



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.

HOW TO PRAY

Is it best to pray standing up, sitting down, kneeling, or bowing? Should our hands be open, closed, or lifted up to God? Do our eyes need to be closed when we pray? Is it better to pray in a church building or out in nature? Should we pray in the morning or at night? Are there certain words we need to say in our prayers? These questions, and others, are common questions asked about prayer.

Far too often, prayer is viewed as a "magic formula." Some believe that if we do not say exactly the right things, or pray in the right position, God will not hear and answer our prayer. This is completely unbiblical. God does not answer our prayers based on when we pray, where we are, what position our body is in, or how we word our prayers. We are told in 1 John 5:14-15 to have confidence when we come to God in prayer, knowing He hears us and will grant whatever we ask as long as it is in His will.

The proper way to pray is to pour out our hearts, being honest and open with God, as He already knows us better than we know ourselves. We are to present our requests to God, keeping in mind that He knows what is best and will not grant a request that is not His will for us. We are to express our love, gratitude, and worship to God in prayer without worrying about having just the right words to say. God is more interested in the content of our hearts than the eloquence of our words.

The closest the Bible comes to giving a "pattern" for prayer is the Lord's Prayer. It is not a prayer we are to memorize and recite to God. We are to pray for the things the Lord's Prayer talks about, using our own words and "customizing" it to our own journey with God. The proper way to pray is to express our hearts to God. Sitting, standing, or kneeling; hands open or closed; eyes opened or closed; in a church, at home, or outside, these are all side issues, subject to personal preference. God's desire is for prayer to be a real and personal connection between Himself and us.

Ministry Highlights

Announcements:

- *Sunday morning and Thursday night Bible studies will not be held during the month of August.*

Missionaries

Neal & Lois, Papua New Guinea

PRAYER POINTS

- Pray for wisdom and grace as I take on a role that is more administrative in training.
- Pray that a pathway is found for our engineers to continue training for their Licenses under the New Zealand system. We are desperately short of engineers who can sign off planes for return to service.
- We ask for your prayers to cover us from spiritual attacks on all fronts.
- I have to make a plan for health insurance this year that might include the International Medical Group which we are now under, Social Security, Medicare and a MAF Plan called SALT. Please pray that I can find good counsel on what to do and a solution that will save some money. Health care is one of our greatest expenses and the most complicated to understand
- We are having problems with our computers and connecting to the internet. Pray that we can find someone who can debug them and get them working again.

There is always thanksgiving and praise in our hearts for your prayers and ongoing support, which God has used to sustain us by His grace and unfailing love. Thank you for giving to the Lord. It is making a difference in our ministry.

Blessings,
Neal

(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

From: Voice of the Martyrs

Jul. 03, 2015 | Algeria: Pray for Student, Ordered to Stop Practicing Christianity

A 19-year-old student in Algeria has been ordered by her family to stop attending church and reading the Bible. The young woman, who recently converted to Christianity after watching Christian TV broadcasts, openly declared her faith to her science teacher who had denied Jesus' divinity and death on the cross. The school notified the young woman's family, who then began receiving threats from community members. The young woman hopes to attend a university where she might have more freedom to practice her new Christian faith.