

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

Feb. 25, 2017 • 2:00 p.m. • Sunset 6:12

Service next Sabbath: 2:00 p.m.

Order of service

Song leader	.....	Ron Avey
Pianist	.....	Dixon Cartwright
First sermon	.....	Neil Mclver
Teen class—Library	.....	Martha Mclver
Kids class—Classroom #2	.....	Jennifer Danapas
Second sermon	.....	Dave Havir

Quick takes

1. Potluck meal next week—There is a potluck meal scheduled immediately after the church service next week.
2. Community function on March 4—There is a community function (variety show as a fund-raiser for the Big Sandy Museum Association) in the building on Saturday evening, March 4.
3. Edifying the Body—This week's article is "Does Anyone in the Media Read the Bible?" by Eric Metaxes.
4. Among Friends—This week's article is "You Are What You Love and Hate" by Dave Havir.
5. Eye on the World—This week's "Eye on the World" is 26 pages.

Prayer updates

Gracie Feaker reports that she was feeling better this week. She was able to go with **Ron** for an errand in Gilmer on Thursday. (An interesting challenge in their home that is similar to what other couples face is that Ron is generally cold, so he raises the temperature in the house quite high and makes Gracie too warm.) She mentioned how much she appreciates your prayers.

In last week's bulletin, we mentioned that **Bailey Lucas** (granddaughter of **Stan** and **Roxanna West**) went to Mother Frances Hospital in Tyler due to a ruptured appendix and that doctors don't "routinely do surgery anymore." It has been a rough week for the 10-year-old and the family. She has had to deal with CT scans and an erratic white-count number. (Some doctors mention that they like the number to be below 12. Bailey's had gotten down to 15, but it has bounced up to around 20.) Following are excerpts from a report by Stan on Thursday evening: "We just received word that Bailey has infection in her abdomen. Major abdominal surgery is scheduled for tomorrow morning at 7:00 a.m. Doctors expect to do a cleansing wash of the abdomen and other organs and then a removal of the appendix." The family appreciates your prayers.

Jerry Thompson, who was scheduled for laser surgery on his left eye this past Monday, went to his appointment, but the doctor did a follow-up procedure on right eye. (As you might recall, he originally had laser surgery on his right eye on Feb. 8.) His next two scheduled visits to the doctor are on Feb. 27 and March 6. At this time, the family is unsure if the doctor will work on the right eye again or if he will proceed to working on the left eye. They greatly appreciate your prayers.

In last week's bulletin, we mentioned that **Vonda Ouellette** got a second opinion for her hearing loss. She was happy with the information she learned at the second opinion. On Thursday, she was fitted for hearing aids in both ears.

Annette Payne, who recently had surgery to bypass the clogged arteries in her leg, reports two pieces of news—(1) that she was doing better for the first part of the week and (2) that her foot started hurting again on Thursday (possibly due to moving around too much). She plans to be at church today, and she greatly appreciates your prayers.

In last week's bulletin, we mentioned how **Joy Hughes** of The Woodlands reported to us that she was expecting to go home on Friday, Feb. 17. Here are excerpts from a report that arrived on that Friday from **Paula**: "Doctors wouldn't let me take her home, which we planned for tonight. They say that, out of three blood vessels in her foot, only one is working, and that at less than 15 percent. They have scheduled an angiogram for Monday [Feb. 17] morning." At the angiogram on Monday, the doctor discovered a blockage from "hip to foot" and ordered an angioplasty. Joy remained in the hospital from Monday through Wednesday before returning to the rehab facility (where she has spent many weeks). They began some physical therapy on Thursday—she still can't get up by herself. Joy and Paula are extremely appreciative of your prayers.

Jackie Ballew of Dalhart (sister of **Donna Weese**), who was dealing with blood clots in her left arm, was hoping to go home last Thursday, but that plan did not materialize.

In the Feb. 11 bulletin, we reported that **Laura Meade** of Fort Worth was diagnosed with breast cancer. She is scheduled for surgery this coming Friday.

Sandy Elbee of Cincinnati, Ohio, who recently had a stroke, walked with assistance several times this week.

Following is an excerpt about **Roderick Meredith** of Charlotte, N.C., who was recently diagnosed with cancer: “He has decided not to get caught up in various rounds of treatment that may prolong life, but not quality of life.”

In last week’s bulletin, we reported that **Ed Lain** of Yreka, Calif., was hospitalized in serious condition. We later learned that he died on Thursday, Feb. 16. Please remember the family in your prayers.

New prayer requests

Although **Shirley West** doesn’t talk about it much, she is dealing with pain in her hip and leg. She stays active with her family and by volunteering at the Agape House.

On Wednesday, **Margie White** of Hartville, Mo., broke her wrist while playing tennis. Please remember Margie and her husband, **Dan**, in your prayers.

Marian Barrett of Jasper, Ga., had a kidney stone removed last week. Following the procedure, she is dealing with a bladder infection and some continuing pain.

Lyle Christopherson of Renton, Wash., died on Feb. 7. Please remember his wife, **Marsha**, and the rest of the family in your prayers.

Scriptures to consider

Judges 7:2-3—And the LORD said to Gideon, “The people who are with you are too many for Me to give the Midianites into their hands, lest Israel claim glory for itself against Me, saying, ‘My own hand has saved me.’ Now therefore, proclaim in the hearing of the people, saying, ‘Whoever is fearful and afraid, let him turn and depart at once from Mount Gilead.’” And twenty-two thousand of the people returned, and ten thousand remained.

Judges 7:4-6—But the LORD said to Gideon, “The people are still too many; bring them down to the water, and I will test them for you there. Then it will be, that of whom I say to you, ‘This one shall go with you,’ the same shall go with you; and of whomever I say to you, ‘This one shall not go with you,’ the same shall not go.” So he brought the people down to the water. And the LORD said to Gideon, “Everyone who laps from the water with his tongue, as a dog laps, you shall set apart by himself; likewise everyone who gets down on his knees to drink.” And the number of those who lapped, putting their hand to their mouth, was three hundred men; but all the rest of the people got down on their knees to drink water.

Judges 7:16—Then he divided the three hundred men into three companies, and he put a trumpet into every man’s hand, with empty pitchers, and torches inside the pitchers.

Judges 7:19—So Gideon and the hundred men who were with him came to the outpost of the camp at the beginning of the middle watch, just as they had posted the watch; and they blew the trumpets and broke the pitchers that were in their hands.

“You Are What You Love and Hate”

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 Feb. 25, 2017.

By Dave Havir

BIG SANDY, Texas—In my article on Jan. 28, I wrote a few thoughts about personal denial and how a person can recognize who he is. In that article, I shared five ways in which a person can examine himself.

At this time, I want to give each of the five concepts its own personal article. In this article, we will discuss the fourth concept—you are what you love and hate.

Importance of passion

Many Bible students are aware that a concept mentioned in the Bible is also taught in the fields of psychology and philosophy.

Many authors describe a principle of success as following your “passion.”

Notice how Jesus Christ described this principle in Matthew 6:21.

Matthew 6:21—“For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.”

Spending money

The context of the previous verse is about finances. Notice the two previous verses.

Matthew 6:19-20—“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust does destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal.”

The apostle Paul gave a similar concept when he wrote to the saints in Corinth.

2 Corinthians 9:7—“So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly, or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver.”

Spending time

The same principle applies to how people spend their time. Not only should people be cheerful givers of their money, they should also be cheerful givers of their time.

The apostle Peter mentioned this concept in regards to money and to time.

1 Peter 5:2-3—“Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers, not by constraint but willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly; nor as being lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock.”

Negative passion

Just as a person can define himself by his positive passions, a person can also define himself by his negative passions.

John 10:10—“The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.”

Hebrews 12:15—“Looking carefully lest anyone fall short of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up cause trouble, and by this many become defiled.”

Follow positive passions

Notice some examples of following positive passion.

Deuteronomy 14:26—“And you shall spend that money for whatever your heart desires: for oxen or sheep, for wine or similar drink, for whatever your heart desires; you shall eat there before the LORD your God, and you shall rejoice, you and your household.”

Matthew 6:33—“But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.”

Matthew 13:44—“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and hid; and for joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.”

Matthew 13:45-46—“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking beautiful pearls, who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had and bought it.”