

The background features a stylized graphic design. It consists of several grey fish-like shapes with black outlines and small black dots for eyes. These shapes are arranged in a pattern that suggests movement or a cluster. Interspersed with these are thick red lines that form geometric shapes, including L-shaped corners and curved segments. There are also solid red circles scattered throughout the design.

ATHENS FIRST
UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH

JUNE 10, 2018
8:30, 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.

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 2018 | \$3,231,864
Amount Given YTD | \$1,298,549
Goal for May | \$236,827
Amount after 4 Sundays | \$212,985

Attendance on June 3

Total Worship | 843
8:30 a.m. | 130
9:45 a.m. | 319
11:00 a.m. | 312
Online | 82
Sunday School | 236

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

Table of Contents

- 1 8:30 a.m. Order of Worship
- 4 9:45 & 11:00 a.m. Order of Worship
- 7 The Steeple
- 9 Calendar

Ministers

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The Worship of God

8:30 a.m.

Flowers

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

GATHERING SONG

“Come Ye Sinners” | Joseph Hart

**I will arise and go to Jesus.
He will embrace me in his arms.
In the arms of my dear Savior,
oh, there are ten thousand charms.**

INVOCATION

Josh Miles

*HYMN OF PRAISE

UMH 110 “A Mighty Fortress is Our God” | EIN’ FESTE BURG

*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.**

*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.**

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Robin Stewart

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.

Anthem Lyrics

Gonna lay down my
burden down by the
riverside and study war
no more. Gonna lay
down sword and shield
down by the riverside
and study war no more.
Gonna shake hands
around the world and
study war no more.

OFFERING AND OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“Down by the Riverside” | Traditional

*DOXOLOGY

UMH 95 “Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow” | THE OLD 100TH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below; praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

COLOSSIANS 4:6 | p. 190 NEW TESTAMENT

SERMON

“Sticks and Stones” | Chuck Hodges

HYMN OF PREPARATION

UMH 454 “Open My Eyes, That I May See” | OPEN MY EYES

**Open my mouth, and let me bear gladly the warm truth everywhere;
Open my heart and let me prepare love with thy children thus to share.
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my heart, illumine me. Spirit divine!**

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Here and now, God's Spirit is at work. The Spirit nurtures us around this table made for sharing. Through our communion with Christ and with one another, we are being made new. Let us pray.

God of new beginnings, because you come among us to make us whole, we approach your table with delight and expectation: glad to be comforted, ready to be challenged, knowing your generous love for all. Amen.

Please Note

At Athens First United
Methodist Church,
all are invited to
commune at Christ's
table. If you need to
be served in your pew,
please call this to the
attention of an usher.
Gluten-free elements are
available at the center
station in the front of
the sanctuary.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Creator God, like a still, small voice you have made your presence felt to prophets and healers, to a people in exile, to those gathered together on the day of Pentecost. In the life of Jesus your healing touch was felt and all were made welcome. Undeterred by death, you revived those who looked for you, and offered the gift of your Spirit as your eternal, supporting presence...

We celebrate these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ. As we remember Christ's offering for us through this Holy Sacrament, we live out the mystery of our faith.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Loving God, who in Jesus Christ gives us our salvation, consecrate by your Holy Spirit these elements of Holy Communion. Bless us as we receive them this day that we may be your faithful people. In our Risen Savior's name we pray.

Amen.

Music During Receiving of the Elements

"Feeling Low" | Will Reagan

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

O God, we give you all thanks and praise, for you have shown us your salvation. You have spoken to us through your child, Jesus, teaching us to look to you and trust in your goodness. He was scorned and mocked and crucified for us, but was raised by you. With our hearts lifted high, we offer you thanks and praise at all times, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit; one God, now and forever. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN

UMH 347 "Spirit Song" | SPIRIT SONG

*BLESSING

*POSTLUDE

"Down by the Riverside" | Traditional

Song Lyrics

When I'm feeling low
and my heart is weak,

I know you have the
strength to carry me.

When I'm broken down
and I'm filled with grief, I
know you're far beyond
what my mind conceives.

As I look beyond the
cares of life, I can feel
your heart through the
pain and strife. As I look
beyond the cares of life, I
can feel your heart, feel
you wash my sight. I can
feel your heart, feel you
offer life. You lead me to
the water, sweet water,
the water of life. When I
am sinking, you lift me up
out of the night. How can
it be? Hallelujah! I feel
this love overtake me.

The Worship of God

9:45 &
11:00 a.m.

Gathering

Flowers

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

THE PRELUDE

“Lord of the Dance” | arr. Vicki Smith

Rung by the Carillon Ringers; Greg Kirby and Matthew Everhart, percussion

THE CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

“Come, Christians, Join to Sing”

Sung by the Sanctuary Choir

Praise & Thanksgiving

*THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN

UMH 61 “Come Thou Almighty King” | ITALIAN HYMN

*THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH | The Apostles' Creed

9:45 a.m. | Martha Aenchenbacher

11:00 a.m. | Josh Miles

**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.**

***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.

McClain Robinson Bishop, daughter of Julie and Robert Bishop

McClain, McClain, 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. McClain, McClain, God claims you, God helps you, protects you, and loves you too.

THE 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.

Proclamation of the Word

THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE | 11:00 a.m.

Robin Stewart

At the 11:00 a.m. service, children in kindergarten through grade 2 will go to Children's Church on the third floor where they may be picked up at the end of the service.

THE OFFERING AND THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“Jesus, Lover of My Soul” | Terre Johnson

***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.

Anthem Lyrics

The text for this anthem can be found on page 479 of your hymnal.

THE SCRIPTURE READING

COLOSSIANS 4:6 | p. 190 NEW TESTAMENT

THE SERMON

“Sticks and Stones” | Chuck Hodges

Response to the Word

***THE HYMN**

UMH 463 “Lord Speak to Me” | CANONBURY

Sending Forth

***THE BLESSING AND CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

“We Receive Your Blessing”

We receive your blessing, we receive your grace as we walk in the light shining from your face. May the peace that you give change the way that we live. We receive your blessing as we leave this place.

*** THE POSTLUDE**

“We're Marching to Zion” | Young

The Steeple

*Summer
Worship*
SUNDAYS IN JULY

8:30, 9:45, & 11:00 a.m.
— Hancock Hall

This July we will offer three worship services at 8:30, 9:45, and 11:00 a.m. led by our clergy with hymn-singing and music from The Early Service Band and friends. Please note that each Sunday in July will be in Hancock Hall as we refresh the sanctuary with new paint.

Labels in background: BANJO, MANDOLIN, GUITAR, HARMONICA, RESONATOR GUITAR (DOBRO)

Sympathy

Heartfelt Christian sympathy is extended to Alex Sams in the loss of his father, Albert “Buddy” Sams, on June 1.

Heartfelt Christian sympathy is extended to Paul Tuggle in the loss of his mother, Harriet Tuggle, on June 2.

New Arrival

Congratulations to Natalie and James Kilgore on the birth of their daughter, June Lucille, on February 20.

Congratulations to Ellen and Will Beasley on the birth of their son, Mason Collier, on May 31.

Summer FUNday School | June & July

Get ready for some FUN during Sunday school in June and July as we merge kids in kindergarten through grade 12! Our older students may elect to serve in leadership positions each Sunday while the younger children will have the opportunity to learn by seeing how the big kids do it! Drop-off will be in the youth room at 9:45 a.m., and kids can be picked up from the youth room at 10:45 a.m.

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

Laney Jones | laney@athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442

GriefShare

Join us Tuesday, June 12, as we discuss issues such as dealing with your loved one's belongings. GriefShare meets Tuesdays from 6:00-8:00 p.m. in room 100. Please register online so that we will have materials prepared for you. The cost is \$20. You may pay online or in person.

Learn more | athensfirstumc.org/griefshare

Martha Aenchbacher | martha@athensfirstumc.org

Recreation Summer Camps

We are excited to offer a variety of camp programs this summer through our recreation department: three sessions of Junior Jam Basketball Camp and two sessions of Volleyball Camp. Register online for your children to attend these camps, as spots will fill quickly!

Register | athensfirstumc.org/recreationcamps

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

Senior Fun Luncheon

This month's Senior Fun Luncheon is on Thursday, June 28, at 12:00 p.m. in Hancock Hall. Rev. Dr. Beth LaRocca-Pitts, Senior Minister of St. Mark United Methodist Church and Bible scholar, will share her insightful views on the current state of Christianity in America and her ideas about its future. Her program will be informative both for Methodists and our friends from other faith denominations. The luncheon cost is \$6. Reserve your seat by 12:00 p.m. Wednesday, June 27. For more information, please contact Dan Maxey.

Dan Maxey | 706-340-5097

Church Office | 706-543-1442

Smart Lunch, Smart Kids

Join us this summer to serve lunch in two nearby neighborhoods. This program serves kids who normally receive free lunch during the school year. Volunteers from our church will meet the children and families on the playground of each neighborhood. While there, we invite children to participate in educational games/activities and sit with them while they enjoy their lunch. It is a wonderful way to share God's love with the children in our community.

Register | athensfirstumc.org/missions

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

Sarah Beth Barger | sarahbeth@athensfirstumc.org

Connect Group | Young Adult

Join the Young Adult Connect Group for a new summer Bible study, *Everybody, Always: Becoming Love in a World Full of Setbacks and Difficult People*. In this five-lesson study, best-selling author Bob Goff shares stories from his life that have helped him understand what it truly means to love everybody the way Jesus loved them: without fear, insecurity, or restriction. The group will meet Thursday evenings in room 222 from 7:00-8:30 p.m., beginning June 21. For more details, contact Laney Jones. Please register online.

Register | athensfirstumc.org/registration

Laney Jones | laney@athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442

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 Foster Care Ministry in Athens and surrounding communities. Please contact Betsy or Sarah Beth if you would like to bring your donated items to the church during office hours or on the weekend!

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

Sarah Beth Barger | sarahbeth@athensfirstumc.org

Wesley Heritage Tour of England

A Wesley Heritage Tour is forming to travel to England May 24-June 4, 2019. The tour will include a 6-8 week Bible study before the trip, and a 10-night tour with stops in London, Bristol, Lincoln, Epworth, and Oxford. We will worship at Wesley's Chapel in London on Aldersgate Sunday, visit his birthplace, visit the New Room in Bristol (the oldest Methodist building in the world), and see the spot where Wesley had his Aldersgate conversion. For more information, including itinerary and pricing, contact Stephen Mitchell at the church.

Stephen Mitchell | smitchell@athensfirstumc.org

This Week

SUNDAY, JUNE 10 | 2 CORINTHIANS 4:13-5:1

- 8:30 a.m. **Worship Service** SANCTUARY
Preschool Nursery FIRST FLOOR
- 9:00 a.m. **Fun Gym** GYM
- 9:45 a.m. **Worship Service** SANCTUARY
Adult Sunday School SECOND FLOOR AND SAYE BUILDING
Preschool Nursery & Sunday School FIRST FLOOR
Summer FUNday School YOUTH ROOM
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
- 4:30 p.m. **Connect & Grow Group** JOHN WESLEY PARLOR

MONDAY, JUNE 11 | 1 SAMUEL 15:34-35

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

TUESDAY, JUNE 12 | 1 SAMUEL 16:1-13

North Georgia Annual Conference

- 9:00 a.m. **Music & Arts Week** HANCOCK HALL
- 10:30 a.m. **Prayer Shawl Ministry** PANERA BREAD
- 5:30 p.m. **Fashion Fitness** ROOM 120
Connect & Grow Group ROOM 229
- 6:00 p.m. **GriefShare** ROOM 100
- 7:00 p.m. **Boy Scouts Troop 1** SCOUT HUT

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13 | PSALM 20

North Georgia Annual Conference

- 9:00 a.m. **Music & Arts Week** HANCOCK HALL
- 10:30 a.m. **Smart Lunch, Smart Kids** GYM
- 5:30 p.m. **66 Love Letters** JOHN WESLEY PARLOR
- 6:30 p.m. **Connect & Grow Group** ROOM 224

THURSDAY, JUNE 14 | MARK 4:26-29

North Georgia Annual Conference

- 9:00 a.m. **Music & Arts Week** HANCOCK HALL
- 5:30 p.m. **Fashion Fitness** ROOM 120

FRIDAY, JUNE 15 | MARK 4:30-34

SATURDAY, JUNE 16 | 2 CORINTHIANS 5:6-10

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