



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.

R U T H

The setting for the Book of Ruth begins in the heathen country of Moab, a region northeast of the Dead Sea, but then moves to Bethlehem. This true account takes place during the dismal days of failure and rebellion of the Israelites, called the period of the Judges. A famine forces Elimelech and his wife, Naomi, from their Israelite home to the country of Moab. Elimelech dies and Naomi is left with her 2 sons, who soon marry 2 Moabite girls, Orpah and Ruth. Later both of the sons die, and Naomi is left alone with Orpah and Ruth in a strange land. Orpah returns to her parents, but Ruth determines to stay with Naomi as they journey to Bethlehem. This story of love and devotion tells of Ruth's eventual marriage to a wealthy man named Boaz, by whom she bears a son, Obed, who becomes the grandfather of David and the ancestor of Jesus. Obedience brings Ruth into the privileged lineage of Christ.

A major theme of the Book of Ruth is that of the kinsman-redeemer. Boaz, a relative of Naomi on her husband's side, acted upon his duty as outlined in the Mosaic Law to redeem an impoverished relative from his or her circumstances (Lev. 25:47-49). This scenario is repeated by Christ, who redeems us, the spiritually impoverished, from the slavery of sin. Our heavenly Father sent His own Son to the cross so that we might become children of God and brothers and sisters of Christ. By being our Redeemer, He makes us His kinsmen.

The sovereignty of our great God is clearly seen in the story of Ruth. He guided her every step of the way to become His child and fulfill His plan for her to become an ancestor of Jesus Christ (Matthew 1:5). In the same way, we have assurance that God has a plan for each of us. Just as Naomi and Ruth trusted Him to provide for them, so should we.

Please join us on us for an in depth study of this wonderful book on Thursdays at 7:00 PM. We meet in the Philadelphia Access center conference room.

Ministry Highlights

Announcements:

- ⇒ **PLEASE** see Gloria for details/location if you would like to attend the church picnic on Sept. 20.
- ⇒ **Bible Studies: Sunday 9:45 AM in FCA fellowship hall & Thursday 7:00 PM in PAC conference room.**

Missionaries

John Koehler, Mongolia

from August 2014 newsletter

Please also **pray** for the project; we need new staff to replace those who have left and someone to lead our day care center. We also need our own building.

Please also **pray** for me. There have been two more missionaries killed in Afghanistan since I left. I am down to 2 organizations I am considering. I leave this week for Dubai For a Y Central Asian conference. Please **pray** that I will make good contacts for Afghanistan and gain clearer direction.

On a fun note, I was able to fulfill a Mongolian desire; I and a good friend climbed Huiten mountain, all 4,374 meters (14,374 ft)... The climb let me know in no uncertain terms I am no longer a young man! See my Facebook page for the pictures.

(Please also **pray** for the women mentioned in the newsletter: woman who prayed & was saved, Ulaana who was invited out many times to the project and showed up unexpectedly, and Kim, a Korean missionary, who is helping with the sewing business.)

(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



- ❖ *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.*
- ❖ *Movie night being planned*

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.

