

The background features a stylized design with three fish in grey outlines. One fish is at the top left, one at the bottom left, and one at the bottom right. They are connected by thick red lines that form a partial frame. There are also three solid red circles: one in the top left, one in the center below the title, and one in the bottom right.

# ATHENS FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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JULY 29, 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 | \$1,734,062

Goal for July | \$215,164

Amount after 3 Sundays | \$151,559

## *Attendance on July 22*

Total Worship | 666

8:30 a.m. | 114

9:45 a.m. | 219

11:00 a.m. | 208

Online | 125

Sunday School | 218

## *Contact Us*

Office hours: Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Facebook: @Athens First United Methodist Church  
[athensfirstumc.org](mailto:athensfirstumc.org) | 706-543-1442

## *CCLI License No.*

1097803

## *Table of Contents*

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

## *Ministers*

**Martha Aenchbacher** Minister of Congregational Care  
[martha@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:martha@athensfirstumc.org) | 678-230-9708

**Betsy Butler** Minister of Missions  
[betsy@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:betsy@athensfirstumc.org)

**Chuck Hodges** Senior Minister  
[chuck@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:chuck@athensfirstumc.org) | 706-206-5529

**Josh Miles** Minister of Student Life  
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**Susan Taylor** Minister of Discipleship  
[susan@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:susan@athensfirstumc.org)

## *Directors*

**Katie Elder** Director of Route 56  
[katie@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:katie@athensfirstumc.org)

**Jennifer Golden** Assist. Director of Children's Ministry  
[jennifer@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:jennifer@athensfirstumc.org)

**Linsey Jarrett** Director of Weekday Preschool  
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**Laney Jones** Assistant Director of Student Ministries  
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**Sarah Lawing** Director of Children's Music Ministry & 8:30 a.m. Worship Leader  
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[janis@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:janis@athensfirstumc.org)

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[bob@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:bob@athensfirstumc.org)

**Rusty Wood** Director of Recreation Ministries  
[rusty@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:rusty@athensfirstumc.org)

# The Worship of God

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## *Flowers*

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving honor of Doris and Gerald Firth by Jan and Mark Firth.

## GATHERING MUSIC

*The Early Service Band*

## WELCOME & PASSING OF THE PEACE

Sarah Lawing

## OPENING PRAYER

Betsy Butler

## \*HYMNS OF THE DAY

“God, Whose Love is Reigning o’er Us” | LAUDA ANIMA

**God, whose love is reigning o’er us, source of all, the ending true;  
hear the universal chorus raised in joyful praise to you:**

**Alleluia, Alleluia, worship ancient, worship new.**

**Lift we then our human voices in the songs that faith would bring;  
live we then in human choices lives that, like our music, sing:**

**Alleluia, Alleluia, joined in love our praises ring!**

“Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service” | BEACH SPRING

**Lord, whose love through humble service**

**bore the weight of human need,**

**who upon the cross, forsaken,**

**offered mercy’s perfect deed:**

**we, your servants, bring the worship**

**not of voice alone, but heart,**

**consecrating to your purpose**

**every gift that you impart.**

**As we worship, grant us vision,**

**’til your love’s revealing light**

**in it’s height and depth and greatness**

**dawns upon our quickened sight,**

**making known the needs and burdens**

**your compassion bids us bear,**

**stirring us to tireless striving**

**your abundant life to share.**

*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*

If You don't build it, we labor in vain. Without Your Spirit, we stand with no strength. I know my time is passing away, but the works of Your hands are what will remain. Let the favor of the Lord rest upon us. O Lord, establish the work of our hands! Teach us to number the length of our days. Pour out Your power, we'll pour out Your praise. Teach us to run, to finish the race, for only what's done in love will remain. Alleluia!

"Blest Be the Tie That Binds" | DENNIS

**Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;  
the fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.**

**Before our Father's throne we pour our ardent prayers;  
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our comforts and our cares.**

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

"Establish the Work of Our Hands" | Aaron Keyes

SCRIPTURE

JAMES 2:14-17 | NEW REVISED STANDARD VERSION

SERMON

"Gotta See It to Believe It" | Chuck Hodges

\*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**

“Woke Up This Morning” | Traditional Spiritual

# The Steeple

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## In Memoriam

Vivian Morton  
July 20, 2018

## Sympathy

Heartfelt Christian sympathy is extended to Roger Boerma in the loss of his mother, Doris Ann Boerma, on July 8.

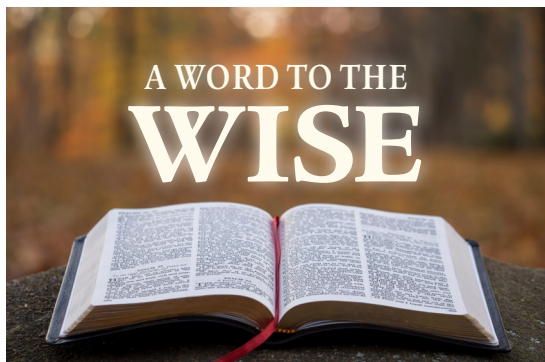
Heartfelt Christian sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Vivian Morton, who passed away July 20.

Heartfelt Christian sympathy is extended to Mary Cox and her family in the loss of her son, Harry Rudy, on July 23.

## New Arrivals

Congratulations to Tripp and Blakely West on the birth of their son, Bennett Radcliffe, on May 8.

Congratulations to Jo and Lee Sullivan on the birth of their daughter, Josephine "Josie" Peyton, on July 18.



## New Series Starts Next Sunday

Join us next Sunday for worship at 8:30, 9:45, or 11:00 a.m. We will worship together in the sanctuary as we begin a new series entitled, "A Word to the Wise." This four-part series will begin with "Lose Your Baggage!"

## GriefShare

Join us Tuesday, July 31, as we discuss what grief can teach us about relationships. 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)

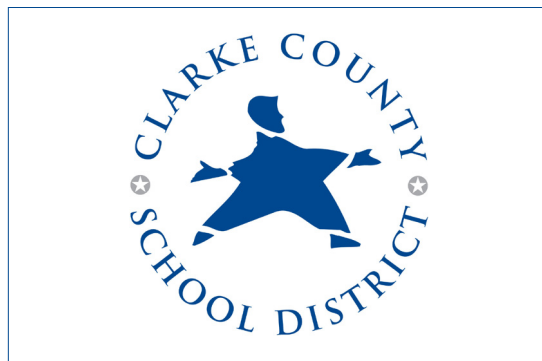
Martha Aenchbacher | [martha@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:martha@athensfirstumc.org)

## 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. We invite you to join us on Tuesday, August 31, 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](mailto:betsy@athensfirstumc.org) | 706-543-1442

Sarah Beth Barger | [sarahbeth@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:sarahbeth@athensfirstumc.org)  
706-543-1442



## Interfaith Service for CCSD

The Interfaith Clergy Partnership will host a service of celebration for the Clarke County School District on Sunday, August 5, at 5:30 p.m. in the Meetinghouse at Piedmont College in Athens. Parking is free and all are welcome. Come celebrate the importance of education in our community as blessings are offered for teachers, students, administrators, and staff of the Clarke County schools.

## Connect Group | Young Adult

Join the Young Adult Connect Group for a six-week Bible study on the book of James beginning August 9. In this study, we will engage with the challenging concept that knowing about the God of the Bible is not the same as knowing the God of the Bible. Knowing God results in a changed life—a



life with real wisdom. The group will meet on Thursday evenings from 7:00-8:30 p.m. in room 222. Study materials cost \$7. Please register online.

Register | [athensfirstumc.org/registration](https://athensfirstumc.org/registration)

Katie Elder | [katie@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:katie@athensfirstumc.org) | 706-543-1442



## Children's Consignment Sale

Join us August 9 and 10 for our Children's Consignment Sale! Come shop while supporting foster care in the Athens area.

### Consignors

We will begin collecting consigned items Tuesday, August 7. If you are interested in consigning with us, please visit our webpage for tagging instructions. We are introducing a new tagging process, so if you have consigned with us in the past, please be sure to look at the new tagging instructions. This new process will be more in line with other consignment sales in Athens. We would love to have you join our sale!

### Donations

We are collecting donations of children's clothing for all seasons, school uniforms, toys, books, and large baby items including: strollers, pack and plays, high chairs, and swings. All donations can be dropped off between 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday in room 111.

If you have any questions about the tagging process or donations, please contact Betsy Butler or Sarah Beth Barger. Learn more | [athensfirstumc.org/childrensconsignmentsale](https://athensfirstumc.org/childrensconsignmentsale)  
Betsy Butler | [betsy@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:betsy@athensfirstumc.org) | 706-543-1442  
Sarah Beth Barger | [sarahbeth@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:sarahbeth@athensfirstumc.org)  
706-543-1442

## Donate School Supplies

Each week our missions team goes to Bethel Homes and serves and has fellowship 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](mailto:betsy@athensfirstumc.org) | 706-543-1442

Sarah Beth Barger | [sarahbeth@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:sarahbeth@athensfirstumc.org)  
706-543-1442

## Sunday Night Kick-off

Students in grades 5-12 are invited to our Sunday Night Kick-off on August 12! This night will include programming for students in Route 56, the Wesleyan Youth Choir, and the Youth Ministry; including a combined dinner in the back parking lot featuring burgers and hotdogs (we will also have vegetarian options)!

### Route 56 Students (Grades 5-6)

Drop-off: 4:30 p.m.

Pick-up: 6:30 p.m.

### Wesleyan Youth Choir Students (Grades 7-12)

Drop-off: 4:30 p.m.

Pick-up: 7:30 p.m.

### Youth Ministry Students (Grades 7-12)

Drop-off: 5:45 p.m.

Pick-up: 7:30 p.m.

Drop-off and pick-up for all students is at the Hancock Avenue entrance with the brown wooden doors. Please note that the Washington Street entrance will be closed, so plan to enter the back parking lot via Hancock Avenue for drop-off and pick-up. We ask that students bring a picnic blanket or a towel (labeled with name) for our dinner time in the back parking lot!

Josh Miles | [josh@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:josh@athensfirstumc.org) | 706-543-1442



## Kids Music and Arts

Registration for our Kids Music and Arts program is now open for Fall 2018! Choir and more for ages 3 (by September 1, 2018) through grade four will kick off on Wednesday, August 15, with Meet the Teacher (all classes) and Passport to Worship for kindergarten through fourth grade. Be sure to see our web page for descriptions of choirs and electives offered this year. Join us as we learn how we're "Growing with Jesus" together!

Register | [athensfirstumc.org/kidsmusicandarts](https://athensfirstumc.org/kidsmusicandarts)

Sarah Lawing | [sarah@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:sarah@athensfirstumc.org) | 706-543-1442

## KidCheck

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, please contact Jennifer Golden.

Learn more | [kidcheck.com](https://kidcheck.com)

Jennifer Golden | [jennifer@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:jennifer@athensfirstumc.org) | 706-543-1442



## Flag Football

Registration for children's recreation flag football league is now open for this fall. If your children are in kindergarten through grade 5 and are 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](https://athensfirstumc.org/flagfootball)

Rusty Wood | [rusty@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:rusty@athensfirstumc.org) | 706-543-1442

# PARENTING WITH PURPOSE

## 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](https://athensfirstumc.org/registration)

Robin Stewart | [robin@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:robin@athensfirstumc.org) | 706-543-1442



# Promotion Sunday

Promotion Sunday is next week! On August 5, children age 2 through those who have completed grade 11 will move to their new age/grade level. Children younger than 2 change rooms as they grow and develop throughout the year; parents will receive an email letting them know what room their children will be in. We look forward to seeing your child in their new classroom August 5!

Robin Stewart | [robin@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:robin@athensfirstumc.org) | 706-543-1442

Jennifer Golden | [jennifer@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:jennifer@athensfirstumc.org) | 706-543-1442

[athensfirstumc.org/promotionsunday](https://athensfirstumc.org/promotionsunday)

# This Week

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## SUNDAY, JULY 29 | EPHESIANS 3:14-21

- 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 30 | 2 SAMUEL 11:26-12:7a

## TUESDAY, JULY 31 | 2 SAMUEL 12:7b-13

- 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, AUGUST 1 | PSALM 51:1-12

- 5:00 p.m. **Kids Music & Arts Leader Training** ROOM 119
- 5:30 p.m. **66 Love Letters**

## THURSDAY, AUGUST 2 | EPHESIANS 4:1-6

- 10:00 a.m. **Our Daily Bread** FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH DOWNTOWN
- 1:30 p.m. **Pickleball**
- 5:30 p.m. **Fashion Fitness** ROOM 120

## FRIDAY, AUGUST 3 | EPHESIANS 4:7-16

## SATURDAY, AUGUST 4 | JOHN 6:24-35

# **Worship Bulletin (614-280)**

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