



CHRIST CHURCH
EARLSFIELD

CHURCH PROFILE

Introduction Christ Church Earlsfield ("CCE")

CCE is an Anglican church that is part of the Co-mission network of churches. The Bishop of Maidstone (Rod Thomas) is our bishop, steering us as we seek to grow relationships and opportunities for the gospel within the diocese of Southwark.

CCE was planted back in 2008 and the initial 25 people joined from a handful of churches which had people living in the Earlsfield area. We initially met in the local CofE parish as an evening congregation, but as numbers grew and families joined us, we had to move to accommodate a change in time. We now meet in Southfields Academy which lies on the border of Southfields and Earlsfield, but long term we would love to be back in the heart of Earlsfield. Ten years on, we are now 70 adults and 30 children, and we give great thanks to God that he has established this congregation in the Earlsfield/Southfields area.

As a Co-mission church; CCE retains links of gospel fellowship and financial accountability with Co-mission churches but has its own eldership that governs its own congregational life. As a church we have no geographical boundaries in our outreach or pastoral responsibility, both being based on our existing membership. We are passionate about reaching many more in the local area and beyond with God's good news about Jesus. By God's grace, we see future congregations being planted out from CCE, and we have existing relationships and plans with another local CofE parish and have begun working with them to consider how we might revitalize that local parish church.

At the heart of our church life are our four home groups which meet on Tuesday evenings and our women's group which meets on Friday mornings. This year we are working through the book of Hebrews (in the last few years we have looked at Ephesians, Ecclesiastes, Revelation, and a Bible overview). We consider these groups essential to the ministry at CCE, for personal growth, to train leaders and for pastoral care/accountability. Each month the leaders gather on a Sunday afternoon and go through each passage for the following few weeks; this is currently led by one of the elders.

We are committed to growing and discipling our children and young people, through a committed team of Sunday school teachers. We also have a youth programme that meets monthly.

CCE is supported by a women's worker who works full-time. We also have a volunteer part-time administrator. The eldership is committed to recruiting further staff to enable the ministry at CCE.

Overall there is a clear vision (having recently launched our next 5 year strategy 'Every person bearing fruit for Jesus') of church growth through the ministry of the Word, on Sundays and in small groups and conducting evangelism in our local community.

The Local Area

The congregation is spread mainly around Earlsfield, Southfields and Wimbledon Park. We meet in Southfields Academy which lies nearly on the border of Earlsfield and Southfields.

The area is mixed; there are a few small council estates, but like much of south west London it is quickly being gentrified. Many of our Church members work in central London, and therefore seek to be an Influence both in the Immediate area and in the Capital.

Local Schools

The local area is served by a number of outstanding primary schools and a couple of CoE secondary schools which we have good relationships with.

Mission Partnerships

We aspire to express our union with our brothers and sisters in Christ around the world in practical partnerships that proclaim and defend the gospel for all nations, whether in London or around the globe. As a local church, we benefit enormously from these partnerships. We especially want to stand with those who are suffering for Christ.

We are committed as a church to praying for a wider range of co-mission mission partners, and support Christian organisations and individuals financially and in prayer, both internationally and the UK.

Housing

The Church doesn't currently own a property but we are investigating the purchase of a suitable house; but will continue to rent in the short term.

Statement of Faith

We welcome people from all walks of life to be involved in our church life and contribute to our on-going exploration of the Scriptures; all of us are work in progress and certainly don't believe we get everything right! However, our Elders are required to sign the following full Statement of Faith. See Co-mission statement of faith here (<https://co-mission.org/about/>)