



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 GREAT COMMISSION

Matthew 28:19-20 contains what has come to be called the Great Commission: "**Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.**" Jesus gave this command to the apostles shortly before He ascended into heaven, and it essentially outlines what Jesus expected the apostles, and those who followed them, to do in His absence.

It is interesting that in the original Greek, the only specific command in Matthew 28:19-20 is "make disciples." The Great Commission instructs us to make disciples while we are going throughout the world and while we are going about our daily activities. How are we to make disciples? By teaching them to obey all that Jesus commanded. However, to "make disciples" and to fulfill the command of the Great Commission, we must first become disciples ourselves. Jesus has called us to forsake all others and follow Him.

Following Jesus, as a disciple, requires the supernatural work of the Holy Spirit in our lives. Therefore, many understand Acts 1:8 to be part of the Great Commission as well, "**But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.**" The Great Commission is enabled by the power of the Holy Spirit. We are to be Christ's witnesses, fulfilling the Great Commission in our cities (Jerusalem), in our states and countries (Judea and Samaria), and anywhere else God sends us (to the ends of the earth).

Ministry Highlights

Announcements:

- ⇒ **TODAY is the last day that FCA will accept boxes for Operation Christmas Child.**
- ⇒ **Pastor Ed is conducting two Renewing of Biblical Discipleship meetings at FCA. One was yesterday and the next is Saturday November 22 from 10:00 AM until 12:00 Noon.**

Missionaries-Philippines

Dear Praying friends,

Delighting in the Lord's good work in our lives is a discipline (because it's not usually comfortable). The movement of the Shepherd's hand leads us into the vastness of His mercy and the tearing down of our own self-interests, to the wondering at His limitless love and the building up of those around us for His kingdom. The end result of this discipline is being in the yoke with Him bearing an easy burden enjoying His pure joy.

So, how is your joy? I had the joy and privilege to work with the LD (Lanao Development) team begun by a C-star co-worker and Colin C., a C-star emissary and retired fireman/paramedic who drives the mobile clinic. This past month we served in 3 different M communities with some doing circumcisions and minor cyst removals, some doing dental (pulling teeth), some taking care of the small pharmacy, and me doing general examinations. Frequently, opportunities to share arise. When they do and I begin to talk about Allah who revealed Himself to Adam, or Abraham, or Moses etc., someone will ask, "Are you a balik-Islam?" (someone turning to Islam from a non-Muslim tribe). My response is, "I am a follower of Isa, a people of the Book." Then I share with them the Book of Psalms which they are surprised to see in Maranao, and a Jesus book, the book of Matthew. Many have joyfully accepted these books. I look forward to what the Lord will do with His word in their hands.

(more from Donna's email next week)

(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.



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.

This and That

“You cannot be Christ's servant if you are not willing to follow him, cross and all. What do you crave? A crown? Then it must be a crown of thorns if you are to be like him. Do you want to be lifted up? So you shall, but it will be upon a cross.”

~ Charles H. Spurgeon, Baptist preacher