

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 in a pattern that suggests movement or a school of fish. The design is framed by thick red lines that form a partial border around the central text. There are also solid red circles scattered throughout the composition, adding to the graphic's visual interest.

ATHENS FIRST
UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH

JULY 3, 2016
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 | \$1,487,861

Goal for June | \$187,970

Amount after 3 Sundays | \$143, 299

Attendance on June 26

Total Worship | 883

Sunday School | 333

8:30 a.m. | 167

9:45 a.m. | 252

11:00 a.m. | 334

Online | 130

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Ministers and Ministry Directors

Chuck Hodges Senior Minister

chuck@athensfirstumc.org | 706-206-5529

Martha Aenchbacher Minister of Congregational Care

martha@athensfirstumc.org | 678-230-9708

Beth Dickinson Minister of Discipleship

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Betsy Butler Minister of Missions

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janis@athensfirstumc.org

Rusty Wood Director of Recreation Ministries

rusty@athensfirstumc.org

Linsey Jarrett Director of Weekday Preschool

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

Flowers

The flowers on the altar
are given to the glory
of God and in loving
memory of Robert C.
Wall by Mrs. Robert C.
Wall and family.

GATHERING MUSIC

“Just a Closer Walk with Thee” | Hobby

Sung by the Worship Team

*THE CONGREGATIONAL CALL TO WORSHIP

378 “Amazing Grace” | AMAZING GRACE

**Amazing grace! how sweet the sound,
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found;
was blind, but now I see.**

**'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!**

**Praise God! Praise God! Praise God! Praise God!
Praise God! Praise God! Praise God!
Praise God! Praise God! Praise God! Praise God!
Praise God! Praise God! Praise God!**

*THE WELCOME

Martha Aenchbacher

*THE HYMN MEDLEY

Join in singing the first and last stanza of each of the following hymns:

400 “Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing” | NETTLETON

369 “Blessed Assurance” | ASSURANCE

701 “When We All Get to Heaven” | HEAVEN

462 “’Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus” | TRUST IN JESUS

696 “America the Beautiful” | MATERNA

*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

THE CHILDREN’S MESSAGE | 11:00 a.m.

Robin Stewart, Director of Children's Ministry

THE MORNING PRAYER

Beth Dickinson

Anthem Lyrics

The text for this anthem
can be found on page 717
of your hymnal.

THE OFFERING AND THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“The Battle Hymn of the Republic” | Traditional

Sung by the Worship Team

THE SCRIPTURE READING

GALATIANS 6:7-10 | p. 180 NEW TESTAMENT

THE SERMON

“Giving Up or Giving In” | Beth Dickinson

***THE CLOSING HYMN**

354 “I Surrender All” | SURRENDER

***THE BLESSING**

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

“Amazing Grace”

**When we've been there ten thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise,
than when we first begun.**

*** GOING FORTH**

The Steeple

Did you know?



Worship

Worship with us and see dates of special services.



Study

Learn more about discipleship opportunities and register for Bible studies.

click here



Serve

Prayerfully consider how you can serve in the church and community.

Did you know that you can find a list of current service opportunities right on our homepage? This helpful tool is regularly updated to to inform you of opportunities to serve in all areas of our church. For example, our Children's Ministry is currently forming Sunday school teams for our preschool and elementary-aged children. You can read more about becoming a teacher or a shepherd on our Serve webpage. This is a great resource if you have yet to find a place to serve, or if you are looking to expand the areas in which you currently serve. Please take a look and see where you can serve our church, our local community, and the world. We hope you'll join us.

athensfirstumc.org/serve

In Memoriam

Mary Folsom
June 23, 2016

Sympathy

Heartfelt Christian sympathy is extended to Lynda Bullock and her family in the loss of her son, Christopher Sean Anderson, on June 19.

Heartfelt Christian sympathy is extended to Henry Folsom and his family in the loss of his wife, Mary Folsom, on June 23.

Summer Worship | Sundays in July

Summer Worship continues! 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. Every Sunday in July we will offer services 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.

Foster Care Informational Meeting

On July 10, following the 11:00 worship service, there will be a foster care informational meeting in the Hospitality Suite. If you would like to find out more information about how you can participate in this new ministry, please join us! There are 375 children in foster care in Athens-Clarke and Oconee Counties and only 17 approved homes for foster care housing; our hope is to minister to this community. Contact Betsy if you plan to attend.
Betsy Butler | betsy@athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442

The Ark

The Ark, a mission partner of our church, is in need of volunteers this summer. The Ark seeks to provide financial assistance to the low-income population of our surrounding counties, and is almost completely volunteer-based. During the summer months, there is a greater need due to rising utility bills, child care costs, extra grocery bills, etc. and more help would be greatly appreciated. For more information, please visit The Ark's webpage.
Learn More | athensark.org

Smart Lunch, Smart Kids

You are invited to join us every Wednesday in July to distribute sack lunches to hungry children in our community. We have a specific need for help on July 20 and 27, as we will be preparing and assembling 400 sack lunches to deliver to the community. Please email Betsy or Mary Claire if you would like to participate on either of these dates, or any Wednesday this summer!
Betsy Butler | betsy@athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442
Mary Claire Wills | maryclaire@athensfirstumc.org

Senior Fun Trip | August 11

On Thursday, August 11, Senior Fun will travel to the North Carolina State Playhouse to see Dolly Parton's *9 to 5*. Based on the 1980 movie, *9 to 5* is the story of three female secretaries who devise a plan to overthrow their horrible boss. The cost of the trip is \$65 per person, which does not include the cost of lunch. The deadline to register is Monday, July 11. The group will depart from Kohl's parking lot at 8:00 a.m. on August 11. Contact Dan Maxey for more information and to register.
Dan Maxey | 706-340-5097

Children's Consignment Sale

Our Annual Children's Consignment Sale is coming up August 12 and 13! To prepare, we are setting aside every Tuesday in 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! We will also have many volunteer opportunities during the week of the sale, including cashiers, greeters, and floor assistants. Be sure to help volunteer in order to attend our preview sale on Thursday, August 11, 4:00-7:00 p.m. Please email Mary Claire if you plan to attend a Tagging Tuesday or have any questions about the sale.
Mary Claire Wills | maryclaire@athensfirstumc.org

Sack Lunch Ministry

This August and September, 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

This Week

SUNDAY, JULY 3 | LUKE 10:16-20

- 9:00 a.m. **Fun Gym** GYM
- 9:15 a.m. **Communion Service** CHAPEL
- 9:45 a.m. **Worship Service** SANCTUARY
- Adult Sunday School** SECOND FLOOR AND SAYE BUILDING
- Preschool Nursery & Sunday School** FIRST FLOOR
- Elementary Sunday School** GYM
- Grade 5 & 6 Sunday School: Fuel** GYM
- 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, JULY 4 | PSALM 82

Independence Day — office is closed

TUESDAY, JULY 5 | AMOS 7:7-9

- 9:30 a.m. **Tagging Tuesdays** ROOM 103
- 1:00 p.m. **Tagging Tuesdays** ROOM 103
- 6:30 p.m. **Wonderlife | Women's Bible Study** ROOM 222

WEDNESDAY, JULY 6 | AMOS 7:10-17

- 11:30 a.m. **Smart Lunch, Smart Kid** ROOM 100
- 5:30 p.m. **66 Love Letters | Women's Bible Study** HULL CONFERENCE ROOM
- 5:45 p.m. **Men's Prayer Group** ROOM 226

THURSDAY, JULY 7 | COLOSSIANS 1:1-8

- 10:30 a.m. **Summer Prayer Shawl Ministry** PANERA BREAD
- 7:00 p.m. **Connect Group (Young Adult)** ROOM 222

FRIDAY, JULY 8 | COLOSSIANS 1:9-14

SATURDAY, JULY 9 | LUKE 10:25-28

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