

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. There are also two solid red circles: one in the top left and one in the bottom right.

ATHENS FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

MAY 1, 2016
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.

Newcomer Orientation

We invite you to learn about the life of our church, ways you can get involved, and how to become a member by attending Newcomer Orientation, which is held every second Sunday of the month at 9:45 and 11:00 a.m.

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 2016 | \$2,778,339
Amount Given YTD | \$962,045
Goal for April | \$205,769
Amount after 3 Sundays | \$218,353

Attendance on April 24

Total Worship | 1210
Sunday School | 524
8:30 a.m. | 153
9:45 a.m. | 296
11:00 a.m. | 663
Online | 98

Table of Contents

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

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julie@athensfirstumc.org

Contact Us

Our church office is open Monday through Friday, from 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

Find us on Facebook at Athens First United Methodist Church.

athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442

The Worship of God

8:30 a.m.

THE GATHERING MUSIC

Flowers

The flowers on the altar
are given to the glory
of God and in loving
memory of Mrs. Mary
Emma Akins by the
Akins children: Beth,
Glenda, James Jr., Kay,
Faye, and Ginger

*THE CONGREGATIONAL CALL TO WORSHIP

327 “Crown Him with Many Crowns” | DIADEMATA

**Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne,
Hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own.**

**Awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless King through all eternity.**

**Crown him the Lord of love; behold his hands and side,
those wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified.**

**All hail, Redeemer, hail! For thou hast died for me;
thy praise and glory shall not fail throughout eternity.**

*THE 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.**

*THE GLORY OF GOD | The Gloria Patri

**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 WELCOME AND THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

Beth Dickinson

*THE HYMN OF PRAISE

64 “Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty” | NICAEA

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.

Anthem Lyrics

Grandeur earth has
quaked before moved by
the sound of His voice.
Seas that are shaken and
stirred can be calmed
and broken for my regard.
Through it all, through it
all, my eyes are on You.
Through it all, through it
all, it is well. Through it
all, through it all, my eyes
are on You. It is well with
me. Far be it from me to
not believe, even when
my eyes can't see. And
this mountain that's in
front of me will be
thrown into the midst
of the sea. So let go my
soul and trust in Him.
The waves and wind still
know His name.

THE OFFERING AND THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“It Is Well” | Bethel Music

Sung by the Worship Team

*THE DOXOLOGY | 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.

THE SCRIPTURE READING

JOHN 14:23-29 | p. 103 NEW TESTAMENT

THE MESSAGE

“A Peaceful Mind” | Chuck Hodges

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Please turn to page 6 in the bulletin for the Communion liturgy.

The Receiving of the Elements of Communion

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 communion elements are available at the center station in the front of the sanctuary.

The Music During Communion

“It Is Well with My Soul”

***THE BLESSING AND CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

“Because He Lives”

**Because He lives I can face tomorrow, because He lives all fear is gone,
because I know He holds the future, life is worth the living just because
He lives.**

*** THE POSTLUDE**

“Rejoice and Be Glad” | Thomas

Beth Rector, organ

Sermon Notes

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 loving
memory of Mrs. Mary
Emma Akins by the
Akins children: Beth,
Glenda, James Jr., Kay,
Faye, and Ginger

THE PRELUDE

“How Firm a Foundation” | Harris
Beth Rector, organ

THE CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

“O Be Joyful” | John Yarrington
Sung by the Sanctuary Choir

THE WELCOME AND THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

Beth Dickinson

Praise & Thanksgiving

*THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN

“May God’s Love Be Fixed Above You” | CWM RHONDDA

**May God's love be fixed above you, overshadow you with grace;
may God's love stand firm beneath you, welcome you with glad embrace!
Alleluia, Alleluia, glorify the Lord with praise! Glorify the Lord with praise!**

**May God's love advance before you, vigilant of all your ways;
may God's love keep watch behind you, shielding you through all your days!
Alleluia, Alleluia, glorify the Lord with praise! Glorify the Lord with praise!**

**May God's love be close beside you, and prepare you for life's race;
may God's love live deep within you, with assurance, lasting grace!
Alleluia, Alleluia, glorify the Lord with praise! Glorify the Lord with praise!**

**May God's love remain upon you, and your faithfulness repay with a
peace the world can't give you, neither shall it take away!
Alleluia, Alleluia, glorify the Lord this day! Glorify the Lord this day!**

*THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Almighty God, you have raised Jesus from death to life and crowned
him Lord of all. We confess that we have not bowed before him or
acknowledged his rule in our lives. We have gone along with the ways of**

the world and failed to give him glory. Forgive us and raise us from sin, that we may be your faithful people, obeying the commands of our Lord Jesus Christ, who rules the world and is head of the church, his body. Amen.

***THE GLORIA PATRI**

Glorify 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 PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Chuck Hodges

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

*Translation of
Anthem Lyrics*

Sing unto the Lord a new
song: Sing unto the Lord,
all the earth. Sing unto
the Lord, bless His name;
Let the heavens rejoice,
and let the earth be glad.

THE OFFERING AND THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“Cantate” | Shane Dittmar

Sung by the Chamber Ensemble

***THE DOXOLOGY | 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.

THE SCRIPTURE READING

JOHN 14:23-29 | p. 103 NEW TESTAMENT

THE MESSAGE

“A Peaceful Mind” | Chuck Hodges

Response to the Word

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

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.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth. You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, brought us to a land flowing with milk and honey, and set before us the way of life. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are filled with your glory. Hosanna, in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name, who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son, Jesus Christ. By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit. By your great mercy we have been born anew to a living hope through the resurrection of your Son from the dead and to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading. Once we were no people, but now we are your people, declaring your wonderful deeds in Christ, who called us out of darkness into his marvelous light. When the Lord Jesus ascended, he promised to be with us always, in the power of your Word and Holy Spirit. On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." When the supper was over he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for

the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." On the day you raised him from the dead he was recognized by his disciples in the breaking of the bread, and in the power of your Holy Spirit your Church has continued in the breaking of the bread and the sharing of the cup. And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

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

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever.

Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen.

The Receiving of the Elements of Communion

At Athens First United Methodist, 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 communion elements are available at the center station with the acolytes.

Translation of Lyrics

Hail, true Body, born
of the Virgin Mary,
having truly suffered,
sacrificed on the cross
for mankind, whose
pierced side flowed
with water and blood:
Be, for us, a foretaste of
the Heavenly banquet
in the trial of death!

The Music During Communion

"Ave Verum" W.A. Mozart

Sung by the Sanctuary Choir; Rachael Fischer and Serena Scibelli, violin; Rebecca Floyd, viola; Ana Abrantes, cello

Sending Forth

*** THE HYMN**

408 "The Gift of Love" | GIFT OF LOVE

***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**

"Rejoice and Be Glad" | Thomas

HIDDEN TREASURE



MUSIC & arts WEEK

June 1-3 | 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Calling all treasure hunters! Come and discover the hidden treasure at Music and Arts Week, June 1-3, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Children currently in kindergarten through grade 4 are invited. Mark Burrows, Director of Children's Ministries at FUMC Fort Worth, will lead us in fun, singing, and storytelling each day. Mr. Mark uses found objects and recyclables to turn trash into treasure as he tells exciting stories of Biblical proportions. Registration is open until May 22.

athensfirstumc.org/musicandartsweek

In Memoriam

Michael Drake Sharp
April 23, 2016

Wedding Bells

Congratulations to Kara Crowe and Ben Woodall, who were married in our sanctuary on April 23. Kara is the daughter of Gay and David Crowe.

Sympathy

Heartfelt Christian sympathy is extended to Nancy Sharp and family in the loss of her son, Drake Sharp, on April 23.

Heartfelt Christian sympathy is extended to Jennifer Wyrick and family in the loss of her father, Ronnie Potts, on April 23.

Route 56 | Octane Song & Service Trip

Octane, our fifth and sixth grade choir, is singing in worship today at Franklin First United Methodist Church in Franklin, North Carolina. Their Song and Service weekend also included a concert at the Franklin House, a visit to the Fun Factory, and a bonfire!



Weekday Preschool Summer Camp

Today is the LAST day to register for Weekday Preschool Summer Camps! Join us the weeks of May 16, May 23, and June 13. All camps take place Monday through Friday from 8:45 a.m.-12:00 p.m. For details about each week of camp

and registration forms, visit the webpage. Contact Susan Brodrick if you have any questions.

Learn more | athensfirstumc.org/summercamps

Susan Brodrick | preschool@athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-2427



Wednesday Night Meal

The last Wednesday Night Meal of the semester will be Wednesday, May 4. Join us for soft shell turkey tacos with toppings and chips from Barberitos. Meals are \$6 each. Advance dinner orders are required. Order your meal online or by calling the church office by Tuesday at noon. Take-out boxes will be available if you have to eat and run.

EA Whorton | edithann@athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442

Learn more | athensfirstumc.org/wednesdaynightmeals

Single Adults Sunday School Class

"I would, if I had someone..." Well, come meet other people who say the same thing! This is not just a Sunday school class. It is where singles and single-again persons of any age form connections. Stop by room 301 Sunday morning at 9:45 a.m. and introduce yourself. Even if you cannot join our Sunday school class, consider joining our social events or email group! For more information about the class or the next event, contact Bonnie Pope.

Bonnie Pope | bunnyseepuppy@gmail.com

Special Offering | Next Sunday

As Mother's Day approaches, we think of mothers who have loved us and blessed us with their care. Next Sunday, we will take up a special offering for Wesley Woods. The Mother's Day Offering is the chief means of funding

benevolent support at the nine different Wesley Woods communities. Please help with a charitable donation to honor your mother or grandmother this Mother's Day. As you plan to worship with us next Sunday, please prepare to give generously to our partner in the North Georgia Conference of the United Methodist Church.



Newcomer Orientation | Next Sunday

Everyone is invited to attend Newcomer Orientation next Sunday, May 8, in the Hospitality Room. Two sessions are offered, 9:45 and 11:00 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
706-543-1442



Senior Recognition Sunday | May 8

We look forward to recognizing the Senior Class of 2016 during the 11:00 a.m. worship service on Sunday, May 8. There will be a reception for the seniors and their families in the youth room from 10:15-10:45 a.m. that morning. We

invite you to join us in supporting our senior class! Please contact Josh or Laney for more information.

Josh Miles | josh@athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442

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

Interfaith Hospitality Network

Interfaith Hospitality Network Host week is coming up May 8-15! IHNA provides services and coordinates temporary housing for displaced families in local host churches, and it is a privilege to partner in ministry with them. We have a particular need for evening hosts, overnight hosts, and drivers. This is a wonderful opportunity to provide encouragement and hospitality to those in need in our community. If you would like to sign up or learn more, please contact Taylor Miller.

Taylor Miller | miller3750@bellsouth.net



Families on the Fifth | May 29

Join us May 29 at 9:45 a.m. for our next Families on the Fifth, a family-friendly Sunday School program for children in kindergarten through grade 4 and their parents. We will equip families with "Take Out Church," which is a way for families to bring faith to life this summer. Each family will decorate a pizza box that will provide ways to worship God, grow as disciples, and love your neighbors. Each item in the box is designed to help us live into our mission as a church.

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

Cave Quest Vacation Bible School

Kids: bring your imaginations and some friends! Register now for our Vacation Bible School adventure where we will follow Jesus, the Light of the World. We will meet Bible

characters who discover that Jesus gives us hope, courage, direction, love, and power. VBS is open to all children who turned three by September 1, 2015, through those who are completing Grade 4. We will also have childcare for the younger children of our adult volunteers, and a special Route 56 program for our Grade 5 students! Visit our webpage for more information and to register for Cave Quest VBS!

Learn more | athensfirstumc.org/vbs

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

Route 56 is ZOOMing into VBS

ZOOM is a VBS program intentionally developed for our Grade 5 students in Route 56 (Our students in Grade 6 are invited to volunteer at VBS). Activities will be both at the church and other destinations. Transportation will be provided. Come join the fun and build relationships with your Route 56 friends as we dig deeper into the word, serve our community, and grow closer to God. ZOOM meets June 6-9 at the church from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Please register online. If you have any questions, please contact Leslie Rogers for more information.

Register | athensfirstumc.org/vbs

Leslie Rogers | leslie@athensfirstumc.org



Senior Fun Trip

Remember to sign up for our popular trip to Flat Rock Playhouse for the production of *Music Man*! Join us June 16 for this fabulous show and dine at the famous Breezeway Restaurant for lunch. The trip is \$65 per person, excluding the cost of lunch. Place reservations with Dan Maxey.

Church office | 706-543-1442

Dan Maxey | 706-340-5097



Youth Service Week | Athens

ONE Student Ministries will be hosting a Youth Service Week in Athens this July for youth in grades 7-12. Youth Service Week will be July 11-15. The goal of Youth Service Week is not only to serve our community, but also to bring our youth group closer together through the joy of serving others in the name of Jesus! Registration will close on Sunday, May 15, at 11:55 p.m. For planning purposes, the sooner you register the better! Please visit our webpage for more information and to register.

Register | athensfirstumc.org/youthserviceweek

Josh Miles | josh@athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442



Children's Consignment Sale

Please consider donating your gently used children's items to be sold at the fourth annual Children's Consignment Sale, especially used highchairs, swings, and strollers. Car seats and cribs cannot be accepted. All proceeds to this year's sale will go to support foster care efforts in the Athens area. Please bring items to room 103. Contact Mary Claire if you have any questions.

Mary Claire Wills | maryclaire@athensfirstumc.org

This Week

SUNDAY, MAY 1 | REVELATION 22:1-5

Route 56: Octane Trip

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

Elementary Sunday School THIRD FLOOR

Grade 5 & 6 Sunday School: Fuel FIRST FLOOR

Youth Sunday School: First Word FIRST FLOOR

10:00 a.m. **Sack Lunch Ministry** HULL STREET ENTRANCE

11:00 a.m. **Worship Service** SANCTUARY

Preschool Nursery FIRST FLOOR

12:00 p.m. **Partners Sunday School Class Luncheon** ROOM 222

VBS Volunteer Training HANCOCK HALL

12:15 p.m. **Venture Crew Meeting** ROOM 125

2:00 p.m. **Athens Area Walk to Emmaus Board of Directors Meeting** HULL CONFERENCE ROOM

3:45 p.m. **Agapé Choir Rehearsal** ROOM 148

4:30 p.m. **Route 56: Open Road** ROOM 120

Carillons Ringers ROOM 150

4:45 p.m. **Connect Group (Moms)** ROOM 224

5:30 p.m. **Alleluia Ringers** ROOM 150

5:45 p.m. **Encounter** YOUTH AREA

MONDAY, MAY 2 | PSALM 47

11:30 a.m. **UMW Executive Board** HULL CONFERENCE ROOM

1:15 p.m. **Disciplines Devotional Bible Study** ROOM 200

TUESDAY, MAY 3 | ACTS 1:1-11

8:30 a.m. **Community Bible Study Leaders Council**

6:00 p.m. **Girls' Spring Volleyball League** GYM

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

WEDNESDAY, MAY 4 | ACTS 16:16-34

9:30 a.m. **Learn to Walk as Jesus Walked** ROOM 229

3:00 p.m. **Fun Gym** GYM

4:30 p.m. **Prayer Shawl Ministry** ROOM 200

4:45 p.m. **Early Book Group** ROOM 247

5:00 p.m. **Wednesday Night Dinner** HANCOCK HALL

5:20 p.m. **Celebrate Choir Mother's Day Rehearsal** ROOM 151

5:30 p.m. **66 Love Letters | Women's Bible Study** HULL CONFERENCE ROOM

Connect Group (Young Married Couples) ROOM 301

5:45 p.m. **Men's Prayer Group** ROOM 226

6:00 p.m. **Engage Bible Study** YOUTH AREA

6:30 p.m. **Connect Group (Young Married Couples)** ROOM 114
 Five Marks of a Methodist ROOM 222
 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal ROOM 148
 The Battle Plan for Prayer ROOM 240
8:00 p.m. **Chamber Ensemble Rehearsal** ROOM 148

THURSDAY, MAY 5 | EPHESIANS 1:15-23

9:00 a.m. **Altar Guild Meeting** ROOM 100
9:30 a.m. **Community Bible Study** HANCOCK HALL
12:30 p.m. **Our Daily Bread** FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH DOWNTOWN
6:00 p.m. **Girls' Spring Volleyball League** GYM
7:00 p.m. **Connect Group (Young Adult)** ROOM 222
 Connect Group | Married Couples with Children THE HOME OF DUTCH AND MARY BETH GUEST
7:30 p.m. **Adult Softball** BISHOP PARK

FRIDAY, MAY 6 | REVELATION 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21

SATURDAY, MAY 7 | LUKE 24:44-53

9:00 a.m. **Children's Soccer**

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