

Athen's Christian Church

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

Worship Services

September 27, 2026

"This day is sacred to the Lord... for the joy of the Lord is your strength."

NEHEMIAH 8:10

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

Elders:

Jeremy McDaniel,
217-971-9416

Doug Wendler,
217-652-2133

Jack Brown,
217-741-0381

GriefShare Ministry:

Carla Knox,
217-415-5032

Download the ACC app



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 130:1-5

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name #325 (v. 1-4)

Open My Eyes That I May See #486 (v. 1-3)

Announcements Video

Prayer Requests & Praises: Ken Gennicks

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

Acts of Worship: Gospel Quartet

Sermon: Ken Gennicks

"People of the Bible: 'Nehemiah, Finishing Well'" (Nehemiah 1-6)

Invitation Hymn: O Jesus I Have Promised #402 (v. 1 & 3)

Communion & Offering Hymn: Just a Closer Walk With Thee #591 (v. 1 & 2)

Communion & Offering Meditation: Cory Craig, Jr.

Quietly move to Communion & Offering tables before exiting.

9:15 & 10:30 am Worship Services

I Know a Name

Jesus be the Name

Worthy of It All

Announcements Video

Prayer Requests & Praises: Ken Gennicks

Acts of Worship: Shane, Lorna, Olivia, Kenneth Baker

Sermon: Ken Gennicks

"People of the Bible: 'Nehemiah, Finishing Well'" (Nehemiah 1-6)

Run to the Father

Shout to the Lord

Communion & Offering Meditation: Cory Craig, Jr.

Quietly move to Communion & Offering tables before exiting.

AM Sermon Notes

"People of the Bible - 'Nehemiah, Finishing Well'" (Nehemiah 1-6)

INTRODUCTION

Our Bible studies are from people of the Bible. These things happened...and were written...for us (I Cor. 10:11) to give us endurance, encouragement and hope (Rom. 15:4). Every Sunday we study and apply God's Word. An Old Testament man named Nehemiah shows us how to finish well in all of life's efforts, for God's glory:

I. Finishers have an _____ (1:1; 2:1)

II. Finishers have an _____ (1:5; 2:17)

III. Finishers have an _____ (2:1)

IV. Finishers have an _____ (2:20; 4:14)

V. Finishers have an _____ (1:2, 4; 2:5; 4:8-9)

CONCLUSION

It's easy to start something: school, marriage, parenting, job, the Christian life, ministry, and so forth. But it's much harder to finish well! We need the "marathon mindset" of Nehemiah, a man of faith who was actually a preview of the Christ who came to finish the work of our salvation on an old, rugged cross! Let's represent Him well by finishing all we start, including life itself, well, for God's glory!

Prayer Requests

At Memorial: Mike Sleight, Renee Blank, Jared Richards, Louie Murray, Heidi Foulk (childbirth)

At St. John's: Vince Ehrich (Todd Snow's friend/hip), Matthew Wiediger

At Hopedale Hospital: Erna Weatherby

At Chicago: Hayes Johnson, Drew Hawk (Ryan/Amy Knox's friend)

Tests: Bonnie Russell, Karla Daubs, Bob Folkerts, Tammy Garner, Debbie Bolton, Geri Gesling, Nancy Bell, John/Jacqui McDaniel, Jeff Lopian, Sr., Linda Caldwell, Jerry Basso, Lisa Pusch's granddaughter, Steve/Tony Snow, Tracy Kennett, Bruce/Jim Kennett, Jackie Hines' sister/brother, June Cerar, Teresa Huston (Brian O'Neill's sister), Alexis Lewis, Alana Eigenmann (Ashley Nevins-King's friend), Irene Knous, Terry/Debbie Claypool's grandson Landin Evans (surgery 15th), Jim Bruns (kidney/Pat McNeal's friend), Larry Wise, Patty Tobias, Bill Woolsey (chemo)

At home: Rena Hiatt, Dave Primm, Marvin Vance, Terry Wunderle, Nancy Nale's mom, Tom/Ruth Novy, Kevin/Carrie Lee/Colton Ingham, Dawn Medley, Charlie Ford, Jerry Purcell, Jae Russell's dad, Jill Cleer (Arcadia), Joyce Cary, Chris McIntyre, Linda Hoffman, Cathy Britz, Mary Magee (broken wrist), Nancy Rudolph, Shelly Roat, Danny Muller, Kelly Phillips (Kay Sill's sister), Debbie Lux's sister, Kevin Lascelles (Irene Knous' dad/hospice), Sue Furlong, Joyce Barregarye, Easton Dial (ASP student)

Touched by death: Vaughn Beeman family, Tom Pantier family

Transitions: Dick Bachman (hospice)/Steve Gutierrez/ Charles "Butch" Mester/Rosalie Ingram/Judy Bryant (Villa), Mary Prior (Mason City), Jan Schoenhard/Bob Moore (Countryside), Carolyn Cole (Concordia), Marge Ray (Vonderlieth), Chuck VanHuss (Jacksonville), Kevin Kennett (Hillsboro), Earl Furlong (EverVella/White Hall), Linette Hughes' dad, Stephen Briggs (Kuwait), Andrew Briggs (addiction), Kenny Mayes (FL), Bud/Bonnie Megehe, Marsha Tibbs (Randall Residence/Decatur)

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

Passion Conference: Dec. 29-31/TX/Ages 18-25

ACC Mission to Kenya: March 4-14, 2027

Vacation Bible School: June 7-11, 2027/all ages

Christ In Youth Conf.: July 5-10, 2027/gr. 8-12/Wheaton, IL

Blake Canterbury: facebook.com/monroechurchplant

Capital Stewardship Campaign: EXCEL (2026-2028)

Our missionaries/military/terrorism/nation

Each other/unsspoken needs

Today at Athens Christian Church
11:30 AM-1:00 PM in Room 223
ACC MISSION TRIP INTEREST LUNCH
LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR MISSION PROJECT
Calling tradesmen & women, interested
high school students, and parents!
**Come learn about an upcoming ACC
mission trip & how you can serve.**
Serving local families in the Springfield, IL area.
Trip dates: July 18-24, 2027

5TH QUARTER
AT ACC AFTER THESE HOME GAMES
October 2, October 16
7th -12th grade 9:30-11:30 PM
Join us for Food, Fun, and Fellowship!

October is
Pastor Appreciation Month



KEN GENNICKS
SENIOR MINISTER



SHANE BAKER
ASSOCIATE MINISTER



LORNA BAKER
CHILDREN'S MINISTER



ASHLEY CANTRALL
WORSHIP/TECH MINISTER



EVAN NOGGLE
YOUTH MINISTER

Next Sunday, October 4, is Pastor Appreciation Sunday. We will welcome past ACC Associate Minister, Casey McCormick, as our guest speaker.
Plan to celebrate with us all month!

**PICK-UP BASKETBALL RESUMES
NEXT SUNDAY AT ACC**
Ages 13 and Up
Sundays, 1:00 - 3:00 pm
OCT 4,11,18, NOV 1,8,15,22, DEC 6,13
questions: see Russ Witmer
(zoemac8808@sbcglobal.net)

Save the Date!
TRUNK or TREAT!
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25
2:00 - 3:30 PM | ACC PARKING LOT



Collecting candy and small Christian trinkets to pass out
Sundays, October 11 and 18!



Help us fill our parking lot with Bible-themed trunks!
To sign up to host a trunk see Lorna Baker or Morgan Wells.

TICKETS GO ON SALE OCTOBER 6!
CHRIST IN YOUTH
MOVE
6-DAY SUMMER CAMP FOR
CURRENT 8TH THRU 12TH GRADE STUDENTS
JULY 5-10, 2027
WHEATON, IL
Register Here!

Young at Heart
Don't Wrestle, Just Nestle-PRAY
A Corrie ten Boom Presentation
Tuesday, October 13
9:30 am: Free Blood Pressure checks
10:00 am: Don't Wrestle, Just Nestle-PRAY.
A Corrie ten Boom Presentation by Gayle Haas
11:00 am Lunch: Free pulled pork, baked beans, coleslaw, & desserts
Devotion by Polly Wise

Senior Trip
Saturday, October 24
Scenic Drive to Pere Marquette State Park Lodge and Grafton
Grafton, Illinois
• Meet at ACC at 8:00 AM
• Cost: \$19 for fried chicken lunch & tour
• Seniors only
• Sign up in the lobby

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MISSIONS
November 12-14, 2026
America's Center Convention Complex
St. Louis, MO
Register at: <https://www.theicom.org/attendees>
• Adults: \$75 only \$20 with code
• College Students \$10
• Kids and Jr/Sr High students FREE
ACC Discount Codes:
Family: 2026STLFAMILY
Individual: 2026STLADULT

High School Overnight Trip to St. Louis
Friday, Nov. 13 - Sat, Nov. 14
Student ICOM Registration
• Only \$15 per student (+3 meals)
• Learn about Global Missions!
• Visit 300 different mission booths!
• Stay overnight at a church!
• Hear Messages and Worship!

Applying Today's Sermon to Your Life

- Read today's Bible text, the first six chapters of the Book of Nehemiah. Our Verse-of-the-Week is Nehemiah 8:10, "This day is sacred to the Lord . . . for the joy of the Lord is your strength." What do you know about this man, Nehemiah? Why is Nehemiah considered a hero in the Bible? What do you, personally, admire about Nehemiah? Why?
- What things have you started but have yet to finish? Make a list. Why is it easier to start something than it is to finish well?
- Why was it hard for Nehemiah to finish well? Make a list of all the obstacles that could have caused him to give up, or could have caused him to finish poorly.
- What does a "Marathon Mindset" look like when starting things like school, marriage, parenting, career, following Christ, and so on? How much impact does finishing well have upon your witness for Christ? Why? Is the Christian life more like a 100-yard dash or a marathon race? Explain.
- I'd grade my finishing of all things well with an:
A B C D F
- Today's Bible study surfaced five characteristics of finishers. Write down your thoughts about each of these five:
A. Prayer life
B. Dream or goal:
C. Perseverance:
D. Faith & trust in God:
E. Unconditional love:
The theme of our Bible studies throughout 2026 is, "People of the Bible." Nehemiah is remembered as a man who finished well. Make a list of other Bible people who finished well. Make a second list of people who did not finish well. Are you determined, by God's grace, to finish all things well? Why, or why not?
- Answer the following TRUE or FALSE:
T F I will do a good job finishing everything I've started.
T F I'm finishing this year in good standing with God and others.
T F If you've quit along the way, God allows us to begin again now.
T F Peace and strength are found through quiet time with the Lord.
T F Nehemiah sacrificed a life of ease in order to serve the Lord.
- Imagine living today without faith, without knowing Jesus, without knowing how to pray, and without a supportive church family. Now think about your neighbors, your coworkers, your relatives, your classmates, your friends, and people in your circle of acquaintance. Who needs your faith, your Jesus, your prayers, your church family? Will you ask Jesus to make His appeal to them through you?
- I will put today's Bible study into action now by:

Today & This Week

TODAY, SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27
7:30 am Prayer with the Pastors (WC)
8:00 am Traditional Worship 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 (Rms. 112/113/114)
•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
11:30 am Love Your Neighbor Mission Lunch (Rm. 223)

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28 1 TIMOTHY 1
5:30 am ACC Workout (FLC & Rm. 208)
9:00 am Chair Aerobics (FLC)

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29 1 TIMOTHY 2
5:30 am ACC Workout (FLC & Rm. 208)
8:00 am Men's Bible Study (Rm. 223)

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30 1 TIMOTHY 3
5:30 am ACC Workout (FLC & Rm. 208)
7:15 am Wed. Morning High School Study (Youth Rm & Rm. 112)
9:00 am Chair Aerobics (FLC)
5:00 pm Help set up for Wednesday Night Connection
5:40-6:15 pm Dinner (hamburgers & french fries, salad, desserts)
6:30-7:30 pm Classes for all ages (Jr. High & GriefShare til 8)
7:45 pm Worship Team & Choir Practice (FLC)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1 1 TIMOTHY 4
5:30 am ACC Workout (FLC & Rm. 208)
10:00 am Prophecy Watch Study (Rm. 106)
5:30 pm FUSE After School Program Staff Meeting (Rm. 223)

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2 1 TIMOTHY 5
Church Office Closed
9:00 am Chair Aerobics (FLC)
9:30 pm 5th Quarter for all Jr. High & High School (ACC)

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4 - PASTOR APPRECIATION SUNDAY
Guest Speaker, Casey McCormick
7:30 am Prayer with the Pastors (WC)
8:00 am Traditional Worship Service (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)
2:00 pm Life Chain Sunday (Springfield)
4:00 pm Missions Team Meeting (Rm. 203)