

together

— WORSHIP • WORD • WITNESS —

May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that *together* you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Romans 15:5-6

We believe God is leading our Body to come *together* in worship and the Word. We will spend this "Year in God's Word," reading Scripture with the F260 Plan and walking *together* through the Bible on Sundays.

We also firmly believe that now is the time for us to come *together* in worship, to move from three services to two, and from three styles to one unified worship experience that reflects our DNA as a church and our desire to grow *together* towards unity in Christ.

When we come *together* in worship (ENCOUNTER) and the Word (EQUIP), our witness (ENGAGE) will have a greater impact in our local community, nation and with our REACH partners around the world.



Why the change to two services?

We acknowledge that Taylors has experienced a lot of change in terms of its membership in recent years and recognize the decline in attendance. This recognition led the pastor and ministers to a broad assessment of the past, present and future regarding fulfilling our mission. It prompted our ministers to pray, discuss and explore what God would have us do in response to our collective desire to see Him work and move amongst our congregation moving forward. We believe this is a time to "come *together*" in Sunday morning worship. Moving from three services to two will strengthen our worship experience and help us gain momentum to grow *together*.

Why change from the three different services?

The addition of both the Contemporary and Modern services (2002 and 2010) was in response to the needs and direction of those times. They were good changes for that time. They helped our church to grow and expanded our vision of what worship can be. This move now is also in response to our current situation. Along with the positives of offering distinct worship styles, we have experienced the negative result of separating our church by age, preference, and space. A healthy church interacts across age barriers and puts personal relationships above stylistic preferences. A healthy church is *together*.

Our desire is that the entire church have the same worship experience on Sunday morning – singing the same songs, reading the same passages of Scripture, being led by the same leaders and across ages and musical styles, *together* as Taylors FBC.

What will our new worship service look like?

The two identical services will continue to be driven by the Word of God and will reflect the wide variety of worship-leading groups at Taylors. All of our teams, from worship bands to orchestra, from adult choir to senior adult and student choirs, will have the opportunity to lead the entire church in worship. Much like in our occasional and seasonal combined services, elements and musical styles from all of our current services will be included. Each week will look a little different depending on which group(s) is leading, but will continue to be presented with authenticity, excellence, and theological depth. God has called us to worship in Spirit and in Truth and to be expectant as we come before Him. Though we are different ages and have different preferences, we renew our commitment to encountering God *together*.

What about changes in Life Groups?

One of the goals of this change is to make both of our Sunday morning services reflect our church, with all generations worshipping side-by-side. All of our current Life Groups will remain intact, however in order for each service to have young, middle-aged, and seniors, many Life Groups will be asked to move to a different hour. Some current 10:30 am Life Groups will move to 9:00 am, and vice versa. Sunday mornings will truly reflect who we are as a church: multi-generational, committed to God's Word, and expectant to meet God in worship.

What about Sunday nights?

The regular Sunday evening service will continue and will begin meeting in the Chapel beginning April 8. This more intimate space will encourage good congregational singing and fellowship. We will continue to meet six to eight times during the year in the Worship Center for Nights of Worship, Children's Musicals, etc.

When will these changes occur?

We will make Life Group changes and begin two identical worship services on Easter Sunday, April 1, 2018.

How can I learn more details?

Any of our ministers will be happy to answer your specific questions, either in person, by phone or via email.

Email: first name, last initial @taylorstfb.org or pastor@taylorstfb.org

Church Office: 864-244-3535

Today's Informational Meetings

5-5:45 pm Worship Ministry Meeting, Worship Center
Adult Choirs, Bands & Vocals, Orchestra, Media Team

5:30-6 pm Pizza in the Fellowship Hall
For Participating Groups

6-7 pm Life Group Leaders Meeting, Fellowship Hall

There will be no evening worship service today.

Resources

Sacrifice Your Preferences on Sundays

"The joy we experience in congregational singing is always first and foremost a delight in God, but it is also a gladness in seeing other believers built up in their faith."

www.desiringgod.org/articles/sacrifice-your-preferences-on-sundays

Four Unique Characteristics of Churches That Will Breakout in 2018

"Where will your church be in a year? Will it be unified, thriving, and reaching its community for Christ?"

thomrainer.com/four-unique-characteristics-churches-will-breakout-2018/

9 Reasons to Stop Dividing Your Church's Worship over Style

"We all need to worship with those who don't look like us, don't talk like us, and don't vote like us."

www.patheos.com/blogs/ponderanew/2015/12/03/9-reasons-to-stop-dividing-your-churchs-worship-over-style/



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Paul Jimenez, Pastor

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