



Charlton & Blackheath Christian Fellowship
Email: info@cbcf.org.uk Web Site: www.cbcf.org.uk

Fellowship Profile

Christ centred · Bible based · Spirit led

Charlton & Blackheath Christian Fellowship is seeking a person to join their leadership team who is Spirit-filled, evangelical, inspirational, enthusiastic, and with a passion for Christ. We are a caring, family orientated Church, so we believe the person of God's choice will be able to communicate effectively with a wide range of age groups and ethnic and social diversity. We seek someone who will offer strong biblical teaching, a heart for prayer, and effectiveness in local mission with a good sense of humour, wisdom and compassion. We are praying for a leader with vision, engaging with both Church and community, and guiding the Church to develop as The Spirit leads.

CBFC is a group of Christians who meet on the borders of Charlton & Blackheath in South East London. We have four main areas of focus:

- **Meeting together on a Sunday and in small groups to –**

Worship God

We encourage everyone to participate in our worship which is both contemporary and traditional. We believe in the “priesthood of all believers” and encourage the use of spiritual gifts.

Learn from God’s word

Preaching and teaching from the Bible are regular features of our meetings.

Our Sunday meetings are usually interpreted in to British Sign Language and there are activities for children and young people. We use a rented hall (Boys’ Brigade Hall, Reynolds Place, SE3 8SX).

- **Sharing our lives together.** We meet regularly in small groups (including young people) to encourage, support and disciple each other and there is a strong sense of love and care.
- **Praying together.** There are regular monthly church prayer meetings on a Sunday evening and a weekly prayer meeting held in a home. Urgent prayer requests are sent out by email and posted on the CBCF web site. Prayer plays an important part in our Sunday meetings (with regular ‘Prayer & Share’ meetings) and our small groups.
- **Looking outward.** We want to share the good news of Jesus with our community, both in the immediate area of our meeting place, the wider area of locality and with our neighbours and friends. We run a number of social events during the year and encourage our members to invite guests. We have also run Alpha Courses for those interested in finding out more about Christianity. Recently some of our members have started a *Healing On The Street* (HOTS) project.



Charlton & Blackheath Christian Fellowship
Email: info@cbcf.org.uk Web Site: www.cbcf.org.uk

Leadership

CBCF uses a 'plural eldership' model of leadership. Until recently there were three elders. One of the elders was employed by the church; the other two are both volunteers. The employed elder has recently stood down to take up a position as the Pastoral Director to English Football, a newly created post to support the work of Football chaplains nationally. The two remaining elders work within the church and also outside in the community. One has been a voluntary leader within the church almost since its inception, some 25 years ago. Now being semi-retired, he continues to preach, teach, carries pastoral responsibility and leads administration within the church. Outside he has strong connections with education, is also a Borough Dean and represents the views of local independent churches to the Greenwich Borough Council. The other elder is a full time Staff Evangelist with OAC Ministries. (www.oacgb.org.uk) Within the church he has responsibility for Sunday school, shared pastoral care, and outreach activities.

The eldership team meets regularly and co-ordinates the life of the church; they liaise with a designated woman within the church, as they recognize the need for the views of both genders to be fully considered. They also currently meet with a larger core team of group leaders since the resignation of the third elder.

The Fellowship

CBCF has been established for 25 years and is a charitable trust (with 6 trustees) registered with the Charity Commissioners. It currently has a membership of around 70 adults, children and teenagers. Membership is not formal, but consists of those who attend regularly. There are usually a couple of Fellowship Meetings each year to share vision, receive financial reports from Trustees and discuss any issues.

CBCF would best be described as an evangelical/charismatic church which sprang from the renewal movement. Although it has never actually been a 'house' church it was influenced by that tradition. A formal 'Statement of Faith' is printed below.

Sunday Meetings are held in a rented hall, the Boys' Brigade Hall, in Reynolds Place on the border of Charlton and Blackheath. CBCF members are drawn mainly from a wide area of the London Boroughs of Greenwich and Bexley. Our volunteer administrator works from a rented office at Blackheath Standard in the Greenwich Youth for Christ offices.

Kingdom Perspective

CBCF tries to make a positive contribution to the Kingdom of God and not to be very insular in its focus. It is part of a small network of 5 churches called 'River Network' and also a much bigger grouping, Churches in Communities. The fellowship is a member of the Evangelical Alliance and also of Churches Together in Charlton. Other links include working with Greenwich Youth for Christ and Hope Greenwich.

Key Challenges

The main challenge facing the church is the need for growth in numbers attending. There are currently less than 50 adults and there has been a steady fall in numbers over the past few years. Ideally we would like growth to be from people being saved, rather from transfer growth. Although we do not want to be 'numbers oriented' the capacity of the church to fulfil its mission is determined by the number of active and supporting members.



Charlton & Blackheath Christian Fellowship
Email: info@cbcf.org.uk Web Site: www.cbcf.org.uk

The age profile of the church is slowly rising and we need to attract families from the local community and see a growth in younger people to plan and sustain the future of the church.

CBCF STATEMENT OF FAITH

We believe

1. The full inspiration of the Holy Scriptures contained in the Bible: their authority and sufficiency as not only containing, but being in themselves, the Word of God; the reliability of the New Testament in its testimony to the character and authorship of the Old Testament; and the need of the teaching of the Holy Spirit to a true and spiritual understanding of the whole.
2. The unity of the Godhead and the divine co-equality of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit; the sovereignty of God in creation, providence and redemption.
3. The utter depravity of human nature in consequence of the fall and the necessity for regeneration.
4. The true and proper deity of our Lord Jesus Christ; his virgin birth, His real and perfect manhood; the authority of his teaching; His work of atonement for sinners of mankind by his vicarious sufferings and death; His bodily resurrection and His ascension into heaven; His present priestly intercession for His people; and His function as the Baptiser with the Holy Spirit.
5. The justification of the sinner solely by faith, through the atoning merits of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.
6. The necessity of the work of the Holy Spirit in conversion, regeneration and sanctification; also in ministry and worship and in the exercising of spiritual gifts through the body of believers.
7. The resurrection of the body; the judgment of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ with the eternal blessedness of the righteous and the eternal punishment of the wicked.
8. The observance of Baptism by immersion of believers as an ordinance of divine institution, the Lord's Supper as a commemoration of our Lord's death but not as being a sacrifice for sin or involving any change in the substance in the bread and wine.
9. The personal return of the Lord Jesus Christ for His Church.