

The background features a stylized design with three fish in grey outlines, each with a black dot for an eye and a curved line for a mouth. These fish are arranged around a red geometric shape that resembles a stylized 'L' or a corner of a square. The red shape is composed of thick lines. There are also two solid red circles: one in the top-left corner and one in the bottom-right corner.

ATHENS FIRST  
UNITED  
METHODIST  
CHURCH

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*The Second Sunday  
after Pentecost*

JUNE 22, 2014  
8:30, 9:45 & 11:00 a.m.

# Welcome

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We're glad you're here! Thank you for joining us today. Members of this congregation have been gathering here to worship since 1804, when our church was formed to minister to the Native American and European settlers in Athens. 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." At Athens First United Methodist, there are many ways to get involved, grow in your faith, and do good in our community.

If you are unable to attend worship in person, each Sunday our 11:00 a.m. service is broadcast on WRFC 960 AM, and our 9:45 and 11:00 a.m. services are live-streamed on our website at [athensfirstumc.org/webcast](http://athensfirstumc.org/webcast).

## *Nursery*

Our nursery is available for infants through four-year-olds on Sundays from 8:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. The nursery area is located on the first floor of the building, off the Washington Street entrance.

## *Children*

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. Children's Church is held for children in kindergarten through second grade and follows the Children's Message during 11:00 a.m. worship all Sundays except for Communion Sundays.

## *Sunday School*

We offer Sunday School for all ages, kindergarten through adult, each Sunday from 9:45-10:45 a.m. Children's Sunday School (kindergarten-grade 4) is located on the third floor of the building. Classes for students in grades 5-12 meet on the first floor. For a list of adult Sunday School classes and locations, visit [athensfirstumc.org/adultsundayschool](http://athensfirstumc.org/adultsundayschool).

## *Connect*

If you would like to find out more about our church or are interested in becoming a member, we invite you to attend our Newcomer Orientation every second Sunday of the month at 9:45 and 11:00 a.m. We also encourage you to visit our website, [athensfirstumc.org](http://athensfirstumc.org), for information about our ministries, to register for events, and to listen to sermons from our sermon archive. Visit [athensfirstumc.org/thesteeples](http://athensfirstumc.org/thesteeples) to sign up for our weekly newsletter, the *eSteeple*. You can also connect with us via social media. Find us @athens\_firstumc on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and Pinterest.

Our church office is open Monday through Friday, from 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. If you need assistance, please call 706-543-1442.

# The Worship of God

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\* Please stand as you are able. The congregation speaks or sings the text in **bold type**.

## Gathering

*The flowers on  
the altar are  
given to the glory  
of God and in  
loving memory of  
Connie F. Branch  
by Mary Jon  
Branch and family.*

### THE PRELUDE

“We Are Climbing Jacob’s Ladder” | Martin

### WELCOME AND OPENING PRAYER

Martha Aenchbacher

### THE CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP | 9:45 & 11:00 a.m.

“Come Christians, Join to Sing”

Sung by the Sanctuary Choir

## Praise & Thanksgiving

### \* THE HYMN 140

“Great is Thy Faithfulness”

### \* 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 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.**

**\* THE PASSING OF THE PEACE**

**THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

*Daughter of  
Kelly and  
Matt Jones*

9:45 a.m. | Ava Elizabeth Jones

**Ava, Ava, 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.  
Ava, Ava, God claims you, God helps you, protects you, and loves  
you too.**

*Son of  
Maggie and  
Scott Talley*

11:00 a.m. | Giles Edgar Talley

**Giles, Giles, 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.  
Giles, Giles, God claims you, God helps you, protects you, and loves  
you too.**

**THE RECOGNITION OF CAROL REEVES**

Jill Bateman

**THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Betsy Butler

**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 OFFERING

### THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM

8:30 a.m. Special Music

Sung by Julie Caldwell

9:45 a.m. “Offertory” | Beck

Sung by the Sanctuary Choir

*With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on High? Shall I come before Him with burnt offerings, shall I come before Him with yearling calves? Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousand rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgressions, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul? He has shown you, O man; He has shown you what is good. And what does the Lord require of you but to do justice and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?*

11:00 a.m. “A Prayer for Tomorrow” | Pote

*From “The Tale of the Three Trees” | Sung by those who have been in a choir under the direction of Carol Reeves. Dreams, we all have dreams, what we can be, what we can do. Lord, with all we are, we pray that our dreams will lead us, will lead us to you. See our hands, what will they make, Lord? See our feet, where will they run? See our hearts, who will they love, Lord? See our lives, we’ve just begun! In our eyes you see tomorrow. On that day one thing we know: there’s a dream from one who loves us that is greater than our own. Dreams, we all have dreams, what we can be, what we can do. Lord, with all we are, we pray that our dreams will lead us, will lead us to you.*

### \* THE DOXOLOGY

**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

Philippians 4:13

**I can do all things through him who strengthens me.**

### THE MESSAGE

“The Key to a Positive Attitude” | Chuck Hodges

# Response to the Word

## THE RECEIVING OF THE ELEMENTS OF COMMUNION | 8:30 a.m.

Please turn to page 9 in your hymnal. 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. Note that all gluten-free communion elements are available at both altar stations.

# *Sending Forth*

### THE HYMN 128

“He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought”

### \* THE BLESSING

### \* THE CHORAL RESPONSE

“The Lord Bless You and Keep You” | Lutkin  
Sung by the Sanctuary Choir

### \* THE POSTLUDE

“Voluntary” | Alcock

## Sermon Notes

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If you would like an audio copy of this sermon or would like to listen to previous sermons, visit [athensfirstumc.org/sermons](http://athensfirstumc.org/sermons) for a complete library of sermons.

## JUNE USHERS

**8:30 a.m.** Jim Belger, Ann and Paul Brown, Larry Deal, Hugh Larkey, Mack Lowery, Jim Lyons, Candler Meadors, Olan Moore, Bob Noble, Grace Rabek, Ken Reece, Keith Wilson, Michael and 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 and Reeves McNeill

**11:00 a.m.** Bob Green, Nat Carmack, Marty Webb, Ben Ayers, Spence Johnson, Jim Lyons, Kyle Beeson

## OFFERING STEWARDS

Bob Booth and Charlie Grimes, Jim Lyons, Nat Carmack, Henry Garrard, Nathan King, Al Hawley, Sean Rogers, Charlie Upchurch III

## COMMUNION SERVERS

**8:30 a.m.** Scott & Christy Rodgers

## GREETERS

Joe Abell, Dale and Ryan Nesbit, Sonya and Al Pileggi, Debbie Whittemore

## FIRST LIGHT ACOLYTES

**8:30 a.m.** Millican Jarrett, Emily Elder

**9:45 a.m.** Annabelle Woodard, Lauren Griffith

**11:00 a.m.** Kate Williams, Elijah Bullock, Jacob Hudson

## ATTENDANCE ON JUNE 15

**Total Worship | 910**

**Sunday School | 275**

8:30 a.m. | 178

9:45 a.m. | 223

11:00 a.m. | 446

Online | 63

## FINANCIAL REPORT

Budget for 2014 | \$2,431,008

Amount Given YTD | \$1,282,040

Goal for June | \$161,724

Amount after 2 Sundays | \$127,395

## 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* | 706-543-1442

**Betsy Butler** Minister of Missions  
*betsy@athensfirstumc.org* | 706-543-1442

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*josh@athensfirstumc.org* | 706-543-1442

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*robinafumc@bellsouth.net* | 706-543-1442

**Stephen Mitchell** Director of Music  
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**Carol Reeves** Director of Children's Music  
*creeves@athensfirstumc.org* | 706-543-1442

**Janis Maxwell** Director of Youth Music & Organist  
*janis@athensfirstumc.org* | 706-543-1442

**Rusty Wood** Director of Recreation  
*rusty@athensfirstumc.org* | 706-543-1442

# The Steeple

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## Member Loss

Jean Freshley  
June 11, 2014

## Sympathy

Heartfelt Christian sympathy is extended to Dwight Freshley and family in the loss of his wife, Jean Freshley, on June 11.

## New Members

On June 15 we welcomed Diane and Darryl Johnson and Mercy Montgomery to the Athens First United Methodist family.



## Celebrate Ms. Carol | Today

After more than 18 years serving the children of this church with unconditional love, Carol Reeves, Director of the Children's Music Ministry, has heard and responded to the call to become the full time Artistic Director with the Georgia Children's Chorus. While Carol's departure will be a great loss to our children's music ministry, we can rejoice and celebrate the extraordinary ministry she has shared with our church for these many years. Under her love and leadership, countless children have grown in their faith through music, drama, and visual arts. We have been blessed by her level of choral excellence, passion, and

faithful teaching of the gospel. We will honor Carol and celebrate her ministry today during the 11:00 a.m. worship service. As a part of this celebration many of Carol's past students will sing the anthem during worship.

Contact: Stephen Mitchell | [stephen@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:stephen@athensfirstumc.org)



## Prayers for Group Going to Cuba

Please pray for Holly Ward, Baylor Ward, Matthew Ward, Lauren Covington, Elizabeth Dubberly, and Henry Scott this week as they do God's work through athletics in Cuba.

## Pray for Vacation Bible School This Week

After months of planning, the time has finally come for Vacation Bible School. This week over 500 parents, volunteers, and children will pass through our doors. We pray that everyone involved has a blessed week and that everyone who enters our building leaves feeling loved by Jesus Christ.

## Sack Lunch Ministry

## Weekly Service Opportunity

So often when we see those in need we struggle to find a way to respond. Preparing sack lunches is a meaningful



way to meet a need in our downtown community. Every Sunday morning the Sack Lunch Ministry prepares and distributes lunches to those in need in our community. This ministry started with five lunches each Sunday five years ago; now we are up to 40 lunches per week! This is a wonderful project for small groups or Sunday school classes to do together.

Contact: Betsy Butler | [betsy@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:betsy@athensfirstumc.org) | 706-543-1442

## Summer Worship | June 29

We will have summer worship beginning June 29, featuring extended congregational singing of old hymns and camp meeting songs as well as guest musicians. The worship schedule will remain the same: 8:30, 9:45, and 11:00 a.m.



## Tagging Tuesdays | Beginning July 8

Help organize and price donated items for the Children's Consignment Sale Tuesdays beginning July 8, from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. in the gym. The Children's Consignment Sale is August 15-16. Visit [athensfirstumc.org/childrensconsignmentsale](http://athensfirstumc.org/childrensconsignmentsale) to learn more about donating and the consignment sale.

Contact: Betsy Butler | [betsy@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:betsy@athensfirstumc.org) | 706-543-1442

## Smart Lunch, Smart Kid | June-July

Everyone is invited to assemble sack lunches for *Smart Lunch, Smart Kid*, a branch of Action Ministries, weekly during June and July. In June assemble lunches at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesdays, followed by delivery from

11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. In July, assemble lunches at 4:30 p.m. on Tuesdays, and deliver lunches from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Wednesdays. Registration is not required, but is appreciated. Register by visiting [athensfirstumc.org/smartlunchsmartkid](http://athensfirstumc.org/smartlunchsmartkid). Please note children must be accompanied by parents.

Contact: Betsy Butler | [betsy@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:betsy@athensfirstumc.org) | 706-543-1442



## Extending Hospitality to International Students | July 31–August 1

REACH International, Athens First United Methodist Church's international student ministry, will be transporting new Chinese students from the Atlanta airport to our church and hosting them overnight on Thursday, July 31, through the day on Friday, August 1. Volunteers are needed on four different teams to serve these new students:

### Set-up Team

A team of 10 or more volunteers are needed on Thursday evening (July 31), from 8:00 p.m. - midnight to help set up air mattresses and other bedding for the incoming students. This team will also prepare a midnight snack for the students and welcome them when they arrive from the airport around midnight.

### Meal Team

A team of 10 or more volunteers are needed on Friday morning (August 1) between 7:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. to prepare and serve breakfast and lunch to approximately 100 students!

### Wrap-up Team

A team of 10 or more volunteers are needed on Friday afternoon (August 1) between noon and 5:00 p.m. to

interact with the students and to assist with cleaning the kitchen and deflating and storing bedding.

#### Van Driver

A van driver is needed throughout the day on Friday, August 1.

If you are interested in serving in any of these capacities, please contact Lynn Bryant.

Contact: Lynn Bryant | [lynn@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:lynn@athensfirstumc.org) | 706-543-1442

## Serve Lunch to International Students August 7 & 8

Extend hospitality to new International Students on the UGA Campus by partnering with REACH International to serve lunch to 300 new students during UGA's International Student Orientation. Volunteers are needed on Thursday, August 7, from 9:00 a.m. to noon to help prepare food in our church's kitchen. On Friday, August 8, volunteers are needed between 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

to transport the food to campus and to serve and greet the students. Please contact Lynn Bryant to volunteer to serve either day.

Contact: Lynn Bryant | [lynn@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:lynn@athensfirstumc.org)  
706-543-1442

## REACH International | Bedding Need

On July 31 Athens First United Methodist Church will host new Chinese students in our youth area for one night after we pick them up from the airport. Donations of 50 new single air mattresses and pillows are needed to supplement our current supply in order to accommodate this group. Please bring your donations to the basket behind the reception desk by July 4. The bedding will be used throughout the year to accommodate other temporary lodging needs for various groups as they arise.

Contact: Lynn Bryant | [lynn@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:lynn@athensfirstumc.org)  
706-543-1442

Betsy Butler | [betsy@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:betsy@athensfirstumc.org) | 706-543-1442

# This Week

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Not sure where a room is? Maps of the church are located at the front entrance of the sanctuary to help you find your way around the church, or visit [athensfirstumc.org/map](http://athensfirstumc.org/map) to see an online map.

## SUNDAY, JUNE 22 | GENESIS 1:1-4

8:30 a.m.

**Worship Service** SANCTUARY

**Preschool Nursery & Sunday School** FIRST FLOOR

9:00 a.m.

**Vacation Bible School Volunteer Training Session** WATCHTOWER

9:45 a.m.

**Elementary Sunday School** THIRD FLOOR

**Worship Service** SANCTUARY

10:00 a.m.

**Sack Lunch Ministry** HULL STREET ENTRANCE

11:00 a.m.

**Worship Service** SANCTUARY

1:00 p.m.

**Hispanic League Basketball** GYM

7:00 p.m.

**Adult Pick-up Volleyball** GYM

## MONDAY, JUNE 23 | PSALM 8

7:00 a.m.

**Fashion Fitness** GYM

9:00 a.m.

**Vacation Bible School**

12:00 p.m.

**Vacation Bible School Camp** GYM

6:00 p.m. **Volley Performance** GYM  
7:00 p.m. **Women's Bible Study** ROOM 253

## TUESDAY, JUNE 24 | 2 CORINTHIANS 13:11-13

5:30 a.m. **Fashion Fitness** GYM  
8:00 a.m. **Cuba Mission Trip Departure**  
9:00 a.m. **Vacation Bible School**  
12:00 p.m. **Vacation Bible School Camp** GYM  
5:30 p.m. **Fashion Fitness** GYM  
6:00 p.m. **Volleyball Camp** GYM

## WEDNESDAY, JUNE 25 | MATTHEW 28:16-20

CUBA MISSION TRIP

7:00 a.m. **Fashion Fitness** GYM  
**Jesus and Donuts** BIG CITY BREAD  
9:00 a.m. **Vacation Bible School**  
11:00 a.m. **Smart Lunch, Smart Kid Lunch Delivery**  
**Prayer Shawl Ministry Gathering** PANERA BREAD  
12:00 p.m. **Vacation Bible School Camp** GYM  
2:00 p.m. **First Light Training Session** SANCTUARY  
5:00 p.m. **Prayer Shawl Ministry Covered Dish Dinner**  
6:00 p.m. **Volleyball Camp** GYM  
6:30 p.m. **Covenant Bible Study Pilot Group** ROOM 256

## THURSDAY, JUNE 26 | GENESIS 21:1-7

CUBA MISSION TRIP

5:30 a.m. **Fashion Fitness** GYM  
8:00 a.m. **Senior Fun Day Trip | Flat Rock Play House**  
9:00 a.m. **Vacation Bible School**  
12:00 p.m. **Vacation Bible School Camp** GYM  
12:30 p.m. **Senior Fun Lunch** HANCOCK HALL  
5:30 p.m. **Fashion Fitness** GYM  
6:00 p.m. **Volleyball Camp** GYM  
6:00 p.m. **Women's Study: Beth Moore | Esther** ROOM 256  
**Volleyball Camp** GYM

## FRIDAY, JUNE 27 | GENESIS 24:1-9

CUBA MISSION TRIP

9:00 a.m. **Vacation Bible School**  
12:00 p.m. **Vacation Bible School Camp** GYM  
6:00 p.m. **Volleyball Camp** GYM  
6:30 p.m. **REACH International Bible Study & Dinner** YOUTH AREA

## SATURDAY, JUNE 28 | GENESIS 24:10-52

CUBA MISSION TRIP

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## Athens First United Methodist Church

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