

Athens Christian Church

OUR MISSION:



December 6, 2020

Welcome Guests

If this is your first time at Athens Christian Church, thank you for joining us! We'd like to stay in touch, so please complete a visitor card while you are here today and place it in the offering plate. If you would like to receive our monthly church newsletter electronically, please include your email on the visitor card.

We are glad you have chosen to worship with us today! During our service, the Lord's Supper is open to all believers. Please make yourself at home. We invite you to stop by our foyer on your way out for a complimentary Bible. We hope to see you again next week!

Every Member Is A Minister Here at ACC!

Please call on us when we can help:

Elders:

Jeremy McDaniel/971-9416
Curt Reichling/636-9252
Doug Wendler/652-2133

Deacons:

Brendan Bachman/309-824-3226
Larry Barregarye/502-0086
Anthony Bolton/309-221-2994
Jason DeBoer/616-970-4003
Terry Henrikson/636-8611
Bob Hill/636-7416
Jeff Lopian, Sr./528-2096
Randy Miller/309-252-1845
Craig Reichert/553-1927
Greg Roat/414-2399

Stephen Ministers:

Donna Douglas, Contact Person
522-1134/971-6732
Steve Gutierrez, Contact Person
414-0126

Debbie Richardson
Gwen DeRosa
Rhonda Briest
Frank Platt
Gwen Staab
Sara McDaniel
Sandra Taylor
Sharon Schirding
Deb Selby

Download the new ACC app for free and sign-in today to access the many important features and keep in touch with what's happening at Athens Christian Church!



1411 E. Route 29 • Athens, IL 62613
217-636-8463 • www.athenschristian.net
www.facebook.com/athenschristianIL

8am, 9am Traditional Services

Prelude • Dick Bachman

Call to Worship

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

Prayer Requests & Praises • Ken Gennicks

Special Music • Jason DeBoer

Sermon • Gary Frank

"Hello. My name is _____ and
I struggle with Gratitude."

Invitation Hymn

Why Do I sing About Jesus? #635 (v. 1,3)

Announcements Video • Vonda Laffey

Communion & Offering Meditation • Gary Frank

Quietly move to Communion & Offering tables
before exiting the building

10am, 11am Contemporary Services

Prelude • Ashley Cantrall

Song of Praise

King of My Heart

Prayer Requests & Praises • Ken Gennicks

Special Music • Jason DeBoer

Sermon • Gary Frank

"Hello. My name is _____ and
I struggle with Gratitude."

Invitation Song

Come As You Are

Announcements Video • Vonda Laffey

Communion & Offering Meditation • Gary Frank

Quietly move to Communion & Offering tables
before exiting the building

Ken Gennicks, Senior Minister
Shane Baker, Associate Minister
Lorna Baker, Children's Minister
Gary Frank, Associate Minister
Tyler Basso, Youth Minister
Morgan Wells, After School Director

ken@athenschristian.net • 415-5724
shane@athenschristian.net • 415-9035
lorna@athenschristian.net • 502-1256
gary@athenschristian.net • 502-4494
tyler@athenschristian.net • 622-0803
morgan@athenschristian.net • 414-5433

Sermon Notes

"Hello. My name is _____ and
I struggle with Gratitude."

• Having a grateful heart toward God is key to having a healthy relationship with _____ & _____.

• In Luke 22:17-19 Jesus' example is that expressing gratitude has nothing to do with your _____.

• In Luke 9:13-17 Jesus' example is that expressing gratitude has nothing to do with your _____.

• Paul tells us in 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

⇒ That we should rejoice _____.

⇒ Why should we always rejoice?

Because it is the will of _____.

• The lie that Adam & Eve bought into is that you can achieve true happiness and fulfillment apart from _____.

• When we buy into the lie that we can achieve happiness outside of God's will for our lives, we set ourselves up to _____ God's most fundamental gifts.

♦ If we are ungrateful and look to find fulfillment outside of God's will, the gifts we will most likely abuse are

♦ _____

♦ _____

♦ _____

• Each day we can _____ to be grateful.

• We can _____ to find things to rejoice about.

• We can _____ an attitude of Gratitude.

• Is gratitude an issue in your life?

• Is lack of gratitude causing you to abuse God's most fundamental gifts?

• Is your lack of gratitude causing you to have issues with

...Idolatry? ...Money? ...Control? ...Anger? ...Food?

...Sexual Integrity? ...Codependency? ...Other?

• Is your lack of gratitude causing relational issues with God, Family, Friends, & Coworkers?

• Is God calling you to take action?

Prayer Requests

Today's Worship at 8, 9, 10 & 11 am

At Memorial: Donald Clark (Glen's brother/Heritage)

At St. John's: Rick Miller (Randy's dad), Kristie Stoneking (Judy Bryan's daughter), Ike Hedden (Colleen Gennicks' grandpa)

At Quincy hospital: Jim Newell (Mary Buttry's brother)

At St. Louis hospital: Bill Dolan (Amy Bolton's friend)

Tests: Kathy Becker, Wanda Davis, Al Betz, Richard Sandidge, Annie Maliongas' brother, Jerry Basso, Barb Siddons' brother, Mike Austin, Tracy Scales, Elijah Staab, Debbie Rohlf, Mike Gronewald, Fran Petersen/Bollmans' friend, Leslie Montgomery's brother, Zach Alderman, Michelle Bloomquist, Roy Hinds, Loretta Bock DeClerck, Sherry Ethell DeBoef, Tara Weidhuner, Dawn Medley, Frances Weidhuner, Stephanie Lockhart, Bruce McNeil (Diane McCormick's uncle/Villa West), Thad/Tami Olson (Karen Weidhuner's family), Vicki Gutierrez, Sharon Mester, Rhonda Leinberger

At home: Beverly Hall, Brian/Cindi Setzer, Eddie Miller, Terry Wunderle, Jen VanPelt, Glen/Roberta Clark, Ella Grace Magee, Joyce Cary's husband/mother-in-law, Sharon Schirding, Frank Platt, Tom/Debbie Walsh, Brendan Bachman's grandpa, Diane McCormick's niece, Jack Ethell, Josh Purcell (Jerry's son), Heather Parks, Jackie Hines, Cathy Wiseman/her parents

Transitions: Imogene Way, Sara Melton's brother, Wyatt Alderman/Aaron Reiterman/Michael Ray/Everett Shuck/Wallace Christy (military), Tom Halberstadt (Quincy), Kaiti Earl/Sue Williams, Wes Jockisch/hospice, Mike Chrysler/Bobby Croft/Brandon & Cana Austin (job search), Bob Clemens (LMCV), Betty Burnett (Biggs' neighbor), Mike Sleight's grandma (Pittsfield nursing home/failing health)

Wednesday Night Connection: Jan. 13-Mar.24

GriefShare: Jan. 13/Heather Parks/621-1359

Angel Tree Project: Today-Dec. 13/foyer

Indoor Archery: Mon., 6-8 pm, Jan. 18-Mar. 22

Virtual Volunteer Training at ACC by LCU: Sat., Feb. 20, 9-noon

ACC Sportsman's Dinner/Program: Sat., Feb. 20

Christ in Youth Conference: July 12-16/Lincoln/NE

Kyle Gennicks: missionchurchmontgomery.org

Capital Stewardship Campaign: *Run The Race* (2020-2022)

Our missionaries/military/families/terrorism/economy

Each other/unspoken needs

Get Connected at Athens Christian Church

Thank You for Worshipping with us !

We are so excited to be together in person as a church family! We have temporarily reconstructed our usual 8 & 10:15 am worship service schedule to four services at 8, 9, 10 and 11 am. Sunday School for all ages is now 10-10:45 am. Many safety measures are always in place throughout the morning:

—The building will be thoroughly cleaned between each service by our cleaning team

—Volunteers and staff will open doors for you

—We are asking families to sit with their family group and leave space between other family groups when seated

—All helpful doors have been propped open or opened by our greeters and staff

—Hand sanitizer is available throughout the building

—Bulletins may be picked up from several locations

—We will not be passing offering or communion trays but will have them available at the end of each service placed throughout the Worship Center

—Overflow rooms in the youth room, kids’ check-in area and lobby are available for viewing the service live on screens

Kids Wing Update

At this time, we feel it is best to make a few changes to our kids wing.

We are asking for 4 years-6th grade to attend worship together as a family group at one of our 4- 30 minute services or together on-line. The high school room is set with tables, some color pages, and activities which may be more conducive for family worship. The service is live streamed to the high school room at the 8, 9, 10, and 11 services.

We have decided to keep the nursery's birth- 3 years open, for those families who still wish to use the nursery during the 10 am service only. We will plan to do this through December 13th and then reevaluate.

Michelle Miller will host a Sunday School for elementary kids on Monday evenings at 7 pm on zoom. Lorna will send out an invite through our kid check system for any elementary kids who want to join in .



Celebrate Christmas With Us at Athens Christian Church!

CHRISTMAS COFFEE & PASTRIES

Sunday, December 20, 8:30-11:00 am

Stop in the Family Life Center for coffee and pastries to gather and connect with good food and fellowship.

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT & COMMUNION SERVICES

Thursday, December 24, 30 minute services

2 pm • 3 pm • 4 pm • 5 pm • 6 pm

Celebrate Christmas with candlelight, music , and a devotion during each service.

Communion is open for all who wish to participate.

UPCOMING SENIOR EVENTS:

Young at Heart - This Tuesday, December 8, 9:30 am

Blood pressure checks begin at 9:30 am. Then at 10:00 we will enjoy a presentation by the Athens Jr./Sr. High School Choirs. Shane Baker will share a brief devotion before we enjoy a free lunch at 11:00 am. This month's menu includes ham, potato salad, corn, cherry salad, rolls and dessert.

Senior Trip to Arthur/Tuscola - Saturday, December 12

Seniors will enjoy a day of travel to shop at the Tuscola Outlet Mall. Then we will head to Arthur to eat lunch at Yoder's Kitchen and make a stop at Beachy's Bulk Foods before heading home. The bus will leave from the church parking lot at **9 am on Saturday, December 12th**. Please sign up in the church foyer if you wish to join us!

Giving Options for ACC General Fund & Building Fund:

»Mail a check to the church office at PO Box 260, Athens, IL 62613. (All checks will be deposited into our General Fund unless otherwise designated on the memo line of your check.)

»Electronic giving for a one-time or recurring gift @ www.athenschristian.net/give

»Permanent, secure drop boxes located on the side of our building west of our outer office door and on the wall in the church library.

Angel Tree Project in the ACC foyer

The Menard County Angel Tree program helps provide Christmas gifts for hundreds of children in need in Menard County, and ACC is blessed to be able to host it here in our church building. There are a few remaining angels to be picked up at the Athens Public Library. If you have not yet picked up an angel tag, you can still participate by purchasing a toy and leaving it unwrapped in our church library. Wrapped gifts for angels may be returned to the church library by December 13th. Angel Tree distribution will take place here at our church on Saturday, December 19th, at the entrance by the playground. Contact Jackie Hines (416-3422) or Cathy Wiseman (416-2910) with questions.

Congregational Meeting

All members of ACC are invited to a brief congregational meeting on Sunday, December 13, at noon, to affirm 2021's financial plan for ministry. Details are available in the foyer and you may speak with our finance team, elders or ministers with any questions. We are all so thankful for God's rich provisions throughout this unusual season! Thank you all!

Upcoming Events for Your Calendar

WEDNESDAY NIGHT CONNECTION

Begins January 13 through March 24th
Watch for details in the coming weeks!

ACC INDOOR ARCHERY

Monday evenings 6:00 - 8:00 pm
Begins January 18 through March 22
Free for all ages and levels
Equipment available for use

FATHER/DAUGHTER VALENTINE DINNER

Friday evening, February 5th

VOLUNTEER TRAINING DAY AT ACC BY LINCOLN CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

Saturday, February 20th
9:00 am - noon

4TH ANNUAL SPORTSMAN’S BANQUET

Saturday, February 20
Tickets Available Soon!

Today & This Week

All services below are available to watch live in the foyer, kids’ wing check-in area, youth room and nursing mothers’ room.

—»«—

9 am & 11 am services will be live-streamed. Access services at [www.athenschristian.net/on-line worship](http://www.athenschristian.net/on-line-worship) (SUNDAY MORNING) or on the new ACC app! Services are also available on YouTube.

—»«—

An audio recording of today’s sermon will be downloaded to [athenschristian.net/on-line worship](http://athenschristian.net/on-line-worship) (MEDIA).
You can listen to today’s message and past sermons.

TODAY, Sunday, December 6

Angel Tree gift collection in foyer

7:30 am Prayer with Pastors at the Pulpit/everyone welcome!

8, 9am Traditional Services/10, 11am Contemporary Services

8, 9, 10, 11am Family Worship Area available for families in Youth Room (rm. 112/113)

10:00-10:45 Sunday School Classes For All Ages

» The Ambassadors, led by Dan Haynes (Rm. 203)

» Kingdom Seekers, led by Gary Frank (Rm. 105)

» Christian Living, led by Harry Schirding & Doug Wendler (Rm. 223)

» *That the World May Know*, led by Anthony Bolton
(*temporary room change: Room 202*)

Monday, December 7

Read 2 John

6:00am Men’s Group/Rm. 105 All men should join us!

6:30pm Faith & Fitness Ministry at ACC

Tuesday, December 8

Read 3 John

8:00 CLEAN Retired Men’s Bible Study in FLC

9:30 Blood Pressure Checks in FLC

10:00 Young at Heart

7:00 Ladies With a Heart to Pray Zoom chat

Wednesday, December 9

Read Jude

5:30 ACC Staff Christmas Dinner & white elephant exchange

Thursday, December 10

Read Revelation 1

Friday, December 11

Read Revelation 2

Church office closed

6:30pm Celebrate Recovery Ministry (see bulletin insert)

Saturday, December 12

9:00 Seniors Bus Trip to Arthur & Tuscola Outlet

Sunday, December 13

7:30 am Prayer with Pastors at the Pulpit/everyone welcome!

8, 9am Traditional Services/10, 11am Contemporary Services

10:00-10:45 Sunday School Classes For All Ages

12:00 ACC Financial Plan Congregational Meeting

4:00 Elders’ Meeting

6:00 ACC Board Meeting