

ATHENS CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
8:00, 9:15 & 10:30 AM  
WORSHIP SERVICES



October 12, 2025

"I HAVE TOLD YOU THESE THINGS, SO THAT  
IN ME YOU MAY HAVE PEACE. IN THIS WORLD  
YOU WILL HAVE TROUBLE. BUT TAKE HEART! I  
HAVE OVERCOME THE WORLD."

Galatians 5:1

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:

Elders:

Jeremy McDaniel/217-971-9416  
Curt Reichling/217-636-9252  
Doug Wendler/217-652-2133  
Jack Brown/217-741-0381

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  
Josh Harris, Preaching Intern  
217-971-8371

GriefShare Ministry:

Carla Knox/  
217-415-5032  
Mary Ellen Buch/  
217-899-7598

Stephen Ministers:

Contact Person,  
Donna Douglas:  
217-522-1134 or  
217-971-6732  
or contact the church  
office/217-636-8463



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 77: 11-15

To God be the Glory #363 (v. 1-3)

Holy Holy Holy #323 (v. 1-4)

Announcements Video

Prayer Requests & Praises: Ken Gennicks

Amazing Grace #107 (v. 1-5)

Acts of Worship: Russ Witmer

Sermon: Shane Baker

"People of the Bible:  
'The Stoning of Stephen'"  
(Acts 7:54-60)

Invitation Hymn:  
I Surrender All #408 (v. 1 & 4)

Communion & Offering Hymn:  
Rock of Ages #108 (v. 1 & 2)

Communion & Offering Meditation: Josh Harris  
Quietly move to Communion & Offering  
tables before exiting.

9:15 & 10:30 am Contemporary Service

Welcome

Who You Say I Am

Lord I Need You

Great Are You Lord

Announcements Video

Prayer Requests & Praises: Ken Gennicks

Acts of Worship: Ava Gennicks & Leilah Link

Sermon: Shane Baker

"People of the Bible:  
'The Stoning of Stephen'"  
(Acts 7:54-60)

Invitation Hymn: Gratitude

Cornerstone

Communion & Offering Meditation: Josh Harris  
Quietly move to Communion & Offering  
tables before exiting.

AM Sermon Notes

"People of the Bible:  
'The Stoning of Stephen'"  
(Acts 7:54-60)

INTRODUCTION

We continue in 2025 with our Bible studies focusing on "People of the Bible," biographical sketches and timeless lessons from their lives. Every Sunday we study and apply God's Word to our lives. This week our Bible Study comes from the New Testament book of Acts, chapter 7, verses 54-60. In these verses, we'll take a closer look at the difficult end to Stephen's life and learn from his example as we draw close to Jesus ourselves.

Bible Study

I. Stephens's \_\_\_\_\_ (vs. 54, 57-58)

II. Stephen's \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ (55-56)

III. Stephen's \_\_\_\_\_ (59-60a)

A. For \_\_\_\_\_

B. For his \_\_\_\_\_

IV. Stephen's \_\_\_\_\_ (60b)

Application

1. Our \_\_\_\_\_

2. Our \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_

3. Our \_\_\_\_\_

4. Our \_\_\_\_\_

CONCLUSION

Jesus told His disciples, "In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." As followers of Jesus, we know something His disciples didn't know then. Jesus did overcome the world and death, and in that has given us the assurance of eternal life.

Prayer Requests

**At DeKalb hospital:** Curt Reichling's mom (cancer)

**Tests:** Gail Frank, Larry Fitschen, Dave Magee, Al Keller, Andrew Combs (surgery/14th), Marilyn Castles, Dwayne Rudolph, Jan Canterbury, Rhonda Leinberger, Pat Halberstadt (ablation/Nov. 4), Laurie Ingram's brother/sister, Barb Wagner, Jody Robertson (Mark/Kathy Becker's neighbor), Hudson Davis (Curtis/Jen's son), Albert McCarthy, Marlene Stepp, Madison Austin, Ruth Novy (shoulder/Dec.), David Primm (cancer surgery), Aidan Good, Rena Hiatt, Tony Snow (shoulder surgery/8th), Todd Snow (knee replacement/9th), Isabella Link (knee surgery/27th)

**At home:** Terry Wunderle, Nancy Nale's mom, Morgan Setzer, Annetta Books, Deb Claypool's friend, Tom Novy, Wanda Stott, Jill Cleer (Arcadia), Kathy Becker, Kevin/Carrie Lee/Colton Ingham, Cyndee Blakeman, Janice Bollman, Roberta Clark, Nancy Oliver (Chris Oliver's mom/home hospice/Pawnee), Jerry Basso

**Transitions:** Jerry Brown (Amanda Helmkamp's cousin/FL), Bev Nolting's cousin, Bonnie Russell (St. Clara's), Dick & Elaine Bachman/Sara Murry/Steve Gutierrez/Charles "Butch" Mester/Rosalie Ingram/Al Betz/Joann Kirchgesner (Villa), Bill Pullin (hospice), Mary Prior/Erna Weatherby/Bob Moore (Countryside), Carolyn Cole (Concordia/hospice), Gene/Kathy Apel/Marge Ray/Vivian Rankin (Vonderlieth), Kenny Bounds (Taylorville), Chuck VanHuss (Jacksonville), Cory Craig, Jr. (Ozark Christian College), Israel

**Operation Christmas Child:** Oct. 26-Nov. 9

**Fall Preaching Intern:** Josh Harris (through Dec. 24)

**ICOM Mission Conference:** Nov. 20-22/Atlanta

**20 to Young Adult 'Passion Conf':** Dec. 31/TX

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

**Blake Canterbury:** [facebook.com/monroechurchplant](https://facebook.com/monroechurchplant)

**Kyle Gennicks:** [wearegospelcity.churchcenter.com](https://wearegospelcity.churchcenter.com)

**Capital Stewardship Campaign: Let Your Light Shine (2023-2025)**

**Capital Stewardship Campaign: EXCEL (2026-2028)**

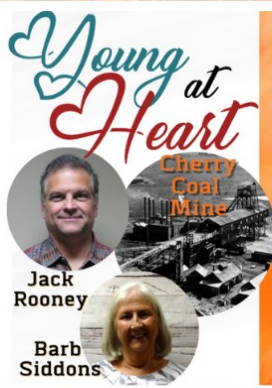
**Our missionaries/military/terrorism/nation**

**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.



October is Minister Appreciation Month



**History of Cherry Coal Mine Disaster**  
Tuesday, October 14  
**9:30: Free Blood Pressure checks**  
**10:00: Presentation on the History of Cherry Coal Mine Disaster by Jack Rooney**  
**11:00 lunch: Sleight corn dogs, chili, and fruit**  
**Devotion by Barb Siddons**

**PICK-UP BASKETBALL RESUMES AT ACC**  
Sundays, 1:00 - 3:00 pm  
Oct. 19, Nov. 2-30, Dec. 7, 14, 21)  
**Ages High School and Up**  
**questions: see Russ Witmer**  
(zoemac8808@sbcglobal.net)

**5TH QUARTER**  
**AT ACC AFTER THE HOME GAME ON**  
**Friday, October 24**  
7th -12th grade 9:30-11:30 PM  
Join us for Food, Fun, and Fellowship!

**PACK A SHOEBOX**  
**OCTOBER 26 - NOVEMBER 9**  
Pick up a box in the lobby and return it by November 9  
Send Good News, Great Joy in Jesus' Name!

**ACC Christmas Kids' Musical & Cookie Fellowship**  
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7 | 4-6PM | WORSHIP CENTER  
Cookie fellowship to follow!  
PRACTICE SCHEDULE  
• SUNDAYS IN NOVEMBER (NOV. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30)  
2:00-3:30PM IN KIDS' WING, FLC, WORSHIP CENTER  
• SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6, 9:00-10:30AM

Be Sure to Help Us Welcome Josh Harris as Preaching Intern at ACC this fall!  
Josh graduated from Athens High School in May of 2025 and will attend Ozark Christian College in Joplin, Missouri in the Spring of 2026. ACC is his home church, and he's excited to serve, grow and learn with our church family in this internship opportunity this fall!  
Monday, September 29 to Wednesday, December 24



**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. Through dynamic worship, engaging speakers, small group discussions, and intentional time with youth leaders, students are challenged to discover God's purpose for their lives and to take their faith beyond the walls of the church.  
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 18 SPOTS REMAIN!!!**  
To secure one of these spots, register and pay \$100 non-refundable deposit at [athenschristian.net/ciy](https://athenschristian.net/ciy) or scan



**TRUNK OR TREAT**  
**Sunday, Oct. 26, 2:00-3:30 PM in ACC Parking Lot**  
Hosted by ACC Kids Club, FUSE After School Program, and Athens PTO  
Donations of candy and Christian toys/trinkets are appreciated!  
You can drop off your donations in the lobby from October 5-22.

**JR/SR HIGH TRIP TO LSQA FOR... FALL NIGHT OUT**  
**SAT., NOV. 1, LEAVE CHURCH 5:45-RETURN 8:45PM**  
SCAN THE QR CODE TO SIGN-UP TODAY!  
LSQA IS HOSTING THEIR FALL NIGHT OUT!  
WE ARE TAKING A GROUP OF JUNIOR HIGH AND HIGH SCHOOLERS TO ENJOY THIS FREE EVENT, WHICH INCLUDES A WEENIE ROAST, HAY RACK RIDES, CARAMEL APPLES, AND MORE!  
SIGN UP TO GO & SAVE YOUR SEAT ON THE BUS!

- Applying Today's Sermon to Your Life
1. Our 2025 Bible studies focus on "The People of the Bible" and what they teach us about living daily for the Lord Jesus Christ. Studying the lives of the early followers of God challenges us to examine our lives and commitment to faithfully follow God, even when life gets messy and hard. Our Verse-of-the-Week is Galatians 5:1: *"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."*  
What comfort do you find in knowing that Jesus has overcome the world? How is that affecting your daily life?
  2. Are you currently being persecuted for your faith? How have you faced persecution in the past for your faith?
  3. What significance might there be in the fact that Stephen saw Jesus standing at the right hand of God instead of seated?
  4. Where did Stephen find the strength to pray for his persecutors?
  5. How was Stephen's death a good thing?
  6. When did you first meet Jesus? Have you put your faith and trust in Him as your Lord and Savior?
  7. What enemies do you need to be praying for right now?
  8. I will apply today's Bible study by:

**Stay Connected**  
This fall, we're doing a discipleship journey to help our ACC family stay more connected—beyond just Sundays. Whether it's receiving weekly updates, downloading the app, or giving online, these tools help us stay grounded in faith and community all week long.  
Here's what we're working toward as a church family:  
**Double ACC Weekly email subscribers (93 → 186)**  
**Double app downloads (495 → 1,000)**  
**Double online giving participation (73 → 146)**  
Our hope is that this challenge won't just help us develop new habits—but that it will draw us closer together, strengthen our routines, and remind us that church is more than a building.  
It's a family, and staying connected helps us grow together.

Today & This Week  
**TODAY, SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12**  
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 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. 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.  
4:00 pm Elders' Meeting (Rm. 105)  
5:30 pm Prayer Gathering led by Carla Knox (Worship Center)  
**MONDAY, OCTOBER 13** TITUS 1  
7:15 am Monday Morning High School Study (Youth Rm.)  
9:00 am Chair Aerobics (FLC)  
**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 14** TITUS 2  
8:00 am Men's Bible Study (Rm. 223)  
9:30 am Blood Pressure Checks (FLC)  
10:00 am Young at Heart (WC/FLC)  
**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15** TITUS 3  
9:00 am Chair Aerobics (FLC)  
5:00 pm Help set up for Wednesday Night Connection  
5:40-6:15 pm Dinner (hamburgers, tater tots, desserts)  
6:30-7:30 pm Classes for all Ages (Jr./Sr. High Youth Group/ GriefShare til 8:00)  
7:45 pm Praise Team Practice  
**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16** PHILEMON  
THURS-SUN: Little Galilee Scrapbook & Crafts Retreat (Clinton)  
**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17** HEBREWS 1  
Church Office Closed  
9:00 am Chair Aerobics (FLC)  
FRI-SUN: Little Galilee High School Paintball Retreat (Clinton)  
**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18**  
9:00 am Athens Area Food Pantry Monthly Distribution (Rt. 29)  
**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19**  
7:30 am Prayer with the Pastors (WC)  
7:30 am-noon Vaccine Clinic in Room 202  
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 (Rms. 105, 106, 203, 223)  
•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 High School-Adult (FLC)