



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.

Hungry

Bread is considered a staple food. A person can survive a long time on only bread and water. In [John 6](#) when Jesus used the term "*bread of life*," He was trying to get away from the crowds to no avail. After some time, Jesus inquires of Philip how they're going to feed the crowd. Philip's answer displays his "little faith" when he says they don't have enough money to give each of them the smallest morsel of food. Finally, Andrew brings to Jesus a boy who had five small loaves of bread and two fish. With that amount, Jesus miraculously fed the throng with lots of food to spare.

The next morning when the crowd sees that Jesus has left, they follow Him again. Jesus takes this moment to teach them a lesson. He accuses the crowd of ignoring His miraculous signs and only following Him for the "free meal." Jesus tells them in [John 6:27](#), "*Do not labor for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give to you. For on him God the Father has set his seal.*" In other words, they were so enthralled with the food, they were missing out on the fact that their Messiah had come. Jesus tells them that they need to ask for the true bread from heaven that gives life. When they ask Jesus for this bread, Jesus startles them by saying, "*I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst.*"

This is a phenomenal statement! First, by equating Himself with bread, Jesus is saying he is *essential* for life. Second, the life Jesus is referring to is not physical life, but eternal life. Jesus is trying to get the Jews' thinking off of the physical realm and into the spiritual realm. Again, it must be noted that Jesus isn't talking about alleviating physical hunger and thirst. In [Matt 5:6](#), Jesus says, "*Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.*" When Jesus says those who come to Him will never hunger and those who believe in Him will never thirst, He is saying He will satisfy our hunger and thirst to be made righteous in the sight of God.

This hunger is such a basic human desire because God created us with eternity in mind ([Ecc1 3:11](#)). Our dilemma is we have a desire we cannot fulfill, no matter what we do. That is where Jesus comes in. He alone, can fulfill that desire in our hearts for righteousness. When Christ died on the cross, He took the sins of mankind upon Himself and made atonement for them. When we place our faith in Him, our sins are imputed to Jesus, and His righteousness is imputed to us. Jesus satisfies our hunger and thirst for righteousness. He is our Bread of Life.

Body and Soul

What is Christmas?

Christmas is love, it is the day we celebrate Christ's birth, it is the day the greatest present was given unto the entire world. That present was love and mixed in that love was salvation. He came from Heaven to Earth to show the way, From the Cross to the grave our debt to pay from the grave to the sky, Lord we lift your name on high.

Those three Acts were pure agape love and to break them down further. Jesus came from Heaven to Earth to show the way, He came to be the example to show us and lead us in which way we should go. He went from the cross to the Grave, Jesus had to die to pay the debt for our sins to save us from Hell there was no one sinless except for him, He was the Spotless lamb that had to be crucified in order to cleanse us of our sins. He went from the grave to the sky, Jesus ascended to the father to make our Eternal home, to sit on the right hand of God to make intercession for us until that day, that when He comes like a thief in the night. Lord We Lift Your Name on High.

The name Emmanuel means God with us. What is agape love? It is the highest form of love it is pure selfless unconditional love and that is the love He has for us. He gave his only begotten son Jesus that whoever believes in him should not perish but have everlasting life [John 3:16](#). Take your free gift this Christmas by accepting Jesus as your Lord and savior. If you are doubtful in what I write, if you're skeptical just ask him to show you and he will. He is faithful, He is love, He is Christmas! Allow him into your heart.

Next time really listen to the words of Mary Did You Know or Google the song lyrics.

So until next year, that is your script!

May you all have a very Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year!

Miguelina Dispensa R.N

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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 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>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;

- Sunday December 9th - **Youth Group –Meets tonight**
- Sunday December 16th - Water Baptism
- Sunday December 16th - Skating Party with FCSJ @ SK847 Franklinville NJ
- Sunday December 30th - Lord’s Supper followed by Lunch Fellowship

The only Christian you want to listen to is the one who gives you more of a hunger for God. – Aiden Wilson Tozer