

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 cross shape. Small red circles are placed at the top left and bottom right corners of the design.

ATHENS FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Baptism of the Lord

JANUARY 10, 2016
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 all of our 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, children age 2 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 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, for information about our ministries, to register for events, and to listen to sermons from our sermon archive. Visit athensfirstumc.org/thesteep to sign up for our weekly newsletter, the eSteeple. You can also connect with us via social media. Find us @athensfirstumc on Facebook and @athens_firstumc on 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 flowers on the
altar are given to
the glory of God and
in loving memory
of Mrs. Lucile
Mars Bridges by
her grandchildren:
Roger and Renee
Alexander, Ivan
Renka, and David
and Elisabetta
Renka.*

THE PRELUDE

9:45 & 11:00 A.M. “More Love to Thee, O Christ” | Evanovich

*THE CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

“O Splendor of God’s Glory Bright”

Sung by the Sanctuary Choir

THE WELCOME AND THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

Betsy Butler

Praise & Thanksgiving

*THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN 421

“Make Me A Captive, Lord” | DIADEMATA

*THE PRAYER FOR BAPTISMAL RENEWAL

Eternal God, at the baptism of Jesus in the river Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Grant that all who are baptized into his name may keep the covenant they have made and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior. Pour out your Spirit on us again that we may be faithful to our baptismal calling, ardently desire the communion of Christ’s body and blood, and serve the poor of your people and all who need your love, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end. 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 PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Chuck Hodges

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 OFFERING

THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM

8:30 A.M. "Baptism" | Randy Travis

Played by the Worship Team; Mark Graham, solo

The summer breeze made ripples on the pond, rattled through the rings and the willow trees beyond. Daddy in his good hat, mama in her Sunday dress, watched with pride as I stood there in the water up to my chest, and the preacher spoke about the cleansing blood. I sank my toes into that East Tennessee mud. Then it was down with the old man, up with the new, raised to walk in the way of light and truth. I didn't see no angels, just a few saints on the shore, but I felt like a new born baby, cradled up in the arms of the Lord. Amazing grace, oh, how sweet the sound. There was glory in the air, there was dinner on the ground, and my sins, which were many, were washed away and gone along with a buffalo nickel, I forgot to leave at home. But that seemed like such a small, small price to pay for the blessed peace of mind that came to me that day. This road is long and dusty, sometimes the soul, it must be cleansed, and I long to feel that water rushin' over me again.

9:45 & 11:00 A.M. "I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry" | arr. Helgen

Sung by the Sanctuary Choir

I was there to hear your borning cry. I'll be there when you are old. I rejoiced the day you were baptized, to see your life unfold. I was there when you were but a child, with a faith to suit you well; in a blaze of light you wandered off to find where demons dwell. When you heard the wonder of the Word, I was there to cheer you on. You were raised to praise the living Lord, to whom you now belong. If you find someone to share your time and you join your hearts as one, I'll be there to make your verses rhyme from dusk 'till rising sun. In the middle ages of your life, not too old, no longer young, I'll be there to guide you through the night, complete what I've begun. When the evening gently closes in, and you shut your weary eyes, I'll be there as I have always been with just one more surprise. I was there to hear your borning cry. I'll be there when you are old. I rejoiced the day you were baptized, to see your life unfold.

*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!

Proclamation of the Word

THE SCRIPTURE READING

JOB 11:13-15 NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION

If you direct your heart rightly, you will stretch out your hands toward him. If iniquity is in your hand, put it far away, and do not let wickedness reside in your tents. Surely then you will lift up your face without blemish; you will be secure, and will not fear.

THE SERMON

“Get a Grip” | Chuck Hodges

Response to the Word

THE INTRODUCTION

THE RENUNCIATION OF SIN

On behalf of the whole church, I ask you: Do you renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness, reject the evil powers of this world, and repent of your sin?

I do.

Do you accept the freedom and power God gives you to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves?

I do.

Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior, put your whole trust in his grace, and promise to serve him as your Lord, in union with the church which Christ has opened to people of all ages, nations, and races?

I do.

According to the grace given to you, will you remain faithful members of Christ’s holy church and serve as Christ’s representatives in the world?

I will.

THE THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

THE REAFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Persons are invited to come forward, touch the water in the font, and remember their baptism. The altar will be available for prayer.

THE PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

Let us pray together:

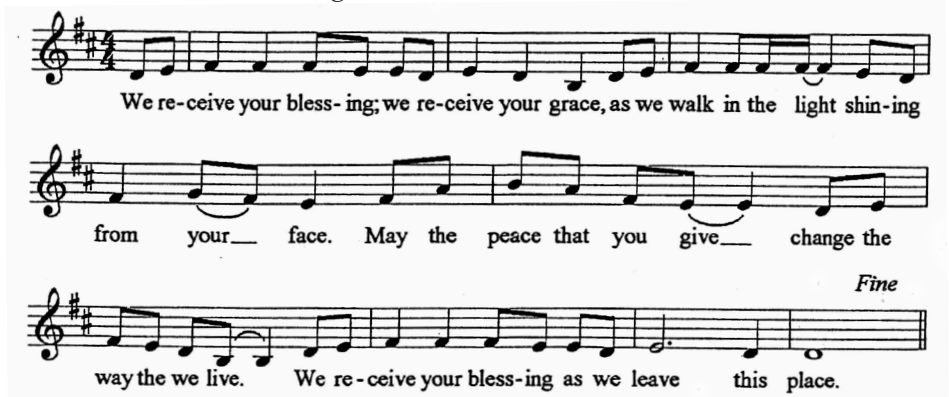
Father in heaven, at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Grant that all who are baptized into his name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, One God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

Sending Forth

* THE BLESSING

* THE CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

“We Receive Your Blessing”



The musical notation is written on three staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes. The word 'Fine' is written above the final note of the third staff.

We re-ceive your bless-ing; we re-ceive your grace, as we walk in the light shin-ing
from your__ face. May the peace that you give__ change the
way the we live. We re-ceive your bless-ing as we leave this place.

* THE POSTLUDE

“O Jesus I Have Promised” | Lowenberg

JANUARY 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. Lee Brinson, Nathan King, Ryan Brinson, Claude Felton, Steve Greer, Mack Furlow, John Bateman, Jim Lyons

OFFERING STEWARDS

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

GREETERS

Cindy Williams, Marian Block, Alley and Ken Mauldin, Judy Hill, Donna Weekley, Kasey and Bill Clayton, Mack Lowery

ATTENDANCE ON DECEMBER 24

Total Worship | 2302

4:00 p.m. | 977 11:00 p.m. | 634

7:00 p.m. | 880 Online | 91

ATTENDANCE ON DECEMBER 27

Total Worship | 483

Sunday School | 144

11:00 a.m. | 408

Online | 75

ATTENDANCE ON JANUARY 3

Total Worship | 1135

Sunday School | 430

8:30 a.m. | 157

9:45 a.m. | 292

11:00 a.m. | 557

Online | 129

FINANCIAL REPORT

Budget for 2015 | \$2,641,842

Amount Given YTD | \$3,210,483

Goal for December | \$487,002

Amount after 4 Sundays | \$481,793

OUR MINISTERS AND MINISTRY DIRECTORS

Chuck Hodges Senior Minister

athensfirstumc.org

chuck@athensfirstumc.org | 706-206-5529

Martha Aenchbacher Minister of Congregational Care

athensfirstumc.org/congregationalcare

martha@athensfirstumc.org | 678-230-9708

Beth Dickinson Minister of Discipleship

athensfirstumc.org/smallgroupsbiblestudies

beth@athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442

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Janis Maxwell Director of Youth Music & Organist

athensfirstumc.org/wesleyanyouthchoir

janis@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

Julie Caldwell 8:30 a.m. Worship Leader

julie@athensfirstumc.org | 706-540-0042



Stop Hunger Now

Saturday, January 23 | Hancock Hall

Stop Hunger Now's meal packaging program is a hands-on international mission project that is fun for all ages! This is an annual churchwide mission project and a wonderful opportunity to impact people across the globe without leaving Athens. There are several ways to be involved:

1. Pray: We ask for prayers for all those who will receive the meals and those who will serve at this event.
2. Contribute: 29 cents makes a meal.
3. Serve: There will be two opportunities to serve on January 23 (8:30 or 10:30 a.m.).

Register online to sign up to serve, or contact Betsy or Mary Claire for more details.

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

Mary Claire Wills | maryclaire@athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442

athensfirstumc.org/stophungernow

In Memoriam

Rowena Jones
January 2, 2016

Charles Grimes
January 3, 2016

Sympathy

Heartfelt Christian sympathy is extended to Mark Maxwell and family in the loss of his mother, Gloria Maxwell, on December 27.

Heartfelt Christian sympathy is extended to Patricia Grimes and family in the loss of her husband, Charles Grimes, on January 3.



Wednesday Night Meal

The meal on Wednesday, January 13, is Weaver D's. Join us for fried chicken, mashed potatoes, green beans, and bread. Meals are \$6 each. Advance dinner orders are required. Order your meal online or by calling the church office by Tuesday at noon. Take-out boxes will be available if you have to eat and run, or run and then eat! You and your family, friends, and/or small group are invited and encouraged to eat and spend time together in Hancock Hall. Volunteers are needed to help serve the meal, and volunteers eat free!

EA Whorton | edithann@athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442
Learn more | athensfirstumc.org/wednesdaynightmeals

Communion Guild Training

Members of our church are invited to join us today for the

annual Communion Guild training session. Chuck Hodges will explain the significance of Holy Communion and what it means to provide this holy sacrament to our congregation. This is also an opportunity for the Communion Guild leaders to introduce themselves and show how to prepare and serve the elements at our church. At the conclusion of the training, we invite you to sign up to serve and/or prepare communion at any of the three worship services throughout the year. We will meet today at the front of the sanctuary immediately following the 11:00 a.m. service for 30 minutes. If you have any questions, please contact Katherine Hodges.

Katherine Hodges | katherine@athensfirstumc.org
706-543-1442

Newcomer Orientation



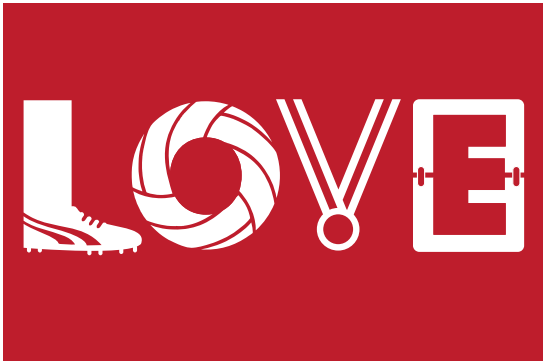
Newcomer Orientation | Today

Everyone is invited to attend Newcomer Orientation today in the Hospitality Room (on the Adult Sunday School hallway). 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
706-543-1442

UMW Circle Spotlight | Circle 2

Circle 2 invites you to join them on the second Tuesday of every month. This month, the group will meet on Tuesday, January 12, at 12:00 p.m. in Hull Conference Room. This is a service-oriented circle that enjoys having fun and socializing together. For more information, contact Beth Johnson. Beth Johnson | 678-726-5521



Souper Suppers

As we begin our new Souper Suppers season, here are some of our most immediate needs:

Prepare a Meal | January 21, February 18, and February 25 (dates available in March and April as well)

Stock the Store | dish soap, hand warmers, and toilet paper

Serve in the Dining Room | set up, host a table, clean up

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

Mary Claire Wills | maryclaire@athensfirstumc.org

706-543-1442

Cuba Mission Trip

Please remember the mission team who will be serving in Cuba January 15-19. They will be leading a winter conference and sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ through testimony and witness with our sister United Methodist Church in Gibara. Please keep these individuals and our brothers and sisters in Cuba in your prayers: Jerry Fernandez, Virginia McKenna, Ryan Nesbit, and Betsy Butler.



Weekday Preschool Registration

Preschool registration is open. Our preschool program serves families of children age 9 months through Pre-K from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Registration deadlines are as follows:

- Currently enrolled deadline: January 15, 2016
- Church member deadline: January 20, 2016
- Community deadline: January 22, 2016

Register | athensfirstumc.org/weekdaypreschool

Linsey Jarrett | linsey@athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442

Youth Spiritual Life Retreat

ONE Student Ministries is taking on Spiritual Life Retreat (SLR) this February for youth in grades 7-12. SLR begins on Friday evening, February 26, and ends on Sunday morning, February 28. This retreat takes place at Camp Glisson, in Dahlonga, Ga., and includes worship, small group discussions, and enriching opportunities for spiritual growth. We are capping this retreat at 50 total students, so the earlier you register, the better. Registration is open until February 3. Please visit our webpage for more information and to register.

Learn more | athensfirstumc.org/spiritualliferetreat

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

Great Day of Service Leadership Team

We are seeking a team of leaders for the Great Day of Service projects on Saturday, April 16, 2016, and the Brunch and Basket Auction on Sunday, April 17, 2016. Projects will include indoor and outdoor activities for all ages. We are very excited that this opportunity allows us to love our neighbors through sharing the love of Christ. If you are interested in serving on our leadership team, please contact Betsy Butler for details.

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

connect to community

small groups: where community develops and growth occurs

Start 2016 off right. Join a new small group today. There is a place for everyone to grow in their walk with the Lord and connect to community at Athens First United Methodist Church. We believe that connecting to our church family and finding community here is an integral part of our faith development. Below, you will find a list of the available small groups by day of the week. For those that have not begun yet, the start date is listed. On the following pages, a brief description of the upcoming small groups is listed. For more information, contact Beth. Register online to join any of these groups.

Beth Dickinson | beth@athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442

sundays **Making Sense of the Bible** | 4:45-6:15 p.m. (begins January 24)

mondays **Disciplines Devotional Bible Study** | 1:15-2:15 p.m.
A Heart Set Free | 6:30-8:00 p.m. (begins January 25)

wednesdays **New Testament Letters** | 9:30-10:45 a.m.
Esther: It's Tough Being a Woman | 9:30-11:30 a.m. (begins January 13)
A Woman's Heart | 1:00-3:00 p.m. (begins January 13)
Prayer Shawl Ministry | 4:30-6:00 p.m.
Early Book Group | 4:45-5:45 p.m.
Later Book Group | 6:30-8:30 p.m. (begins January 13)
The Way of Prayer | 6:30-8:30 p.m. (begins January 13)
Forgiveness: A Lenten Study | 6:45-8:00 p.m. (begins February 10)
Before Amen | 6:30-8:00 p.m. (begins January 13)
John by Adam Hamilton | 6:30-8:30 p.m. (begins February 17)
Unanswered: Men's Study | 6:30-8:30 p.m. (begins January 13)
The Fitting Room: Women's Study | 4:00-5:30 p.m. (begins January 13)

thursdays **Connect Group (Young Adult)** | 7:00-8:30 p.m.
Connect Group (Single Adults) | 7:00-8:30 p.m. (begins TBD)

athensfirstumc.org/connecttocommunity

Disciplines Devotional Bible Study

This is an ongoing Bible study group that is open to everyone. This group reads scripture passages from the Old Testament, New Testament, and Psalms, as well as from a devotional. Join Disciplines on Mondays from 1:15 to 2:15 p.m. in room 200. Register and purchase class materials online.

New Testament Letters

New Testament Letters will look at the writings of the various New Testament letters. This study meets Wednesdays from 9:30-10:45 a.m. in room 222.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

All are welcome to join a group of expert, novice, and beginning knitters and crocheters as they create prayer shawls. Completed prayer shawls are prayed over by the group and given to those who are grieving or have special needs. This group meets weekly in room 200 on Wednesdays at 4:30 p.m.

Early Book Group

The Early Book Group meets from 4:45-5:45 p.m. on Wednesdays in Room 247. It is not too late to join the discussion of Harvey Cox's *The Future of Faith*. *The Future of Faith* is being released to coincide with Cox's retirement: it charts the three major periods in the history of Christianity and the shift that is taking place today away from religious beliefs and dogma to an emphasis on spirituality and social justice. Please purchase the book prior to the first meeting. Contact Cindy Kuhlman for more information.
Cindy Kuhlman | gckuhlman@charter.net

Before Amen

In *Before Amen: The Power of a Simple Prayer*, Max Lucado explores the very heart of Biblical prayer by offering distilled, hope-filled prayers that will help you turn your heart towards the One who longs to speak with you. Thankfully, we aren't the first followers of Jesus to struggle with prayer. The disciples did too. In response to their questions, Jesus gives them, and us, a simple, beautiful example to follow. This group will meet for four weeks on Wednesdays beginning January 13 at 6:30 in room 222. This study will help to prepare our hearts and minds for our churchwide Day of Prayer and will lead us into the Lenten Season.

Esther

We will be offering *Esther: It's Tough Being a Woman*, a study by Beth Moore, on Wednesday mornings from 9:30-11:30 a.m. in room 229 beginning January 13. This study is a very personal examination of the Old Testament story of Esther, peeling back the layers of history and showing how very contemporary and applicable the story is to our lives today. If you've ever felt inadequate, threatened, or pushed into situations that seemed overpowering, we hope you will join us. This study will be led by Susie Thrasher. The cost is \$16 for the participant workbook; please register online so we may order the correct number.

The Fitting Room | Women's Study

Join this new women's small group Bible study led by Jennifer Foster on Wednesdays from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. beginning January 13 in room 229. The study will be reading Kelly Minter's *The Fitting Room: Putting on the Character of Christ*. This group will meet in room 229.

Unanswered | Men's Study

We live in a radically skeptical age. Tough questions are being asked about Christianity, and most believers are ill-equipped to provide the answers our culture and communities desperately need. Many in today's church do not know the Bible as well as they should and they struggle with their own "big questions" about the faith. Join other men as we study *Unanswered: Lasting Truth for Trending Questions* by Jeremiah Johnston. This eight-week study will be led by Keith Wilson and will meet Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. beginning January 13.

A Woman's Heart

A Woman's Heart will meet on Wednesday afternoons from 1:00-3:00 p.m. in room 229 beginning January 13. Explore Beth Moore's *A Woman's Heart: God's Dwelling Place*, a fascinating account of the building of the Old Testament tabernacle, its pivotal role in God's eternal plan, the grand fulfillment of its purpose by Jesus Christ, and its variety of meanings for your walk with God today. This study will be led by Therese Wilson. The cost is \$16 for the participant workbook; please register online so we may order the correct number.

The Way of Prayer

The Way of Prayer from the Companions in Christ series expands on our knowledge of prayer through an eleven-

week exploration of different forms of prayer practices. Led by Frank Sweezy and Alan Cannon, members will embark on a journey of discovery—the discovery of different dimensions of God’s grace and love. Prayer is explored through music, dance, gazing, silence, or acts of service. *The Way of Prayer* teaches us how to respond to God’s invitation into the divine Presence, and it brings a deeper sense of spiritual vitality and encouragement to seek out new ways to pray. This study will begin Wednesday, January 13, from 6:30-8:30 in room 224.

Later Book Group

The Later Book Group meets on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month from 6:30-8:30 p.m. in room 247. Join Marty and April Webb in January for Karen Armstrong’s *Muhammad: A Prophet for Our Time*. Everyone is welcome to this group where lively discussions are encouraged. Later Book Group resumes January 13.

Making Sense of the Bible

Matthew Lawing will begin a Bible study based on Adam Hamilton’s book, *Making Sense of the Bible*, on January 24 from 4:45-6:15 p.m. This study invites us into an honest conversation about the Bible. The book begins with foundational questions such as how and when was the Bible written? Who decided which books made it into the scriptures and why? How literally must we read it? Is the Bible ever wrong? In approachable and inviting language, Hamilton examines often misunderstood biblical themes leading readers to a deeper appreciation of the Bible so that we might hear God speak through it and find its words to be life-changing and life-giving. The books will be handed out to participants on January 24.

A Heart Set Free: A Charles Wesley Study

A new study group led by Bob Dean and Kasey Darley on Mondays beginning January 25. Join us for some fun and fellowship in celebration of our Methodist heritage and the life and hymns of Charles Wesley. Learn about the Founders of the Methodist Church, and sing some of the great old hymns of Charles Wesley in a new seven-week original study. This group meets from 6:30-8:00 p.m. in room 100.

Forgiveness

Lent is a season of reflection and spiritual housecleaning. Dianne Morrison will lead this Lenten study using *Forgiveness* by Marjorie Thompson on Wednesdays

from 6:45-8:00 p.m. The group will meet in room 224. Forgiveness is central to the Christian faith. Jesus offers forgiveness. He tells parables about it. Jesus tells Peter that one must forgive anywhere from seventy-seven times to seventy times seven times. Yet for many of us, offering and receiving forgiveness can be difficult. Please note the first meeting on February 10 will be from 6:30-6:50 p.m.

John

Beth Dickinson will lead this study is held on Wednesdays, beginning February 17. The Gospel of John is filled with rich images and profound truths, but John notes that his aim in writing the gospel is that readers will not only believe in Jesus Christ, but that they “may have life in his name.” This Lent, experience a season of spiritual growth and life-changing renewal in this six-week series of Adam Hamilton’s John: The Gospel of Light and Life. You’ll follow the life, ministry, death, and resurrection of Jesus and understand the context of some of the best-known verses in the New Testament. This group will meet from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. in room 222.

Connect Groups

Connect Groups gather for conversation, community, Bible study, friendship, prayer, and fun social events. The Connect Groups are made of individuals and couples in the same age-range of life. All groups meet at the church. We are starting a new connect group for single adults on Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. in the near future. Please express your interest by registering online.

This Week

SUNDAY, JANUARY 10 | ACTS 8:14-17

- 8:30 a.m. **Worship Service** SANCTUARY
Preschool Nursery & Sunday School FIRST FLOOR
- 9:00 a.m. **Fun Gym** GYM
- 9:45 a.m. **Worship Service** SANCTUARY
Adult Sunday School SECOND FLOOR AND SAYE BUILDING
Elementary Sunday School THIRD FLOOR
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
Newcomer Orientation HOSPITALITY ROOM
- 12:00 p.m. **Communion Guild Training** SANCTUARY
- 3:00 p.m. **Cub Scout Pack 1** HANCOCK HALL
- 4:30 p.m. **Route 56: Destination Unknown** ROOM 120
Wesleyan Youth Choir Rehearsal ROOM 148
Carillons Ringers ROOM 150
- 4:45 p.m. **Parenting with Purpose Small Group** ROOM 224
- 5:40 p.m. **Alleluia Ringers** ROOM 150
- 5:45 p.m. **Encounter** YOUTH AREA

MONDAY, JANUARY 11 | JOHN 2:1-5

- 1:15 p.m. **Disciplines Devotional Bible Study** ROOM 224
- 5:00 p.m. **Children's Basketball** GYM
- 7:00 p.m. **Community Bible Study, Athens Evening Class** HANCOCK HALL
Parenting with Purpose Small Group ROOM 235

TUESDAY, JANUARY 12 | JOHN 2:6-11

- 5:30 a.m. **Fashion Fitness** GYM
- 8:30 a.m. **Community Bible Study Leaders Council**
- 10:00 a.m. **Our Daily Bread** FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH DOWNTOWN
- 12:00 p.m. **Parenting with Purpose Small Group** THE HOME OF KIM GRIFFITH
UMW Circle 2 Meeting HULL CONFERENCE ROOM
- 5:00 p.m. **Children's Basketball** GYM
- 5:30 p.m. **Fashion Fitness** ROOM 119
- 7:00 p.m. **Parenting with Purpose Small Group** THE HOME OF SARA STEGER

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13 | I CORINTHIANS 12:1-11

- 9:30 a.m. **New Testament Letters** ROOM 222
Esther ROOM 229
- 1:00 p.m. **A Woman's Heart** ROOM 229
- 3:00 p.m. **Fun Gym** GYM
- 4:00 p.m. **The Fitting Room | Women's Study** ROOM 229

- 4:30 p.m. Kids Music and Arts: Dance Class ROOM 145
 Kids Music and Arts: Lyric Choir Grades 1-2 ROOM 151
 Kids Music and Arts: Grades 3-4 Worship Arts ROOM 314
 Prayer Shawl Ministry ROOM 200
- 4:45 p.m. Early Book Group ROOM 247
- 5:00 p.m. Route 56: GPS ROOM 120
 Wednesday Night Dinner HANCOCK HALL
- 5:10 p.m. Kids Music and Arts: Celebrate Choir Grades 3-4 ROOM 151
- 5:15 p.m. Parenting with Purpose Small Group ROOM 226
 Kids Music and Arts: Cherub Choir Age 3 ROOM 321
 Kids Music and Arts: Sonshine Choir Age 4 ROOM 325
 Kids Music and Arts: Joy Choir Kindergarten ROOM 320
- 5:20 p.m. Kids Music and Arts: Grades 1-2 Worship Arts ROOM 314
- 5:30 p.m. Connect Group (Young Married Couples) ROOM 301
- 5:45 p.m. Men's Prayer Group ROOM 226
- 6:00 p.m. Engage Bible Study YOUTH AREA
 Connect Group (Young Married Couples) ROOM 307
- 6:30 p.m. Disciple 3 ROOM 229
 The Way of Prayer ROOM 224
 Before Amen ROOM 222
 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal ROOM 148
 Men's Study | Unanswered ROOM 240
- 7:30 p.m. Youth Worship Team Rehearsal ROOM 119
- 8:00 p.m. Chamber Ensemble Rehearsal ROOM 148

THURSDAY, JANUARY 14 | PSALM 29

- 5:30 a.m. Fashion Fitness GYM
- 9:30 a.m. Community Bible Study HANCOCK HALL
- 10:00 a.m. Parenting with Purpose Small Group THE HOME OF TANYA ADAMS
- 5:00 p.m. Children's Basketball GYM
 Souper Supper HANCOCK HALL
- 5:30 p.m. Fashion Fitness ROOM 119
- 7:00 p.m. Connect Group (Young Adult) ROOM 222

FRIDAY, JANUARY 15 | ISAIAH 62:1-5

Cuba Mission Trip

- 9:00 a.m. Children's Basketball GYM
 Parenting with Purpose Small Group ROOM 222
- 9:30 a.m. Parenting with Purpose Small Group THE HOME OF STACY RICHARDSON
- 5:00 p.m. Children's Basketball GYM
- 6:30 p.m. REACH Snack & Chat: Welcome Back Party HANCOCK HALL

SATURDAY, JANUARY 16 | ISAIAH 43:1-7

Cuba Mission Trip

- 9:00 a.m. Children's Basketball GYM

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