

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 1, 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 | \$1,512,971
Goal for June | \$221,888
Amount after 3 Sundays | \$151,409

Attendance on June 24

Total Worship | 901
8:30 a.m. | 149
9:45 a.m. | 268
11:00 a.m. | 373
Online | 111
Sunday School | 281

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

CCLI License No.

1097803

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Ministers

Martha Aenchbacher Minister of Congregational Care
martha@athensfirstumc.org | 678-230-9708

Betsy Butler Minister of Missions
betsy@athensfirstumc.org

Chuck Hodges Senior Minister
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josh@athensfirstumc.org

Susan Taylor Minister of Discipleship
susan@athensfirstumc.org

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Katie Elder Director of Route 56
katie@athensfirstumc.org

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jennifer@athensfirstumc.org

Linsey Jarrett Director of Weekday Preschool
linsey@athensfirstumc.org

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laney@athensfirstumc.org

Sarah Lawing Director of Children's Music Ministry & 8:30 a.m. Worship Leader
sarah@athensfirstumc.org

Janis Maxwell Director of Youth Music & Organist
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stephen@athensfirstumc.org

Robin Stewart Director of Children's Ministry
robin@athensfirstumc.org

Bob Winstead Executive Director of Administration
bob@athensfirstumc.org

Rusty Wood Director of Recreation Ministries
rusty@athensfirstumc.org

The Worship of God

Flowers

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Robert C. Wall by Mrs. Robert C. Wall and family.

GATHERING MUSIC

The Early Service Band

WELCOME & PASSING OF THE PEACE

Sarah Lawing

OPENING PRAYER

Susan Taylor

*HYMNS OF THE DAY

“My Country, 'tis of Thee” | AMERICA

**My country, 'tis of thee,
sweet land of liberty, of thee I sing;
'and where my fathers died,
land of the pilgrims' pride,
from every mountainside,
let freedom ring.**

**Let music swell the breeze,
and ring from all the trees sweet freedom's song;
let mortal tongues awake;
let all that breathe partake;
let rocks their silence break,
the sound prolong.**

“America the Beautiful” | MATERNA

**O beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain;
for purple mountain majesties above the fruited plain!
America! America! God shed His grace on thee,
and crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea.**

Please Note

Please be seated for the last hymn. During the singing of this hymn, children are invited to collect prayer cards from the congregation and bring them to the altar where they will have the opportunity to participate in the prayers of the people.

“This Is My Song” | FINLANDIA

**This is my song, O God of all the nations,
a song of peace for lands afar and mine.
This is my home, the country where my heart is,
here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine.
But other hearts in other lands are beating,
with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.**

**My country's skies are bluer than the ocean,
and sunlight beams on clover leaf and pine.
But other lands have sunlight too, and clover,
and skies are everywhere as blue as mine.
O hear my song, thou God of all the nations,
a song of peace for their land and for mine.**

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.

PRAYER RESPONSE

Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen.

OFFERING AND OFFERTORY ANTHEM

"I'm Getting Ready" | Michael Kiwanuka

SERMON

"I Am" | Betsy Butler

A MODERN AFFIRMATION

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 unfailing 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. Amen.

Please Note

During the sung prayer response, children will return to their seats.

Anthem Lyrics

Oh my, I didn't know
what it means to believe.
But if I hold on tight, is
it true? Would You take
care of all that I do? Oh
Lord, I'm getting ready to
believe. Oh my, I didn't
know how hard it would
be. But if I hold on tight, is
it true? Would You take
care of all that I do? Oh
Lord, I'm getting ready
to believe. Then we'll be
waving hands singing
freely. Singing standing
tall it's now coming easy.
Oh no more looking down
honey, can't you see? Oh
Lord, I'm getting ready to
believe.

***DOXOLOGY**

“I Will Praise the Father”

**I will praise the Father, I will praise the Son,
I will praise the Spirit, all three in one.
I will praise the Father, I will praise the son,
I will praise the Spirit, all three in one.**

**Singing Hallelujah, singing Hallelujah,
singing Hallelujah, singing praise to the Lord.
Singing Hallelujah, singing Hallelujah,
singing Hallelujah, singing praise to the Lord.**

***BLESSING**

***SENDING SONG**

“Leave This House Singing” | Will Reagan

**I wanna leave this house singing.
I wanna leave this house singing.
I wanna go from here believing in your love.**

***POSTLUDE**

“Old Time Religion” | Traditional

The Steeple



In Memoriam

Linda Rasch
June 20, 2018

Sympathy

Heartfelt Christian sympathy is extended to Wayne Rasch in the loss of his wife, Linsey and Johnny Jarrett in the loss of their mother and mother-in-law, and Millican and Seele Jarrett in the loss of their grandmother, Linda Rasch, on June 20.

Summer Worship | We Believe

Join us at 8:30, 9:45, or 11:00 a.m. in Hancock Hall as we worship together during the month of July. We will celebrate our faith through a worship series entitled "We Believe." Throughout the month, we will use A Modern Affirmation to revisit the beliefs that unite us. In addition, our sermon each week will examine one foundational belief found in the affirmation. Music will be led by the Early Service Band. You can read more about the band members on our webpage. Learn more | athensfirstumc.org/earlyserviceband

Music and Arts Week | Thank You

Thank you so much for supporting another year of Music and Arts Week for our children! We had a great time playing new instruments and songs, learning about how sound and light work, and sharing ways we can support music education in our church, community, and world. Best of all, the children, youth, and adults who participated in this week experienced God's love through fun, fellowship, and praise.

GriefShare

Join us Tuesday, July 3, as we discuss false guilt and how to deal with it. 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
678-230-9708

Summer FUNday School

Summer FUNday School is here! Join us as we learn about being followers of Jesus. Children in kindergarten through grade 12 are engaging in lessons and games in the youth rooms and gym each Sunday morning from 9:45-10:45 a.m. during June and July. Casual clothes and shoes that they can comfortably play in are appropriate. Invite a friend or relative to join us this summer!

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

Staff Changes

We are pleased to announce that Katie Elder, our Assistant Director of Children's Ministry is stepping into the role of Director of Route 56. Katie has been on staff for a year and is looking forward to building relationships and Christ-centered community with our students in grades 5-6. Route 56 fall programming will begin on Sunday, August 5, with Promotion Sunday followed by Sunday evenings kicking off on August 12 and Wednesday night Bible study beginning on August 15.

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



New Staff Member

It is our joy to announce that Jennifer Golden will be serving as our new Assistant Director of Children's Ministry. Jennifer was born and raised in Athens, GA, and has been a lifetime member of our church. She graduated in May 2018 from the University of Georgia where she studied Human Development and Family Science. Jennifer spent the past year working as an intern on our staff in partnership with a North Georgia Conference Program for young people.

discerning a call into ministry. She is very excited that God has opened the door for her to continue to work and serve with the Athens First family. She looks forward to sharing God's love with children of all ages.
Jennifer Golden | jennifer@athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442

Newcomer Orientation

Everyone is invited to attend Newcomer Orientation the second Sunday of each month. Join us on July 8 in the Hospitality Room (on the Adult Sunday School hallway) at 9:45 a.m. You can learn more about Athens First United Methodist, including ways to get involved and how to become a member.

Martha Aenchbacher | martha@athensfirstumc.org
678-230-9708

You're Invited

Do you have an interest in serving with women and children who are our neighbors? Each Tuesday we go to Bethel Homes and host a Women's Fellowship Group. During the summer, we invite you to join us as we build relationships and share the love of Christ with our neighbors. For more information, contact Betsy or Sarah Beth.

Betsy Butler | betsy@athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442
Sarah Beth Barger | sarahbeth@athensfirstumc.org
706-543-1442



Smart Lunch, Smart Kids

Join us this summer as we partner with Action Ministries on Wednesdays to serve lunch in two nearby neighborhoods. This summer program serves kids who normally receive free lunch during the school year. Volunteers from our

church will go and 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

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
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
706-543-1442



TIMOTHY ADVANTAGE

AN INTER-GENERATIONAL
TEACHING MINISTRY

Is God nudging your heart to disciple younger generations? Do you believe that God can use you to mentor and disciple others? Do you desire to share your wisdom and knowledge? Have you been disciplined well in your faith walk? Are you eager to pay it forward?

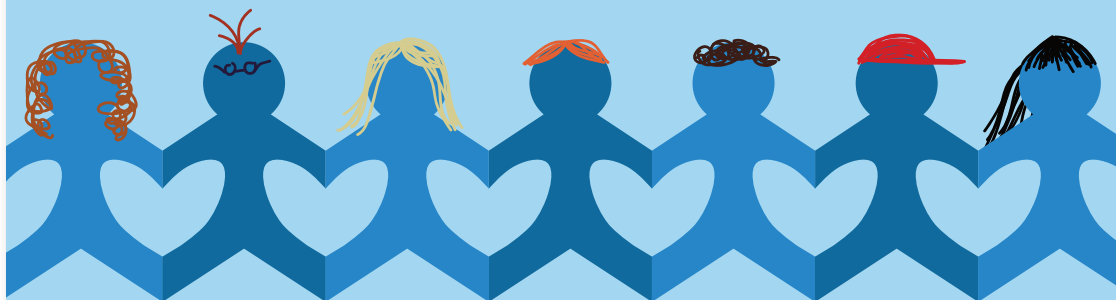
Who: YOU!

What: The Timothy Advantage is an inter-generational teaching ministry. Adults of all ages are invited to partner together to make "little" disciples by serving our children in grades 1-4 on Sunday mornings during Sunday school. We are creating teams of Sunday school teachers who will work together in pairs to teach one month in one of the following classrooms: art, movie, cooking, and storytelling.

When: 9:45 a.m. Sunday mornings for one month...YOU choose the month, August-May

Where: third floor hallway

Why: Timothy learned scripture at an early age from his mother and grandmother. This faith-based education primed Timothy for his mentorship as a young man with the Apostle Paul. As a congregation we have the duty, honor, and privilege to teach the next generation. Serving as a Sunday school teacher is one such way that we can help prepare our children. Our prayer is that the teams would be a ministry to one another as they work and share in discipling the next generation. The Timothy Advantage model of teaching partnerships offers a first step toward increasing your presence in our church and creating meaningful relationships with others.



FLAG FOOTBALL



Registration for children's recreation flag football league is now open for this fall. If your child is in kindergarten–grade 5 and is interested in learning the game of flag football and building athletic skills while growing in Christ, register online! The season starts Saturday, August 11. Practices and games will take place on Saturdays, excluding UGA football home games. Make-up games and practices will be the following Monday. Please contact Rusty Wood for any additional information.

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

This Week

SUNDAY, JULY 1 | MARK 5:21-24, 35-43 *Interfaith Hospitality Network Host Week*

- 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, JULY 2 | 2 SAMUEL 5:1-5, 9-10

TUESDAY, JULY 3 | PSALM 48:1-8

- 1:00 p.m. **Pickleball**
- 5:30 p.m. **Fashion Fitness** ROOM 120
- 6:00 p.m. **GriefShare** ROOM 100
- 7:00 p.m. **Boy Scouts Troop 1** SCOUT HUT

WEDNESDAY, JULY 4 | PSALM 48:9-14 *Independence Day—office is closed*

THURSDAY, JULY 5 | MARK 6:1-6a

- 1:00 p.m. **Pickleball**
- 5:30 p.m. **Fashion Fitness** ROOM 120
- 7:00 p.m. **Connect Group | Young Adult** ROOM 222

FRIDAY, JULY 6 | MARK 6:6b-13

SATURDAY, JULY 7 | 2 CORINTHIANS 12:2-10

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