



# 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.*

---

## Tree of Life

---

[Revelation 22:1](#)–2 refers to “the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb.” The apostle John, in his vision of the New Jerusalem, describes the river as flowing “down the middle of the great street of the city.” The fact that the stream emanates from the throne tells us that eternal life flows from God to His people.

Water is a common symbolic representation of eternal life in Scripture. Isaiah refers to drawing water from the “wells of salvation” with joy ([Isaiah 12:3](#)). The Old Testament prophet Jeremiah rebuked the Israelites for abandoning God’s “spring of living water” and digging for themselves their own cisterns which could not hold water ([Jeremiah 2:13](#)). The Israelites had forsaken the living God, who alone provides eternal life, to chase after false idols, worldliness, and works-based religions. Men do the same today, refusing the water of life only Christ provides for a parched and dusty life of materialism and self-indulgence.

Jesus encouraged the Samaritan woman at the well to take from Him the water of (eternal) life so that she would never thirst again spiritually ([John 4:13](#)–14). Those who believe in Him, Jesus goes on to say in [John 7:38](#), will have streams of living water flowing from them. Water is an appropriate and easily understood symbol for life. Just as physical water is necessary to sustain physical life on earth, living water from the Savior is necessary to sustain eternal life with Him. Jesus is both the Bread of Life ([John 6:35](#)) and the source of living water, sustaining His people forever.

## Missionary Highlights

### PNG

“Jacob have I loved.”

Jacob, whose name means deceiver, was dearly loved by God, but he was a deceiver. In the end, after wrestling with God and admitting who he was, not his brother whom he had impersonated to his father, God gave him the new name of Israel and gave him the blessing He had wanted to give him all along.

Jacob, here in Mount Hagen, also a deceiver, is now in prison. Jacob is someone I have known a long time. When the Brazilian missionaries were here, they spent a lot of time investing in his life, but Jacob was into drugs, drinking, women, and so on. He had been in jail more than once. He had attended the Brazilian's Bible school for a while and though he appeared to be nodding off during class, his test marks were excellent. For a while he seemed to have really given his life to the LORD. He was street preaching, but then he went back to the lifestyle that had been destroying him.

Jacob used to come to our gate when he was high and yell out for me: “Mama”. Around town he would sell boiled eggs, so when I would see him, I would tell him we were praying for him.

Well, recently Jacob was reported to us to be on the run as he had killed a man, so it was a surprise to see him in the cell this past week. God is not finished with Jacob. Yes, “Jacob have I loved,” a message for him from the LORD. So could you join me in prayer for Jacob.

You know, people here will jump in and help you in a heartbeat. This morning, I had gone to the store and when I tried to start the car to go home, well, the thing would not start. So some men came to my rescue and got the thing going. I gave them my keys and they pushed. In contrast with this, I remember an incident in Philly a long time ago. There was a wedding in the church we were attending, and some persons new to the church assumed we had valet parking and turned their car keys over to some men in the street. Well, that was the last they saw of their cars. This morning when I gave my keys to the men trying to start the car, they were not like Philly valet parkers. They actually helped me.

**Lois**

<b>First Christian Assembly,</b>	1900 S. 11 <sup>th</sup> Street, Philadelphia, PA 19148	215-389-6721
<b>First Christian So Jersey,</b>	123 Egg Harbor Rd. Sewell NJ 08080	
<b>Philadelphia Access Center,</b>	1832 S. 11 <sup>th</sup> Street, Philadelphia, PA 19148	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](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

[Jhn 7:37-38] 37 In the last day, that great [day] of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. 38 He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.