



# 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.*

## Second Coming

Jesus fulfilled many of the prophecies of the Messiah during His birth, life, ministry, death, and resurrection. However, there are some prophecies regarding the Messiah that Jesus has not yet fulfilled. The second coming of Christ will be the return of Christ to fulfill these remaining prophecies. In His first coming, Jesus was the suffering Servant. In His second coming, Jesus will be the conquering King. In His first coming, Jesus arrived in the most humble of circumstances. In His second coming, Jesus will arrive with the armies of heaven at His side.

The Old Testament prophets did not make clearly this distinction between the two comings. This can be seen in [Is 7:14](#), [9:6-7](#) and [Zec 14:4](#). As a result of the prophecies seeming to speak of two individuals, many Jewish scholars believed there would be both a suffering Messiah and a conquering Messiah. What they failed to understand is that there is only one Messiah and He would fulfill both roles. Jesus fulfilled the role of the suffering servant in His first coming. Jesus will fulfill the role of Israel's deliverer and King in His second coming. [Zec 12:10](#) and [Rev 1:7](#), describing the second coming, look back to Jesus being pierced. Israel, and the whole world, will mourn for not having accepted the Messiah the first time He came.

After Jesus ascended into heaven, the angels declared to the apostles, "'Men of Galilee,' they said, 'why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven'" ([Acts 1:11](#)).

The second coming is spoken of in greatest detail in [Revelation 19:11-16](#), "I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and makes war. His eyes are like blazing fire, and on his head are many crowns. He has a name written on him that no one knows but he himself. He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and his name is the Word of God. The armies of heaven were following him, riding on white horses and dressed in fine linen, white and clean. Out of his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations. 'He will rule them with an iron scepter.' He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God Almighty. On his robe and on his thigh he has this name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS."

## Missionary Highlights

### India

The powers of darkness have been working overtime, **so did we**, to counter its works. We as a family were on five full days of fasting. It was blessing for us and for our ministry. The Bible says in Mt 17:21, "However, this kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting." We did pray for you too. We had the victory!

Immediately after that we conducted the second VBS that ended on last Saturday. I was encouraged by the responses of children. There were 46 children including some of the returning children. Few of them testified that this was their very first VBS in their lifetime and for the first time they ever walked into a Church!

I believe the second VBS was ordained by the Lord just for these kids. With untold joy I watched these children praying the salvation prayer on the final day of VBS. Praise God for the impact we started to see already. Thanks everyone who prayed and contributed towards its needs.

Angel, my daughter, is doing well after she had the seizure. We consulted with another doctor who is a pediatric neurologist. An EGG was taken and there was some variation in the report. Therefore we were given medication for two months and we need to report to him after that. If God willing, she will start her schooling, LKG from tomorrow. Appreciate your continued prayers and support. It was your valuable prayers and loving support sustained us to press on during difficult times.

God bless you. We love you and pray for you. You are a blessing for us in our faith journey! **Binu John and Family**

### Afganistan

Please lift up Afghanistan in prayer. Many of you know that about a week ago the Operation Mercy guest house was attacked and a German woman was murdered and a Finnish woman was kidnapped (I knew them both). Then this week there was a massive truck bomb that was detonated in the heart of Kabul killing nearly 100 and injuring about 500. Yesterday there were protests in the city and the army fired at the protestors killing 5 people. Then today at the funeral of a Senator's son who was killed in the bombing three suicide bombers blew hem selves up killing 20 and injuring nearly 100.

One of my volunteers messaged me that the army is on the streets and tensions are really high. I head back Monday. Please pray for Afghanistan! - **Blessings! John**

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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](http://www.philaccess.org) or [www.facebook.com/philaccess](http://www.facebook.com/philaccess).

### **WEEKLY SERVICES /MEETINGS**

	<b>Meets at FCA</b>	<b>Meets at PAC</b>
Sunday	9:45 AM <i>Bible Study – Phila -location</i> 10:00 AM <i>South Jersey Worship Service</i> 11:00 AM <i>Phila Location Worship Service &amp; 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 (Fellowship area)</i>	
Wednesday		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 (on a hiatus)</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 at First Christian (Phila.& NJ) and the Philadelphia Access Center
- Christians around the world being persecuted for their faith
- Our supported missionaries
- For our Pastor and his family
- Paula Grazulis

The spirit of Christ is the spirit of missions. The nearer we get to Him, the more intensely missionary we become.

– Henry Martyn (missionary to India and Persia)