

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. Interspersed with these are thick red lines that form geometric shapes, including L-shaped corners and curved segments. There are also solid red circles of varying sizes scattered throughout the composition.

ATHENS FIRST  
UNITED  
METHODIST  
CHURCH

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JUNE 17, 2018  
8:30, 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.

## *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 | \$1,1426,095  
Goal for June | \$221,888  
Amount after 1 Sunday | \$65,123

## *Attendance on June 3*

Total Worship | 1006  
8:30 a.m. | 147  
9:45 a.m. | 335  
11:00 a.m. | 420  
Online | 104  
Sunday School | 257

## *Contact Us*

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

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## *Ministers*

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**Betsy Butler** Minister of Missions  
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**Linsey Jarrett** Director of Weekday Preschool  
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# The Worship of God

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8:30 a.m.

## *Flowers*

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory and honor of all fathers by the Altar Guild.

## 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

Betsy Butler

## \*HYMN OF PRAISE

UMH 400 “Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing” | NETTLETON

## \*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

Katie Elder

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.**

*Anthem Lyrics*

Christ has broken down the wall. Let us join our hearts as one. We’re accepted as we are. Through God’s love all is reconciled. Cast aside your doubts and fears. Peace and love, freely offered here. We will tear down the walls. We will tear down every wall. God has called us, one and all.

OFFERING AND OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“Christ Has Broken Down the Wall” | Mark Miller

\*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

LUKE 19:1-5 | p. 77 NEW TESTAMENT

SERMON

“From Tablet to Table” | Chuck Hodges

HYMN OF PREPARATION

UMH 618 “Let Us Break Bread Together” | LET US BREAK BREAD

**Let us break bread together on our knees.  
Let us break bread together on our knees.  
When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,  
O Lord, have mercy on me.**

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.**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

*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.

**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

"Come to the Feast" | Jeff Lawson

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

**God of all of us, teach us to live the way you have always wanted. You are our God, and our trust is in you. We thank you for the blessings you give us every day. We thank you for providing strength and help to all in need. We thank you for allowing us to be your hands and feet in the world, and for the blessing of being part of the great family that is your Church. Amen.**

**\*CLOSING HYMN**

UMH 617 "I Come with Joy" | DOVE OF PEACE

**\*BLESSING**

**\*POSTLUDE**

"Now Let Us From This Table Rise" | Traditional

*Song Lyrics*

Go to the highways and hedges. Go to the farthest of fields. Go and compel the sick and the well, for our Father's house will be filled. Go to the streets of the city. Bring in the crippled and blind. All who would taste this banquet of grace must come and waste no more time. Come to the feast, come to the table. The great and the least, the rich and the poor. Come to the feast, come to the table. Come and hunger no more. In the robe of the lamb you'll be covered, dressed in his pure righteousness. For all of your guilt, his blood was spilt, so come by your Father, be blessed.

# The Worship of God

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9:45 &  
11:00 a.m.

## *Gathering*

### *Flowers*

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory and honor of all fathers by the Altar Guild.

### THE PRELUDE

“Gift of Love” | Carter

### THE CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

“Come, Christians, Join to Sing”

*Sung by the Sanctuary Choir*

## *Praise & Thanksgiving*

### \*THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN

UMH 400 “Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing” | NETTLETON

### \*THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH | The Apostles' Creed

9:45 a.m. | Susan Taylor

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.

Clayton Reaves Register, son of Jennifer and Bradley Register

**Clayton, Clayton, 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. Clayton, Clayton, God claims you, God helps you, protects you, and loves you too.**

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.**

## *Proclamation of the Word*

THE CHILDREN’S MESSAGE | 11:00 a.m.

Katie Elder

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

“My Jesus, I Love Thee” | arr. Dan Forrest

**\*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 172 of your hymnal.

**THE SCRIPTURE READING**

LUKE 19:1-5 | p. 77 NEW TESTAMENT

**THE SERMON**

“From Tablet to Table” | Chuck Hodges

*Response to the Word*

**\*THE HYMN**

UMH 357 “Just as I Am, Without One Plea” | WOODWORTH

*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**

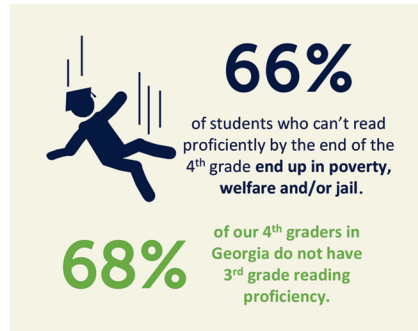
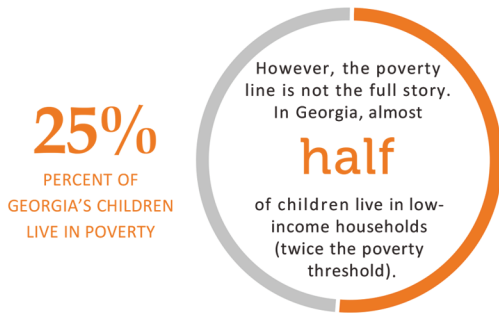
“Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ” | Behnke



# The Steeple

## Why Smart Lunch, Smart Kid?

Our children rely on programs like Smart Lunch, Smart Kid to help close the meal and learning gap when school is out.



1 in 4

KIDS IN GEORGIA LIVE IN HOUSEHOLDS WITHOUT CONSISTENT ACCESS TO ENOUGH FOOD.  
THAT'S MORE THAN 600,000 CHILDREN

**FEDERAL RESPONSE:** Nearly 1.2 million low-income children in Georgia have consistent access to free and reduced-price meals at school.

**83%** of these children do not receive meals during the summer months

Join us this summer to serve lunch with Smart Lunch, Smart Kids. 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 in their neighborhood. 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.

[athensfirstumc.org/smartlunchsmarkid](http://athensfirstumc.org/smartlunchsmarkid)

## Sympathy

Heartfelt Christian sympathy is extended to Lucy Bedell and her family in the loss of her sister, Marianna Lines, on June 5.

Heartfelt Christian sympathy is extended to Joyce Sundling and her family in the loss of her daughter, Elaine Tillman, on June 8.

## Vacation Bible School | Thank You!

Thank you to our church family for your prayers, preparation, and participation in Vacation Bible School. Over 400 hearts were shaped by our Rolling River Rampage this year. We are thankful that the scriptures are true, "When [we] pass through the waters, [He] will be with [us]" (Isaiah 43:2).

## 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](mailto:robin@athensfirstumc.org) | 706-543-1442

Laney Jones | [laney@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:laney@athensfirstumc.org) | 706-543-1442

## GriefShare

Join us Tuesday, June 19, as we discuss how to deal with friends who do not understand your grief. 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](http://athensfirstumc.org/griefshare)

Martha Aenchbacher | [martha@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:martha@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](http://athensfirstumc.org/registration)

Laney Jones | [laney@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:laney@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

## Summer Worship in July

As we gather in Hancock Hall during the month of July, we will celebrate our faith through a worship series entitled "We Believe." Over the course of these five Sundays we will have the opportunity to revisit the beliefs that unite us a family of faith. Join us at 8:30, 9:45, or 11:00 a.m. in Hancock Hall as we worship together!

## Consignment Sale | Volunteers

As we prepare for the Children's Consignment Sale, we have many needs for volunteers! Tagging Tuesdays are a time where we sort, organize, and tag donations to prepare for the sale. Join us on July 3, 10, 17, and 24 to help. Volunteer needs the week of the sale, August 6-11, include set-up, cashiers, inventory control, and clean-up. Contact Betsy or Sarah Beth with questions and sign up online to volunteer!

Register | [athensfirstumc.org/consignmentsalevolunteer](http://athensfirstumc.org/consignmentsalevolunteer)

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

Sarah Beth Barger | [sarahbeth@athensfirstumc.org](mailto: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](mailto:smitchell@athensfirstumc.org)

# This Week

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## SUNDAY, JUNE 17 | 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
- 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 18 | 1 SAMUEL 15:34-35

## TUESDAY, JUNE 19 | 1 SAMUEL 16:1-13

- 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 20 | PSALM 20

- 5:30 p.m. **66 Love Letters**

## THURSDAY, JUNE 21 | MARK 4:26-29

- 8:00 a.m. **Senior Fun Trip** DEPARTING FROM KOHL'S PARKING LOT
- 5:30 p.m. **Fashion Fitness** ROOM 120
- 7:00 p.m. **Connect Group | Young Adult** ROOM 222

## FRIDAY, JUNE 22 | MARK 4:30-34

## SATURDAY, JUNE 23 | 2 CORINTHIANS 5:6-10

- 7:00 p.m. **Mobile Food Pantry** SANCTUARY NARTHEX

# Worship Bulletin (614-280)

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