstumc.org)  
706-543-1442

## Murphy Harpst Special Offering

For 100 years, Murphy-Harpst has successfully treated thousands of children by building the environment necessary to reverse years of trauma. Their program provides round-the-clock therapeutic care that enables children to heal and recover so that they can re-engage with society and lead productive lives. For most, this non-profit organization is their last hope after as many as 10-20 failed foster placements. A ministry of the United Methodist Church, Murphy-Harpst relies on goodwill and contributions. Please prayerfully consider your contribution to the Murphy-Harpst's Annual Day of Giving, next Sunday, July 19.



## Smart Lunch, Smart Kid | July

Please join us on Wednesdays in July to distribute sack lunches to hungry children in our community. Unlike in years past, the assembly of lunches will be handled by Clarke County schools. We will meet at 11:30 a.m. in Room 103 to depart and serve in the community. Please email Betsy Butler if you would like to participate.

Betsy Butler | [betsy@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:betsy@athensfirstumc.org) | 706-543-1442



## Prayers for Tijuana Mission Trip

Please be in prayer for the Youth Tijuana Mission Team serving in Tijuana, Mexico July 18-24. Team members are Mary Hamilton Bottoms, John Mobley Cross, Ben Griffith, Grace Griffith, Laney Hunter, Josh Miles, Emma Murray, Lisa Sheppard, Duncan Taylor, and Joe Taylor.

## Sack Lunch Ministry

Every Sunday morning, our church is committed to assembling and distributing 40 sack lunches for the working poor and homeless individuals and families in our

community. We are looking for volunteers July 19 and 26. Sack lunch items, such as sandwiches, salty snacks, sweet treats, and water can be provided. If you are interested in serving with the Sack Lunch Ministry, please contact Mary Claire.

Mary Claire Murphy | [maryclaire@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:maryclaire@athensfirstumc.org)  
706-543-1442



## REACH | Service Opportunities

Our church will have several opportunities to serve new international students to UGA. On Monday, August 3, we will have the opportunity to greet more than 100 Chinese students as they arrive in Atlanta and prepare for orientation at the university. If you are interested in serving with transportation, food preparation, or setup on August 3 or 4, please register online. The deadline to sign up to serve for the August 3-4 opportunities is Sunday, July 19.

On August 5, there will be an opportunity to serve dinner to new students at UGA's International Student Orientation on campus. The meal will be catered, but our church will supply homemade desserts. We are in need of 25 donations of cakes, cookies, brownies, or cobblers for this evening. The desserts can be dropped off at the church by 12:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 5. We also need six volunteers to come to campus and serve the students that evening. Please sign up online to donate a dessert, and contact Lynn if you would like to serve and greet. The deadline to register to serve and/or provide dessert for the August 5 opportunity is Wednesday, July 29.

Register | [athensfirstumc.org/reachinternational](http://athensfirstumc.org/reachinternational)  
Lynn Bryant | [athens1stism@aol.com](mailto:athens1stism@aol.com) | 706-202-9017



## The Ark Golf Tournament | August 8

The Ark, a mission partner of our church, invites you to their 23rd Annual Fellowship Golf Challenge "Swing for Hope." The Golf Tournament will be Saturday, August 8, at the UGA Golf Course. There is a registration fee of \$100 per golfer, and mulligans are \$10 per player or \$70 per team (limit of 2 per player). All proceeds benefit The Ark. Contact Marty Webb if you have any questions.

Register | [athensark.org](http://athensark.org)

Marty Webb | [martin\\_webb@bellsouth.net](mailto:martin_webb@bellsouth.net)



## Children's Consignment Sale August 14-15

Please register to volunteer and help make our Children's Consignment Sale a success! Here are the ways you can serve:

- Volunteer Coordinator Committee (organize the event)
- Set-Up Team (prepare gym for sale)
- Screen Committee (organize sale items)
- Cashier Leader Shifts (instructing cashiers)
- Cashier Shifts (great sitting job during sale)

- Hospitality (greet during the sale)
- Floor Coordinator Team (manages the sale)

Please visit our webpage for more information, and be sure to register online! If you have any questions, please feel free to call Mary Claire or Betsy.

Register | [athensfirstumc.org/childrensconsignmentsale](http://athensfirstumc.org/childrensconsignmentsale)

Betsy Butler | [betsy@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:betsy@athensfirstumc.org) | 706-543-1442

Mary Claire Murphy | [maryclaire@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:maryclaire@athensfirstumc.org)

706-543-1442

## Mercy Health Center

Mercy Health Center, a mission partner of Athens First United Methodist Church, is in need of volunteers! Through a community of volunteers, Mercy Health Center provides whole-person, quality health care in a Christ-centered environment to our under-served neighbors. The greatest needs are Prayer Partners, specifically Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6:00-9:00 p.m., and an MD to volunteer once per month or every other month on Tuesdays (6:00-9:00 p.m. is the most critical need). Please contact Virginia McKenna if you would like to volunteer with this ministry. Virginia McKenna | [vmckenna@msn.com](mailto:vmckenna@msn.com) | 706-338-3688

## Senior Fun

The Senior Fun group had an unprecedented response, earlier than ever before, to attend the play *Gypsy* at the North Carolina State Playhouse on August 6. Unfortunately all 57 seats on our 57 passenger bus are filled, so the Senior Fun trip to Flat Rock Playhouse is full.

Reminder: As usual, Senior Fun group does not meet in the month of July but will resume with the regular meeting on August 27 at the 12:30 p.m. luncheon.

*The faithful love  
of the Lord never  
ends! His mercies  
never cease. Great  
is his faithfulness;  
his mercies begin  
afresh each morning.*

LAMENTATIONS 3:22-23

# This Week

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## SUNDAY, JULY 12 | 2 SAMUEL 5:9-10

- 9:00 a.m. **Communion Service** CHAPEL
- 9:45 a.m. **Worship Service** SANCTUARY
- Adult Sunday School** SECOND FLOOR AND SAYE BUILDING
- Elementary Sunday School** GYM
- Grade 5 & 6 Sunday School: Fuel** FIRST FLOOR
- Youth Sunday School: First Word** FIRST FLOOR
- Newcomer Orientation** HOSPITALITY ROOM
- 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
- Newcomer Orientation** HOSPITALITY ROOM

## MONDAY, JULY 13 | EPHESIANS 1:3-8

- 10:00 a.m. **Youth Volleyball Camp** GYM
- 6:00 p.m. **VolleyPerformance** GYM

## TUESDAY, JULY 14 | EPHESIANS 1:9-14

- 5:30 a.m. **Fashion Fitness** GYM
- 10:00 a.m. **Our Daily Bread** FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH DOWNTOWN
- Youth Volleyball Camp** GYM
- 3:00 p.m. **Tagging Tuesdays** ROOM 103
- 5:30 p.m. **Fashion Fitness** ROOM 119
- 6:00 p.m. **Volleyball Camp** GYM

## WEDNESDAY, JULY 15 | PSALM 24

- 7:00 a.m. **Fashion Fitness** GYM
- 10:00 a.m. **Youth Volleyball Camp** GYM
- 10:30 a.m. **Summer Prayer Shawl Ministry** PANERA BREAD ON ATLANTA HIGHWAY
- 5:30 p.m. **Men's Prayer Group** ROOM 307
- 6:00 p.m. **Volleyball Camp** GYM
- 6:30 p.m. **Freeway** ROOM 222

## THURSDAY, JULY 16 | MARK 6:14-29

- 5:30 a.m. **Fashion Fitness** GYM
- 5:30 p.m. **Fashion Fitness** ROOM 119
- 6:00 p.m. **Wesleyan Way** ROOM 226
- Volleyball Camp** GYM

## FRIDAY, JULY 17 | 2 CORINTHIANS 12:2-10

- 5:30 a.m. **Fashion Fitness** GYM
- 1:00 p.m. **Adult Pick-up Basketball** GYM
- 6:30 p.m. **REACH International Bible Study & Dinner** YOUTH AREA

## SATURDAY, JULY 18 | PSALM 130

*Tijuana Youth Mission Trip*

# **Worship Bulletin (614-280)**

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