

# 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.*

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## ***GOD'S NOT DEAD***

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It's no secret that many people are asking spiritual questions such as, "Does God exist?" Much of our culture lives as if He does not. Those who do believe and follow Jesus are asking, "How can I stand up for what I believe?" What evidence that God is real can I offer to friends or family?" **God's not Dead** provides answers in an engaging story that was a box office hit.

### **Movie Synopsis**

How far would you go to defend your faith in God? Josh Wheaton (Shane Harper) is a college freshman and devout Christian who finds his faith challenged on his first day of Philosophy class by the dogmatic Professor Radisson (Kevin Sorbo). Radisson begins class by informing students that they must disavow the existence of God, in writing, or face a failing grade. As other students begin scribbling "God is dead", Josh faces a crossroads of having to choose between his faith and his future. Josh offers a nervous refusal, and Radisson smugly assigns him a daunting task. If Josh will not admit that "God is dead", he must prove God's existence by engaging Radisson in a head to head debate in front of the class. If Josh fails to convince his classmates of God's existence, he will fail the course and hinder his lofty academic goals. With almost no one in his corner, Josh wonders if he can really fight for what he believes. Can he actually prove the existence of God?

**God's Not Dead** weaves together multiple stories of faith, doubt and disbelief and culminates in a dramatic call to action. The film will educate, entertain, and inspire moviegoers to what they really believe about God, igniting important conversations and life changing decisions.

First Christian Assembly will be showing **God's not Dead** the movie, on **Friday September 26, 2014 at 7:00 PM.** This is a free event, **however reservations are required.** See Gloria Felicione to confirm your reservation or call The Philadelphia Access Center at **215-389-1985.**

## **Ministry Highlights**

### **HOW IMPORTANT ARE FATHERS?**

**"And he shall go before him in the spirit and power of Elias, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just; to make ready a people prepared for the Lord"** (Luke 1:17).

How important are fathers to their children? First of all, the role of father was given to us by God. But over the last several decades, some have tried to redefine or redesign the family in a way that makes fathers unimportant or unnecessary. Numerous studies have shown what happens when we do this.

Between 1960 and 1990 the percentage of children living apart from their fathers doubled to 36 percent. Studies show that it is much worse for a child to lose their father through divorce than through death. Fatherlessness has been shown to be a contributing factor to early sexual activity. Teen suicides, shown to increase in fatherless families, have tripled since 1960. Scholastic Assessment test scores have dropped 75 points since 1960; the drop is linked to the lack of fathers at home. Teenage boys raised without a father are more likely to get in trouble with the law. Children without their fathers are much more likely to suffer child abuse, according to several studies. One 26 year-long study found that the most important childhood factor in developing empathy is a father's involvement in the family.

Yet another study has found that 90 percent of the children who go to church with mom and dad will remain active in church through their teens. If neither parent comes with them, only 40 percent remain faithful. If only dad comes with them, 80 percent remain faithful. We must admit that we cannot improve on God's design for the family.

(FCA) First Christian Assembly, 1900 S. 11<sup>th</sup> Street, Philadelphia, PA 19148  
 (PAC) Philadelphia Access Center, 1832 S. 11<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.philaccess.org) or [www.facebook.com/philaccess](http://www.facebook.com/philaccess).

### **WEEKLY SERVICES /MEETINGS**

	<b>FCA</b>	<b>PAC</b>
Sunday	9:45 AM <i>Bible Study</i> 11:00 AM <i>Worship Service &amp; 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



**FCA will be showing the movie *God's not Dead* on Friday evening September 26, 2014 at 7:00 PM. There is no cost but reservations are required. See Gloria Felicione or call The Philadelphia Access Center 215-389-1985 for reservations.**

### **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.

