



ATHENS COLLEGE *of* MINISTRY

ACMin Spring 2022 Newsletter

Equipping the next generation of Christian leaders to transform the world in Jesus' Name



Self-sacrifice Changes Everything!

This week marks the beginning of the Lenten season—the 40 days preceding Easter. Lent is intended to be a season set aside for repentance, praise and worship of the Lord. Many Christians purpose to read their Bibles and pray more often. Some choose to fast during the 40 days as a remembrance of how Jesus fasted in the desert and overcame the enemy's temptations. Ultimately, a deeper intimacy with God should be the goal of any special Lenten practices.

The self-denial that some Christ-followers engage in during Lent is a beautiful picture of death to self—something the Scriptures indicate as essential to a believer's walk. The yearly remembrance of Jesus' death and resurrection affords the opportunity to remember that we, too, "*were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life* (Romans 6:4)."

Practice makes permanent. My prayer for you is that during these days, you will cooperate with the Holy Spirit as He shows you attitudes and actions in your life that need to be put to death in order that your newness in Him be made

complete. As you exercise new spiritual habits of self-denial and self-sacrificing love for these 40 days, may there be increasingly more evidence of your eternal transformation into Christlikeness than you ever imagined possible!

Dr. Marcia Wilbur, Ph.D., ACMin President



Athens National Day of Prayer Breakfast

Academic Honors

Congratulations to the following students for their outstanding achievement during fall semester 2021. Qualifying students must have enrolled in two or more courses.

President's List (3.76-4.0 GPA)

Laura Coco

Lisa Graham

Ryan Oberhaus

Angie Stocker

Brenda Washington

Dean's List (3.5-3.75 GPA)

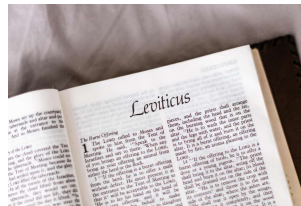
Jeff Evans

Wilna Vinke

Athens National Day of Prayer Breakfast

You are invited to join us at the **Athens National Day of Prayer Breakfast** on **Thursday, May 5th from 7:00 AM - 8:30 AM** at the Classic Center. This year's theme is "*Exalt the Lord who has Established Us*" based on Colossians 2:6-7. It'll be a wonderful morning of fellowship, worship and prayer with our brothers and sisters in Christ in the Athens community!

[Click here to learn more and to register to attend the National Day of Prayer breakfast](#)



Upcoming Seminars

You are invited to participate in our Lifelong Ministry seminars! Each seminar provides 8 hours of teaching on a specific topic and is designed to better equip you in your walk with the Lord. See the upcoming **[2022 seminars here.](#)** "Learning to Love Leviticus" starts next week!

Summer Semester Courses

ACMin's summer semester will be here before you know it! With virtual and in-person class options available, we invite you to consider auditing a 15-week ACMin course. Special offerings this summer include:

- Systematic Theology
- Christian Philosophy
- Wholeness Care
- and more!

Check out our [full line-up of summer courses here](#).

Save the Date!

Save the date for these two annual opportunities with ACMin:

ServeAthens, annual day of service, Saturday, October 22nd, 8:00AM - 1:30PM

New Year - New Heart, annual prayer conference, Saturday, January 7th, 2023 9:00AM - 4:30PM

ACMin Community Impact

ACMin is making a difference in our community serving as Jesus' hands and feet! See how your prayers and support are impacting the Athens area and beyond!



In January we held our 9th annual **New Year - New Heart prayer conference** with participants joining in-person and virtually from **18+ different churches!** This year's theme was "**New in Christ**" based on 2 Corinthians 5:17. Participants explored how God has made us new creations in Christ, how our new identity in Christ should affect our daily walk with Him, and how we can actually walk out our identity practically in our daily life, work, and ministry. Overwhelmingly, participants indicated that the conference was "extremely impactful."



the Sparrow's Nest

The ACMin Prayer Ministry team has the amazing privilege of partnering weekly with the Sparrow's Nest **Breaking the Cycle** program. Breaking the Cycle is intended to help participants address their thinking, behavior, and/or substance use

disorders in order to break the cycle of generational poverty. The program prepares participants for employment at the end of the program. Our Prayer Ministers support program participants with personalized conversation, counseling, and prayer ministry. We're so grateful to partner with our community in this way.



We held a cleanup and service day out on the ACMin property in early February. It was a lot of fun serving alongside some of our ACMin community as we beautified our property. **Thank you to everyone who came out and served!**

New Heart Thrift Store

New Heart Thrift Store is a long-awaited vision for the means to support Athens College of Ministry as well as other ministries within the Oconee/Athens-Clarke area. God has been faithful to that vision by providing an ideal location for a boutique-style thrift store in Watkinsville. New Heart Thrift Store is a welcoming place where you can browse and meet the staff. We will open our doors to the public on **Tuesday, March 15th** with our grand opening on **Friday, March 25th and Saturday, March 26th**. We'd love for you to join us in celebration! The store welcomes your donations of gently used items and is in need of regular **volunteers!**

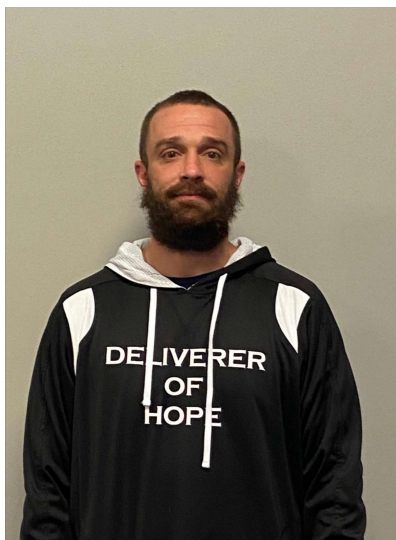
Meet **Doug**, the manager of the New Heart Thrift Store! "Laurie, my wife of 47 years, and I were lifelong residents of Battle Creek, Michigan. I worked as an insurance agent and she was a Registered Nurse. Laurie and I retired at the close of 2020. We pulled up stakes in 2021 to travel the U.S. with SOWER Ministry. SOWERs volunteers live in their RVs while they serve Christian camps, retreat centers, and ministries. We came to Georgia in November with the plan to open the thrift store for the college. We look forward to settling permanently in the Watkinsville area and getting to know the people of this wonderful community."

[Find out more about New Heart Thrift Store!](#)





ACMin Student Spotlight



Meet Ryan! **Ryan** is currently a **Bachelor's** student, majoring in **Christian Studies**. He enrolled at ACMin because he feels a calling into ministry and wants to help lead others towards God's Truth. Here is what he has to say about his experience at ACMin so far:

"Athens College of Ministry has greatly exceeded my expectations. The staff at ACMin do a great job of leading by example with the commandment to love God and love people. I am blessed to be a part of this community."

New Partnership

ACMin is now co-laboring with **Adventures in Missions** (AIM) to extend AIM's overseas experiences into full degree programs. The partnership goal is to provide the rising generation with a first class higher ed experience that builds each participant's understanding of their identity and calling to Kingdom leadership.

We're excited by all the ways that God is using our College, in cooperation with other like-minded saints, to bear fruit in the lives of students for His Kingdom!



Prayer Ministry

These are anxiety-producing days. Do you know anyone who would benefit from some help from the LORD in overcoming a hurt, trauma, a relational challenge or negative behavior? **The ACMin Prayer Ministry Center** exists to help foster freedom and wholeness in Christ to all who are willing to bring their burdens to Him.

[To schedule a confidential appointment, click here.](#)

Prayer sessions can be held both virtually or in-person using appropriate social distancing, as you prefer!

Interested to learn how you could serve others through Prayer Ministry? Consider enrolling in [ACMin's Prayer Leadership Certificate Program!](#)

How To Pray For Us

Would you pray for ACMin? Here are some things you can lift up to the Father on our behalf:

- for God's continued provision of funds, people, and resources for our campus development project;
- for expedient favor with our governmental applications to begin receiving international students as well as PELL Grants for students in need;
- for protection and favor over our entire ACMin community--every student, staff member, and volunteer; and
- for the right people for our open positions (see below).



**ACMIN
TRANSFORMATIONAL**

**PRAYER MINISTRY
CENTER**

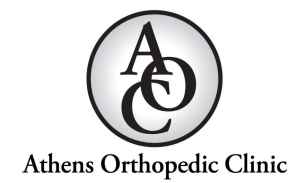


We're Hiring!

We're hiring! Are you interested in working as an administrative assistant, recruiter, marketing and social media manager, or event coordinator in a part-time or full-time role? To find out more about available positions, please visit [our open positions page](#)! You can submit the necessary application materials to Dr. Marcia Wilbur by [emailing her here](#).

Thank You, ACMin Business Sponsors!







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ACMin Mission Statement

Athens College of Ministry is a biblically-grounded, Holy Spirit-empowered, accredited Christian college that prepares and restores men and women who will teach, reach, lead, and minister to others out of their identity in Christ through relational, hands-on training for life and leadership in the church, in the marketplace, and across the globe.

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