

Athens Christian Church

8:00, 9:15 & 10:30 AM

Worship Services



MAY 17, 2026

“Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love Him.”

JAMES 1:12

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:

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/Tech Minister 217-652-5433
Evan Noggle, Youth Minister/217-415-5644
Morgan Wells, After School Program/217-414-5433
Jaelyn Lasley, Children's Ministry Intern 217-691-4015
Tsoetsy (Choe-chee) Harris, General Ministry Intern 618-303-2865

Elders:
Jeremy McDaniel, 217-971-9416
Doug Wendler, 217-652-2133
Jack Brown, 217-741-0381
GriefShare Ministry:
Carla Knox, 217-415-5032
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: Psalm 118: 1-5

When the Roll is Called Up Yonder #SPECIAL (v. 1-3)

What a Wonderful Savior #372 (v. 1-4)

Announcements Video

Prayer Requests & Praises: Ken Gennicks

He Hideth My Soul #120 (v. 1-4)

Graduate Recognition & Video
Evan Noggle

Sermon: Evan Noggle
People of the Bible:
“James, Wisdom for Real Success”
(James 1-5)

Invitation Hymn:
Cleanse Me #425 (v. 1 & 4)

Communion & Offering Hymn:
Living For Jesus #462 (v. 1 & 4)

Communion & Offering Meditation: Evan Noggle
Quietly move to Communion & Offering tables before exiting.

9:15 & 10:30 am Contemporary Service

Battle Belongs
Gratitude
Revelation Song

Announcements Video

Prayer Requests & Praises: Ken Gennicks

Graduate Recognition & Video
Evan Noggle

Sermon: Evan Noggle
People of the Bible:
“James, Wisdom for Real Success”
(James 1-5)

Hymn of Heaven
Worthy of it All

Communion & Offering Meditation: Evan Noggle
Quietly move to Communion & Offering tables before exiting.

AM Sermon Notes

People of the Bible:

“James, Wisdom for Real Success”
(James 1-5)

INTRODUCTION

Our Bible studies throughout 2026 focus on “People of the Bible,” learning from real stories of real people from the Bible. Today, we look at the book of James to see his perspective on how to live a successful life. The world tells us we should go after one set of goals in order to be successful, but James challenges us to think things through a different lens.

BIBLE STUDY

Worldly Wisdom: _____ Godly Wisdom: _____
#1. _____ it _____ it
James 1:16-18

#2. _____ People _____ People
James:2:1-4

#3. Be _____ Be _____
James: 3:13-18

#4. _____ Ahead _____ Ahead
James: 4:13-17

#5. Pursue _____ Pursue _____
James: 5:5-8

Real success is:

James: 4:4-10

CONCLUSION

James reminds us real success doesn't come from the wisdom the world brings. Real success comes from God. We can choose which path we will follow, but only one will bring the real success we are looking for. That is through faith in Jesus Christ!

Prayer Requests

At Memorial: Wendy Connor (ICU), Joe DeRosa (Gwen's husband)

At Missouri hospital: Kip Kelso (Nick's brother)

At FL hospital: Pam Minikin (Mary's sister)

Tests: Karla Daubs (chemo), Bob Folkerts (radiation), Tammy Garner, Dave/Sandy Magee, Linda Hoffman's son, Alice Lasswell's brother, Sue Bishop's sister, Judy Bryant, Debbie Bolton, Mary Magee, Madison Wells, Bree Chandler, Angie Sutheard, Mike Sleight, Donna Brown, Todd Snow's friend, Geri Gesling, Jerry Talkington, Connie Gummadi's mom, Linda Meador, Tracy Kennett, Nancy Bell, John/Jacqui McDaniel, Bill Woolsey, Beverly Nolting, Jeff Lopian, Sr., Debbie Ethell (chemo), Shawn/Nori (Jodi Peacock's friends), Bonnie Megehe, Albert Beard, Tim Wallace (heart), Vince Ehrich (eye), Jamie Thomas, Landin Evans (Alix/Deriks' baby)
At home: Al Betz (cancer), Jamie Roemer, Gaye Maxson, Marvin Vance, Terry Wunderle, Nancy Nale's mom, Tom/Ruth Novy, Jill Cleer (Arcadia), Kevin/Carrie Lee/Colton Ingham, Dawn Medley, Jackie Hines' nephew/brother, Nancy Rudolph, Shari Fletcher's dad, Jim Daugherty, Judy Witmer, Brian Lewis' dad, Charlie (Linda) Ford, Brad Ferrill (eyes), Jerry Purcell, David Primm, Andrew Simmons (Alan/Marla Justice's grandson)

Touched by death: Clara Taylor family (Thomas Brackhan's great-grandma), Dennis Sundberg family (Daniel's grandpa), Judy Ogelsby's family (Aunt Pat died/CA), Sharon Mester family (McKenzie Sundberg's grandma), Nancy Oliver family (Chris' mom)

Transitions: Rena Hiatt (Bridge), Louie Murray/Dick & Elaine Bachman/Steve Gutierrez/Charles “Butch” Mester/Al Betz/Joann Kirchgessner/Rosalie Ingram (Villa), Mary Prior (Mason City), Erna Weatherby/Jan Schoenhard (tests)/Bob Moore (Countryside), Carolyn Cole (Concordia), Marge Ray/Vivian Rankin (Vonderlieth), Chuck VanHuss (Jacksonville), Kevin Kennett (Hillsboro), Jordan Barnes, Tanner Hull (Basic/Brittanie Basso's son), Dawn Hamblin (Gateway)

DR Missions: Olivia Baker/June 13-20; Lindsey Norvell/July 10-19

Interns: Jaelyn Lasley/till June 15, Tsoetsy Harris/till Aug. 14

Vacation Bible School: June 8-12, 6-8:00 p.m./all ages

112 to Christ In Youth Conf.: July 6-10/Lincoln, NE

International Conference on Missions: Nov. 12-14/St. Louis

ACC Mission to Kenya: March 5-14, 2027

Blake Canterbury: facebook.com/monroechurchplant

Capital Stewardship Campaign: EXCEL (2026-2028)

Our missionaries/military/terrorism/nation

Each other/unspoken needs

GRADUATE RECOGNITION SUNDAY

We are celebrating today with these graduates of college, trade school, high school and 8th grade:

Olivia Baker	Lincoln Land Community College
Ella Bobell	Blackhawk East Junior College
McKayla Clark	Lincoln Land Community College
McKenna Clark	National Louis University
Paul Harris	Wheaton College
Lexi Morgan	South Dakota State University
Madi Purchis	University of Missouri
Tori Scales	Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology
Elijah Shiffer	Purdue University
Ella Armitage	Athens High School
Rosalind Bell	Athens High School
Nathan Hesson	Athens High School
Isabel Ingram	Athens High School
Avery Jockisch	PORTA High School
Dalton Muench	Athens High School
Autumn Smith	Athens High School
Mackenzie Szoke	Athens High School
Britt Tomlinson	Athens High School
Peyton Armitage	Athens Jr. High
Sophia Berry	Athens Jr. High
Zayden Bradley	Athens Jr. High
Max Cook	Athens Jr. High
Mollee Cook	Athens Jr. High
Zachary Dick	Springfield Christian School
Kaylee Ferrill	A-C Central Jr. High
Westin Garner	Athens Jr. High
Gracelyn Grimsley	Athens Jr. High
Hannah Groce	Springfield Christian School
Tucker Hull	Athens Jr. High
Tyler McDaniel	Time 4 Learning Academy
Max Ritter	Athens Jr. High
Benjamin Seman	Athens Jr. High
Fayth Sokolis	Athens Jr. High
Noah Sokolis	Athens Jr. High
Max Trader	Athens Jr. High
Kaylee VanPelt	Athens Jr. High

Congratulations!

GRIEVING THE DEATH OF YOUR SPOUSE?

At a Loss of a Spouse seminar you'll discover:

- Other people understand and have found ways to make it through
- Why it won't always hurt so much
- Reasons for hope
- Practical tips for coping with the death of a spouse

LOSS OF A SPOUSE TODAY, 2-4 pm ACC, Room 105

Join us for this encouraging seminar!

JOIN US

JUNE 8-12, 6-8 PM!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

4 YEARS - GRADE 6

VBS ADULT CLASS

FIRM FOUNDATIONS is a class designed to help you mature in your walk with Christ. Whether you are new to faith or have been part of the church your entire life, this class is for you!

-TAUGHT BY SHANE BAKER & DAN HAYNES
nursery available if you attend the adult class

SURPRISE PARTY! VBS

VBS SUMMER FUN NIGHTS

GRADE 7 - 12

REGISTER FOR ALL AGES AT

WWW.ATHENSCHRISTIAN.NET OR SCAN THE QR CODE

1613 Mens Conference

FRIDAY & SATURDAY, JULY 17 - 18, 2026

AT ATHENS CHRISTIAN CHURCH

JOHN LOVELL	BRIAN DAWKINS	ANTHONY MUNIZ
PASTOR JOBY MARTIN	NICK FREITAS	MATT EVERSMANN
BRAD GEARY	JEFF TIEGS	KRIS PARONTO

AGENDA

FRIDAY, JULY 17

5:00PM- DOORS OPEN

6:00-9:00PM CONFERENCE & MUSIC LIVESTREAM IN WORSHIP CENTER

MEAL: SANDWICH, CHIPS, APPLE, COOKIES, WATER

SATURDAY, JULY 18

7:00AM DOORS OPEN, REFRESHMENTS

8:00-11:45AM CONFERENCE & MUSIC LIVESTREAM IN WORSHIP CENTER

11:45-1:15PM LUNCH BREAK, FLC (MEAL-PULLED PORK, BEANS, CHIPS, ETC. WATER/SODA)

1:15-5:00PM CONFERENCE LIVESTREAM

5:00-6:00PM REGAP AND PRAYER

\$10

Questions, contact Darin Fritz

REGISTER NOW

Applying Today's Sermon to Your Life

1. Our 2026 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 James 1:12, "*Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love Him.*" How does this apply to us today?
2. The world measures success much differently than God. Which "Worldly Wisdom" is hardest for you to stay away from?
3. Which "Godly Wisdom" is hardest for you to apply in your own personal life?
4. The book of James is filled with wisdom directed to followers of Jesus who were seeing how much effort a life following Jesus takes. Why do you think following Jesus is considered the "harder path"?
5. When we choose to dedicate our lives to following Jesus, that means setting aside things our earthly minds see as important. What is one thing you need to set aside in order to be more obedient to Christ?
6. Has your definition of success changed after studying the book of James? Why or why not?

HOW TO

Read the Bible

A Simple Guide to Deeper Intimacy with God

New York Times Bestselling Author

David Platt

Summer High School Bible Study

Led By Evan Noggle

Wednesdays,

June 3, 17, 24, & July 1

7:00-8:00 PM, Youth Room

Scan the QR code or sign up in the lobby or youth room by Wednesday, May 27.

Trail Life Troop IL-0109 at Athens Christian Church This Fall

Trail Life USA is a Christ-centered outdoor adventure and character development program for boys that focuses on leadership, service, and growing in faith through activities like camping, hiking, and skills development.

Planning Team: Anthony Bolton, John Hines, Darin Fritz, Donnie Fritz, and Jarrod Rempel

www.traillifeconnect.com/connect/tkz2eog5uduk

Today & This Week

2026

GRADUATE RECOGNITION SUNDAY, MAY 17

Graduate Recognition - All Services

8:00 am Traditional Service (nursery birth-2 yrs/3-5 yrs.)

9:15 am Contemporary Worship Service

9:15 am Sunday School for all Ages:

- Adult Classes:
 - » The Bible Recap, led by various ACC members (Rm. 223)
 - » Deep Divers, led by Anthony Bolton (Rm. 106)
 - » Kingdom Seekers led by Terry Henrikson (Rm. 202)
 - » Christian Living, led by Harry Schirding & Doug Wendler (Rm. 203)
 - » The Ambassadors, led by Dan Haynes (Rm. 105)
- Jr./Sr. High School (Rm. 113/114)
- Kids C.L.U.B. for 4 yrs.-kind., 1st-3rd gr., 4th-6th gr.
- Childcare for birth-3 years

10:30 am Contemporary Worship Service

- Kids C.L.U.B. K-6th gr./Childcare birth-4yrs

1:00 pm Pick-Up Basketball for Ages 13+ (FLC)

2:00 pm Loss of Spouse Seminar (Rm. 105)

MONDAY, MAY 18 ACTS 7

9:00 am Chair Aerobics (FLC)

6:00 pm Athens Area Food Pantry Monthly Distribution (Rt. 29)

TUESDAY, MAY 19 ACTS 8

8:00 am Men's Bible Study (Rm. 223)

7:00 pm Community Prayer & Worship (Athens Comm. Park)

WEDNESDAY, MAY 20 ACTS 9

9:00 am Chair Aerobics (FLC)

THURSDAY, MAY 21 ACTS 10

6:00 pm Worship Team Practice (WC)

FRIDAY, MAY 22 ACTS 11

Church Office Closed

9:00 am Chair Aerobics (FLC)

10:00 am Sharon Mester funeral/Holy Family, luncheon/ACC

SATURDAY, MAY 23

MEMORIAL DAY SUNDAY, MAY 24

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/Childcare for birth-3yrs.

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 13+ (FLC)

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