



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.

Noah's Obedient Witness

[Genesis 6:9](#) marks the beginning of the flood narrative, and it is here that we learn the most about Noah's life. We learn that Noah was a righteous man, blameless in his generation, and that he walked with God. One can almost see a progression of spirituality in this description of Noah's life. By saying Noah was righteous, we know that he was obedient to God's commands (as best as he was able and understood them at that time). He was blameless in his generation, standing out among the people of his day. While they were engaging in debauchery, Noah was living an exemplary life. Finally, Noah walked with God, which puts him in the same class as his great grandfather, Enoch; this implies not only an obedient life, but one that has a vibrant and intimate relationship with God.

We see Noah's obedient life demonstrated in his willingness to obey without question the Lord's commands regarding the ark. Consider that Noah and his generation more than likely had never seen rain before, yet God tells Noah to build a large seagoing vessel nowhere near a body of water. Noah's trust in God was such that he promptly obeyed. Noah's blameless life is made manifest as he obeys the Lord in light of the approaching day of wrath. The apostle Peter tells us that Noah was a "herald of righteousness" ([2 Peter 2:5](#)), and the author of Hebrews says that he "condemned the world" ([Hebrews 11:7](#)) through his righteous actions. Throughout the long delay of the coming judgment, Noah continued to faithfully obey the Lord. As evidence of his walk with God, after the flood, Noah built an altar and offered sacrifices to God ([Genesis 8:20](#)). Worship was a central part of Noah's life.

Noah is an example of a life of faith. [Hebrews 11:7](#) says of Noah, "By faith Noah, when warned about things not yet seen, in holy fear built an ark to save his family. By his faith he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness that comes by faith." Noah didn't need to "test" God before going into action; God commanded, and he obeyed. This was typical of Noah's life. If we were to model our lives after Noah, there is no better rule to follow than to be "righteous, blameless in our generation, and to walk with God." In other words, be right with God, be right with others, and have a reverent and worshipful relationship with God.

Missionary Update PNG

Last Monday, before we went to Madang for the "Thrive" conference for North American missionary women, we went to the prison in town for outreach. Two young boys prayed with us to be saved by Jesus. The first cell had some women, and as we left the prison, we heard them singing a praise song. They had told us they had been wondering how they were going to get food, and then God sent us. How does God do that?

The conference in Madang, a beautiful coastal town, was well organized and chock full. They really thought of everything. There were trained counselors, a doctor, a speaker who had been a missionary in Kenya, small groups to which we were assigned for the duration, and the food (fresh seafood and fruit that were my favorite things. So many stories of struggles and triumphs. Hearing how God is using the 63 attendees made me so glad to know that God has sent an army to make a difference here.

Yesterday, I went with our new director and his wife to Kudjip, the Nazarene Hospital, where they had a potluck fellowship meal. The new director and his wife are affiliated with the Nazarenes so there were reunions for them which was wonderful. One person had been evacuated with them twice while they were serving in the Ivory Coast during a season of intense fighting. What a story they have. On the way to Kudjip we dropped off some water and other items at the Nazarene Teacher's College for Lillian. She had told me that water is short and she needs water to take her seizure medicine. What a trooper she is. I love her dearly and have shared so many outreach experiences with her.

At Kudjip, another missionary whose Tok Pisin is more polished than my own, helped me translate the song "He Knows Your Name into Tok Pisin. I want to use this song in prison outreach and probably elsewhere. How did God do that? I mean He put me right there with the person who could help me translate. We also shared other resources and so on. It was wonderful to fellowship.

Today I walked to town accompanied by 2 of the security guards MAF has. Well, I was able to get some resources at the Christian bookstore for outreach and to stop in some stores where there were Chinese persons with whom I shared some tracts. Only one man said "maski" which means no. Please pray for Mr. Maski. He needs Jesus too. The freedom we have here to share the Good News is amazing. How does God do that? I mean, open this wonderful door to persons here and persons from other countries. God is Awesome. I love following Him. Feeling a small earthquake just now. Lois

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Philadelphia Access Center,	1832 S. 11 th 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 or www.facebook.com/philaccess.

WEEKLY SERVICES /MEETINGS

	Meets at FCA	Meets at PAC
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 & 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
- Operation Christmas Child

"Obedience is the key to real faith."

– Chuck Colson