



the lifeline

JANUARY 2026



wednesday night CONNECTION

ATHENS
christian
CHURCH

MEN'S STUDY WOMEN'S STUDY YOUNG ADULTS



LED BY

MICHAEL CANTRALL &
MATT ARMITAGE



LED BY

SHELLY ROAT &
CARRIE CANTRALL



LED BY

KENNEDY HALE &
MORGAN WELLS

AMERICAN HERITAGE



LED BY

ANTHONY BOLTON &
GERRY TURNER

GENERAL BIBLE STUDY



Matthew 10

LED BY

DAN HAYNES &
DARIN FRITZ

GRIEF SHARE



LED BY

CARLA KNOX &
MARY ELLEN BUCH

wednesday night CONNECTION
ACC KIDS C.L.U.B

Psalms:

The Big Book of Emotions
4 years-3rd grade group

Spyence Mission X
4th - 6th grade group

REBUILT

JH/HS STUDY ON NEHEMIAH

2026 SPRING SEASON
JANUARY 14 - MARCH 25

Supper: 5:40-6:15 pm

Study: 6:30-7:30 pm (GriefShare
& JH/SH: 6:30-8:00 PM)

Date	Menu	Cook
1/14	Vegetable Soup, Chicken Salad or Ham & Cheese on Roll, Chips, Salad	Gwen DeRosa
1/21	Chicken Nuggets, Mac & Cheese, Salad	Carol Basso
1/28	Chili, Hot Dogs, Baked Potato, Salad	Jim & Penny Ratliff
2/4	Chicken & Noodles, Mashed Potatoes, Roll, Peaches, Salad	Darin Fritz
2/11	Breakfast Casserole, Biscuits & Gravy, Salad	Terry Knoles
2/18	Pot Roast, Potatoes, Carrots, Salad	Darin Fritz
2/25	Spaghetti & Meatballs, Green Beans, Garlic Bread, Salad	Sandy Knoles
3/4	Nacho Bar, Salad	ACC Worship Team
3/11	Hamburger Beef Stew, Buttermilk Biscuit, Mashed Potatoes, Salad	Gwen DeRosa
3/18	Sloppy Joes, Tator Tots, Corn, Salad	ACC Missions Team
3/25	Meatloaf with Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Corn, Salad	Bri Ziegler

FROM THE PREACHER'S HEART

KEN GENNICKS, SENIOR MINISTER
KEN@ATHENSCHRISTIAN.NET



2026 Sermon Series: More People of the Bible

Sometimes we think people in the Bible had more grace, or more courage, or more faith, and we could never live like them or accomplish what they did. But 1 Corinthians 10:11 says, "These things happened to them as examples and were written down as warnings for us." These people have a place in Scripture precisely because they are like us and so we can learn from their examples. The issues you wrestle with are the same ones Bible people faced. A good biographical sketch captivates us with a strong, practical message for our lives. Our 2026 sermon series will continue from People of the Bible, helping us build a close and fruitful walk with Jesus Christ through His Word! "For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures, we might have hope" (Romans 15:4)! Your faith will thrive with these practical Bible studies every Sunday morning at 8:00, 9:15, and 10:30 AM!

Wednesday Night Connection: January 14 - March 25

Bring everyone on Wednesdays at 5:40 PM for supper (everything is provided for free!), then join our groups for all ages, including these six groups for adults:

- Young Adults: Faith Foundations, by David Platt (Kennedy Hale/Morgan Wells)
- GriefShare: You Don't Have to Grieve Alone (Mary Ellen Buch/Carla Knox)
- Ladies: Warrior Women of the Bible (Shelly Roat/Carrie Cantrall)
- Men: God, Just Tell Me (Michael Cantrall/Matt Armitage)
- American Heritage Series: Reclaim the Godly, True Story (Anthony Bolton/Gerry Turner)
- General Bible Study: Evangelize Like an Apostle/Matthew 10 (Dan Haynes/Darin Fritz)

EXCEL in This Grace of Giving: 2026-2028

We've worked hard to keep our budgeted expenses as low as possible for 2026. You can give either to our general operating expenses or to our building fund. This is between you and the Lord alone, no pressure, no obligation. We're thankful for everyone who is faithfully and joyfully giving in spite of today's challenges. Thank you for making a financial commitment-by-faith for 2026-2028, which we call, EXCEL in this Grace of Giving (2 Corinthians 8:9). Your commitment goes like this, "If the Lord provides, I will give \$_____." This is called a "faith promise", or a "faith commitment." This commitment is by faith, with no obligation if your life situation changes. A healthy, local church is the hope of the world! "Excel," comes to life from 2 Corinthians 8:7, "But just as you excel in everything: in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in your love for us, so that you also excel in this grace of giving." We're making our commitments by faith for the period of 2026-2027-2028 as we follow the Lord and trust Him to provide! I love claiming this promise, "You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion" (2 Corinthians 9:11)! Please stand with us.

Community Prayer Gatherings

Our elders and ministers host prayer gatherings on the second Sunday of each month at 5:30 PM (Ephesians 6:18). We are a praying church. Everyone should join us, led by volunteers:

- Sunday, January 11, 5:30 PM: Ashley Cantrall
- Sunday, February 8, 5:30 PM: Lorna Baker
- Sunday, March 8, 5:30 PM: Curt Reichling

A healthy, local church is the hope of the world! Please join us every step of the way! "It is the Word of God that does the work of God by the Spirit of God to the glory of God" (John Stott)! Always stay rooted in God's Word. With Bible in hand and a friend at your side, let's faithfully Worship, Connect and Serve the Lord together now and throughout 2026! Who will you bring with you? Who can you invite?



TOGETHER 4 HIM
SHANE BAKER, ASSOCIATE MINISTER
SHANE@ATHENSCHRISTIAN.NET



ACC INDOOR ARCHERY STARTS IN JANUARY!

ARCHERY STARTS MONDAY, JANUARY 19 at 6:00 PM! This will be our 16th year of doing indoor archery at the church. The season will run on Monday evenings from 6:00-8:00 PM, January 19 - March 23 (The Finale!). Adult and advanced archers will shoot 20+ yards in our Family Life Center. New and young archers will shoot in 3 separate classrooms throughout the building. Archery is FREE, equipment provided if needed (you are welcome to bring your own), and basic instruction provided!

We ask all archers to register on our church website (www.athenschristian.net) or in our church app (**You only need to register once for the entire season**). Additionally, we ask that youth archers register for a specific time slot on the website or app. Registration is available on the Tuesday before the upcoming week. (**You must do this each week**).

HOW TO GET YOUR CHILD A TIME SLOT:

Go to our website (or Athens Christian Church, Inc. App). Click on the word "Ministries" at the top of page. That will bring up a list of ministries. Click "Learn More" under ACC Outdoors. Then Click "ACC Archery". Then Click "Pick a Youth Time Slot". This will open another website (Sign-up Genius). **Please carefully read** and follow the directions at the top of the page. If you have any questions, please email me at shane@athenschristian.net with ACC Archery in the subject!

ACC Outdoor's 9th Annual Sportsman's Dinner

On Saturday, March 14, 2026, ACC Outdoors and Athens Christian Church will be hosting our 9th Annual Sportsman's Dinner. We are very excited this year to have Carl Parks with Trophies of Grace as our guest speaker. He will also return Sunday morning to share the message! We'll give away many great prizes for those who enjoy the outdoors including special giveaways for men only, women only, and kids only (15 years and under). Tickets are \$25 (300 tickets available). **Registration will open January 1.** You can register and pay at www.athenschristian.net or on our church app.



Community
Christian
Events

Lake Springfield Christian Assembly

- January 16-18: High School Mid Winter Retreat
- January 30-February 1: Junior High Winter Blast
- February 10: Summer Camp Registration Opens

For more information or to register, please go to
www.lscacamp.org

Little Galilee Christian Camp

- January 16-18: High School Winter Retreat
- January 31: Wild Beast Retreat, 5:30-8:30 PM
- February 13-15: Junior High Winter Retreat
- February 20-21: 1st-5th Grade Winter Retreat

For more information or to register, please go to
www.littlegalilee.org



WHOLE HEARTED WORSHIP
ASHLEY CANTRALL, WORSHIP MINISTER
ASHLEY@ATHENSCHRISTIAN.NET



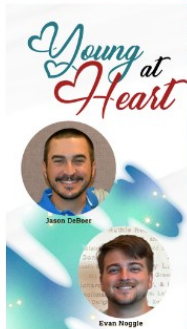
The Power of a Personal Invitation

This season has been a meaningful reminder of how powerful a simple invitation can be. In the weeks leading up to Christmas, moments like the choir and Christmas Around the Piano came together because people were willing to say yes—often after being personally invited. Many hadn't planned to participate or weren't sure they were "qualified," but an intentional invitation made space for them to step out in faith and share their gifts.

There's something uniquely encouraging about being personally invited. It communicates belonging and value, and it reminds people that they are seen. Often, that invitation becomes the gentle nudge someone needs to take a step they've been quietly considering for a while. These moments also highlighted the impact of faithful volunteers. From rehearsals to behind-the-scenes support, worship is shaped by people who consistently give their time, energy, and hearts to serve others. Their faithfulness creates space for meaningful worship in ways that are deeply felt.

As we look ahead, experiences like these are shaping the vision for Worship Workshops in 2026—creating environments where people can grow, build confidence, and develop their gifts without pressure or perfection. This week, consider who God might be prompting you to personally invite—to serve, to sing, or simply to be part of what He's doing.

Senior News



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

The next **Young at Heart** will be on **Tuesday, January 13 from 10:00 AM-Noon**. Free blood pressure checks will be available from 9:30-10:00 AM. January's presentation will be **on the Wonderful Watery World of Rivers**. Devotion will be by **Evan Noggle** and a free hot meal will be **ham and beans, taco soup, and cornbread**. Sign up in the church lobby. If you have any questions, please call the church office. **Team 3 is doing**



Team 3:

- Sandy Beatty
- Peg Biggs
- Mary Buttry
- Betty Ethell



SENIOR EVENT

Tuesday,
January 27

Athens, IL

Pizza & Games

- 10:00 AM - Noon at ACC
- All food provided
- Seniors only
- Sign up in the lobby

The next **Senior Event** will be at **ACC on Tuesday, January 27**, for pizza and games from 10:00 AM-Noon. All food is provided! Sign up in the lobby.

Ways to Serve: Communion, Pew Stocking, & Snow Shovel

Communion Preparation:

January - Clarence & Carole Yancy
February - Nancy Bell



Pew Stocking:

January - Linda Caldwell & Gail Farrell
February - Carol Basso & Vickie Freeland



Snow Shovel: January (Wednesday's)

14 - Corbitt Griffith
21 - Eric Link
28 - Corbitt Griffith



Snow Shovel: January (Sundays)

4 - Jarrod Rempel
11 - Adam Goodey
18 - Eric Link
25 - Jarrod Rempel





NEWS & EVENTS
EVAN NOGGLE
EVAN@ATHENSCHRISTIAN.NET



Rooted

Junior High Winter Blast at LSCA Camp!

On January 30- February 1, my wife Emma and I will be helping out at a Junior High winter camp at LSCA in Springfield! If you are in 6th-8th grade and are looking for something fun to do during the long and cold winter, this could be exactly what you need! Registration is open, so make sure you check out their website to sign up! Our goal is to get as many Junior Highers from Athens Christian Church as possible, so this is a great event to invite a friend to! The cost is \$145 per student. Come talk to me if you have any questions! LSCA Camp also offers a high school winter retreat (January 16-18) as well! If those don't suit your style, don't forget to check out the winter camp options at Little Galilee Christian Camp in Clinton, IL! There is a High School Winter Retreat January 16-18, and a Junior High Retreat February 13-15. Let me know if you have any questions, and I hope to see you at JR High Winter Blast!

WNC starting up!

Starting on January 14, we are beginning our Spring Semester Wednesday Night Connection. This year, we are going through the book of Nehemiah. This book of the Bible follows a man named Nehemiah who recognizes that Jerusalem has been in trouble since Israel was exiled to Babylon. He sees that without walls, the city would be prone to any attack coming their way! If Jerusalem was going to thrive like it once did, they needed walls around the city. In the same way, young Christians are vulnerable to outside forces if we don't take the time to reevaluate our barriers! We need to examine what areas in our lives where walls have been knocked down and decide how we can build them back up again. We need to be: REBUILT.

High School ONLY Fun Day
Sunday, January 18
6:00 - 8:00 PM

Join us for food, fun and games like basketball, volleyball, and dodgeball!

Rooted

LSCA's Junior High WinterBlast

Who - 6th - 8th Grade

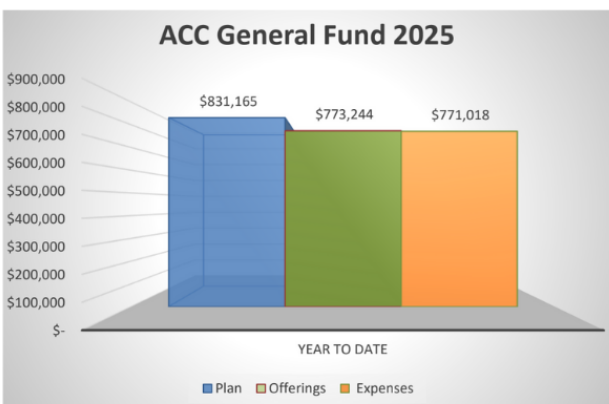
When - January 30th at 5:30pm to February 1st at 12pm

Where - LSCA. Check-in and Check-out instructions will be emailed to you upon registration

Register Here! If you have any concerns about the cost, please let us know! And if you have any other questions about the event, please reach out to Evan Noggle at 217-415-5644 or evan@athenschristian.net

Join ACC's Youth Minister, Evan Noggle at LSCA's Junior High Winter Blast!

Financial Update: November, 2025



Building Fund

Offering: \$9,331.65
Loan Payment: \$7,747.55
*An additional \$3,201.59 will be paid down on principal.

General Fund

Offering \$71,197.62
Expenses \$75,785.16

Winter Weather Reminder

If the Athens School District closes or lets out early due to weather, Wednesday Night Connection will be canceled for that evening. Please watch News Channel 20, Facebook, and the prayer chain.



New Adult Sunday School Class Starting in January

If you've ever wanted to understand the Bible more clearly and see how it all fits together, this class is for you! We're offering an opportunity to learn more about **The Bible Recap** (thebiblerecap.com/start) and how it helps readers follow God's story in chronological order with clarity and purpose.

This class will walk through what The Bible Recap is, how to use it, and why it has been so helpful for believers who want to grow in their understanding of Scripture. **Discussions will be led by Shane Baker, Lorna Baker, Morgan Wells, Olivia Baker, Darin Fritz, Brad Lasswell, Mike Sleight, Lorrie Sleight, Matt Harris, Tsoetsy Harris, Anthony Hale, and Kennedy Hale.** This supportive team of leaders is passionate about God's Word and excited to study and grow as a group. Whether you're brand new to Bible reading or looking for a fresh, structured approach, this class is a great place to learn, ask questions, and grow together. Sign up in the lobby or online if you want to:

- Join the ACC YouVersion App group reading through the Bible together in 2026
- Sign up for the app and attend the Sunday School class
- Do The Bible Recap on your own

Class starts January 4 and will meet in room 220/221 from 9:15-10:15 each Sunday! Our plan for now is to meet through March and then see where the Lord leads for the rest of the year. We are excited to study God's word and grow together as a class!

SuperStart Is Coming for Our Preteens!

We are thrilled to announce that our 4th–6th graders will be heading to CIY SuperStart, a high-energy, Gospel-centered event created just for preteens! This overnight experience is packed with age-specific worship, powerful lessons, and meaningful group time that helps students understand their identity in Christ. SuperStart will take place January 30–31 in Bloomington, IL at Eastview Christian Church. Our group from Athens Christian Church will meet at ACC on Friday, January 30 at 3:45 PM and leave promptly at 4:00 PM. We'll return to the church parking lot on Saturday, January 31 around 8:00 PM. The cost is \$85, which covers registration, lodging, transportation, and meals. Please be praying for our 20 students and 5 adults who will be attending! If you'd like to add a student to the wait list, please use this link:

<https://forms.gle/hg5tYjVxMqdi5G1v8>

"Loved Beyond Measure"
Father Daughter Valentine Dinner
Saturday, February 7, 5-6:30 PM
Dinner - Games - Devotion

Dinner: Ham, Mac & Cheese, green beans, roll and cookies, plus Games and Devotion

"I pray that you may have power to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ."
— Ephesians 3:17–18 (NIV)

Register Today!

January 30–31, 2026
Bloomington, IL
SuperStart!
THE MYSTERIOUS TRUTH

Please be praying for everyone going:

- Students: Addy, Alaska, Alexander, Ava, Beckett, Carlee, Cora, Delilah, Fallyn, Henry, Hunter, Isabella, Jackson, Jay, Kipton, Levi, Lillie, Nevaeh, Nolan, Penelope.
- Leaders: Shane & Lorna Baker, Terry & Sandy Knoles, & Morgan Wells

New Members
Please welcome them with a card or warm greeting!

Bryce, Braelyn, & Brenna Sonnemaker (brother & sisters)
19508 Curtis Blacktop Road, Petersburg, IL. 62675
All Baptized, December 7



FUSE AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM
MORGAN WELLS, DIRECTOR
MORGAN@ATHENSCHRISTIAN.NET



December was a big month for both the church and our After School Program. We had several opportunities to reach out and invite families to celebrate the Christmas season with us, sharing the true meaning of Christmas together. Celebrating the birth of our Savior was a wonderful way to close out 2025! I move into this new year with great joy, knowing 2026 will bring even more chances to share God's love with the children and their families. As we begin the new semester, our focus for January is on the Fruit of the Spirit:

Kindness. Through lessons, discussions, and age-appropriate activities, our students will explore what it means to show God's love through kindness in their words, actions, and attitudes. Each group is learning practical ways to put kindness into practice in their daily lives, both in and out of the program. We also want to share a few specific ways you can pray for this ministry:

- Health & safety of the children and staff, especially during winter weather and cold/flu season.
- God's love to be displayed in us through our actions, words, and thoughts.
- Opportunities for families not connected to a church family to engage with ACC.

God is always at work, even when we cannot see it. He is softening hearts and minds to receive His Word. Thank you for faithfully lifting up our children, families, and staff in prayer. We are in His care, and we trust that He has wonderful plans for 2026!

Thank You

- Dear Church Family, Thank you so much to all of those who helped plan and prepare the dinner for our family after Barb's passing. We are truly blessed with the best church and loving members. We appreciate all you did (and continue to do) for us. With love, Kyle and Megan
- All, Thank you for my special day! The kind words, flowers, sign, video, and reception - all overwhelming! Thank you for making me feel so appreciated. I've enjoyed serving with you-whether for 32 years or less... God has been good to me! Love, Linda Ethell



PREACHING INTERN
JOSH HARRIS
JOSH99HARRIS@ICLOUD.COM



What a blessing and opportunity God has provided me with these past few months! I was able to do a fall preaching internship with the absolute best staff, church, and community. Everyone has been so welcoming, comforting & uplifting. The church staff have been beyond amazing and helpful with teaching and working with me to grow and stay rooted through Christ as I begin training for ministry at Ozark Christian College starting January 9th! I also have had the privilege to work in the After School Program which has also been amazing and such a wonderful opportunity to work with a great staff, and connect with the kids while having Jesus at the center of all the time and fun. I pray that Athens Christian Church continues to grow and keeps bringing new people to Christ as God calls us to spread His Word and love! Thank you to everyone for such an amazing internship and welcoming me so gracefully and treating me like family! Cheers for a wonderful 2026 and new year ahead!



Athens Christian Church Monthly Missions for 2026

Bugos Family: Serving in Asia: Proclaiming the gospel, equipping the church and its leaders, and meeting needs among the least and unreached people groups.

Christian Student Fellowship UIS/LLCC: A campus ministry in Springfield, helping students at UIS and LLCC find their way back to God. uiscsf.org

Church Camp Fund: Providing scholarships so kids and adults can encounter Christ at Little Galilee Christian Camp and Lake Springfield Christian Assembly. littlegalilee.com and iscacamp.org

First Step Women's Center (Springfield, IL): Walking with women facing unplanned pregnancies—offering hope, confidence, and life-affirming choices. firststepwomenscenter.org

GO Ministries: Partnering with local leaders in Hispaniola and beyond to redeem people, renew communities, and restore creation. ACC sponsors 5 students with GoKids. gomin.org

Holy Pursuit's Dream Foundation: Providing free hunting and fishing trips for children battling life-threatening illnesses. holypursuitsdreamfoundation.com

Inner City Mission (Springfield, IL): Offering shelter, sustenance, education, and Christian counseling to homeless children, families, and single women. innercitymission.net

Kalie Reavis: Team Expansion: From Athens, Kalie now serves with Team Expansion in Kentucky, mobilizing interns and supporting missionaries in the field. teamexpansion.org/r12

Lincoln Christian Institute: educating, equipping, and encouraging churches and those who lead them lincolncristianinstitute.org/

Living Hope Counseling Center (Springfield, IL): Helping children, families, and adults find wholeness and emotional healing through professional counseling from a faith-based perspective. livinghopecounselingcenter.org/

MOHI Student Sponsorship (Kenya, Africa): Our 4th–6th grade Sunday School class sponsors a child through Mission of Hope International and is learning to connect through letters and prayer. mohintl.org

Ozark Christian College (Joplin, MO): Training men and women for Christian service for over 80 years, with more than 15,000 alumni serving worldwide. occ.edu

Redemption Church Plant (Monroe, WI): Blake and Jenna Canterbury helping people know, grow, and show the redeeming power of Jesus Christ. redemptionmonroe.com

Refuge Ranch (Rochester, IL): Pairing hurting children and families with rescued horses through a Christ-centered horsemanship mentoring program. refuge-ranch.org

Samaritan's Purse: U.S. Disaster Relief: Responding to disasters with hands-on rebuilding and the hope of Christ. samaritanspurse.org

Washington Street Mission (Springfield, IL): ACC provides breakfast, worship, and a message 4 times a year for those living on the streets. washingtonstreetmission.org

WCIC Christian Radio (90.5 FM): Sharing the hope of Jesus—one song, one conversation, one heart at a time. wcicfm.org



One Time Gifts in 2025:

- **Athens Post Prom \$100**
 - Sponsorship to provide a safe place for local students to hang out after prom with games and fun activities.
- **Christian Student Fellowship DR Trip \$200**
 - Support for student Gabby Przygocki to attend a mission trip to the Dominican Republic with Christian Student Fellowship.
- **Cole Cares \$1,000**
 - Founded by ACC's own Nicole Muench, this ministry creates care packages for pediatric patients at St. John's Children's Hospital. Each package includes various items and a handwritten note with a Bible verse. ACC donated Bibles, devotionals, sticker Bible activity pages and toys for each bag!
- **Community Outreach Thank You Bags**
 - Filled and delivered over 200 bags- including a Christmas invite, prayer card, notepad, pen, chapstick, cup, hot chocolate and more- to the workers at The Villa in Sherman and Sunny Acres in Petersburg!
- **InterVarsity Alumni \$1,000**
 - Supports young adults as they transition from college ministry to finding a church as they leave college and enter the workforce.
- **Lincoln Christian Institute \$500**
 - Equips, educates, and encourages churches and their leaders. This year they invited our very own Shane Baker to an Encouragement Group designed to help pastors prevent burnout and continue serving in healthy ways as they reach the midpoint of their ministries.
- **Love Packages \$500**
 - Collects Bibles, Christian books, Sunday School materials, and more from individuals and publishers across the U.S. These resources are distributed worldwide to mission fields from their locations in Butler, IL, and Decatur, AL.
- **Samaritan Purse Gifts \$500**
 - Additional support designated for use wherever it is most needed within their ministry.
- **Trail Life Scouting Charter \$325**
 - Trail Life USA is a Church-Based, Christ-Centered, Boy-Focused mentoring and discipleship journey that speaks to the heart of a boy. Prayers are underway for this group to start at ACC in 2026.
- **Washington Street Mission \$520**
 - Provided \$10 gift cards for the Christmas Party

ACC Students to attend Ozark Christian College for Spring Semester

- Keep these students in your prayers and consider sending them a note of encouragement!
- Student Name/Ozark Christian College, 1111 N Main St, Joplin, MO 64801
- Each student receiving a \$2,000 scholarship for this semester.



CORY CRAIG JR.



JOSH HARRIS



NICHOLAS MCDANIEL

UPCOMING

JANUARY

- Men's Bible Study: Tuesdays, 8:00 AM
- Chair Aerobics: Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays: 9:00-10:00 AM
- Pickleball (13+): Thursdays thru March 26, 6:00-8:00 PM
- Monthly Community Prayer Gathering: Sunday, January 11, Worship Center, 5:30-6:00 PM
- Young at Heart: Tuesday, January 13, 9:30 AM - Noon
- High School Wednesday Morning Groups: Wednesdays, January 14-May 6, while school is in session, 7:15-8:00 AM
- Spring Wednesday Night Connection: Wednesday, January 14-March 25, Dinner: 5:40-6:15, Adults Classes & Kids C.L.U.B. (Birth-6th grade): 6:30-7:30 PM
- Grief Share & Rooted JH/SH Youth Group: Wednesdays, January 14-March 25, Dinner: 5:40-6:15 PM, Classes: 6:30-8:00 PM
- High School Only Sunday Funday: Sunday, January 18, 6:00-8:00 PM
- Indoor Archery Begins! Mondays, January 19-March 23, 6:00-8:00 PM
- Senior Event (50+) at ACC: Tuesday, January 27, 10:00 AM-Noon
- CIY SuperStart (4th-6th Grade): Friday, January 30-Saturday, January 31
- Junior High Winter Blast at LSCA: Friday, January 30-Sunday, February 1



FEBRUARY

- Indoor Archery: Mondays, Now-March 23, 6:00-8:00 PM
- Men's Bible Study: Tuesdays, 8:00 AM
- Chair Aerobics: Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays: 9:00-10:00 AM
- High School Wednesday Morning Groups: Wednesdays, Now-May 6, while school is in session, 7:15-8:00 AM
- Spring Wednesday Night Connection: Wednesday, Now-March 25, Dinner: 5:40-6:15 PM, Adult Classes & Kids C.L.U.B. (Birth-6th grade): 6:30-7:30 PM
- Grief Share & Rooted JH/SH Youth Group: Wednesdays, Now-March 25, Dinner: 5:40-6:15 PM, Classes: 6:30-8:00 PM
- Pickleball (13+): Thursdays thru March 26, 6:00-8:00 PM
- JH/SH 5th Quarters: Friday, February 6 & 20, 9:00-11:00 PM
- Father/Daughter Valentine Dinner: Saturday, February 7, 5:00-6:30 PM
- Monthly Community Prayer Gathering: Sunday, February 8, Worship Center, 5:30-6:00 PM
- Young at Heart: Tuesday, February 10, 9:30 AM-Noon
- Senior Event (50+) at ACC: Sunday, February 15, Noon-3:00 PM
- Youth Sunday: February 22, All three services



"athenschristianil"
www.facebook.com/
athenschristianil

www.athenschristian.net
217-636-8463
(Monday-Thursday 8:30-4:30)

Please check the church website, App, Facebook, or call the church office for the most up-to-date information.

Athens Christian Church
PO Box 260
Athens, IL 62613

Return Service Requested

Senior Minister, Ken Gennicks	217-415-5724
Associate Minister, Shane Baker	217-415-9035
Worship/Technology Minister, Ashley Cantrall	217-652-5433
Children's Minister, Lorna Baker	217-502-1256
Youth Minister, Evan Noggle	217-415-5644
After School Program Director, Morgan Wells	217-414-5433

December 23, 2025

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Published Monthly

2026 Athens Christian Church Monthly Prayer Card

Celebrating the Joy of Changed Lives Since 1842

"It is possible to move men for God by prayer alone!" — J. Hudson Taylor, Missionary to China

1 Sunday Worship Services

Bible teaching, music ministry, listeners, our friendliness
(Acts 2:42; Hebrews 10:25)

2 Sunday School Classes

Bible teaching, teachers, helpers, children, adults, youth
(James 3:1; 2 Timothy 3:16, 17)

3 All Our Staff

Effectiveness, morale, their families (Galatians 6:6)

4 Elders

Wisdom, purity, their families (1 Thessalonians 5:12, 13)

5 Our Witness for Christ in Our Community and World

Bible college students, mission trips (John 4:35-38)

6 Youth and Children's Ministries

Leaders, students, Sunday school, youth groups, Kids C.L.U.B., CIY, VBS, workers, volunteers, parents, safety, church camps (Proverbs 22:6)

7 ACC Missions (Matthew 5:13-16; 28:18-20)

Christian Student Fellowship, First Step Women's Center, Following the Call to Serve in Asia-Bugos Family, GO Seminary/Students, Holy Pursuit Dream Foundation, Inner City Mission of Springfield, Lake Springfield Christian Assembly, Lincoln Christian Institute, Little Galilee Christian Camp, Living Hope Counseling Center, Missions of Hope International, Ozark Christian College, Redemption Church-Monroe, Refuge Ranch, Samaritan's Purse-US Disaster Relief, Team Expansion-Kalie Reavis, Washington Street Mission, WCIC Christian Radio

8 Praise for Our Facility on Route 29

People in the 8,500 cars who pass each day (Hebrews 12:1-3)

9 EXCEL in this Grace of GIVING Stewardship Effort (2026-2028)

(2 Corinthians 8:7)

10 Recent Newcomers to ACC

For them to draw near to God, for us to welcome and accept (Romans 15:1-7)

11 Our Sunday Greeters, Ushers, Servers, Workers

(Philippians 2:5-11)

12 Evangelism of Our Area: The Lost, The Lonely, The Left-out

(Philemon 1:6)...unity among believers beyond our walls

13 Finances

Our giving to God, our weekly and annual needs (1 Corinthians 16:1, 2)

14 Families of Athens Christian Church

Marriages, singles, parenting, single parents, senior saints, college students, health, relationships, Family Life Ministry (Proverbs 3:5, 6)

15 On-line Ministry and Outreach (Hebrews 10:24-25)

16 Volunteers

ACC Outdoors, Pastoral Care, Visiting Team, Missions, Safety, Finance and Stewardship, Fellowship, Funeral Dinner, Helping Hands, Food Ministry, Minister-Support, Building Maintenance, Site and Grounds, Transportation, Wedding Assistant, Library, Senior Adult, Decorating, Communion Preparation, Pew Stocking (1 Peter 4:10)

17 Our Stephen Ministry & GriefShare, Grieving Families, Widows/Widowers

(Psalm 34:18)

18 Our Elderly and Shut-ins

Our Young at Heart Ministry (Psalm 71:18; James 1:27)

19 FUSE After School Program (K-6)

Children, families, staff (Mark 10:14-16)

20 Ministry Leaders/Captains

Willing workers, faithfulness, their families (Acts 6:1-7)

21 Wednesday Night Connection (Acts 2:42-47)

22 Our Congregation's Usefulness to God, Our Future, Our Unity

(John 17:20-23)...a culture of discipling

23 Our Music and Worship Ministries

Musicians, singers, instrumentalists, praise teams, worship leaders (Colossians 3:16)

24 Our Inactive Members (Brothers/Sisters No Longer Attending, Worshiping, Serving)

To become a PRAYING church (1 Thessalonians 5:14-17)

25 Our Neighbors

Next door, down the road, your subdivision (Luke 10:29-37)

26 Local Schools, Businesses, Farmers

Fair practices, God's blessing and conviction (Matthew 7:24-27)

27 Christian Camping at Lake Springfield Christian Assembly and Little Galilee Christian Camp, our new Trail Life USA Ministry (Proverbs 22:6)

28 Revival and Renewal: Personally, church-wide, locally, nationally, globally, daily

Bible reading (Psalm 85, especially v. 6)

29 Our Military, Their Families

Safety, separation, success, Middle East peace, Israel (Romans 13:1-7)

30 Young Adult Ministry

Passion Conference, Bible studies, fellowship (1 Timothy 4:12)

31 Governing Officials

The President, Senate members, House of Representatives, Supreme Court, State and Local Officials

Godly influence (Romans 13:1-4, 1 Timothy 2:1, 2)

2026 NEW TESTAMENT READING PLAN— READ ALL 260 CHAPTERS IN 1 YEAR!

All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work. -2 Timothy 3:16

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
5-Jan	MATTHEW 1	MATTHEW 2	MATTHEW 3	MATTHEW 4	MATTHEW 5
12-Jan	MATTHEW 6	MATTHEW 7	MATTHEW 8	MATTHEW 9	MATTHEW 10
19-Jan	MATTHEW 11	MATTHEW 12	MATTHEW 13	MATTHEW 14	MATTHEW 15
26-Jan	MATTHEW 16	MATTHEW 17	MATTHEW 18	MATTHEW 19	MATTHEW 20
2-Feb	MATTHEW 21	MATTHEW 22	MATTHEW 23	MATTHEW 24	MATTHEW 25
9-Feb	MATTHEW 26	MATTHEW 27	MATTHEW 28	MARK 1	MARK 2
16-Feb	MARK 3	MARK 4	MARK 5	MARK 6	MARK 7
23-Feb	MARK 8	MARK 9	MARK 10	MARK 11	MARK 12
2-Mar	MARK 13	MARK 14	MARK 15	MARK 16	LUKE 1
9-Mar	LUKE 2	LUKE 3	LUKE 4	LUKE 5	LUKE 6
16-Mar	LUKE 7	LUKE 8	LUKE 9	LUKE 10	LUKE 11
23-Mar	LUKE 12	LUKE 13	LUKE 14	LUKE 15	LUKE 16
30-Mar	LUKE 17	LUKE 18	LUKE 19	LUKE 20	LUKE 21
6-Apr	LUKE 22	LUKE 23	LUKE 24	JOHN 1	JOHN 2
13-Apr	JOHN 3	JOHN 4	JOHN 5	JOHN 6	JOHN 7
20-Apr	JOHN 8	JOHN 9	JOHN 10	JOHN 11	JOHN 12
27-Apr	JOHN 13	JOHN 14	JOHN 15	JOHN 16	JOHN 17
4-May	JOHN 18	JOHN 19	JOHN 20	JOHN 21	ACTS 1
11-May	ACTS 2	ACTS 3	ACTS 4	ACTS 5	ACTS 6
18-May	ACTS 7	ACTS 8	ACTS 9	ACTS 10	ACTS 11
25-May	ACTS 12	ACTS 13	ACTS 14	ACTS 15	ACTS 16
1-Jun	ACTS 17	ACTS 18	ACTS 19	ACTS 20	ACTS 21
8-Jun	ACTS 22	ACTS 23	ACTS 24	ACTS 25	ACTS 26
15-Jun	ACTS 27	ACTS 28	ROMANS 1	ROMANS 2	ROMANS 3
22-Jun	ROMANS 4	ROMANS 5	ROMANS 6	ROMANS 7	ROMANS 8
29-Jun	ROMANS 9	ROMANS 10	ROMANS 11	ROMANS 12	ROMANS 13

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
6-Jul	ROMANS 14	ROMANS 15	ROMANS 16	1 CORINTHIANS 1	1 CORINTHIANS 2
13-Jul	1 CORINTHIANS 3	1 CORINTHIANS 4	1 CORINTHIANS 5	1 CORINTHIANS 6	1 CORINTHIANS 7
20-Jul	1 CORINTHIANS 8	1 CORINTHIANS 9	1 CORINTHIANS 10	1 CORINTHIANS 11	1 CORINTHIANS 12
27-Jul	1 CORINTHIANS 13	1 CORINTHIANS 14	1 CORINTHIANS 15	1 CORINTHIANS 16	2 CORINTHIANS 1
3-Aug	2 CORINTHIANS 2	2 CORINTHIANS 3	2 CORINTHIANS 4	2 CORINTHIANS 5	2 CORINTHIANS 6
10-Aug	2 CORINTHIANS 7	2 CORINTHIANS 8	2 CORINTHIANS 9	2 CORINTHIANS 10	2 CORINTHIANS 11
17-Aug	2 CORINTHIANS 12	2 CORINTHIANS 13	GALATIANS 1	GALATIANS 2	GALATIANS 3
24-Aug	GALATIANS 4	GALATIANS 5	GALATIANS 6	EPHESIANS 1	EPHESIANS 2
31-Aug	EPHESIANS 3	EPHESIANS 4	EPHESIANS 5	EPHESIANS 6	PHILIPPIANS 1
7-Sep	PHILIPPIANS 2	PHILIPPIANS 3	PHILIPPIANS 4	COLOSSIANS 1	COLOSSIANS 2
14-Sep	COLOSSIANS 3	COLOSSIANS 4	1 THESSALONIANS 1	1 THESSALONIANS 2	1 THESSALONIANS 3
21-Sep	1 THESSALONIANS 4	1 THESSALONIANS 5	2 THESSALONIANS 1	2 THESSALONIANS 2	2 THESSALONIANS 3
28-Sep	1 TIMOTHY 1	1 TIMOTHY 2	1 TIMOTHY 3	1 TIMOTHY 4	1 TIMOTHY 5
5-Oct	1 TIMOTHY 6	2 TIMOTHY 1	2 TIMOTHY 2	2 TIMOTHY 3	2 TIMOTHY 4
12-Oct	TITUS 1	TITUS 2	TITUS 3	PHILEMON	HEBREWS 1
19-Oct	HEBREWS 2	HEBREWS 3	HEBREWS 4	HEBREWS 5	HEBREWS 6
26-Oct	HEBREWS 7	HEBREWS 8	HEBREWS 9	HEBREWS 10	HEBREWS 11
2-Nov	HEBREWS 12	HEBREWS 13	JAMES 1	JAMES 2	JAMES 3
9-Nov	JAMES 4	JAMES 5	1 PETER 1	1 PETER 2	1 PETER 3
16-Nov	1 PETER 4	1 PETER 5	2 PETER 1	2 PETER 2	2 PETER 3
23-Nov	1 JOHN 1	1 JOHN 2	1 JOHN 3	1 JOHN 4	1 JOHN 5
30-Nov	2 JOHN	3 JOHN	JUDE	REVELATION 1	REVELATION 2
7-Dec	REVELATION 3	REVELATION 4	REVELATION 5	REVELATION 6	REVELATION 7
14-Dec	REVELATION 8	REVELATION 9	REVELATION 10	REVELATION 11	REVELATION 12
21-Dec	REVELATION 13	REVELATION 14	REVELATION 15	REVELATION 16	REVELATION 17
28-Dec	REVELATION 18	REVELATION 19	REVELATION 20	REVELATION 21	REVELATION 22