

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

Nov. 26, 2016 • 2:00 p.m. • Sunset 5:14

Service next Sabbath: 2:00 p.m.

Order of service

Song leader	Reg Killingley
Pianist	Dixon Cartwright
First sermon	Dave Havar
Kids' class—Classroom #2	Carol Bald
Second sermon	Daniel Botha

Quick takes

1. No teen class today—Dave Havar decided to cancel the teen class today so that the teens can sit in the main hall with the congregation today.
2. Request for input—Dave Havar requests input from parents with children who are in the preteen category. The history of our congregation shows that the number of children's classes during the first sermon adjusts to the ages of the young people attending the congregation. For many years, we had only two classes—a kids' class and a teens' class. Then, as there were a number of children in the middle of those two classes, we added a class that we called Bridges. At the present time, we are considering to return to the two classes. Thank you for your parental input.
3. Foster barn dance tonight—The annual barn dance sponsored by Morris and Linda Foster is tonight.
 - 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. Potluck meal next week—There is a potluck meal scheduled immediately after the church service next Saturday.

5. Edifying the Body—This week's article is "For the Beauty of the Earth" by Jan Ross.
6. Among Friends—This week's article is "Psalm 37:1-40" by Dave Havir.
7. Eye on the World—This week's "Eye on the World" is 18 pages.

Prayer updates

As was announced orally last week, **Gracie Feaker** (who had been hospitalized on Thursday, Nov. 17, due to swelling of her legs) returned home on Friday, Nov. 18. She reports that she had a good week and a good family Thanksgiving.

Ken Westby of Normandy Park, Wash., was able to return home from the hospital but is still dealing with serious health problems.

Leon Morris of Atlanta, Ga. (father of **Pam Kimmons**), died on Monday. Please remember his wife, **Bobbie**, and the rest of the family in your prayers.

New prayer requests

Cindy Wright of Stockholm, N.J. (daughter of **Laura Moran**), has begun receiving hospice care due to a variety of health matters. (Five years ago, she had half of her left lung removed due to cancer.) Mrs. Moran and the family appreciate your prayers.

Cindy McLendon of a local church of God fellowship went to a local hospital due to ongoing health challenges.

Crockett Grabbe of Austin, who had surgery and radiation treatment on a pituitary tumor 39 years ago, is undergoing tests because of a recurrence of the condition.

Annalee Kincade of Cincinnati, Ohio, went to the hospital with an unexplained high fever (peaked at 105 degrees). She is less than two weeks postpartum. Her husband, **Brandon**, and baby, **Ronin**, have been allowed to stay in the hospital with her.

Scriptures to consider

Ephesians 5:18-20—"And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ."

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18—"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."

Hebrews 13:15—"Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name."

“Psalm 37:1–40”

This article is from the “Among Friends” section of the Church of God Big Sandy’s website, churchofgodbigandy.com. It was posted for the weekend of Nov. 26, 2016.

By Dave Havir

BIG SANDY, Texas—Last week, I mentioned that it saddens me to see so many people dealing with stress in this life. In an effort to help the readers of that article, I quoted the words of Psalm 18.

This week, I want to quote the words of Psalm 37:1-40. May these words bless you with peace and comfort.

Psalm 37:1-2—“Do not fret because of evildoers, Nor be envious of the workers of iniquity. For they shall soon be cut down like the grass, and wither as the green herb.”

Psalm 37:3-4—“Trust in the LORD, and do good; Dwell in the land, and feed on His faithfulness. Delight yourself also in the LORD, and He shall give you the desires of your heart.”

Psalm 37:5-6—“Commit your way to the LORD, trust also in Him, and He shall bring it to pass. He shall bring forth your righteousness as the light, and your justice as the noonday.”

Psalm 37:7-11—“Rest in the LORD, and wait patiently for Him; do not fret because of him who prospers in his way, because of the man who brings wicked schemes to pass. Cease from anger, and forsake wrath; do not fret—it only causes harm. For evildoers shall be cut off; but those who wait on the LORD, they shall inherit the earth. For yet a little while and the wicked shall be no more; indeed, you will look carefully for his place, but it shall be no more. But the meek shall inherit the earth, and shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace.”

Psalm 37:12-15—“The wicked plots against the just, and gnashes at him with his teeth. The Lord laughs at him, for He sees that his day is coming. The wicked have drawn the sword and have bent their bow, to cast down the poor and needy, to slay those who are of upright conduct. Their sword shall enter their own heart,

and their bows shall be broken.”

Psalm 37:16-17—“A little that a righteous man has is better than the riches of many wicked. For the arms of the wicked shall be broken, but the LORD upholds the righteous.”

Psalm 37:18-20—“The LORD knows the days of the upright, and their inheritance shall be forever. They shall not be ashamed in the evil time, and in the days of famine they shall be satisfied. But the wicked shall perish; and the enemies of the LORD, like the splendor of the meadows, shall vanish. Into smoke they shall vanish away.”

Psalm 37:21-22—“The wicked borrows and does not repay, but the righteous shows mercy and gives. For those blessed by Him shall inherit the earth, but those cursed by Him shall be cut off.”

Psalm 37:23-26—“The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD, and He delights in his way. Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down; for the LORD upholds him with His hand. I have been young, and now am old; yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his descendants begging bread. He is ever merciful, and lends; and his descendants are blessed.”

Psalm 37:27-33—“Depart from evil, and do good; and dwell forevermore. For the LORD loves justice, and does not forsake His saints; they are preserved forever, but the descendants of the wicked shall be cut off. The righteous shall inherit the land, and dwell in it forever. The mouth of the righteous speaks wisdom, and his tongue talks of justice. The law of his God is in his heart; none of his steps shall slide. The wicked watches the righteous, and seeks to slay him. The LORD will not leave him in his hand, nor condemn him when he is judged.”

Psalm 37:34-36—“Wait on the LORD, and keep His way, and He shall exalt you to inherit the land; when the wicked are cut

off, you shall see it. I have seen the wicked in great power, and spreading himself like a native green tree. Yet he passed away, and behold, he was no more; indeed I sought him, but he could not be found.”

Psalm 37:37-38—“Mark the blameless man, and observe the upright; for the future of that man is peace. But the transgressors

shall be destroyed together; the future of the wicked shall be cut off.”

Psalm 37:39-40—“But the salvation of the righteous is from the LORD; He is their strength in the time of trouble. And the LORD shall help them and deliver them; He shall deliver them from the wicked, and save them, because they trust in Him.”

“For the Beauty of the Earth”

This article is from the “Edifying the Body” section of the Church of God Big Sandy’s website, churchofgod sandy.com. It was posted for the weekend of Nov. 26, 2016. A version of the article is posted at janross.org.

By Jan Ross

WILLARD, Ohio—Thanksgiving is a time of year when memories are stirred of a childhood rich with tradition reflecting Christian heritage. My heart is filled with memories of magnificent sounds of hymns being sung in the congregation of saints in the church in which I was raised.

The harmonies, the powerful sounds of men singing with their deep and foundational tenor and bass voices. The beauty and moving delicacy of the women raising their voices in their soprano and alto harmonies.

The mesmerizing sound of an occasional descant heard in the distance from the balcony and one solo voice as if the angels of heaven had joined the chorus offering praise to the Father, the Rock of All Ages, the Triumphant Victor, the Praiseworthy King.

I can’t hold back the tears as these memories flood my heart. Oh, how I miss those who played such an important part in my upbringing—those who helped to form in me a tender heart that has pursued God throughout the years.

Allow me the privilege of sharing one such song with you this Thanksgiving. It matters not whether you celebrate Thanksgiving Day where you live. What matters is the heart of the worshiper who hastens to make known God’s manifest blessings to all who will hear.

Take the time to read the words penned by men centuries ago and join in the celebration of true and most sincere thankfulness.

For the beauty of the earth,
For the beauty of the skies,
For the love which from our birth
Over and around us lies,
Lord of all, to thee we raise
This our grateful hymn of praise.

For the beauty of each hour
Of the day and of the night,
Hill and vale, and tree and flower,
Sun and moon and stars of light,
Lord of all, to thee we raise
This our grateful hymn of praise.

For the joy of human love,
Brother, sister, parent, child,
Friends on earth, and friends above,
Pleasures pure and undefiled,
Lord of all, to thee we raise
This our grateful hymn of praise.

For each perfect gift of thine,
To our race so freely given,
Graces human and divine,
Flowers of earth and buds of heaven,
Lord of all, to thee we raise
This our grateful hymn of praise.

For thy Church which evermore
Lifteth holy hands above,
Offering up on every shore
Her pure sacrifice of love,
Lord of all, to thee we raise
This our grateful hymn of praise.

Join me today as I spend some quality time thanking the Lord for His provision, His peace, grace, protection and love!

Thank Him for all His hands have done to make a way for us to be reconciled to Him through the shed blood of the Sacrifice Lamb! Thank Him for the ability to thank Him! He’s worthy of all our praise!