



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.

REST

“Rest” is defined as “peace, ease or refreshment.” “Relax” means “to become loose or less firm, to have a milder manner, to be less stiff.” The Bible speaks quite highly of rest. It is a repeated theme throughout Scripture, beginning with the creation week (Gen 2:2-3). God created for six days; then He rested, not because He was tired but to set the standard for mankind to follow. The Ten Commandments made resting on the Sabbath a requirement of the Law (Ex 20:8-11). Notice that God said, “Remember the Sabbath.” It wasn’t something new; it had been around since creation. All God’s people and their servants and the animals were to have one day in seven to rest. The command to rest was not an excuse to be lazy. You had to work for six days to get to the Sabbath. The land also needed to rest (Lev 25:4, 8-12). God is very serious about rest.

God desires rest for us because it does not come naturally to us. To rest, we have to trust that God will take care of things for us. We have to trust that, if we take a day off, the world will not stop turning on its axis. From the beginning, when we decided that we would start making all the decisions, mankind has become more tense and less able to relax. It was disobedience in the Garden that started the problem, but obedience now will bring the rest that God so desires for us (Heb 3:7 - 4:11)

For the Christian, the ultimate rest is found in Christ. He invites all who are “weary and burdened” to come to Him and cast our cares on Him (Matt 11:28; 1 Pe 5:7). It is only in Him that we find our complete rest—from the cares of the world, from the sorrows that plague us, and from the need to work to make ourselves acceptable to Him. We no longer observe the Jewish Sabbath because Jesus is our Sabbath rest. In Him we find complete rest from the labors of our self-effort, because He alone is holy and righteous. “God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God” (2 Cor 5:21). We can now cease from our spiritual labors and rest in Him, not just one day a week, but always.

Ministry Highlights

Announcements:

- *The collection begins TODAY, September 11, for Operation Christmas Child. For more information on this, please see Gloria Felicione.*
- *The Lord’s Supper will be celebrated in the morning service on Sunday, September 25.*

Missionaries – John Koehler Afghanistan

I went back to Mongolia from June 21st until August 1st. I arrived back just in time to witness four A-Land university students in Mongolia be dunked in the bath tub of my apartment! What a blessing! Then the next day four of them graduated from university, another blessing!

Mongolia was a great time of hiking, visiting friends and sharing about A land. It was a precious time of renewing friendship and enjoying the beauty of Mongolia. I arrived back and realized how much Dari I had forgotten so am back in language school two times a week.

Since my return I taught in a Leadership school. This was an incredible opportunity to teach “Servant Leadership” principles to about 24 A-Land leaders.

Prayer Requests (a couple from last week’s list):

- We are hoping to start twice a week “acts of kindness” for the men; cutting hair, giving out clothing and bathing to further build relationships. Please pray for the right place to do this.
- We are also looking into starting a carpet cleaning business as well as looking into trying to make fire starting bricks from recycled trash. Please pray for wisdom and the startup resources to be able to make this happen in the next few months.

(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
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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.

From: Voice of the Martyrs

Jul. 29, 2016 | India: Pray for Rhonda and Manjeet, Ministering to a Christian Convert from Islam
 Two Christian women, Rhonda and Manjeet, have been mentoring a woman named Sitara, who is the only believer in her village in India. Sitara, a Christian convert from Islam, wants to share the gospel despite the risk of persecution by neighbors. After traveling two hours by bus to meet with Sitara for Bible study, prayer, and encouragement, Rhonda and Manjeet gave her a VOM-sponsored micro SD card loaded with a Bible and other lessons in her language. The women were able to use it as they met with one of Sitara's neighbors who is interested in hearing more about Jesus. Please pray for Rhonda and Manjeet as they continue to share the gospel and distribute discipleship tools to new Christians like Sitara. Also pray for Sitara as she shares her new faith in Jesus with others in her village.