

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. Small red circles are placed at the top left and bottom right corners of the design.

ATHENS FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

JULY 15, 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 | \$1,640,664

Goal for July | \$215,164

Amount after 1 Sunday | \$58,162

Attendance on July 8

Total Worship | 747

8:30 a.m. | 123

9:45 a.m. | 227

11:00 a.m. | 264

Online | 133

Sunday School | 247

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

Table of Contents

- 1 Order of Worship
- 7 The Steeple
- 9 Calendar

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bob@athensfirstumc.org

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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
Johnie Evans and
Reta and Robert Brown
by Carole and Emmett
Langley and Susan
Whitehead.

GATHERING MUSIC

The Early Service Band

WELCOME & PASSING OF THE PEACE

Sarah Lawing

OPENING PRAYER

Chuck Hodges

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

*HYMNS OF THE DAY

“Leaning on the Everlasting Arms” | SHOWALTER

**What a fellowship, what a joy divine,
leaning on the everlasting arms;
What a blessedness, what a peace is mine,
leaning on the everlasting arms.**

Refrain:

**Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms;
leaning, leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms.**

**What have I to dread, what have I to fear,
leaning on the everlasting arms?
I have blessed peace with my Lord so near,
leaning on the everlasting arms.**

Refrain

“I Love to Tell the Story” | HANKEY

**I love to tell the story of unseen things above,
of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love.
I love to tell the story, because I know 'tis true;
it satisfies my longings as nothing else can do.
I love to tell the story, 'twill be my theme in glory,
to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.**

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.

Please Note

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

Anthem Lyrics

Through trials, troubles and care, I know Jesus my savior is there giving me faith through darkest days keeping me on the narrow way. Jesus Savior, help me each day, fill me with hope, fill me with faith. Darkness retreats at the touch of Your hand. Jesus Savior, help me to stand. Jesus lived through darkest pain. Rejected by men, despising the shame. Man of sorrows, acquainted with grief, he gave His life so we may be free. Jesus Savior, help me each day. Fill me with hope, fill me with faith. Darkness retreats at the touch of Your hand. Jesus savior, help me to stand. I know that Jesus died for me, canceled my debt at Calvary, rose from the dead, unlocked Heaven's door. Trust in His love and live evermore. Jesus Savior, help me each day; fill me with hope, fill me with faith. Darkness retreats at the touch of Your hand. Jesus savior, help me to stand.

“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.**

Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?

We should never be discouraged; take it to the Lord in prayer.

Can we find a friend so faithful who will all our sorrows share?

Jesus knows our every weakness; take it to the Lord in prayer.

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

“Jesus Help Me to Stand” | Ron Block

SCRIPTURE

PHILIPPIANS 2:5-11 | NEW REVISED STANDARD VERSION

SERMON

“We Believe in Jesus” | Bob Winstead

*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.

***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**

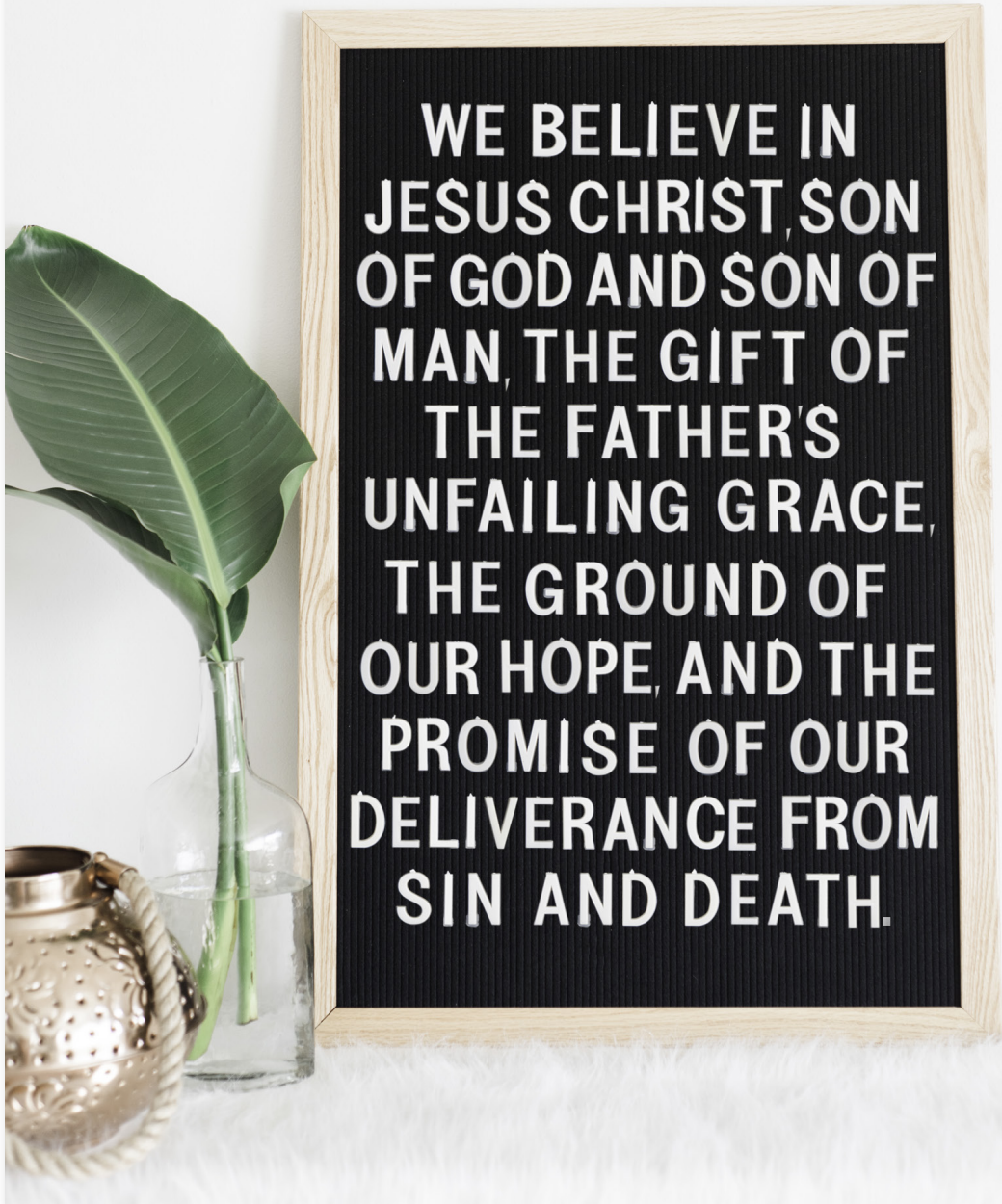
“Leave This House Singing” | Will Reagan

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

***POSTLUDE**

“The Great Storm is Over” | Bob Franke

The Steeple



In Memoriam

Michael Webb
July 8, 2018

Sympathy

Heartfelt Christian sympathy is extended to Gene Weekley and his family in the loss of his brother, Johnson Weekley, on June 13.

Heartfelt Christian sympathy is extended to Debbie Montgomery and her family in the loss of her brother, Ross Atkinson, on July 1.

Heartfelt Christian sympathy is extended to Ina Claire Weekley and her family in the loss of her brother, Hal Fletcher, on July 4.

Heartfelt Christian sympathy is extended to Terry Smart in the loss of his mother, Carolyn Jane Smart, on July 5.

Heartfelt Christian sympathy is extended to Kery and Whitney Webb in the loss of their son, William and Mary Webb in the loss of their brother, and Joann Webb in the loss of her grandson, Michael Webb, on July 8.

Murphy-Harpst Special Offering

Today, we will take up a special offering to support Murphy-Harpst Children's Center, a nonprofit organization that provides a safe home and resources for victims of child abuse. Please use the envelope provided for your offering for Murphy Harpst, or write "Murphy-Harpst" in the memo line of your check.

Summer Worship | We Believe

Summer worship continues next week. 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 are celebrating our faith through a worship series entitled "We Believe." Throughout the month, we are using A Modern Affirmation to revisit the beliefs that unite us. In addition, each week our sermon examines one foundational belief found in the affirmation. Music is led by the Early Service Band. You can read more about the band members on our webpage.

Learn more | athensfirstumc.org/earlyserviceband



GriefShare

Join us Tuesday, July 17, as we discuss misconceptions about grief that hinder our healing. 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



New Streaming Service

We are pleased to announce that we have upgraded our streaming service to Livestream. If you are ever unable to join us in person on Sunday morning, you can always find us online. We will continue to stream all of our morning worship services directly to our webpage. If you previously viewed our services via the Ustream app on a mobile device, you may want to download the Livestream app. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Amanda Greavu.

Learn more | athensfirstumc.org/webcast

Amanda Greavu | amanda@athensfirstumc.org

Summer FUNday School

Summer FUNday School continues! 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. throughout July. Casual clothes and shoes that they can comfortably play in are appropriate.

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

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



Smart Lunch, Smart Kid

Join us July 18 and July 25 as we prepare lunches for our community! We will gather at 9:30 a.m. on both mentioned Wednesdays to make 400 sandwiches and assemble sack lunches that will be distributed all over Athens. Once the lunches are prepared we will head out to our two regular neighborhoods to distribute lunches and facilitate enrichment games and activities. Come just to make the sack lunches or stay all morning, we would love to have you serve with us!

Register | athensfirstumc.org/missions

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

Sarah Beth Barger | sarahbeth@athensfirstumc.org

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

KidCheck

Is your KidCheck account up to date? 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 vital that each family account contains current information and that all communication features are enabled. 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. Please review your account to be sure that all your contact information is current. Additionally, adding a current photo to your account is essential in identifying a child. If you need any help or clarification, please contact Jennifer Golden.

Learn more | kidcheck.com

Jennifer Golden | jennifer@athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442



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.

Register | athensfirstumc.org/flagfootball

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

Donate School Supplies

Each week our missions team goes to Bethel Homes and serves and fellowships with our friends who live there. With

the school year quickly approaching, many of our neighbors struggle to acquire adequate school supplies for their children. We would love to bless these kids with the school supply boxes sold at Kroger. These uniform and compact boxes of school supplies will allow our friends to set up their children for success this school year! We will be collecting donated Kroger boxes of school supplies now through Monday, August 13. You may drop off boxes in room 111. For any questions, please contact Betsy Butler or Sarah Beth Barger.

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

Sarah Beth Barger | sarahbeth@athensfirstumc.org

706-543-1442



Children's Consignment Sale

Join us for our Children's Consignment Sale! We are currently collecting donated items of children's clothing for all seasons, large assorted baby items and furniture, toys, and books. Consignors can drop off properly tagged items starting August 7. Check out our website for how to tag your consigned items. If you are interested in donating or consigning with us, we are especially interested in the following items: strollers, highchairs, pack-and-plays, swings, and ride on toys. Our Sale begins Friday, August 10. We would love to have you come and shop with us! If you have any questions, contact Betsy Butler or Sarah Beth Barger.

Learn more | athensfirstumc.org/childrensconsignmentsale

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

Sarah Beth Barger | sarahbeth@athensfirstumc.org

706-543-1442

Parenting With Purpose Small Group

Mothers of preschool-aged children are invited to gather each Friday morning beginning in September for a time of fellowship, study, and discussion. We will begin with "Follow," an IF:Gathering study that tackles the question "who is Jesus?" Based on the book of Mark, a daily devotion will be emailed to participants to encourage reflection and study. On Fridays we will meet from 9:15-10:45 a.m. to dig into our responses to the message and discuss how to apply it to our everyday lives. Childcare for young children will be available. Please register online to let us know if you will be joining us!

Register | athensfirstumc.org/registration

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

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

"Jesus said 'Go and make disciples.'"
-Matthew 2:19

The Timothy Advantage ministry offers an opportunity to make disciples by teaching children while engaging with other adults through serving alongside one another. It is designed for people who want to share Jesus with children and want to

- get more connected with other adults within our church family
- expand their discipleship commitment
- engage in a mentoring relationship for their own faith walk
- answer God's call and would feel more equipped by teaching with a partner

To join a teaching team or to learn more about the opportunities, contact Robin Stewart or Tiffany Anderson.

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

Tiffany Anderson | tjma287@gmail.com

"I am so excited about the Timothy Advantage because I believe hearts will be shaped in so many ways. I know that I will be transformed as I am mentored through the relationship with my teaching partner while we work to make little disciples. Join me!"

-Tiffany Anderson



This Week

SUNDAY, JULY 15 | 2 CORINTHIANS 12:7b-10

8:30 a.m. **Worship Service** HANCOCK HALL

Preschool Nursery FIRST FLOOR

9:00 a.m. **Fun Gym** GYM

9:45 a.m. **Worship Service** HANCOCK HALL

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** HANCOCK HALL

Preschool Nursery FIRST FLOOR

4:30 p.m. **Connect & Grow Group** JOHN WESLEY PARLOR

MONDAY, JULY 16 | 2 SAMUEL 6:1-5

TUESDAY, JULY 17 | 2 SAMUEL 6:12b-19

10:30 a.m. **Prayer Shawl Ministry** PANERA BREAD

1:30 p.m. **Tagging Tuesdays** ROOM 125

Pickleball

5:30 p.m. **Connect & Grow Group** ROOM 229

Fashion Fitness ROOM 120

6:00 p.m. **GriefShare** ROOM 100

7:00 p.m. **Boy Scouts Troop 1** SCOUT HUT

WEDNESDAY, JULY 18 | PSALM 24:1-2

11:00 a.m. **Smart Lunch, Smart Kid**

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

THURSDAY, JULY 19 | PSALM 24:3-10

1:30 p.m. **Pickleball**

5:30 p.m. **Fashion Fitness** ROOM 120

7:00 p.m. **Connect Group | Young Adult** ROOM 222

FRIDAY, JULY 20 | EPHESIANS 1:3-14

SATURDAY, JULY 21 | MARK 6:14-29

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