

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

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JULY 10, 2016  
9:45 & 11:00 a.m.

# Welcome

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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 | \$1,526,785  
Goal for June | \$187,970  
Amount after 4 Sundays | \$182,223

## *Attendance on July 3*

Total Worship | 556  
Sunday School | 277  
9:45 a.m. | 180  
11:00 a.m. | 301  
Online | 75

## *Table of Contents*

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## *Ministers and Ministry Directors*

**Chuck Hodges** Senior Minister  
[chuck@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:chuck@athensfirstumc.org) | 706-206-5529

**Martha Aenchbacher** Minister of Congregational Care  
[martha@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:martha@athensfirstumc.org) | 678-230-9708

**Beth Dickinson** Minister of Discipleship  
[beth@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:beth@athensfirstumc.org)

**Betsy Butler** Minister of Missions  
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**Josh Miles** Director of Student Ministries  
[josh@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:josh@athensfirstumc.org)

**Robin Stewart** Director of Children’s Ministry  
[robin@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:robin@athensfirstumc.org)

**Sarah Lawing** Director of Children’s Music Ministry  
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**Rusty Wood** Director of Recreation Ministries  
[rusty@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:rusty@athensfirstumc.org)

**Linsey Jarrett** Director of Weekday Preschool  
[linsey@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:linsey@athensfirstumc.org)

**Julie Caldwell** 8:30 a.m. Worship Leader  
[julie@athensfirstumc.org](mailto: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](http://athensfirstumc.org) | 706-543-1442

# The Worship of God

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## *Flowers*

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

## GATHERING MUSIC

### \*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

Betsy Butler

### \*THE HYMN MEDLEY

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

98 “To God be the Glory” | TO GOD BE THE GLORY

368 “My Hope is Built” | THE SOLID ROCK

361 “Rock of Ages” | TOPLADY

451 “Be Thou My Vision” | SLANE

156 “I Love to Tell the Story” | HANKEY

### \*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

Linsey Jarrett, Director of Weekday Preschool

**THE MORNING PRAYER**

Chuck Hodges

*Anthem Lyrics*

Take my life and let it  
be consecrated Lord to  
Thee. Take my moments  
and my days, let them  
flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands and  
let them move at the  
impulse of Thy love. Take  
my feet and let them  
be swift and beautiful  
for Thee. Take my voice  
and let me sing always,  
only for my King. Take  
my lips and let them be  
filled with messages  
from Thee. Take my  
silver and my gold, not  
a mite would I withhold.

Take my intellect and  
use every power as You  
choose. Here am I, all  
of me, take my life, it's  
all for Thee. Take my  
will and make it Thine; it  
shall be no longer mine.  
Take my heart, it is Thine  
own, it shall be Thy royal  
throne. Take my love, my  
Lord I pour at Your feet,  
it's treasure store. Take  
myself and I will be ever,  
only, all for Thee.

**THE OFFERING AND THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM**

“Take My Life” | Tomlin

*Sung by the Worship Team*

**THE SCRIPTURE READING**

JEREMIAH 18:1-6 | p. 677 OLD TESTAMENT

**THE SERMON**

“In The Hands of The Potter” | Chuck Hodges

**\*THE CLOSING HYMN**

382 “Have Thine Own the Way, Lord” | ADELAIDE

**\*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

## Let's Be REAL!

In a recent sermon, we were challenged to be REAL Christians, not just respectable ones. On Sunday mornings, we create REAL environments for children in Kindergarten through grade 4 to discover Jesus. We do this by:

**Relational learning:** Learning together with meaningful relationship-builders.

**Experiential learning:** Believing experiences are a powerful key to unlocking kids' faith.

**Application of learning:** Always sharing the connection to our kids' everyday lives.

**Learner-based learning:** Creating classroom environments around individual learning styles.



We are looking for teachers and shepherds who want to be REAL this fall and help serve our children. Please review the descriptions of each and contact Robin if you are interested in serving this fall.

### TEACHERS

We need teachers that can commit to teach in one of our classrooms for one month. We have four rooms open each month that our groups rotate through each week! You can choose which room you'd like to serve in: art, games, missions, storytelling, drama, movies, or cooking! As a teacher, you get to see all of our elementary children throughout the course of the month you serve.

### SHEPHERDS

Our shepherds commit to serve with one group of children for the whole school year, assisting with that class about once every eight weeks. This is an opportunity to get to know children and their families; whether you have children of your own in that group or not, you will both bless and be blessed by them as you join them throughout the year. Many of our shepherds choose to 'move up' with their group over several years, bringing stability and deeper relationships to each group.

Robin Stewart | [robin@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:robin@athensfirstumc.org) | 706-543-1442

## Summer Worship | Sundays in July

Summer Worship continues next Sunday! 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.

## Newcomer Orientation | Today

Everyone is invited to attend Newcomer Orientation the second Sunday of each month. Join us 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.

## Foster Care Informational Meeting

Today 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. If you are unable to attend the meeting but would like more information, please contact Betsy.

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

## Murphy-Harpst Special Offering

Next Sunday, we will take up a special offering to support Murphy-Harpst Children's Center, a nonprofit organization that provides a safe home and resources for victims of child abuse. As you plan to worship with us next Sunday, please plan to give generously.

## Interfaith Hospitality Network

Interfaith Hospitality Network Host week is coming up July 17-24! IHNA provides services and coordinates temporary housing for displaced families in local host churches, and it is our privilege to partner in ministry with them this month. We have a particular need for evening hosts, overnight hosts, and drivers. Please contact us for specific dates needing volunteers. This is a wonderful opportunity to provide encouragement and hospitality to those in need in our community. If you would like to sign up or learn more, please contact Taylor Miller or Mary Claire.

Taylor Miller | [miller3750@bellsouth.net](mailto:miller3750@bellsouth.net)  
Mary Claire Wills | [maryclaire@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:maryclaire@athensfirstumc.org)

## Smart Lunch, Smart Kids

You are invited to join us Wednesdays, July 20 and 27, to assemble and distribute 400 sack lunches to hungry children in our community. We will gather at 9:30 a.m. in the youth hallway to prepare supplies, meet in room 100 at 11:30 to divide into teams, and at 11:45 a.m. the two teams will head out. Please email Mary Claire or Betsy if you plan to come to either date to assemble, distribute, or both!

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

## Young Professionals Sunday School

The Young Professionals Sunday School will begin C.S. Lewis's *The Great Divorce* on July 24. In this novel, Lewis imagines a tour bus taking residents of Hell into Heaven to meet people they knew and to be given a chance to stay. Their conversations shed light on what is holding them back from accepting God's grace. All are welcome to join this study at 9:45 a.m. in the Hull Conference Room, regardless of age. For more information, contact Adriane Hanson.

Adriane Hanson | [amhanson9@gmail.com](mailto:amhanson9@gmail.com)

## Families on the Fifth | July 31

Our elementary children will conclude our July Summer Olympics series with Families on the Fifth: Friendship, our opportunity to celebrate and share God's love with friends. On July 31, families of children who have completed kindergarten through grade 4 are invited to bring a friend and gather in Hancock Hall at 9:30 a.m. for fellowship and light breakfast treats. Then, families and friends will go to worship together at our 9:45 a.m. Summer Worship service, where we will enjoy great music, a special children's bulletin, and a wonderful time to celebrate God's goodness as a family!

## 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. 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 to register.

Dan Maxey | 706-340-5097

## Children's Consignment Sale

Our Annual Children's Consignment Sale is coming up August 12-13! To prepare, we are setting aside every Tuesday in June and July to sort and tag 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 volunteer opportunities during the week of the sale, including floor assistants, cashiers, and greeters. Volunteers can shop 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.

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

# This Week

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## SUNDAY, JULY 10 | 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
- Newcomer Orientation** HOSPITALITY ROOM
- 10:00 a.m. **Sack Lunch Ministry** HULL STREET ENTRANCE
- 11:00 a.m. **Worship Service** SANCTUARY
- Preschool Nursery** FIRST FLOOR
- Newcomer Orientation** HOSPITALITY ROOM

## MONDAY, JULY 11 | PSALM 82

- 11:00 a.m. **Pilot Connect & Grow Groups** ROOMS 222 & 224
- 5:00 p.m. **Youth Service Week**

## TUESDAY, JULY 12 | AMOS 7:7-9

### *Youth Service Week*

- 9:30 a.m. **Tagging Tuesdays** ROOM 103
- 10:00 a.m. **Our Daily Bread** FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH DOWNTOWN
- 1:00 p.m. **Tagging Tuesdays** ROOM 103
- 6:30 p.m. **Wonderlife | Women's Bible Study** ROOM 222

## WEDNESDAY, JULY 13 | AMOS 7:10-17

### *Youth Service Week*

- 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
- 6:30 p.m. **Pilot Connect & Grow Groups** ROOMS 222 & 224

## THURSDAY, JULY 14 | COLOSSIANS 1:1-8

### *Youth Service Week*

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

## FRIDAY, JULY 15 | COLOSSIANS 1:9-14

### *Youth Service Week*

## SATURDAY, JULY 16 | LUKE 10:25-28

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