**More Upcoming CFC Events & Ministry Announcements**

***Fall 2024 Equip Registration Now Open***

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Description automatically generatedThe Fall semester of our Sunday evening Equip classes begins on September 15 and will run through November 17. This weekly teaching time will be paired with a fellowship meal, the cost of which is covered in your registration. And if you prefer not to purchase dinner, you are welcome to simply join us for the discipleship classes. Kids classes will continue in a similar curriculum from previous semesters and the youth will meet as usual.

There are 3 adult classes offered this semester:

1. An Evangelism class will be taught by Brian G. And Dennis Schauer.
2. A men’s only study of David Powlison’s book *Good & Angry: Redeeming Anger, Irritation, Complaining, & Bitterness,* taught by Jared Jones.
3. A women’s only study of Esther Smith’s book *A Still and Quiet Mind: Twelve Strategies for Changing Unwanted Thoughts,* taught by Paige Herr.

You can find out more about the Equip schedule and register at the QR code above.

***Updated Addresses in the Midweek Email***

If you are a CFC member and you have noticed that you no longer receive the midweek email, please email Keri at [kwestbrook@cfcbirmingham.org](mailto:kwestbrook@cfcbirmingham.org) to ensure that she has your correct email address on file.

8/18/2024

**Upcoming CFC Events & Ministry Announcements**

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***CFC Kids Promotion Sunday is Today***

Promotion Sunday is today! Please be aware of changes to your child(ren)’s new classroom location.

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***Youth Back to School Service – Tonight at 5:00pm***

CFC youth will host a joint back to school service with the youth from Homewood Community Church in the CFC Worship Room. It will be from 5:00-7:00pm on Sunday, August 18. Dinner is included. While the youth meet to pray in the worship room, the youth room will be available from 5:00-5:30pm for any CFC parents who would like to pray for their students and the new school year.

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***College Student Cookout – Thursday, August 29***

All college students are invited to a cookout on Thursday, August 29 at 7:00pm at Charlie Ann and Jonathan Shepard’s home (1525 Glenwood Road Hoover, AL). If you have any questions contact Jonathan (205) 792-6403. Dinner will be provided and guests are encouraged.

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***Cross Cultural Evangelism Training***

Brian G. and others will lead a 3-part series on Sunday mornings at 9:00am this Fall (9/22, 9/29, and 10/6). This will be valuable for any CFC member as we encounter an increasing number of religious and cultural worldviews in our own community and as we travel internationally as a church. Come learn about major religious and cultural worldviews as well as best practices and strategies to introduce the Gospel. Breakfast and childcare will be provided, please register in the Church Center app.

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***Fall Women’s Bible Study Offerings***

We will have two bible studies to offer women this Fall.

1. A daytime study on Exodus, taught by Paige Herr. This class will meet on Wednesday mornings from 9:30-11:15am in the Fellowship Hall. Childcare will be available. This class runs from 9/18-11/13.
2. A nighttime study on 1 John, taught by Brittany Mann. This class will meet on Monday evenings from 7:00-8:30pm at the Mann’s home. This class runs from 9/16-11/4.

We would love to have you join us for a study this fall!  Register on the Church Center app!

**Sunday, August 18, 2024**

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

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling Wesley

**Welcome** Billy Shepard

**Time of Silent Reflection**

**Call to Worship**

*1Preserve me, O God, for in you I take refuge.*

*2I say to the LORD, “You are my Lord;*

*I have no good apart from you.”*

*3As for the saints in the land, they are the excellent ones,*

*in whom is all my delight.*

*4The sorrows of those who run after another god shall multiply;*

*their drink offerings of blood I will not pour out*

*or take their names on my lips.*

*5The LORD is my chosen portion and my cup;*

*you hold my lot.*

*6The lines have fallen for me in pleasant places;*

*indeed, I have a beautiful inheritance.*

*7I bless the LORD who gives me counsel;*

*in the night also my heart instructs me.*

*8I have set the LORD always before me;*

*because he is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.*

*9Therefore my heart is glad, and my whole being rejoices;*

*my flesh also dwells secure.*

*10For you will not abandon my soul to Sheol,*

*or let your holy one see corruption.*

*11You make known to me the path of life;*

*in your presence there is fullness of joy;*

*at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.* (Psalm 16)

**Prayer of Invocation & Adoration**

**God’s Greeting & Mutual Greetings**

*2Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.* (Philippians 1:2)

“A Day for Singing” Langdon, Early, & Wong, Leonhardt

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

**Public Reading of Scripture** – 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

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

*1Unless the LORD builds the house,*

*those who build it labor in vain.*

*Unless the LORD watches over the city,*

*the watchman stays awake in vain.*

*2It is in vain that you rise up early*

*and go late to rest,*

*eating the bread of anxious toil;*

*for he gives to his beloved sleep.* (Psalm 127:1-2)

*13In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, 14who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.* (Ephesians 1:13-14)

**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]

“Christ the Sure and Steady Anchor” Boswell & Papa

“On Jordan’s Stormy Banks I Stand” Stennet & White

**Prayer for Illumination** Will Mitchell

**Reading of the Preaching Passage**

**Preaching of God’s Word** Bart Box

Beginnings: “Grieving, but Not without Hope”

Genesis 23

**The Lord’s Supper**

“Amazing Grace” Newton

**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** Will Kynes

**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**

*3Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you.* (1 Peter 1:3-4)

“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.

**This Week We’re Praying…**

***For Our Church***

For our church, that we would be faithful to our mission of making disciples of Jesus who love God and love their neighbor; and that each passing week would bring us more in line with our vision of seeing the gospel spread more deeply into every corner of our lives and more fully unto every corner of the world.

***For Our City***

For Grace Fellowship, pastor Joel Busby, their elders, staff, and congregation.

***For Our Nation***

For police officers, firefighters, and first responders, that the Lord would help them to look after the good of others as they serve and protect; that they would be consistent in maintaining peace and just order; and that God would protect them as they serve in dangerous situations.

***For Our World***

For the nation of Venezuela, that in light of the recent election results, the country might have relief from unrest, demonstrations, and protests; for the church to be a light in the midst of chaos; for those who have fled from the country in recent years to find hope and security; and for many children and families who have been left behind as family members have sought better opportunities outside of the country.

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