**More Upcoming CFC Events & Ministry Announcements**

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***Winter Weekend Reset*** ***– January 24-25***  
Ladies, join in us on Friday night, January 24 and Saturday morning for a weekend retreat where we will enjoy delicious food, good fellowship, and spend time in worship together. Our speaker will be local author and counselor Julie Sparkman. An early registration rate is available through the end of the year! Register at cfcbirmingham.org/women or on the Church Center App.

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

Ladies, join us for one of two Bible studies next semester:

1. **Day Time Study: Exodus, Part 2 (Exodus 16-21)**

* Dates: January 15—March 19
* Time: Wednesday mornings from 9:30-11:15am
* Led by Paige Herr
* Childcare is provided
* There is no need to have completed the Exodus, pt.1 Study to come!

1. **Night Time Study: Trinity Theology Study**

* Dates: January 27—March 19
* Time: Monday evenings from 7:00-8:30pm
* Led by Brittany Mann
* We’ll study Michael Reeves’ book *Delighting in the Trinity* (purchase your own copy of the book)

Register for either study at cfcbirmingham.org/women or on the Church Center app!

12/15/2024

**Upcoming CFC Events & Ministry Announcements**

***Christmas Eve Service – Tuesday, December 24th at 4:00pm***

We will hold our Christmas Eve service on Tuesday, December 24th at 4:00pm. There will be no CFC Kids offered, as we encourage families to come and worship together. We will have activity packs for preschool and elementary kids. The service should last about an hour.

***Year End Giving***

As we approach the end of the year, we want to begin by giving God thanks for the way he has provided for our church through your faithful giving. The Lord is good, and we are grateful that we have been able to support church ministries, give to local initiatives, and provide for our global partners. If you would like to give in the year 2024, you can either: 1) deposit your gift in the offering basket on December 29 (final Sunday of the year), 2) give online by December 31, or 3) mail a check to 76 Green Springs Hwy, Birmingham, AL 35209, postmarked by December 31.

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***Youth Christmas Party – Today after Church***

The youth Christmas party will directly follow the worship service today. Lunch and ridiculous games will be provided. Festive attire is encouraged but not required!

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***Kids Camp Registration is Open***

Registration for summer Student Life Kids Camp is available now. Kids Camp is for our students who are currently in 3rd-5th grades. Camp will take place at Shocco Springs Conference Center, July 15-18. Registration for friends of CFC families is now available, as space permits. Register in Church Center. Please let Sarah Beth know if you have any questions.

***Birds and Bees Seminar***

On January 10, 2025, we are going to host the "Birds and Bees" seminar night. The Birds and Bees seminar is a simple video-based course that aims to give parents the tools and confidence to talk to their young kids about sex. We hope that by educating and empowering your kids, you build a foundation for future conversations, protect them from dangers on and offline, and have the power of the first impression. The course is aimed at parents of kids ages 1–10. We'd love for moms and dads to make a date night out of this evening and attend together if they are able. Dinner is available for purchase if you'd like to make it a full night, or you can come just for the seminar portion. Register on Church Center.

**Sunday, December 15, 2024**

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

“All Things Together” Peterson

**Welcome** Bart Box

**Time of Silent Reflection**

**Call to Worship**

*[15] He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. [16] For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. [17] And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. [18] And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. [19] For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, [20] and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.* (Colossians 1:15–20)

**Prayer of Invocation & Adoration**

**God’s Greeting & Mutual Greetings**

*[13] But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.* (Ephesians 2:13)

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

“Joy to the World” Handel & Watts

**Public Reading of Scripture** – Luke 1:39-56

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

*[14] Seek good, and not evil,*

*that you may live;*

*and so the LORD, the God of hosts, will be with you,*

*as you have said.*

*[15] Hate evil, and love good,*

*and establish justice in the gate;*

*it may be that the LORD, the God of hosts,*

*will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.* (Amos 5:14–15)

*[21] But if a wicked person turns away from all his sins that he has committed and keeps all my statutes and does what is just and right, he shall surely live; he shall not die. [22] None of the transgressions that he has committed shall be remembered against him; for the righteousness that he has done he shall live. [23] Have I any pleasure in the death of the wicked, declares the Lord GOD, and not rather that he should turn from his way and live?* (Ezekiel 18:21–23)

**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]

“Amen, Amen” Robins & Watts

“O Come, All Ye Faithful” Oakely & Wade

**Prayer for Illumination** Will Mitchell

**Reading of the Preaching Passage**

**Preaching of God’s Word** Bart Box

Micah: “Power Trips”

Micah 3

**The Lord’s Supper**

“Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery” Boswell, Papa, & Bleecker

**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 G.

**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**

*[14] The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.* (2 Corinthians 13:14)

“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, 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 Homewood Community Church, pastor Tom Franklin, their staff, elders, and congregation.

***For Our Nation***

For current and future presidents Joe Biden and Donald Trump, for a peaceful transition of power next month, that President Trump would lead our nation righteously, that God would support him with wise and godly counselors to help him avoid error, and that the policies which will be adopted in the next four years would promote human flourishing for all.

***For Our World***

For our sent partners, C & E, for new relationships that are being formed in their new residence and in a new job that was recently started, that in all these relationships the gospel would be at the center so new friends can receive God’s Word for the first time, and also that friendships with other believers would serve as long-term nourishment for our partners and their local church body.

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