



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.

SMART DOLPHINS

"These wait all upon thee; that thou mayest give them their meat in due season" (Psalm 104:27).

It was once thought that only man used tools. However, scientists have learned that some monkeys and even some birds use "tools." Now we can add dolphins to the growing list of tool-users.

Researchers studying dolphins in Australia's Shark Bay noticed that some dolphins were swimming around with sponges on their beaks. After some observation, both on the surface and beneath the water, scientists discovered what the dolphins were doing. Holding the sponges in their mouths, they would sweep the sea bottom sand, flushing out fish. Then they dropped the sponge and ate what they had flushed out. When they were finished eating, they retrieved their sponge and repeated the process.

Researchers found that about 10 percent of the females obtained their food using sponges as tools. For some unknown reason, very few of the males used this method. Furthermore, most of the females using this method were related to two maternal tool-using dolphins. Researchers debate whether these two taught their descendants this method of obtaining fish or whether the behavior is based in genetics.

Since this is not a widespread behavior among dolphins, it seems likely that it is a learned behavior probably taught to younger relatives by the maternal dolphins. After all, dolphins are known to be very intelligent, and intelligence is a gift from their Creator.

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Ministry Highlights

Missionaries

John Koehler, Afghanistan

Dear Friends,

[We had] our first "nan (A Land bread) night giveaway" to the men addicted to heroin that live under the bridge here. The volunteers gave out 500 nan.

One of the volunteers said the men were amazed that anyone would venture down under the bridge to give them anything. Another volunteer had an encounter with a friend from high school who had been an excellent student and athlete. He is now attempting to get that young man into an existing rehab program. The volunteers ran everything and contributed about half of the costs, which was a huge step of faith for them. They were broken in a good way by what they saw. The biggest negative of the evening, was that we realized we severely under estimated the number of men under the bridge. We thought perhaps 500-600, the volunteers estimated that the number was more like 1,000-2,000! So in the beginning of June we will attempt to do 1,000 nan. This will be an incredible challenge for the guys and what they can contribute.

For one of the volunteers this was a "coming full circle" as he used to be a drug addict. He was blessed that now he was reaching out in a practical way to those that he used to be like. All of the volunteers felt that this act of kindness was a very good first step to building relationships with these men. The volunteers decided on the name for the project "Zendage - Nao" (New Life). Their idea is the words in Dari with a green leaf symbolizing new life. I am enjoying seeing these guys take ownership for things and running with them.

Continuing in His radical grace, John

(SEE PRAYER REQUESTS ON OTHER SIDE)

(FCA) First Christian Assembly, 1900 S. 11th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19148
 (PAC) Philadelphia Access Center, 1832 S. 11th 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 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, PRAISE & PRAYER REQUESTS:

- 1.) There is light at the end of the tunnel, two more weeks of official language class! But please pray as I wrestle daily with a sense of failure in this area.
- 2.) Please keep praying for a place to move to more suited to using the language I am learning and closer to the area where we want to do the project.
- 3.) **Praise** for a surprise gift of money that came in just last night. This will definitely help cover the cost of the "nana night and our "New Life" shirts. But please continue to pray for more local volunteers to get involved and also contribute financially as this is an important step of growth and ownership.
- 4.) Pray for us to be able to start a business up in the next 6 months so we can begin the next phase of the project.
- 5.) A partner called to A-land.