



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.

Defending Bible Truth

Sadly, most of the leading apologists in the church today are defending "their faith" but failing to defend the truth of Scripture at one of the greatest points of attack: Genesis 1-11 (which is ultimately the foundation of the gospel itself, so that an attack on it is indirectly an attack on the gospel).

Worse than that, many of these apologists are ...undermining (subtly attacking) the truth of Scripture by using the myth of the big bang and millions of years to "reinterpret" Genesis to make it seem to be "confirmed by science." But such "reinterpretations" are exegetically indefensible and simply indirect ways of saying "the Bible is wrong..." The God of the big bang and millions of years of death, disease, extinction, and natural disasters is not the God of the Bible.

True apologists will not "defend their faith." They will defend the truth of the Bible, which should be the object of our faith and the inerrant source of truth we must believe. Only when we trust the Word of God are we really trusting God. It is the rock we should build our lives on, not on the shifting sands of human reasoning (Matthew 7:24-27). Genesis teaches creation in six literal days, about 6,000 years ago, and a global Flood in Noah's day. And the scientific evidence (divorced from the atheistic, naturalistic assumptions controlling the majority of scientists) overwhelmingly confirms the literal truth of Genesis and exposes the lie of evolution and millions of years, as the books, DVDs, and articles on this website show. Let God be true and every man a liar (Romans 3:4)! --Dr. Terry Mortenson (lecturer and researcher with Answers in Genesis)- Reprint from Berean Call April 26, 2016

Please join us on Thursday Evening as we study the Scriptures – 7:00 PM in the PAC conference room

Ministry Highlights

Missionaries

John Koehler, Afghanistan

(continued from last week)

Then there is the paradox of living alone. My language helper had written a reflection paper on the book Les Miserables I had found for him in Dari. I had shared very honestly with him about some hurts from my own growing up and as we were alone in my apartment, he suddenly got choked up and shared that before his father had died suddenly a few months back, he and his father's relationship was very hurtful. The "limitation of being alone" had provided the safe place for this young man to begin to come to grips with some very deep hurts in his heart.

Finally, the paradox of the "weakness or limitation of not being able to get out and walk." This was a real stress relief for me in Mongolia and has been sorely missed here. But just this morning as I was reflecting on this, I realized how missing that stress reliever has pushed me to a much deeper place of worship than I have ever experienced in my life. If I had been able to walk and hike here, I am not sure I would be waking up early to spend time singing and listening to worship music. Literally this has become "LIFE" giving to me. I have to have time gazing on the beauty of the Lord or else I am not able to get through my language weaknesses, my loneliness and my feelings of being incredibly confined. It was an aha moment this morning that actually made me grateful (at least for the moment!) for the weaknesses and limitations in my life and how they have pushed me into a new place of worship. ***This place of worship has become an incredible source of joy and peace.*** Ah the paradoxes and blessings of weakness! 2 Corinthians 12:9-10

(Also, turn this newsletter over to see John's prayer requests.)

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 (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 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.

John Koehler's Prayer Requests

- Language language language! I really need His enabling!
- I really want to move to an area of the city where I can mingle with the people. My trip to the other part of A land showed me just how helpful this is to language learning. Please pray for a place more suited to using the language I am learning.
- My volunteers want to begin doing acts of kindness, such as giving out bread, to the addicts under the bridge here. This will be a real financial challenge for them and will call for some sacrificial giving. Pray that they take this challenge and as they sacrificially give I believe God will do some amazing acts of provision.
- A partner called to A land.