The VISION

May 2024

GOD'S POWER

Recently the church campus experienced a Saturday night power outage. We arrived Sunday morning to find that the internet was not operating, which also meant that the air conditioners, which are connected to our internet-based network servers, were not operating either.

With 1,000+ people expected later in the morning, we began to manually turn on air conditioners, identify alternative mechanisms for children's check-in, and ensure backup recordings of the service were made for our livestream audience.

It is amazing how dependent we have become on electrical power. When the power goes out, we lose nearly all modern conveniences (good thing many toilets don't depend on electrical power—yet!).

Have you ever sensed that you aren't operating fully under the Spirit's power? From time to time, we may feel like our spiritual power has been turned off.
In the Book of Ephesians, Paul, on his knees, is praying for the people of Ephesus. He is praying that they would be "strengthened with power," that as a church they "May have power, together with all the Lord's people," and that they be reminded "God's power is at work in us."

One of the ways we can ensure that our church's spiritual power is on is through prayer. As you think about how you might pray for our church—pray that each of us would be plugged into the Spirit's power—a power that helps us understand the deep, wide, and vast love of God, a power that can do beyond anything we can ask or imagine. Let's pray that God's power operates at full strength in our lives.

Dr. John Whitten

Dr. John Whitten
Senior Pastor

Sunday Nights

May 5: Children's Musical, 6PM Sanctuary

May 12: Mother's Day, No Evening Worship

May 19: Monthly Meetings, No Evening Worship

May 26: Memorial Day Weekend, No Evening Worship

SET APART

FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP WEEKEND
SAVE THE DATE: AUGUST 2-3

Save the date for our Family Discipleship Weekend, August 2-3. During this local 2-day event, your family will enjoy meaningful worship and teaching, breakout sessions on relevant topics, fun-filled recreation, and an intentional time together as we recognize God's call to disciple our families in the way of Jesus.

MAY

CHURCHWIDE

MAY: COOKIES FOR VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Vacation Bible School is almost here (June 2-6) and we need your help! We need cookies for snack time. Place your donation in containers located around the church.

MAY 8: PIONEER PICNIC

Join us at 6PM at Festival Gardens (across from the zoo). Bring your own picnic supper and come enjoy fellowship and fun activities for all ages. There will be games, inflatables, snow cones, and more. You won't want to miss this evening of fun with your Pioneer Drive family. Invite a friend and make plans to join us. Be sure to sign up for the Men's Horseshoe Tournament on Realm to win prizes.

JUNE 2: VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Join us as we learn about God's rock-solid truth June 2-6 from 6-8:30PM! VBS is for all children 3-years-old through 5th grade. Plus, something new is coming to VBS! Thursday night is Family Night! Bring your family and enjoy all things VBS. A parent/guardian must attend with child(ren) Thursday night and will particiapte in Worship Rally, VBS Open House, and Rec Time! Don't forget to stop and enjoy the lemonade and cookies!

JUNE 9 & JULY 14: SUMMER SUPPER CLUBS

Supper Clubs are a great evening of fun and fellowship centered around a meal and backyard activities at the home of a Pioneer Drive member. It is a way for us all to grow closer as a Pioneer Family. Anyone can sign up, so save the dates of June 9 and July 14. Supper Clubs will be in place of Sunday evening activities on those days. More info to come in Realm on locations and times.

COLLEGE MINISTRY

MAY 26: UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarship applications for the Fall 2024 Semester are available in the upstairs offices or in the College Bible Study room (Rm 2254) for students attending a Texas Baptist University or ACU. All applications must be returned to Gayla@pioneerdrive.org, mailed, or delivered to the upstairs office. Priority will be given to students pursuing full-time ministry. The remaining scholarships will be awarded on a need basis.

MEN'S MINISTRY

FRIDAY MORNING MEN'S GROUP

Make new friends while sharing some of the best donuts & kolaches in the Big Country. This crew meets Fridays from 9-10AM at AM Donuts on South Willis. Contact Ray at 325-665-9775 for more info or simply stop for a visit.

MAY 15: WEDNESDAY NIGHT STUDY GROUP

Join us for a 12-week journey in learning the history of the church and our role in God's kingdom in Room 1251 on Wednesdays at 6PM starting May 15. Contact our men's minister Nathan@pioneerdrive.org for more info.

MISSIONS MINISTRY

JUN. 16: BAPTIST CHURCH BUILDERS

Help build a new church in one week! For many years, several members of our church have participated in an annual Church Builders mission trip with other Baptists from various churches. You are invited to join in on the work and ministry on this year's trip from June 16-21. To learn more, you can visit www.baptistchurchbuilders.com or contact Taylor in our Mission's Office.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOU

Here are a few opportunities for you to volunteer: Outreach Team, encourage neighbors experiencing homelessness; Care Packages, create care packages for guests seeking financial or physical help from our church; Neighbor 2 Neighbor, help our church better engage our local community; Champion of Missions, promote outreach opportunities in your Sunday School class. To learn more or sign up, contact Nathan@pioneerdrive.org.

PRAYER FOR PARTNERS IN POLAND

There is a new opportunity to partner in prayer with one of our newer mission partners. Tanner and Kendra Clarke are serving in Krakow, Poland with the International Mission Board. They are looking for 1,000 individuals to come alongside their ministry as prayer partners to support their work through the power of prayer. If you are interested, contact Taylor@pioneerdrive.org.

PRESCHOOL MINISTRY

MAY 3: FRIDAYS WITH FRIENDS

Moms and little ones, join us on Friday from 10-11:30AM at the Southern Hills Church of Christ playground. Enjoy fellowship with other moms while the children play!

PRIMETIMER MINISTRY

MAY 2: PRIMETIME LIVE

Don't get scammed! Has technology taken over your world? This month we welcome Randy Roewe, the Chief Risk Officer at First Financial Bank, to Primetime Live. His broad and diverse experience will enable him to answer many of your challenges and questions (for FREE!). Coffee and fellowship begins at 10AM. Randy will speak at 11AM, followed by a Chick-Fil-A lunch ($8) at noon. You can sign-up online or in the Church Office.

MAY 3: CELEBRATION SINGERS

Since 1997, the Celebration Singers have performed free shows for the public to enjoy. At the Historic Paramount Theater, the Celebration Singers will present "Around the Year." We will enjoy dinner at Rosa's (northside) at 6PM and the concert at begins at 7PM. You can sign-up online or in the Church Office.

MAY 7: ABILENE 101

Local historian, Jay Moore, presents "Abilene 101" at 7:30PM at the Historic Paramount Theater. Jay claims this is the history that every Abilenian should know about our hometown. Join us at 6PM at Rosa's (northside) for dinner. The presentation is free, but if you sign up online or in the chuch office, we will save you a seat.

STUDENT MINISTRY

MAY 5: STUDENT CAMP PARENT MEETING

Parents of students registered for Youth Camp, we'd love to invite you and your student to join us in the 130s Fellowship Hall immediately following the services for a brief informational meeting. You will hear all details for camp and fill out any required release forms and waivers.

MAY 19: SENIOR RECOGNITION DAY

Each senior and their family is invited to gather for breakfast and participate in Senior Recognition during our morning worship services. Breakfast time and service details will be communicated to you all soon! To participate, register online and send two pictures, one from baby/childhood and one current/graduation picture to Allison@pioneerdrive.org or you can bring physical copies to our office to be scanned if needed. The deadline to register and submit photos is May 10.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

MAY 8: WOMEN ON MISSION

Join us for Women on Mission on Wednesday at 11:30AM in the Fellowship Hall. We will enjoy lunch together and assemble goodies to take to Bonham teachers for Teacher Appreciation Week. The cost for lunch is $5. Register online or in the office by May 5.

MAY 15: IF TABLE FINALE

If you were part of an IF Table this year, join us for our finale event at 6PM in the Pioneer Drive Fellowship Hall. We will enjoy a meal together in our groups and have a fun time of fellowship as we celebrate the new friendships that have been formed. The cost for dinner is $10, and childcare is provided for birth-5th grade. Register online or call the church office by May 12.

MAY 16: CAFE CONNECTIONS

Ladies of all ages and stages are invited to come hang out and share life on the third Thursday of each month at 9AM in the Cafe.

WORSHIP MINISTRY

MAY 3: MIDDLE SCHOOL CHOIR TRIP

Pray for our students as they serve in Lubbock May 3 and 4. On Sunday, May 5, Middle School Choir students will lead in the 9AM and 11:15AM Celebration Worship Services in the Sanctuary as they share testimonies and songs from Choir Trip 2024.

MAY 5: CHILDREN'S CHOIR MUSICAL

Children's Choirs (preschool and 1st-5th grade) will present "Livin' Inside Out" at 6pm in the Sanctuary. Everyone is invited to worship with our preschoolers and children as they lead us through drama and music. You will be blessed by this story showing how Jesus changes us from the inside out!

SCAN THIS QR CODE WITH YOUR PHONE'S CAMERA TO SIGN UP FOR ANY OF OUR UPCOMING EVENTS:

NEIGHBOR 2 NEIGHBOR

MINISTRY

How do you respond when someone asks you for help?

This is the challenge and opportunity at the heart of Neighbor 2 Neighbor (N2N) Ministry at Pioneer Drive. N2N seeks to connect our church with our community with trained volunteers following up with requests for financial assistance.

"When I make a call to a neighbor in need, I do not know the reception or details of the need from the person who has requested our church's help. In each situation, finding out the needs, some personal information about the family such as age of children, where they go to school or day care and if there is other family support, has allowed the person to open and share more prayer needs than the initial financial request.

This is an opportunity to chat, pray and contact them back along with considering their financial requests. I prayed for one couple to have access to the Presbyterian Medical Mission Services where they had been on the waiting list for weeks in addition to the need for utility payment assistance. When I called them back the next day, they told me two-hours after we prayed together on the phone they received a call from Medical Missions, and an appointment was scheduled for the following Monday to receive assistance with their health issues. This was a blessing for all—for them and for me to see God at work and fast—because God knew their needs!

Sometimes I have talked to a believer and other times to someone who I am praying for to feel the love and care of Jesus and will want to know more. Each call and contact have been a blessing to me as the Lord works in our community."

-Cassie Hughes, Neighbor 2 Neighbor Team Member

If you are interested in joining Cassie and others in this wonderful ministry, contact Nathan@pioneerdrive.org to take your next step. Even if you are not looking to commit as a regular helper, all of us can step up in a moment of crisis. Here are a few tips to guide any future conversations with a neighbor in need:

- After introductions ask, "What led you to Pioneer?"
- Remind them the number for our local Call for Help Center is 325-673-8211, where they can learn about any resources in the area.
- Offer them a refreshment. Ask our staff about Welcome Boxes.
- Invite them to pray with you or join you for worship or class.
- They can always leave a name and number on our main church line, and we will follow up ASAP.

GOD'S ROCK-SOLID TRUTH IN A WORLD OF SHIFTING SANDS

ROMANS 12:2

VBS 2024

JUNE 2-6: VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Join us as we learn about God's rock-solid truth from 6-8:30PM! VBS is for all children 3-years-old through 5th grade. Don't forget to stop and enjoy the lemonade and cookies!

FAMILY NIGHT

JUNE 6

Thursday night is FAMILY NIGHT! Bring your family and enjoy all things VBS. A parent/guardian must attend with child(ren) Thursday night and will particiapte in Worship Rally, VBS Open House, and Rec Time!