**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.

11/19/23

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

***Final Equip of the Semester Meets Tonight***

The Fall semester of Equip continues tonight. Dinner is Moe’s BBQ and will be served beginning at 4:45pm. Classes will begin at 5:35pm, sharp. 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. All classes will conclude at 6:25pm.

***ABCH Christmas Gifts***

Each year, we have the opportunity to support children and moms who are in the care of one of our local partners, the Alabama Baptist Children's Home, by providing Christmas gifts for children who are in care. You can sign up to provide gifts at **cfcbirmingham.org/abch.** Gifts need to be unwrapped, with a post-it note or sticker with the recipient's name somewhere on the gift, and brought to church and dropped off at the table next to the entrance any Sunday morning from now until December 3rd**.**There are many gifts to be bought, which means ample opportunities for many of us to be involved! If you have questions, you can email Billy Shepard at [bshepard@cfcbirmingham.org](mailto:bshepard@cfcbirmingham.org).

***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. If you plan to register more than one student, please reach out to Keri or Billy for a discount code. You can register for Winter Retreat on the Church Center app.

***CFC Women’s Christmas Service Night for ABCH***

CFC Ladies, on Thursday night, November 30, kick off Christmas season with a night of service with Alabama Children's Home. Hosted at CFC this year, we will hear about the work of ABCH, wrap gifts, make cards, and write notes for ABCH children and their families. In addition, we will have a Christmas sing-a-long, dinner, and a cookie decorating station. Bring your friends, neighbors, and elementary age & older kids for dinner and this fun, service-oriented event. Register in the Church Center app or at [cfcbirmingham.org/women](http://cfcbirmingham.org/women).

***Directory Updates***

For all members of CFC, if you have recently moved, added children to your family, or would like to update your email address or picture in the church directory, please email those updates to Keri Westbrook at [kwestbrook@cfcbirmingham.org](mailto:kwestbrook@cfcbirmingham.org).

***Members’ Meeting & Fellowship Meal – December 3***

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Description automatically generatedAll members are invited to join us for a fellowship meal and members' meeting on Sunday, December 3rd at 5:00pm. We will first gather for dinner, which will be provided by CFC, and then begin the members' meeting afterward. Childcare will be offered after the meal. To help us order the correct amount of food and have enough rooms for childcare, please RSVP at this QR code. The meal will be Taziki’s for adults and pizza for kids, so plan accordingly. We will also have special Christmas activities for ages 2 and up they will not want to miss!

**Sunday, November 19, 2023**

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

“On Jordan’s Stormy Banks I Stand” Stennet & White

**Welcome** Billy Shepard

**Time of Silent Reflection**

**Call to Worship**

*1Praise the LORD!*

*Blessed is the man who fears the LORD,*

*who greatly delights in his commandments!*

*2His offspring will be mighty in the land;*

*the generation of the upright will be blessed.*

*3Wealth and riches are in his house,*

*and his righteousness endures forever.*

*4Light dawns in the darkness for the upright;*

*he is gracious, merciful, and righteous.*

*5It is well with the man who deals generously and lends;*

*who conducts his affairs with justice.*

*6For the righteous will never be moved;*

*he will be remembered forever.*

*7He is not afraid of bad news;*

*his heart is firm, trusting in the LORD.*

*8His heart is steady; he will not be afraid,*

*until he looks in triumph on his adversaries.*

*9He has distributed freely; he has given to the poor;*

*his righteousness endures forever;*

*his horn is exalted in honor.*

*10The wicked man sees it and is angry;*

*he gnashes his teeth and melts away;*

*the desire of the wicked will perish!* (Psalm 112)

**Prayer of Invocation & Adoration**

**God’s Greeting & Mutual Greetings**

*17As for me, I am poor and needy,*

*but the Lord takes thought for me.* (Psalm 40:17a)

“How Rich a Treasure We Possess” Boswell & Papa

“My Worth Is Not in What I Own” Kendrick & Getty

**Public Reading of Scripture** – 2 Corinthians 9:6-15

**Prayer of Confession & Assurance of Pardon** Jared Jones

*19Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, 20but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. 21For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.* (Matthew 6:19-21)

*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)

**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]

“Jesus Is Better” Ivey & Land

“I’d Rather Have Jesus” Miller & Shea

**Prayer for Illumination** Will Mitchell

**Reading of the Preaching Passage**

**Preaching of God’s Word** Bart Box

“The Book of Malachi: “Robbing God”

Malachi 3:6-12

**The Lord’s Supper**

“Take My Life” Giglio, Havergal, Malan, & Tomlin

**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** Nick Murray

**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**

*5Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.”* (Hebrews 13:5)

“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.

**This Week We’re Praying…**

***For Our Church***

For our church, as we promise to do in our church covenant: that we would continue to give cheerfully and generously to the support of the church, the relief of the poor, and the spread of the gospel through all nations, and that God would be pleased to take our resources and use them His glory.

***For Our City***

For Urban Hope Community Church, pastor Alton Hardy, their elders, staff, and congregation.

***For Our Nation***

For those Americans living in poverty, that the church would open her eyes to see those around us living in crippling need, that God would give us—individually and corporately—ways to meet tangible needs of those we encounter, and that those in poverty would be treated with dignity and loving-compassion.

***For Our World***

For the nation of Ecuador and for our sent partners Chris and Vickie serving there through a local church, that God would be pleased to see their small group ministry to effectively grow, for their church members to grow in their faithfulness to the gospel, and for those living in Quito to embrace the gospel that is proclaimed through this church, its pastors, and its members.

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