

## 7am, 8am, 9am Traditional Services

Prelude • Dick Bachman

Call to Worship • Anthony Bolton

Hymn of Praise  
*Holy, Holy, Holy* #323 (v.1-4)

Prayer Requests & Praises • Ken Gennicks

Special Music • Russ Witmer

Sermon • Ken Gennicks

GOSPEL STORIES: Matthew, Mark, Luke and John  
*"More of Jesus,"* Part 2  
(John 15)

Invitation Hymn  
*Faith is the Victory* #71 (v. 1,4)

Announcements • Vonda Laffey

Communion & Offering Meditation • Ken Gennicks

Quietly move to Communion & Offering tables  
before exiting the building

## 10am, 11am Contemporary Services

Prelude • Ashley Cantrall

Song of Praise  
*Your Grace Is Enough*

Prayer Requests & Praises • Ken Gennicks

Special Music • Russ Witmer

Sermon • Ken Gennicks

GOSPEL STORIES: Matthew, Mark, Luke and John  
*"More of Jesus,"* Part 2  
(John 15)

Invitation Song  
*Give Me Jesus*

Announcements • Vonda Laffey

Communion & Offering Meditation • Ken Gennicks

Quietly move to Communion & Offering tables  
before exiting the building

Ken Gennicks, Senior Minister      ken@athenschristian.net • 415-5724  
Shane Baker, Associate Minister      shane@athenschristian.net • 415-9035  
Loma Baker, Children's Minister      loma@athenschristian.net • 502-1256  
Gary Frank, Associate Minister      gary@athenschristian.net • 502-4944  
Tyler Basso, Youth Minister      tyler@athenschristian.net • 622-0803  
Morgan Wells, After School Director      morgan@athenschristian.net • 414-5433

## Sermon Notes

GOSPEL STORIES: Matthew, Mark, Luke and John  
*"More of Jesus"* Part 2  
(John 15)

### INTRODUCTION

Our Bible studies are from *Gospel Stories: Matthew, Mark, Luke and John*. Today's Bible study is the second of a 4-part study seeking *More of Jesus* from John 10-17 (borrowing from Anne Graham Lotz, *My Heart's Cry*). Jesus said, *If I be lifted up I will draw all men to Myself* (Jn. 12:32). Each of us will enjoy a deeper relationship with Jesus by seeking:

- I. More of His \_\_\_\_\_ in my \_\_\_\_\_ (15:1-8)
  - A. Fruitful through my \_\_\_\_\_ (15:5)
  - B. Fruitful through my \_\_\_\_\_ (15:2)
  - C. Fruitful through my \_\_\_\_\_ (15:7)
- II. More of His \_\_\_\_\_ in my \_\_\_\_\_ (15:9-17)
  - A. More love for \_\_\_\_\_ (15:9)
  - B. More love for \_\_\_\_\_ (15:12-13)
- III. More of His \_\_\_\_\_ in my \_\_\_\_\_ (15:18-21, 27)

### CONCLUSION

When a person stays consistently connected to Christ, our *Vine*, we enjoy the fruit of His Holy Spirit in our lives as we impact our world for the growth of His kingdom! *A frightened world needs a fearless church* (A.W. Tozer). We could be a fearless church if we effectively pursue *More of Jesus* now! What if the only thing we really need today is *More of Jesus*? May each of us seek *More of Jesus*, individually and together, everyday now!

### **Some reminders:**

- Please leave the rows of parking spaces closest to our building for those with disabilities and for our guests and visitors.
- With accommodating five services, please visit outside the church building following each service to enable our custodians and volunteers to prepare for the following service and to assure social distancing.

## Prayer Requests

**Today's Worship at 7, 8, 9, 10 & 11 am**

**At St. John's:** Ike Hedden (Colleen Gennicks' grandpa)

**At St. Louis hospital:** Mike Sarsany's grandson Paxton (Jack Rooney's friend)

**At TN hospital:** John Forristall (Susan VanNattan's brother)

**At FL hospital:** Paul (Donna) Moore (Dee Clark's uncle)

**Tests:** Lynette Hughes' dad, Wanda Davis, Krista Austin, Al Betz, Richard Sandidge, Annie Maliongas' brother, Ron Ellsworth, Roy Hinds, Nancy Nale's cousin, Ken Weatherby, Linda O'Toole, Jerry Basso, Carole Harmening, Stuart Kuehl (Barregaryes' friend), Tara Weidhuner, Barb Siddons/& brother, Barb Snow's granddaughter, Mike Austin (chemo), Tracy Scales, Andy Glass, Elijah Staab, Marge Ray, Scott McNeal (congestive heart failure), Diane McCormick's niece/liver transplant/Japan, Joyce Cary's mother-in-law, Audrey Bowden (Crofts' friend), Lorna Biermann (Leslie Montgomery's mom), Aidan Good, Terry Henrikson's relatives (fire threats), Ella Grace Magee

**Touched by death:** Randy Miller's relatives (toddler's death)

**At home:** Brian/Cindi Setzer, Hank/Karla Daubs' grandson, Eddie Miller (hospice), Terry Wunderle, Jen VanPelt, Glen Clark, James Cary, Nancy Rudolph, Jodi Peacock's mom, Pat Basso's brother, Krista Grant, Bob Croft, Dave/Mary Ellen Buch, Mary Wells, Debbie Fritz, Elaine Bachman, Larry Barregarye (surgery was Tuesday), Rebecca Logan, Eleanor Horsch (Erna Weatherby's sister/Gibson City/hospice), Sue Williams (Jackie Hines' sister), Terry Miller (after surgery), Chris Roszhart (after heart surgery)

**Transitions:** Imogene Way (Sharon Wendler's mom/hospice), Bill Beatty's mother, Sara Melton's brother, Michael Ray/Canyon/Caleb Breazeale/Aaron Reiterman/ Wyatt Alderman/ Everett Shuck (military), Tom Halberstadt (Quincy), Mark Smith, Jake Montgomery (CO), Susan Reichling's folks, Kaiti Earl (Jackie Hines' friend), Beverly Hall (Bridge)

**GriefShare:** Wed., 6:30 pm

**Wednesday Night Connection:** 5:45 pm

**Kyle Gennicks:** [missionchurchmontgomery.org](http://missionchurchmontgomery.org)

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

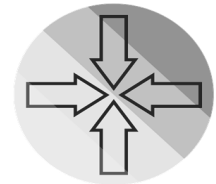
**Our missionaries/military/families/terrorism/economy Each other/unspoken needs**

# Athens Christian Church

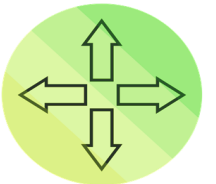
OUR MISSION:



WORSHIP



CONNECT



SERVE

September 20, 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!

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  
Storm Huse/309-363-9922  
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

1411 E. Route 29 • Athens, IL 62613  
217-636-8463 [www.athenschristian.net](http://www.athenschristian.net)  
[www.facebook.com/athenschristianIL](http://www.facebook.com/athenschristianIL)

# Get Connected at Athens Christian Church

## Welcome to ACC!

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 five services at 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 am. Also, our Sunday mornings will be very different with many safety measures 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

## ACC Kids' CORNER

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

**Jesus love home service fruit  
 more connection communicate  
 courage**

## New Sunday School Classes and Kids C.L.U.B. Have Begun!! 10:00-10:45 am

### Adult classes include:

- Doug Wendler & Harry Schirding - Room 223 - Andy Stanley: **The Modern Christian Family**
- Dan Haynes - Room 203 - Standard Lesson Commentary & Other: **Book of Genesis**
- Gary Frank - Room 105 - Standard Lesson Commentary: **Book of Genesis**
- Anthony Bolton - Room 220/221 - **That the World May Know video series**
- Curt Reichling - Athens park pavilion - Ohana - noon: **Reviewing our weekly Bible reading**

### Jr. & Sr. High Class:

- **ROOTED** (now meeting in Room 112 on Sunday mornings)

### Kids C.L.U.B classes include:

- Birth through 1 year (Room 217)
- 2 years through 3 years (206)
- 4 years through kindergarten (Room 204)
- 1st grade through 3rd grade (Room 208)
- 4th grade through 6th grade (Room 212)

Children may be checked in beginning at 9:45 am and can be picked up by 10:45 am. Class sizes will be smaller, and the full reopening plan and procedures have been emailed to all parents in the Kid Check system. If you would like a copy of the reopening plan, please email Lorna Baker at lorna@athenschristian.net.



### NEW BIBLE STUDY BEGINNING!!!

**CLEAN** is a new Bible study offered on Tuesday mornings at 8:00 am. We are targeting retired men who have a desire to study God's Word, fellowship with other believers, and serve the church. We will begin at 8:00 am in the Family Life Center with coffee, conversation, prayer, and Bible study. For those who wish to participate at 9:00 am, we will break into groups and clean the church. We mop, vacuum, polish, scrub, we even do windows. Contact Marvin Vance or Gary Frank for more info.

## 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 Jesus' words in John 15. Why is Jesus pictured as *the Vine* while we are pictured as *the branches*? Spiritually speaking, which plant best describes you now (circle one and explain)?
 

Towering Oak	Tumble Weed	Weeping Willow
Crab-apple	Poison Ivy	Shrinking Violet
Corpse flower	Fruitful vine	Parched houseplant
2. What lesson does Jesus mean to teach here when He says, *No servant is greater than His master* (John 15:20)? From the context of this chapter, what's the practical application of Jesus' statement for your life right now? What action step does it require of you today?
3. What are you willing to do this week to have *More of Jesus*?
4. Most of us are familiar with the image of Jesus as our *Vine*, as pictured in John 15. Read Galatians 5:22-23 and rate yourself in these areas, with 5 being the highest rating:
 

A. I am intentional about being fruitful for Christ.	1 2 3 4 5
B. His fruit in me is a soft heart of compassion.	1 2 3 4 5
C. Sowing Gospel seeds into others is my goal.	1 2 3 4 5
D. My prayer list and quiet time bears fruit.	1 2 3 4 5
E. The fruit of God's Spirit in me is joy.	1 2 3 4 5
F. Peace, patience and kindness are His fruit in me.	1 2 3 4 5
G. Patient endurance best describes His fruit in me.	1 2 3 4 5
H. His Holy Spirit produces self-control in me.	1 2 3 4 5
I. Christ gives me courage to stand strong for Him.	1 2 3 4 5
J. My desire is to be more fruitful in His cause.	1 2 3 4 5
5. Answer the following statements TRUE or FALSE from today's study:
 

T	F	I am plugged into <i>the Vine</i> for nourishment.
T	F	I am determined to bear fruit in my life for Christ.
T	F	Nothing in my life needs pruned right now.
T	F	There is no dead wood in my heart or life needing removed.
T	F	I trust Christ, the Gardener, to prune my life.
T	F	One great test of bearing fruit is in our homes.
T	F	I am determined to have a soft heart toward everyone.
T	F	Christ wants to bear fruit both inside us and through us.
T	F	My life is not very fruitful and nothing can change that.
T	F	God's Spirit keeps me from worrying what others think or say.
6. Make an effort to prayerfully read John's Gospel this week, seeking *More of Jesus* in the pages of Scripture! Keep a journal of your discoveries. For deeper study, read My Heart's Cry: Longing for More of Jesus, by Anne Graham Lotz, a source for much of this Bible study.
7. 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.

—»«—

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). Services will also be available on YouTube following the services.

—»«—

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, September 20

- 6:30 am: Prayer with the Pastors (at the pulpit/everyone welcome)
- 7am, 8am, 9am: Traditional Services
- 10am, 11am: Contemporary Services
- 10:00-10:45: ADULT & CHILDREN SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES
  - » 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)
  - » 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)
- 12:00: Ohana Sunday School Class, led by Curt Reichling (meeting at Athens Park pavilion)

### Monday, September 21

Read 1 Thessalonians 4  
 6:00am Men's Group/Rm. 105 All men should join us!

### Tuesday, September 22

Read 1 Thessalonians 5  
 8:00 CLEAN Retired Men's Bible Study in FLC  
 7:00pm Ladies With a Heart to Pray Zoom chat

### Wednesday, September 23

Read 2 Thessalonians 1  
 5:00 Help set up for WNC  
 5:30 Blood pressure checks  
 5:45 Dinner in the FLC (mostaccioli, side & desserts)  
 6:30-7:30 Classes for all ages

### Thursday, September 24

Read 2 Thessalonians 2

### Friday, September 25

Read 2 Thessalonians 3  
 Church office closed

### Sunday, September 27

(*deacon/elder nomination form in bulletin*)  
 6:30am Prayer with the Pastors  
 7, 8, 9 am Traditional Services  
 10, 11 am Contemporary Services  
 10:00-10:45 am Sunday School Classes for All Ages!  
 3:00 Hymnfest at Washington Park/Springfield  
 4:00 Elders' Meeting

# TOP TEN

## Current Volunteer Opportunities

Because God has gifted each of us with gifts and abilities to serve the common good of the church (I Peter 4:10), consider this current list of volunteer ministries, and we'll be happy to get you plugged in! Mark this sheet and leave it today with one of our leaders or in the offering plate. You may call or e-mail our office for more information.

1. **Greet**, open doors, offer bulletins and welcome people as they come and go from 9:30-11:40 am on Sundays.
2. **Cook** for Wednesday Night Connection or help set up, serve, tear down, clean and close up our building.
3. **Join our sound booth team** to help with our audio or visual presentations in our services or to livestream video or audio. We can train you if you're willing.
4. **Refill and replace** Communion trays between 8:30-10:30 for Sunday services.
5. **Assist** our safety and security team from 7:30-9:30 am or 9:30-11:45 am on Sundays. (circle your choice)
6. **Volunteer** in our nursery from 9:40-10:45 am during our Sunday School hour.
7. **Oversee** our Kids' Check-in Desk from 9:30-10:45 am during Sunday School.
8. **Record** brief, 3-minute devotionals with a rotating team to be shared daily on ACC's Facebook, app, website, etc.
9. **Connect** at our new *Clean Ministry* with retired men on Tuesdays at 8:00 am for Bible study, then cleaning our building at 9:00
10. **Cook or deliver meals** with one of our eight Food Ministry Teams during times of need or transition or for our funeral dinners as needed.

*Worship! Connect! Serve!* Commit every week to worship one hour, study one hour, and serve one hour through the local church! There's a place for YOU to joyfully serve Christ with us here! Members and non-members alike are all urged to plug-in and serve Christ with us together now! We need your help! Please join us!