



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 the 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 2017 | \$3,038,381 Amount Given YTD | \$1,137,936 Goal for April | \$226,891 Amount after 5 Sundays | \$325,657

Attendance on May 7

Total Worship | 1226 8:30 a.m. | 161 9:45 a.m. | 402 11:00 a.m. | 619 Online | 149 Sunday School | 233

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Ministers and Directors

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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

The Worship of God

8:30 a.m.

PRELUDE

"For the Beauty of the Earth"

Flowers

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving tribute to all mothers by the Altar Guild.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Betsy Butler

PSALM 133 | P. 543 OLD TESTAMENT
Behold, how good and pleasant it is when we live together in unity!
Unite us, Lord, unite us by your everlasting love.
It is like the precious oil upon the head, running down upon the beard, upon the beard of Aaron, running down on the collar of his robes!
Unite us, Lord, unite us by your everlasting love.
It is like the dew of Hermon which falls on the mountains of Zion!
Unite us, Lord, unite us by your everlasting love.
For there the Lord has commanded the blessing, life for evermore.
Unite us, Lord, unite us by your everlasting love.

*HYMN OF PRAISE

имн 92 "For the Beauty of the Earth" | DIX

*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

I

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Linsey Jarrett

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER Bob Winstead

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.

OFFERING AND OFFERTORY ANTHEM "Stormy Weather" | Brandon Kinder

*DOXOLOGY

UMH 94 "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

2 Timothy 1:1-5 \mid p. 199 New testament The word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

"All in the Family" | Bob Winstead

HYMN OF PREPARATION

имн 549 "Where Charity and Love Prevail" | ST. Anne Verses 1-2

Where charity and love prevail, there God is ever found; brought here together by Christ's Love, by love are we thus bound. With grateful joy and holy fear true charity we learn; let us with heart and mind and strength now love Christ in return.

Anthem Lyrics I've never been one for stormy weather, but all of these clouds are coming close. I know that you and I should probably run for cover, but let's just wait it out and see where it goes. I need to head back to West Virginia down to the place my dad was born, because l've been forgetting what he told me, "Don't lose your footing on this road." When I was young, the sun was shining bright as ever, but I never looked up to see where the light was from. Oh, now it feels like the sun is setting. Now I'm looking up just to see where the light has gone. I need to head back to California down to the place my mom was born, because l've been forgetting what she told me, "Son, don't lose sight of the Lord." Now I'm sitting here in Texas sitting here looking up at the moon and I know that I've been forgetting that the sun is coming up soon.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION Martha Aenchbacher and Betsy Butler MATTHEW 26:17-19, 26-29

Prayer of Confession

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.

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.

Music During Communion "No Fear in Love" | Steffany Gretzinger

Prayer After Receiving Communion

*CLOSING HYMN

UMH 557 "Blest Be the Tie That Binds" | DENNIS

*BLESSING

* **POSTLUDE** "God of Grace, and God of Glory" | Wagner

Song Lyrics

Stir in me a love that's deep, a love that's wide, a love that's sweet, and help me Lord to never keep it to myself. If my heart should dimly burn and if my feet should fail to run, call my name and I will come right back to You. There's no fear in love. I want to stay close to You, it's really that simple. I want to stay close to You, just as simple as this song. I want to stay close to You my whole life long.

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 tribute to all mothers by the Altar Guild.

THE PRELUDE "The Gift of Love" | Traditional

THE CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP "Shout with Joy" Sung by the Sanctuary Choir

Praise & Thanksgiving

*THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN

"For All the Faithful Women Who Served in Days of Old" | ELLACOMBE

For all the faithful women who served in days of old, To you shall thanks be given; to all, their story told. They served with strength and gladness in tasks your wisdom gave. To you their lives bore witness, proclaimed your pow'r to save.

We sing of busy Martha, who toiled with pot and pan While Mary sat in silence to hear the word again. We praise the other Mary, who hastened to the tomb And found her Lord arisen, dispelling doubt and gloom.

O God of saints and servants who named and those unknown In who through all the ages your light of glory shone, We offer glad thanksgiving and fervent prayer we raise That, faithful in your service our lives may sing your praise.

All praise to God the Father! All praise to Christ the Son! All praise to God the Spirit, who binds the church as one! With saints who went before us, with saints who witness still, We sing glad alleluias and strive to do your will.

***THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Betsy Butler

This is the good news which we have received in which we stand, and by which we are saved:

Christ died for our sins, was buried, was raised on the third day, and appeared first to the women, then to Peter and the disciples, and then to many faithful witnesses.

We believe Jesus is the Christ, the Anointed One of God, the firstborn of all creation, the firstborn from the dead, in whom all things hold together, in whom the fullness of God was pleased to dwell by the power of the Spirit.

Christ is the head of the body, the church, and by the blood of the cross reconciles all things to God. 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 ANTHEM | 11:00 a.m. "Precious Promises" | Hank Hinnant

Sung by the Lyric and Celebrate Choirs with their family members; Sylvia Arant, accompanist

This anthem was commissioned for the children of Athens First United Methodist Church by Carol Reeves, Director of Children's Music from 1996-2014.)

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER Bob Winstead

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.

THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE | 11:00 a.m. Linsey Jarrett

Anthem Lyrics

When the night falls around me, and the silence surrounds me; when friends aren't around me and I find myself alone: when the last path's been traveled and I'm lost in the shadows; when hope has unraveled, and I've wandered far from home. There's a peace that I find, when God's words come to mind, words that comfort and sustain, as a calming refrain. God's precious promises, "I'll never leave you. I will receive you. As the eagle you'll rise up and fly. Through green pastures I'll lead you to lie down and rest. I will not leave vou comfortless. I'll send my own spirit." And so at night when I lie down to sleep, I'll not count sheep; I'll count God's precious promises to me. O Lord, I promise that I'll never leave you. In my heart, O Lord, I will receive you. In my songs, may you words wing their flight. On my path, let your word be my light to show the way. O Lord, I promise that I will believe you, and I'm certain that I'll always need you. And Lord since you never slumber nor sleep, I know you'll keep all of your precious promises to me.

Proclamation of the Word

Anthem Lyrics

I have felt the hand of God in your hand. Holding me, you gave me strength to stand. When I was all alone, you came and met my need. And when I lost my way, your hand was there to lead. Through your touch, God's hand reached out to me. I have felt the hand of God in your hand. I have heard the voice of God in your voice, singing praise, you taught me to rejoice. Your voice of comfort caused my grief to end. And when my faith was gone, you called me home again. When you spoke, God's voice called out to me. I have heard the voice of God in your voice. I have seen the face of God in your face. Giving all, you shared with me God's grace. And you were faithful to guide me as I grew. I saw your love for God and I saw God in you. When you smiled, God's love surrounded me. I have seen the face of God, I have heard the voice of God, I have felt the hand of God through you.

Song Lyrics

May the road rise to meet you. May the wind be ever at your back. May the sun shine warm upon your face; the rains fall soft upon your fields. And until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of His hand.

THE OFFERING AND THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM

"I Have Felt the Hand of God" | Craig Courtney Sung by the Sanctuary Choir

*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.

THE SCRIPTURE READING

2 TIMOTHY 1:1-5 | P. 199 NEW TESTAMENT The word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

THE SERMON "All in the Family" | Bob Winstead

Response to the Word

***THE HYMN**

имн 445 "Happy the Home When God Is There" | ST. Agnes

Sending Forth

***THE BLESSING AND CHORAL RESPONSE**

"Irish Blessing" | Philip Stopford Sung by the Sanctuary Choir

* THE POSTLUDE "God of Grace, and God of Glory" | Wagner

The Steeple



SUNDAY SCHOOL | 10:00 a.m.

We have experienced many changes and challenges this year, not the least of which has been the absence of our beloved Senior Minister. As we enter into summer, we find that this is a time to come together and celebrate with our church family. We have much to give thanks to God for, and so during the months of June and July, we will be offering a Summer of Celebration. The most important thing for you to note is that our service times will change for each Sunday during June and July. We will offer two service times, at 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Sunday school classes will meet at 10:00 a.m. In addition, we will offer Holy Communion in the chapel at 8:30 a.m. each Sunday. We pray that each of us will embrace this opportunity to come together with our community of faith, to link arms with our brothers and sisters in Christ, and to celebrate the many blessings the Lord has bestowed on us during this time.

Special Offering | Today

Today we will take up a special offering for Wesley Woods. The residents of Wesley Woods are not total strangers. Some are persons who have worshipped with us in our local churches. Others are pastors and their spouses who have given themselves unselfishly in ministry in North Georgia. Still others are our neighbors in the spirit in which Jesus graciously designated them. Seventy-five percent of Wesley Woods's residents annually require some financial assistance with housing. The Mother's Day Offering is the chief means of funding benevolent support at the ten different Wesley Woods communities. Please help with a charitable donation to honor your mother or grandmother this Mother's Day. Your gift gives love and hope to older adults in need. Please use the envelope provided or mark your offering as "Wesley Woods Offering."

Newcomer Orientation | Today

Everyone is invited to attend Newcomer Orientation today 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 Fun Trip | Deadline Tomorrow

The deadline to register for the Senior Fun Trip is tomorrow, Monday, May 15. On Wednesday, June 28, the Senior Fun Group will travel to Flat Rock, NC to see *Annie* at the North Carolina State Playhouse. Lunch will be on your own at Bay Breeze. The cost is \$65 per person and includes transportation, tickets, and on-board refreshments. Contact Dan Maxey to register.

Dan Maxey | 706-340-5097

Employment Opportunity

We are receiving applications for a full-time Administrative Assistant to Executive Director of Administration. Please visit our webpage for more details. Completed resumes and applications may be emailed.

Learn more | athensfirstumc.org/employment Apply | employment@athensfirstumc.org

Wesley Heritage Tour | "Travel" Along

On May 19, 25 members of our church will travel to England on a 12-day tour to follow in the footsteps of John Wesley. The tour will include stops in London to see Wesley's Chapel and Methodist Central Hall; Oxford to see Christ Church Cathedral, Lincoln College; and a side trip to Blenheim Palace. The group will also travel to Epworth to see John Wesley's childhood home and Bristol to see the first Methodist meeting place—the New Room. If you would like to travel with us, you can follow our daily blog. We will update it daily with pictures, devotions, and a brief description of the day's activities. Please keep us in prayer as we deepen our faith through studying the life and teaching of John Wesley.

Learn more | athensfirstumc.org/wesleyheritage

GriefShare

Our GriefShare group will meet this summer, May through August, led by Martha Aenchbacher. This faith-based curriculum for those grieving the death of a friend or family member features nationally recognized experts on grief and recovery topics. We will meet at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesdays beginning May 24. New participants are welcome to join at any time. Please register online; there is a \$20 cost to cover the workbook.

Register | athensfirstumc.org/griefshare Martha Aenchbacher | martha@athensfirstumc.org 706-543-1442

Senior Fun Group Luncheon | May 25

This month's Senior Fun Luncheon is on Thursday, May 25, at 12:30 p.m. in Hancock Hall. Dr. Charlie Burch and Dr. Stan Satterfield, two of Athens' finest dentists, will be discussing senior oral health. Isaiah Feken, a gifted baritone and UGA doctoral candidate in opera performance, will perform four solos. All Senior Fun members and friends are encouraged to register now by calling the church office. Reservations should be placed by 12:00 p.m. Wednesday, May 24. For more information, contact Dan Maxey. Dan Maxey | 706-613-1562 Church office | 706-543-1442



The countdown is on and Vacation Bible School will be here before you know it. Are your children and grandchildren signed up? You will not want them to miss this exciting week where they will meet friends like Bubba the whale, who know that God created them with a special purpose in mind! VBS will take place June 5-8. Please register your children age 3 (by September 1, 2016) through those who have completed grade 4. Youth volunteers (grades 6-12) are still needed. And don't forget, we have a special opportunity for our children in grade 5. Register online to reserve your spot.

athensfirstumc.org/vbs



Sack Lunch Ministry

Our ongoing Sunday morning Sack Lunch Ministry meets every Sunday morning at 10:00 a.m. to distribute 40 lunches to our neighbors in the community. This summer, beginning May 28, we are in need of volunteers for this wonderful ministry. If you'd like serve by preparing and/or distributing lunches this summer, register online or contact Mary Young or Betsy.

Register | athensfirstumc.org/sacklunchministry Betsy Butler | betsy@athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442 Mary Young | young.macy@gmail.com

Seamless | Women's Study

Join Susie Thrasher in a unique seven-week Bible study on Wednesday mornings. *Seamless* by Angie Smith is a sweeping overview of the Bible and a way of understanding it as one complete story. Each week of study features key information that ties all of scripture together into the seamless truth of the gospel message. All women are invited to join. This study will meet May 31-July 12, from 10:00-11:30 a.m. in room 229. The cost is \$13. For more information, please contact Cindy McKoy. Register | *athensfirstumc.org/registration* Cindy McKoy | *cindy@athensfirstumc.org* | 706-543-1442

Hymnals

We have replaced many of the sanctuary hymnals. If your small group or Sunday school class would like to use the extra hymnals, please contact Stephen Mitchell or Cindy McKoy.

Stephen Mitchell | *smitchell@athensfirstumc.org* 706-543-1442

Cindy McKoy | cindy@athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442

Wesleyan Youth Choir Tour

Please be in prayer for the Wesleyan Youth Choir as we prepare for a Mystery Destination Choir Tour! We will travel, sing, work, and play during the week of May 27-June 2. We don't know where God is leading us, but we have faith that He has great things in store for us! Join us for the Home Concert on Friday, June 2, at 5:00 p.m. in Hancock Hall to hear us sing and share about the places we have been! Janis Maxwell | *janis@athensfirstumc.org* | 706-543-1442

Music and Arts Week | June 13-15

Children currently in kindergarten through grade 4 are invited to Music and Arts Week June 13-15, from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. This year, we will be putting on the musical "Heroes of the Faith." Kids will have the chance to be involved in all aspects of the production, from set construction and costume design to singing, acting, and dancing! Visit our webpage for more info, including details about auditions for speaking roles. Registration is open until May 31. Learn more | athensfirstumc.org/musicandartsweek Sarah Lawing | sarah@athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442

Smart Lunch, Smart Kids

More than 1 million children in Georgia schools receive free or reduced-price lunch, a crucial meal that disappears in the summer. Smart Lunch, Smart Kid ensures that these children are fed in the summer and on school breaks. Please join us every Wednesday, beginning June 14, as we partner with Action Ministries to provide lunch to our neighborhood children. Two teams will be sent to two neighborhoods to play, encourage, and build relationships! Please join us as we serve our neighbors and transform Athens by sharing God's love. Register online or contact Mary Claire or Betsy. Register | athensfirstumc.org/smartlunchsmartkid Betsy Butler | betsy@athensfirstumc.org 706-543-1442

Consignment Sale | August 4-5

We invite you to consign with our Children's Consignment Sale this August! For a consignor fee of \$10, consignors can sell as many items as they would like, while making sixty percent of all earnings and forty percent going towards supporting foster care. This is a great way to make extra money, get rid of children's things you no longer have a use for, and support a great cause! In addition, all consignors are invited to shop at our preview sale, Thursday, August 3. If you would like to consign at this year's sale, please register online to receive your tags and begin preparing for the sale. Contact Betsy or Mary Claire for more information. Register | *athensfirstumc.org/childrensconsignmentsale* Betsy Butler | *betsy@athensfirstumc.org* | 706-543-1442 Mary Claire Wills | *maryclaire@athensfirstumc.org* 706-543-1442

MISSION BLITZ July 9-23

LOVE TRANSFORMS

We'll be participating in a two-week "mission blitz" this summer by serving together near and far. Please see the list below for the mission opportunities available. Contact Betsy or Mary Claire for more information.

Local:

Smart Lunch, Smart Kid Interfaith Hospitality Network of Athens Children's Consignment Sale Sack Lunch Ministry Mobile Food Pantry

Regional: Prayers for our youth on the Epworth Mission Trip

International: Costa Rica Mission Trip

Betsy Butler | *betsy@athensfirstumc.org* | 706-543-1442 Mary Claire Wills | *maryclaire@athensfirstumc.org* | 706-543-1442

athensfirstumc.org/missionblitz

This Week

SUNDAY, MAY 14 | John 14:1-14

- 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 Youth Sunday School: First Word YOUTH AREA Route 56: Fuel ROOM 120 Elementary Sunday School: Holy Ground CHAPEL Kindergarten Sunday School: City on a Hill ROOM 311 & 313 Newcomer Orientation HOSPITALITY ROOM
- **10:00 a.m.** Sack Lunch Ministry HULL STREET ENTRANCE
- 11:00 a.m. Worship Service SANCTUARY Preschool Nursery FIRST FLOOR Newcomer Orientation HOSPITALITY ROOM
- 3:45 p.m. Agapé Choir Rehearsal ROOM 148
- 4:30 p.m. Wesleyan Youth Choir Rehearsal ROOM 148
- 6:00 p.m. Connect & Grow Group JOHN WESLEY PARLOR
 - Revival ROOM 222

MONDAY, MAY 15 | Acts 17:22-28

- 10:00 a.m. Connect & Grow Group ROOM 222
- 11:00 a.m. UMW Circle 1 Meeting HULL CONFERENCE ROOM
- 11:30 a.m. UMW Circle 3 and 6 Meeting THE HOME OF DIANNE WALL
- 1:15 p.m. Disciplines Devotional Bible Study ROOM 200
- 5:30 p.m. Church Council HANCOCK HALL

TUESDAY, MAY 15 | Acts 17:29-31

- 5:30 a.m. Fashion Fitness ROOM 120
- 10:00 a.m. UMW Circle 7 Meeting ROOM 100
- 10:30 a.m. Prayer Shawl PANERA BREAD
- 1:30 p.m. Pickleball GYM
- 5:30 p.m. Fashion Fitness ROOM 120
- 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts Troop 1 SCOUT HUT Connect & Grow Group ROOM 229
 - Connect & Grow Group TIMOTHY ROAD

WEDNESDAY, MAY 17 | PSALM 66:8-20

- 9:30 a.m. Wednesday Morning Bible Study ROOM 222
- 4:30 p.m. Prayer Shawl ROOM 200
- 4:45 p.m. Early Book Group ROOM 247
- 5:00 p.m. Potluck Dinner HANCOCK HALL
- 5:30 p.m. 66 Love Letters HULL CONFERENCE ROOM
- 6:30 p.m. Connect & Grow Group ROOM 224
 - Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal ROOM 247

THURSDAY, MAY 18 | I PETER 3:13-17

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

FRIDAY, MAY 19 | 1 PETER 3:18-22

- 12:30 p.m. Connect & Grow Group ROOM 224
- 3:30 p.m. Wesley Heritage Tour DEPARTING FROM HULL STREET PARKING LOT

SATURDAY, MAY 20 | JOHN 14:15-17

Wesley Heritage Tour

10:00 a.m. Children's Soccer CHAPELWOOD UMC

Worship Bulletin (614-280)

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