

The background features a stylized design with three fish in grey outlines. Two fish are in the top-left corner, and one is in the bottom-right corner. A large red geometric shape, resembling a stylized 'L' or a corner of a square, is positioned in the top-left and bottom-right. A red dot is located in the top-left corner, and another red dot is in the bottom-right corner.

ATHENS FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

MAY 13 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 | \$1,085,565

Goal for April | \$242,930

Amount after 5 Sundays | \$263,442

Attendance on May 6

Total Worship | 1,161

8:30 a.m. | 149

9:45 a.m. | 303

11:00 a.m. | 577

Online | 132

Sunday School | 411

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

Table of Contents

- 1 8:30 a.m. Order of Worship
- 5 9:45 & 11:00 a.m. Order of Worship
- 10 The Steeple
- 12 Calendar

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
chuck@athensfirstumc.org | 706-206-5529

Josh Miles Minister of Student Life
josh@athensfirstumc.org

Susan Taylor Minister of Discipleship
susan@athensfirstumc.org

Directors

Katie Elder Assistant Director of Children’s Ministry
katie@athensfirstumc.org

Linsey Jarrett Director of Weekday Preschool
linsey@athensfirstumc.org

Laney Jones Assistant Director of Student Ministries
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
janis@athensfirstumc.org

Stephen Mitchell Director of Music
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

8:30 a.m.

Flowers

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

GATHERING SONG

“Give Me Jesus” | traditional spiritual

I heard my mother say, I heard my mother say.

I heard my mother say, give me Jesus.

Give me Jesus, give me Jesus.

You may have all this world but give me Jesus.

When I am alone, oh, when I am alone.

Oh, when I am alone, give me Jesus.

Give me Jesus, give me Jesus.

You may have all this world but give me Jesus.

INVOCATION

Josh Miles

*HYMN OF PRAISE

UMH 368 “My Hope Is Built” | THE SOLID ROCK

*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

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Robin Stewart

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Susan Taylor

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

"Every Mother, Every Father" | Bruce Benedict and Andy Bast

Anthem Lyrics

Every mother, every
father called to raise a
son or daughter: may
your heart be patient.
May your mind be clear.
May our God be with you
and calm your fears.

*DOXOLOGY

UMH 95 "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

Proverbs 22:1-6

p. 570 OLD TESTAMENT

A good name is more desirable than great riches; to be esteemed is better than silver or gold. ²Rich and poor have this in common: The Lord is the Maker of them all. ³The prudent see danger and take refuge, but the simple keep going and pay the penalty. ⁴Humility is the fear of the Lord; its wages are riches and honor and life. ⁵In the paths of the wicked are snares and pitfalls, but those who would preserve their life stay far from them. ⁶Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it.

SERMON

"My First Teacher" | Chuck Hodges

HYMN OF PREPARATION

UMH 445 "Happy the Home When God Is There" | ST. AGNES

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.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Holy Mystery that is wholly love, you are beyond complete knowledge, above perfect description. Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; Source of Life, Living Word, and Bond of Love, you are creative and self-giving, generously moving. Even when we turn away from you, you are with us; your presence never fails us, your gifts of hope and new life transform us.

We praise you for Jesus Christ — God incarnate, the Risen Christ — who joins us together as a community of believers, striving to be his faithful servants in our time and place. In this meal we remember Jesus, his promises, and the price he paid.

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."

We do remember. We remember his life of love, his friendship, his teaching, his dying, and his rising to life again. In sharing this meal, we live out the mystery of our faith.

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

Loving God, who in Jesus Christ gives us our salvation, consecrate by your Holy Spirit these elements of Holy Communion. Bless us as we receive them this day that we may be your faithful people. In our Risen Savior's name we pray. **Amen.**

Receiving of the Elements

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

Music During Holy Communion

"Thy Mercy, My God" | John Stoker; arr. Sandra McCracken

Prayer of Thanksgiving

In you, O God, we live and move and have our being. We thank you for this meal that sustains us and for the bonds of love we have with one another. As we have been loved by you and by others, so may we love. Illumine our homes with the light of your love, granting us the courage to share that love in the name of Jesus, our Redeemer. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN

UMH 374 "Standing on the Promises" | PROMISES

*BLESSING

*POSTLUDE

"Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken" | Young

Song Lyrics

Thy mercy, my God, is the
theme of my song, the
joy of my heart, and the
boast of my tongue. Thy
free grace alone, from
the first to the last, has
won my affections, and
bound my soul fast.
Without thy sweet mercy
I could not live here. Sin
would reduce me to utter
despair, but through thy
free goodness, my spirit's
revived, and He that first
made me still keeps me
alive. Thy mercy is more
than a match for my
heart, which wonders
to feel its own hardness
depart. Dissolved by thy
goodness, I fall to the
ground, and weep to the
praise of the mercy I've
found. Great Father of
mercies, thy goodness
I own, and the covenant
love of thy crucified Son.
All praise to the Spirit,
whose whisper divine
seals mercy, and pardon,
and righteousness mine.

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 and honor of all mothers by the Altar Guild.

THE PRELUDE

“Darwall’s 148th” | Larson

Grace Huang, piano; Janis Maxwell, organ

THE CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

“Come, Christians, Join to Sing”

Sung by the Sanctuary Choir

Praise & Thanksgiving

*THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN

UMH 154 “All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name” | CORONATION

*THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH | The Apostles’ Creed

Martha Aenchbacher

**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 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 SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM | 9:45 a.m.

Lucille Clyde Loftis, daughter of Meghan and John Loftis

Lucy, Lucy, God claims you, God helps you, protects you, and loves you too. We this day do all agree a child of God you'll always be. Lucy, Lucy, God claims you, God helps you, protects you, and loves you too.

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM | 11:00 a.m.

John Hughes Douglas, son of Bianca and Ben Douglas

Hughes, Hughes, God claims you, God helps you, protects you, and loves you too. We this day do all agree a child of God you'll always be. Hughes, Hughes, God claims you, God helps you, protects you, and loves you too.

THE ANTHEM | 11:00 a.m.

“Song for Beginnings” | Kevin R Riehle

Sung by Lyric and Celebrate Choirs with family and friends

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Susan Taylor

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

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

Robin Stewart

At the 11:00 a.m. service, children in kindergarten through grade 2 will go to Children's Church on the third floor where they may be picked up at the end of the service.

THE OFFERING AND THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise” | Dan Forrest

Sung by the Sanctuary Choir with the Brass Ensemble

11:00 Anthem Lyrics

Come, my children, I
will teach you of the
goodness of the Lord.
God, our guardian,
never sleeping, never
slumbering, gives the
Word: “I will keep you,
I will keep you as the
apple of my eye. I will
keep you, I will keep
you as the apple of my
eye.” From your birth
you were protected by
the watermark of grace;
God is here from life's
beginning, speaking love
into this place. “I will hide
you, I will hide you in the
shadow of my wings.”

Offertory Lyrics

If God be for us, who can
be against us? He who
did not spare His only
Son, but gave Him up for
all, shall he not with Him
freely give us all things?
Hail the day that sees
him rise, Alleluia! To his
throne beyond the skies.
Alleluia! Christ, the Lamb
for sinners given, Alleluia!
Enters now the highest
heaven. Alleluia! Circled
round with angel pow'rs,
Alleluia! Their triumphant
Lord and ours, Alleluia!
Christ has conquered
death and sin, Alleluia!
Take the King of Glory in,
Alleluia!

***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

Proverbs 22:1-6

p. 570 OLD TESTAMENT

A good name is more desirable than great riches; to be esteemed is better than silver or gold. ²Rich and poor have this in common: The Lord is the Maker of them all. ³The prudent see danger and take refuge, but the simple keep going and pay the penalty. ⁴Humility is the fear of the Lord; its wages are riches and honor and life. ⁵In the paths of the wicked are snares and pitfalls, but those who would preserve their life stay far from them. ⁶Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it.

THE SERMON

“My First Teacher” | Chuck Hodges

Response to the Word

***THE HYMN**

UMH 374 “Standing on the Promises” | PROMISES

Sending Forth

***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**

“Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken” | Young



June & July

Get ready for some FUN during Sunday School in June and July as we merge kids of all ages, kindergarten through grade 12! Our older students may elect to serve in leadership positions each Sunday. Our younger children will have the opportunity to learn by seeing how the big kids do it! Our mornings will include praise and worship, large and small groups, and games. Plan on a FUN Sunday morning each week!

1. Check-in on KidCheck
2. Drop-off for all ages is in the youth room at 9:45 a.m.
3. Pick-up from the youth room at 10:45 a.m.

Robin Stewart | robinafumc@bellsouth.net
Laney Jones | laney@athensfirstumc.org

In Memoriam

Janet Smart
May 4, 2018

Sympathy

Heartfelt Christian sympathy is extended to Jack Carr in the loss of his father, Jim Carr, on April 29.

Heartfelt Christian sympathy is extended to Jeff Snowden in the loss of his stepmother, Kathy Skillen Snowden, on May 3.

Heartfelt Christian sympathy is extended to Terry Smart in the loss of his wife, and Mallory Adams and Lauren Wilde in the loss of their mother, Janet Smart, on May 4.



Consignment Sale

Please consider being a consignor and/or donating gently used clothing for our Children's Consignment Sale. We will gladly accept donations whenever it is convenient for you! Preview Sale will be August 9 for our consignors and volunteers. Please contact Betsy or Sarah Beth for more information.

Betsy Butler | betsy@athensfirstumc.org

Sarah Beth Barger | sarahbeth@athensfirstumc.org



GriefShare | Begins May 22

This thirteen-week faith-based curriculum features

nationally recognized experts on grief and recovery topics. We will meet Tuesdays from 6:00-8:00 p.m. in room 100, May 22 through August 14. Please register online so that we will have materials prepared for you. There is a \$20 fee to pay for your workbook. You may pay online or in person. Learn more | athensfirstumc.org/griefshare
Martha Aenchbacher | martha@athensfirstumc.org
678-230-9708



Position Opening

We are now accepting applications for the full-time position of Assistant Director of Children's Ministry. Qualified candidates will have demonstrated excellence in serving in ministry with children and families as well as team building and leadership. The Assistant Director facilitates ministry programming, which includes Sunday mornings and evenings and Wednesday evenings. Additional responsibilities include volunteer organization, event planning, and supervision of childcare workers who support all ministry areas.

Learn more and apply | athensfirstumc.org/employment
Robin Stewart | robin@athensfirstumc.org



In Search Of:

Help our VBS Decorating Team create the atmosphere for a Rolling River Rampage by loaning us:

- Artificial Christmas trees

- Rafting accessories like life vests
- Kayaks
- Lanterns
- Other camping decor

Please contact Debbie Willingham for details.

Debbie Willingham | 404-863-9749



Senior Fun Trip | June 21

REGISTER BY MAY 17

On Thursday, June 21, the Senior Fun Group will travel to Flat Rock, North Carolina, to see the play "The Love List" at the North Carolina State Playhouse. The cost of the trip is \$69 per person, which includes tickets to the play, bus transportation, and onboard refreshments. Lunch will be on your own at the Bay Breeze restaurant. Contact Dan Maxey for more information and to register.

Dan Maxey | 706-340-5097



Senior Fun Luncheon | May 24

This month's luncheon is on Thursday, May 24, at 12:30 p.m. in Hancock Hall. Dr. Michelle Nuss, dean of the Augusta University/University of Georgia Medical campus in Athens, and Dr. Donald Leo, dean of the UGA School of Engineering will lead the program. The luncheon cost is \$6. All who are over 50 are encouraged to register by calling

the church office. Reservations should be placed by 12:00 p.m. Wednesday, May 23. For more information, please contact Dan Maxey.

Dan Maxey | 706-340-5097

Church Office | 706-543-1442



Music and Arts Week | June 12-14

REGISTER BY MAY 31 OR UNTIL SPACES ARE FILLED

Kids currently in grades K-4 are invited to join us June 12-14 for three fun-filled days of music-making, creating, and playing. This year's theme is "Made for Praise." We'll be learning to praise God through playing instruments like ukulele, recorder, Orff instruments, and a junkyard jam-band. The cost is \$45 per student.

Register | athensfirstumc.org/musicandartsweek

Sarah Lawing | sarah@athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442



Wesleyan Youth Choir Home Concert

FRIDAY, JUNE 1, AT 3:00 P.M.

The Wesleyan Youth Choir will be singing in Nashville, TN, Indianapolis, IN, and Chicago, IL, this summer during our annual choir tour. Please be in prayer for these students as they travel, sightsee, and sing their witness across America! Tour dates are May 26 - June 1. Please join us in the sanctuary at 3:00 p.m. on Friday, June 1, for our Home Concert!

Janis Maxwell | janis@athensfirstumc.org



Register for Summer Camps

Registration is now open for recreation sports camps for summer 2018! We have Junior Jam basketball camps for ages 4-10 and Volleyball camp for grades 5-12. These camps are a great opportunity to build athletic skills while growing in Christ. For more information about dates and registration, check online or contact Rusty Wood.

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

Learn more | athensfirstumc.org/recreationcamps



**SMART
LUNCH**
SMART KID
Action Ministries

Smart Lunch Smart Kids

Join us this summer as our church partners 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.

Sign up to volunteer | athensfirstumc.org/missions

Betsy Butler | betsy@athensfirstumc.org

Sarah Beth Barger | sarahbeth@athensfirstumc.org

experience
the ride of
a lifetime



Get equipped as a river guide
for VBS Rolling River Rampage

Volunteer Training Lunch

Sunday, May 20

12:00 p.m.

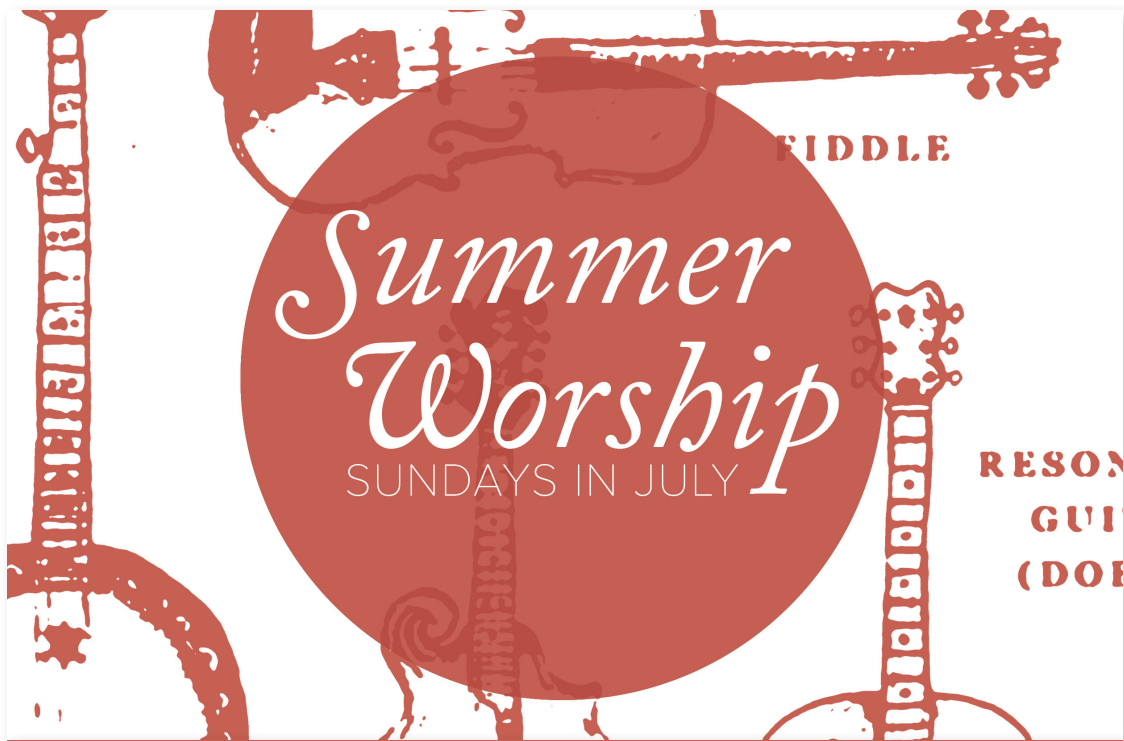
Hancock Hall

All adult volunteers, please plan to attend our important training meeting and lunch! Childcare will be provided. Training should last about an hour.

Shannon Dupree, VBS Director
shannondupreevbs@gmail.com

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

Register at athensfirstumc.org/vbs



Join us in Hancock Hall for
worship during the month of July!

We will have three services at
8:30, 9:45, and 11:00 led by our clergy
with hymn-singing and music from
The Early Service Band and friends.

This Week

SUNDAY, MAY 13 | PSALM 1

- 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
Grade 5 & 6 Sunday School: Fuel ROOM 120
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
- 4:30 p.m. **Wesleyan Youth Choir Rehearsal** ROOM 145
Connect & Grow Group JOHN WESLEY PARLOR

MONDAY, MAY 14 | ACTS 2:1-21

- 10:00 a.m. **Connect & Grow Women's Group** ROOM 200
- 7:00 p.m. **Connect & Grow Group** TIMOTHY ROAD

TUESDAY, MAY 15 | JOHN 16:4B-15

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

WEDNESDAY, MAY 16 | ROMANS 8:22-27

- 9:30 a.m. **Wednesday Morning Bible Study** ROOM 222
- 9:45 a.m. **When Godly People Do Ungodly Things** ROOM 229
- 5:30 p.m. **66 Love Letters** JOHN WESLEY PARLOR
- 6:30 p.m. **Connect & Grow Group** ROOM 224
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal SANCTUARY

THURSDAY, MAY 17 | ROMANS 8:22-27

- 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 18 | JOHN 15:26-27

SATURDAY, MAY 19 | PSALM 104:24-34, 35B

- 7:00 a.m. **Mobile Food Pantry** SANCTUARY

Worship Bulletin (614-280)

Published weekly

Periodicals Postage

Paid at Athens, GA

Athens First United Methodist Church

327 N. Lumpkin Street

Athens, GA 30601-2743

Telephone | 706-543-1442

Fax | 706-546-4797

Website | *athensfirstumc.org*

Vol. LXI No. 19

Postmaster

Send address changes to:

AFUMC

P.O. Box 1109

Athens, GA 30603-1109