

Athens Christian Church

OUR MISSION:



November 22, 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

We Gather Together #387 (v. 1-4)

Prayer Requests & Praises • Ken Gennicks

Special Music • Olivia Baker

Sermon • Ken Gennicks

GOSPEL STORIES: "Growing in a Crisis"

(Luke 2:52; 2 Peter 2:5-11)

Invitation Hymn

Beneath the Cross of Jesus #253 (v. 1,4)

Announcements Video • Vonda Laffey

Communion & Offering Meditation • Ken Gennicks

Quietly move to Communion & Offering tables
before exiting the building

10am, 11am Contemporary Services

Prelude • Zach Dixon

Song of Praise

Lion and the Lamb

Prayer Requests & Praises • Ken Gennicks

Special Music • Olivia Baker

Sermon • Ken Gennicks

GOSPEL STORIES: "Growing in a Crisis"

(Luke 2:52; 2 Peter 2:5-11)

Invitation Song

Build My Life

Announcements Video • Vonda Laffey

Communion & Offering Meditation • Ken Gennicks

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

"GOSPEL STORIES: Growing in a Crisis"

(Luke 2:52; 2 Peter 2:5-11)

INTRODUCTION

Our Bible studies are from *Gospel Stories: Matthew, Mark, Luke and John*. In today's Bible text, Luke the Physician tells us how Jesus grew in four specific categories. It only makes sense that if those categories were good for Jesus to grow in, then they are good for me as well. So in light of the crisis we've endured, how might we grow as a young Jesus grew?

I. In _____: what are you _____? (Lk. 2:52; Jas. 1:5; Pr. 1:1-7)

II. In _____: how are you _____ of yourself _____? (Lk. 2:52; I Tim. 4:8; I Cor. 9:27; Ps. 19:1-2)

III. In _____ with _____: how are you growing in _____ with _____? (Lk. 2:42; Jn. 15:5; 2 Pet. 2:5-11)

IV. In _____ with _____: how are you growing in your _____ with _____? (Lk. 2:42; Rom. 12:9-21)

CONCLUSION

Most news stories seem to be focused on how bad things are. But our church, our nation and our world have been through worse times. Most of us just don't remember them or else we don't know our history. But the same faithful, powerful God who brought us through the past is taking us through this season, also! The question is: As we come through this, will each of us be more like Jesus? Let's do whatever it takes to grow stronger in our faith and closer to our Lord right now! Never let a good crisis go to waste!

UPCOMING SENIOR EVENTS:

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

Blood pressure checks begin at 9:30 am. Then at 10:00 we will enjoy a presentation of **A Gaither Christmas**. 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! Any questions, please contact Jan Schoenhard at 636-8958.

Prayer Requests

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

At Memorial: Waneta McKemie (Terry Barnett's sister), Donald Clark (Glen's brother/Heritage), Aaron Shown (Diane McCormick's nephew)

At St. John's: Rick Miller (Randy's dad)

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

At AZ hospital: Carolyn Steitz (Mary Roszhart's cousin)

Tests: Kathy Becker, Wanda Davis, Al Betz, Richard Sandidge, Annie Maliongas' brother, Nancy Nale's cousin, Jerry Basso/biopsy, Stuart Kuehl/hospice, Barb Siddons' brother, Mike Austin/chemo, Tracy Scales, Elijah Staab, Debbie Rohlf, Mike Gronewald, Fran Petersen/Bollman's friend, Leslie Montgomery's brother, Zach Alderman/chemo, Michelle Bloomquist, Roy Hinds/shingles, Loretta Bock DeClerk, Jack Ethell, Sherry Ethell DeBoef, Sharon Schirding/knee, Tara Weidhuner/eye doctor, Dawn Medley, Frances Weidhuner, Linda Caldwell/Gail Farrell's sister/broken ankle, Stephanie Lockhart (Gary/Peg Biggs' friend), Bruce McNeil (Diane McCormick's uncle/Villa West)

At home: Beverly Hall, Brian/Cindi Setzer, Hank/Karla Daubs' grandson, Eddie Miller, Terry Wunderle, Jen VanPelt, Glen Clark, Ella Grace Magee, Elaine Bachman, Joyce Cary's husband/mother-in-law, Shirley Hall, Mary Roszhart's brother, Mike/Mary Buttry's grandson-in-law, Diane McCormick's niece

Touched by death: Bob Tibbs family (Les Carter's brother-in-law), Tina Aud's family (brother's recent passing), Daniel Jackson family (Jen Cullen's dad), Melvin Long family (Morgan Wells' step-grandpa), Brock Reid family (McKayla Clark's friend)

Transitions: Imogene Way, Bill Beatty's mother, Sara Melton's brother, Aaron Reiterman/Wyatt Alderman/Michael Ray/ Everett Shuck/Wallace Christy (military), Tom Halberstadt (Quincy), Kaiti Earl/Sue Williams (Jackie Hines' friend/sister), Wes Jockisch/hospice, Dee Clark's uncle, Frank Platt/Villa/home 19th?, Mike Chrysler/Bobby Croft (job search), Bob Clemens (LMCV)

Wednesday Night Connection: resumes Jan. 13-Mar. 24

Food Drive: Today, 7:30-noon/ACC parking lot

Angel Tree Project: Nov. 29-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

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

Drive Away Hunger Today! 7:30 - noon in the ACC Parking Lot

Each year for our annual Drive Away Hunger event, we ask everyone to bring boxes and bags of non-perishable food to fill the trucks in front of our church for the Athens Food Pantry. We will be receiving food today from 7:30-noon in our church parking lot. Let's come together to impact our local community food pantry and serve those in need!

Angel Tree Project Begins Next Sunday, November 29, at ACC

The Salvation Army Angel Tree program helps provide Christmas gifts for hundreds of children in need in Menard County. Please pick a card from the Angel Tree in our foyer and buy a gift of clothing for the child listed on the back label. The child's age and sizes are listed along with the child's name. Contact Jackie Hines (416-3422) or Cathy Wiseman (416-2910) with questions.

Celebrate Christmas With Us at Athens Christian Church!

FAMILY CHRISTMAS DINNER & HOLIDAY FUN

Wednesday, December 2, 6:00-7:30 pm
Dinner, Jesus is the Sweetest Gift, and
Minute-to-win-it family fun!

MILLIKIN UNIVERSITY VESPERS AT ACC

Saturday, December 5, 7:00 pm
The ACC Seniors will be hosting a virtual viewing of Millikin's Christmas Vespers concert. The concert will be presented free of charge on Saturday, December 5th at 7:00 pm in the ACC Worship Center. People of all ages are invited to join us for this annual Christmas musical event.

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.

Applying Today's Sermon to Your Life

1. Our 2020 sermon series is a Bible study of Jesus in the four Gospels: Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. Read Luke 2:52. Luke was a Physician, a Doctor. Why you suppose Luke included this verse when none of the other three Gospel writers included it? What's the value of this verse for us today?
2. Read 2 Peter 2:5-11. What are the New Testament commands in these verses regarding the growth of a Christ-follower?
3. Have you ever watched someone be faithful during trouble? Make a list of those who come to mind. How does this make you feel when you think of them? How have you grown, specifically, during this troubled time? Who's watching you?
4. Answer the following as TRUE or FALSE:
 - T F God humbles us in times of trouble.
 - T F All of us feel the same about this period.
 - T F Solitude and quarantine were used by God to prepare leaders.
 - T F God used solitude and trouble to change Jonah.
 - T F I have grown in wisdom this year.
 - T F I have stayed active and healthy this year.
 - T F I have grown in my walk with Christ recently.
 - T F I have stayed connected with people this year.
 - T F I've probably lost ground spiritually this year.
 - T F If I'm to be like Jesus, I must grow.
5. Does the Bible say that if we know the Lord and have authentic faith we won't have trouble, health problems, financial struggles, addiction challenges, strained relationships, difficult temptations, and seasons of grief? If so, where does the Bible say this?
6. Today's Bible study surfaced four ways we must grow and make progress if we are to be like Jesus. Which of the four have you grown the most this year? The least? Do you plan to take action and make better progress now? Why, or why not? And how? Do you need an accountability partner or group? Will you drag your feet?
7. What troubles have you experienced during this season? Have these prompted your spiritual growth or have these shrunk your faith? Why?
8. Read Romans 12:9-12. How will your obedience to these commands change your relationships? Which of your behaviors surfaced in these verses must be changed immediately? How will you grow in this area? Do you need assistance?
9. In light of today's Bible study, I will:

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.

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

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

TODAY, Sunday, November 22

7:30 - noon *Drive Away Hunger* in ACC parking lot
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

- » 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 (Room 220/221)
- » Jr./Sr. High Sunday School, led by Tyler Basso (Rm 112)
- » Kids c.l.u.b. for 4 years-K, 1st-3rd gr., 4th-6th gr. (childcare available for Birth-1 year & 2 years-3 years)

Monday, November 23 Read 1 John 1
6:00am Men's Group/Rm. 105 All men should join us!
Area Thanksgiving Service scheduled for tonight has been cancelled

Tuesday, November 24 Read 1 John 2
8:00 CLEAN Retired Men's Bible Study in FLC
7:00 Ladies With a Heart to Pray Zoom chat

Wednesday, November 25 Read 1 John 3
No GriefShare

Thursday, November 26 Read 1 John 4
Church office closed



Friday, November 27 Read 1 John 5
Church office closed

Saturday, November 28

Sunday, November 29
Angel Tree in foyer
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

ACC Kids'

CORNER

S T H E A V E N C D
W V F A T H E R A L
L I Z C X Y S F R T
J E S V O H O O E J
E D A D T N J C T M
S K N R O L N O V G
U N N B N M D E O O
S H D D S I D Z C D
J I U T I L N N T T
S A V I O R T G L A

Find these words you will hear
in today's sermon

God	connect	wisdom
heaven	Father	learning
Savior	Jesus	care