



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.

Spirit filled

An important verse in understanding the filling of the Holy Spirit is [John 14:16](#), where Jesus promised the Spirit would indwell believers and that the indwelling would be permanent. It is important to distinguish the indwelling from the filling of the Spirit. The permanent indwelling of the Spirit is not for a select few believers, but for all believers. There are a number of references in Scripture that support this conclusion. First, the Holy Spirit is a gift given to all believers in Jesus without exception, and no conditions are placed upon this gift except faith in Christ ([John 7:37-39](#)). Second, the Holy Spirit is given at the moment of salvation ([Eph 1:13](#)). [Gal 3:2](#) emphasizes this same truth, saying that the sealing and indwelling of the Spirit took place at the time of believing. Third, the Holy Spirit indwells believers permanently. The Holy Spirit is given to believers as a down payment, or verification of their future glorification in Christ ([2 Cor 1:22](#); [Eph 4:30](#)).

This is in contrast to the filling of the Spirit referred to in [Eph 5:18](#). We should be so completely yielded to the Holy Spirit that He can possess us fully and, in that sense, fill us. [Rom 8:9](#) and [Eph 1:13-14](#) states that He dwells within every believer, but He can be grieved ([Eph 4:30](#)), and His activity within us can be quenched ([1 Thes 5:19](#)). When we allow this to happen, we do not experience the fullness of the Spirit's working and His power in and through us. To be filled with the Spirit implies freedom for Him to occupy every part of our lives, guiding and controlling us. Then His power can be exerted through us so that what we do is fruitful to God. The filling of the Spirit does not apply to outward acts alone; it also applies to the innermost thoughts and motives of our actions. [Psalm 19:14](#) says, "*May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight, O LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer.*"

Sin is what hinders the filling of the Holy Spirit, and obedience to God is how the filling of the Spirit is maintained. [Eph 5:18](#) commands that we be filled with the Spirit; however, it is not merely praying for the filling of the Holy Spirit that accomplishes the filling. It is our abiding in Jesus and our obedience to God's commands that allows the Spirit freedom to work within us.

Body and Soul

Ear – Echinacea

Shhhh. Did you ever hear God gave you two ears and on mouth? It's better to listen than to speak? I really must work on this... Proverbs 18:13 states "*whoever answers before listening is both foolish and shameful*". Which leads to the discussion on the Ear. The ear has 3 main parts the inner, middle and the outer. Sound goes through the outer to the middle where vibrations are transmitted through the ossicles than to the inner ear where nerve impulses go to the brain. The inner ear also controls balance. Ear infections also known as Otitis media is the most common issue to affect the middle ear. It is usually caused by bacteria or viruses. Common symptoms are fever and pain. Otitis externa also known as swimmer's ear affects the outer ear canal it is usually caused by water that remains in the ear. Symptoms are redness, warmth and pain. Inflammation of the inner ear or the nerves that connect the inner ear to the brain is called labyrinthitis. It is usually triggered by an infection. Hearing loss, dizziness, and a spinning sensation (vertigo) are common. Diagnosing is challenging because the symptoms are common in many other conditions. It normally resolves on its own. Medication and vestibular rehab may help.

As we head into February and the movie Samson is coming out on the 16th. I chuckled because Echinacea's popular name is Sampson root. Echinacea has been used to reduce symptoms of infections such as upper respiratory infections and urinary tract infections. It is becoming increasing popular again because some bacteria are becoming resistant to antibiotics. It comes in different forms such as tablets, juices and teas. Echinacea interacts with caffeine by decreasing the breakdown of caffeine in the body. Therefore, it may cause too much to remain in the body. Always check with your healthcare provider before taking any supplements.

And what type of Script would this be if we didn't discuss Love during the month of Valentine's Day. What does love have to do with the letter E you ask. We are called to love our Enemies. You have all heard growing up keep your friends close and your enemies closer. Well that is true. "*Bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you*".

I know this Script is hard this month...It's calling for you to listen more, talk less and love your enemy!

Well until next time that is your Script - Mikki Dispensa RN

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
- Operation Christmas Child Shoebox gifts shipped to Kenya and Ukraine

"God commands us to be filled with the Spirit, and if we are not filled, it is because we are living beneath our privileges." – Dwight L. Moody