

The background features a stylized design with three fish in grey outlines. Two fish are in the upper left, and one is in the lower right. They are connected by thick red lines that form a partial frame around the central text. There are also two solid red circles: one in the top left and one in the bottom right.

ATHENS FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

JULY 30, 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. Our next orientation is Sunday, August 13, at 9:45 a.m. in the Hospitality Room.

Financial Report

Budget for 2017 | \$3,038,381

Amount Given YTD | \$1,730,713

Goal for July | \$192,268

Amount after 3 Sundays | \$142,252

Attendance on July 23

Total Worship | 1109

Holy Communion Service | 58

9:00 a.m. | 468

11:00 a.m. | 464

Online | 119

Sunday School | 268

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Ministers and Directors

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chuck@athensfirstumc.org | 706-206-5529

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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

Flowers

The flowers on the altar
are given to the glory of
God and in loving honor
of Gerald and Doris Firth
in honor of their 65th
wedding anniversary
by Mark and Jan Firth
and family.

Prelude Lyrics

I have found a friend in
Jesus. He's everything
to me. He's the fairest of
ten thousand to my soul;
the Lily of the Valley,
in Him alone I see all
I need to cleanse and
make me fully whole. In
sorrow He's my comfort,
in trouble He's my stay.
He tells me every care
on Him to roll. He's the
Lily of the Valley, the
Bright and Morning Star.
He's the fairest of ten
thousand to my soul. He
will never, never leave
me, nor yet forsake me
here while I live by faith
and do His blessed will.
A wall of fire about me,
I've nothing now to fear,
from His manna He my
hungry soul shall fill.
Then sweeping up to
glory to see His blessed
face where rivers of
delight shall ever roll.

PRELUDE

"Lily of the Valley" | Traditional

OPENING PRAYER

Betsy Butler

Almighty and everlasting God, in whom we live and move and have our being, you created us for yourself, so that our hearts are restless until they find rest in you. Grant to us such piety of heart and strength of purpose that no selfish passion may hinder us from knowing your will, and no weakness from doing it. In your light may we see life clearly and in your service find perfect freedom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*HYMN MEDLEY

UMH 526 "What a Friend We Have in Jesus" | CONVERSE

What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear! What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer! O what peace we often forfeit, O what needless pain we bear, all because we do not carry everything to God in prayer.

UMH 496 "Sweet Hour of Prayer" | SWEET HOUR

Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer that calls us from a world of care, and bids me at my Father's throne make all my wants and wishes known. In seasons of distress and grief; my soul has often found relief, and oft escaped the tempter's snare, by thy return, sweet hour of prayer.

UMH 361 "Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me" | TOPLADY

Verses 1 & 2

*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.

*GLORY TO GOD

“I Will Praise the Father”

I will praise the Father. I will praise the Son. I will praise the Spirit, all three in one. Singing, "Alleluia" (3x). Singing praise to the Lord.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Robin Stewart

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 end 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.

Anthem Lyrics

The thunder and lightning
gave voice to the night. The
little, lost child cried aloud
in her fright. “Hush, little
baby, a story I will tell of a
love that has vanquished
the powers of hell.”

Refrain: Alleluia, the great
storm is over. Lift up your
wings and fly. Sweetness
on the air and justice on
the wind. Laughter in the
house where the mourners
have been. The deaf shall
have music, the blind have
new eyes. The standards
of death taken down by
surprise. Refrain Release
for the captives, an end
to the wars. Streams in
the desert, new hope for
the poor. The little, lost
children shall dance as
they sing and play with the
bears and the lions in the
spring. Refrain “Hush, little
baby, let go of your fears.
The Lord loves his own and
your mother is here.” The
babe fell asleep as the
lantern did burn and the
mother kept on singing ‘til
her bridegroom’s return.
Refrain

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

Susan Taylor

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.

OFFERING AND THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“The Great Storm is Over” | Bob Franke

SCRIPTURE READING

JOHN 3:16 | p.88 NEW TESTAMENT

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“No Price Too High” | Chuck Hodges

*HYMN

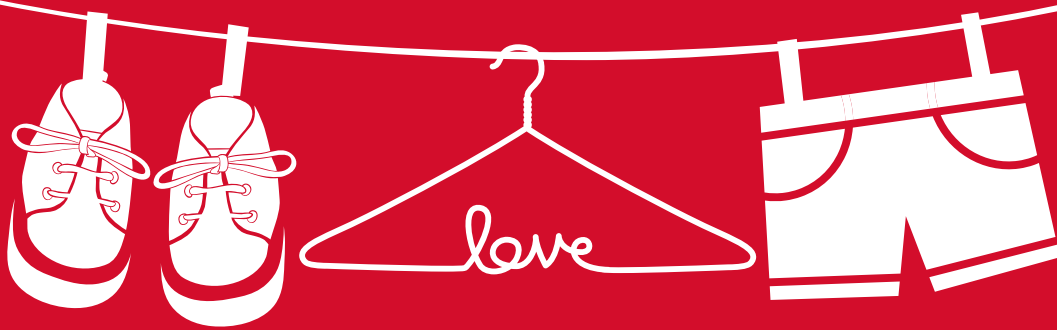
UMH 377 “It Is Well with My Soul” | VILLE DU HAVRE

*BLESSING

*POSTLUDE

“This Little Light of Mine” | Traditional

Children's Consignment Sale



Come Shop!

Consignment Sale Quality at Garage Sale Prices

August 4 9:00 a.m.—7:00 p.m.

August 5 8:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

***August 3** 4:00 p.m.—7:00 p.m.

*Preview Sale for volunteers and consignors

athensfirstumc.org/childrensconsignmentsale

In Memoriam

Stan Henderson
July 25, 2017

Sympathy

Heartfelt Christian sympathy is extended to Bill Douglas and his family in the loss of his mother, Lillian Douglas, on July 24.

Heartfelt Christian sympathy is extended to Martha Henderson and her family in the loss of her husband, Stan Henderson, on July 25.

New Arrival

Congratulations to Eric and Lindsay Atkinson on the birth of their son, Robert Allgood, on July 21.

Congratulations to Brad and Jennifer Register on the birth of their son, Clayton Reeves, on July 21.



Consignment Sale Details

As the Consignment Sale quickly approaches, we are in need of volunteers to help us during the sale during the sale. If you would like to be a greeter, help with inventory control, be a cashier, or help with clean up after the sale, there is a place for you to serve! Remember, volunteers get to shop at the Preview Sale on August 3. If you would like to sign up to volunteer, please visit our webpage or contact Betsy Butler. Learn more | athensfirstumc.org/consignmentsalevolunteer Betsy Butler | betsy@athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442

Smart Lunch, Smart Kid | Thank You

Thank you to each volunteer who served on Wednesdays with the Smart Lunch, Smart Kid ministry. It was a wonderful summer with fun fellowship as we shared the love of Christ in our community. A special thank you to Holly Williams, who designed and facilitated weekly educational enrichment activities!

Summer of Celebration Ending

Our Summer of Celebration is drawing to a close. Please note that we will return to three services at 8:30, 9:45, and 11:00 a.m. next Sunday, August 6. Sunday school will meet at 9:45 a.m.



Meet the Band

The 8:30 band leads worship throughout the year and you've seen and heard them during our July worship services. In May of this year the band recorded an EP entitled "Songs for Tirreno." They hope through this project they will be able to do good in the community as they seek to promote music education through our church and local entities. This record will be made available in the coming weeks. In the meantime, you are invited to visit our website to find out more about the band members and the project, including which two band members are married and where in the world Tirreno is!

Learn more | athensfirstumc.org/830band

Pickleball | Summer Schedule

In preparation for the upcoming Children's Consignment Sale, there will be no Pickleball this week. Plan to join us next week on Tuesday and Thursday at 1:30 p.m. in the gym. Rusty Wood | rusty@athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442



Promotion Sunday

On August 6, all children age 2 through grade 11 will move to their new age/grade level for the 2017-2018 school year. Children younger than 2 will change rooms as they grow and develop throughout the year. You should have received an email with information regarding these changes over the summer. Room locations will be posted in the galleria, youth hallway, and third floor for reference. Beginning August 6, children in grades 1-4 should be dropped off in the chapel between 9:30-9:45 a.m. for a special time of praise and worship together before walking with their shepherds to the classrooms on the third floor. Parents should pick up their children in grades 1-4 on the third floor at 10:45 a.m. A complete list of ages and room locations can be found on our website.

Robin Stewart | robin@athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442

Katie Elder | katie@athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442

athensfirstumc.org/promotionsunday

GriefShare

Join us Wednesday, August 2, to explore who you are now that your loved one is gone. The GriefShare group will meet this summer through August in room 100. 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

Habitat for Humanity

Please join us on Saturday, August 5, to help clean up and prepare our properties for their new tenants. We hope to be working on final details; however, as with all missions projects, flexibility is the key to a successful day. Habitat hopes to have a ribbon cutting ceremony very soon; we will keep you posted. Sign up online or contact Betsy Butler. Register | athensfirstumc.org/habitatforhumanity
Betsy Butler | betsy@athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442

Sanctuary Choir | Join this Fall!

The Sanctuary Choir will resume rehearsals on Wednesday, August 9. The fall is a perfect time for new members to join us! We rehearse on Wednesday evenings from 6:30-8:00 p.m. in room 148. We would love for you to be a part of our choir family! For more information contact Stephen Mitchell. Stephen Mitchell | smitchell@athensfirstumc.org
706-543-1442

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.

Learn more | athensfirstumc.org/sacklunchministry
Betsy Butler | betsy@athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442
May Young | young.macy@gmail.com

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 Chapelwood UMC. For more information, contact Rusty Wood.

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

Parenting with Purpose | Save the Date

Parents, you are invited to a presentation by the Moms on Call team on Friday, September 15, at 9:30 am in Hancock Hall. Join us for a humorous and helpful presentation about toddler behavior and discipline. Moms on Call is an Atlanta-based Christian organization known for providing parents with tools of hope and encouragement. More details will be available soon, so mark your calendars for this great opportunity!

KidCheck

Is your KidCheck account up to date? Maybe your family has grown, maybe you have moved or just joined our church, or maybe your phone number has changed. These are all good reasons to visit the website and update your information before Promotion Sunday on August 6. We would love for you to add pictures as well, so we can get to know you and your family better!

As most of you are aware, KidCheck is the system our church uses to enhance security for children from birth through grade 12 while they are in programs in our building. It is important that each family account contains current information and that you have enabled all communication features. Should we have an emergency or need to get in touch with you, you will receive a text and/or email message with details regarding your children. If you need any help or clarification, please contact Katie Elder.

Learn more | kidcheck.com
Katie Elder | katie@athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442

Open CHURCH

Save the Date!

AUGUST 23

Open Church is an invitational experience to explore fall opportunities here at Athens First United Methodist Church. We hope you'll come and see all that we have to offer and find new ways to participate in the life of our church.

Fun Gym | 3:30-5:00 and 6:00-7:30 p.m. | Gym

Kids Music and Arts | 4:30-6:00 p.m. | Classroom Drop-in

Passport to Worship | 5:00-6:00 p.m. | Sanctuary

Wednesday Night Meals | 5:00-6:30 p.m. | Hancock Hall

Discipleship Bingo | 5:00-6:30 p.m. | Hancock Hall

Route 56 GPS | 5:00-6:00 p.m. | Room 120

Youth Engage | 6:00-7:30 p.m. | Room 119

Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal | 6:30-8:00 p.m. | Room 148

Chamber Ensemble Rehearsal | 8:00-8:30 p.m. | Room 148

Join Us!



Churchwide BBQ

August 27 | 3:00-5:00 p.m.
Sandy Creek Park

athensfirstumc.org/bbq

This Week

SUNDAY, JULY 30 | MATTHEW 13:36-43

- 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
Families on the Fifth (Kindergarten through Grade 6) GYM
Sack Lunch Ministry HOSPITALITY ROOM
- 11:00 a.m. Worship Service SANCTUARY
Preschool Nursery FIRST FLOOR

MONDAY, JULY 31 | GENESIS 29:15-28

TUESDAY, AUGUST 1 | ROMANS 8:26-30

- 10:30 a.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry PANERA BREAD
- 5:30 p.m. Fashion Fitness ROOM 120
- 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts Troop 1 SCOUT HUT
Connect & Grow Group ROOM 229

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2 | PSALM 105:1-11, 45b

- 5:30 p.m. 66 Love Letters JOHN WESLEY PARLOR
- 6:00 p.m. GriefShare ROOM 100
- 6:30 p.m. Questions God Asks Us ROOM 222

THURSDAY, AUGUST 3 | MATTHEW 13:31-33

- 10:00 a.m. Our Daily Bread FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH DOWNTOWN
- 5:30 p.m. Fashion Fitness ROOM 120

FRIDAY, AUGUST 4 | ROMANS 8:31-39

- 9:00 a.m. Children's Consignment Sale GYM

SATURDAY, AUGUST 5 | MATTHEW 13:44-52

- 8:00 a.m. Children's Consignment Sale GYM

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