



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.

Effective Prayer

We all want our prayers to be "effective," so much so that when we focus on the "results" of our prayers, we lose sight of the incredible privilege we have in prayer. That people like us can speak to the Creator of the universe is itself an amazing thing. Even more astounding is the fact that He hears us and acts on our behalf! The first thing we need to understand about effective prayer is that our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ had to suffer and die on the cross to even make it possible for us to approach the throne of grace to worship and pray (Heb 10:19-25).

Although the Bible offers a great deal of guidance on how we can deepen our communication with the Creator, effective prayer has more to do with the one doing the praying than it does with "how" we are to pray. Indeed, Scripture says, "The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective" (Jas 5:16).

We need to make sure that our prayers are in line with God's will (1 John 5:14-15). And if we do not know what to pray for, Paul reminds us that as God's children we can rely on the Holy Spirit to intercede for us (Rom 8:27). And since the Spirit of God knows the mind of God, the Spirit's prayer is always in keeping with the will of the Father.

Also, when we present our requests to God, we are to pray with faith (James 1:5), with thanksgiving (Phil 4:6), with a spirit of forgiveness toward others (Mark 11:25), and in Christ's name (John 14:13-14). It's the strength of our faith, not the length of our prayers that pleases Him. After all, God knows what our needs are even before we ask (Matt 6:8).

Also, we should make sure we have no un-confessed sin in our hearts when we pray, as this would certainly be an impediment to effective prayer. "But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden His face from you, so that He will not hear" (Isaiah 59:2). Fortunately, "if we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9).

Effective prayer is not just a way to get things, but an opportunity to strengthen our relationship with our Father in heaven.

Ministry Highlights

Announcements:

- *Please participate in our upcoming **Outreach & Bake Sale on 10-22-16**. We need participants who are interested in baking and/or buying baked goods to sell at the outreach. All proceeds made from the bake sale will be used for our **Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Ministry**. Please see Gloria Felicione.*
- *We are collecting for **Operation Christmas Child**. The last day for the collection will be Tuesday, **Nov. 1**. The shoebox packing party will be held on Monday, **Nov. 14**. For more information, see Gloria Felicione.*

Missionaries – Indonesia John & Joy Cutts

(continued from last week)

Sunday I heard loud exuberant singing coming from the Pogapa church and as I quietly peeked in, I found three teenage Moni girls leading three groups of kids in a Bible discussion. I asked the girls to stop by and see me after church was over. They had volunteered to work with the younger kids and when I asked them what some of the challenges were, they mentioned that they had no prepared lessons to teach but had to make up their own lessons each week. After working in the gardens and being busy through the day, they many times sat by the dim fire in their huts each night and wrote out their lessons. I immediately knew I had a solution and grabbed three new solar powered lights from the shelf and handed them to the girls. Their eyes lit up in shocked disbelief and they thanked me repeatedly for these lights which would make their lives so much easier. Again, I was able to help solve a simple problem and give them hope and encouragement for their big job ahead because of your generosity and concern, and Joy and I thank you for your partnership.

(to be continued)

(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

Aug. 26, 2016 | Yemen: Pray for "Saed" a New Believer in a War-Torn Muslim Country

"Saed" first heard about Jesus from a Christian friend while living in another Middle Eastern country. When the events of the Arab Spring forced his family to return to Yemen, he lost contact with his Christian friend. Eventually, he discovered a Christian website and soon placed his faith in Christ. "However," he said, "I felt lost and I was wrestling inside and I was afraid of the society around me." After writing to another Christian website, he received a call from a Yemeni Christian who lived near him. The Christian gave Saed a Bible and answered his many questions. Today he lives at great risk in an extremely anti-Christian society, but he said he now lives with a great calling: "To save the lost souls and lead them to what is right."