

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 cluster, with some overlapping. A prominent red line forms a large, irregular shape that frames the central text. There are also several 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 11, 2017
9:00 & 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. During June and July, the orientation will be held the second Sunday of the month at 10:00 a.m.

Schedule in June and July

We will offer two service times, at 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Sunday school classes will meet at 10:00 a.m. In addition, we will offer Holy Communion in the chapel at 8:30 a.m.

Financial Report

Budget for 2017 | \$3,038,381
Amount Given YTD | \$1,292,312
Goal for May | \$225,207
Amount after 4 Sundays | \$154,375

Attendance on June 4

Total Worship | 1617
Holy Communion Service | 43
9:00 a.m. | 664
11:00 a.m. | 62
Online | 278
Sunday School | 356

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Ministers and Directors

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chuck@athensfirstumc.org | 706-206-5529

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martha@athensfirstumc.org | 678-230-9708

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sarah@athensfirstumc.org

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leslie@athensfirstumc.org

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josh@athensfirstumc.org

Contact Us

Office hours: Monday–Friday, 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.
Facebook: @Athens First United Methodist Church
athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442

The Worship of God

Gathering

Flowers

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Jim and Marguerite Heery by Rip and Lee, Rusty and Ginger, Frank, James, and Ben, and Clayton, Sam, and Henry Heery.

THE PRELUDE

“Sonata in F Major, I. Allemande” | Locillet
with the Brass Ensemble

THE CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

“Shout for Joy”
Sung by the Sanctuary Choir

Praise & Thanksgiving

*THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN

UMH 64 “Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty” | NICAEA

*THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is the one true church, apostolic and universal, whose holy faith let us now declare:

We believe in God the Father, infinite in wisdom, power, and love, whose mercy is over all his works, and whose will is ever directed to his children's good.

We believe in Jesus Christ, Son of God and Son of man, the gift of the Father's unending grace, the ground of our hope, and the promise of our deliverance from sin and death.

We believe in the Holy Spirit as the divine presence in our lives, whereby we are kept in perpetual remembrance of the truth of Christ, and find strength and help in time of need.

We believe that this faith should manifest itself in the service of love as set forth in the example of our blessed Lord, to the end that the kingdom of God may come upon the earth.

*THE GLORIA PATRI

UMH 71 "Glory Be to the Father"

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

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM | 11:00 a.m.

Evelyn Rosa Guthrie, daughter of Marianna and Sam

Eva, Eva, God claims you, God helps you, protects you, and loves you too. We this day do all agree a child of God you'll always be. Eva, Eva, God claims you, God helps you, protects you, and loves you too.

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

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

Leslie Rogers

9:00 a.m. | Children in Kindergarten through grade 6 are invited to leave the sanctuary at the end of the Children's Message for a time of connecting with faith and friends in the Route 56 room (room 120). Parents should pick up children at the conclusion of the service.

11:00 a.m. | After participating in the Children's Message, children will return to their seats to worship with their families.

Proclamation of the Word

Anthem Lyrics

The text for this anthem can be found on page 384 of your hymnal.

THE OFFERING AND THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM

"Love Divine, All Love's Excelling" | Mack Wilberg

Sung by the Sanctuary Choir with the Brass Ensemble

*THE DOXOLOGY

UMH 94 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" | LASST UNS ERFREUEN

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.

THE SCRIPTURE READING

9:00 a.m. | PHILIPPIANS 1:3-11 | p.185 NEW TESTAMENT

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

11:00 a.m. | ACTS 20:17-24 | p.132 NEW TESTAMENT

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

THE SERMON

9:00 a.m. | “Thankful for the Weavers” | Gary Whetstone

We welcome Dr. Whetstone this morning. The Rev. Dr. Gary L. Whetstone is the district superintendent of the Athens-Elberton District.

11:00 a.m. | “Captives to the Holy Spirit” | Bishop Susan Hauptert-Johnson

We welcome Bishop Sue Hauptert-Johnson this morning. Bishop Sue was elected by the 2016 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference of The United Methodist Church and consecrated last July. Her first assignment as bishop is to the North Georgia Episcopal Area of the United Methodist Church and she began service in North Georgia on September 1.

Response to the Word

*THE HYMN

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

Sending Forth

*THE BLESSING AND CHORAL RESPONSE

“Irish Blessing” | Philip Stopford

* THE POSTLUDE

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee” | Smith

Song Lyrics

May the road rise to
meet you. May the wind
be ever at your back.
May the sun shine warm
upon your face; the rains
fall soft upon your fields.
And until we meet again,
may God hold you in the
palm of His hand.

Music and Arts Week 2017 presents

HEROES of the FAITH THE MUSICAL

Thursday, June 15

2:30 p.m. | Hancock Hall

All are invited to come to the Music and Arts Week presentation of the musical "Heroes of the Faith!" Around 75 kids along with youth and adult helpers will be spending the week working hard on lines, music, choreography, sets, and costumes in preparation for their performance. We hope you'll come and share in the fun as our kids show us what they've learned.



In Memoriam

Ernest McClure
May 31, 2017

Sympathy

Heartfelt Christian sympathy is extended to Faye McClure and her family in the loss of her husband, Ernest McClure, on May 31.

Heartfelt Christian sympathy is extended to Kathy O'Bryan and her family in the loss of her sister, Lynn Dunn, on June 2.

New Arrival

Congratulations to Sarah and Isaac Moore on the birth of their son, Kincaid Smith, on May 30. Kincaid is the grandson of Debbie and Phil Kincaid.

Summer of Celebration

As we enter into summer, we find that this is a time to come together and celebrate with our church family. We have much to give thanks to God for. Today, we give thanks that Gary Whetstone, the district superintendent of the Athens-Elberton District, and Sue Hauptert-Johnson, our new Bishop, are joining us in worship. Please note that throughout the months of June and July, we will offer two service times at 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Sunday school classes will meet at 10:00 a.m. In addition, we will offer communion in the chapel at 8:30 a.m. each Sunday. We pray that each of us will embrace this opportunity to come together with our community of faith, to link arms with our brothers and sisters in Christ, and to celebrate the many blessings the Lord has bestowed on us during this time. We look forward to worshipping with each of you this summer.

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 375 children grew in faith as they discovered how much they are loved by Jesus. That love was shared by more than 50 youth and 90 adults who led the children in discovering that God made each of them for a specific purpose. 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.

Wesleyan Youth Choir Tour Reveal

Thank you for your prayers, donations, and support for our choir tour this summer! Our Mystery Destination was a big hit and brought a lot of excitement to the trip!

May 27 | Lake Junaluska, NC

May 28 | Waynesville First UMC, Waynesville, NC

May 28 | Haywood Congregation Asheville, NC

May 29 | Arbor Acres Retirement, Winston-Salem, NC

May 30 | King's Dominion Amusement Park, VA

May 31 | Baltimore, MD (Orioles vs NY Yankees)

June 1 | Christ UMC, Greensboro, NC

Smart Lunch, Smart Kid | Wednesday

More than 1 million children in Georgia schools receive free or reduced-price lunch, a crucial meal that disappears in the summer. Smart Lunch, Smart Kid ensures that these children are fed in the summer and on school breaks. You are invited to join us every Wednesday, beginning June 14, as we partner with Action Ministries to provide lunch to our neighborhood children. Two teams will be sent to two neighborhoods to play, encourage, and build relationships! We hope you will come and participate in this wonderful ministry as we serve our neighbors and transform Athens by sharing God's love. Register online or contact Mary Claire or Betsy.

Learn More | athensfirstumc.org/smartlunchsmartkid

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

Mary Claire Wills | maryclaire@athensfirstumc.org

706-543-1442

Employment Opportunity

We are receiving applications for a full-time Administrative Assistant to Executive Director of Administration. Please visit our webpage for more details. Completed resumes and applications may be emailed.

Learn more | athensfirstumc.org/employment

Apply | employment@athensfirstumc.org

Consignment Sale | Donations

As summer begins, consider donating your gently used children's items to the sale: baby equipment (car seats and cribs excluded), children's clothing (all seasons), school uniforms, toys, and books. All proceeds from this year's sale will go to support the United Methodist Children's Home Foster Care Ministry in Athens and surrounding communities. Please contact Betsy or Mary Claire if you would like to bring your donated items to the church during office hours or on the weekend!

Learn More | athensfirstumc.org/childrensconsignmentsale
Betsy Butler | betsy@athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442
Mary Claire Wills | maryclaire@athensfirstumc.org
706-543-1442

GriefShare

Join us Wednesday, June 14, to learn how the events surrounding your loved one's death affect your grief and the best ways to deal with your loved one's belongings. The GriefShare group will meet this summer through August, led by Martha Aenchbacher. This faith-based curriculum for those grieving the death of a friend or family member features nationally recognized experts on grief and recovery topics. We will meet at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesdays. New participants are welcome to join at any time. Please register online; there is a \$20 cost to cover the workbook.

Register | athensfirstumc.org/griefshare
Martha Aenchbacher | martha@athensfirstumc.org
706-543-1442

Pickleball | Summer Schedule

Pickleball will continue throughout the summer from 1:30-3:00 p.m. in the gym on the following dates: June 20, 22, & July 18, 20, 25, and 27. This is a wonderful sport that consists of ping pong, tennis, and badminton all in one, and is great for active adults. Contact Rusty if you have any questions or plan to attend, or feel free to just show up!
Rusty Wood | rusty@athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442

Senior Fun Group Luncheon | June 22

This month's Senior Fun Luncheon is on Thursday, June 22, at 12:30 p.m. in the private dining room of the Hilton Garden Inn. Our new Minister of Discipleship, Susan Taylor, will be speaking. Musical entertainment will be provided. The

lunch is \$6. Thank you to the generous donations of several members in order to keep the lunch costs at the same price. All Senior Fun members and friends are encouraged to register early to facilitate planning with table reservations and parking. Reservations should be placed by 12:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 21, by calling the church office. For more information, contact Dan Maxey.
Church office | 706-543-1442
Dan Maxey | 706-613-1562

Habitat for Humanity

Our unit is almost complete and we are thrilled; don't miss your chance to help out with this project! There are still a few Saturdays left for folks to work on the unit and we hope you will join us as we help the Habitat construction crew finish up. Register online for the Saturday that works with your schedule. If you would like to work on a weekday, you can make an appointment by contacting Betsy or Mary Claire.

Learn More | athensfirstumc.org/habitatforhumanity
Betsy Butler | betsy@athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442
Mary Claire Wills | maryclaire@athensfirstumc.org
706-543-1442

Questions God Asks Us | New Study

Join Don Griner for a ten-week summer study entitled *Questions God Asks Us*. Instead of always looking for answers in the Bible, Trevor Hudson suggests that we start thinking more carefully about the questions that God asks. God desires a conversational relationship with us, and He shows this desire by asking questions. This study will meet on Wednesday evenings through August 16 (except July 5), from 6:30-7:30 p.m., in room 222. All are invited to join. Materials cost \$6. For more information, contact Cindy McKoy. Please register online.

Register | athensfirstumc.org/registration
Cindy McKoy | cindy@athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442

Sack Lunch Ministry

Our ongoing Sunday morning Sack Lunch Ministry meets every Sunday morning at 10:00 a.m. to distribute 40 lunches to our neighbors in the community. This summer we are in need of volunteers for this wonderful ministry. If you'd like serve by preparing and/or distributing sack

lunches this summer, register online or contact Betsy or Mary Young.

Register | athensfirstumc.org/sacklunchministry

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

Mary Young | young.macy@gmail.com

Consignment Sale | Volunteers

As we prepare for the Children's Consignment Sale, we have many needs for volunteers! Tagging Tuesdays are every Tuesday in July (excluding July 4) and are a time where we sort, organize, and tag donations to prepare for the sale.

Volunteer needs the week of the sale, July 31- August 5:

- set up
- cashiers
- inventory control
- clean up

Contact Betsy or Mary Claire with questions and sign up online to volunteer!

Learn More | athensfirstumc.org/consignmentsalevolunteer

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

Mary Claire Wills | maryclaire@athensfirstumc.org

706-543-1442

Mission Blitz | July 9-23

We will be participating in a two-week "mission blitz" this summer by serving together near and far. Mission opportunities will include:

Local:

Smart Lunch, Smart Kid

Interfaith Hospitality Network of Athens

Children's Consignment Sale

Sack Lunch Ministry

Mobile Food Pantry

Regional:

Prayers for our youth on the Epworth Mission Trip

International:

Costa Rica Mission Trip

If you would like to serve with us before July, Smart Lunch, Smart Kid will begin June 14, Mobile Food Pantry will be held on June 24, and Sack Lunch Ministry is every Sunday! Contact Betsy or Mary Claire for more information.

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

Mary Claire Wills | maryclaire@athensfirstumc.org

706-543-1442

IHN of Athens | July 9-23

This summer, from July 9-23, we will partner with the Interfaith Hospitality Network of Athens to host displaced families in our community in need of temporary housing. There are numerous ways to serve throughout the two weeks we will have guests in our church. These opportunities include driving the IHNA van, preparing a meal, and spending time hosting our guests in the evening and overnight. There is a place for everyone to be involved with this wonderful ministry! For more information and detailed descriptions of these volunteer opportunities, please visit our webpage or contact Betsy or Mary Claire. Learn More | athensfirstumc.org/ihn

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

Mary Claire Wills | maryclaire@athensfirstumc.org

706-543-1442

Flag Football This Fall

Registration for this year's Children's Flag Football league is now open! Flag Football is for children in kindergarten through second grade, and is made up of coed teams. Children will learn the fundamentals of football while growing together in a fun and competitive Christian environment. All games and practices will be held at Chapelwood UMC. For more information, contact Rusty Wood and visit our webpage to register your child today!

Register | athensfirstumc.org/flagfootball

Rusty Wood | rusty@athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442

Consignment Sale | Consignors

We invite you to consign with our Children's Consignment Sale! For a consignor fee of \$10, consignors can sell as many items as they would like, while making sixty percent of all earnings. The remaining forty percent goes towards supporting foster care in Athens and surrounding counties. This is a great way to make extra money, clean out closets, and support a great cause! All consignors are invited to shop at our preview sale, Thursday, August 3. If you would like to consign at this year's sale, please register online to receive your tags and begin preparing for the sale. Contact Betsy or Mary Claire for more information.

Learn More | athensfirstumc.org/childrensconsignmentsale

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

Mary Claire Wills | maryclaire@athensfirstumc.org

706-543-1442



Dates to Remember

- July 9-23 Mission Blitz
- August 6 Promotion Sunday
- August 13 Sunday Night Kick-off
- August 23 Open Church—Wednesday Night Kick-off
- August 25-27 Confirmation Retreat
- August 27 Churchwide BBQ
- September 27 Mission Harvest
- September 29-30 Route 56 Retreat
- October 1 Consecration Sunday
- October 21-22 Harvest Retreat
- October 22 Fall Festival
- November 5 All Saints Sunday
- November 12 Confirmation
- December 3 Advent Family Breakfast
- December 7 Home for the Holidays
- December 10 Lessons and Carols
- December 14 Christmas Community Meal
- December 17 New Baby Recognition
Adult Choir Program
- December 19 Red Cross Blood Drive
- December 24 Christmas Eve Services

athensfirstumc.org/calendar

This Week

SUNDAY, JUNE 11 | MATTHEW 28:16-20

- 8:30 a.m. **Holy Communion Service** CHAPEL
Preschool Nursery FIRST FLOOR
- 9:00 a.m. **Worship Service** SANCTUARY
Preschool Nursery FIRST FLOOR
- 10:00 a.m. **Adult Sunday School** SECOND FLOOR AND SAYE BUILDING
Preschool Nursery & Sunday School FIRST FLOOR
Youth Sunday School: First Word YOUTH AREA
Children's Sunday School (Kindergarten through Grade 6) GYM
Sack Lunch Ministry HULL STREET ENTRANCE
Newcomer Orientation HOSPITALITY ROOM
- 11:00 a.m. **Worship Service** SANCTUARY
Preschool Nursery FIRST FLOOR

MONDAY, JUNE 12 | GENESIS 18:1-9

- 9:00 a.m. **Music & Arts Week Set-up & Training** HANCOCK HALL

TUESDAY, JUNE 13 | GENESIS 18:9-15, 21:1-7

North Georgia Annual Conference

- 9:00 a.m. **Music and Arts Week**
- 10:30 a.m. **Prayer Shawl Ministry** PANERA BREAD
- 5:00 p.m. **Heroes Dessert Reception** HANCOCK HALL
- 5:30 p.m. **Fashion Fitness** ROOM 120
- 7:00 p.m. **Boy Scouts Troop 1** SCOUT HUT

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14 | PSALM 100

North Georgia Annual Conference

- 9:00 a.m. **Music and Arts Week**
- 10:00 a.m. **Seamless | Women's Study** ROOM 229
- 4:30 p.m. **Prayer Shawl Ministry** ROOM 200
- 5:30 p.m. **66 Love Letters** HULL CONFERENCE ROOM
- 6:00 p.m. **GriefShare** ROOM 100
- 6:30 p.m. **Questions God Asks Us** ROOM 222

THURSDAY, JUNE 15 | ROMANS 5:1-5

North Georgia Annual Conference

- 9:00 a.m. **Music and Arts Week**
- 2:30 p.m. **Heroes of the Faith Musical** HANCOCK HALL
- 5:30 p.m. **Fashion Fitness** ROOM 120
- 7:00 p.m. **Connect Group (Young Adult)** ROOM 222

FRIDAY, JUNE 16 | ROMANS 5:6-8

SATURDAY, JUNE 17 | MATTHEW 9:35-38

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