



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.

Obedience

Obedience to God proves our love for Him ([1 John 5:2-3](#)), demonstrates our faithfulness to Him ([1 John 2:3-6](#)), glorifies Him in the world ([1 Peter 2:12](#)), and opens avenues of blessing for us ([John 13:17](#)).

Faith is necessary to please God ([Heb 11:6](#)), and if our faith is genuine and true, we will live a lifestyle characterized by righteousness, modeling the example set for us by Jesus Christ. We obey His commands, not because we *have* to, but because we *want* to, because we love Him. We are enabled to obey because, once we believe in Christ and are saved, we are remade. We are not the same people we once were. As Paul wrote in [2 Corinthians 5:17](#), "If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!"

When we obey the Lord, we can live a life of joy, without shame, rooted deeply in the Lord and confident in our eternal hope. "Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom" ([2 Corinthians 3:17](#)). Our obedience is actually part of our [assurance](#) that we truly know God ([1 John 2:3](#)).

When God's children obey their Heavenly Father, He is glorified. Jesus told us that the plan is for others to "see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven" ([Matthew 5:16](#)). Of course, performing "good deeds" requires obedience to the One who calls us to good deeds. A Christian's testimony of holiness is a strong witness that God is at work in the world.

"Blessed are all who fear the LORD, who walk in obedience to him" (Psalm 128:1). The Bible often tells us that God blesses and rewards obedience. James 1:22-25 says, "Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. . . . Whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it—not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it—they will be blessed in what they do."

Join us each Sunday as we learn more about Abraham's life of obedience and faith from our messages in Genesis series.

Missionary Update Afganistan

Dear Friends,

I am writing this standing up as last night while reaching down to clean my toilet my lower back seized! At least this morning I can actually stand! Guess the lesson here is to pay a cleaning person to clean! Haha!!

Would appreciate prayer! So thankful for how I have seen God's grace here. Last Friday we did an after Thanksgiving Outreach. Only this year we scaled back as we had the men come to our centre. We had 23 men come and 10 stayed after to hear more about New Life. We hope to take in 2 new men this coming week. My staff planned, cooked and directed the entire outreach. They did fantastic. The 3 men in the program also all shared how God is changing their lives. We have also started a Bible study off campus with the men. Please also pray for that.

Yesterday with a foreign female and an Afghan female follower we went to the top of the bridge to reach out to female addicts. We met 2 female addicts and hope to do a small party for 5 -7 women at a restaurant this Friday. Please pray for this and wisdom on the way forward with reaching females addicted to drugs.

We have also just completed a nice desk top calendar that we will make available for a donation as another way to bring income into the project. It is in a Persian format in English and Dari with beautiful pictures of A land. If you would be interested contact me and I can direct you on how to obtain one. The Islamic calendar format takes some getting use to as they use the lunar calendar.

We have also started working with a leather professional who will teach our guys once a week how to make good leather products.

Again thank you so much for partnering with us!

Continuing in His radical grace, John

First Christian Assembly,	1900 S. 11 th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19148	215-389-6721
First Christian So Jersey,	123 Egg Harbor Rd. Sewell NJ 08080	
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
- Water Baptism Sunday December 17th

"Faith never knows where it is being led, but it loves and knows the One who is leading." – Oswald Chambers