

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.

PERILOUS TIMES

Matt 24:5-8 gives us some important clues so we can discern the approach of the end times, "For many will come in my name, claiming, 'I am the Christ,' and will deceive many. You will hear of wars and rumors of wars, but see to it that you are not alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come. Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be famines and earthquakes in various places." An increase in false messiahs, an increase in warfare, and increases in famines, plagues, and natural disasters—these are signs of the end times. In this passage, though, we are given a warning: we are not to be deceived, because these events are only the beginning of birth pains; the end is still to come.

The apostle Paul warned that the last days would bring a marked increase in false teaching. "The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons" (1 Tim 4:1). The last days are described as "perilous times" because of the increasingly evil character of man and people who actively "resist the truth" (2 Tim 3:1-9; see also 2 Thes 2:3).

Other signs would include the rebirth of the nation of Israel in 1948, the plans to rebuild the Jewish temple in Jerusalem, increased hostility towards Israel, and advances toward a one-world government. The most prominent sign of the end times, however is apostasy, which is the falling away from the truth of the Scriptures (2 Thess 2:3). Many examples of apostasy are evident in the church today and are too numerous to detail in this article.

With these signs in mind, we can be wise and discerning in regard to the expectation of the end times. God has given us enough information that we can be prepared, and that is what we are called to be (Luke 21:3, 1 Thess 5:4). Finally Scripture teaches us how we should respond in these perilous times. [Jde 1:20-23] But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost, Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life. And of some have compassion, making a difference: And others save with fear, pulling [them] out of the fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh.

Ministry Highlights

Announcements:

- ⇒ **TODAY - Philadelphia Teen Challenge Men's Home will visit FCA during our morning Worship Service. They will share testimonies and bless us with songs of praise.**
- ⇒ **Let Pastor know if you are interested in Believers' Baptism.**

Voice of Martyrs - Prayer Needed

May. 23, 2014 | Laos - Pray for Evangelist

An Laotian evangelist known locally as "The Jesus Guy," who often faces pressure from local authorities and police, said two policemen stopped to investigate the large gathering of Hmong people at his Easter service and ended up staying. Rather than trying to end the services, the officers were intrigued and remained for the duration of the evangelist's sermon about the death and resurrection of Jesus for the salvation and deliverance of all who believe. Although the officers declined the evangelist's invitation to stay, eat and talk further, one of the officers exclaimed, "Wow, Jesus talked pretty tough on sin, didn't He?"

May. 23, 2014 | Tanzania

Pray for Members of Area's Only Church

A church in the predominantly Muslim area of Mafia, Tanzania, was burned down on Friday, May 9, just hours before a scheduled prayer meeting. Radicals had threatened the pastor, Ombeni Omari, and the church for the past two years. Pastor Omari, a Christian convert from Islam, escaped to Dar es Salaam with his wife and three children after learning of the attack. He had founded the almost 60-member church, the only Christian church in the area, and nearly all of its members were converts from Islam. Although the church building was destroyed, Pastor Omari said he will return to the area because the work he was called to is not yet finished.

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

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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



- ❖ **Sunday June 22, - Neal and Lois Semanision, FCA supported missionaries to Papua New Guinea, will be joining us during our morning Worship Service. They will have some pictures and a DVD presentation detailing God's work among the people of Papua.**

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.

