******

***VBS Registration is Now Open!***

This year at VBS kids will be challenged as they discover that God’s truth never changes and everyone needs Jesus. Adventure awaits each day as kids explore tide pools, spot orcas, fly kites, and watch the mighty waves crash up against the immovable Breaker Rock! **VBS will take place June 24-27 from 9 am-Noon.** Kids ages 4 (by September 1, 2024) through completed 4th grade are welcome! VBS registration is currently open for CFC families. We will open VBS registration to the community on May 9. Register at this QR code.

***VBS Volunteers***

Have you completed your VBS volunteer registration? **We are still eager to fill more Bible study leader spots!**VBS will take place at CFC June 24-27 from 9am-Noon. Register at this QR Code. If you have questions, or are on the fence about being able to volunteer, please email Sarah Beth at sb@cfcbirmingham.org.

***CFC Kids Volunteers Needed***

We need to add **8 volunteers** for the summer CFC Kids rotation! You would serve once a month in May, June, and July. We have openings in the following age groups:

* Nursery / Red - 4 months-18 months
* Orange - 18 months-2 year olds
* Yellow - 2-3 year olds
* Blue - 4-5 year olds

**Please email Sarah Beth at sb@cfcbirmingham.org today if you are willing to serve with one of these groups!**

4/28/24

**Upcoming CFC Events & Ministry Announcements**

***Prayer Meeting and Fellowship Meal – Sunday, May 5 at 5:00pm***

All are invited to join us for our monthly fellowship meal and prayer meeting on Sunday, May 5th at 5:00pm. Though our semester’s Equip classes are over, we will have childcare for preschoolers and elementary aged kids. The youth group will also meet at this time. Dinner is free, but please RSVP at this QR code.

***50+ Fellowship – Saturday, May 4 at 5:30pm***

All 50+ members and visitors are invited to a Quattro de Mayo fiesta at the home of Paul and Donna Lefebvre on Saturday, May 4th, at 5:30 pm for Mexican fare and fellowship. Get more details and sign up for something to bring at the link in your midweek email. If you have any questions, contact Donna at 205-533-4667.



***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.

***Brazil Mission Trip – October 9-17***

CFC is planning to send a team back to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil from October 9-17. The goal is to connect with and evangelize people in underprivileged communities through short term medical and dental clinics. Medical experience is helpful but not necessary. It is just as crucial to have non-medical Christian brothers and sisters to support the work of the clinic and to spend focused time establishing relationships with locals through evangelism. If interested in going, please contact Jess Mann at jessehmann@gmail.com.



***Women’s Summer Bible Studies***

Join us for an in-depth study of Galatians in both a daytime and nighttime offering. Over several weeks this summer we will study the book of Galatians in an approachable study that we hope you can join no matter your summer schedule. We look forward to studying with you!  Childcare is available for daytime study **only**, so be sure to register yourself and your child/children. Choose to register for all weeks or only the weeks you can attend. Register at cfcbirmingham.org/women.



***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.

**Sunday, April 28, 2024**

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

“Grace Greater Than Our Sin” Johnston & Towner

**Welcome** Bart Box

**Time of Silent Reflection**

**Call to Worship**

*18For you have not come to what may be touched, a blazing fire and darkness and gloom and a tempest 19and the sound of a trumpet and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that no further messages be spoken to them. 20For they could not endure the order that was given, “If even a beast touches the mountain, it shall be stoned.” 21Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, “I tremble with fear.” 22But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, 23and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, 24and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.* (Hebrews 12:18-24)

**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)

“Nothing but the Blood” Lowry

“Shine into Our Night” Sczebel

**Public Reading of Scripture** – 1 John 3:11-15

**Prayer of Confession & Assurance of Pardon** Will Kynes

*21You have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not murder; and whoever murders will be liable to judgment.’ 22But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment; whoever insults his brother will be liable to the council; and whoever says, ‘You fool!’ will be liable to the hell of fire.* (Matthew 5:21-22)

*16By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers.* (1 John 3:16)

**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]

“Jesus, Thank You” Sczebel

“There Is a Fountain” Cowper

**Prayer for Illumination** Will Mitchell

**Reading of the Preaching Passage**

**Preaching of God’s Word** Bart Box

Beginnings: “East of Eden”

Genesis 4:1-16

**The Lord’s Supper**

“Christ Our Hope in Life and Death” Kauflin, Getty, Boswell, & Merker

**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** Dennis Schauer

**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**

*20Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, 21equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.* (Hebrews 13:20-21)

“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 we would be faithful in discipling one another; that our Growth Groups would be places of biblical growth and accountability; and that we would grow together in godliness as we study the Bible together in church, Growth Groups, and one-on-one relationships.

***For Our City***

For Hunter Street Baptist Church, pastor Buddy Gray, their elders, staff, and congregation.

***For Our Nation***

For our nation's judicial system, that judges from the Supreme Court to traffic court would give right judgments, and that that those looking for justice would look to God as the final and never-failing Judge.

***For Our World***

For the nation of Oman, that 1.7 million Middle Eastern and Central Asian people living in the capital city of Muscat would have access to the gospel, that they would have access to the Scriptures, that they would have access to local believers who can share the gospel with them, and that they would have access to churches so they can see and hear the gospel through a local body.



