**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 Maggie Irby at mirby@cfcbirmingham.org.

3/5/23

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

***Members' Meeting and Dinner – Tonight at 5:00pm***

All members are invited to join us for a fellowship meal and members' meeting tonight at 5:00pm. We will first gather for dinner, which will be provided by CFC (Taziki’s for adults and some pizza for kids), 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 with the QR code below.



***PRESSING NEED: CFC Kids Spring Teachers***

CFC Kids is in need of 4 new volunteers to commit before March 1. A new CFC Kids classroom is opening, and there are many current volunteers who will welcome babies this spring and need some time off. Please email Sarah Beth at sb@cfcbirmingham.org to get connected to a specific class!

***Save the Date for VBS!***

We are excited to share VBS is scheduled for June 26-29 from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Volunteer registration and sign ups will begin in early March. Kids ages 4 (or turning 4 before Sept. 1) through completed 5th grade are encouraged to attend!

***More Compassion International Sponsorships Available***

Last year, we formed a partnership with Compassion International to help build a church and a child development program in Masaya, Nicaragua. Our ongoing relationship with them mainly happens through child sponsorship. More children have been enrolled in the project and are available for sponsorship. If you would like to sponsor, please speak with a staff member who can help walk you through a packet and begin the process.

***CFC Men’s Lunch Gatherings***

We are organizing monthly regional lunches for the men of CFC to meet up and connect during a lunch break. We hope this will give men at CFC the chance to fellowship in a space close to their home or work. If you are interested in joining one of these groups please contact Dennis Schauer, schauer.dennis@gmail.com (205.527.6845) and he can connect you to your regional point person.

***50+ Fellowship Potluck Dinner***

A 50+ fellowship potluck dinner will be held on Friday, March 10th at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Paul and Donna Lefebvre for those age 50 and up. For details and to sign up, find the link in your midweek email.

***Equip Resumes Next Sunday***

We will meet again for Equip next Sunday, March 12th.

**Sunday, March 5th, 2023**

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

“Christ the Sure and Steady Anchor” Boswell & Papa

**Welcome** Bart Box

**Time of Silent Reflection**

**Call to Worship**

*1I will bless the LORD at all times;*

 *his praise shall continually be in my mouth.*

*2My soul makes its boast in the LORD;*

 *let the humble hear and be glad.*

*3Oh, magnify the LORD with me,*

 *and let us exalt his name together!*

*4I sought the LORD, and he answered me*

 *and delivered me from all my fears.*

*5Those who look to him are radiant,*

 *and their faces shall never be ashamed.*

*6This poor man cried, and the LORD heard him*

 *and saved him out of all his troubles.*

*7The angel of the LORD encamps*

 *around those who fear him, and delivers them.*

*8Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good!*

 *Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!*

*9Oh, fear the LORD, you his saints,*

 *for those who fear him have no lack!*

*10The young lions suffer want and hunger;*

 *but those who seek the LORD lack no good thing.*

(Psalm 34:1-10)

**Prayer of Invocation & Adoration**

**God’s Greeting & Mutual Greetings**

*3Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, 4who gave himself for our sins to deliver us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, 5to whom be the glory forever and ever. Amen.* (Galatians 1:3-5)

“Holy, Holy, Holy” Dykes & Heber

“All Creatures of Our God and King” Draper & Francis

**Public Reading of Scripture** – 3 John 2-8 Will Harrison

**Prayer of Confession & Assurance of Pardon** Nick Murray

*8Bear fruit in keeping with repentance.* (Matthew 3:8)

*20I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.* (Galatians 2:20)

**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]

“He Will Hold Me Fast” Habershon & Merker

“It Is Well with My Soul” Bliss & Spafford

**Prayer for Illumination** Will Mitchell

**Reading of the Preaching Passage** Emily Duke

**Preaching of God’s Word** Ryan Adams

“Parting Words from a Grateful Pastor”

Philippians 1:3-11

**The Lord’s Supper**

“We Will Feast in the House of Zion” McCracken

**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** Bart Box

**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**

*24The LORD bless you and keep you;*

*25the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;*

*26the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.* (Numbers 6:24-26)

“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 Their Church***

For Philadelphia Baptist Church:

* That Ryan and the elders there would have deep friendships, deep trust, and deep joy as they serve together.
* That all of our outgoing members would find meaningful and fruitful discipling relationships with the current members of PBC.
* That God would cause this partnership between our churches to bring increased strength within their body and increased witness outside of their body.
* That the gospel would continue to pervade that congregation so that it gets more deeply into every corner of their lives, even as they labor to get it to every corner of the world.

***For Our Church***

For Christ Fellowship Church:

* That God would grant our church great joy in our role of sending a pastor and sending people to help multiply what God has built here among us in another congregation in our city.
* That God would supply another pastor to help fill the role that Ryan is leaving behind.
* That God would supply the spiritual gifts that our congregation needs as we lose several faithful members.
* That God would cause this partnership between our churches to bring increased strength within our body and increased witness outside of our body.
* That the gospel would continue to pervade that congregation so that it gets more deeply into every corner of our lives, even as we labor to get it to every corner of the world.



