



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.

Emmaus Road

In the final chapter of Luke's Gospel, we read of two disciples of Jesus who were walking from Jerusalem to Emmaus on the day that Jesus rose from the dead. As they traveled, a man joined them—the resurrected Jesus, although they did not recognize Him. The man asked, "What is this conversation that you are holding with each other as you walk?" ([Luke 24:17](#)).

The disciples were surprised that the man had not heard of the recent events that had Jerusalem in turmoil. They proceeded to tell the stranger of Jesus' crucifixion and the report of His empty tomb. Jesus responded, "How foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Did not the Christ have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?" And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself." vs25,27

So, as they walked, Jesus taught what the Old Testament had predicted about Himself. When they arrived in Emmaus that evening, the two disciples stopped to eat, and they asked Jesus to join them. He did, and as He broke bread and blessed the meal, "their eyes were opened", and they recognized Him. Jesus then vanished. Their response? "They got up and returned at once to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven and those with them, assembled together and saying, 'It is true! The Lord has risen'".

On the road to Emmaus, Jesus gave a lesson on the prophecies of the Old Testament which were fulfilled in His death and resurrection. What a lesson that would have been! The Author of the Book explains His work, making connections from Scripture to the events they had recently experienced.

The disciples' reaction to Jesus' lesson was one of deep conviction of the truth He was teaching. "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked?" they ask each other. Their physical eyes were blinded to His identity, but their eyes of faith were being opened as Jesus opened the Scriptures to them.

The story of the disciples on the Emmaus Road is important for many reasons. It provides an *emphasis* on the Old Testament prophecies related to Jesus, *evidence* regarding an additional appearance of Jesus, and a connection regarding the many *eyewitnesses* of the resurrected Jesus. [Luke 24](#) is often seen as a model of the journey that Jesus makes with many of us today, as He opens our eyes, points us to the Word, and reveals Himself along life's walk as the resurrected Savior and Lord.

Missionary Update PNG

Yesterday during a trip to the local produce market, a young man named Jacob had approached me and the security guard with me. He said I had visited him when he was in prison here in town. I asked if he had turned his life over to the LORD, but he has not so I prayed with him that this would happen. He gave me a pineapple as a gift. Tomorrow is the next visit to the prison. I am happy to report that Red Cross has made possible the start of cleaning up of the cells and painting them. We saw two completed cells last week.

MAF has been very busy flying relief supplies and other flights during this time of the earthquake disaster. We still feel tremors from time to time. Most of the persons we were visiting in the hospital that had been evacuated have been returned by air to their place of origin. Still hospitalized are the woman who lost her husband and children and who is in traction due to a displaced hip. Also, a young boy of 13 and a girl of 4. Both have had leg surgery. They had come to the hospital by ambulance as the hospital to which they first went could not sterilize anything and medicines had been destroyed. There is also the man with TB who had been evacuated by SIL. I plan to visit them all again today. Two churches have sent groups to the hospital Saturday and yesterday. I had been able to show them where the persons affected were located. I love it when churches get involved.

We have been getting solar power installed for our residences, a project funded from the Netherlands. There are some glitches to be worked out in our apt so in the meantime we are trying to get used to cold showers. Considering that many here wash in rivers and streams that are very cold, well we are blessed to have water where we live.

Next Sunday, God willing, I will be delivering the message at the church I attend. The topic will be evangelism, something about which I am passionate.

Thank you for praying.

Blessings always, Lois

First Christian Assembly,	1900 S. 11 th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19148	215-389-6721
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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>Free Indeed</i>

- *Coram Deo*: A men’s Bible study and Christian fellowship.
- *Free Indeed*: Is a Spirit led Men’s Fellowship that emphasizes godly counsel, leading to spiritual growth, healing and deliverance.
- *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 delivered meals

Jesus said to her, I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live – John 11:25