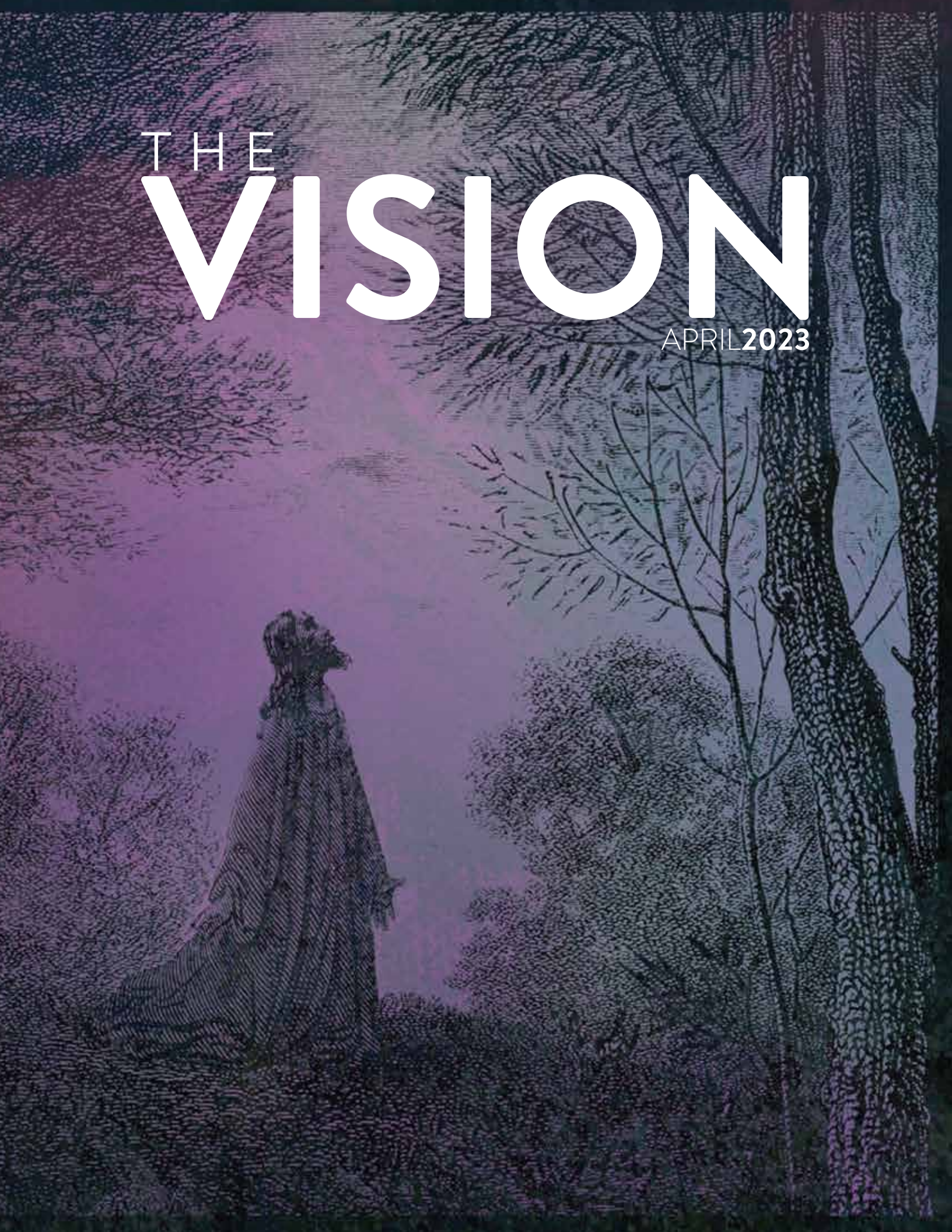




THE VISION

APRIL 2023

"Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work."

Ephesians 4:15-16



GROWING UP

Spring is springing (and the allergens as well)! As the grass greens up and the trees burst forth new growth, Pioneer Drive is also "springing into growth."

For Holy Week, we will gather at the Convention Center for our Choir and Orchestra's presentation of "The Cross, The Crown." This will be a great time of worship to grow in our faith journey with Jesus and to invite others to grow into a knowledge of Jesus. Will you pray for Eric McElhaney and Griffin Jones as they provide leadership to this community-wide ministry?

On April 9th, we will celebrate our Risen Savior with worship services downtown at the Abilene Convention Center and in the Sanctuary at Pioneer Drive. Will you pray for God's kingdom to grow through our Easter services?

On April 16th, we will SHIFT our Sunday morning schedule to allow for more growth in all four morning worship services. Will you pray for a willingness to adjust Sunday morning schedules and for the needed volunteers?

Also on April 16th, we will begin a new sermon series called "The Body of Christ" where we will be challenged as a body of believers to grow in our relationship with Christ. We will be encouraged in membership, discipleship, and worship, among other relevant topics. Will you pray for the body of Pioneer Drive to grow as Jesus intends?

On April 24th, our staff will depart on our annual staff retreat to Glen Rose, TX. This is a significant week to getaway and grow together as we pray, plan, and play. Would you pray for our staff to grow closer together and sense the Holy Spirit's leadership for our church?

As grass begins to grow again and yards need regular maintenance, may we nurture the soil of our hearts by taking advantage of opportunities to grow closer to the Lord and to one another.



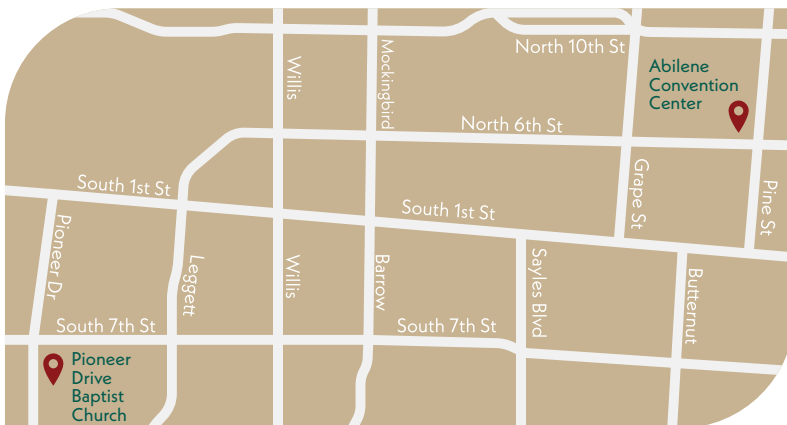
Dr. John Whitten
Dr. John Whitten
Senior Pastor

THE CROSS THE CROWN

An Easter Worship Experience

presented by *Pioneer Drive*
BAPTIST CHURCH

EASTER WORSHIP EXPERIENCE



 pioneerdrive.org/easter  325.692.6776

THE **CROSS** THE **CROWN**

APR **5-7** *Abilene
Convention Center*
1100 N. 6th St, 7:30PM

APR **8** *Abilene
Convention Center*
1100 N. 6th St, 3PM

EASTER SERVICES

APR **9** *Pioneer Drive Sanctuary*
701 S. Pioneer Dr., 9AM
Led by the worship team

APR **9** *Abilene
Convention Center*
1100 N. 6th St, 10:30AM

Of the four showings, the Good Friday show will be livestreamed. Sunday services will be livestreamed, plus radio for the 9AM service. Childcare provided for birth to 3 years for Sunday services only at both locations.

A P R I L

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

CHURCHWIDE

APRIL 5-8: THE CROSS, THE CROWN

Join us this Easter season as we experience the story of our Savior Jesus Christ through worship, music, & drama, April 5-7 at 7:30PM & April 8 at 3PM at the Abilene Convention Center.

APRIL 30: CARING WELL SERVICE

April is National Sexual Assault Awareness Month and the Caring Well team is hosting a service for Survivors at 6PM in the Sanctuary. This service will include opportunities to mourn, grieve, and lament, pray for healing, hear from survivors, celebrate God's goodness, rest in His presence, and worship together with the body. All are welcome to attend. We will have trained counselors on hand and available to respond to those who need encouragement in the moment.

APRIL 30: LUNCH WITH THE PASTOR

Join us at noon for a complimentary lunch session with our Senior Pastor, John Whitten—a perfect time to have your questions answered and learn about Pioneer Drive. To RSVP, email Crystal@pioneerdrive.org or call us at (325) 692-6776 by Thursday, Apr. 27 at noon to secure your spot. Childcare is available for 4 years and younger.

MAY 10: SUMMER KICKOFF

Save the Date! Celebrate the end of our Worth-It Wednesday semester and the beginning of the summer season. Food, games, entertainment, and information about all the ways to connect and grow at Pioneer Drive this summer.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL SHIRTS

Vacation Bible School time is upon us! T-shirts are available for Adult, Youth and Toddlers. Cost is \$15 for Adult/Youth and \$12 for Toddler sizes and the deadline to order is April 26th. Order your VBS shirt online today and be ready for a summer of learning more about Jesus! If you have any questions, contact Tammy in the Children's Ministry office at 325-692-6776 ext.113 or email children@pioneerdrive.org.

CONNECTIONS MINISTRY

MAY 7: TEAM DAY

Are you a volunteer in the Connections Ministry or the gathering? If not, are you interested in being one? You're officially invited to join us from 4:30pm-7:30pm on May 7th in the Pioneer Drive Café! We will enjoy food and fellowship, play games (with prizes), and consider how to best carry out the role to which God has called us in the Pioneer Drive family. Register online or contact Shelby Wilcox if you have any questions. Childcare is provided.

FAMILY MINISTRY

APRIL 12: PHILIPPIANS BIBLE STUDY

Join Family Pastor Terence Waldron as we spend four Wednesday nights studying the book of Philippians together. Invite a friend and make plans to join us in this important study before summer arrives. Class will meet from 6-7pm in Room 2257, April 12-May 3.

MISSIONS MINISTRY

APRIL 4: NEHEMIAH LUNCH

Could you sacrifice a little time to serve people in our community? Join our home improvement ministry team in the café at NOON as they share a FREE home cooked meal and discuss proposed service projects. All skills levels and ages welcome. Learn something, meet new people, and have fun while you serve! Contact Taylor@pioneerdrive.org with any questions. If you can't make the meeting, you can be added to the email list and find out when new projects pop-up.

APRIL 12: BLOOD DRIVE

Did you know that there is currently a national blood shortage? Give the gift of life by donating on our church campus Wednesday April 12th from 4:30-6:30 PM. You can simply show up that evening or pick a specific timeslot beforehand. Contact Nathan@pioneerdrive.org to sign up or if you have any questions.

APRIL: BIG COUNTRY NEEDS

This month we are collecting paper towels, toilet paper, and dish soap for the All For One Missions Church Food Pantry. Donated items can be placed in the grocery carts or any church office.

JUNE 18: BAPTIST CHURCH BUILDERS

Help build a new church in one week! This year the project is in Southern Illinois. Anyone can sign up to participate regardless of skill level or age. For more information, visit www.baptistchurchbuilders.com or contact Erica@pioneerdrive.org.

PIONEER PATHWAYS LEARNING CENTER

CHILDREN'S DAY OUT FALL REGISTRATION

Children's Day Out registration is open starting April 1st for the Fall of 2023. Download the form at pioneerdrive.org/cdo and return it with your deposit to hold your child's spot for the year. If you have any questions, call Pamela McElhaney at the church office or email pamela@pioneerdrive.org.

PRIMETIMER MINISTRY

APRIL 4: PRIMETIME LIVE

Primetime Live welcomes Ballet Folklorico, founded in 1962. Meet us at 6PM in the Fellowship Hall for Chick-Fil-A (\$5) and 7PM for St. Vincent Pallotti Ballet Folklorico. RSVP in the Church Office or online.

APRIL 11: ACU/TCU BASEBALL GAME

The Primetimers are taking you out to the ball game! We will go see the TCU Horned Frogs play the ACU Wildcats at Crutcher Scott Field at 6PM. Tickets are \$8. Sign up online or in the Church office.

MAY 2: DINNER & SOME HISTORY

Abilene Historian, Jay Moore, presents "Abilene: The Prettiest Town I've Ever Seen." Meet us at Rosa's (northside) at 6PM for dinner (Dutch Treat). The program starts at 7:30PM at the Paramount, and it's free. RSVP starts April 23 online or in the Church office.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

APRIL 12: WOMEN ON MISSION MEETING

Come enjoy a meal and hear from Meredith Summers, our Minister to Women, as she tells us about an exciting new ministry at Pioneer Drive that will provide affordable housing and spiritual care to a single parent family in need. We will meet at 11:30AM in the Fellowship Hall. The cost for lunch is \$5 and it can be paid online or at the door. Register by April 10 to help us know how many to prepare for.

APRIL 20: CAFE CONNECTIONS

Join us at 9AM in the cafe for a time of fellowship and community for women of all generations. Cafe Connections occurs on the third Thursday of each month, so mark your calendars and make plans to join us on April 20.

WORSHIP MINISTRY

APRIL 30: COMMISSIONING SERVICE

Middle School Choir students and sponsors will be prayed over at the end of the 11:15AM Celebration Worship Service as they are commissioned to service for their Choir Tour to Arlington, TX.

MAY 5-7: MIDDLE SCHOOL CHOIR TRIP

Pray for our students as they serve at Mission Arlington May 5 and 6. On Sunday, Middle School Choir students will lead in the 9AM & 11:15AM Celebration Worship Services in the Sanctuary as they share testimonies and songs from Choir Tour 2023.

EMBRACE MINISTRY

Embrace is an extension of our wonderful children's ministry that serves children with special needs from 3-11 years of age. Our mission is to create a welcoming and safe place for children with special needs to hear the gospel and experience the love of Jesus. This ministry includes a sensory room for children that need to be in a less stimulating environment as well as Embrace Buddies to assist children in a traditional classroom. To best serve you and your child, please fill out the intake form on our website. Scan the QR code to go to the intake form.



Sunday Nights

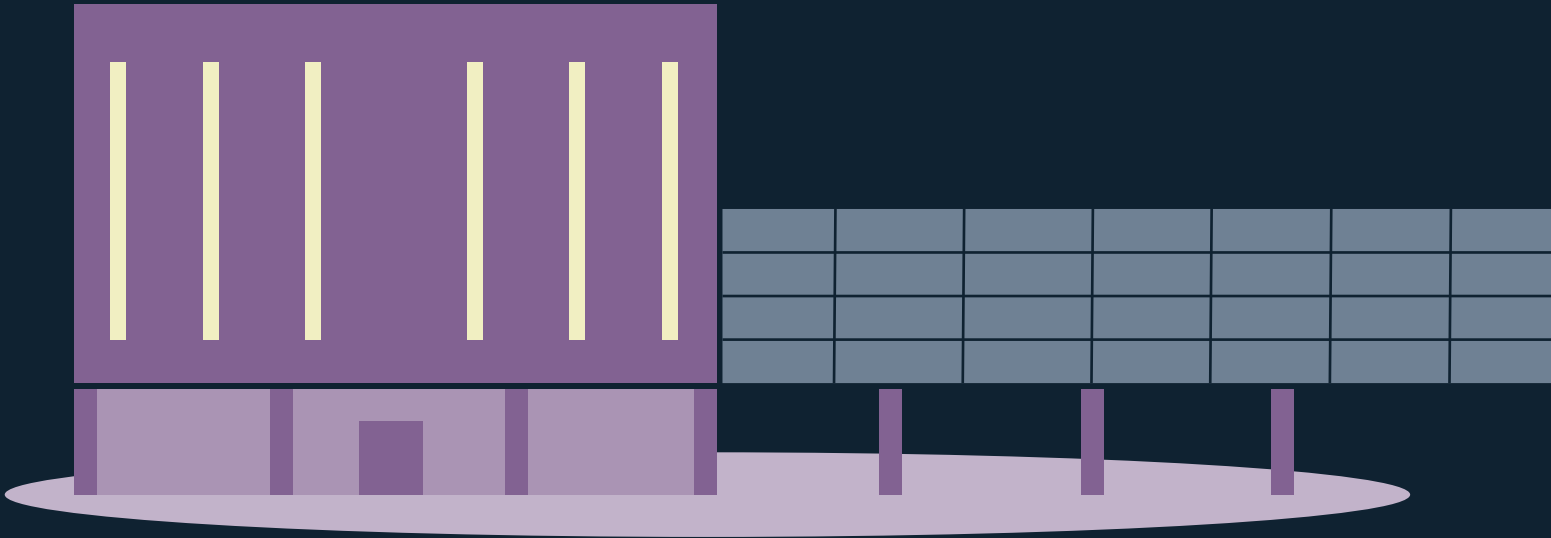
April 2: The Cross, The Crown Preparation Week, No PM Service

April 9: Easter Sunday, No PM Service

April 16: No PM Service, 3rd Sunday Meeting Night

April 23: John Whitten, 6PM Conference Center

April 30: Caring Well Service, 6PM Sanctuary



SHIFT

APRIL 16

SUNDAY

Sunday morning April 16th we will begin our new Sunday morning schedule.

With space running out in worship during the 10:30 hour, this schedule will allow for more growth in the 9AM services on both ends of the campus. Worship in the gathering and Celebration will change to bookend an hour of Sunday School between the two services. We need Preschool volunteers to cover the extra hour. Email Kendra@pioneerdrive.org to see how you can help.

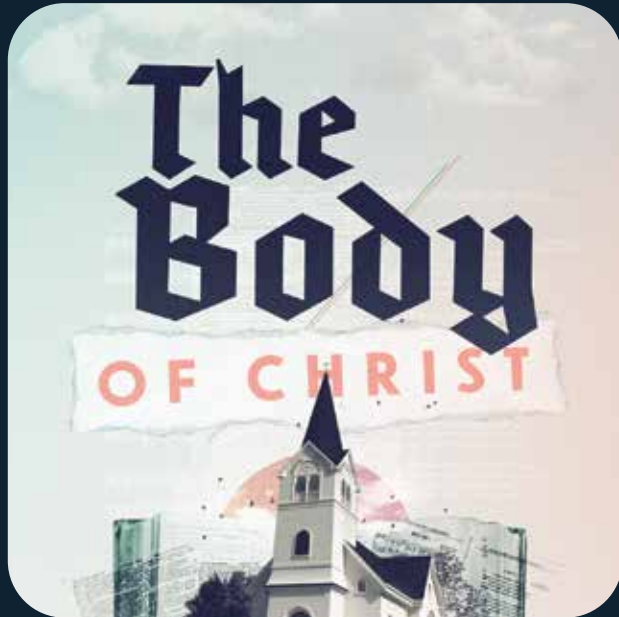
NEW SCHEDULE & TIMES

EARLY SERVICES: 9AM

SUNDAY SCHOOL: 10:10AM

LATE SERVICES: 11:15AM

Next Sermon Series



THE BODY OF CHRIST

On April 16th, we will begin a new sermon series called "The Body of Christ" where we will be challenged as a body of believers to grow in our relationship with Christ. We will be encouraged in membership, discipleship, and worship, among other relevant topics.

We invite you to follow along in our upcoming sermon series the week after Easter. If you miss a service, you can always go back and watch it on our YouTube channel.

NEW SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSROOMS

On Shift Sunday, April 16th, Sunday School classes will begin meeting in different rooms to accommodate different class sizes. The list below includes the new classrooms for adults, youth, and children:

ADULT

111- Kirkpatrick Bible Survey

114 - Loveshine

141-142 (Fellowship Hall) - Jabez

143 (Fellowship Hall) - Good Samaritans

116 - Bailey Bible Survey

150 (Cafeteria) - Timothy

1252 - Angel

2237 - Barnabas

1254 - Builders

2254 - College

2228 - Cornerstone

2222 - Daniel

1250 - Elijah

2257 - Home Builders

2220 - Koinonia

1251 - Luke

1255 - Lydia

2226 - Moses

2235 - Pioneer Men

2250 - Prodigals

2252 - Ruth

2239 - Single Adult

2232 - Solomon

2253 - Tychicus

2251 - Young Adults

YOUTH

Meet in the Choir Suite (140) for Sunday School at 10:10AM and then move to the 130s for your grade-specific class

CHILDREN & PRESCHOOL

No room changes. Preschool starts at 9AM and Children's Sunday School starts at 10:10AM.

LIVESTREAM

No changes with livestream for Celebration Worship at 9AM; however, livestream for the gathering starts at 11:15AM.

The Vision is Pioneer Drive's monthly newsletter. Learn about our latest news and upcoming events.

For more information, call us at (325) 692-6776 or email us at info@pioneerdrive.org.



Visit our website
www.pioneerdrive.org



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Pioneer Drive
BAPTIST CHURCH

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