

The Church Spire

First United Methodist Church of Athens, Ohio

We know God's love through Jesus Christ
We share God's love through care and service
With God's love, we welcome *all* to walk with us

Volume 16, Issue 7

July 27, 2011



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And much more!

Vacation Bible School, August 1—5

We are very excited about this summer's Vacation Bible School. Our theme is "Shake It Up Cafe," and our mascot is Scraps the Raccoon. The daily activities will center around different biblical celebrations, feasts, and festivals. We are looking forward to a wonderful time of learning and growing!



Pre-K students through those entering 5th grade—please join us August 1-5, 9 AM to 12 NOON! A Registration form is available online at:

<http://www.cokesburyvbs.com/shake-it-up-cafe/FUMCATHENS>

Visioning Process Continues

As you'll see when you read page 9 of this edition of *The Church Spire*, we are actively seeking applicants for our Children/Youth/Family position. If you know anyone who may be interested, please share the information with them and continue to keep this process in your prayers.

Administrative Council will be meeting with Pastor Wendy on August 2nd at 7 p.m. in the First Floor Lounge to continue the visioning process with her. We are excited to walk this visioning path with her, seeking the ways God is guiding us to be the congregation we are called to be.

Sundays in August at Athens First

August 7: VBS Sunday – After a week of "Shakin' It Up!" we will shake up Sunday worship with VBS stories and songs and "secret ingredients". Holy Communion will be celebrated.

August 14: Guest Preacher

August 21: Back to School Sunday – Children and youth, bring your school backpacks to church! As area elementary and secondary schools return to session, we will "Bless the Backpacks" and "Bless the School Staff".

Honduras Mission Trip Planned for December 3-10 The Missions Committee is pleased to announce plans for a 2nd annual mission trip to Honduras from December 3 - 10, 2011. The group will work with the organization, Honduras Outreach, Inc., (www.hoi.org), assisting a rural community in a high poverty area of the country. Projects will include basic construction work and children's activities. If you are interested in learning more about this opportunity to serve others and to strengthen connections with members of our church community, please contact Pete Mather at pete.mather@gmail.com or by phone (594-1095).

A Word from Wendy...

Lampshades

Have you seen the box with our lampshades packed in it? No, really, have you seen it? It's been four weeks since the lampshades were packed in a box and moved. It was one of the boxes last packed. And the lamps are still sitting without their lampshades.

One of those lamps is the floor lamp in the living room, the one that lights the spot where I sit each morning to read and pray. (It's been too hot and muggy to spend that time on the deck, my other favorite morning place.) The other morning, I had gone to refill my coffee cup, and returned to be greeted by the stark shadows that the bare bulb was illuminating on the fireplace mantel. As the mornings of summer now stay darker longer, the bulb seems brighter and the shadows more severe without the cover of the lampshade to soften them.

Perhaps ironically, I am also on the search for a new lampshade for the table in my office at the church. Clothed with new carpeting, fresh paint and a new furniture arrangement, when I set the lamp on the table in the seating area and turned it on, the corner still looked dark. A check of the light bulb confirmed that it was of sufficient wattage. Then I took a closer look at the lampshade. The material is somewhat dense and the color well-saturated. It shades the glare of the bright bulb into a beautiful, soft glow. Moved just a few feet in the room, a lampshade that had provided adequate lighting now hinders well-seeing in its new place.

As a lampshade covers and filters the light from a bare bulb, a veil covers a face and filters the view of the one wearing it. While I seldom see brides with a veil covering their face anymore, the veil is introduced early in Scripture as a covering that filters the seeing between God and humanity.

Moses wears a veil after his encounter with God on Mount Sinai, but removes it when entering the tent of the Lord's presence and when telling the people what he had been commanded.

The prophets speak of the veils, of head and heart, under which the people hide from God, and of the day when the veil will be torn away.

The apostle Paul tells the Corinthians "whenever anyone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away," [2 Cor 3:16] and promises "for now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known." [1 Cor 13:12]

And so, while I am still in search of the box with the missing lampshades, which will soften the light shining in the parsonage living room, I am also looking at the places in my life, in my relationships, in my knowing, where the veil is too thick and the corner too dark. The places where a thinner lampshade is needed that Light may more fully shine. The places where the veil needs removed that I may more fully know and be known.

I count it a blessing that the journey, the searching is now in this place and with you. Thank you for letting me journey with you.

Blessings - Wendy

It's Kit Time Again — "Gifts-from-the-Heart" on Rally Day

Would you help us prepare a "Gifts-from-the-Heart" kit for this year's Rally Day? Last year we reaped a bountiful harvest of school, hygiene and baby kits! After our collection on Sept. 11, our kits will be joined with other churches in the Foothills District. From there they will go to Otterbein University on October 1 for the conference wide celebration and transfer to a semi-trailer truck headed to New Windsor, MD and the Church World Service warehouse for eventual dispersion to needy children in the USA and around the world.

We also really need people to sew the bags for school kits. You'll find everything you need to do this (material and directions) on the table in the Narthex (if you sew — you don't fill). Bring your sewn bags to Church, and we will pass them out for others to gather the contents. Our thanks in advance to those who will shop, pack, sew, contribute dollars, and bring kits to our Rally Day.

Click [HERE](#) for a listing of the items needed to fill the School Kit Bags. In the narthex you will find samples of all the various Kits. What a great opportunity to be involved in missions in the states as well as abroad without leaving Athens!

When you take a pamphlet, please follow the items and amounts carefully so that all kits will be identical. This is a mission in which everyone can be a participant. We ask for your support as members and friends of First UMC.

--The Global Missions Committee

Staffing Changes at Athens First

Interim Office Manager Becomes Permanent Leisa Ostermann joined our staff on February 16 as our part-time *Interim* Office Manager. She jumped right in, picked up the ball, and has been running valiantly with it ever since, quickly filling the void we faced. She is a wonderful addition to our staff, and, it is with great pleasure that we announce the removal of the work *Interim* from her title effective, July 1, when she became our permanent Office Manager! We certainly appreciate all that she has done during our seasons of transition and look forward to the gifts of her ministry here.

Custodial Positions – Many Hands Make Lighter Work Several months ago, we also found ourselves with an unexpected void in our custodial crew. When that happened, Christian Johnson, whom many of you see either in the Nursery on Sunday Mornings or occasionally in the role of preschool teacher at Growing Tree, stepped right in to cover the cleaning needs of Growing Tree. We soon hired two other individuals to cover the remainder of the custodial work required by our large building. This model is working well, with Mindy Dohlman, and, most recently, Ed Dornbush taking care of the cleaning needs. Christina is still covering our nursery needs, but, due to other demands, has handed the Growing Tree cleaning torch to Mindy. We are very grateful for our cleaning crew who works diligently to meet the cleaning demands of our very busy building and helping it look as good as possible.

Maintenance Position – Farewell to Joe Riley and Welcome to Todd Bradford After 14 years of faithful service, Joe Riley retired from his position as part-time maintenance supervisor late this spring. We thank Joe for all those years of caring for the maintenance needs of our church building and parsonage, which, for Joe, was as much ministry as job.

On July 5th, we welcomed Todd Bradford to this position. Todd, who grew up in this congregation, has jumped right in and is very effectively whittling away at our “to do” list. He brings with him years of experience and a conscientious and caring approach.

The Sympathy of the congregation is extended to Scott Smith and family in the death of his mother, to Joe Riley and family in the death of his father, to Jennifer Sheets and family in the death of her mother, to the family and friends of Robert Sutton upon his death July 13 and to Dick Mottl and family in the death of his wife, Beverly, on July 14.

Congratulations are extended to Erin and Peter Eckelberry on the birth of their third daughter, Erin, born July 13, and to Rick and Vickie Seiter on the birth of their first grandchild, Jayden Alan Michael Seiter, July 18 to Rick’s daughter, Noel.

Special Music Sought for Summer Worship Services August 21 & 28 We welcome your musical talents on one of those Sundays. To reserve your slot, please use the sign-up sheet located on the organ console in the Sanctuary, call the church office (593-3977) or email us (firstumcathens.org). Thanks!!!

Prayer Chain If you have prayer requests, please call 593-7471 or 593-6853 to have your request placed on the church’s Prayer Chain.

Volunteer Sound Operators Needed . If you can operate a cell phone, you can operate our sound system. Experience isn’t needed. Brandon is happy to show you how to operate it and will work with you to be sure you feel comfortable before going “solo”. Folks usually serve one Sunday a month on a regular rotation (i.e., the 1st Sunday or the 2nd Sunday, etc.) with the flexibility to trade when conflicts occur. If you’re interested, please note that on the pew attendance card, contact Brandon Saunders (707-4945 or brando@bcsengineering.com) or the church office (593-3977).

Sermons Broadcast Live on WATH If you can’t be in worship on Sunday, tune in to WATH (970) at 11 a.m. and hear that portion of our service broadcast live on the radio. Sometimes they begin the broadcast at 10:30 a.m., so be sure to tune in a little early.

The Next Spire Is the September Issue - Article Deadline is August 25

Printed Copies of the Newsletter Available at the Church, in the Narthex and by the Chapel entrance. The current and previous issues are always available to read from the web site.

Monday Lunch News

It's been a little more quite at Monday Lunch this summer than it usually is during the academic year. We've been having between 80 and 100 guests as opposed to 125 to 150. With the exception of last summer when numbers didn't decline, this is the usual trend.

We've had some great summer volunteers to fill in for the OU students who are gone for the summer as well as our regular volunteers on summer vacation. Quite a few FUMC youth have been providing some excellent help along with other church members.

Don't forget us as you finish making your summer plans. WE need extra volunteers through the Monday *after* Labor Day. Thanks for your constant support!

--Allene Kilgore, Monday Lunch Coordinator

Saving Your Travel Toiletries We hope you'll consider collecting toiletries from your summer travels and bring them to church for Monday Lunch and Good Works. You can leave them in the box in the hall by the church office. Thanks!

So, How Did Our Youth Spend Their Summer Vacation? Well, they cooked for Monday Lunch! I was contacted by a representative of our youth group who said that the youth wanted to make lasagna for Monday Lunch. It just happened to be one of those amazing coincidences – this spring someone donated lasagna noodles, we had purchased ground beef and mozzarella cheese at 18 cents/lb at the regional food bank, as well as spaghetti sauce. **This was really amazing:** a mystery person donated 5 lbs of ricotta cheese only a week before – it just appeared in the refrigerator! I can't count the many, many times and ways Monday Lunch's needs are met out of the blue like this.

So, Thursday, June 30th, the youth met in the kitchen and prepared 4 large pans of lasagna – 2 meat and 2 vegetarian. I can personally attest that both were very good. Our July 4th guests were very impressed and touched.

A BIG THANKS to those youth and advisors who helped: Ellie Conrath, Ryan Dael, Joe Gerig, Peter Hayes, Keanu Holloway, Allie Holm, Daryl Holm, Delaney Murray, Ian Ostermann, Xan Ostermann, and Chase Van Patten. Advisors: Deb Murray & Emily Fox. We *really* appreciated it!!!

--Allene Kilgore, Monday Lunch Coordinator

We Care, Women's Outreach Program Reports on 2010-11 Care Project

WE CARE spent the past year helping a family from Stewart start to heal after a tragic year. Just after both parents lost their jobs due to the closure of a local business, the father was diagnosed with cancer and died over the next few months. WE CARE sponsored Christmas and birthdays for the mother and two children and have been providing home-cooked meals each month for the family. This summer, WE CARE treated the daughter to the Dairy Barn art camp and also, a family to a trip to King's Island.

WE CARE will start a new project in the fall and welcomes all women. To learn more about the group, please contact Julie Pagan (paxton@ohio.edu).

Make a Joyful Noise Unto the Lord!!

Our choirs will resume rehearsals soon, and new members are ALWAYS welcome. Fall is a great time to get on board.

The **Adult Handbell Choir** and our vocal **Chancel Choir** begin the season on Wednesday, September 7. Under the direction of Kevin Dael, the **Handbell Choir** rehearses from 6 to 7 p.m. in the 2nd Floor Music Room and usually performs once a month in the 10:30 service during the academic year. No experience necessary. Under the direction of Peter Jarjisian, the **Chancel Choir** rehearses in Room 6 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. and performs weekly in the 10:30 service during the academic year, with a few exceptions. Child care is provided during both of these rehearsals.

Adult Ministry at Athens First

“What’s the Least I Can Believe and Still be a Christian?” It’s OK to wonder that. As a matter of fact, Martin Thielen has written an entire book about it, and the Trinity Sunday School Class is going to be taking a look at it. Thielen refers to the book as “A Guide to What Matters *Most*.” Part 1 addresses *Ten Things Christians Don’t Need to Believe* (such as “God Causes Cancer, Car Wrecks, and other Catastrophes”) and Part 2 addresses *Ten Things Christians Do Need to Believe*. If you would like to explore this with others in our congregation, the class invites you to join them starting August 7th. Books are available at the class, which meets Sundays at 9:30 a.m. in the First Floor Lounge.

Calling all Women - Women’s Time at Otterbein: Weekend Retreat October 14-16 Women, mark your calendars and take a weekend to renew yourself, reflect on God’s gifts in your life, and rejoice in the beauty of God’s creation and the fellowship of others. Laughter, food, and worship are plentiful! Come as a group or by yourself; it won’t take long to become connected. To register, contact Susan Penix: 698-6236.

Youth News

www.firstumcathens.org/youth

FUMC Summer Youth Extravaganza

Youth will meet EVERY Thursday night this summer from 7PM - 9PM for food and fellowship. Join our Facebook group Athens First UMC Youth to follow the summer activities.

AUGUST

August 4th: Dairy Lane Park: We are heading back to the Putt Putt course to see who improved their swing over the summer. Tournament time! 7PM - 9PM

August 11th: FUMC Fellowship Hall - Almost time to head back to school! Let's get together for Fellowship before our crazy Fall schedules start. 7PM - 9PM

August 18th: Thinking about ZIPPING through the air? We will gather at the ropes course on the Ridges Challenge course to try our hand at ziplines. Kevin Dael will facilitate and as always, we will eat. Still from 7-9.

August 25th: FUMC Fellowship Hall - First week of school? Come eat pizza and commiserate together.

Youth and Family Trip to Zoombezi Bay August 20th.

Join us for one last day in the sun before school start. We will leave the church parking lot at 8:30 so that we get there when it opens. Tickets should be \$25 depending on how many people go and meals will be on your own. Bring your family or bring a friend. Either way, we would love to have you. RSVP if by August 14th to vanpattenfamily@mac.com. This activity is for youth or youth and their families or really any member of our church family who would like to tag along. Last year we had a great time and would love to see even more people participate.

Youth Council would like to thank all of the youth, families and friends who participated in our Summer Youth Extravaganza. We have had a great time doing everything from White Water Rafting to cooking for Monday lunch to running through the streets of Athens in search of the perfect photo shot. We would in particular like to thank those that hosted the events. Thank you to the Bergmeiers, Daels, Gerigs, Huwe-Holms, Matolaks, Matthers, Merb-Browns, Murrays, Ostermanns, Pagans, Van Pattens, Emily Fox, and Christine Hitchcock for being such wonderful hosts!

Growing Tree News - S.H.A.R.E.

As I write this, it's the middle of summer. It's hot and sticky outside, the Farmer's Market is full of tomatoes and corn and peaches and the locusts or cicadas or whatever they are, are noisily making their presence known. But, before we know it, fall will be upon us and another school year will begin.

At Growing Tree, we take time in the summer to think about how we might better serve our children and families in the coming school year. This congregations' generous support of the Growing Tree Scholarship Fund is, to me, the most caring aspect of the Growing Tree ministry. This year the scholarship fund has a new name: the Growing Tree S.H.A.R.E Fund.

S.H.A.R.E. stands for:

Success of a child
 Hope for a family
 Access to education
 Response to need
 Expression of love

Monthly tuition for students in the T/TH class is \$100, the M/W/F class, \$135 and Five Day students, \$215. We have already received applications for tuition assistance from two deserving families for the coming school year and anticipate several more. We need approximately \$1,000 to cover anticipated needs in the coming school year. Contributions to S.H.A.R.E. may be made on a monthly, annual or one-time-only basis. Checks may be made payable to FUMC with *Growing Tree S.H.A.R.E. Fund* notated on the memo line.

In the coming school year, the children of Growing Tree will be learning much about sharing with and caring for one another. We thank you in advance for your prayerful and generous sharing of resources and love with them.
 —Cathy Bigger, Director of Growing

Items Needed for VBS We still need some help preparing for VBS next week. We have over 30 kids signed up and lots of adults and youth ready to Shake It Up! There are still a few items on our wish list that we need to help make it the best VBS it can be. If you can provide any of the items on the list below, please contact Kim Mather at 594-1095. She is our 'clearing house' to make sure that we don't get 32 cups of yogurt, but no olives.

- Old kitchen utensils that would make an interesting pattern when dipped in paint and pressed onto fabric (potato mashers, apple coreer/slicers, whisks, ravioli cutters, pastry blenders, cookie cutters, meat tenderizers)
- Old button up shirts that can be used as smocks in Art Station
- White yarn
- 12 empty coffee cans (no lids)
- Two liter bottles (2 or 3)
- Turkey basters (2-3)
- Packing peanuts
- Plastic water or soda bottles (20-30)
- Illustration of a brain
- Decent sized basket (2-3)
- Chef's hat (2-3)
- Oven mitts (2-3 pairs)
- Mounting putty
- Clay chimenea
- Clay dishes
- Mortar and pestle
- Bible time cloaks for varying ages
- Walking sticks for varying ages
- 4 small salad tongs
- 3-4 card tables
- Large appliance boxes
- Plastic water goblets
- Horseradish root (for Thursday)
- Matzo bread (for Thursday)
- Meat bone (for Thursday)
- Parsley (for Thursday)
- Paper raffia
- 45-3 oz paper cups
- Paper plates
- Plastic knives
- Resealable snack bags
- Wooden skewers
- Plastic cups
- Pita or flat bread
- Olives
- Salsa
- Shredded cheese
- Sliced red or green peppers
- Honey graham cereal
- Wheat chex cereal
- Oyster crackers
- Raisins or craisins
- Honeydew melon
- Cantaloupe
- Strawberries
- Grapes
- Pineapple chunks
- Marshmallows
- Skim ricotta cheese
- Plain yogurt
- 3.4 oz pkg vanilla instant pudding
- 40 large oatmeal cookies
- Vanilla pudding
- Whipped cream
- Cinnamon
- Sugar
- 8 cups strawberries
- 6 bananas
- Cran-raspberry juice
- Orange juice
- 4 cups vanilla yogurt
- Whipped cream

HERO Sandwich

To celebrate the Bible's many heroes, make this sandwich for a picnic.

What you need:

- An adult to help
- Shredded lettuce
- Olive oil and vinegar
- Seasonings (salt, pepper, oregano)
- Italian crusty bread (six inches per person)
- Mayonnaise
- Sliced meat
- Sliced cheese
- Sliced tomato
- Construction paper
- Scissors
- Pencil
- Toothpicks
- Tape



What you do:

1. Drizzle shredded lettuce with oil and vinegar; sprinkle with seasonings.
2. Cut bread in half length-wise and spread mayo on both halves.
3. On bottom half, layer meats, cheese, tomato and lettuce.
4. Top with other half of bread. Cut in half.
5. Cut paper into small triangles. Write your favorite Bible heroes' names on them.
6. Tape the triangles to toothpicks to make pennants. Stick in sandwich halves. Enjoy!



action-packed faith

The greatest "super men" who ever lived put their faith into action.

Directions: Match each Bible character to the correct description.

- | | |
|----------|--|
| Noah | 1. This disciple wrote a gospel, recounting many events in Jesus' life. |
| Stephen | 2. This man responded to God's commands, including the order to move. God made many promises to this man and his descendants. |
| Abraham | 3. This man was eager to rebuild Jerusalem. He helped the people protect their city, reminding them that God was on their side. |
| Luke | 4. This man, who became king of Judah at a young age, obeyed God's laws and helped people repent. |
| Nehemiah | 5. God saved this honest, hard-working man from destruction by having him build a place of safety for his family and every kind of creature. |
| Josiah | 6. This man stood by God's Word, showing strength of character even when faced with persecution and death. |

On the lines below, write your name and describe how you're a "hero" for God. What are some ways you put your faith into action?

Name: _____

Answers: Noah 5, Stephen 5, Abraham 6, Luke 1, Nehemiah 3, Josiah 4.



\$ 18,286.61 Operating Income for June
 20,458.04 Operating Expenses June

 (2,171.43) Net loss for the month
 \$ 6,922.18 Net gain for the year

As you can see, our income for June was below our expenses. Lots of folks are travelling this summer, which usually impacts giving. When possible, please continue to provide your support even when you're away. Bills never take a vacation, so it really helps. Thanks!!

Summer giving statements were not mailed again this year. Please don't hesitate to contact Sharon Stoltzfus (593-3977 ext 11) if you have any questions about your giving record.

Second Mile Giving Reported Through July 10:

- Food Pantry – \$1731.50
- Habitat for Humanity – \$600
- Hope and Possibilities –\$71
- PET Project – received \$0

In addition to the above figures, which reflect what has been contributed specifically to them, \$47.25 will be added to each thanks to your response to the Easter Offering appeal.

Radio Ministry Needs Sponsors for the Remainder of 2011

Radio Ministry Needs Sponsors – Many Slots to Fill Through our radio ministry, much of our 10:30 worship service is broadcast live over WATH am radio every Sunday morning. This ministry reaches countless folks who are unable to leave their homes on Sunday mornings or are traveling. Those we know who listen weekly are mailed a bulletin so that they can follow along.

This ministry is made possible solely by the contributions of members and friends of the church. We have received a number of sponsorships, but not enough to carry us entirely through the 2nd half of 2011.

If you would like to participate in this ministry, please contact Sharon Stoltzfus at the Church Office (593-3977, ext. 11). A full sponsorship for 2011 is \$155, and full or partial sponsorship are always welcomed. Whatever you choose to give, just know what a blessing this ministry is to those who use it!



Radio Ministry Sponsorship

Yes, I/we want to participate.

Amount \$ _____

Memorial/Dedication (optional) _____

Name(s) _____

**West Ohio Conference of the United Methodist Church
Our Connection to the World**

**This comes to us through "News.Net" an email publication by the West Ohio Conference
Communications Division:**

UMCOR Needs School Kits The latest shipment of school kits to Haiti has "**seriously depleted**" the stockpile kept by the United Methodist Committee on Relief, which is encouraging congregations to use kit-making as a group project or activity.

The kits, which cost about \$11 each to assemble, provide children with basic supplies such as paper, pencils and other items. [Read Full Story](#) For information about our program to collect kits, see article on page 2 of this edition of *The Church Spire*.

Why I Became a United Methodist – by Martin Thielen, former Baptist Preacher and author of the next book our Trinity Sunday School class is planning to study: "Some things in the Methodist church scared me, like the appointment system, and it still does. But I can honestly say that I have no regrets for changing denominations. **Becoming a United Methodist was absolutely the right decision for me.**" [Read full story](#)

Athens First Seeks Director of Children and Youth Ministries We are seeking applicants for a part-time (30 hour/week) position, working directly with teens and overseeing ministry programs for young children and families in order to foster a growing and abiding faith in Jesus Christ throughout their lives. The position is designed to create faith-building spiritual and social opportunities for our youngest congregants throughout their childhood and young adulthood.

The successful candidate will be well-grounded in his/her own faith, have the ability to inspire life-long spiritual development in teens and young children, have exceptional communication abilities, especially with teens, and strong organizational and administrative skills.

Duties include but are not limited to: Maintaining safe and child/youth-friendly environments at all times; Leading and organizing regularly scheduled effective youth programs, including relevant biblical teaching, as well as appropriate social networks; Developing and supervising children's programs, including the volunteer-run Sunday school, vacation Bible school, and confirmation classes; Providing spiritual guidance and counseling to youth on an individual/as needed basis; Recruiting, training, and leading volunteer staff for programs and activities; Developing and maintaining budgets; Maintaining accurate administrative documents; and Maintaining positive and effective communication with the Children and Youth Ministry Committee, Administrative Council, and Pastor.

SKILLS/QUALIFICATIONS:

- Strong theological/biblical background.
 - Bachelor's degree in a related field and/or minimum 2 years proven effectiveness working with youth.
 - Excellent written and oral communication skills.
- Excellent administrative and organizational skills.

Submit Resume to: Steve Sloan/Kim Mather c/o First United Methodist Church 2 South College St, Athens OH 45701 This position will remain open until filled, so interested candidates should complete the application process as soon as possible.



Events and Meetings

Vacation Bible School: August 1 – 5, 9 a.m. to Noon

Administrative Council: August 2, 7 p.m., 1st Floor Lounge

Stephen Supervision Sessions: August 2 and 16

Children's Council: August 9, 6:30 p.m.

Growing Tree Parent Orientation: August 25, 6:30 p.m.

Weekly events:

Sundays – Worship at 8:45 and 10:30

Mondays – Monday Lunch from 12 to 1 p.m.

Thursdays – Men's Prayer Breakfast 7 a.m. at Bob Evans

Rally Day 2011 – September 11

Mark your calendars – you won't want to miss this annual event when we kick-off the fall programs for all ages. More details to come.

Habitat's ReStore Now Open for Business The new ReStore for Habitat for Humanity is now open for business, prior to a Grand Opening Day. You are welcome to donate unused construction materials, which the ReStore will then offer for sale at modest prices to people who are working on repair projects of their own. To keep the ReStore opening and running, Habitat needs a few volunteers to work with customers and keep the place tidy (no heavy lifting). Can you put in four hours for one or more Saturdays per month? The ReStore is in the middle of The Plains, at the intersection of Johnson Road and Route 682. Molly Blair is the manager. She would love to have you call her at 677-4024 (or e-mail restore@athenshabitat.org) and talk to her about volunteering.

Other Habitat News: Habitat still needs to wrap up its current build – call Kenneth at 592-0032 or Kenneth@athenshabitat.org if you can volunteer.

Habitat is looking for a family for its next house. If you know someone who lives in substandard housing and who is interested in applying for a Habitat home, please have them call the Habitat office at 740-592-0032. The Family Selection Committee will schedule a one-on-one meeting to go over the application process with them.

District Information Available on the Internet There are lots of things going on in our Foothills District. You can find the web site at: <http://www.foothillsdistrict.org>

Calendar Information Available 24/7 Remember, if you need to check on dates and times of church events, that information is available on our web site (www.firstumcathens.org/calendar) and also on the automated portion of our phone system (extension 3) - *available seven days a week, 24 hours a day.*

THE CHURCH SPIRE

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The Church Spire is the newsletter of the First United Methodist Church of Athens, Ohio. It is published monthly August—May with a combined issue for June/July.

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Web Version: [Return to Home Page](#)

Worship Schedule

Sunday Morning Worship 8:45 and 10:30

Sunday School Classes, 9:30 a.m.

Worship Broadcast on WATH Sundays 11-11:30 a.m.

Child Care Provided During 10:30 Service

Free Parking in the City Parking Garage on Sundays