**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.

8/4/2024

**Upcoming CFC Events & Ministry Announcements**

***Membership Matters Class – Sunday, August 11 at 2:00pm***

If you are interested in becoming a member at CFC, we are planning to hold a Membership Matters class on Sunday, August 11th 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.

***Prayer Meeting & Fellowship Meal – Tonight at 5:00pm***

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***50+ Fellowship – Friday, August 16 at 6:00pm***

All adults aged 50 and older are invited to a 50+ dinner and fellowship at the home of Mac and Jan Morson on Friday, August 16th, at 6:00pm.

You may sign up to bring a dish, using the link in your midweek email. Please contact Donna Lefebvre for more information or with questions.

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***Promotion Sunday – August 18***

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Description automatically generatedPromotion Sunday will take place Sunday, August 18. **We still have a few openings in our preschool classes to fill for our CFC Kids volunteer team. There is also still a need for people to serve on the back-up team if you have a work schedule that keeps you away from the service multiple Sundays a month.** You can still sign up at this QR code. If you have questions or would like to talk more about what this commitment looks like, please email Sarah Beth.

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***Youth Back to School Service – August 11th 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 5:00pm-7:00pm on Sunday, August 11th. Dinner is included.

**Sunday, August 4, 2024**

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

“Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing” Robinson & Wyeth

**Welcome** Billy Shepard

**Time of Silent Reflection**

**Call to Worship**

*1Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!*

*2 Serve the LORD with gladness!*

*Come into his presence with singing!*

*3Know that the LORD, he is God!*

*It is he who made us, and we are his;*

*we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.*

*4Enter his gates with thanksgiving,*

*and his courts with praise!*

*Give thanks to him; bless his name!*

*5For the LORD is good;*

*his steadfast love endures forever,*

*and his faithfulness to all generations.* (Psalm 100)

**Prayer of Invocation & Adoration**

**God’s Greeting & Mutual Greetings**

*15Can a woman forget her nursing child,*

*that she should have no compassion on the son of her womb?*

*Even these may forget,*

*yet I will not forget you.*

*16Behold, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands.*

(Isaiah 49:15-16)

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

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness” Chisolm & Runyan

**Public Reading of Scripture** – Hebrews 11:8-12

**Prayer of Confession & Assurance of Pardon** Jared Jones

*3Trust in the LORD, and do good;*

*dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness.*

*4Delight yourself in the LORD,*

*and he will give you the desires of your heart.*

*5Commit your way to the LORD;*

*trust in him, and he will act.* (Psalm 37:3-5)

*20For all the promises of God find their Yes in him. That is why it is through him that we utter our Amen to God for his glory.* (2 Corinthians 1:20)

**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]

“Thy Mercy, My God” Stocker & McCracken

“It Is Well with My Soul” Bliss & Spafford

**Prayer for Illumination** Daniel Barriault

**Reading of the Preaching Passage**

**Preaching of God’s Word** Bart Box

Beginnings: “Faith over Fear”

Genesis 21

**The Lord’s Supper**

“We Will Feast in the House of Zion” McCracken

**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** Nick Murray

**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**

*13May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.* (Romans 15:13)

“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 all who will go back to school this week: for teachers, and administrators to serve and instruct their students in ways that lead to flourishing; for students to have a fruitful year of learning and growing; that our CFC kids and students would not be conformed to the pattern of this world but would instead be transformed by the renewing of their minds; and that they would grow in the knowledge of their school materials as well as the knowledge of Christ.

***For Our City***

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

***For Our Nation***

For upcoming presidential election, that God would supply the best individual to lead our country during these times, that God would prevent the further fracturing of our country along political lines by granting unexpected unity, and that Christians would lead the way in modeling that our trust is not in any human leader or political party but in the Lord Jesus alone.

***For Our World***

For the nation of Thailand: for the healthy growth of strong churches with increasingly faithful members, pastors, and deacons; for Christians living and working in Thailand to effectively reach out to their Thai neighbors and co-workers with the gospel; and specifically for CFC member Chase Mobbs as he leads worship at an international school retreat this week in Bangkok.

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