

VERSE

of the

WEEK

Athens Christian Church

8:00, 9:15 & 10:30 AM

Worship Services

January 4, 2026

“The eyes of the Lord range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to Him.”

2 Chronicles 16:9

Welcome to Athens Christian Church

If this is your first visit, we're so glad you're here. To help us stay connected, please fill out a visitor card located at the back of the chair in front of you and drop it in the offering box. If you'd like to receive our monthly church newsletter by email, be sure to include your email address on the card.

We're thrilled you've joined us for worship today! During the service, the Lord's Supper is available to all believers. Please feel free to make yourself at home. On your way out, don't forget to stop by the foyer to pick up a complimentary Bible. We look forward to seeing you again next week!

At ACC, we strive to be a loving family of Christ-followers, bringing light into a dark world. Please call on us when we can help:

Ministry Contacts:

Ken Gennicks,
Senior Minister/217-415-5724

Shane Baker,
Associate Minister
217-415-9035

Lorna Baker,
Children's Minister
217-502-1256

Ashley Cantrall,
Worship/Technology Minister
217-652-5433

Evan Noggle,
Youth Minister/217-415-5644

Morgan Wells, After School
Program/217-414-5433

Elders:

Jeremy McDaniel-
217-971-9416

Curt Reichling-
217-636-9252

Doug Wendler-
217-652-2133

Jack Brown-
217-741-0381

GriefShare Ministry:

Carla Knox/
217-415-5032

Mary Ellen Buch/
217-899-7598

Download the
ACC app



1411 E. Route 29 • Athens IL 62613

217-636-8463

www.athenschristian.net

www.facebook.com/athenschristianIL

8:00 am Traditional Service

Call to Worship: Psalm 103:19-22

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise #319 (v. 1-4)

Give of Your Best to the Master #516 (v. 1-3)

Announcements Video

Prayer Requests & Praises: Ken Gennicks

He Hideth My Soul #120 (v. 1-4)

Acts of Worship: Hank Daubs

Sermon: Ken Gennicks

“Our Hopes & Dreams for 2026”
(Luke 4:16; 2 Tim. 2:15; Jn. 13:14; 2 Cor. 8:7; Eccl. 4:9; Philemon 6)

Invitation Hymn:
Lead Me to Calvary #407 (v. 1 & 4)

Communion & Offering Hymn:
There's Room At the Cross #645 (v. 1 & 3)

Communion & Offering Meditation: Ken Gennicks

Quietly move to Communion & Offering tables before exiting.

9:15 & 10:30 am Contemporary Service

Welcome

Who You Say I Am

Who Else

Living Hope

Announcements Video

Prayer Requests & Praises: Ken Gennicks

Acts of Worship: Amanda Buch

Sermon: Ken Gennicks

“Our Hopes & Dreams for 2026”
(Luke 4:16; 2 Tim. 2:15; Jn. 13:14; 2 Cor. 8:7; Eccl. 4:9; Philemon 6)

Invitation Hymn: Worthy of it All

King of Kings

Communion & Offering Meditation:
9:15: Ken Gennicks / 10:30: Evan Noggle

Quietly move to Communion & Offering tables before exiting.

AM Sermon Notes

“Our Hopes & Dreams for 2026”
(Luke 4:16; 2 Tim. 2:15; Jn. 13:14; 2 Cor. 8:7; Eccl. 4:9; Philemon 6)

INTRODUCTION

Every Sunday of 2026, we will focus again on “The People of the Bible,” inspiring biographical sketches of Bible people and lessons about following Jesus today. Every Sunday we will study and apply God’s Word. But let’s start the new year today with our six basic, Bible values. Living these values develops a strong faith, reaches the lost, makes disciples for Christ, and builds strong churches! With these values in mind, let’s dream of a church family in 2026 where:

I. Every person values _____ enough to do it _____ . (Lk. 4:16)

II. Every person values _____ enough to _____ it daily and _____ it with a group regularly. (2 Tim. 2:15)

III. Every person values _____ enough to _____ and _____ in their area with _____ for Christ until He comes. (Jn. 13:14)

IV. Every person values _____ enough to live within their _____, _____ to their church, and make Jesus _____ over their financial world. (2 Cor. 8:7)

V. Every person values _____ enough to become and remain a _____ of a smaller group who share their life together for the sake of Christ. (Eccl. 4:9)

VI. Every person values _____ their _____ enough to learn to do it, and then does so actively until the _____ knows Christ. (Philemon 6)

CONCLUSION

Jesus loved the Church and gave Himself up for Her! Likewise, let’s give ourselves for His cause everyday in 2026!

Prayer Requests

At Memorial: Linda Cramer

Tests: Chris Roszhart, Dave/Sandy Magee, Dwayne Rudolph (8th/treatments start), Rhonda Leinberger, Laurie Ingram’s brother, Barb Wagner, Albert McCarthy, Linda Hoffman’s son, Alice Lasswell’s brother, Tammy Garner, Brandon Keppler’s uncle, Lorrie Sleight’s mom/ dad/sister, Judy Bryant, Bree Chandler, Pat Halberstadt, Ericka McCoy’s dad/family, Mary Magee (7th), Donnie Fritz, Linda Caldwell, Amelia Whitman (Jerry Judd’s friend), Sue Bishop’s sister, Barb Snow, Steve Snow (shoulder/Feb. 20), Kay Sill’s sister

At home: Terry Wunderle, Nancy Nale’s mom, Morgan Setzer, Deb Claypool’s friend, Tom/Ruth Novy, Wanda Stott, Jill Cleer (Arcadia), Kevin/Carrie Lee/Colton Ingham, Jack/Betty Ethell’s daughter, Sierra Lowers’ mom, Kenny Bounds (hospice), Jo Ellen Croft’s mom, Dawn Medley, Marlene Wegner, Kevin Kennett, Anthony Hale’s dad, Scott McNeal

Touched by death: Andrew Combs family (aunt passed away/NY), Bob Lott family

Transitions: Nadra Rolfs (Stefanie Fricke’s friend), Wayne/ Barb Schafer’s daughter, Ann Vaughn (Bill Peterman’s m-in-law/Trustwell), Sally Vespa’s parents (Carriage Crossing), Sharon Reichling, Roberta Clark/Dick & Elaine Bachman/ Steve Gutierrez/Charles “Butch” Mester/Al Betz/ Rosalie Ingram (Villa), Joann Kirchgesner (hospice/Villa), Mary Prior/Erna Weatherby/Bob Moore (Countryside), Carolyn Cole (Concordia), Marge Ray/Vivian Rankin (Vonderlieth), Chuck VanHuss (Jacksonville), Cory Craig, Jr./Josh Harris/ Nicholas McDaniel (Ozark Christian College)

25 to CIY Superstart (gr. 4-6): Jan. 30-31/Bloomington

Vacation Bible School: June 8-12, 6-8:00 p.m./all ages

112 to Christ In Youth Conf.: July 6-10/Lincoln, NE

Blake Canterbury: facebook.com/monroechurchplant

Kyle Gennicks: wearegospelcity.churchcenter.com

Capital Stewardship Campaign: EXCEL (2026-2028)

Our missionaries/military/terrorism/nation

Each other/unspoken needs



Before you leave today, please be sure to stop by the lobby and sign the greeting cards for friends and family of ACC.

HAVE YOU EVER CLOSED YOUR BIBLE AND THOUGHT, WHAT DID I JUST READ???

A NEW SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS BEGINS TODAY JUST FOR YOU!

THE BIBLE RECAP

You can READ, UNDERSTAND, & LOVE the BIBLE!


SUNDAYS THRU MARCH 29
9:15 AM IN ROOM 105
Sign up in the lobby or online today!

CHRIST IN YOUTH 2026
July 6-10, 2026 in Lincoln, Nebraska

“CIY” is a powerful, week-long event designed to inspire and equip high school students to deepen their faith and boldly live for Christ. Because we want to take as many high schoolers from our area as we can, ACC has stepped out in faith and purchased 112 tickets for CIY 2026!!

ONLY 11 SPOTS REMAIN!

To secure your spot, register and pay \$100 non-refundable deposit at athenschristian.net/ciy or scan



Young at Heart

Wonderful Watery World of Rivers
Tuesday, January 13

9:30: Free Blood Pressure checks
10:00: Presentation on the Wonderful Watery World of Rivers by Jason DeBoer
11:00 lunch: Ham & beans, taco soup, and cornbread
Devotion by Evan Noggle



ACC OUTDOORS INVITES YOU TO JOIN US

free! ACC Indoor Archery
AT ATHENS CHRISTIAN CHURCH
JANUARY 19 - MARCH 23
6-8 PM

For more information visit our website

ACC OUTDOORS 9TH ANNUAL SPORTSMAN'S DINNER
SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 6-9 PM
AT ATHENS CHRISTIAN CHURCH
Tickets on sale now-\$25 ea.
Pay & register at athenschristian.net or on the ACC app.



wednesday night CONNECTION
JANUARY 14 - MARCH 26
Supper 5:40-6:15 pm Studies 6:30-7:30 pm

<p>GROUP STUDY</p>  <p>led by Anthony Bolton & Gerry Turner</p>	<p>WOMEN</p>  <p>led by Shelly Roat & Carrie Cantrall</p>
<p>YOUNG ADULTS</p>  <p>led by Kennedy Hale & Morgan Wells</p>	<p>MEN</p>  <p>led by Michael Cantrall & Matt Armitage</p>
<p>GENERAL BIBLE STUDY</p>  <p>led by Darin Fritz & Dan Haynes</p>	<p>GRIEF SHARE</p>  <p>led by Carla Knox & Mary Ellen Buch</p>
<p>ROOTED JR./SR. HIGH</p>  <p>led by Darin Fritz & Dan Haynes</p>	<p>KIDS C.L.U.B.</p> <p>4 yrs-3rd gr. Psalms: The Big Book of Emotions 4th-6th gr. Spyence Mission X</p>

Join us for an evening of good food, warm fellowship, and shared time in God's Word!
Sign up in the lobby or online today!

HIGH SCHOOL MORNING BIBLE STUDY
NOW ON WEDNESDAYS!

STARTING JANUARY 14 - MAY 6
7:15-8:00 AM
AT ACC



- ### Applying Today's Sermon to Your Life
- Throughout 2026, our Bible study will focus again on “The People of The Bible,” from both the Old and the New Testaments, from Genesis to Revelation! The people of the Bible, both the heroes and villains, show us how to walk closely with the Lord. But we start the new year today with our six basic, Bible values: we value worship, Bible study, serving, giving, relationships, and sharing our faith! How well did you live out these values in 2025? Let's commit afresh today to living out these values as a church family in 2026! Our verse-of-the-week today is 2 Chronicles 16:9, “The eyes of the Lord range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to Him.” What does this promise mean? Commit this verse to memory today!
 - List at least three Bible texts that speak to the importance of each of our values:
 - A. We value worship: D. We value giving:
 - B. We value Bible study: E. We value relationships:
 - C. We value serving: F. We value sharing our faith:
 - After today's Bible study, answer the following as True or False:
 - T F I worship weekly unless I am ill, out-of-town, or must work.
 - T F I read my Bible and pray most days.
 - T F I study the Bible with a group of others regularly.
 - T F I have found a way to serve and help in my local church.
 - T F I support the church with my finances and I enjoy giving.
 - T F I'm intentional to befriend others and maintain relationships.
 - T F I look for opportunities to share my faith in Christ.
 - T F I often invite others to worship, study, serve and connect.
 - T F A healthy local church is the hope of the world.
 - How will you serve in your church this year? Be very specific.
 - God had a plan. Can God be trusted today? Why, or why not? Use Scripture.
 - My dream for Athens Christian Church in 2026 is like this:
 - Our 2026 Bible studies are life lessons from Bible people and how they point us toward God. Make a list of ten people who are good examples and ten poor examples in the Bible. Compare and explain your lists to a friend or a group.
 - Imagine living today without faith, without knowing Jesus, without knowing how to pray, and without a supportive church family. Now think about your neighbors, your coworkers, your relatives, your classmates, your friends, and people in your circle of acquaintance. Who needs your faith, your Jesus, your prayers, your church family? Will you ask Jesus to make His appeal to them through you?
 - I will put today's Bible study into action now by:

Today & This Week

TODAY, SUNDAY, JANUARY 4, 2026

7:30 am Prayer with the Pastors (WC)
8:00 am Traditional Worship Svc. (nursery birth-2 yrs/3-5 yrs.)
9:15 am Contemporary Worship Service
9:15 am Sunday School for all Ages:

- Adult Classes:
 - » The Bible Recap, led by various ACC members (Rm. 105)
 - » The Ambassadors, led by Dan Haynes (Rm. 223)
 - » Christian Living, led by Harry Schirding & Doug Wendler (Rm. 203)
 - » Kingdom Seekers meets this week with Bible Recap Class (Rm. 105)
 - » Deep Divers, led by Anthony Bolton (Rm. 106)
- Jr./Sr. High School (Rm. 113/114)
- Kids C.L.U.B. for 4 yrs.-kind., 1st-3rd grade, 4th-6th grade
- Childcare for birth-3 years

10:30 am Contemporary Worship Service

- Kids C.L.U.B. for K-6th grade/Childcare for birth-4yrs.

1:00 pm Pick-Up Basketball for Aged 13+ (FLC)

MONDAY, JANUARY 5 MATTHEW 1
9:00 am Chair Aerobics (FLC)

TUESDAY, JANUARY 6 MATTHEW 2
8:00 am Men's Bible Study (Rm. 223)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7 MATTHEW 3
9:00 am Chair Aerobics (FLC)
6:00 pm Praise Team Practice (WC)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 8 MATTHEW 4
10:00 am Prophecy Watch Study (Rm. 106)
6:00 pm Pickleball (FLC)

FRIDAY, JANUARY 9 MATTHEW 5
Church Office Closed
9:00 am Chair Aerobics (FLC)

SATURDAY, JANUARY 10
7:30 am Washington Street Mission Breakfast Served by ACC

SUNDAY, JANUARY 11

7:30 am Prayer with the Pastors (WC)
8:00 am Traditional Worship Svc. (nursery birth-2 yrs/3-5 yrs.)
9:15 am Contemporary Worship Service
9:15 am Sunday School for all Ages

- Adult Classes:
 - » The Bible Recap, led by various ACC members (Rm. TBD)
 - » The Ambassadors, led by Dan Haynes (Rm. 223)
 - » Christian Living, led by Harry Schirding & Doug Wendler (Rm. 203)
 - » Kingdom Seekers, led by Terry Henrikson & Nancy Winterbauer (Rm. TBD)
 - » Deep Divers, led by Anthony Bolton (Rm. 106)
- Jr./Sr. High School (Rm. 113/114)
- Kids C.L.U.B. for 4 yrs.-kind., 1st-3rd grade, 4th-6th grade
- Childcare for birth-3 years

10:30 am Contemporary Worship Service

- Kids C.L.U.B. for K-6th grade/Childcare for birth-4yrs.

1:00 pm Pick-Up Basketball for Aged 13+ (FLC)
4:00 pm Elders' Meeting (Rm. 105)
5:30 pm Prayer Gathering led by Ashley Cantrall