



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.

Compromise

The Bible makes it clear that God does not condone compromising His standards: *"Joyful are people of integrity, who follow the instructions of the LORD. Joyful are those who obey His laws and search for Him with all their hearts. They do not compromise with evil, and they walk only in His paths. You have charged us to keep Your commandments carefully"* (Ps 119:1-4). The word *joyful* describes people of righteousness; those who are totally subservient to God's will and wholeheartedly devoted in their relationship to Him. Not compromising requires our unswerving submission to Him only, regardless of the world's concession to godlessness ([Jo 24:15](#); [Ps 119:10](#); [Ps 119:15](#)).

As believers, we must *"see to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the basic principles of this world rather than on Christ"* ([Col 2:8](#)). We are also commanded to not only to remain faithful to the Word but to defend it and correct those who are in opposition to it ([1 Pet 3:15](#)) ([2 Tim 2:24-25](#)). God is serious about our not compromising His Word with the values of the world—the reason being that those outside of Christ may then *"come to their senses and escape the snare of the devil ..."* ([2 Tim 2:26](#)).

There are those who profess to being Christians, yet live lives not in keeping with the precepts of the Scripture, compromising their biblical beliefs by living like world. For them, the things of the world and its sensual allurements take precedence over the Word of God ([Acts 20:30](#); [1 John 2:16-19](#)). Jesus referred to these people as *"those who hear the word, but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches and the desires for other things enter in and choke the word, and it proves unfruitful"* ([Mk 4:18-19](#)). These are the ones who, though professing to follow Christ, compromise their faith by craving worldly success and accolades from their fellow man. Jesus chastised such people who rationalized their questionable behavior: *"How can you believe, when you receive glory from one another and do not seek the glory that comes from the only God?"* ([Jn 5:41-44](#)). In other words, to compromise in one's total allegiance and devotion to God is to allow the allurements of this world, with its accompanying worries, to take precedence over Christ.

As true believers in Christ, we must accept God's Word as absolute, inerrant truth ([2 Tim 3:16](#)). We must be fully obedient to His Word ([John 14:15](#); [1 John 5:3](#)). And we must recognize that His Word is not to be compromised for any reason or for anyone ([Deut 17:11](#); [Prov 24:7](#); [Rev 3:15](#)).

Missionary Update PNG

His name is Willy.

Today we went to the prison in town. First of all, the MAF car I use had broken down so I was expecting that we would have to walk. Well another missionary who accompanies us gave us a ride, so that was a blessing. After our visit she was able to drop us at the market where Leti helped me buy and carry veggies and so on for a family in a bush area to whom these items will be flown tomorrow, and we walked home, handing out tracts all the way.

Back to Willy. He was yelling and banging the bars of the cell and carrying on quite a bit. He is a middle aged man, whose English is quite good, and he knew a lot about the Bible having had a Lutheran background. Several times I talked to him and asked him to quiet down. I am not sure if he was high or what, but he was mad about being in prison and he was disturbing everyone else. Well, we made our rounds to the cells.

At one point early in our outreach, there was a disturbance that sounded like the police were beating someone so we paused and prayed. This quieted down.

There were some men who prayed with us to invite Jesus into their lives. Well, at the end, Willy was acting up again so I went over to him again. I told him what he was doing was not going to help. (You see the police will beat up someone brutally if they are so inclined.) I told him he needed to pray and ask God to help him. Finally he was down on his knees and crying.

In the Name of Jesus, I commanded satan to leave him alone and invited the presence of Jesus. Please pray for Willie. Only God knows his story, but today with the prisoners, having shared the story of the sheep who was lost in Luke 15, the sheep that the Good Shepherd found, I believe the Good Shepherd is calling Willie to Himself.

Bless His Holy Name! -Lois

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>Free Indeed</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
- Easter Outreach

"I believe that one reason why the church of God at this present moment has so little influence over the world is because the world has so much influence over the church." – Charles Spurgeon