THE VISION

NOV25

SEASON of THANKSGIVING

As we enter the season of Thanksgiving, we are reminded of the many blessings and opportunities that God has provided for our church community. This month, we have several exciting updates and events to share with you.

OPEN HOUSE: NEW OFFICES

We are thrilled to announce the open house for our new office space. This new facility will provide us with the resources and environment to better serve our congregation and community. We invite you to join us for a tour and fellowship as we celebrate this milestone on December 7 in the morning. Stop by at any point while you're on campus through 12:30 and we will be glad to show off on our new administrative suite!

SANCTUARY CONSTRUCTION UNDERWAY

The construction of our new sanctuary is officially underway. This project represents our commitment to creating a space where we can gather to worship, grow, and serve together. We are grateful for the support and prayers of our church family as we embark on this journey.

CHURCH VISION AND STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

Our Church Vision Committee has been hard at work, prayerfully discerning the future direction of our ministry. Their insights and recommendations will help guide us as we seek to fulfill God's purpose for our church. We look forward to sharing their findings with you in the coming months.

UKRAINE PARTNERSHIP

We are blessed to continue our partnership with our brothers and sisters in Ukraine. This collaboration will allow us to support and learn from each other as we work to spread the love of Christ in our respective communities. Please keep our Ukrainian brothers and sisters in your prayers as they navigate challenging times.

BAPTIST GENERAL CONVENTION OF TEXAS ANNUAL MEETING

We are honored to host the Baptist General Convention of Texas annual meeting this month (November 16-18) at the Abilene Convention Center. This event will bring together leaders and members from across the state to worship, learn, and collaborate. We look forward to welcoming our fellow Baptists and sharing in this time of fellowship and growth.

As we reflect on these exciting developments, let us give thanks for the ways God is moving in our church and community. May we continue to seek His guidance and grace in all that we do.

Dr. John Whitten

Dr. John Whitten
Senior Pastor

SUNDAY NIGHTS

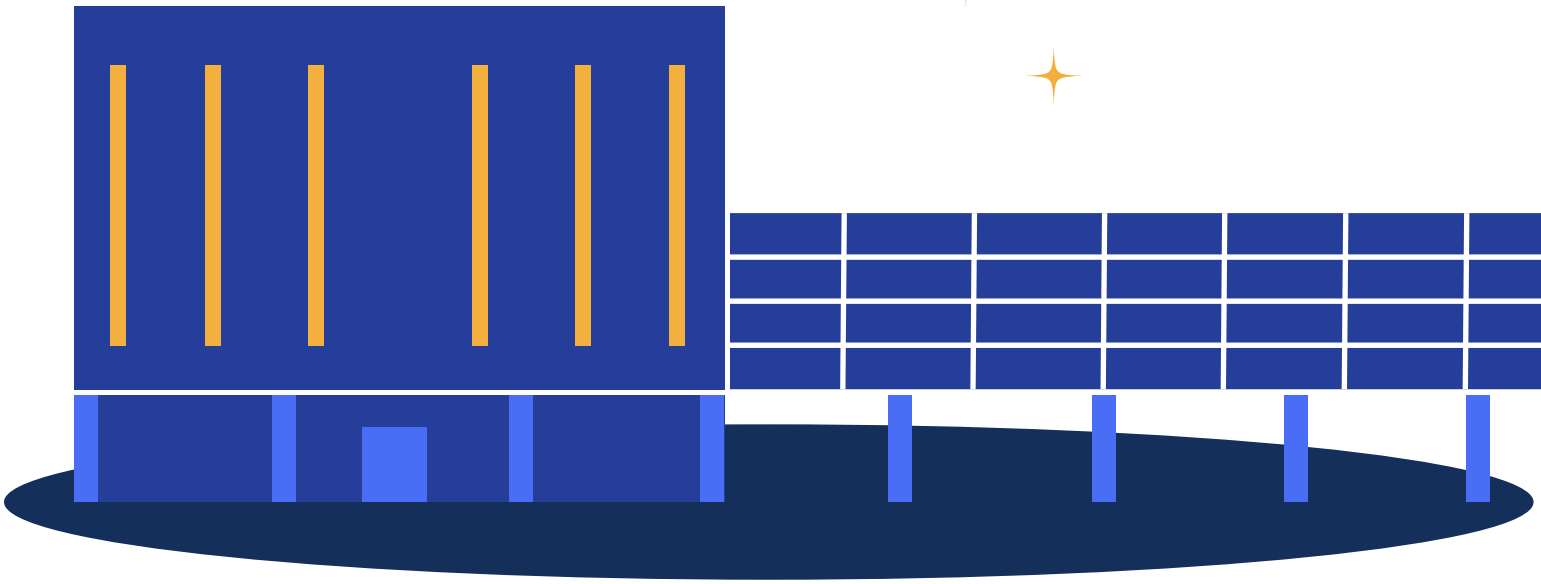
Nov. 2: Jeff & Laura O'Loughlin, IMB Missionaries, 6PM Conference Center

Nov. 9: Meeting Night, No Evening Service

Nov. 16: BGCT Convention, 7PM Abilene Convention Center

Nov. 23: Terence Waldron, 6PM Conference Center

Nov. 30: Holiday Weekend, No Evening Service



SCAN TO LEARN MORE

ABOUT THE NEXT 70

NOVEMBER

CHURCHWIDE

NOV. 2: OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Give the gift of Jesus to children around the world! Pick up your Operation Christmas Child box around campus from November 2-24. Fill the boxes with essentials, small toys, hygiene items, and the shipping fee and bring them back November 17-24. We are so excited to announce that Pioneer Drive is the central drop off location for Abilene and the surrounding area this year. You can also fill a box online for $30. Our goal is 500 boxes. What a perfect way to share the good news with the world!

NOV. 2: DEACON ELECTION

Deacon Election is Sunday, November 2. If you do not want to be nominated, email Jill@pioneerdrive.org.

NOV. 11: HEROES BREAKFAST

Since November 11, 2011, we have gathered to say "Thank You" to our Veterans. All five branches of the U.S. Armed Forces are invited. Join us at 8AM at Cracker Barrel for a tasty free breakfast and priceless tales. Sign up online or in the church office beginning October 26.

SAVE THE DATE: MARRIAGE RETREAT

Make plans to join us for Marriage Retreat 2026 here in Abilene on January 16-17. We'll meet on campus Friday and Saturday for interactive teaching and marriage enrichment with Bobby Cooley of Empowered Homes. Make your plans now to ensure that it is just you and your spouse this weekend. Book a hotel room, call the grandparents, and get ready to sign up. Don't miss out on this opportunity for renewed intimacy and growth! Contact Terence Waldron with questions.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

NOV. 2: SCRIPTURE KIDS FUN NIGHT

Children, 1st-5th grade, join us for Scripture K!ds Fun Night on Sunday from 5:30-7:00PM in the Allen Room. This night will be full of fun, scripture memory, pizza and cookies. Don't forget to bring your Bible!

NOV. 15: RAs DAY AT STATE PARK

Royal Ambassadors, 1st-5th grade, along with your dad or male adult join us for a day at the Abilene State Park on Saturday from 10AM-2PM. We will enjoy games, exploring, free time, devotional and lunch. The cost is $15 per person. Register online today!

COLLEGE MINISTRY

FALL CHURCH MATCH SCHOLARSHIP

Scholarship applications for the Spring 2026 semester are available in the upstairs offices or the College Room (2254) for students attending a Texas Baptist University or Abilene Christian University. All applications must be emailed to gayla@pioneerdrive.org, mailed, or delivered to the upstairs office by December 7th. Priority will be given to students pursuing full-time ministry. Remaining scholarships will be awarded based on need.

CONNECTIONS

NOV. 2: BAPTISM CLASS

Baptism is a beautiful declaration of your commitment to Christ, and we'd love to walk with you on that journey! Join us for our Baptism Class at 10:10AM in the Café. This class is designed to help you explore what baptism means and how to take this important step. Know someone who might be interested? Feel free to share this invitation—we'd love to see them there!

NOV. 9: MEMBERSHIP CLASS

If you've been considering becoming a member of Pioneer Drive, we'd love to help you take that step! Our Membership Class is scheduled from 10:10–11:00 AM in the Café, where you'll have the opportunity to meet some of our ministers and learn about our church family.

MISSIONS MINISTRY

BIG COUNTRY NEEDS

For the month of November we be collecting boxes of crackers. All donations will go the ACBA Social Ministries food pantry. Donations can be placed in the grocery carts or any church office.

WORLD MISSIONS OFFERING

The World Mission offering is a great way to help share God's love all over the world. You can help by giving to the World Mission Offering. A portion of the World Missions Offering supports Texas Baptist missions' efforts. On November 16th, we will learn more about Baptist World Alliance from General Secretary Elijah Brown and Texas Baptist Missions from Julio Guarneri who is the Executive Director of Texas Baptists. We will host both speakers on our campus. To give, go to www.pioneerdrive.org/give and select World Missions.

PRESCHOOL MINISTRY

NOV. 7: FRIDAY WITH FRIENDS

Parents and Preschoolers, join us for Fridays with Friends on November 7 at 9:30AM. We will have fun activities set up in the Pioneer Drive Gym (enter through the door on the north side). No registration needed.

PRIMETIMER MINISTRY

NOV. 18: PRIMETIME LIVE

For the third time, Primetime Live welcomes Dr. Sandy Hazelip & Ellie Hamby, the over-80 world travelers. These two have landed in the deep bush of Zambia, the breathtaking Syrian Desert, and the shores of Antarctica. Their motto, "Make some plans and live!" will speak to all Primetimers. Join us in the Fellowship Hall for coffee and conversation at 10AM, the program at 11AM, and a Chick-fil-A lunch ($8) at noon. Sign up online or in the church office.

DEC. 4: PRIMETIME LIVE

"Hot off the press" and into your hands! Author Glenn Dromgoole has a Christmas Gift for every Primetimer. His latest 100-page book "The Christmas Spirit – A Celebration in Word and Song" will have you reading, singing, and sharing the joy of Christmas. Join us in the Fellowship Hall at 10AM for coffee and conversation. Glenn will speak at 11AM, and we'll have a Chick-fil-A lunch ($8) at noon. Sign up begins November 23.

DEC. 6: PRESTONWOOD CHRISTMAS SHOW

Celebrate Christmas with "The Gift of Christmas" at Prestonwood Baptist Church in Plano. The show includes a 1000-member cast and choir, flying angels, live animals, and elaborate staging & lighting. Cost is $75 per person and includes the show, the bus ride, and lunch in the Historic Fort Worth Stockyards. Sign up in the church office only beginning November 16.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

NOV. 20: CAFE CONNECTIONS

Ladies of all ages and stages are invited to come for a time of fellowship and encouragement on the third Thursday of each month at 10AM in the Cafe. Coffee & light breakfast snacks are provided. Come as you are and bring a friend. There is no cost or registration.

DEC. 9: WOMEN'S CHRISTMAS DINNER

Join us Tuesday at 6PM in the Conference Center for our Women's Christmas Dinner. Come enjoy music, a delicious dinner, beautifully decorated tables, and a wonderful message from our speaker, Courtney Horton, Coalition Coordinator for the West Texas Homeless Network. This will be a wonderful evening so invite a friend and make plans to join us.

Tickets are $25 and can be purchased online beginning November 16th. The deadline to register is Sunday, November 30th. Please be aware that all ticket sales and hostess signups are online or through calling the church office and speaking with Meredith or Courtney. Contact meredith@pioneerdrive.org or courtney@pioneerdrive.org with any questions.

WORSHIP MINISTRY

NOV. 2: STUDENT-LED WORSHIP

The Middle School and High School Choirs will lead in the 9AM and 11:15AM Celebration Worship Services. Share this wonderful worship experience with us!

NOV. 16: WORSHIP AT BGCT WITH US

Abilene is hosting the Texas BGCT Convention this year. Pioneer Drive's Choir and Orchestra will be leading worship on opening night! Join us in prayer and worship as many gather from all over the state to worship and learn more about serving our Lord and Savior. Official messenger spots are filled, but you can still attend as a guest at 7PM at the Abilene Convention Center.

DEC. 7: CHILDREN'S CHOIR MUSICAL

Preschool and 1st-5th grade choirs will present "Straight Outta Bethlehem" on Sunday, December 7, at 6PM in the Sanctuary. Everyone is invited to worship as we celebrate Jesus' birth through songs and drama!

SPIRITUAL DIRECTION

I recently asked my daughter to go get me a screwdriver. She said, "but dad, you're not really a screwdriver kind of guy."

Ouch. Truth hurts.

Many ministers like me are aspiring fixers. We would love to give the right answers to the many people who call us for help every week.

Instances like these have me pondering the kind of help I might be more suited to share with others.

Spiritual Direction is an old church practice where two or more come together for prayer and conversation about God's movement in their lives.

As I continue to learn about this tool, I see potential for a growing ministry at and through our church. What would happen if we approached one another and our neighbors with questions that helped us pay more attention to our relationship with God?

Contact Nathan@pioneerdrive.org to learn more about spiritual direction or to set up a meeting for a one-time session.

WORLD HUNGER BAGS

Pioneer Drive, thank you for donating food by filling up a World Hunger Bags! We received nearly 130 bags! What a difference this food will make at the Food Pantry.

MORE WAYS TO GIVE

IN SERVICE

At Pioneer Drive, you are always welcome to give during our services. In each service, you may drop off your giving in the offering boxes located at the entrances or in our passed offering plates.

ONLINE

pioneerdrive.org/give

Online giving is a convenient tool for folks who call Pioneer Drive home. With a pandemic going on, this option is not only secure but also safe for those unable to attend.

BY MAIL

Members of Pioneer Drive may send their offering by traditional mail services. To do this, simply send your gift to "Finance Office, Pioneer Drive Baptist Church, 701 S. Pioneer Dr., Abilene, TX 79605."

BY TEXT

Giving becomes easy and simple with text-to-give:
1. Text "pioneerdrive" to 73256
2. Enter the gift amount & select the fund
3. Enter payment information & click submit

WORLD MISSIONS OFFERING

Through this offering we support our Missionary Partners here in the Big Country and around the world.

Be a small part of God's BIG story again! Give today by writing WMO on your offering envelope or by selecting World Missions online at www.pioneerdrive.org/give. Connect with Nathan@pioneerdrive.org or call the Church Office to learn more about giving and going beyond the walls of Pioneer Drive!

Pioneer Drive
BAPTIST CHURCH

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.

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