

EAST ATHENS BAPTIST CHURCH  
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US Postage Paid  
Non-Profit Organization  
Permit No. 23  
Athens, TN 37303

Return service requested



**AUGUST 2025**

**NEW CHURCH YEAR  
AUGUST 3RD**

## SHOES FOR ORPHAN SOULS

MCMINN-MEIGS ASSOCIATION OF BAPTISTS IS COLLECTING SHOES, SOCKS, AND SHOELACES FOR SHOES FOR ORPHAN SOULS DURING THE MONTH OF AUGUST. DONATED ITEMS SHOULD BE FOR CHILDREN AND TEENS AND DUE TO CUSTOMS REGULATIONS, ALL ITEMS MUST BE BRAND NEW.



**Back to SCHOOL**

**RUBY S. CLARK AND  
PAUL J. HACKEY  
SCHOLARSHIP  
APPLICATIONS DUE  
AUGUST 17, 2025**

**CHURCH  
COUNCIL  
AUGUST 5TH  
AT 6:00 PM**

**YOUTH  
POOL PARTY  
AUGUST 23RD  
3PM - 9PM**

**MIKE & MICHELLE  
WILL SHARE IN SONG  
AUGUST 24TH  
AT 6PM**



**Dr. Brian Trapp**  
Senior Pastor

As August begins and summer break ends, let us thank God for the blessed time we got to spend with families and friends. Summer provides a much-needed break for many families, but with school starting the pace of life starts picking up again. As our days start to get busier, let us not forget some critical activities we should make room for every day as followers of Christ. First, reading God's word, the Bible. What a gift God has given us through his word. How is your reading the Bible through in a year going? Are you carving out time each day to read God's word? It is vital to be in God's word regularly, set aside time and study it. Spend some time meditating, memorizing and applying it to your life.

Second, do you spend time in prayer daily? As believers in Jesus, prayer should be a vital and active part of our Christian lives. Never underestimate the power of prayer and know God hears the prayers of his children. Believers have the promise that God hears our prayers. So go confidently to our Father in heaven and make your request known. In Matthew 7:7-8, Jesus calls believers to ask, seek, and knock. I am asking you to specifically pray for all of our educators and students here in McMinn County and the surrounding counties for the next ten months. Ask for God's blessings on our students and educators. Remember to seek God daily and be persistent in your prayers.

Third, make church a priority. We meet two times a week at church - Sundays and Wednesdays. I know that many of you have work, travel and a variety of other things going on, but when you can, come to Church. I hope each of you have a blessed month and look forward to seeing you at Church!!!

Blessings,  
Pastor Brian C. Trapp

## EABC MINISTRIES-IMPORTANT DATES

### Weekly Church Activities

#### SUNDAY

Library Open.....9-9:30 A

Sunday School ..... 9:30 A

Morning Worship .....10:45 A

#### WEDNESDAY

Children's Ministry .....6:30 P

Youth Group ..... 6:30 P

Bible Study / Prayer ..... 7:00 P

Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal ... 7:50 P

### CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY - THURSDAY:

9 AM - 3:00 PM

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

<https://eastathens.org/livestream>

(Livestream of the Sunday Morning Service and Previous Services)

<https://eastathens.org/calendar>

(Happenings at the Church)

<https://eastathens.org/contact>

(Guest Information)

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC3nVw1a3wrtc8ZKG7dqV4Xw>

(YouTube Channel)

**AUGUST**

- 3—New Church Year
- 4—Brotherhood
- Women's Bible Study
- 5—Church Council
- 12—Game Day
- 17—Finance Committee
- 18—Women's Bible study
- 19—Game Day
- 20—L.I.G.H.T/WMU
- Business Meeting
- 23—Youth Pool Party
- 24—Missions





**REV. MIKE DANDEL**  
Executive/Worship Pastor

**Reflection**

As I sit down to write this newsletter, my heart is filled with a mixture of gratitude, reflection, anticipation, and sadness. After 45 blessed years of service, I am stepping into a new chapter of life—retirement. It is a moment I felt would eventually come, but never this fast—a moment of happiness, but also a moment of sadness. God has blessed me through these 45 years.

Throughout my journey, I have been continually reminded of God’s faithfulness. Psalm 92:12-14 says, *"The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree; he shall grow like a cedar of Lebanon; those who are planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God. They shall still bring forth fruit in old age; they shall be fat and flourishing,"*. Truly, I feel that I have been planted in His house, nourished by His Word, and sustained by His grace. Every challenge, every victory, and every moment of service has been an opportunity to witness His goodness and to serve His Kingdom.

My calling has been a sacred privilege—serving alongside brothers and sisters in Christ, ministering to our community, and witnessing lives transformed by the love of Jesus. I am grateful for the countless Sundays of praise (2,340 Sunday mornings, but who’s counting), not counting all the musicals and special services, thousands of hours of rehearsal time spent learning new music with all age groups, choir camps, handbells, musicals, etc., with the desire to learn, sing, and share our love of God through worship in His sanctuary and through the many opportunities to share in our community. It has been a blessing, reminding me daily of the importance of compassion, humility, and unwavering trust in His plan. In addition to working in the area of music and worship, I have been blessed to work with the youth here at East Athens. The memories, the opportunities, the impact upon their lives and mine are innumerable.

I thank my family—Michelle, Matt, and Megan—for their unwavering support and patience over the years. Your love has been my anchor and my greatest gift. I am also profoundly thankful for the leadership and the entire congregation that have been my extended family, encouraging me and walking alongside me in this calling. Your faithfulness and dedication have continually inspired me. You have allowed me to be a part of your life, in both happy and difficult times, as well as in sad ones. You have allowed me to show Christ’s love to you, and you have demonstrated Christ’s love to me.

As I step into retirement in a little over a month, I do so with the confidence that God’s work is ongoing. Ephesians 2:10 reminds us, *"For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them."* I intend to continue serving the Lord by simply seeking to live out Christ’s love each day, wherever that may be. My prayer is that I will remain a faithful servant, always pointing others to the hope found in Jesus.

To those who have worked closely with me through worship services, including instrumentalists, soloists, choir members, choir officers, children’s choir directors, choir helpers, and sound crew as well as those who have collaborated closely through retreats and camps as youth leaders, camp counselors, cooks, security guards, and bus drivers (especially on the long beach trips), etc. I have had the privilege to serve with you. For that, I say “thank you”. Your dedication and faithfulness have been a source of encouragement to me. To the entire congregation, I pray that you will continue to grow in faith, hope, and love, shining as beacons of light in this world.

In closing, I want to leave you with the words of Proverbs 3:5-6: *"Trust in the Lord with all thine heart, and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths."* I am confident that as you continue to seek Him, He will guide you and bless your endeavors.

Thank you for 45 wonderful years of fellowship, service, and love. May God’s grace and peace be with you all.

*"And all my life You have been faithful, and all my life You have been so, so, good. With every breath that I am able. Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God."* (Cash, Fielding, Ingram, Johnson, Johnson)

With heartfelt blessings,

Your brother in Christ Jesus

Mike

**MUSIC NEWS**

**Sanctuary Choir:**

During August and the first two Sundays in September, we will sing two anthems each Sunday. Except for the last anthem, all the songs we sing have been among our favorites over the years. Look forward to sharing these wonderful anthems this month.

We will extend the August rehearsals to 1 hour to ensure ample time for rehearsals on each song.

Pray for God’s leadership in the upcoming weeks as we seek God’s direction for East Athens Baptist Church.

*"Praise ye the Lord, I will praise the Lord with my whole heart, in the assembly of the upright, and in the congregation."* (Psalm 111:1)



**RICHARD HARRILL**  
Youth Director

**Student Ministry!**

**YOUTH POOL PARTY**

**AUGUST 23RD - 3PM TO 9PM**

1- Joe Knox	9- Trina Ammons	17- Penny Mediate
1- Heather Toomey-Beaty	10- Keith Grubb	18- Cindy Benton
3- Jody Coker	13- Ed DeJarnette	20- Jude Wilson
4- Nathan Odom	14- Jaynell Nelson	23- David Blankenship
6- Sarah Miller	16- William Offutt	25- Bernard Patterson
7- AG Smith	17- Mike Smith	27- Betty Casteel
8- Lisa Franklin		28- Sharon Bright
9- Michelle Dannel		31- Molly Scarbrough

**Happy Anniversary!**

15- PHIL/JUDY HADORN

16- DAVID/FREDA CARRINGER

16- BUG/JUDY COOLEY

31 - RANDY/SHERI HALL

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**

**Deacons of the Week and Hospitality Team**

August 3	August 10	August 17	August 24	August 31
Stacey Wade	Brett Miller	Steve Bridges	Rodney Scarbrough	Stacey Wade
Rodney Ammons	Debo Toomey	Nathan Odom	Steve Bridges	Darrell McCormick
(Front Entrance)	(Front Entrance)	(Front Entrance)	(Front Entrance)	(Front Entrance)
*Need Volunteer	*Need Volunteer	Jamie McConkey	*Need Volunteer	*Need Volunteer
(Nursery)	(Nursery)	(Nursery)	(Nursery)	(Nursery)
Darrell McCormick	Donny Anderson	Phil Hadorn	Sue McDonald	Rodney Ammons
(Family Life Center)	(Family Life Center)	(Family Life Center)	(Family Life Center)	(Family Life Center)