



**birmingham university**  
*evangelical christian union*

# The Church Guide 2008



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# Church Search



While every Christian student is part of the global church of Jesus Christ, the CU is not a local congregation. We don't do marriages, baptisms, communion, or carry out church discipline. We believe it is more important that you join a local church than the CU, as the CU is a mission team sent out from the church to make disciples of Jesus on campus. We'd love you to join both a local church and the CU, but if you only have time for one of the two, please choose church.

## How to use this Church Guide

1. **Choose** a few churches from the church guide you are interested in
2. **Visit** them over the first few weeks of term
3. **Decide** on a church

# Choosing a Church

Why bother with church at all?

- Meeting with other Christians and being taught God's word is how we grow.
- You will meet Christians of different ages and backgrounds - not just students.
- You will get teaching on important subjects that you won't get at CU.
- The patterns you set at university (particularly early on) are a good indication of those you will keep later in life.

Here are some tips on how to find a good church that will support you over the next few years:

- Ask your home church leaders if they can recommend one - it may well be that they know a good church or have some contacts for you.
- Try a couple of different churches - and not necessarily just what you're used to - but be wary of the danger of church-hopping and never actually settling anywhere.
- Don't be put off by just one service - especially if it's not one of their normal ones - try the church at other times too.
- Don't look for the perfect church - many people never settle in church because they are looking for a church which doesn't exist - just find somewhere which is faithful to the Bible, focused on the gospel and welcoming, and stick with it, even if it's not exactly how you would like it!

Some questions to ask of a church:

- Is the church faithful to the gospel of Jesus Christ and does it teach the Bible? (Titus 1:9)
- Do the church leaders submit themselves to God's word? (Titus 1:7-9)
- Is there genuine concern among believers to spur one another on in their faith? (Hebrews 10:24-25)
- Is the church obviously a Christian community where people love one another? (1 John 3:11-18)
- Can I imagine feeling at home here and getting involved with the life of the church?

# Getting there

To help you get to church, we have assigned BUECU members from some of the most popular local student churches to be church reps. These are the people you can talk to about the church and ask about how to get to the churches. They'd love to talk you after our main teaching meeting Central (Thursday 7.30pm at St Francis Hall) or via email or phone.

Finding your way to a new church and attending a service can be daunting—if this is you, the church rep will be happy to meet you somewhere you know how to get to and go to church with you. If there isn't a rep for the church you want to check out, please get in touch with Tom Hales on 07726 575 939 or [communication@buecu.org](mailto:communication@buecu.org).

Church	Church rep	Email	Mobile
BCEC	Samantha Ho	<a href="mailto:smam.ho@gmail.com">smam.ho@gmail.com</a>	07795 325 681
Christian Life Centre	Lewis Goodall	<a href="mailto:inspired_by_2004@hotmail.com">inspired_by_2004@hotmail.com</a>	07764 753 447
Churchcentral	Luke Gilliland	<a href="mailto:gillyofgoole@hotmail.com">gillyofgoole@hotmail.com</a>	07914 955 398
City Church	Sarah Crabtree	<a href="mailto:sjc766@bham.ac.uk">sjc766@bham.ac.uk</a>	07842 906 879
ELIM Church	Matt Churchouse	<a href="mailto:alright_boss@yahoo.co.uk">alright_boss@yahoo.co.uk</a>	07989 869 910
Monyhull Church	Becky Noble	<a href="mailto:rln617@bham.ac.uk">rln617@bham.ac.uk</a>	07919 997 981
Oasis Church	Clare Carter	<a href="mailto:secretary@buecu.org">secretary@buecu.org</a>	07882 835 213
Riverside Church	Daniel Harrison	<a href="mailto:daniel_harrison@hotmail.com">daniel_harrison@hotmail.com</a>	07910 553 857
St John's Church	Henry Bateman	<a href="mailto:henrybateman@hotmail.com">henrybateman@hotmail.com</a>	07732 581 740
St Stephen's & St Wulstan's	Alice Quaintance	<a href="mailto:alicequaintance@hotmail.com">alicequaintance@hotmail.com</a>	07759 034 312



# Birmingham Chinese Evangelical Church

**Venue:** 14 Upper Gough St, B1 1JG

**Meeting times:** Sunday 9:30am (English), 1.00pm (Cantonese), 3.30pm (Mandarin)

**E:** [berthan@gmail.com](mailto:berthan@gmail.com) (Bert Han), **T:** 0121 427 4907, **W:** [www.bcec.org.uk](http://www.bcec.org.uk)

The BCEC is a growing community of Christian believers who worship in the city of Birmingham. We're not the biggest church you'll go to, but we're a community full of love who are eager to follow God and be part of his work.

Our English speaking Sunday worship service starts at 9.30am and finishes around 11.15. There will be tea, coffee and some light refreshments afterwards.

The English fellowship is an English speaking congregation with people from Malaysia, Singapore, America, Hong Kong, and of course the UK. The BCEC also has congregations that use Cantonese or Mandarin.

# Bournville Evangelical Church

*FIEC*

**Venue:** Dame Elizabeth Hall, off Oak Tree Lane, B30 1UB

**Meeting times:** Sunday 10.30am and 6.00pm

**Avg. congregation at main meeting:** 30

**E:** [persis.thomas@fcfb.bham.org.uk](mailto:persis.thomas@fcfb.bham.org.uk), **T:** 0121 475 1021, **W:** [www.bournvillechurch.org](http://www.bournvillechurch.org)

A local church that has worshipped here for 20 years, we seek to be 'a Gospel family amongst Bournville people'.

**Gospel:** the message of the Bible, that Jesus is God's Son and our Saviour, preached, lived and witnessed-to. This defines us as a ...

**Family:** Sons and daughters of God by faith in Christ, who are bound together in fellowship as a spiritual family together in ...

**Bournville:** where we are, and ...

**People:** all made in God's image, all needing the Saviour, for all of whom we feel a heart, under God.



**Venue:** 900 Bristol Road, Selly Oak, B29 6HW

**Meeting times:** Sunday 9.00am, 11.00am and 6.30pm

**E:** [office@christianlifecentre.com](mailto:office@christianlifecentre.com), **T:** 0121 471 3677, **W:** [www.christianlifecentre.com](http://www.christianlifecentre.com)

We are a vibrant Pentecostal Church reaching out across South Birmingham. Our Church family are spread right across the city of Birmingham living our faith in the ordinary things of life, making a difference and being a positive influence for the kingdom of God.



**Venue:** Ladywood Community Centre, St. Vincent St West, Ladywood, B16 8RP

**Meeting times:** Sunday 10.30am

**W:** [www.churchalive.org.uk](http://www.churchalive.org.uk)

Church Alive is a warm and vibrant church living and worshipping in the city of Birmingham.

We are a diverse group of people brought together through our relationship with Jesus Christ, and our desire to share the Good News of God and his love for us with our wonderful city.



## *Newfrontiers*

**Venue:** King Edward's Boy's School, opposite the Birmingham University Guild and the Barber Institute. The main entrance is on Edgbaston Park Road.

**Meeting times:** Sunday 10.30am

**E:** [students@churchcentral.org.uk](mailto:students@churchcentral.org.uk), **T:** 0121 200 1995, **W:** [www.churchcentral.org.uk](http://www.churchcentral.org.uk)

We are a dynamic Christian church drawn from a wide range of social and ethnic backgrounds right across Birmingham. churchcentral is more than a building, an organisation or a Sunday meeting. We are a community of diverse individuals united by a common relationship with Jesus Christ. We make it our aim to worship him with every area of our lives and share a passion for communicating the good news about him with those who don't yet know him. churchcentral is part of the newfrontiers family of churches, we are also a member of the evangelical alliance. We hold regular weekly meetings at 10.30am every Sunday at King Edward's School opposite Birmingham University Guild of Students.

### **churchcentral students**

At churchcentral we regularly see between 80 and 100 students attending our Sunday morning services, many of whom have become members and quickly got involved with what God is doing with the church. The Bible is clear that man was created for God's glory. At churchcentral we are passionate about releasing students to reflect the glory of God on campus. We want to develop students who forcefully take hold of the Kingdom of God through involvement with the local church. We believe that it is God's plan for everyone to live in an intimate relationship with Him through; a submission to the authority of the Bible, an openness to the Holy Spirit and an eagerness for spiritual gifts. University is a challenging and formative time, God longs for students who use their time at university who engage with the culture around them, impacting it with the gospel.

### **life groups**

At churchcentral we believe that one of the most important parts of church is the forming of lasting and edifying relationships with one another as members of the church. One of the main ways in which such relationships are built and maintained within the church is through our weekly life groups. These groups consist of people from a variety of different backgrounds meeting each week to worship Jesus, seek God and inspire each other to live for the glory of God. We have a number of different student groups which meet on various days of the week.



*FIEC*

**Venue:** Edgbaston High School for Girls, B15 3TS

**Meeting times:** Sunday 10.30am and 6.00pm (StudentPlus follows the evening meeting)

**Avg. congregation at main meeting:** 200

**E:** [jonti@city-church.org.uk](mailto:jonti@city-church.org.uk) (Jonti), **T:** 0121 454 9444, **W:** [www.city-church.org.uk](http://www.city-church.org.uk)

We want City Church to be a place where students can feel at home and grow in their faith in Jesus during their time here. We have students from all four universities in Birmingham.

Sunday evening is our main service for students. We meet to sing and pray together, hear testimonies and most of all to listen to God speak to us as the bible is taught. Many students serve during our services, from PA, to welcome, music or kids work. Students also help out with two youth projects we help run in the city.

StudentPlus is essentially our student 'cell group' where we look at the Bible, pray and eat pizza. It follows on from the evening service and really serves to help students feel like they belong. We want students to grow to belong to God more and more, that's why we look at the bible together. Week by week we hear His voice and help each other respond in trust, worship and obedience.

StudentPlus is also the place where we can belong to each other more and more, hearing about each other's lives in testimony slots and praying for each other. At the end of the evening we get to know each other as we eat pizza together. For any more info or if you would like a free student welcome pack that will tell you a bit more about student activity at City please email us, give us a call or check us out on Facebook!

# Elim Church Centre

*A church where no-one stands alone and no-one stands still*



*Elim Pentecostal*

**Venue:** Elim Church Centre, Exeter Road, Selly Oak, B29 6EU

**Meeting times:** Sunday 10.30am and 6.30pm

**E:** [matt@sellyelim.org](mailto:matt@sellyelim.org) (Matt Churhouse), **T:** 0121-471 1133, **W:** [www.sellyelim.org](http://www.sellyelim.org)

We are a lively, multi-cultural church at the heart of the Selly Oak community. We aim to be a church where no-one stands alone and no-one stands still—i.e. we desire everyone in the church to experience genuine community and real growth in their walk with God.

We run a weekly minibus on Sunday mornings for students on the vale, picking up at Chamberlain Hall (10:05am), Tennis Courts (10:10am) and Pritchatts Park (10:15am).



**Venue:** St Francis Drive, Monyhull Grange Estate, Kings Norton, B30 3PS

**Meeting times:** Sunday 11.00am and 6.30pm

**E:** [students@monyhullchurch.org](mailto:students@monyhullchurch.org) (Dan Meiring), **T:** 07806 079 057, **W:** [www.monyhullchurch.org](http://www.monyhullchurch.org)

Monyhull Church is a lively and growing 'conservative but contemporary' independent evangelical church in the south of Birmingham. We place a strong emphasis on Biblical teaching, with a particular emphasis on systematic exposition. We are also very committed to evangelism, particularly world mission.

Students are always very welcome at our church and we aim to provide a warm and welcoming spiritual home. We offer regular Sunday hospitality as well as a commitment to the spiritual care of those who 'link' with us. We are also keen to involve students in any of the regular church ministries for which they are gifted, while recognizing their responsibility to CU and university activities.

We do not formally arrange transport for students, but there are generally people who can offer lifts. The number 35 bus runs past the church, as does the number 18 from Northfield/Cotteridge.



## *Newfrontiers*

**Venue:** Edgbaston Cricket Ground, B5 7QU

**Meeting times:** Sunday 10.30am and 7.00pm

**Avg. congregation at main meeting:** Am - 180-200, Pm - 60-80 adults

**E:** mike.blaber@yahoo.com (Mike Blaber), **M:** 07863 353 793, **W:** www.theoasischurch.com

At Oasis church we are passionate about loving God and loving people. Therefore, we seek to ensure that everything we do reflects this.

### **Sundays**

On Sundays we gather together to celebrate God, share all that Jesus is doing in our lives and be changed by the preaching of the Bible.

### **Small groups**

During the week we meet as small groups, which are the life-blood of Oasis. These are accessible, fun places for people to get to know each other and God more together, and impact local areas with the gospel.

### **Students**

We love students at Oasis! Our group of students ('Momentum') come from many of the different universities and colleges of Birmingham. We have fun and are passionate about knowing God and making Him known. As part of momentum this year you can expect: missional/evangelistic events, praise celebrations, small groups, men's breakfast, girls' breakfast, band nights, winter ball, football and much more.

### **Mission**

At Oasis we are excited about playing our part in reaching Birmingham, the nation and the world with the good news about Jesus. We seek to do that in many different ways - prayer, small groups, alpha, evangelistic events - as well as generally displaying our love for God and people wherever we go.

### **The Poor**

We are also passionate about demonstrating that the gospel is good news to the poor. We currently own two houses which provide support for residents attempting to overcome various addictions. We also have 'street teams,' which seek out 'rough-sleepers' to help provide for their practical and spiritual needs.



**Venue:** Queensbridge School, Queensbridge Road, Kings Heath/Moseley, B13 8QB

**Meeting times:** Sunday 9:30am and 11:15am (We organise student transport for the 11:15 service)

**Avg. congregation at main meeting:** 200-250 at each service

**E:** [andyw@riverside-church.org.uk](mailto:andyw@riverside-church.org.uk) (Andy Worthington), **T:** 0121 4424484, **W:** [www.riverside-church.org.uk](http://www.riverside-church.org.uk)

Here at Riverside Church we love to welcome students. We offer free student transport every Sunday, student lunches every term, a family from the church that will look out for you and invite you round for meals etc (if you want that), opportunities to serve and get involved (again if you want to) and an 18-30's pastor who is available to meet for coffee, chats and prayer. That's just a part of what we offer students as for the rest of the church well come a long one Sunday and see for yourself.

Each Sunday you can expect relevant, challenging and engaging bible teaching as well as vibrant worship led by one of our 4 bands.

Our mission statement is 'To help people find relationship with Jesus and grow as his obedient followers'.

We look forward to meeting you soon.



# SELBY PARK BAPTIST CHURCH

A CHURCH FOR THE WHOLE COMMUNITY

*Baptist*

**Venue:** 1041 Pershore Rd, Selly Park, B29 7PS and 31 Warwards Lane, Selly Park

**Meeting times:** Sunday 10.30am (1041 Pershore Rd) and 6.30pm (31 Warwards Lane)

**E:** , **T:** 0121 472 2513 , **W:** [www.spbc.co.uk](http://www.spbc.co.uk)

We are a community church based in Selly Park in South Birmingham meeting together on Sundays and throughout the week.

The church has a rich ethnic mix and a good cross-section of ages, which creates a lively and vibrant faith community. In addition to our regular activities, we organise a whole variety of events from car rallies to candlelit suppers, quiz nights to fair trade events as a way of engaging with our local community.

If you are curious about the Church or the Christian faith, please come along to see us or contact us by phone or email. We would love to meet you.



# Solihull Presbyterian Church

**Venue:** Cranmore County Infant School, Northland Road, Shirley, Solihull, B90 4SA

**Meeting times:** Sunday 10.30am

**T:** 0121 707 1826, **W:** [www.solihullpres.org.uk](http://www.solihullpres.org.uk)



*Anglican / Charismatic Evangelical*

**Venue:** St John's Church, Harborne High Street, Harborne, B17 9PT

**Meeting times:** Sunday 9.00am (with Children's Celebration), 11.00am, 6.30pm (with Student Network term time only)

**Avg. congregation at main meeting:** 200-300

**E:** [stw051@bham.ac.uk](mailto:stw051@bham.ac.uk) (Stewart Welch), **M:** 07795 103 020, **T:** 0121 427 4601, **W:** [www.stjohns-church.co.uk](http://www.stjohns-church.co.uk)

St John's is a community of Christians, and people who are interested in finding out more about God. We provide modern worship and teaching, in an informal and welcoming atmosphere. We also aim to provide a safe and easy place for people to find out more about what being a Christian involves. We're part of the Church of England, and we meet just south-west of Birmingham city centre, in Harborne.

Students are an important part of the life of St John's. We hope you can find here a family and support, a place to be disciplined and equipped, and a people who recognise your particular needs. Students are encouraged and able to get involved in every aspect of church life from serving to small groups, and the various aspects of tailor-made Student Network. We are eager that you find here a firm foundation from which to live out the fullness of what God has called you to on campus, in church and in life.

There are three main aspects to the student work:

**Network:** Every Sunday during term we meet after the 6:30pm service for toast, games and something deeper!

**Events:** During the year various events are held including socials, a weekend away and day conferences. See the diary at the bottom of this page for special events coming soon.

**Host-a-Student:** Get linked up with a family in church for real food in a real house as often as suits you both.

# ST STEPHENS AND ST WULSTANS SELLY PARK



*Anglican*

**Venue:** St Stephen's - Serpentine Road, Selly Park, B29 7HU, St Wulstan's - Alton Road, Selly Oak, B29 7DU

**Meeting times:** Sunday 10.00am (St Stephen's), 6.00pm (St Wulstan's)

**Avg. congregation at main meeting:** 150

**E:** office@sssw.org.uk, **T:** 0121 472 8253, **W:** www.sssw.org.uk

We are an Anglican Evangelical church for all ages, with an emphasis on Bible teaching and a good balance of contemporary and traditional music.

The Student Group meets just after the 6pm service, from 7.45pm to 9.15pm at St Wulstan's. We pray, we eat together, and we seek to understand and to apply God's word. During the week, every student has the opportunity to meet one-to-one with an older brother or sister in Christ. This year we are introducing a global perspective. If you are mission-minded, this is a great time to join us.

International students often come to St Wulstan's first for the Globe Café on a Monday night. Then, each Sunday evening there is a Bible study especially for Chinese students, from 8pm to 10pm at 121 Selly Park Road. As a church family, we love to welcome, so come expecting to be fed and to be adopted!



# Tiverton Christian Fellowship

**Venue:** 25-29 Tiverton Road, Selly Oak, B29 6BW

**Meeting times:** Sunday 11.00am and 6.30pm

**Avg. congregation at main meeting:** N/A

**E:** [rich@tcfsellyoak.org.uk](mailto:rich@tcfsellyoak.org.uk) (Richard Barnes), **M:** 07971 071 546, **W:**  
[www.tcfsellyoak.org.uk](http://www.tcfsellyoak.org.uk)

TCF is a young, small, friendly Bible teaching church with the majority being either students or graduates.

**Talkshop:** New for Autumn Term 2008: Talkshop is a discussion forum and toastie bar for Christian students and their friends. Each week there will be social time with toasties, followed by a topical talk with discussion time and opportunities for questions and answers with the speaker.



### *Vineyard*

**Venue:** Network House 174-178 Barford Street Highgate Birmingham B5 7EP (We are 8 mins walk from New Street & the Bullring. Buses: 61, 62, 63, 45, 47, 8A, 8C)

**Meeting times:** First three Sundays of the month - 10.30am and 6.30pm. Fourth Sunday - check website for details.

**Avg. congregation at main meeting:** 200 - 250 at our morning services.

**E:** [info@vineyardnetworkchurch.com](mailto:info@vineyardnetworkchurch.com), **T:** 0121 622 1230, **W:** [www.vineyardnetworkchurch.com/birmingham](http://www.vineyardnetworkchurch.com/birmingham)

We believe church should be fun and down to earth - the kind of place where anyone can feel at home. We love to hang out together, worship God together and serve our communities together. We think that following Jesus is all about making a difference in an otherwise crazy world, showing genuine care to those around us, and making connections. We exist in community groups across the city and gather centrally on most Sundays to celebrate what God is doing. We have a growing posse of students who are a vital part of our community and get involved in many of our activities from Sunday teams such as hosting, media and kids work to serving the poor, healing on the streets and community events. If this sounds like the kind of church you could be part of we'd love to meet you - check out our website, give us a call or come and see us face to face.



