

CHURCH FOCUS

April 2026



This Month at RBC

3	Good Friday Service 1 pm
5	Resurrection Sunday 10 am <i>(No evening service)</i>
8	Youth Discipleship 7 pm
11	Outreach 10 am
12	Communion 6 pm Leaders Meeting 5 pm
16-18	Women's Retreat at Ironwood

PASTOR'S MESSAGE: BIBLICAL CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

A biblical Church is an organized assembly of baptized believers in Christ. An assembly must be local, visible, organized and committed to Christ. Although no church this side of Heaven is perfect, it can be authentic, genuine, and biblical. Charles Spurgeon once said, "If you find a perfect church, be sure not to join because the moment you do, it becomes imperfect."

Let me briefly summarize the reasons, requirements & responsibilities of membership. The reasons are: A) biblical precedent suggests church membership. Believers were added to the church in Jerusalem (Acts 2:47). Rolls of membership were kept (1 Timothy 5:9). Members could be removed from the local church (1 Corinthians 5:12-13). Members could transfer from one church to another (Romans 16:1).

B) Biblical principles suggest church membership. First, the principle of accountability. The local church is the context in which one makes himself accountable to other believers. Members of a church are responsible to exhort, encourage, warn, and disciple one another. We should welcome and seek

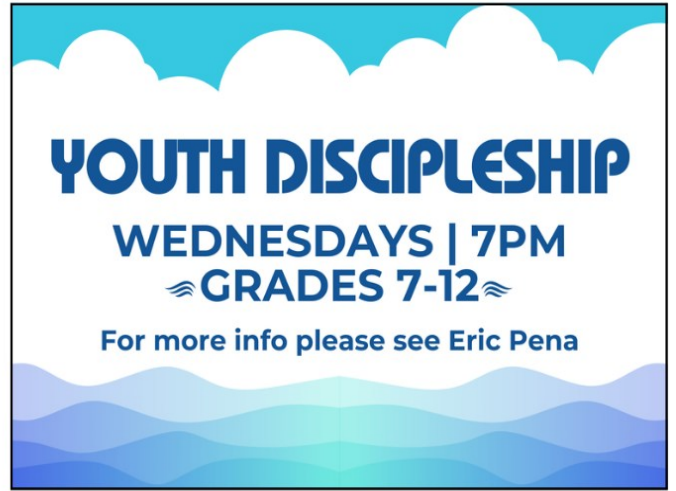
such accountability. Second, the principle of commitment. The members of the early church had a sincere commitment to one another (Acts 2:41-47). The author of Hebrews exhorts his readers not to forsake the assembly of believers (Hebrews 10:25). Third, The principle of organization. In the local church, all things are to be done in an orderly manner (1 Corinthians 14:40).

Now, here are the biblical requirements for membership. First, salvation (Acts 2:41, 47). A dearly held principle of Baptist polity is regenerate church membership. That is, only those who can give a reasonable testimony of salvation are considered for membership. This obviously prohibits infants from membership, as well as anyone else who does not have a testimony of salvation. Then, baptism (Acts 2:41). This is total immersion and subsequent to a reasonable salvation testimony. Finally, there is a continuing requirement: an obedient walk in Christ. In order to remain a member in good standing, the church member must live a consistently righteous,

(Continued on back page)



Adventure Club
 Wednesdays | 7 pm



Youth Discipleship
 Every other Wednesday | 7 pm

 An illustration for Easter. It shows a green hill with a white path leading to a cross, a brown hill, and a white tomb with a yellow egg and a black opening. A sun is rising behind the hills.

HE IS
RISEN!

<p>GOOD FRIDAY</p> <p>APRIL 3 1PM</p>	<p>EASTER SUNDAY</p> <p>APRIL 5 10AM</p>
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Celebrate the Resurrection

RIVERSIDE
 —BAPTIST CHURCH—

Ironwood

**SPRING WOMEN'S
 RETREAT**

SIGN UP **26** TODAY

SPEAKER: BENETH PERRY
PRICE: \$273/PER PERSON

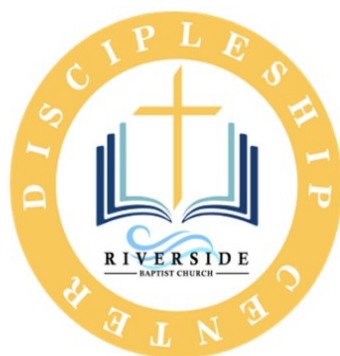
APRIL 16-18

WWW.IRONWOODCAMP.ORG
INFO@IRONWOOD.ORG | 760.257.3503



Discipleship Class

Come grow in your faith! Under the direction of Jose Duran, the Discipleship Class meets every Sunday morning at 9am in the DC.



Discipleship Center

Come check out the DC! Books, Bible Studies, and more...there's something for everyone!

Regular Schedule

Sundays:

- Discipleship Class 9am
- Women's Bible Study 9am
- Morning Worship Service 10am
- Children's Discipleship (2nd & 4th Sunday)
- Choir Practice TBA
- Evening Worship Service 6pm

Tuesdays & Fridays:

- Men's Prayer 4:30pm

Wednesdays:

- Adventure Club 7pm
- Youth Group (every other week)
- Bible Study/Prayer Meeting 7pm

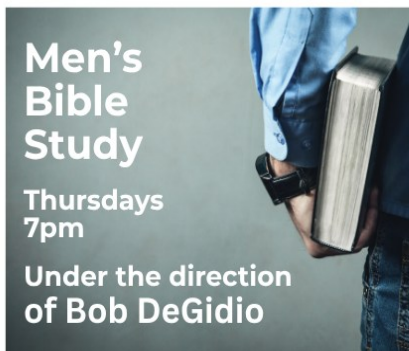
Thursdays:

- Men's Bible Study 7pm



Women's Bible Study

Ladies, join your sisters-in-Christ for this blessed time of biblical understanding and spiritual growth.



Men's Bible Study

RBC Men, don't miss this opportunity for sound Bible teaching and meaningful fellowship.

Three Ways to Give

At Church Online By Mail

RIVERSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH

9015 Magnolia Avenue
 Riverside, California 92503
 (951) 687-6106
 www.RBCSoCal.com
 Pastor: Christian Torres



Children's Ministries Ages 3-11

Adventure Club
Wednesdays 7pm

Children's Discipleship
2nd & 4th Sundays

HOMEBUILDERS

There's Something Better Coming

The Easter season is a precious time for Christians to celebrate the source of our hope: Christ is risen, and he invites us to rise with him into new life. Easter reminds us that God is still at work, even in the places where we've felt stuck or discouraged.

Easter is an invitation to try again—with his strength—to break habits we thought were unbreakable. There's something better coming.

Easter is a chance to breathe new life into a marriage we feared was beyond saving. There's something better coming.

Easter is an opportunity to slow down, reach out, and reconnect with those we've unintentionally neglected. There's something better coming.

Easter is an invitation to look at our lack of love and seek God for compassion. There's something better coming.

Easter is a chance for all no-hopers to regain their vision of what can be! There's something better coming.

Easter is an opportunity to renew our faith. There's something better coming.

Easter is a chance to “renew our strength and mount up with wings as eagles; to run and not faint.” There's something better coming.

A Hymn Mix-Up With A Message

C. Gray Norsworthy, a pastor in Atlanta, once shared a story about the woman who prepared his worship bulletin. She was faithful in her work but didn't have much background in church hymns. One week, Pastor Norsworthy handed her a draft of the service and hoped she could decipher his handwriting.

When he reviewed the finished bulletin, he noticed the final hymn was titled “Just As I Am, Without a Clue.”

Whether it's “without a clue” or “without a plea,” the truth remains the same: we all come to Jesus just as we are — and we all need him.

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

(Continued from front page)

Biblical Church Membership

although not perfect, lifestyle (2 Thessalonians 3:1). Those who persist in sin and are unwilling to repent are to be excommunicated from the assembly (see 1 Corinthians 5 and RBC Constitution). A church may discipline a member out of the fellowship for a number of reasons: doctrinal deviation, a disorderly walk, a divisive spirit, etc.

Finally, here are the responsibilities of membership: faithful attendance (Acts 20:7; Hebrews 10:24-25), consistent Giving (1 Corinthians 16:2), fervent Fellowship (Acts 2:42), and regular ministry. Note all the ways in which church members are to minister to each other: 1) Pray for one another (2 Thessalonians. 3:1). 2) Do good to one another (Gal 6:10). 3) Serve one another (Gal 5:13). 4) Edify one another (1 Thessalonians 5:11). 5) Admonish one another (Rom. 15:14). 6) Bear one another's burdens (Gal 6:2). 7) Teach one another (In Col 3:16). 8) Comfort one another (1 Thessalonians 5:11). 9) Exhort/Encourage one another (Hebrews 3:13; 10:24-25).

If you're interested in becoming a member of Riverside Baptist Church, please talk to Pastor Christian. Candidates for membership must profess faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, and be scripturally baptized by immersion. Candidates shall be received into the church body in one of the following ways: 1) Profession of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ followed by scriptural baptism. 2) A letter of transfer from church of like faith. 3) Persons under discipline from another church of like faith and practice may be admitted subsequent to examination and approval by Pastor and Deacons. Members are expected to have read the Constitution and the Articles of Faith and to be supportive of the doctrine and practice of Riverside Baptist Church. Membership is granted upon a unanimous vote of the church members following a recommendation of the Pastor and Deacons. Membership may be voted on at a public service.

Because of God's Grace,



Christian Torres
Pastor-Teacher