**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.

4/14/24

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

***Membership Matters Class – Sunday, April 21 at 2:00pm***

If you are interested in becoming a member at CFC, we are planning to hold a Membership Matters class on Sunday, April 21st at 2:00pm. Attending this class is an important part of the process of becoming a member of Christ Fellowship Church. If you are interested in attending, please sign up at cfcbirmingham.org/membership-matters, or email Nick Murray at nmurray@cfcbirmingham.org with any questions.

***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 9am-Noon. Kids ages 4 through completed 5th grade can participate in VBS. Sign up via this QR code. We hope to have all volunteers signed up this week so that we can launch participant registration for VBS in April.

***Spring College Dinner Tonight***

All college students are invited to a free dinner tonight **at 6:00pm** at Brian G’s home. The address is 5256 Valleybrook Trace, Birmingham, AL 35244. Bring your friends! Contact Jonathan Shepard at (205) 792-6403 with any questions.

***Short-term Mission Opportunity in Tanzania***

CFC is sending a team to Ukerewe, Tanzania beginning May 24 and returning June 4. Beyond ministering to girls at Tumaini Jipya (New Hope) Secondary School, there are opportunities to teach and serve the local church and in the community. Please click the link in the midweek email if you are interested!

***Women’s Spring Bible Studies***

Ladies, join us for a 6-Week Study on the book of Colossians. April 10th -May 15th on Wednesday mornings at CFC from 9:30-11:15 am. You can register for that in the Church Center app. We are also offering a study of Matthew on Wednesday evenings starting on April 3, let by Janet Thorn. Email Janet at janetthorn7@gmail.comor more details.

***Women’s Spring Held Gathering – Thursday, April 25***

Ladies, join us at 6:00pm on Thursday, April 25, for dinner, worship, and a talk by Brittany Mann on the topic of "Holy Limitations." Register in the Church Center app.

***Refugee Outreach Opportunity and Training – Sunday, April 21***

Hundreds of refugees from around the world are now living within a few miles of the church and more are on the way. They need care groups to help make this transition possible. This is a great outreach opportunity for growth groups. A training course is required and we are hosting one in the fellowship hall on Sunday, April 21 from 8:30-10:00 am. Breakfast and childcare will be provided. Register in the Church Center app.

***Youth Moms Table Talk – Monday, April 29 at 6:00pm***

Moms of youth at CFC, please join us for an evening of connection and conversation around parenting tweens/teens on Monday, April 29th at 6:00pm! The goal for the night is to provide connection with other moms of teens, talk through specific topics related to parenting teens, and to spend time in prayer for one another. This will take place in the fellowship hall with dinner provided by CFC which Sara Beth G is cooking! Please register in the Church Center app.

***Himalayan Outreach Meeting – Sunday, May 5 at 9:00am***

Join Brian G. for an informational meeting about this year’s opportunities to be involved in learning more about the region as well as a vision trip in the Fall. We will meet on Sunday, May 5th at 9:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. Breakfast will be provided. Register in the Church Center app.

**Sunday, April 14, 2024**

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

“His Mercy Is More” Boswell & Papa

**Welcome** Jared Jones

**Time of Silent Reflection**

**Call to Worship**

*1Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name;*

 *make known his deeds among the peoples!*

*2Sing to him, sing praises to him;*

 *tell of all his wondrous works!*

*3Glory in his holy name;*

 *let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice!*

*4Seek the LORD and his strength;*

 *seek his presence continually!*

*5Remember the wondrous works that he has done,*

 *his miracles, and the judgments he uttered,*

*6O offspring of Abraham, his servant,*

 *children of Jacob, his chosen ones!*

*7He is the LORD our God;*

 *his judgments are in all the earth.*

*8He remembers his covenant forever,*

 *the word that he commanded, for a thousand generations.*

(Psalm 105:1-8)

**Prayer of Invocation & Adoration**

**God’s Greeting & Mutual Greetings**

*7Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. 8Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.*

(James 4:7-8a)

“O Love that Will Not Let Me Go” Matheson & Miner

“He Will Hold Me Fast” Habershon & Merker

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

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

*13Let no one say when he is tempted, “I am being tempted by God,” for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. 14But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. 15Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.* (James 1:13-15)

*13No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.* (1 Corinthians 10:13)

**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]

“Before the Throne of God Above” Bancroft & Cook

“Your Will Be Done” Robinson & Thompson

**Prayer for Illumination** Chase Mobbs

**Reading of the Preaching Passage**

**Preaching of God’s Word** Bart Box

Beginnings: “Know Thine Enemy”

Genesis 3:1-6

**The Lord’s Supper**

“Christ the Sure and Steady Anchor” Boswell & Papa

**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**

**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**

*8Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. 9Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world. 10And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you.* (1 Peter 5:8-10)

“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, that God would mark us as a people who are constantly repenting from sin in our lives, that we would not grow complacent with areas of rebellion in our own lives, that we would bear increased fruit by God’s Spirit, and that we would continually turn toward Christ to receive mercy and pardon.

***For Our City***

For Philadelphia Baptist Church, pastor Ryan Adams, their elders, staff, and congregation.

***For Our Nation***

For president Joe Biden and all other elected officials, that they would use authority for the benefit of others; that they would act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly; and that they would exercise discernment and wisdom in governing our cities, states, and nation.

***For Our World***

For the nation of Thailand, for wise and godly leadership to govern the nation in a way that promotes human flourishing, for the church in Thailand to faithfully proclaim and display the gospel hope of Jesus Christ, and that many would turn in faith to the living God and find life in him.



