

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



UPCOMING EVENTS

- JULY 7-9 TH, VBS AT THE REVIVAL CENTER - 9:00 AM UNTIL 11:00 AM
- JULY 9TH, VBS PROGRAM AND LUNCH - 11:00 AM
- JULY 12TH, VBS PERFORMS SONGS AND SHARES THE KNOWLEDGE LEARNED DURING SERVICE
- AUGUST 16TH: RALLY DAY BEGINS
- WEEKLY SERVICE: SUNDAY AT 10:00 AM



CHURCH NEWS



- HOPE EVERYONE IS HAVING FUN WITH THE SUMMER BINGO, THERE IS AN EXTRA COPY ATTACHED FOR THOSE WHO MAY NOT HAVE PICKED ONE UP AT SERVICE.
- ALL SUBMISSIONS FOR GRAPEVINE AND THE MONTHLY CALENDAR SHOULD BE SENT BY EMAIL (FPCATHENS@FPCATHENS.ORG) OR BY PHONE (256-232-0122) BY THE 20TH OF THE MONTH.
- DIRECTORIES ARE NOW AVAILABLE IN THE CHURCH OFFICE!
- OFFICE HOURS ARE MONDAY - THURSDAY FROM 9AM - 1PM.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR:

There is something that has been gnawing at my soul and mind for years.
A question. A puzzle that continues to challenge me.

I called my mother yesterday for our daily call and she told a story I've never heard. She grew up on horse farm in North Eastern Ohio and loved being outdoors, around animals and barefoot every moment her mother would allow. Her family was not religious. The family was surrounded by Mennonite communities and small town churches. In an ocean of religion, they were adrift without faith.

On mom's first-ever day of school and first grade, she floored and angered her teacher. When the teacher started the reading lesson, mom opened the primer book and just started to read. She kept reading and reading. Mom remembered the teacher shouting "Who taught you to read!?"

Mom answered matter of factly, "Mrs. Yohanna". Jemima Yohanna was married to the pastor of the "Newberry" church. In addition to teaching my mom to read, Jemima taught her to feed the chickens and make May baskets. Tragically rejected by my grandmother, Jemima mothered my mother.

This story surfaced from the deep recesses of my mother's mind because she has been asking herself the question, "Who prayed for me that I might be saved?" Mom became a follower of Jesus in her late thirties. As she considered that question, she thought of many people who she knew for certain prayed that she might know, love and serve Jesus. Was Mrs. Yohanna one of those people? I'm almost positive.

The question and puzzle gnawing at me for years is "How do we make disciples of Jesus?" I don't think I have a settled answer. But I feel mom's story gets me closer. I continue to wonder about the ways of the Living God with people and the way human beings experience newness of life in Christ. I'm pretty sure we have to be intentional. But it's more than a program, process or a plan. It's not accidental, but it is miraculous how the life of Jesus shapes us.

During the sermon series: "Apprenticeship to Jesus" we are talking about the relationships that shape our life of faith. People help other people be with Jesus, become like Jesus and do what Jesus did. Jesus was born, lived and died as human as we are human. Jesus showed how we gain faith through relationship. The human way is always the way. I still have questions and wonder how our relationships help us walk with Jesus.

In the meantime, I ponder the relationship between my mom and Mrs. Yohanna. My relationship with Steve and Mrs Ethel. My relationship with Jay and Bart. And the relationships I see unfolding at FPC Athens.

Take time today and remember people who have impacted your faith.
Remember people you have invested in. Give thanks to God for people who unfold the mystery and wonder of following Jesus and rejoice!

Serving Together On the Square,

Jim



PRAYER REQUESTS:

THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY:

Brandon Noel – Army
Sean Miller - Army
Adam Naves - Marines
Damien Williams - Army
Kevin O'Neill-Army Nat. Guard
Joshua Hargrove – Deployed
Jay Tulley- Middle East
Justin Ruf- Army Air Guard

FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

Hazel Ruf (Mason Ruf's mother, home)
Gary Kilgo (Health, Kay Baugher & Carol Quillen's family member)
Karen Ferguson (Potter's Hand)
Keith Clem (Healing, cousin of Chris Paysinger)
Amy Cotten (Potter's Hand)
Telula Thornton (Healing and Comfort, mother of Karan Baker)
Martha Taylor (Healing, mother of John Cagle)
Silvey Family (Healing, daughter, 3 years old)
Maryann McKee (Healing, friend of Carol Copeland)
Shannon Underwood (Healing, daughter of Barbara Welborn)
Cadence Brooks (Healing, student of Cindy Witt)
Karryl Anderson (Healing, Mexico mission supporter)
Gerry Smith (Healing for knees and kidneys, cousin of Jan Ruth)
Tim Swymer (Healing, Lauren Cagle's uncle)
Ronnie Cottles (Healing, father-in-law of Michae & Gail Cottles)
Leigh Ann Looyenga (Healing, friend of Gina Haraway)
MaryJo Ghadimi (Healing, friend of Matt Robinson)
Allison Hargrove Bains (Sympathy, niece of Diann Copeland)
Great Uncle of Rosie Sims (Hospice)
Widower Heath, Children Bess and David (Grieving Laura Christopher, friend of Suzanne Paysinger)
Judy Cramer (Healing, neighbor of Jan Ruth)
Sue Guyer (Healing, sister of Bonny Noel)
Macie Garrett (Healing, 12 years old, great niece of Christy Arnett)
Carl Dean Bolin (Health, Uncle of Joyce Amptmeyer)
Evelyn Walker (Health/Healing, daughter of Sarah Pearson Walker)
Phillip Love (Healing, family member of Jan Ruth)

CHURCH FAMILY:

Marv & Elizabeth Price (Health)
Doris Welch (Home)
Dean Steele
Susie Fogg (Home)
Sharon Massey
Melvin & Ruth Clem (Health)
Duane Counter (Healing)
Suzanne Weeks (Healing)
Jac Catlett
Diane Lynn (Health)
Gale Cottles (Healing)
Charlotte Lyle (Healing)

Extended Communion

Are you an ordained elder?

Preferably not currently serving on the Session?

Are you looking for a mission that is both very rewarding and a greatly needed service?

Something that requires only an hour or so a month on Communion Sundays, whenever you are available?

Then serving extended Communion is a great personal mission for you!

Our congregation has a long history of serving Communion at home or in the hospital for church members (and sometimes family and friends) who are not able to get to the church for Communion with the rest of the congregation. However, over the past number of years, an organized effort to do so had slipped away.

In December of 2024, the Session approved restarting regular extended Communion, beginning in January of 2025. Since then, a group of regular volunteers has served extended Communion to 6 to 8 each Communion Sunday.

Please prayerfully consider whether this is a personal mission for you. If God so calls you, please answer as Isaiah did, "Here I am, Lord, send me".

Then contact Don Payne or Tom Clem.

JULY 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	PLAYIN' AND PRAYIN' REVIVAL 5PM	PW CIRCLE RODGERS CENTER 1:00 PM	1 9:00-12:00 PM THE POTTERS HAND POTTERY STUDIO CHOIR PRACTICE 6:30	2	3 OFFICE CLOSED	4 4 TH OF JULY
5 COMMUNION 9AM SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30 FELLOWSHIP 10AM WORSHIP	6 PLAYIN' AND PRAYIN' REVIVAL 5PM	7 MISSION SHOWER DAY SESSION MEETING REVIVAL 6PM	8 9:00-12:00 PM THE POTTERS HAND POTTERY STUDIO CHOIR PRACTICE 6:30	9	10 OFFICE CLOSED	11
12 9AM SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30 FELLOWSHIP 10AM WORSHIP	13 PLAYIN' AND PRAYIN' REVIVAL 5PM	14	15 9:00-12:00 PM THE POTTERS HAND POTTERY STUDIO CHOIR PRACTICE 6:30	16	17 OFFICE CLOSED	18
19 9AM SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30 FELLOWSHIP 10AM WORSHIP	20 PLAYIN' AND PRAYIN' REVIVAL 5PM	21	22 9:00-12:00 PM THE POTTERS HAND POTTERY STUDIO CHOIR PRACTICE 6:30	23	24 OFFICE CLOSED	25
26 9AM SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30 FELLOWSHIP 10AM WORSHIP	27 PLAYIN' AND PRAYIN' REVIVAL 5PM	28	29 9:00-12:00 PM THE POTTERS HAND POTTERY STUDIO CHOIR PRACTICE 6:30	30	31 OFFICE CLOSED	1

JULY BIRTHDAYS:

3rd Hal Baker

3rd Doris Welch

4th Carol Quillen

5th Laura Black

9th Jac Catlett

9th Doug Counter

12th Brad Mallette

12th Danny Gregg

13th Cynthia Ugarte`

14th Mila Mallette

15th Kevin Richardson

21st David Lopp

22nd Brad Greene

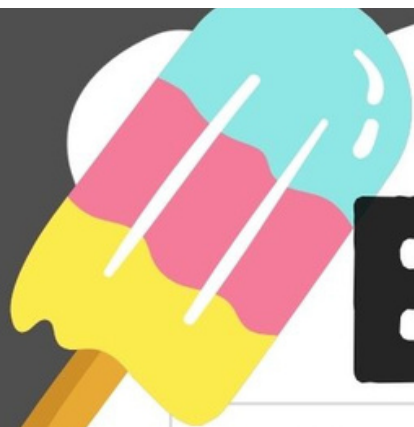
31st Mary Patterson

31st Chris Shindorf

RALLY

DAY

August 16, 2026



SUMMER BINGO



TABLE	REST	SERVE	PRAY	STORY
Give up one "dining out" day Eat at home and donate the savings to Community Table	5 Minute deep breathing	Learn more a community partner connected to FPC	Learn a "breath prayer"	Write a simple spiritual autobiography
Memorize a new blessing prayer to use this summer	Stand barefoot outside on grass and/or earth regularly	Do an active service that is hidden or secret	Sing or make the use of song as part of your prayers	Memorize a scripture verse
One meal a day the table without phone/tv for a month	Plan a no shop, no work, no household chores day. Make observations	Give generously to a person who can not "give back"	Worship at a church different from FPC	Ask someone at church to tell you a story about their life of faith
Welcome someone (or many) to your home who has never visited	Experiment with time away from the phone	Learn about a mission or missionary. Write a note of encouragement	Experiment with active prayer: walking, coloring a mandala, etc.	Add 10 minutes a day of scripture reading to your current routine
Receive communion at another church	Read a book on Sabbath Rest	Log 8 hours of community service	Read a book on prayer and consider a new practice	Study and learn your favorite story of Jesus and tell it in your own words

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Prayer Vigil Sign Up Sheet



DATE	TIME	NAME
7/7/2026	9:00am	
	9:30am	
	10:00am	
	10:30am	
7/8/2026	9:00am	
	9:30am	
	10:00am	
	10:30am	
7/9/2026	9:00am	
	9:30am	
	10:00am	
	10:30am	



**LIMESTONE
CHILD
ADVOCACY
CENTER**

Limestone Child Advocacy Center
104 Washington Street East
Athens, Alabama 35611
256-998-5556

Direct Services (\$432,785.00)

2025

Service Type	Unit Cost	Units (2025 data)	Subtotal
Counseling Sessions	\$150 per session	762 sessions	\$114,300.00
Family Advocacy Services	\$100 per session	1,169 sessions	\$116,900.00
Forensic Interviews	\$200 per interview	234 interviews	\$46,800.00
School Prevention Services	\$15.00 per student	3,467 students	\$52,0005.00
Parenting Class/ Parenting Program Services	\$30.00 per session	3,426 sessions	\$102,780.00

Total Direct Services Provided by Limestone CAC in 2025: \$432,785.00

Limestone Child Advocacy Center

ANNUAL REPORT 2025



SERVICES PROVIDED:

INTERVENTION & HEALING

234 Forensic Interviews
1,169 Family Advocacy Services
30 New Therapy Clients
762 Therapy Sessions
370  Sit. Stay. Heal. Services

PREVENTION & EMPOWERMENT

191 Adults Trained in Stewards of Children
14 Community Trainings & Presentations
382 In-Home Parenting Sessions
189 Parenting Class Graduates
12 Pawsitive Tails Presentations
3,467 Students Educated in Local Schools

Limestone CAC
104 East Washington Street
Athens, Alabama 35611
www.limestonecac.org
256-998-5556



Putting the Pieces Together for
Safety, Healing, and Justice

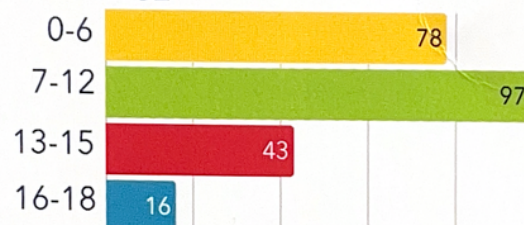


12 MDT Meetings - Reviewed over 220 Child Abuse Cases

Multi-Disciplinary Team Agencies

Athens City Police Department
Athens-Limestone Hospital
Crisis Services of North Alabama
Limestone CAC
Limestone County DHR
Limestone County District Attorney's Office
Limestone County Juvenile Probation
Limestone County Sheriff's Department

AGE



RACE



FUNDING SOURCE %



PROGRAM EXPENSES %



The Limestone CAC is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.