

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 17, 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 | \$1,630,601
Goal for July | \$180,306
Amount after 1 Sunday | \$62,592

Attendance on July 10

Total Worship | 886
Communion Service | 54
Sunday School | 350
9:45 a.m. | 292
11:00 a.m. | 500
Online | 94

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Ministers and Ministry Directors

Chuck Hodges Senior Minister
chuck@athensfirstumc.org | 706-206-5529

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martha@athensfirstumc.org | 678-230-9708

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stephen@athensfirstumc.org

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janis@athensfirstumc.org

Rusty Wood Director of Recreation Ministries
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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

Flowers

The flowers on the altar
are given to the glory
of God and in loving
memory of Johnie Evans
and Robert and Reta
Brown by Carole and
Emmett Langley and
Susan Whitehead.

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

Chuck Hodges

*THE HYMN MEDLEY

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

370 “Victory in Jesus” | HARTFORD

140 “Great Is Thy Faithfulness” | FAITHFULNESS

467 “Trust and Obey” | TRUST AND OBEY

526 “What a Friend We Have in Jesus” | CONVERSE

557 “Blest Be the Tie that Binds” | DENNIS

*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

THE WELCOMING OF NEW MEMBERS | 11:00 A.M.

THE CHILDREN’S MESSAGE | 11:00 a.m.

Sarah Lawing, Director of Children's Music Ministry

THE MORNING PRAYER

Martha Aenchbacher

Anthem Lyrics

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 in
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,
and 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 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 went
for 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 must be
cleansed, and I long to
feel that water, rushing
over me again.

THE OFFERING AND THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“Baptism” | Randy Travis

Sung by the Worship Team; Mark Graham, solo

THE SCRIPTURE READING

1 PETER 1:3-4 | p. 218 NEW TESTAMENT

THE SERMON

“Hope Has a Heartbeat” | Martha Aenchbacher

*THE CLOSING HYMN

368 “My Hope Is Built” | THE SOLID ROCK

*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

FAMILIES ON THE FIFTH

FRIENDSHIP

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 6 are invited to bring a friend and gather in Hancock Hall at 9:00 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!



In Memoriam

Billy Slaughter
June 30, 2016

Sympathy

Heartfelt Christian sympathy is extended to Heath Chambless and his family in the loss of his father, Grady Chambless, on July 10.

New Arrivals

Congratulations to Rob and Corbin Wimberly on the birth of their twins, daughter Sims Corinne and son Robert Lee, on July 5. Sims and Bobby are the grandchildren of Bob and Mary Wimberly.

Congratulations to Joel and Rosemary McElhannon on the birth of their daughter, Cora Faye, on July 7.

Summer Worship Continues

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.

Murphy-Harpst Special Offering

Today, 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. Please use the envelope provided for your offering for Murphy Harpst, or write "Murphy-Harpst" in the memo line of your check.

Costa Rica Mission Team

Please pray for the team members who are ministering to those in Costa Rica this week, that they would be blessed to be a blessing to our brothers and sisters in Costa Rica.

Give a Hymnal

Quite a few of our hymnals in the sanctuary are showing wear and tear and need replacing. If you would like to give a

hymnal in honor or memory of a loved one, please complete our online form or contact Stephen Mitchell. Every hymnal purchased will receive an honorarium/memorial bookplate on the inside cover.

Place order | athensfirstumc.org/musicministries

Stephen Mitchell | smitchell@athensfirstumc.org/ 706-543-1442

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 | 706-543-1442
Mary Claire Wills | 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

Promotion Sunday | August 7

On August 7, Promotion Sunday, all children age 2 through those who have completed grade 11 will move to their new age/grade level. Children younger than 2 will change rooms as they grow and develop throughout the year. Room locations will be posted in the Galleria, youth hallway, and third floor. A complete list of ages and room locations can be found on our website.

Learn more | athensfirstumc.org/promotionsunday

Robin Stewart | robinafumc@bellsouth.net

April Allen | april@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.

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

Mary Young | young.macy@gmail.com

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

Open Church | August 17

Please join us for Open Church on Wednesday, August 17! Come explore our fall opportunities! We will offer a FREE preview of Wednesday Night Meals with all five of our vendors. You'll also have a chance to see all of the small group opportunities being offered throughout the fall. Children and youth will begin regular schedules of Kids Music and Arts, Route 56's GPS, and ONE Student Ministry's Engage on August 17 as well. Adult choir rehearsals will also begin meeting that evening. Mark your calendar. We hope to see you there!

Flag Football this Fall

Our Flag Football League will be August 20-October 22 for boys and girls in Kindergarten through grade 2. Games and practices will be held on Saturdays (no games or practices will be held on UGA home games). The teams will be co-ed and led by volunteer coaches. Our hope is to teach children the fundamentals of football while growing together in a fun and competitive Christian atmosphere. All games and practices will be held at Chaplewood UMC. For more information, contact Rusty Wood or Mary Claire Wills.
Register Online | athensfirstumc.org/flagfootball
Rusty Wood | rusty@athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442
Mary Claire Wills | maryclaire@athensfirstumc.org

This Week

SUNDAY, JULY 17 | LUKE 10:38-42

Costa Rica Mission Trip

Interfaith Hospitality Network Week

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

MONDAY, JULY 18 | HOSEA 1:2-9

Costa Rica Mission Trip

Interfaith Hospitality Network Week

- 11:00 a.m. **Pilot Connect & Grow Groups** ROOMS 222 & 224

TUESDAY, JULY 19 | HOSEA 1:10

Costa Rica Mission Trip

Interfaith Hospitality Network Week

- 5:30 a.m. **Fashion Fitness** ROOM 120
- 9:30 a.m. **Tagging Tuesdays** ROOM 103
- 1:00 p.m. **Tagging Tuesdays** ROOM 103
- 5:30 p.m. **Fashion Fitness** ROOM 120

WEDNESDAY, JULY 20 | PSALM 85

Costa Rica Mission Trip

Interfaith Hospitality Network Week

- 9:30 a.m. **Smart Lunch, Smart Kid** YOUTH HALLWAY
- 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 21 | COLOSSIANS 2:6-15

Costa Rica Mission Trip

Interfaith Hospitality Network Week

- 5:30 a.m. **Fashion Fitness** ROOM 120
- 10:30 a.m. **Summer Prayer Shawl Ministry** PANERA BREAD
- 5:30 p.m. **Fashion Fitness** ROOM 120
- 7:00 p.m. **Connect Group (Young Adult)** ROOM 222

FRIDAY, JULY 22 | COLOSSIANS 2:16-19

Costa Rica Mission Trip

Interfaith Hospitality Network Week

SATURDAY, JULY 23 | LUKE 11:1-4

- 8:00 a.m. *Interfaith Hospitality Network Week*
- Mobile Food Pantry** SANCTUARY

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