

The background features a stylized graphic design. It consists of several fish-like shapes, each with a simple eye and a curved line for a mouth, rendered in dark grey. These shapes are arranged around a central red geometric structure that resembles a stylized cross or a series of connected lines. There are also solid red circles scattered throughout the design, including one in the top left and one in the bottom right.

ATHENS FIRST
UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH

JUNE 19, 2016
8:30, 9:45 & 11:00 a.m.

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.

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, which is held every second Sunday of the month at 9:45 and 11:00 a.m.

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 2016 | \$2,789,339
Amount Given YTD | \$1,409, 863
Goal for June | \$187,970
Amount after 1 Sunday | \$65, 478

Attendance on June 12

Total Worship | 837
Sunday School | 325
8:30 a.m. | 131
9:45 a.m. | 237
11:00 a.m. | 374
Online | 95

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linsey@athensfirstumc.org

Julie Caldwell 8:30 a.m. Worship Leader

julie@athensfirstumc.org

Contact Us

Our church office is open Monday through Friday, from 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Find us on Facebook at Athens First United Methodist Church.

athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442

The Worship of God

8:30 a.m.

THE PRELUDE

“In the Garden” | Hobby

*THE CONGREGATIONAL CALL TO WORSHIP

62 “All Creatures of Our God and King” | LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**All creatures of our God and King,
lift up your voice and with us sing:
alleluia, alleluia!**

**O burning sun with golden beam,
and shining moon with silver gleam,
O praise him, O praise him,
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**Let all things their Creator bless,
and worship him in humbleness,
alleluia, alleluia!**

**Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
and praise the Spirit, Three in One:
O praise him, O praise him,
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

*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,**

Flowers

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory and honor of all fathers by the Altar Guild.

The flowers on the narthex are given to the glory of God and in celebration of the marriage between Sarah Elizabeth Westmoreland and Mark Mayes Young, Jr. on June 18, 2016. The flowers are given in loving memory of their grandparents.

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

***THE GLORY OF GOD | The Gloria Patri**

**Glorify 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**

Martha Aenchenbacher

THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

April Allen, Assistant Director of Children's Ministry

***THE HYMN OF PRAISE**

89 "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" | HYMN TO JOY

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 AND THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Natalie Smith, flute; Brian Smith, classical guitar

***THE DOXOLOGY | 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.**

THE SCRIPTURE READING

PROVERBS 22:1 | p. 570 OLD TESTAMENT

THE SERMON

"Life Is a Treasure Hunt" | Chuck Hodges

THE HYMN OF PREPARATION

454 “Open My Eyes, That I May See” | OPEN MY EYES

Verse 1

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Matthew 26:17-19, 26-29

The Prayer of Preparation

We do not presume to come to this thy table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy table. But thou art the same Lord, whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to partake of this Sacrament of thy Son Jesus Christ, that we may walk in newness of life, may grow into his likeness, and may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

The Receiving of the Elements of Communion

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 communion elements are available at the center station in the front of the sanctuary.

*THE BLESSING AND CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

“They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love” | P. Scholtes

We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord. We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord. And we pray that all unity may one day be restored. And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love. Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

* THE POSTLUDE

“And Can It Be That I Should Gain” | Traditional

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 and honor of all fathers by the Altar Guild.

The flowers on the narthex are given to the glory of God and in celebration of the marriage between Sarah Elizabeth Westmoreland and Mark Mayes Young, Jr. on June 18, 2016. The flowers are given in loving memory of their grandparents.

THE PRELUDE

“In the Garden” | Hobby

*THE CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

“O Be Joyful in the Lord” | Yarrington

Sung by the Sanctuary Choir

Praise & Thanksgiving

*THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN

89 “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee” | HYMN TO JOY

*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.**

***THE GLORIA PATRI**

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

***THE PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Martha Aenchbacher

THE WELCOMING OF NEW MEMBERS | 11:00 a.m.

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 CHILDREN’S MESSAGE | 11:00 a.m.

April Allen, Assistant Director of Children's Ministry

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.

Anthem Lyrics

With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on High? Shall I come before Him with burnt offerings, shall I come before Him with yearling calves? Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousand rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgressions, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul? He has shown you, O man; He has shown you what is good. And what does the Lord require of you but to do justice and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

Proclamation of the Word

THE OFFERING AND THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“Offertory” | John Ness Beck

Sung by the Sanctuary Choir

***THE DOXOLOGY | 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.

THE SCRIPTURE READING

PROVERBS 22:1 | p. 570 OLD TESTAMENT

THE SERMON

“Life Is a Treasure Hunt” | Chuck Hodges

Sending Forth

*** THE HYMN**

TFWS 2065 “More Precious Than Silver” | DESHAZO

***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**

“And Can It Be That I Should Gain” | Traditional

Sermon Notes

The Steeple

327 N. Lumpkin Street, Athens, GA 30601



706-543-1442 athensfirstumc.org

Good morning,

On June 7-9, for the 17th time in 18 years, the Athens-Elberton District and Athens First United Methodist Church hosted the North Georgia Annual Conference at the Classic Center as the conference celebrated its 150th anniversary. Our thanks go to the many volunteers from our church who participated in the host committee, registration, and other means of service to the 2,442 delegates and other guests. For some, it was your 17th year serving in support of the conference.

The Methodists of North Georgia have come to know, love, and greatly appreciate the hospitality of our members. So much so, that they already have voted to return to the Classic Center each year through 2021! The 2017 session will be June 13-15. Athens-Clarke Mayor Nancy Denson presented a key to the city to Bishop Watson and the gathered Methodists, saying, "We only give keys to the city to our most trusted friends."

Under the theme "Bound for Greater Things" (based on John 14:12-14), the conference celebrated its last eight years under the leadership of retiring Bishop B. Michael Watson, while setting our sights on the future. Featured preacher Bishop William T. McAlilly of Tennessee said, "There are enough Methodists in this room to change the world. God is going to do something mighty if we will let God do something." Bishops will be elected next month at the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference and one of the continuing or new bishops will be appointed to serve North Georgia for the coming four years.

There was stirring worship each day, ordination of new clergy, recognition of retirees, and a memorial service for those who passed on during the last year. Among those ordained were our own Betsy Butler as deacon and Meg Morrison as elder. Among those honored at the memorial service were former AFUMC pastor Rev. William Floyd; Mildred "Tuck" Jones, wife of former pastor and bishop Bevel Jones; and Betty Whitten, an AFUMC layperson who was a leader among conference laity. Honored retirees included our former district superintendent, Robin Lindsey, and former AFUMC minister to youth, Mike Selleck, and our former associate pastor Rick Price.

After seven consecutive years of declining conference budgets, the conference adopted a budget of \$22.134 million, an increase from the previous year of three-tenths of one percent. Athens First United Methodist Church remains among the 80 percent of churches paying 100 percent of their apportionments, which has long been a priority for this congregation. The Athens-Elberton District

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again led all districts with 98.2 percent of apportionments paid. North Georgia showed a slight increase in membership in the past year to 361,503, and remains the largest conference in United Methodism.

The conference celebrated the relocation to Atlanta of the headquarters of the United Methodist General Board of Global Ministries and the United Methodist Commission on Relief (UMCOR) after some 200 years and 75 years, respectively, in New York City. The organizations will share newly renovated facilities with Grace United Methodist Church on Ponce de Leon Avenue.

The only significant debates of the conference occurred around proposed guidelines for use of social media by clergy and churches, which were referred to a committee for further review, and a resolution against human trafficking and to help end suicide and homelessness among gay youth, which was amended in a standing vote to reflect all at-risk youth.

At the closing session, it was our great pleasure to hear the reappointment of our four clergy to Athens First United Methodist Church for another year. Bishop Watson said, "I wish every United Methodist in North Georgia could come to Annual Conference and see the work that is going on." Ours remains a significant and prominent church in what is clearly one of the strongest conferences in all of United Methodism. It is our great privilege to serve you as your delegates. Full details of conference actions are at ngumc.org or you may contact any of us individually for further information.

In Christ,

Arlyn Hawley
Tom Jackson
Claire Swann
Keith Wilson

Children's Consignment Sale



August 12 9:00 a.m.–7:00 p.m.

August 13 8:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

***August 11** 4:00 p.m.–7:00 p.m.

*Preview Sale for volunteers and consignors

Our Annual Children's Consignment Sale is coming up! To prepare, we are setting aside every Tuesday in June and July to sort and tag our donated items. Join us for Tagging Tuesdays in room 103 from either 9:30–11:30 a.m. or 1:00–3:00 p.m., or both! Please email Mary Claire if you plan to attend a Tagging Tuesday.

Mary Claire Wills | maryclaire@athensfirstumc.org

athensfirstumc.org/childrensconsignmentsale

Wedding Bells

Congratulations to Katie Hilimire and Luke Mosley, who were married in our sanctuary on June 11.

Sympathy

Heartfelt Christian sympathy is extended to Don Crews and his family in the loss of his brother, James Crews, on June 11.

New Members

On May 29, we welcomed Lindsay and Justin Burnley and Barry and Susan Norton to the Athens First United Methodist Church family.

On June 12, we welcomed David, Erin, and Mary Margaret Boyd, Rob and Leslie Colvin, and Wayne Rasch to the Athens First United Methodist Church family.

Vacation Bible School | Thank You

We are grateful for a church that supports Vacation Bible School each year with prayers, presence, service, and gifts of many kinds! This year, over 350 children grew in faith as they discovered how much they are loved by Jesus. That love was shared by more than 65 youth and 90 adults who led the children on a quest to discover Jesus, the Light of the World. While our younger children were engaged within our building, our children in grade 5 went out into the community to pray and serve as the hands and feet of Jesus. Thank you to everyone for your support in another successful week of Vacation Bible School here at Athens First United Methodist Church.

Recreation Summer Camps

Volunteers are needed for various sports camps this summer! If you enjoy working with young children and are sports-minded, we would love your help with the basketball and volleyball summer camps coming up. Experience with these sports camps would be appreciated. Contact Mary Claire for more information.

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



Smart Lunch, Smart Kids

You are invited to join us on Wednesdays in June and July to distribute sack lunches to hungry children in our community. We will gather at 11:30 a.m. in room 100 to prepare supplies, and at 11:45 a.m. the two teams will head out. Assembly of lunches will be handled by Clarke County schools. Please email Betsy or Mary Claire if you would like to participate.

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

Mary Claire Wills | maryclaire@athensfirstumc.org

Senior Fun Luncheon | June 23

Jonathan House, one of the top financial advisors in the state, and David Rowe, a highly skilled attorney, will offer valuable guidance and advice at our next Senior Fun luncheon, on Thursday, June 23, at 12:30 p.m. The meal will be complimentary, courtesy of Sun Trust Investments, for all attendees. In fairness to this generosity, it is important to register as soon as possible. Additionally, a magnificent soloist, Avery Draut, will sing four beautiful songs for the occasion. To register, please call the church office. For more information, contact Dan Maxey.

Church office | 706-543-1442

Dan Maxey | 706-340-5097

Sack Lunch Ministry

This summer, we would love for you to 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.

Mary Young | young.macy@gmail.com

Betsy Butler | betsy@athensfirstumc.org



Summer Worship | Sundays in July

Join us every Sunday in July for Summer Worship. Led by Julie Caldwell and a bluegrass band, Summer Worship focuses on more extensive congregational singing of old favorites, and, as always, great preaching. This year we'll offer Summer Worship at 9:45 and 11:00 a.m. in the sanctuary as well as a communion service in the chapel at 9:15 a.m. There will be no 8:30 a.m. service during the month of July. If you play an instrument or sing and would like to be a part of the worship team during Summer Worship, please contact Julie Caldwell.

Julie Caldwell | julie@athensfirstumc.org

The Steeple

Did you know that you can receive the worship bulletin and The Steeple via email every week prior to Sunday morning? This is a great way to see what's coming up on Sunday morning and to stay up-to-date with new small groups, volunteer opportunities, and ways you can be praying for the church and our community. Getting The Steeple delivered to your inbox is easy! Simply sign up online, or email Amanda Greavu. If you've previously signed up for The Steeple via email, but you are not receiving it, please make sure to check your junk mail or promotions tab. If you have any questions or would like further information, contact Amanda.

Sign up | athensfirstumc.org/thesteeple

Amanda Greavu | amanda@athensfirstumc.org



Save the Date | Churchwide BBQ

Have you marked your calendar yet? Join us August 28 at 5:00 p.m. for lots of fellowship, family-fun, and fantastic food. The BBQ will take place at Sandy Creek Park. We hope you'll make plans to come and invite a friend to join you.

This Week

SUNDAY, JUNE 19 | LUKE 8:26-39

Wesleyan Youth Choir Summer Tour

- 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
- Grade 5 & 6 Sunday School: Fuel** FIRST FLOOR
- Youth Sunday School: First Word** FIRST FLOOR
- 10:00 a.m. Sack Lunch Ministry** HULL STREET ENTRANCE
- 11:00 a.m. Worship Service** SANCTUARY
- Preschool Nursery** FIRST FLOOR

MONDAY, JUNE 20 | 2 KINGS 2:I-2

Spain Choir Tour

- 9:00 a.m. Junior Jam Basketball Camp** GYM
- 11:00 a.m. Pilot Connect & Grow Groups** ROOMS 222 & 224
- 1:00 p.m. Junior Jam Basketball Camp Extended Care** GYM

TUESDAY, JUNE 21 | 2 KINGS 2:6-14

Spain Choir Tour

- 9:00 a.m. Junior Jam Basketball Camp** GYM
- 9:30 a.m. Tagging Tuesdays** ROOM 103
- 1:00 p.m. Tagging Tuesdays** ROOM 103
- Junior Jam Basketball Camp Extended Care** GYM
- 6:30 p.m. Wonderlife | Women's Bible Study** ROOM 224
- 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts Troop 1** SCOUT HUT

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22 | PSALM 77:I-10

Spain Choir Tour

- 9:00 a.m. Junior Jam Basketball Camp** GYM
- 11:30 a.m. Smart Lunch, Smart Kid** ROOM 100
- 1:00 p.m. Junior Jam Basketball Camp Extended Care** GYM
- 5:30 p.m. 66 Love Letters | Women's Bible Study** HULL CONFERENCE ROOM
- 5:45 p.m. Men's Prayer Group** ROOM 226
- 6:30 p.m. Pilot Connect & Grow Groups** ROOM 224

THURSDAY, JUNE 23 | PSALM 77:1-10

Spain Choir Tour

- 9:00 a.m. **Junior Jam Basketball Camp** GYM
- 10:30 a.m. **Summer Prayer Shawl Ministry** PANERA BREAD
- 12:30 p.m. **Senior Fun Luncheon** HANCOCK HALL
- 1:00 p.m. **Junior Jam Basketball Camp Extended Care** GYM
- 7:00 p.m. **Connect Group (Young Adult)** ROOM 222

FRIDAY, JUNE 24 | GALATIANS 5:1, 13-25

Spain Choir Tour

- 9:00 a.m. **Junior Jam Basketball Camp** GYM
- 1:00 p.m. **Junior Jam Basketball Camp Extended Care** GYM

SATURDAY, JUNE 25 | LUKE 9:51-62

Spain Choir Tour

- 8:00 a.m. **Mobile Food Pantry** SANCTUARY

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