



# 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 GOSPEL

The word *gospel* literally means "good news" and occurs 93 times in the Bible, exclusively in the New Testament. In Greek, is it the word *euaggelion*, from which we get our English words *evangelist*, *evangel*, and *evangelical*. The gospel is, broadly speaking, the whole of Scripture; more narrowly, the gospel is the good news concerning Christ and the way of salvation.

The gospel is the good news that God loves the world enough to give His only Son to die for our sin (John 3:16). The gospel is good news because our salvation and eternal life and home in heaven are guaranteed through Christ (John 14:1-4). First Peter 1:3-4 states; "He has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you.

The gospel is good news when we understand that we do not (and cannot) earn our salvation; the work of redemption and justification is complete, having been finished on the cross (John 19:30). Jesus is the propitiation for our sins (1 John 2:2). The gospel is the good news that we, who were once enemies of God, have been reconciled by the blood of Christ and adopted into the family of God (Romans 5:10; John 1:12). "See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!" (1 John 3:1). The gospel is the good news that "there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus" (Romans 8:1).

To reject the gospel is to embrace the bad news. Condemnation before God is the result of a lack of faith in the Son of God, God's only provision for salvation. "For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God's one and only Son" (John 3:17-18). God has given a doomed world good news. – **Join us for our Thursday evening Bible Study. We meet in the PAC conference room at 7:00 PM and will begin a new series called, A Comprehensive study of the Gospels.**

## Ministry Highlights

### Announcements:

- **Women's prayer group - Join in prayer Wednesday at 7 AM on the phone and leave prayer requests on their Facebook page, FCA Philly Womens Prayer Group. NOTE: Please contact Gloria Felicione (gif@mimco.com) to be added to the page and to get the phone number/access code for the group.**
- **Come participate in our Bible Studies! Learn more about the Lord...what does God want your relationship to be with Him and others?**
  - **Sunday morning with Robert Melloni @ 9:45 at FCA**
  - **Sunday morning service with Pastor Joe @ 11:00 at FCA**
  - **Tuesday night with Pastor Joe @ 7:00 at FCA**
  - **Thursday night with Pastor Joe @ 7:00 at PAC**

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### Stepping Stones/CFIR

Stepping Stones is on a hiatus, but here's a program to look into...*CFIR*.

"When addiction hits a family, its damage can be severe. Just as a hurricane-force storm devastates a physical home, the storm of addiction can bring destruction to everyone involved. *Christian Families in Recovery* will help all those affected take a deeper look at the nature of addiction and recovery from a Christ-centered perspective. Please join us at the Philadelphia Access Center, Monday evenings for this educational and informative video/discussion series beginning in January."

Please contact PAC for further information.

(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 (on a hiatus)</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 a 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.

#### **From: Voice of the Martyrs**

*Dec. 11, 2015 / Yemen: Pray for the Family of Yasser Nader, Who Was Shot to Death*  
 "Yasser Nader," a Christian convert from Islam, was shot to death by an al-Qaida member for openly confessing Christ. He had received death threats for six months from al-Qaida members he knew personally. Pray for his wife and children as they mourn his death. Pray that his attacker and other Muslims who knew him will come to know Jesus.