



FIRST CHRISTIAN ASSEMBLY

WELCOME to First Christian Assembly, an independent church whose mission is articulated by Jesus in Mark 16:15 when he said "...Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature". Following this great commission, First Christian Assembly preaches and teaches the gospel of Jesus Christ. In so doing, we trust that God, working through His Holy Spirit will draw souls to salvation in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Are You Christian and a Disciple?

The terms *disciple* and *Christian* are related but not synonymous. The Greek term for "disciple" in the New Testament is *mathetes*, which means more than just "student" or "learner." A disciple is a "follower," someone who adheres completely to the teachings of another, making them his rule of life and conduct. Jesus was quite explicit about the cost of following Him. "Any of you who does not give up everything he has cannot be my disciple" (Luke 14:33). Sacrifice is expected: "Jesus said to his disciples, 'If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me'" (Matt 16:24). Not all of Jesus' followers were able to make such a commitment. There were many who left Him after a while. "From this time many of his disciples turned back and no longer followed him" (John 6:66).

The term *Christian* was never used by Jesus. The first instance of the word *Christian* is found in the book of Acts: "The disciples were first called Christians in Antioch" (Acts 11:26). Most Bible scholars agree that it was highly unlikely that the believers themselves thought up that name. The name "Christian," meaning "belonging to Christ," appears to have been invented by those outside of the church. It was most likely meant as a derogatory term. (1 Peter 4:16).

Biblically speaking, a Christian is someone who has placed his faith in the Lord Jesus Christ (John 1:12). A Christian has been born again by the power of the Holy Spirit (John 3:3). A true Christian (and not one in name only) will also be a disciple of Christ. That is, he will have counted the cost of following the Lord and has totally committed his life to Jesus. He accepts the call to sacrifice and follows wherever the Lord leads. The disciple completely adheres to the teaching of Jesus, makes Christ his number-one priority and lives accordingly. He is actively involved in making other disciples (Matt 28:19-20).

Paul describes the reality of taking up one's cross and following the Lord: "I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me" (Gal 2:20).

Ministry Highlights

Announcements:

- ⇒ *Worship & Watch will reconvene on Sunday, April 6 at 6:00 PM at Calvary Temple (3301 S. 20th St.)*
- ⇒ *Check us out on Facebook and on our website at www.fcaphila.org. Audio Bible studies and messages are on the website.*

Missionaries – Mongolia

John Koehler

Here is a bio of one of the women from Streams in the Desert's website.

Rose – born 9.25.1963, Current Jewelry Crafter (*a ministry based business of Streams in the Desert*)
 Has a wooden home in a ger district. She is a widow & has 3 grown children and 2 grandchildren. She attended college in Russia and has work history. She & her husband were alcoholic. After her husband's death, she resorted to prostitution in order to provide for her teenage children. She has full time care of a 1 year old granddaughter because the parents are currently living in Sweden. Rose has worked at Streams for 2 years as a lead jewelry maker. She hopes to attend Discipleship Training School in Erdenet in the spring of 2013 (*no update on this*). She has a maternal, nurturing spirit and often counsels other girls lovingly. We see leadership potential in her and hope to hire her as staff in the future.

(FCA) First Christian Assembly, 1900 S. 11th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19148
 (PAC) Philadelphia Access Center, 1832 S. 11th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19148

215-389-6721
 215-389-1985

The Philadelphia Access Center is a ministry of First Christian Assembly. Our mission is *revealing Christ through compassionate service*. Services available at PAC include social services information and referrals, biblical counseling, support groups, volunteer training, and community outreach. All services are free of charge and available to anyone. To learn more, visit us in person (across the street from FCA) or online at www.philaccess.org or www.facebook.com/philaccess.

WEEKLY SERVICES /MEETINGS

	FCA	PAC
Sunday	9:45 AM <i>Bible Study</i> 11:00 AM <i>Worship Service & Children's Sunday School</i>	
Monday		7:00 PM <i>Stepping Stones</i>
Tuesday	6:30 PM <i>Prayer (Sanctuary)</i> 7:00 PM <i>Worship (Sanctuary)</i>	
Wednesday	6:30 PM <i>Men's Fraternity (on hiatus)</i>	1:00 PM <i>Women at the Well</i> 1:00 PM <i>Coram Deo</i>
Thursday		6:00 PM <i>Prayer Service</i> 7:00 PM <i>Bible Study</i>
Friday		7:00 PM <i>Right Path</i>

- *Coram Deo*: A men's Bible study and Christian fellowship.
- *Right Path*: A Christ centered support and recovery group for people whose lives have been affected by drug and alcohol addiction. In a warm and friendly atmosphere, we provide loving support and fellowship; in genuine confidential sharing, coupled with a Biblical twelve step model of recovery.
- *Stepping Stones*: A Christ centered support group for men and women impacted by a loved one's addiction. In a warm and friendly atmosphere, we provide loving support, fellowship, confidential sharing, and intercessory prayer.
- *Women at the Well*: This group is Biblically based and promotes hope, healing, and fellowship for women impacted and struggling with brokenness.

Looking Ahead



❖ *To blessings and fellowship at Worship & Watch. Stay tuned for details of future gatherings of God's people. PRAY & ATTEND*

PRAYER REQUESTS

- Ministries (present and future) at First Christian Assembly and the Philadelphia Access Center
- Christians around the world being persecuted for their faith.
- Our supported missionaries
- For our Pastor and his family.

