



THE MAY 2026
VISION

A Christ-Centered Calendar

May always arrives with energy. School years wrap up, calendars fill fast, and life feels like it is moving at full speed. This May at Pioneer Drive will be no different, and that is a good thing.

We are looking forward to gathering at our Pioneer Picnic, hearing the joy and faith of our children through the Children's Choir Musical, and opening God's Word together as we begin Acts 2, a sermon series focused on the Spirit, the Church, and the way God forms a people for His purposes.

One of the highlights of May will be our Middle School Choir traveling to San Antonio for Choir Tour, using their voices to worship God and grow together in faith.

At the same time, many of our families will be attending

graduations, celebrating weddings, and enjoying holidays and milestones together.

In the middle of all that movement, the question we continue to ask is simple and important: How will God remain the center? My prayer is that in every celebration and every transition, we remember that God is not something we add to a busy life. He is the One who gives meaning, direction, and joy to it all.

As we look ahead, we are gearing up for camps, Vacation Bible School, and mission trips, and we are watching with excitement as steel continues to rise on the new sanctuary. God is clearly at work among us.

It is an exciting time to be the church, together, centered on Christ.



Dr. John Whitten

Dr. John Whitten
Senior Pastor



NEXT 70 UPDATE

With the foundation set, Abilene's western horizon will soon take shape with a new silhouette, outlined with years of prayer, hard work, and support. In the months ahead, the skyline will serve as a constant reminder that this is where heaven meets earth, where a crane reaches and raises steel into the sky.

Near the end of April, we surpassed the \$5 million mark, collecting \$5,021,111 in contributions! Thank you for your continued giving, support, and prayers!

For more information and to get involved, please visit Pioneer Drive's Next 70 Campaign at www.pioneerdrive.org/next70.

SUNDAY NIGHTS

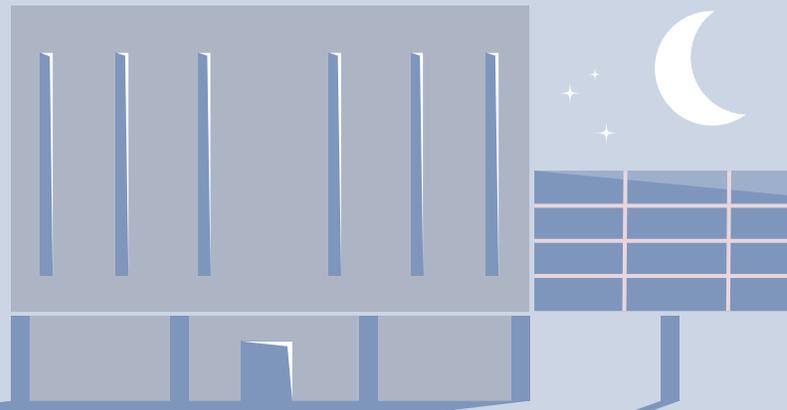
May 3: Children's Musical , 6PM Sanctuary

May 10: Mother's Day Holiday, No PM Service

May 17: Meeting Night, No PM Service

May 24: Middle School Choir Concert, 6PM Sanctuary

May 31: Vacation Bible School



May

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

CHURCHWIDE

MAY: VBS COOKIES AND LEMONADE

Vacation Bible School is right around the corner and we need cookies and lemonade! Drop your donations off in any of the buckets around campus or bring to any church office. VBS is the week of May 31 to June 4.

MAY 6: PIONEER PICNIC

Celebrate our last Wednesday Night of the spring semester with our church family! From 5:30 to 7:30PM at the Festival Gardens across from the Zoo, we will eat, play, and fellowship. Bring your own picnic dinner and bring your friends and family for snowcones, inflatables, games, and more. We can't wait to see you there!

FALL: WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEAL CREW

If you've been considering volunteering and enjoy meal prepping, serving, or cleaning a kitchen, the Wednesday Night Meal Crew is looking for volunteers, every Wednesday from 2-6PM, starting in September through April. For more info, contact the receptionists in the church office.

CHILDREN'S DAY OUT

HIRING PRE-SCHOOL TEACHER

Children's Day Out is hiring for next school year 2026-2027. We are looking for a team player that loves preschool children and wants to be a part of a great team! CDO follows AISD school calendar. CDO days and times are Tuesday-Thursday from 9AM-2:30PM. Contact Pamela@pioneerdrive.org if you are interested.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

JUN. 15: DAY CAMP

If you have completed 1st-3rd Grade, join us June 15-17 from 9AM-3PM for three days of learning new things, going on field trips around Abilene, and learning more about Jesus! Register by June 6.

JUL. 17: KID'S CAMP

If you have completed 4th-6th Grade, join us July 6-10 at RiverBend Retreat Center in Glen Rose, TX for a week of fun and growing closer to Jesus! Register by June 19.

COLLEGE MINISTRY

MAY 31: CHURCH MATCH SCHOLARSHIP

Scholarship applications for the Fall Semester 2026 are available in the upstairs offices or in the College Bible Study Room (2254) for students attending Texas Baptist Universities or Abilene Christian University. All applications must be sent to Gayla@pioneerdrive.org, mailed, or delivered to the upstairs office by May 31st. Priority is given to students pursuing full-time ministry with remaining scholarships awarded based on need.

MAY 31: GAUNTT SCHOLARSHIP

The JoAnn Gauntt Endowed Scholarship, established by the JoAnn Gauntt Estate and administered by the Pioneer Drive Foundation, provides scholarships to students pursuing



careers in education or ministry. This scholarship is designed to assist students who are currently or have recently been involved at Pioneer Drive Baptist Church. For more information, you may email pdbcfoundation@pioneerdrive.org or scan the QR.

FAMILY MINISTRY

MAY 30: FAMILY MOVIE & DINNER

Let's watch The Breadwinner with Nate Bargatze at 3PM. Tickets are \$8. Afterwards, we will head to Allen Ridge for dinner. Sign up in Realm to reserve your seats.

FOSTER 325

MAY: PRAYERS FOR THE JOURNEY

The Foster 325 ministry team invites you to join them in praying for two Pioneer Drive families who are walking through the process of becoming licensed. They will be a blessing to whoever the Lord brings into their home.

PRESCHOOL MINISTRY

MAY 1: FRIDAY WITH FRIENDS

Fridays with Friends is a time for parents to connect while preschoolers play! We will meet at the Pioneer Drive Playground on Friday, May 1 from 9:30-11:30AM.

PRIMETIMER MINSITRY

MAY 7: PRIMETIME LIVE

Our friend, Art Linkletter, grabbed our attention in 1989 when his top selling book "Old Age Is Not For Sissies" hit the bookstores. Whew! Primetime Live welcomes physical therapists Matt Lytle & Chris Gerhart. Physical Therapy Today recently opened their doors to south Abilene. You will be amazed at what they are able to do for Seniors. Jeff Reid grew an extra two inches! Join us at 10AM for coffee and conversation. Matt & Chris will amaze us at 11AM, followed by a tasty Chick-fil-A box lunch (\$8) at noon. RSVP by noon on Wednesday, May 6.

STUDENT MINSITRY

MAY 17: SENIOR SUNDAY RECOGNITION

As a church community, we want to take a morning to recognize and celebrate our seniors and where you're headed next. We hope that you and your family will plan to join us on the morning of Sunday, May 17, as our church community gathers to recognize and celebrate you. Each senior and their family is invited to gather for brunch (10:10AM in the Gym) and to participate in Senior Recognition during the 11:15AM Celebration Worship service.

To participate, register your family for breakfast on Realm. Once you've registered, we ask you send two photos of your student for the slideshow, one from childhood and one current. Please register and submit all photos no later than Friday, May 8th to be a part of this momentous and celebratory morning. We are so proud of you and look forward to celebrating with each of you!

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

MAY 13: ACTS 2:46 DINNER

We are grateful for a year of groups able to meet and share life with one another. Now join your group with everyone to celebrate a great time of connection and fellowship. We will share dinner and a fun game of bingo. We hope your entire group can reconnect at this finale night! Register by May 6.

MAY 21: CAFÉ 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 9AM in the Fellowship Hall. Coffee & light breakfast snacks are provided. Come as you are and bring a friend. There is no cost or registration.

WORSHIP MINISTRY

MAY 3: CHILDREN'S CHOIR MUSICAL

You'll hit a homerun with our Children Choirs as they present "In the Big Inning". Join us at 6PM in the Sanctuary as children, ages 3 through 5th grade, step up to the plate and hit a grand slam leading us in worship through the Hall of Faith in Hebrews 11.

MAY 17: MSC PARENT MEETING

We will pray over our Middle School Choir students and sponsors at the conclusion of the 11:15AM Celebration Worship Service as they are commissioned for their upcoming choir trip to San Antonio, TX. A brief parent meeting for students attending the trip will follow immediately after the service.

MAY 22: MIDDLE SCHOOL CHOIR TRIP

Pray for our students as they serve in San Antonio, TX May 22-24. On Sunday, May 24, at 6PM in the Sanctuary, Middle School Choir will have a home reflection concert sharing testimonies and songs from their time on tour.

JUN. 7: THE GUARDIANS GOSPEL CONCERT

Join us in the Conference Center for a special evening of gospel music with The Guardians. Come enjoy a time of powerful worship, encouragement, and inspiring songs you won't want to miss! Doors open at 3PM and the concert starts at 4PM. Admission is free and a love offering will be received.



SCAN THE
QR CODE
FOR EVENTS

For many people, the idea of a prayer-walk can be intimidating. We may be afraid that we won't do it "right", or we're not "spiritual" enough, or maybe we just don't understand the entire concept. The truth is...there are no prerequisites for a person to be able to prayer-walk and it's not hard to do. So, grab your walking shoes, consider the following guidelines, and see where the Lord takes you! What does prayer walking look like? When someone prayer-walks, he/she simply aims to be more intentional about listening to God and allowing God to help them see the people, places, and situations of their community through God's eyes as he/she walks. By practicing listening and changing our perspectives, we can learn God's desire for our community and know for what we should pray.

- **DISCERN** - Ask God to reveal what he sees, hears, and knows about the people, events, and things of this community; that you will develop the eyes to see what God is already doing in the community and among the people.
- **BLESS** - Read scripture or ask for God's favor on every space & person you see; pray for God's intervention in each life, so that each one can be fruitful in His kingdom.
- **DISCOVER** - Take note of the "good stuff" that exists in the community that could be a (bigger) blessing, when shared.
- **ENGAGE** - Talk with anyone who is interested about personal issues, community issues, and anything else that may come up. Encourage people to share their time, talents, and belongings with each other.
- **LOOK** for ways to intervene in the community w/love & grace, as Jesus would.

NEIGHBOR-2-NEIGHBOR MINISTRY

Neighbor-2-Neighbor is our ministry team dedicated to responding to calls for help from our community. The team consists of 10 church members, but we are always in need of more helpers. Contact Nathan@pioneerdrive.org to learn more or join the team.



350

Since last April, our team has responded to 350 calls for help.



65

Over 65 of these families have received some sort of assistance.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL MAY 31-JUNE 4 • 6-8:30PM

SHINING A LIGHT ON
WHO JESUS REALLY IS

ILLUMINATION STATION

JOHN 8:12

3 YEARS – 5TH GRADE
REGISTER ONLINE



Vacation Bible School

May 31-June 4, 6-8:30PM
Ages 3 to 5th Grade (completed)

Children

June 15-17: Day Camp
1st to 3rd (completed), 9AM-3PM

July 6-10: Kid's Camp
4th to 6th (completed), Glen Rose, TX

July 23: Day Away
6th Grade (completed), 9AM-7PM

Family

June 16: Family Night at Adventure Cove

Preschool

July 7 & 9: Preschool Camp
Ages 3 to Kinder (completed)

Students

June 20-26: High School Choir Tour
San Diego, CA

July 6-10: Student Camp
7th-12th Grade (completed)

July 26-29: Super Week
6th-12th Grade (completed)

MAY STAFF ANNIVERSARY



ERIC McELHANEY (10 YEARS)



TAMMY LUNBECK (11 YEARS)



KENDRA GRAVES (4 YEARS)



TERENCE WALDRON (9 YEARS)



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www.pioneerdrive.org



Download the Realm
App for more info



Like us on Facebook
@pioneerdrive

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.



Pioneer Drive
BAPTIST CHURCH

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