

Athens Christian Church
8:00, 9:15 & 10:30 am
Worship Services

November 30, 2025



"Bear with each other and
forgive whatever grievances
you may have against one
another. Forgive as the Lord
forgave you."

Colossians 3:13

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: Jeremiah 33:14-16

Come Thou Long Expected Jesus #168 (v. 1-2)

O Come O Come Emmanuel #169 (v. 1-4)

Announcements Video

Prayer Requests & Praises: Ken Gennicks

What Child is This #180 (v. 1-3)

Christmas Candle Lighting: Bill & Sandy Beatty

Acts of Worship: Gospel Quartet

Sermon: Shane Baker & Josh Harris
"People of the Bible - Samson"
(Judges 15)

Invitation Hymn:
Precious Lord, Take My Hand #611 (v. 1 & 2)

Communion & Offering Hymn:
Whiter Than Snow #109 (v. 1 & 4)

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

9:15 & 10:30 am Contemporary Service

Welcome

Mighty Name of Jesus / King of Kings / Who Else

Announcements Video

Prayer Requests & Praises: Ken Gennicks

Christmas Candle Lighting
9:15: Jason Bruning family / 10:30: Eric Link family

Acts of Worship: Reflection & Response

Sermon: Shane Baker & Josh Harris
"People of the Bible - Samson"
(Judges 15)

Invitation Hymn: *O Come to the Altar*

Trust in God

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

AM Sermon Notes
"People of the Bible - Samson"
(Judges 15)

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. Today we turn to the book of Judges, chapter 15, where we find one of the strongest men in the Bible, Samson.

Bible Study

I. Samson _____ (vs. 1-2)

II. Samson _____ (vs. 3-8)

III. Samson _____ (vs. 9-13)

IV. Samson _____ (vs. 14-17)

V. Samson _____ (vs. 18-20)

Applying to Our Lives

1. We _____ be _____.

2. We _____ offer _____.

3. We need to _____ God _____ it.

CONCLUSION

Today we studied part of Samson's life and saw similarities between Samson and us. We saw how Samson was wronged and then sought revenge. Then, after his victory, he was reminded by God who really won the battle. The same goes for us today. We will be wronged. We then must choose forgiveness instead of revenge. We must remember to trust in Jesus.

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

Prayer Requests

At Memorial: Marlene Wegner

At St. John's: Misty Painter (Elise Fritz's friend/hospice), Karl Luthin (Rachel Bounds' uncle/after surgery), Kaitlyn (Al Betz's relative)

At St. Louis hospital: Mimie Dunkirk (Pat Basso's friend)

Tests: Pat Halberstadt, Rachael Aper (after surgery), Bruce Kennett, Don Klor, Dave Magee, Al Keller, Dwayne Rudolph, Rhonda Leinberger, Laurie Ingram's brother, Barb Wagner, Hudson Davis, Albert McCarthy, David Primm, Rena Hiatt, Kay Sill's sister, Jim Bruns (Pat McNeal's friend), Linda Hoffman's son, Alice Lasswell's brother, Tammy Garner, Brandon Keppler's uncle, Bob Lott, Ruth Novy (shoulder/Dec. 15), Lorrie Sleight's dad/mom/sister, Judy Bryant (biopsy/Dec. 10), Bree Chandler, Ted Torgerson (Jodi Peacock's friend/cancer)

At home: Bonnie Russell, Terry Wunderle, Nancy Nale's mom, Morgan Setzer, Deb Claypool's friend, Tom Novy, Wanda Stott, Jill Cleer (Arcadia), Kevin/Carrie Lee/Colton Ingham, Cyndee Blakeman, Nancy Oliver (hospice), Jerry Basso, Janice Bollman, Isabella Link, Jack/Betty Ethell's daughter, Mark/Mikayla Thomas (healthy pregnancy), Andrew Combs, Sierra Lowers' mom, Robin Power, Mary Wells, Bill Peterman's sister/brother, Kenny Bounds (hospice), Tracy Mullins
Touched by death: Barb Hopps family (Kyle Hopps' grandma), George Books family (Doreen's b-in-law), Judith Weedman family (Emily Jankauski's relative), Sandra Reed family (June Cerar's mom), Donna Griffin family (Laura Menghini's friend), Court Dickason family (Laura Menghini's uncle)

Transitions: Many friends traveling, Ann Vaughn (Bill Peterman's m-in-law/Trustwell), Sally Vespa's parents (assisted living), Curt Reichling's mom, Bev Nolting's cousin, Roberta Clark/Dick & Elaine Bachman/Steve Gutierrez/Charles "Butch" Mester/Al Betz/Rosalie Ingram (Villa), Joann Kirchgesner (Springfield Suites), Mary Prior/Erna Weatherby/Bob Moore (Countryside), Carolyn Cole (Concordia/hospice), Marge Ray/Vivian Rankin (Vonderlieth), Chuck VanHuss (Jacksonville), Gerald "Jerry" Brown (Susan VanNattan's relative/hospice), Cory Craig, Jr. (Ozark Christian College), Israel

ACC's holiday outreach to people of our region

Fall Preaching Intern: Josh Harris (till Dec. 24)

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

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: Let Your Light Shine (2023-2025)

Capital Stewardship Campaign: EXCEL (2026-2028)

Our missionaries/military/terrorism/nation

Each other/unspoken needs

ACC Christmas Kids' Musical & Cookie Fellowship

NEXT SUNDAY, DEC. 7 | 4PM | WORSHIP CENTER
Cookie fellowship to follow!

Those children participating:
Ava Blakeley, Scarlet Bosie, Chloe Brown, Evie Canning, Evelyn Cantrall, Riley Cantrall, Beckett Cantrall, Emmy Corrigan, Lillie Corrigan, Easton Dial, Palmer Elliott, Lily Harlan, Hunter Harlan, Cora Hopps, Kymber Jacoby, Josie Keppler, Scarlett Knox, Ava Knox, Delilah Meyer, Hunter Pierson, Alaska Pierson, Georgia Pulliam, Levi Pulliam, Grace Rempel, Falyh Seman, Eli Summers, Clay Summers, Sterling Sundberg, Penelope Williams, Clayton Woolsey, Lydia Ziegler

FINAL PRACTICES:
TODAY, 11/30, 2-3:30 PM & SAT., 12/6, 9-10:30 AM



Hanging of the Greens

TOMORROW, DEC. 1, 10:00 AM
Come join the fun & fellowship and help us decorate our church building for Christmas!

IN OUR LOBBY THROUGH NEXT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7!



Menard County ANGEL TREE

Sunday, Nov. 16 - Sunday, Dec. 7!
ALL GIFTS DUE BACK by Sunday, December 14
For questions, contact Jackie Hines at 217-416-3422



Sunday, November 16 - Sunday, December 7!

Look for the bin in the lobby!
Contact Jackie Hines at 217-416-3422 with any questions

STARTS THIS THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4!

6:00-8:00 PM

ACC'S Family Life Center

Ages 13 +

PICKLEBALL

Led by Curt Reichling & Austin Montgomery



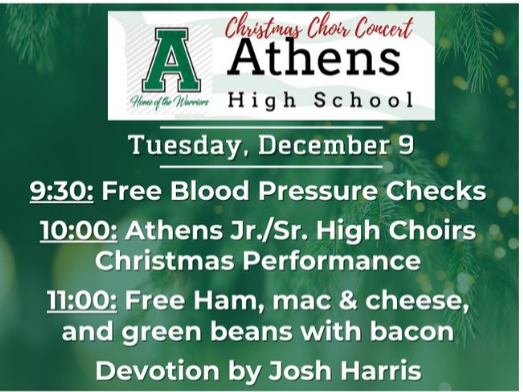
5TH QUARTER CHRISTMAS PARTY!

AT ATHENS CHRISTIAN CHURCH
7TH-12TH GRADE STUDENTS
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5
9:00 PM - 11:00 PM
FOLLOWING THE ATHENS HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL GAME



Young at Heart

Josh Harris



Athens High School Christmas Choir Concert

Tuesday, December 9
9:30: Free Blood Pressure Checks
10:00: Athens Jr./Sr. High Choirs Christmas Performance
11:00: Free Ham, mac & cheese, and green beans with bacon
Devotion by Josh Harris

Christmas Around the Piano

Sunday, December 14, 6:00 pm

Celebrate the season with beautiful Christmas music shared by talented members and friends of ACC.

Those participating are: Anthony Bolton, Curt Reichling, Gerry Turner, Susan Reichling, Elynor Nance, Betsy Burris, Ashley Cantrall, Jen McCormick, Tammy Derringer, Ava Gennicks, Nathania Laier, Angie Fritz, Krista Summers-McCormick, Josie Keppler, Scarlet Bosie, Hank Daubs, Avery Jockish, Wyatt Pierson, Alaska Pierson, Hunter Pierson, Ivy Havrilka, Lorna Baker, McKenley Combs, and more...

If you would like to participate, please call or text Susan (217-341-8826) or Curt Reichling (217-416-3938).



FREE! SUNDAY, DEC. 21 8:30 - 11:00 AM
Christmas COFFEE & PASTRIES

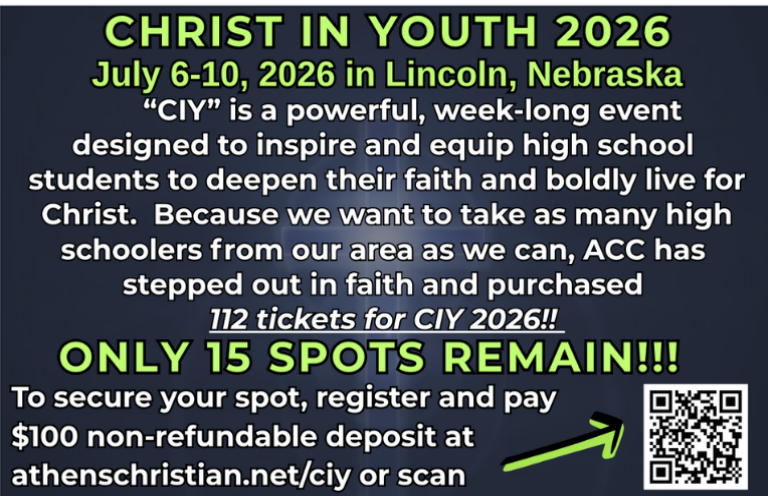


Christmas Eve Services at ACC

Wednesday, December 24

Candlelight & Communion Services
2 PM, *3 PM, 4 PM, 5 PM, 6 PM
(*Childcare available for Birth-4 years)
Celebrate Christmas Eve with candlelight, music, and a devotion during each 30-minute service.

- ### 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 Colossians 3:13: *"Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you."* Who do you need to offer forgiveness to in your life today?
 2. Why did Samson let what happened with his father-in-law move him towards revenge?
 3. What would have been different in this story if Samson offered forgiveness instead of taking revenge?
 4. What was the benefit of Samson being thirsty after he experienced great personal victory?
 5. Recall a time in your life when you were wronged. Did you take revenge or offer forgiveness? What was the result?
 6. God calls us to forgive. How would things look differently if we chose to forgive instead of take revenge?
 7. Can you think of a time in your life when you trusted yourself more than Jesus? What made you realize your victory came through God and not of yourself?
 8. I will apply today's Bible study by:



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



- ### Today & This Week
- TODAY, SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30**
Christmas Candle Lighting in All Services
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.
1:00 pm Pick-Up Basketball for Ages High School-Adult (FLC)
2:00 pm Kids' Christmas Musical Practice (Kids Wing/WC)
- MONDAY, DECEMBER 1** 2 JOHN
7:15 am Monday Morning High School Gathering
9:00 am Chair Aerobics (FLC)
10:00 am Hanging of the Greens (decorate entire church)
- TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2** 3 JOHN
8:00 am Men's Bible Study (Rm. 223)
- WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3** JUDE
9:00 am Chair Aerobics
5:30 pm ACC Staff Christmas Party (FLC)
7:30 pm Praise Team Practice (WC)
- THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4** REVELATION 1
6:00 pm Pickelball for ages 13+ (FLC)
- FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5** REVELATION 2
Church Office Closed
9:00 am Chair Aerobics
9:00 pm 5th Quarter for all Jr. High & High School (ACC FLC)
- SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6**
9:00 am Kids' Christmas Musical Practice (Kids Wing/WC)
12:00 pm Seniors Carpool to Milikin Vespers & Cracker Barrel
3:00 pm Little Galilee "Christmas at Camp" (Clinton)
- SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7**
Christmas Candle Lighting in All Services
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 (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.
4:00 pm Kids' Christmas Musical & Cookie Fellowship