



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Vacation Bible School will soon be here! As you read this, we are in the planning stages and recruiting volunteers for a wonderful week!

On Sunday, May 25, we will be worshipping in the sanctuary, where the platform will have been transformed into a magnificent oversized jungle Worship Rally area so you will get a little taste of what our children will enjoy through the week. Beginning Tuesday, May 27 through Friday, May 30, there will be a little more activity or might we say, a lot more activity around church than usual as we will have children ages 4 – completed 5th grade each morning for Vacation Bible School. We will start every morning at 9 a.m. and end at noon on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. Friday we will extend our day for half an hour and conclude the week with our final Worship Rally and program. The Final Worship Rally will begin Friday at 11:45 a.m. and will be finished by 12:30 p.m.

This year, through our Magnified theme, we will be “Discovering the bigness of God in the smallest of things.” We will start each morning in the sanctuary with our Worship Rally and then break into age groups where we will rotate through Bible Study at Jungle Book Storytime; Crafts at Wildflower Crafts; Music at the Songbird Music; Recreation at Raindrop Rec; Snacks at Honeycomb; and Missions at the Monarch Missions!

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We ask you be in prayer for the many children and volunteers who will be involved. We ask specifically you pray for: the children who have not accepted Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior; for those who already have made Him their Lord and Savior to grow in their walk; the volunteers who are leading Bible study & missions as they speak the words God puts on their hearts; the ones leading music and recreation to have patience with the children, as these times are very active yet very meaningful to many; those leading crafts, that the activities they have for the children will help bring understanding especially for those children who need to see things rather than just hear; those who provide the snacks for us, as eating and fellowshiping together can be such an important part of being a community of believers; the leaders who walk, talk, and listen to the children as they go to each area.

Thank you for being a church who not only prays for events such as VBS, but continues to invest in the lives of children and their families.



BECKY TUCKER
Pastor for Children

EASTER CELEBRATIONS AT CITY LIGHT



We celebrated Easter at City Light! Our neighbors had a great time hunting for colorful eggs hidden around the lobby. Each egg was filled with a sweet treat.



We were also blessed by two of our neighbors who brought a beautiful Easter cake to share with everyone—it was such a thoughtful gesture!



MAY 6 IS QUICKLY APPROACHING!

City Light and GLO are both excited to participate in Abilene Gives again this year – a special 12-hour day of generosity from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Tuesday, May 6. This city-wide giving event has a big impact on nonprofits which serve our community and we'd love for you to be a part of it!



Your generous support helps City Light provide essential services like showers, clothing, a place to receive mail, and warm meals – including lunch three times a week and breakfast with a little bit of church on Sunday mornings. It provides GLO needed classroom supplies and support for the various activities planned by the teachers.

None of this would be possible without your partnership. Thank you for considering a gift to City Light Community Ministries and GLO Daycare on May 6 through Abilene Gives.

Together, we're shining hope in our city!

**Give to City Light
Community Ministries**
Abilene Gives 2025

Give to GLO Daycare
Abilene Gives 2025

SENIOR SUNDAY

Graduation is almost here! On Sunday, May 18, we will honor our High School Seniors during our morning worship service. As they prepare for their finals and graduation, I hope you will take time to help celebrate them on all of their accomplishments. Please join us for worship on this special Sunday! As we have done in years before, the church will have the opportunity to write words of encouragement and support to our graduating seniors which will then be compiled into journals that the students will receive on Senior Sunday. If you would like to fill out a personalized note for one (or all!) of our seniors, we encourage you to go to our website, click on the Youth page, find the student(s) you wish to leave a note for, and share your personal word of encouragement in the space provided. Submissions will be printed, bound, and given to the students on May 18, so we will need all entries to be submitted by Thursday, May 15 at Noon!

[Click Here for the Journal Page](#)

As our High School Seniors prepare for their next steps in the journey called "life," I would like to encourage our congregation to be in prayer for these students and their families. Also, I pray that our church will continue to be the place where these students may call "home" and "family."

Paul reminds us in 1 Corinthians 12 that we work and live together in faith just as a body has many parts which make up the whole. Over the years, these students have been a vital part of this body of believers, and my hope is that this church will continue to be a place where they feel loved and valued. Thank you for the role you play as a church family in the lives of our students!

*"Every time you cross my mind,
I break out in exclamations of
thanks to God. Each exclamation
is a trigger to prayer. I find myself
praying for you with a glad heart.
I am so pleased that you have
continued on in this with us,
believing and proclaiming God's
Message, from the day you heard
it right up to the present. There has
never been the slightest doubt in
my mind that the God who started
this great work in you would keep
at it and bring it to a flourishing
finish on the very day Christ Jesus
appears.*

*- Philippians 1:3-6
(The Message)*



HUNTER BROWN
Pastor for Youth

It's time for

HIGH SCHOOL CAMP

June 1-6

in Glorieta, New Mexico

(Cost: \$350)

MIDDLE SCHOOL CAMP

June 10-14

at Horizon Camps in Brownwood, Texas

(Cost: \$290)

YOUTH CAMP

SIGN-UPS

Applications can be found around church,
in the church office or from Hunter!

WELCOME BETH YOUNG
Director of Community Ministries at City Light

The City Light Board and special called committee are thrilled to announce that Beth Young has accepted the role of Director of Community Ministries at City Light. She is leaving her Missions Ministry Assistant position at FBC and moving across the street to the new City Light office to direct and give leadership to all the ministries that happen at City Light. Beth's heart for reaching out to our neighbors and her love for FBC Abilene is a reflection of her devotion to her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. That great love has already made an impact on City Light in just the short few weeks that she's transitioned into this position. Please add her to your prayer list as she begins this ministry role. She can be contacted at beth.young@fbcabilene.org or 325-673-6686. Please send her an email encouraging her in this new ministry opportunity.



WOMEN'S NIGHT of praise

Tuesday night, April 29, a group of First Baptist women—long time members, brand new members, with so many ages represented—put aside all of the things on their to-do list to spend some time with each other. We got to know more about each other through testimony, spent time in prayer for our pastor search committee and church staff, and my favorite, sang songs focused on giving our blessed Savior the worship He is so worthy of receiving. You've heard me write about how our women's events fill my bucket, but I want to share with you the thoughts of the other ladies in attendance. These are not all of them, but take a moment to read the words of our church community to give you a picture of the blessings from Tuesday night.



"What a precious time! This was my VERY favorite night of praise. The power of prayer with friends is truly overwhelming. Thank you, Lord, for our church and friends."

"Thankful for the moment to put busyness aside and worship with the women of FBC."

"I felt my stress release as the night progressed. The music said everything I needed to hear today."

"Joy filled my heart as I sang, listened, and prayed with women of faith."

"We spent a beautiful time together at Women's Worship Night. As we prayed for our pastor search committee and staff and sang our hearts out, the Holy Spirit was right there among our gathering."

"Beverly's testimony and demonstration was the perfect picture of taking the things that fill us up, stress, worry, being afraid, and how releasing those things to God provides room for God's goodness, mercy, love, and faithfulness to pour over us."

Good is good. He dwells among us. Where two or more are gathered, He is there.

We would love for you to join our next women's gathering, Bunco on July 1st!

JENNIFER WOODARD
Church Member



WE NEED YOUR HELP

FBC Summer Missions Opportunities

There's Still Time to Sign Up!

Buckner Construction Mission Trip – July 10-15, 2025 – McAllen, TX



Needed....5 to 7 more volunteers to help build a home in Penitas, TX for the Hernandez Family. Come help this young widower mom with her new home as she provides for her two boys. No building experience necessary, but if you have some then even better! The details are: arrive July 10, work the weekend July 11, 12, 13 (leave Sunday if you need to get back to work) and then work Monday, July 14 for those who can stay an extra day. Our journey back home will be July 15. We will be staying at the Hampton Inn – McAllen and driving to the

site every morning. We have put in for cool breezes and temperatures, but not guaranteed. The cost is \$25 plus your transportation, lodging, and 4 evening meals. Contact John Moore at john.moore@fbcabilene.org for more information.

Mexico City – Mission Trip August 5-12, 2025

Needed...5 to 7 more volunteers to work with Eduk Child Services in Tipipili, Mexico. A two-hour flight will give you a global missions experience like no other. We need 5-7 more people to help with a medical clinic, children's Montessori program, and ministry to families just outside of Mexico City, Mexico. The cost of this trip will be between \$800 to \$1,000. Financial Assistance is available. Contact John Moore at john.moore@fbcabilene.org for more information.



MINISTRY SPOTLIGHTS:

CITY LIGHT

Community Ministries

SUNDAY BREAKFAST: **421**

COMMUNITY BREAKFAST: **435**

COMMUNITY LUNCH: **1,876**

PRODUCE: **661**

VOLUNTEER HOURS: **356**

SHOWERS: **190**

CLOTHING ITEMS: **396**

CALLS AND VOICEMAILS: **309**

MAIL CHECKS: **282**

FRONT DESK WALK-INS: **872**

DINING ROOM WALK-INS: **2,811**



City Light was blessed to have ATEMS High School Student Council and Encompass Health employees volunteer their time to serve our neighbors this month. We are so grateful for the help they provided and their servant hearts. If you, or a group would like to volunteer, we would be happy to get you involved. Please contact Beth Young at beth.young@fbcabilene.org.





FLC

Family Life Center

PARTY PACKAGES: 33

FITNESS CENTER USES: 308

NEW FITNESS MEMBERS: 8

FITNESS CLASSES: 18

SERENITY HOUSE: 222

FULL BUILDING RENTAL: 3

WALK-INS: 265

SPECIAL NEEDS GROUPS: 4

SCHOOL GROUPS: 10

HOME SCHOOL GROUP: 1

CHURCH LOCK-IN: 1

**Hosted Blessed Families Night
with 100+ kids with special
needs and their families.**

Volunteers Needed for GLO Daycare!

GLO Daycare is looking for 4 to 6 volunteers to help in various ways, including:

- **Working the front desk**
- **Reading books and leading activities with kids**
- **Doing laundry**
- **Helping in the kitchen**
- **Taking out the trash**

Additionally, Teacher Appreciation is coming up in May! We'd love for various groups to provide snacks one day a week throughout the month to show our gratitude for these hardworking teachers. And don't forget to support GLO Daycare during Abilene Gives on May 6! If you're interested in volunteering or providing snacks, please contact Dominique, Assistant Director of GLO (325) 675-8125 or Barry Moak, Chair of the GLO Board aggiedoc3@sbcglobal.net. Thank you for your support!



STAFF ANNIVERSARIES

May 5, 11 years
TINA HOFFMAN
Counseling Receptionist

May 17, 1 year
BRIANNA LEDERMAN
GLO Teacher

May 17, 1 year full-time
(20 years part-time)
SHARRON MCDOW
GLO Ministry Assistant

May 30, 2 years
ELVA HUFFORD
GLO Cook

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

April 2025

Budget	April	Year-to-Date
Required	\$ 257,010	\$ 1,106,090
Given	\$ 224,648	\$ 1,080,330

God continues to bless our faithfulness through the tithes and offerings given to His Kingdom work.



FIRST BAPTIST
CHURCH • ABILENE

1333 North 3rd, Abilene, TX 79601
fbc@fbcabilene.org | 325-673-5031
www.fbcabilene.org

MAY

- 4** GriefShare Organizational Meeting
Personnel Committee Meeting
Youth Progressive Dinner
- 7** Buildings & Grounds
Committee Meeting
- 8** Cisco College Graduations
- 13** First Friends Preschool
Spring Program/Open House
- 14** Last Wednesday Night Meal/
Activities
Grant-in-Aid Ministry Team
- 15** GLO Pre-K Graduation
- 17** H. S. Senior Dinner
- 18** H. S. Senior Recognition in Worship
AISD Baccalaureate
Missions' Committee
- 20** CLCM Executive Board Meeting
CLCM Full Board Meeting
Finance Committee Meeting
Deacons' Meeting
- 26** Church Offices Closed for
Memorial Day
- 27** GLO Board Meeting
- 27-30** Vacation Bible School

JUNE

- 1** Personnel Committee Meeting
- 1-6** High School Camp/Glorieta