**About Christ Fellowship Church**

**Our Mission:** We exist to make disciples of Christ who love God and love their neighbor.

**Our Vision:** To see the gospel spread into every corner of our lives and every corner of the globe.

**As we gather** each Sunday, our desire is to engage with the living God in authentic worship, giving him the praise he deserves, as we read, sing, pray, preach, and sit under the truth of God’s Word and respond in obedience. We look to give ourselves to bold prayer, to spend ourselves and our resources through joyful giving, and to create a culture of gracious hospitality among a diversely unified people.

**As we scatter** each week, we commit to give ourselves to one another in sanctifying community, to the lost through faithful evangelism in our spheres of influence, and to the suffering around us with Christ-like compassion, all in hopes of multiplying the witness of Christ in our city and around the world.

**CFC Kids:** As a congregation, we are deeply committed to next-generation discipleship. This church wants to come alongside parents as they raise their children in the Lord. To help toward that end on Sundays, we offer CFC Kids for children from birth through fifth grade. We offer CFC Kids throughout the entire length of the service for children pre-school and younger. Kids in kindergarten through fifth grade will attend the first part of the worship service and then exit for age-appropriate lessons during the sermon. Of course, you may keep your children with you throughout worship, if you like. If you have any questions about CFC Kids, please email Sarah Beth Shepard at sb@cfcbirmingham.org.

1/21/24

**What’s Happening at Christ Fellowship…**

***Equip Meets Tonight***

The Fall semester of Equip begins tonight. Dinner is served beginning at 4:45pm. The meal will be Taziki’s weekend pasta for adults and pizza for kids, so plan accordingly! Classes begin at 5:35pm and will conclude at 6:25pm. Kid classroom locations will be on their check-in sticker. The youth group meets in the youth room. And all adults will meet in the worship room.

***CFC Women’s Winter Workshop***

Ladies, make plans to join us on January 26-27 as we gather to experience the Proclaiming Truth workshop "Knowing God's Word." Sign up at [cfcbirmingham.org/women](http://cfcbirmingham.org/women).

***Women’s Winter Bible Study Options***

Ladies, there are two Bible study options available this semester. Paige Herr will lead a study of 2 Kings on Wednesdays from 9:30-11:15am, starting January 10. There is also a Monday night study that will be led by Brittany Mann, the content of which is still being decided. To sign up, go to [cfcbirmingham.org/women](http://cfcbirmingham.org/women).

***Youth Winter Retreat – February 16-18***

This upcoming February our youth will embark on our first ever winter retreat! During the trip we will consider the implications of God making us new from Ephesians 2. The cost is $175 and that includes transportation and all meals. You can register for Winter Retreat on the Church Center app.

***CFC Hosting TIPS Foster Parent Training Class***

CFC is excited to host the foster parent training class in partnership with Alabama Baptist Children's Homes. The class will run on Thursday nights from February 1-April 25, from 5:30-8:00 here at CFC. Please reach out to Billy Shepard at bshepard@cfcbirmingham.org to get further information and register.

***Global Strategy Q&A – February 25***

On Sunday, February 25th from 9:00am-10:00am, Brian G. will host a Q&A session to build upon last Fall’s Equip series. We will continue to unpack specifics regarding the most critical needs in Asia as well as other existing global strategies within the CFC family. The entire hour will be devoted to Q&A so come prepared. The training will take place in the CFC Fellowship Hall and light breakfast and coffee will be provided. Childcare will not be available. Please register in the Church Center app.

***Global Sender’s Training – March 10***

As CFC sends out more global partners, we want to support these partners to be effective and healthy for long-term service around the globe. On Sunday, March 10th from 9:00am-10:00am, Brian G. will share about what makes a sending church effective, tips to serve you and our partners well, and advice for advocacy teams who are already connected with sent partners. All are welcome to attend this training to learn more. The training will take place in the CFC Fellowship Hall and light breakfast and coffee will be provided. Childcare will not be available. Please register on Planning Center.

***Spring CFC Kids Teacher Needs***

We are in need of seven volunteers to join the CFC Kids team this spring, due to some of our current volunteers welcoming new babies. If you are available to help out, please email Sarah Beth at sb@cfcbirmingham.org! We need these roles to be filled before February.

* Orange 1 Teacher and Assistant*(18 months - 2 yrs)*
* Orange 2 Teacher (18 months-2 yrs)
* Yellow 1 Teacher and Assistant*(2 - 3 yrs)*
* 2nd Grade 2 Teacher and Assistant

**Sunday, January 21, 2024**

**Pre-Service Music** (\*please remain seated)

“The Love of God” Lehman

**Welcome** Bart Box

**Time of Silent Reflection**

**Call to Worship**

*1Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name;*

 *make known his deeds among the peoples!*

*2Sing to him, sing praises to him;*

 *tell of all his wondrous works!*

*3Glory in his holy name;*

 *let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice!*

*4Seek the LORD and his strength;*

 *seek his presence continually!*

*5Remember the wondrous works that he has done,*

 *his miracles, and the judgments he uttered,*

*6O offspring of Abraham, his servant,*

 *children of Jacob, his chosen ones!*

*7He is the LORD our God;*

 *his judgments are in all the earth.*

*8He remembers his covenant forever,*

 *the word that he commanded, for a thousand generations.*

(Psalm 105:1-8)

**Prayer of Invocation & Adoration**

**God’s Greeting & Mutual Greetings**

*4For the LORD takes pleasure in his people;*

 *he adorns the humble with salvation.* (Psalm 149:4)

“Psalm 100” Arr. Bourgeois

“Jesus Is Better” Ivey & Land

**Public Reading of Scripture** –Psalm 27

**Prayer of Confession & Assurance of Pardon** Billy Shepard

*1If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. 2Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth.* (Colossians 3:1-2)

*3For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. 4When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.* (Colossians 3:3-4)

**The Apostles’ Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,**

 **Maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,**

**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,**

**born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,**

**was crucified, dead, and buried.**

**He descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again from the dead.**

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.**

**From there he shall come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**the holy catholic\* church,**

**the communion of saints,**

**the forgiveness of sins,**

**the resurrection of the body,**

**and the life everlasting. Amen.**

[\*that is the true Christian church of all times and all places]

“Before the Throne of God Above” Bancroft & Cook

“Yet Not I but through Christ in Me” Robinson, Thompson, & Farren

**Prayer for Illumination** Will Mitchell

**Reading of the Preaching Passage**

**Preaching of God’s Word** Bart Box

 Christ Over All: “Putting Off, Putting On”

Colossians 3:1-17

**The Lord’s Supper**

“O Praise the Name” Sampson, Hastings, & Ushher

**Offering**

***9For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich.*** (2 Corinthians 8:9)

***7Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. 8And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work.*** (2 Corinthians 9:7-8)

**Prayer of Intercession** Brian Thomason

**The Lord’s Prayer**

***Our Father in heaven,***

 ***hallowed be your name.***

***Your kingdom come,***

 ***your will be done,***

 ***on earth as it is in heaven.***

***Give us this day our daily bread,***

 ***and forgive us our debts,***

 ***as we also have forgiven our debtors.***

***And lead us not into temptation,***

 ***but deliver us from evil.***

***For yours is the kingdom***

 ***and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.***

**Benediction**

*17And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.* (Colossians 3:17)

“Doxology” Bourgeois & Ken

We are pleased that you have joined us for worship this morning.

Visitors and members alike are encouraged to fellowship with one another after the service. If you would like to speak with a pastor about a need in your life or for prayer, one will be available at the front of the room.

**Additional Explanatory Notes of Worship Elements**

*†* ***The Lord’s Supper***

We celebrate the Lord’s Supper every Lord’s Day as part of our worship and witness. The Lord’s Supper is an occasion for believers in Christ to be reminded of Jesus’ death in our place, to be strengthened by the promise of His coming, and to be renewed toward God and one another. All who have identified with Christ in baptism and who are in good standing with a local church that preaches the gospel are welcome at the Table.

If you are not a follower of Jesus, we invite you to spend this time in prayer reflecting on the Word that has been preached and the great offer of salvation in Jesus Christ. If you feel so inclined, we invite you to offer the following prayer to God:

“Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open me to the reality of who you are. Give me understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life you promise. Amen.”

**This Week We’re Praying…**

***For Our Church***

For our church, that as we promise to do in our church covenant, that we would more faithfully seek the salvation of our friends, family, and neighbors through our godly living, faithful gospel proclamation, and intercessory prayer.

***For Our City***

For Iron City Church, pastor Isaac Adams, their elders, staff, and congregation.

***For Our Nation***

For our nation, in light of the overturning of Roe v. Wade: that this ruling would allow more innocent children to live; that more states would limit or prohibit abortions; that churches would lead the way in creating a culture of life that cares for moms, dads, and babies, especially those who face difficult and desperate situations; and that legislators would wisely create laws and practices that will allow human flourishing for all.

***For Our World***

For the nation of Nepal, and specifically for Kathmandu Community Baptist Church and their pastor Isai Rai, along with the other elders and staff: for their faithfulness to share the gospel among Hindus, for fruitful evangelism that results in conversions, and for the younger pastors who are being trained through this church to be sent out to plant churches in other Nepali communities.



