**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.

3/10/24

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

***Equip Meets Tonight***

The Spring Semester of Equip continues tonight. Dinner is served beginning at 4:45pm. The meal will be Taziki’s 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.

***VBS Volunteer Sign Ups***

Now is the time to sign up to volunteer at VBS! VBS will take place at CFC June 24-27 from 9 a.m.-noon. Kids ages 4 through completed 5th grade can participate in VBS. It takes many volunteers to pull off VBS each summer. Whether it's crafts, Bible study, rec time, or missions there's a place for all to serve this year at VBS! Sign up via this QR code. We hope to have all volunteers signed up by the end of March so that we can launch participant registration for VBS in April.

***Good Friday Service – Friday, March 29at 6:30pm***

We would love for you to make plans to attend! The service will last about an hour. Pray about someone you could invite.

***Good Friday Childcare Registration***

CFC Kids will be offered during our Good Friday service for preschool children. We do ask that any children registered for this service be sitting unassisted and crawling. Registration will close on Tuesday, March 26 so we can arrange the correct number of childcare workers. We will open as many classes as necessary to accommodate everyone who registers by this deadline. Register in the Church Center app or at the link in your midweek email.

***New Titles in the Bookstall***

We have recently added a number of new titles to the bookstall in the commons, including additional Genesis Scripture Journals. We think that these resources are valuable and trustworthy, and we try to price them as affordably as possible. If you have not checked it out recently, take some time to do so today. Payment can be made via Venmo to @CFCBham.

***Spring College Dinners***

All college students are invited to two free dinners this spring! The first will be on **Sunday, March 24th at 6:00pm** at Charlie Ann and Jonathan Shepard’s house. The address is 1525 Glenwood Road, Hoover, AL 35226. The second dinner will be on **Sunday, April 7th at 6:00pm** at Brian G’s home. The address is 5256 Valleybrook Trace, Birmingham, AL 35244. Both dinners are free and we encourage you to bring your friends! Contact Jonathan Shepard at (205) 792-6403 with any questions.

***Easter Help in CFC Kids***

We are expecting full classes on Easter and do not want to turn any kids away from attending their classes. We are asking for additional volunteers so we can host all children on Easter Sunday. If you are willing to help out in one of our classes (and are not already scheduled to serve), please sign up at the link in your midweek email.

**Sunday, March 10, 2024**

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

“Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee” Beethoven & Van Dyke

**Welcome** Brian G.

**Time of Silent Reflection**

**Call to Worship**

*1I love the LORD, because he has heard*

 *my voice and my pleas for mercy.*

*2Because he inclined his ear to me,*

 *therefore I will call on him as long as I live.*

*3The snares of death encompassed me;*

 *the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me;*

 *I suffered distress and anguish.*

*4Then I called on the name of the LORD:*

 *“O LORD, I pray, deliver my soul!”*

*5Gracious is the LORD, and righteous;*

 *our God is merciful.*

*6The LORD preserves the simple;*

 *when I was brought low, he saved me.*

***7Return, O my soul, to your rest;***

 ***for the LORD has dealt bountifully with you.***

*8For you have delivered my soul from death,*

 *my eyes from tears,*

 *my feet from stumbling;*

*9I will walk before the LORD*

 *in the land of the living.* (Psalm 116:1-9)

**Prayer of Invocation & Adoration**

**God’s Greeting & Mutual Greetings**

*28Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 29Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. 30For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.* (Matthew 11:28-30)

“The Solid Rock” Mote

“Not in Me” Schumacher & Ward

**Public Reading of Scripture** – Hebrews 4:1-11

**Prayer of Confession & Assurance of Pardon** Bart Box

*24And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, 25not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.* (Hebrews 10:24-25)

*22Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. 23Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful.* (Hebrews 10:22-23)

**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]

“I Will Wait for You (Psalm 130)” Townend, Getty, Kauflin, & Merker

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

**Prayer for Illumination** Will Mitchell

**Reading of the Preaching Passage**

**Preaching of God’s Word** Nick Murray

 Beginnings: “The Culmination of Creation”

Genesis 2:1-3

**The Lord’s Supper**

“It Is Well with My Soul” Bliss & Spafford

**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** Jared Jones

**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**

*3And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. 4He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.”* (Revelation 21:3-4)

“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, that we would faithfully do what we promise in our church covenant: that together we would draw near to God weekly in worship, that we would delight in the glory of God, depend on the presence of God, grow in the knowledge of God, and submit to the Word of God as the all-sufficient authority in our lives and in His church.

***For Our City***

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

***For Our Nation***

For this year’s upcoming presidential election, that God would give us a president who might govern us justly, that He would grant wisdom to our presidential candidates as they prepare to address the issues that we face, and that God would mercifully give us a leader who would bring greater unity to our increasingly polarized nation.

***For Our World***

For the nation of Yemen, for an end to violence and war that adversely affects domestic affairs as well as regional relationships, for an end to piracy in the waters that surround the country and the forced involvement in conflict that takes many young boys and men from villages, for the gospel to spread and for the few believers in Yemen to remain steadfast in their faith.



