**More Upcoming CFC Events & Ministry Announcements**

A logo with a black background

Description automatically generated

***Youth Meets Tonight from 5:00-7:00pm***

The youth will meet tonight! Join us for free dinner, Bible study, and games!

***A grey symbol with dots and a square

Description automatically generated with medium confidence***

***Men's Theology Breakfast***

Men, theology breakfast has returned! We’ll meet weekly on Tuesdays, starting at 6:20am, and finishing at 7:15am. The book will be *The Wonderful Works of God* by Herman Bavinck. Come for food, fellowship, and fruitful discussion of God and His Word. Registration is $32.50, which covers the cost of the book. There is also a small suggested weekly donation to cover ongoing food costs. You can register in the church center app. If you already have the book, reach out to Keri ([kwestbrook@cfcbirmingham.org](mailto:kwestbrook@cfcbirmingham.org)) for a discount code.

A logo for women's milk

Description automatically generated

***Around the Tables Dinners***

Around the Tables is a series of one time dinners for 8-10 people that provide the opportunity for women to fellowship and meet new friends around a meal. Sign up on the church center app to join a meal in one of four different locations over the next month!

3/16/2025

**Upcoming CFC Events & Ministry Announcements**

***CFC International Lunch after Church Today***

CFC is hosting an international lunch for its members and attendees who were born or raised in a country other than the USA. It will take placeimmediately following the morning service today. The aim is to allow those of us with cultural backgrounds distinct from the US to gather over lunch and to be encouraged through the process. You are welcome to bring food from your home culture to contribute to a diverse meal that will represent our various cultural backgrounds.

A close-up of a logo

Description automatically generated

***Upcoming CFC Global Outreach Trip Opportunities***

* **Tanzania / May 22 – June 3**: The goal of this trip is multifaceted: 1) come alongside the local church to equip and encourage local Christ-followers; 2) impact students at Tumaini Jipya Girls School; 3) teach local young adults on biblical manhood and womanhood; 4) begin laying the foundation for a medical mission partnership. Please reach out to Rachel Hagues if you have questions. If you are interested, please fill out the interest form using the link in the midweek email.
* **Germany / July 19-26:**The goal of this trip is to connect with CFC Sent Partners serving in the Middle East for a week of encouragement, learning about ministry in the Arab world, and laboring together in local outreach to Arab tourists. Please reach out to Brian G. if you have questions.
* **Brazil / August 13-21:**The goal is to assist in planting and growing new churches in underprivileged communities by connecting with local people through medical and dental clinics. Medical experience is helpful but not necessary. It is also crucial to have non-medical brothers and sisters to support the work of the clinic and spend time establishing relationships and sharing the gospel. Please reach out to Jess Mann if you have questions. If you are interested, please fill out the interest form using the link in the midweek email.

***A close-up of a logo

Description automatically generated***

***VBS Volunteer Sign Ups***

Now is the time to sign up to volunteer at VBS! VBS will take place at CFC June 23-26 from 9am-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! We hope to have all volunteers signed up by the end of March so that we can launch participant registration for VBS in April. Register in the Church Center app.

***A logo with a group of books

Description automatically generated***

***College Student Lunch – Sunday, March 23 after Church***

All college students are invited to a free lunch immediately following the service on Sunday, March 23 in the fellowship hall. If you have any questions, contact Jonathan (205) 792-6403.

**Sunday, March 16, 2025**

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

“We’re Redeemed” Hooten & Heine

**Welcome** Nick Murray

**Time of Silent Reflection**

**Call to Worship**

*[31] What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? [32] He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? [33] Who shall bring any charge against God’s elect? It is God who justifies. [34] Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. [35] Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? [36] As it is written,*

*“For your sake we are being killed all the day long;*

*we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.”*

*[37] No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. [38] For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, [39] nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.* (Romans 8:31–39)

**Prayer of Invocation & Adoration**

**God’s Greeting & Mutual Greetings**

*[12] Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him.* (James 1:12)

“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God” Luther

“Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder” Cowper

**Public Reading of Scripture** – Matthew 5:10-12

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

*[4] I tell you, my friends, do not fear those who kill the body, and after that have nothing more that they can do. [5] But I will warn you whom to fear: fear him who, after he has killed, has authority to cast into hell. Yes, I tell you, fear him! [6] Are not five sparrows sold for two pennies? And not one of them is forgotten before God. [7] Why, even the hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not; you are of more value than many sparrows.* (Luke 12:4–7)

*[1] But now thus says the LORD,*

*he who created you, O Jacob,*

*he who formed you, O Israel:*

*“Fear not, for I have redeemed you;*

*I have called you by name, you are mine.*

*[2] When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;*

*and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;*

*when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,*

*and the flame shall not consume you.*

*[3] For I am the LORD your God,*

*the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.* (Isaiah 43:1–3)

**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]

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

“This Is My Father’s World” Babcock & Murray

**Prayer for Illumination** Will Mitchell

**Reading of the Preaching Passage**

**Preaching of God’s Word** Bart Box

Behold: “The Church that Suffers”

Revelation 2:8-11

**The Lord’s Supper**

“Christ Is Mine Forevermore” Robinson & Thompson

**Offering**

***[9] For 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)

***[7] Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. [8] And 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** Ryan Childress

**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**

May you remain faithful, persevering in the face of opposition and overcoming by the blood of the Lamb, so that one day, not too distant from today, you may with all the saints behold in the new Jerusalem the face of Him who loves you and gave Himself for you, never to weep again, suffer again, or die again, only to reign forever with the King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

“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 God to grow us in faithfulness to Christ and keep us back from fear, regardless of the cost that may come with faithfulness; that we would remain steadfast under trial (James 1:12); that we would fight the good fight, finish the course, and keep the faith as we live for the crown of life (2 Timothy 4:7-8); and that we would grow in confidence that nothing—not even persecution—can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus (Romans 8:35-39).

***For Our City***

For Christ the King Anglican Church, pastor Michael Novotney, their staff, elders, and congregation.

***For Our Nation***

For the preservation of religious liberty in our nation, so that we may live peaceful and quiet lives, godly and dignified in every way (1 Tim. 2:2); and that God would strengthen and purify the American church so that would remain faithful to the Great Commission even if those liberties are taken away.

***For Our World***

For the persecuted church around the world, and in particular for Cornerstone Church: for their pastors and members who have been experiencing increased attention, fines, and threats from local authorities; for the protection of their congregation and their meeting space; for wisdom in how they will respond to this matter; and for boldness in the face of persecution.

Qr code                                                
                                                
Description automatically generated