

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

Nov. 12, 2016 • 2:00 p.m. • Sunset 5:21

Service next Sabbath: 2:00 p.m.

Order of service

Song leader	.....	Reg Killingley
Pianist	.....	Dixon Cartwright
First sermon	.....	Daniel Botha
Teen class—Library	.....	Martha McIver
Bridges class—Library	.....	With teens
Kids class—Classroom #2	.....	Roxanna West
Second sermon	.....	Ron Avey

Quick takes

1. Interrelating with other congregations—Today, Dave Havir is giving a sermon in Whitehouse.
2. Bible study—Today, Daniel Botha conducted the interactive study. Next week Dave Havir is scheduled to conduct the study.
3. Foster barn dance—Morris and Linda Foster are planning their annual barn dance for the evening of Saturday, Nov. 26.
 - Starting time is 6:00 p.m.
 - Location is the Activity Barn at the Antique Capital RV Park in Gladewater (500 S. Loop 485)
 - Activities include a chili supper, a live dance band, square dancing and a hayride
 - People are invited to bring Crock-Pots of chili and desserts
4. Edifying the Body—This week's article is "A Massive Repudiation of the Press" by Brent Bozell.
5. Among Friends—This week's article is "2 Chronicles 15:3—Part 3" by Dave Havir.
6. Eye on the World—This week's "Eye on the World" is 18 pages.

Prayer updates

On Friday (Nov. 4), **Boyd Payne** went to the doctor and heard that his heart is recovering well. **Annette** is doing a good job as a caregiver (including weighing him every day to monitor any buildup of fluid). Yesterday, he mentioned that he was having a little trouble breathing and thanks you for your prayers. He is looking forward to driving again (on Monday, Nov. 21).

Vi Lehman, who continues to deal with a lack of energy, hopes to be at the church service today. She appreciates the prayers and cards.

Sonny Rosenberger appreciates all the prayers and other kind gestures.

Kit Holloway is still dealing with the aftereffects of his recent fall, and **Elaine** is dealing with cellulitis.

Yesterday, **Ron Feaker** went to see his doctor for the removal of staples that were used in making an adjustment to his pacemaker. Daughter **Karen Dean** was able to take him, which meant that **Gracie** was feeling better. (Karen was not able to provide transportation for Ron last week, because she needed to stay with Gracie.)

Betty Foster thanks you for your prayers concerning her broken rib.

New prayer requests

Laura Moran was scheduled for a regularly scheduled doctor's appointment on Wednesday (with **Dave Havir** as her driver) but was in too much pain to keep the appointment. The pain was from diverticulitis. She began feeling better and has rescheduled her appointment for this coming Wednesday.

Brenda Cartwright, who was previously diagnosed with MS, went to a doctor on Thursday. The doctor is uncertain that she is dealing with MS and suspects that she is dealing with fibromyalgia.

On Thursday, **Wayne Cartwright** went to a doctor to deal with ongoing pain. He received an epidural in his lower back and an injection in his knee.

Ken Westby of Normandy Park, Wash., has been hospitalized with serious health problems.

On Tuesday, **Paul Smith** of the local community suffered a stroke.

Jim Kisse of Springfield, Mo., has been diagnosed with abdominal cancer.

Jerry Hoskin of Port St. Lucie, Fla., has been diagnosed with rectal cancer. He reports that the first chemo treatment had serious side effects.

Raphael Menendez of Rowlett has been diagnosed with a rare blood disease. After six treatments of chemo, his white-blood-cell count has lowered.

Becky Bouchette of Destin, Fla., is dealing with migraine headaches.

Peggy Batterton of Viola, Ark., died on Oct. 30. Please remember her husband, **Jack**, and the rest of the family in your prayers.

Request from the pastor

Dave Havir makes the following request to the congregation: “When people drop by our church building to inquire about receiving money from the church, please do not send them to our home. First, I don’t have direct access to church funds and could not arrange for them to receive church money on the spot. Second, I prefer that you not inadvertently place my wife in danger in the event that I am not at home. Thank you for understanding.”

Scriptures to consider

Here are some scriptures that can help people who are dealing with people who are covertly seeking to hurt them.

Psalm 35:1-8—“Plead my cause, O LORD, with those who strive with me; fight against those who fight against me. Take hold of shield and buckler, and stand up for my help. Also draw out the spear, and stop those who pursue me. Say to my soul, ‘I am your salvation.’ Let those be put to shame and brought to dishonor who seek after my life; let those be turned back and brought to confusion who plot my hurt. Let them be like chaff before the wind, and let the angel of the LORD chase them. Let their way be dark and slippery, and let the angel of the LORD pursue them. For without cause they have hidden their net for me in a pit, which they have dug without cause for my life. Let destruction come upon him unexpectedly, and let his net that he has hidden catch himself; into that very destruction let him fall.”

Psalm 35:11-15—“Fierce witnesses rise up; they ask me things that I do not know. They reward me evil for good, to the sorrow of my soul. But as for me, when they were sick, my clothing was sackcloth; I humbled myself with fasting; and my prayer would return to my own heart. I paced about as though he were my friend or brother; I bowed down heavily, as one who mourns for his mother. But in my adversity they rejoiced and gathered together; attackers gathered against me, and I did not know it; they tore at me and did not cease.”

Psalm 35:19-23—“Let them not rejoice over me who are wrongfully my enemies; nor let them wink with the eye who hate me without a cause. For they do not speak peace, but they devise deceitful matters against the quiet ones in the land. They also opened their mouth wide against me, and said, ‘Aha, aha! Our eyes have seen it.’ This You have seen, O LORD; do not keep silence. O Lord, do not be far from me. Stir up Yourself, and awake to my vindication, to my cause, my God and my Lord.”

Psalm 54:1-3—“Save me, O God, by Your name, and vindicate me by Your strength. Hear my prayer, O God; give ear to the words of my mouth. For strangers have risen up against me, and oppressors have sought after my life; they have not set God before them.”

Psalm 70:1-4—“Make haste, O God, to deliver me! Make haste to help me, O LORD! Let them be ashamed and confounded who seek my life; let them be turned back and confused who desire my hurt. Let them be turned back because of their shame, who say, ‘Aha, aha!’ Let all those who seek You rejoice and be glad in You; and let those who love Your salvation say continually, ‘Let God be magnified!’ ”

2 Chronicles 15:3—Part 3

This article is from the “Among Friends” section of the Church of God Big Sandy’s website, churchofgodbig sandy.com. It was posted for the weekend of Nov. 12, 2016.

By Dave Havir

BIG SANDY, Texas—Recently, I gave a sermon using 2 Chronicles 15:3 as an outline. In that sermon, I identified three main concepts.

2 Chronicles 15:3—“For a long time Israel has been without the true God, without a teaching priest, and without law.”

This article is the third of a three-part series. It will discuss the third concept—they were without law.

Trickle-down effect

On the secular front, many institutions in our modern world have difficulties because they do not respect law and order.

■ Nations do not respect their own laws. Notice the problem of the three governmental branches within the United States.

The legislative branch passes laws that do not apply to them. The executive branch overtly violates laws that are established by the legislative branch. The judicial branch is plagued by activist judges who overstep their boundaries.

■ Many families do not base their lives upon law and order.

■ Many individuals are not basing their lives upon law and order.

Expectations because of grace

On the religious front, many people (including professing Christians) seem to have a problem correlating the subjects of grace and law.

■ Some people are so focused upon their version of grace that they often have trouble finding the right connection for God’s expectations (which include aspects of His law).

■ Other people are so focused upon understanding the subject of God’s expectations (which are often aspects of God’s law) that they forget that God’s grace is the foundation for our efforts of obedience.

Notice some scriptures that demonstrate grace and expectations.

Ephesians 2:8-9—“For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.”

Ephesians 2:10—“For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.”

Titus 3:3-7—“For we ourselves were also once foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving various lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful and hating one another. But when the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared, not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, [which] He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior, that having been justified by His grace we should become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.”

Titus 3:8—“This is a faithful saying, and these things I want you to affirm constantly, that those who have believed in God should be careful to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable to men.”

Romans 3:31—“Do we then make void the law through faith? Certainly not! On the contrary, we establish the law.”

Romans 6:1-2—“What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? Certainly not! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it?”

Romans 6:15—“What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace? Certainly not!”

Lamp unto our feet

Many Bible students enjoy reading about God’s law in Psalm 119. Here are a few examples.

Psalm 119:97—“Oh, how I love Your law! It is my meditation all the day.”

Psalm 119:105—“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.”