



# 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.*

## *Last Supper*

The Last Supper is what we call the last meal Jesus ate with His disciples before His betrayal and arrest. It was more than Jesus' last meal; it was a Passover meal, as well. One of the important moments of the Last Supper is Jesus' command to remember what He was about to do on behalf of all mankind: shed His blood on the cross thereby paying the debt of our sin

During the Last Supper with His apostles, Jesus took two symbols associated with Passover and imbued them with fresh meaning as a way to remember His sacrifice, which saves us from spiritual death and delivers us from spiritual bondage: "And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, 'This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me.' In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you'" ([Luke 22:17-20](#)).

Jesus' words during the Last Supper about the unleavened bread and the cup echo what He had said after He [fed the 5,000](#): "I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats this bread will live forever. This bread is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world. . . . Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise them up at the last day. For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink" ([John 6:51, 54-55](#)). Salvation comes through Christ and the sacrifice of His physical body on the cross.

The Last Supper today is remembered during the Lord's Supper, or communion ([1 Cor 11:23-33](#)). The Bible teaches that Jesus' death was typified in the offering of the Passover sacrifice ([John 1:29](#)). John notes that Jesus' death resembles the Passover sacrifice in that His bones were not broken ([John 19:36](#); cf. [Ex 12:46](#)). And Paul said, "Christ, our [Passover lamb](#), has been sacrificed" ([1 Cor 5:7](#)).

The Last Supper was a significant event and proclaimed a turning point in God's plan for the world. In comparing the crucifixion of Jesus to the feast of Passover, we can readily see the redemptive nature of Christ's death. As symbolized by the original Passover sacrifice in the Old Testament, Christ's death atones for the sins of His people; His blood rescues us from death and saves us from slavery. Today, [the Lord's Supper](#) is when believers reflect upon Christ's perfect sacrifice and know that, through our faith in receiving Him, we will be with Him forever ([Luke 22:18](#); [Rev 3:20](#)).

First Christian Assembly, 1900 S. 11<sup>th</sup> Street,

## *Missionary Update* *PNG*

You know, being foreigners, people here do not always tell us the true whole story. A follow up visit to a lady in the hospital, whom we thought had been abused by her husband with broken legs, well, that was not the case. She said that her oldest brother and 5 other men had abused her due to jealousy over land.

Her own husband had left her 13 years ago and she had been raising her children herself. Her 13 year old son had witnessed the abuse. Heated rods of iron had been used to cut and burn her all over her body. Her legs and arms are not broken, but bandaged and smelling very bad. She had been rescued by a relative and brought to Hagen Hospital where surgery had corrected her genital area. She denied this had anything to do with sanguma (witchcraft). However, in checking later with Ellen, the widow who goes on outreach with us, she laughed. She said the woman had lied. This was a sanguma incident. Someone had died and this woman was accused of causing the death by stealing the liver of the person.

As bizarre as this sounds, this is a common belief here. Death must be caused by someone else, such as stealing of the person's liver. Early in our time here, a woman had been burned to death on the street in front of the AOG church walking distance from here. She was accused of being the cause of the death of a child in the hospital. Missionary Anton Lutz has been involved in rescuing women and children in bush areas where they were being tortured in sanguma incidents. As difficult as it is to share this with you all and difficult for those reading this, I want to make sure people understand that fear is the predominant controlling emotion among those practicing traditional religions and customs. One never knows who will be the victim of a fight or torture especially in the bush areas, but also here in Mount Hagen. Police cannot get into the remote areas, so traditional ways of settling accounts using witchcraft and other means are used. Jesus came to set people free of this satanic bondage. That is why I am so committed to proclaiming "If the Son therefore shall set you free, you shall be free indeed."

The woman I mentioned above does not know where she will go once released. Her son sleeps under her bed in the hospital. There is probably more to her story. We may never know, but we plan to visit her again. Lois

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*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](http://www.philaccess.org) or [www.facebook.com/philaccess](http://www.facebook.com/philaccess).

### ***WEEKLY SERVICES /MEETINGS***

	<b>Meets at FCA</b>	<b>Meets at PAC</b>
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 &amp; 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>Discipleship class (Fellowship hall)</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.

### **Important Dates;**

- Operation Christmas Child collection continues
- Sunday October 14<sup>th</sup> – Pastor Cleopas Chitapa
- Monday October 15<sup>th</sup> – Women’s Fellowship
- Sunday October 28<sup>th</sup> – Child Dedication
- Monday November 12<sup>th</sup> – Operation Christmas Child Packing Party
- Water Baptism – Date to be determined – See Pastor Joe for information

**For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come. 1Co 11:26**