



Welcome to Atlanta First UMC!

This community of faith believes in radically welcoming all people! Whether you are young or old; light, medium, or dark skinned; living with a disability or able-bodied; have it all together or have nothing together; are poor in resources or have plenty; are LGBTQ+ or identify as straight – whoever you are and however you come, we believe that you were created in the beautiful image of God. **You are welcome and loved!**

Atlanta First exists to *worship* God, *serve* people, *grow* together and *engage* the city of Atlanta and beyond. We're on a mission to transform our community for Christ and you are invited to join the movement!

Please feel free to *worship* in a way that makes you feel most comfortable. Do not be surprised by the sounds of babies and children; crying and shouting; singing and making joyful noises. Some will *worship* quietly; some will *worship* in more expressive ways. Just as all people are welcome, all *worship* styles are welcome too. **Let us praise God!**



[Click here to worship on Facebook!](#)



[Click here to worship on YouTube!](#)

The Order of *worship* for September 13, 2026 - The Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost

We Gather

"Lord, You Are Welcome"

Ringin' of the Bell

Our bell, circa 1850, is rung every Sunday morning to signify the start of worship.

Welcome and Opening Prayer

Min. Maya Su, Student Minister (maya@atlantafirstumc.org)

atlantafirstumc.org/connect - Fill out an online *connect & engage* card to let us know you were here.

atlantafirstumc.org/today - See the ways to *worship, serve, grow* and *engage* at Atlanta First UMC!

* We Worship Through Song

United Methodist Hymnal 127 - "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"

* We Believe

United Methodist Hymnal 881 - Apostles' Creed, Traditional Version

Our Children in Worship

We Worship Through Song

"I Will Joyfully Sing" - Mary McDonald

The Atlanta First UMC Worship Team

Amber Dennard, Ronni Jackson, Hunter Christian and Ted Jenifer

Rowena Dennard, Director of Worship & Music (dennard@atlantafirstumc.org)

We Pray

Rev. Jasmine R. Smothers, Lead Pastor (pastor@atlantafirstumc.org)

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

We Worship Through Giving

Please see the back page for details about how you may give back to God through Atlanta First UMC.

* We Praise

United Methodist Hymnal 94 - Doxology, "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

Song of Preparation

"God Provides" - Tamela Mann; Ronni Jackson, Soloist

Scripture Lesson and Sermon

1 Samuel 16:1-13 (New Revised Standard Version, Updated Edition)

"More than Meets the Eye"

Invitation to Christian Discipleship

* We Go Forth to Serve

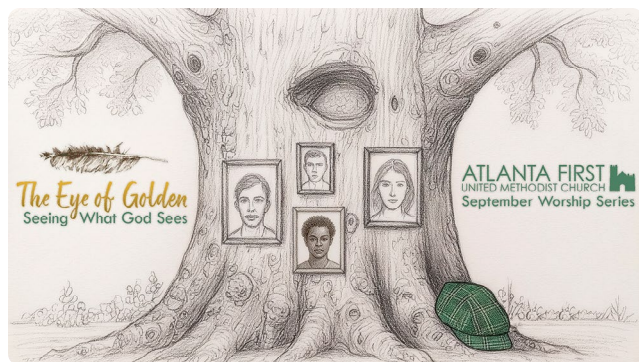
Benediction and Closing Song: "The Blessing" - Chris Brown, Cody Carnes, Kari Jobe and Steven Furtick

Postlude

"Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart" - Arr. by Harold DeCou

* Please stand in body or spirit, as you are able.

worship Together



This September, join us for *The Eye of Golden: Seeing What God Sees*, a four-week sermon series inspired by Allen Levi's novel *Theo of Golden*. Through the scarred "Eye of God," Asher's portraits, Ellen's remarkable story, Theo's quiet generosity, and the relationships that transform an entire community, we will explore what happens when we learn to see beyond appearances. Together we will ask: Whom have we overlooked? What does God see in them—and what might change if we saw it too?

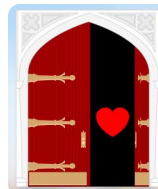
worship is at 10 a.m. on Sunday mornings. You are invited to join us in-person in the historic Atlanta First UMC sanctuary, or online through our Facebook Page or Our YouTube Channel.

Choir rehearsal resumes this month, following the worship service at 11:15 a.m. on the third and fourth Sundays of each month.

serve Together



Wellroot Family Services, formerly the United Methodist Children's Home, provides faith-centered services to families across North Georgia. You are invited to directly **serve** this vital ministry by making a donation to the **Wellroot Amazing Grace Offering**. 100% of your donation goes directly to funding Wellroot's programs, which include a multi-faceted family preservation continuum, foster care, family housing, and transitional and independent living programs. These programs equip parents, children, teens, and their families to make positive changes that last a lifetime. We will collect the Amazing Grace Offering during **worship next Sunday, September 20**, but you are welcome to make a donation at any time.



Friends at the Front Door

Be the hands and feet of Christ in the city!
Serve our under-housed neighbors by handing our water, food, and clothing, and by sharing in a time of compassionate fellowship and prayer.
First Tuesday of each month, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.



You can **serve** those affected by disasters at home and around the world through a donation to UMCOR! atlantafirstumc.org/give

grow Together



Sunday grow Group @ 9 a.m. Join us Sundays in September as we take a deeper dive into the scripture themes of our current **worship** series, *The Eye of Golden: Seeing What God Sees*. Whom have we overlooked? What does God see in them—and what might change if we saw too? tinyurl.com/AFUMC-Grow-Sunday
Our midweek **grow** Groups for are resuming from Fall Hiatus! The Tuesday and Thursday groups are both back in session this week, and the **Wednesday grow Group resumes in October**.
Please visit our website for full details and sign-up links: atlantafirstumc.org/grow



Tuesday grow Group: **JOB IN EXILE**

This fall the Tuesday **grow** Group is studying the themes of suffering and spiritual exile found within the book of Job. We meet at 7 p.m., online via ZOOM. Lead Pastor Rev. Jasmine R. Smothers is the class facilitator.

tinyurl.com/AFUMC-Grow-Tuesday



Thursday grow Group: **ROMANS**

This fall the Thursday **grow** Group is undertaking a comprehensive study of the book of Romans. We meet at 11 a.m., at the church and online via ZOOM. Rev. Dr. Jacquie Rose-Tucker is the class facilitator.

tinyurl.com/AFUMC-Grow-Thursday

engage Together



Together we are cultivating a campus that reflects God's love—welcoming all, enhancing and securing our physical plant, and growing together in faith and service. Join us as we beautify the exterior and interior of the church. We'll clean and polish, remove trash, plant flowers, trim the grass and shrubs, enhance security, and much more.



You are invited to join the church weekly on **Mondays at 12 p.m.** and **Tuesdays at 6 p.m. Eastern Time** for times of intentional prayer together. A church that prays together is a strong, fortified, and faithful congregation that can endure anything! If you have any prayer concerns or praises, you may send them to prayer@atlantafirstumc.org.

Monday Noon Prayer ZOOM Link: tinyurl.com/AFUMC-Monday-Prayer

Tuesday Intentional Prayer ZOOM Link: tinyurl.com/AFUMC-Prayer

— Prayer List for the Week of September 13, 2026 —

Please share your prayer needs with us at prayer@atlantafirstumc.org or on the prayer cards located at the Sanctuary entrances.

Church Family

Pastor Jasmine & Family

Atlanta First

Atlanta First Staff

Atlanta First's
Affordable Housing
Development Initiative

Atlanta First Shut-Ins

Adams-Williams Family

Mattie Brock

Chris Hinton-Lee

Jeddie McRae

Suzie and Aaron Moody

Rev. Ed and Ann Nelson

Steve Pearson

Wayne Pierce

Ruth Richardson

Bruce Shields

Bill Sims

Min. Maya Su

Dallas Terrell

Dorothy-Ann Turnipseed

Extended Church Family and Friends

Friends at the Front Door

Healing for our Nation

327 mass shootings in the USA
during 2026 as of September 8

Parents and Grandparents

All School Staff & Students

Israel, Palestine, Syria and Iran

Ukraine and Russia

Sudan and Congo

India and Pakistan

Victims of the flash floods in Nepal
and China, and other natural disasters

Christian persecution and
killings in Nigeria and Syria

All who are affected by COVID-19

Our Neighbors at the Imperial Hotel

Kamari Besteder

Granddaughter of Rosa Freeman

Dr. Julie Boone

District Superintendent

Mary Francis and Gordon Cooper

Cousins of Lisa Peterson

Bishop Robin Dease

Resident Bishop

Dallies Edwards

Nephew of Sylean Harris

Doris Sims Jones

Sister of Bill Sims

Robert Jones

Our former security guard

Sierra Nicely

Daughter of Ruby Lawrence

Elizabeth Satterwhite

Mitsi Smith

Mother of Nick Smith

Ethel Tigner

Mother of Bill Sims

Dr. Anne and Dr. Ed Wimberly

Active Duty Military & First Responders

MSgt. Logan Cathcart

MSgt. Scott Cathcart

All deployed active-duty military and their families.

Happy Birthday!

Wednesday, Sept. 16
Roby-Hadley Telfer

Thursday, September 17
William Nelson

Saturday, September 19
Robert Jones

worship, serve, grow & engage
at Atlanta First:

Sunday, September 13

9 a.m. Sunday **grow** Group

tinyurl.com/AFUMC-Grow-Sunday

10 a.m. **worship** In-Person & Online

atlantafirstumc.org/live

Monday, September 14

12 p.m. Monday Noon **prayer**

tinyurl.com/AFUMC-Monday-Prayer

Tuesday, September 15

6 p.m. Intentional **prayer**

tinyurl.com/AFUMC-Prayer

7 p.m. Tuesday **grow** Group

tinyurl.com/AFUMC-Grow-Tuesday

Wednesday, September 16

11 a.m. Church Staff Meeting

5:15 p.m. Leadership Team Mtg.

Thursday, September 17

11 a.m. Thursday **grow** Group

tinyurl.com/AFUMC-Grow-Thursday

Sunday, September 20

Wellroot Amazing Grace Offering

9 a.m. Sunday **grow** Group

10 a.m. **worship** In-Person & Online

11:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal

11:15 a.m. Congregation Portraits

Monday, September 21

12 p.m. Monday Noon **prayer**

Tuesday, September 22

6 p.m. Intentional **prayer**

7 p.m. Tuesday **grow** Group

Thursday, September 24

11 a.m. Thursday **grow** Group

Sunday, September 27

9 a.m. Sunday **grow** Group

10 a.m. **worship** In-Person & Online

11:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal

11:15 a.m. Congregation Portraits

Church Office Hours:

Sunday: 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Monday: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. (Virtual)

Tuesday - Wednesday: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Thursday: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

ATLANTA FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



Giving Back to God Through Atlanta First UMC

We are a church that makes a difference and gives ourselves away. We do not have to do this. We get to do this! We get to do this because of people like you who generously invest financially in this incredible mission. We want to thank you for your generous support of the ministries of Atlanta First!

Your giving directly changes lives of those in this city whom God has entrusted to our care. Thank you for prayerfully considering how you can make a huge difference! Please scan the QR code to the right or visit our website at atlantafirstumc.org/give.

You can give through CashApp, at [\\$AtlantaFirstUMC](https://www.cash.app/$AtlantaFirstUMC), or scan the CashApp code to the right.

You can Text-to-Give by sending a text message to [833-675-0154](tel:833-675-0154), with your message being the amount you wish to give. For instance, to give \$20, text 20. You will be redirected to a secure website to complete your gift.



Scan to give
securely online



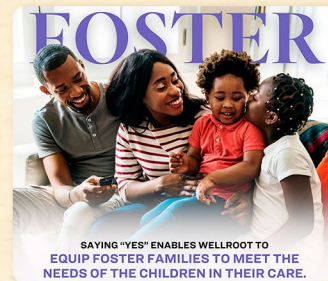
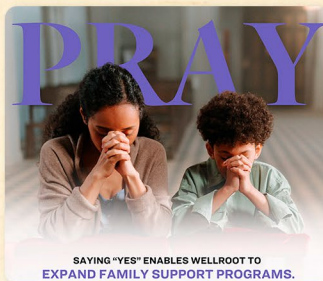
Scan to give
via CashApp



Amazing Offering 2026 Grace

Support the ministry of Wellroot Family Services
with a gift on Sunday, September 20!

Give at: atlantafirstumc.org/give



Contact Information

Rev. Jasmine R. Smothers, Lead Pastor

Text Message: [404.525.2385](tel:404.525.2385)

Rowena Dennard, Director of Worship & Music

Steven Colly, Communications & Media

Min. Maya Su, Student Minister

Finance Office

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dennard@atlantafirstumc.org Ext. 106

steven@atlantafirstumc.org Ext. 105

maya@atlantafirstumc.org

finance@atlantafirstumc.org

**360 Peachtree Street NE
Atlanta, Georgia 30308**

**Package Address:
2020 Howell Mill Road NW, Suite D-339
Atlanta, GA 30318-1732**

Contact our *worship, serve, grow* or *engage* teams at:

worship@atlantafirstumc.org • serve@atlantafirstumc.org
grow@atlantafirstumc.org • engage@atlantafirstumc.org



Visit eepurl.com/hB8XtL or scan
the QR code to join our e-mail list!

**Go forth to
Love Boldly
Serve Joyfully
Lead Courageously**



Atlanta First UMC Office: [404.524.6614](tel:404.524.6614)

24/7 Pastoral Care Line: [404.446.3777](tel:404.446.3777)

Join Our Online Campus:
atlantafirstumc.org/onlinecampus

Worship Service Live-Streams:
atlantafirstumc.org/live



[@atlantafirstumc](https://www.instagram.com/atlantafirstumc)
atlantafirstumc.org

