



# 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.

## Promise of Peace

Peace is something everyone wants, yet few seem to find. Peace is directly related to the actions and attitudes of individuals; but it is ultimately a promise from God (John 14:27).

As valuable as peace is, it is not surprising to find that it is sometimes counterfeited. Empty promises of peace can be used to manipulate others. Deceitful men speak words of peace while secretly planning evil (Obadiah 1:7). The Antichrist will confirm a treaty, producing a temporary peace which he will then abruptly shatter as he reveals his true colors (Daniel 9:27). False teachers proclaim peace when God is actually proclaiming judgment (Eze 13:10-16). In Jeremiah's day, these false prophets declared everything was well between God and Israel: "Peace, peace," they said, when there was no real peace (Jer 6:14).

In the New Testament, the primary Greek word for "peace" is *eirene*, and it refers to rest and tranquility. A key focus of peace in the New Testament is the advent of Jesus Christ, as announced by the angels in Luke 2:14. Isaiah had predicted the Messiah would be the Prince of Peace (Is 9:6), and He is called the Lord of peace in 2 Thess 3:16. It is through Christ's work of justification that we can have peace with God (Rom 5:1), and that peace will keep our hearts and minds secure (Phil 4:7).

God commands us to seek peace (Ps 34:14; Matt 5:9). We should "make every effort to do what leads to peace" (Rom 14:19). Of course, there will be some people who do not desire peace, but we are still to do our utmost to be at peace with them (Rom 12:18).

Believers have an obligation to "let the peace of God rule" in their hearts (Col 3:15). This means we have the choice either to trust God's promises or to rely on ourselves and reject the peace He offers. Peace is a fruit of the Spirit, so, if we are allowing the Spirit of God to rule in our lives, we will experience His peace. To be spiritually minded brings life and peace, Rom 8:6.

Jesus took the chastisement of our peace (Is 53:5) and has made it possible for us to have peace with God. Once His peace rules in our hearts, we are able to share that peace with others; we become publishers of peace (Is 52:7) and ministers of reconciliation (2 Cor 5:18).

## Ministry Highlights

### Announcements:

- A **Movie Night** is scheduled for **Friday, April 8 at 7:00 PM**. The movie is titled "**Woodlawn**". Tickets are free but are required to reserve a seat. See Gloria Felicione for tickets.
- **Learn more about God's Word and His desire for you and your life at FCA's Bible Studies. Sunday @ 9:45 AM, Tuesday @ 7:00 PM and Thursday (at PAC) @ 7:00 PM.**

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### Missionaries-Binu John, India

We stopped at a gas station on our way to evangelism outreach. As we were pumping gas, we passed on the Gospel tracts to every one there. Nisha, one of the staff members who received the tract, contacted us a few weeks later hoping to introduce her husband, Unni, to us.

Unni comes from Hindu home, is an alcoholic and spends 90% of his earning in drinking with his friends. This created constant battle in home and the family was on the verge of divorce.

One day Unni called me and expressed his desire to meet me to pray for him. Upon this request, I was quite excited. He came and cried to me, "My body starts shivering if I don't drink. But when I drink, I feel the tendency to commit suicide. But I don't want to die. I want to live. Can you please pray for me?"

While praying for him, he fell down. After a few minutes, he woke up and said, "I saw a dove coming upon me. I felt something has gone out from my body. I have this joy and freedom I never had before. I will not drink anymore. I will live for Jesus."

(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](https://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**

*Feb. 12, 2016 | Pakistan: Pray for Samina, Who Requested a Bible*

Samina attends a sewing center in Pakistan that was opened as an outreach by a VOM front-line worker. Each week, young women from Hindu, Muslim and Christian families attend the center to learn skills that will help them start their own business. Samina approached a Christian woman to ask for a Bible and said she is interested in reading it. Please pray that Samina will come to know Jesus as she reads the Bible.