



ATHENS FIRST
UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH

The First Sunday in Lent

March 9, 2014

8:30, 9:45 & 11:00 A.M.

Welcome

Thank you for worshipping with us today. Our ushers and greeters are happy to help you find your way. You may also pick up a map of the church in the narthex, at the front entrance of the sanctuary. We'd love to get to know you, so please come for coffee, donuts and conversation beginning at 9:30 every Sunday morning in Hancock Hall!

Worship

We ask that your cell phones be turned off or switched to silent and that you refrain from using flash photography during worship. Each Sunday, the 11:00 service is broadcast on WRFC 960 AM, and the 9:45 and 11:00 services are streamed live at athensfirstumc.org/webcast.

Nursery Availability

For infants through four-year-olds

Sundays | 8:15 a.m.–12:15 p.m. and 4:00 p.m.–7:00 p.m.

Wednesdays | 5:30-8:00 p.m. kindergarten–grade 5

Children's Church

For children in kindergarten through second grade

Wonder of Worship (W.O.W.), or Children's Church, follows the Children's Message during 11:00 Worship all Sundays except for Communion Sundays. Worship activity bags (age appropriate for all preschool and elementary children) are available every Sunday in the narthex and by the south entrance of the sanctuary.

Website

Please visit our website, athensfirstumc.org, for information about our ministries, to register for events, to give online, to view our church wide calendar, and to listen to sermons from our sermon archive. We encourage you to sign up for our newsletter that is emailed weekly by contacting amelia@athensfirstumc.org.

Church Office Hours

Monday through Friday | 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

If you need assistance, please call 706-543-1442. We are happy to help you!

Our Ministers and Program Directors

Chuck Hodges, Senior Minister | chuck@athensfirstumc.org | 706-206-5529

Martha Aenchbacher, Minister of Congregational Care | martha@athensfirstumc.org | 678-230-9708

Beth Dickinson, Minister of Discipleship | beth@athensfirstumc.org

Eric Fessler, Minister of Families with Youth | eric@athensfirstumc.org

Betsy Butler, Minister of Missions | betsy@athensfirstumc.org

Robin Stewart, Director of Children's Ministry | robinafumc@bellsouth.net

Stephen Mitchell, Director of Music | smitchell@athensfirstumc.org

Carol Reeves, Director of Children's Music | creeves@athensfirstumc.org

Janis Maxwell, Director of Youth Music and Organist | janis@athensfirstumc.org

Rusty Wood, Director of Recreation | rusty@athensfirstumc.org

The Worship of God *on* The First Sunday in Lent

Gathering

THE PRELUDE

"My Faith Looks Up to Thee"

Staszesk

THE WELCOME AND OPENING PRAYER

Led by Martha Aenchbacher

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

9:45 & 11:00

"Forty Days and Forty Nights"

Sung by the Sanctuary Choir

Aus der Tiefe rufe ich

Praise & Thanksgiving

*THE HYMN 269

"Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days"

LAND OF REST

*THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Based on Psalm 51

Lord, by your grace and mercy, in your pure love,

wash away our guilt and cleanse us from our sins.

There is no way to hide what we have done.

Our misdeeds constantly confront us.

We deserve your judgment,

but we plead for your forgiveness.

You alone can change us and transform us.

You alone can restore our joy.

Create a pure heart within us, Lord.

Renew us, revive us, and uphold us.

Open our mouths that we might proclaim your praises.

Give us voices to sing of your deliverance! Amen.

* THE KYRIE

Kyrie

Ky - ri - e, Ky - ri - e e - le - i -

son. Ky - ri - e, Ky - ri - e

e - le - i - son. Chri - ste, Chri - ste

e - le - i - son. Chri - ste, Chri - ste

e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e, Ky - ri - e

e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e, Ky - ri - e

e - le - i - son, e - le - i - son.

Translation: Lord have mercy; Christ have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

*Please stand as you are able.

The congregation speaks or sings the text in **bold type**.

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

11:00 Katharine Reiley Nyquist

Daughter of Becca and Ben Nyquist

Kate, Kate, 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. Kate, Kate, God claims you, God helps you, protects you, and loves you too.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Led by Beth Dickinson

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

8:30 & 11:00 At the 11:00 service, children in kindergarten through second grade will go to W.O.W. in the Caravans room on the third floor. Parents are to pick up children from the Caravans room at the end of the service.

THE OFFERING

THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM

8:30 Special Music
Sung by Julie Caldwell

9:45 & 11:00 "My Eternal King"

Sleeth

Sung by the Sanctuary Choir

My God, I love Thee; not because I hope for heaven thereby, nor yet because who love Thee not must die eternally. Thou, O my Jesus, Thou didst me upon the cross embrace. For me didst bear the nails and spear, and manifold disgrace. Why, then why, O blessed Jesus Christ, should I not love Thee well? Not for the hope of winning heaven, or of escaping hell; not with the hope of gaining aught, not seeking a reward; but as Thyself hast loved me, O ever-loving Lord! Even so I love Thee, and will love, and in Thy praise will sing; solely because Thou are my God, and my Eternal King.

*THE DOXOLOGY

The Old 100th

Praise God throughout these forty days. Praise Christ, our Lord, whom God did raise. And praise the Spirit who imparts God's love in Christ into our hearts. Amen.

THE SCRIPTURE

Matthew 4:1-11

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.² He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished.³ The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread."⁴ But he answered, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" ⁵ Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, ⁶ saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you,' and 'On their

hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'" ⁷ Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" ⁸ Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; ⁹ and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." ¹⁰ Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'" ¹¹ Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

THE MESSAGE

"Refusing a Life of Missed Opportunity"

Chuck Hodges

Response to the Word

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

8:30 Turn to page 9 in the hymnal for the liturgy. 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. Note that gluten free communion elements are located at the stations in the front of the sanctuary.

*THE HYMN 405

"Seek Ye First"

SEEK YE

*THE BLESSING

*THE CHORAL RESPONSE

8:30 In the cross, in the cross, be my glory ever;
Till my raptured soul shall find rest beyond the river.

9:45 & 11:00 "Sevenfold Amen" Lutkin
Sung by the Sanctuary Choir

*THE POSTLUDE

"The Solid Rock" DeCou

THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND IN LOVING MEMORY OF
LEONARD AND MARJORIE COBB BY THEIR DAUGHTERS, SUSAN, MELANIE, AND LEN, AND THEIR
FAMILIES.

THE FLOWERS IN THE NARTHEX ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND IN LOVING MEMORY OF
WILLIAM AND ELIZABETH HAYWARD BY THEIR DAUGHTERS, JANET, CAROLYN, AND SUSAN, AND
THEIR FAMILIES.

March Ushers 8:30 a.m. Jim Belger, Ann Brown, Paul Brown, Larry Deal, Hugh Larkey, Mack Lowery, Jim Lyons, Candler Meadors, Olan Moore, Bob Noble, Grace Rabek, Ken Reece, Keith Wilson, Michael & Sharon Broun 9:45 a.m. Chris Bostdorff, Tom Cooper, David and Jane Disney, Mark Ellison, Mark Firth, Tom Hedges, Dan Lasseter, Jim Lyons, Sharon Milton, Tom Milton, Al Rogers, Bill Trigleth, Michelle McNeill, & Reeves McNeill 11:00 a.m. Mark Graham, Mike McCord, Charlie Upchurch III, Allan Hixon, Mason McWhorter, Gene Deal, Jim Lyons	Attendance on March 2 Sunday School 578 Total Worship1,176 8:30 a.m.....170 9:45 a.m.....387 11:00 a.m.....619 Greeters Valerie Aldridge, Susan and Steve Greer, Marty and Alex Keller, Garrett Walker, Joe Jordan First Light Acolytes 8:30 Curry Cross, Elijah Bullock, John Mobley Cross 9:45 Eliza Petersen, John Cunningham, Tommy Warner 11:00 Riley Holland, Georgia Laster, Madison Holland	Financial Report Budget for 2014 \$2,431,008 Amount Given YTD \$457,486 Goal for February \$181,208 Amount after 4 Sundays \$288,686 Offering Stewards Bob Booth and Charlie Grimes, co-chairman; Jim Lyons, Nat Carmack, Henry Garrard, Nathan King, Al Hawley, Sean Rogers, Charlie Upchurch III
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**Great Day of Service
May 3–4 2014**

athensfirstumc.org/gdos

"By this all men will know that
you are My disciples, if you
have love for one another."
John 13:35

SACK LUNCH MINISTRY

A Note from Kelly Channell

The Sack Lunch Ministry is a service ministry that provides forty lunches each Sunday to the homeless and to those who otherwise would not be able to afford a meal. It started just a little over five years ago. We started making five lunches per Sunday. Over time, the word began to spread and we increased the number to ten lunches, then twenty and so on. We are now up to forty lunches per week! It has truly been amazing to watch this ministry grow over the past few years. Even if some lunches are left over, they are saved and passed out to those in need during the week. It is a great way to serve together as a family and involve the children in ministry as well. I've had several people say that their children enjoyed making and handing out the lunches and seeing the gratitude from the people receiving them. What a great way to extend God's love to others in need right in our own church! It has also been amazing to see the amount of support this ministry has received. When I send out the quarterly email to sign up for dates, most of the dates are filled within a few days. And if there happens to be a date open, there is always someone willing to fill it, even at the last minute. The Sack Lunch Ministry not only ministers to the ones who receive a meal, but I feel that it also ministers to us as well, the ones who are giving. I feel very blessed to be a part of such a wonderful ministry that provides a glimpse of God's love not just to the community but to our church as well.

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

Member News



New Arrivals

Congratulations to Kristin and Rob Nelson on the birth of their daughter, Lydia Ann, on January 17.

Congratulations to Kelly and Matt Jones on the birth of their daughter, Ava Elizabeth, on February 25.

Congratulations to Ashley and George Reinhardt on the birth of their twin sons, Henry and Jackson, on February 24. Henry and Jackson are the grandsons of Susan Reinhardt.

Ways to Fish

For more information about fishing, visit athensfirstumc.org/im-new/sermons and listen to January 26 sermon, "Those Called to Fish Must Fish."



Newcomer Orientation | Today

All guests are welcome to attend the Newcomer Orientation today in Hancock Hall. Two sessions are offered, 9:45 and 11:00 a.m. No need to R.S.V.P. Information about Athens First United Methodist will be shared, including ways to get involved and how to become a member. Find out more information online, athensfirstumc.org/newcomerorientations. Contact: Martha Aenchbacher | martha@athensfirstumc.org



Toilet Paper Needed for Souper Supper

Thank you for bringing in peanut butter crackers, cans of ravioli, cans of Spam, and dish soap. This week, donations of 4-count packages of toilet paper are needed this week for the Thursday evening Souper Supper store. These items go to those in need in our community. Please bring donations to the basket behind the reception desk.

Contact: Mary DeLoach | marymdeloach@yahoo.com or Kate Kelly | kate@weequahic.com



Wesleyan Youth Choir | Thank You

The Wesleyan Youth Choir would like to thank you for your support of our annual Variety Show! We had over 350 people in attendance and raised over \$3,000.00 for our summer choir tour. We had such a great time putting on this show for you. Special thanks to our choir parents for their hard work and to our senior pastor Chuck Hodges for getting on stage with us. Look for the pictures on Facebook!



Lent for Everyone: Matthew | Begins March 12

Lent for Everyone: Matthew by N. T. Wright is an inspirational guide through the Lenten season, from Ash Wednesday through the week after Easter. A small-group study will meet on Wednesdays, March 12 through April 23, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the John Wesley Parlor. The book is \$10 or available on Kindle. Register online, athensfirstumc.org/registration, or at the reception desk. Books also may be ordered for personal use without being part of the study. Contact: Dianne Morrison | dianne.morrison@gmail.com | 706-207-5538



It's Not Too Late | Men's Study beginning March 12

It's Not Too Late looks at three men and three women of the Bible who were used mightily by God despite their previous mistakes. It reinforces the belief that individuals can learn to focus on the potential of their future, not the missteps of the past. This six-session men's study is led by Keith Wilson on Wednesday evenings beginning March 12 from 6-7:30 p.m. Registration is requested, and the study cost is \$12. Register online, athensfirstumc.org/registration or at the reception desk.

Contact: Keith Wilson | kcw2236@gmail.com



Youth Soccer | Registration Ends March 14

Boys and girls ages 3-6 are invited to join us for our spring season, March through May 2014. All teams are co-ed. Practices and games will take place at Clarke Central High School on Saturday mornings. Please visit our webpage, athensfirstumc.org/youthsoccer, for program information and to register!

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



Texas Boys Choir | March 17

On Monday, March 17, at 7:00 p.m. the Texas Boys Choir will perform a free concert in our sanctuary as part of their 2014 Southeastern tour. The 51-voice boy choir will perform a full and varied program including both classical music and music from world, folk and popular traditions. If you would like to house some of the choristers, please contact Stephen Mitchell for guidelines and more information.

Contact: Stephen Mitchell | stephen@athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442



Lenten Study: 24 Hours That Changed the World Begins March 19

All are invited to participate in this churchwide Lenten study of Adam Hamilton's *24 Hours That Changed the World*. This study begins March 19 and meets each Wednesday through May 7, from 6:30-7:30 p.m. in Hancock Hall. Childcare is available by registration. Register online, athensfirstumc.org/registration, or at the reception desk.

Contact: Beth Dickinson | beth@athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442



Host Week for Interfaith Hospitality Network *March 9-16*

Interfaith Hospitality Network provides services and coordinates temporary housing at local host churches to displaced families. During our host week volunteers are needed to help set up/take down materials, drive guests, prepare a meal, and/or serve as an evening host. If you have questions or would like to volunteer, contact Taylor Miller.

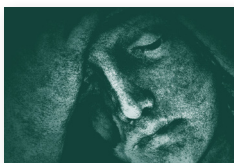
Contact: Taylor Miller | miller3750@bellsouth.net



Senior Fun Trip to Chattanooga | *March 25*

All persons 55 and older are welcome to join the Senior Fun Group and to participate on their day trip to Chattanooga. The group will travel via chartered bus to Chattanooga to visit Lookout Mountain and the Tennessee Aquarium, see an IMAX show, and have lunch at Mt. Vernon. This trip costs \$80, and includes transportation, all attraction tickets, lunch, and snacks. You may pay online, athensfirstumc.org/registration. Contact Dan to reserve your spot.

Contact: Dan Maxey | mandmbks@gmail.com | 706-613-1562



Karl Jenkins' *Stabat Mater* | *March 30*

The sanctuary choir with a full orchestra will be performing Karl Jenkins' *Stabat Mater* at all three worship services, 8:15, 9:45, & 11:00 a.m., on Sunday, March 30. *Stabat Mater*, composed in 2008 by Welsh composer Karl Jenkins, is a powerful text that meditates on the suffering of Mary, Jesus Christ's mother, at the time of his crucifixion.



Weekday Preschool Summer Camp

We are happy to announce our Weekday Preschool Summer Camp dates and themes. "It's A Small World" Camp will be held May 19-23. During this camp we will journey around the globe to meet new people, appreciate new cultures and climates and make friendships all along the way. Topics highlighted include diversity, inclusivity, hospitality and love for all creation. "Little Labcoats" Camp will be held June 9-13. During this camp we will solve everyday problems using math and science skills and a little curiosity! Each day, children will go to the "lab" to explore basic science concepts and put their theories to the test. "Go For The Gold" Story Camp will be held July 7-11. At this camp children discover the wonder and excitement of reading as we focus on medal-winning children's literature. Children will also explore the creative writing process as they learn about character, plot and setting. Each class will write a book over the course of the week and discover the little author and illustrator inside them! For more information visit athensfirstumc.org/weekdaypreschool.

Contact: Laura Lowery | preschool@athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-2427



Blood Drive | *March 30*

Volunteers are needed to both donate and serve at the Sunday, March 30 blood drive in Hancock Hall. Sign up online through the American Red Cross website to donate (search for sites with the zip code 30601). Contact Geoff Hill or Betsy Butler to serve. Service opportunities include welcoming and signing donors in, donating, and running the canteen.

Contact: Geoff Hill | glhill_42@yahoo.com or
Betsy Butler | betsy@athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442



Parenting with Purpose | *March 30*

Athens First United Methodist parents of children and youth, mark your calendars for March 30 at 7 p.m. We have a special *Parenting with Purpose* evening planned with guest speakers Mark and Kathryn Richt. The Richts will be sharing their personal experiences of parenting with faith. Registration is required, childcare will not be provided.

Contact: Robin Stewart | robinafumc@bellsouth.net | 706-543-1442



United Methodist Men Retreat | *March 21-22*

Join the United Methodist Men at their annual retreat, March 21-22. They will be looking at faith in action, and various men from our church will share their thoughts about how they minister to others by serving with faith-based groups through food to the hungry, ministry to prisoners, and more. This retreat will be local (at the Fosters' farm), and men have the option of camping out on the property. There will be a barbecue competition, with a trophy for the winning team. Free time activities include fly fishing lessons, skeet shooting and shooting at the pistol range, horseshoes, corn hole, and bocce ball. There will be a raffle for a Big Green Egg. The cost for this retreat is \$50. Register online, athensfirstumc.org/registration, or at the reception desk, 706-543-1442.

Contact: Mason McWhorter | masonmc64@gmail.com

This Week

For a detailed calendar see our website, athensfirstumc.org/calendar.

Maps of the church are located in the narthex, at the front entrance of the sanctuary.

Sunday, March 9

Genesis 2: 15-17, 3:1-7

Interfaith Hospitality Host Week

- 8:30 a.m.** Worship Service (Sanctuary)
Preschool Nursery and Sunday School
- 9:45 a.m.** Worship Service (Sanctuary)
Sunday School Classes

	Newcomer Orientation (Hancock Hall)
10:00 a.m.	Sack Lunch Ministry (Hull Street Entrance)
11:00 a.m.	Worship Service (Sanctuary)
	Women's Study <i>One Thousand Gifts</i> (Room 256)
	Newcomer Orientation (Hancock Hall)
11:30 a.m.	Children's Church (Caravans)
2:00 p.m.	Volley Performance (Gym)
3:00 p.m.	Cub Scout Pack 1 (Scout Hut)
3:45 p.m.	Wesleyan Youth Choir Leadership Meeting (Room 163)
4:00 p.m.	Alleluia Ringers (Room 165)
4:30 p.m.	<i>Boundaries with Kids</i> Small Group (Room 221)
4:30 p.m.	Wesleyan Youth Choir Rehearsal (Room 163)
4:30 p.m.	Route 56 Open Road (Room 123-125)
5:00 p.m.	Women's Study <i>One Thousand Gifts</i> (Room 252)
5:30 p.m.	Disciple 2 (Room 254)
	Disciple 1 (Room 256)
5:45 p.m.	Encounter

Monday, March 10

Psalm 32

	<i>Interfaith Hospitality Host Week</i>
7:00 a.m.	Fashion Fitness (Gym)
	Men's Bible Study (Hull Dining Room)
12:00 p.m.	Recreation Committee (Room 120)
1:15 p.m.	Monday Bible Study Group (John Wesley Parlor)
6:00 p.m.	Volley Performance (Gym)
6:30 p.m.	<i>Financial Peace</i> Course (Room 256)

Tuesday, March 11

Romans 5:12-19

	<i>Interfaith Hospitality Host Week</i>
5:30 a.m.	Fashion Fitness (Gym)
9:00 a.m.	Wesley Foundation Staff Meeting (Hull Dining Hall)
5:30 p.m.	Fashion Fitness (Room 126)
7:00 p.m.	Winter Volleyball League (Gym)
	Boy Scouts Troop 1 (Scout Hut)

Wednesday, March 12

Matthew 4:1-11

	<i>Interfaith Hospitality Host Week</i>
7:00 a.m.	Fashion Fitness (Room 126)

- 9:30 a.m.** Gospel of John Bible Study (Hull Dining Room)
- 4:15 p.m.** Women's Study | *One Thousand Gifts* (Room 256)
- 4:30 p.m.** Children's Lyric Choir and Celebrate Chimes (Music Suite)
Prayer Shawl Ministry (Room 221)
Fun Gym (Gym)
Chick-fil-a (Hull Dining Room)
- 4:45 p.m.** Early Book Group (Room 261)
- 5:15 p.m.** *Jesus Calling* Express Study (Room 252)
Route 56 GPS (Rooms 123-125)
Children's Cherub, Celebrate, Sonshine, Joy Choirs, Lyric Chimes (Music Suite)
- 5:30 p.m.** Connect Small Group | Sams (Rooms 257)
- 5:45 p.m.** Connect Small Group | Dean (Room 255)
- 6:00 p.m.** A Disciple's Path (Room 258)
Men's Study | *It's Not Too Late* (Room 256)
- 6:15 p.m.** Connect Small Group | The Psalm Trees (Room 362)
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsals (Room 163)
Men's Study | *33 Series: A Man and His Design* (Room 254)
Women's Study | *One Thousand Gifts* (Room 119)
- 6:30 p.m.** *lent for Everyone: Matthew* (Room 253)
Connect Small Group | Allen/Anderson (Room 128)
- 7:00 p.m.** Engage | One Student Ministries (Youth Area)
- 7:30 p.m.** Adult Pickup Volleyball (Gym)
- 8:00 p.m.** Chamber Ensemble (Room 163)

Thursday, March 13

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

- Interfaith Hospitality Host Week*
- 5:30 a.m.** Fashion Fitness (Gym)
- 9:30 a.m.** Community Bible Study
- 5:00 p.m.** Souper Supper (Hancock Hall)
- 5:30 p.m.** Fashion Fitness (Room 126)
- 6:00 p.m.** Men's Softball (Bishop Park)
- 7:00 p.m.** Winter Volleyball League (Gym)

Friday, March 14

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

- Interfaith Hospitality Host Week*
- 6:30 p.m.** REACH International Bible Study and Dinner (Adult Sunday School Hall)

Saturday, March 15

Psalm 51:1-17

- Interfaith Hospitality Host Week*
- 8:00 a.m.** REACH International Spring Break Transportation with InterFACE

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