



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.

The Role of the Holy Spirit

Of all the gifts given to mankind by God, there is none greater than the presence of the Holy Spirit. The Spirit has many functions, roles, and activities. First, He does a work in the hearts of all people everywhere. Jesus told the disciples that He would send the Spirit into the world to "convict the world of guilt in regard to sin and righteousness and judgment" (John 16:7-11). The Spirit applies the truths of God to minds of men to convince them by fair and sufficient arguments that they are sinners. Responding to that conviction brings men to salvation.

Once we are saved and belong to God, the Spirit takes up residence in our hearts forever, sealing us. Jesus said He would send the Spirit to us to be our Helper, Comforter, and Guide (counselor) (John 14:16). The Greek word translated here "Counselor" means "one who is called alongside" and has the idea of someone who encourages and exhorts.

Among those functions is that of revealer of truth. The Spirit's presence within us enables us to understand and interpret God's Word. Jesus told His disciples that "when He, the Spirit of Truth, comes, He will guide you into all truth" (John 16:13). He reveals to our minds the whole counsel of God as it relates to worship, doctrine, and Christian living. He leads in the way we should go in all spiritual things. Without such a guide, we would be apt to fall into error. A crucial part of the truth He reveals is that Jesus is who He said He is (John 15:26; 1 Corinthians 12:3). The Spirit convinces us of Christ's deity and incarnation, His being the Messiah, His suffering and death, His resurrection and ascension, His exaltation at the right hand of God, and His role as the judge of all. He gives glory to Christ in all things (John 16:14).

The Holy Spirit's additionally performs the roles of gift-giver and fruit producer in order that we may function as the body of Christ on earth and bear His fruit in our lives (Galatians 5:22-23).

Thank God for this precious gift—the Holy Spirit and His work in our lives.

Ministry Highlights

Announcements:

- ⇒ **VISIT First Christian Assembly on Facebook. Listen to messages and see past newsletters on our website at www.fcaphila.org**
- ⇒ **Sunday morning Bible study @ 9:45...in the book of Mark. Come enjoy some physical and spiritual food!**

Voice of the Martyrs

Uganda - Pray for Pastor Umar Mulinde
 After spending more than two years in Israel receiving treatment for severe acid burns, Pastor Umar Mulinde was welcomed home to Uganda by his family and church on May 25. On Christmas Eve 2011, Pastor Umar was walking to his church when he was attacked by a group of Muslim men. One man poured acid on his face while others poured it down his back. The men shouted "Allahu Akbar!" (God is great!) as they ran from the scene. Pastor Umar lost his right eye in the attack and underwent extensive facial reconstruction at a hospital in Israel before returning home to Uganda. Pastor Umar said his recovery is "a turn of events for a wonderful testimony."

Laos - Pray for Sort, Believer Tied to Post
 A Christian man in Laos was arrested on May 29 and tied to a post after refusing to recant his faith. Sort, who has been a Christian for the past year, was approached by a police official and the village leader on May 15 and threatened with expulsion from the village if he would not give up his Christian faith. "I've embraced the Christian faith over a year, and I have not broken any law!" he told authorities. They then took the equivalent of \$500 from Sort and tied him to a post as punishment.

(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



- ❖ *A church picnic is being planned for Saturday September 20, 2014, 12 Noon to 5:00 PM. Details will follow. See Gloria if you are interested in attending.*

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.

