

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

Jan. 20, 2018 • 2:00 p.m. • Sunset 5:40

Bible studies and classes

Interactive study (1:00)	Daniel Botha
Bible study (2:00)	Daniel Botha
Teen class	Carol Bald
Kids' class	Dave Havir

Order of service

Song leader	Daniel Botha
Pianist	Dixon Cartwright
Scripture reading	Rev. 9:1-21 by Dixon Cartwright
Sermon	Dave Havir

Quick takes

1. Very rare to cancel church service—It is the custom of our congregation to avoid canceling our church service due to inclement weather. Even with a potential of lower attendance in the building due to weather in our area, we still hope to serve the audience on the website.
2. Main reason for canceling church service—Our main reason for canceling a church service is the loss of electricity.
3. Thank you for food donations—Sharon Hill (the manager of Agape House in Big Sandy) expressed appreciation for “the food donations and your service to the community.”
4. Continued food drive for the community—If you would like to make additional donations of canned goods for the community, please bring them to the foyer of our church building.
5. Budget Committee—In the near future, an annual Budget Committee will be meeting to make financial recommendations to the board.

6. Community function in building on Jan. 25—The Chamber of Commerce will be having its annual dinner in our building on Thursday, Jan. 25.
7. Edifying the Body—This week's article is "Christian Persecution Worldwide" by Eric Metaxas.
8. Among Friends—The week's article is "Comments About Romans 2" by Dave Havir.
9. Eye on the World—This week's "Eye on the World" is 18 pages.

Prayer updates

In last week's bulletin, we mentioned that **Al Donahue** was planning to meet with doctors this week to consider possible chemo and radiation treatments. (However, he was confronted with another trial this week—when some of the pipes in his home froze due to the cold wave that entered our area.) He is now scheduled to go to Tyler on Monday to proceed with treatment discussions.

Jean Benedict reports that **Eli's** rash and swelling are a little better, but that the rash on her body has spread. On Tuesday, Mr. Benedict has an appointment with the skin specialist.

In last week's bulletin, we mentioned that **Betty Foster** fell in her living room. She continued to experience pain throughout the week. On Thursday, she went to Mother Frances Hospital in Tyler.

Sonny Rosenberger appreciates your prayers for his various challenges. He reports that this cold weather is hard on him, because of his breathing challenges and because of his tendency to be chilled.

In last week's bulletin, we mentioned that **Alice Day** of Marshalltown, Iowa (mother of **David Coleman**), fell in her bedroom, went to the hospital and learned that she had a break in her neck. She was able to go home last Friday (Jan. 12). As was announced last week, her dementia complicates the matter.

Please remember two of **Annette Payne's** daughters in prayer. **Rebecca Sapp** of Gladewater is continuing her five-week regimen of chemo and radiation (for cervix cancer) at M.D. Anderson in Houston. **Lisa Grady** of Orlando, Fla., had a biopsy for a growth at her neck.

In last week's bulletin, we mentioned that **Lance Holloway** of Lindale (son of **Elaine Holloway**) was recently diagnosed with cancer in his right lung and his bronchial tubes and he began an aggressive regimen of treatment (six hours of chemo on Mondays and Tuesdays, followed by radiation on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday). However, on Monday (after a week and a half of treatment), he was admitted to UT Health Center (north of Tyler) and was diagnosed with pneumonia. He was expecting to be released from the hospital before this weekend. He is anticipating a return to the treatment schedule that he began.

John Hopkinson of Pasadena, Calif., who had a heart attack, reports that his recovery is going well.

New prayer requests

On Thursday, **Laura Moran** was dealing with severe pain that may have been the result of her diverticulitis.

On Thursday, **Annette Payne** was tested for hearing aids. Since the devices are coming from Minnesota, she is expecting to receive them in 10 days.

Karen Dean (daughter of the **Feakers**) reports that **Ron's** blood pressure has been higher than desired and that **Gracie** has been feeling fairly well.

James Jackson of the local community has recently fallen several times in establishments and in his home. He spent a few days at Mother Frances Hospital in Tyler and was transferred to Legend Oaks nursing home in Gladewater. He is in room 412.

Tony Schmidt of Dallas (brother of **Karen Weese** and **Nancy White**) died on Jan. 16. Please remember the family in your prayers.

Scriptures to consider

Matthew 7:21-23—"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'"

Matthew 25:10-12—"And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the wedding; and the door was shut. Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, 'Lord, Lord, open to us!' But he answered and said, 'Assuredly, I say to you, I do not know you.'"

Psalms 139:7-12—"Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? If I ascend into heaven, You are there; if I make my bed in hell, behold, You are there. If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there Your hand shall lead me, and Your right hand shall hold me. If I say, 'Surely the darkness shall fall on me,' even the night shall be light about me; indeed, the darkness shall not hide from You, but the night shines as the day; the darkness and the light are both alike to You.

Jeremiah 23:24—"Can anyone hide himself in secret places, so I shall not see him?" says the LORD; "do I not fill heaven and earth?" says the LORD.

Psalms 139:23-24—"Search me, O God, and know my heart; try me, and know my anxieties; and see if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

Matthew 10:29—"Are not two sparrows sold for a copper coin? And not one of them falls to the ground apart from your Father's will."

“Comments About Romans 2”

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 Jan. 20, 2018.

By Dave Havir

BIG SANDY, Texas—Recently, I began a series of brief articles to discuss chapters in the book of Romans. This week, we will talk about chapter 2.

May this project encourage you to review the valuable history found in the book of Romans.

God’s righteous judgment

In chapter 2, the apostle Paul discussed the righteous judgment of God (Romans 2:1-16).

■ He warned about the foolishness of judging others (verse 1).

Romans 2:1—“Therefore you are inexcusable, O man, whoever you are who judge, for in whatever you judge another you condemn yourself; for you who judge practice the same things.”

■ He warned about the habit of people doing the same behaviors for which they judge other people (verses 2-3).

■ He contrasted repentance (verse 4) with an impenitent heart (verse 5).

■ He mentioned a concept found in both the Old Testament (Psalm 62:12) and New Testament (Matthew 16:27)—will render to each person according to his deeds (verse 6).

■ He contrasted the good future of glory, honor and peace for those who do good (verses 7 and 10) with the bad future of indignation, wrath, tribulation and anguish for those who do evil (verses 8-9).

Jews had first access

Last week when we discussed Romans 1:16, we mentioned one of the important phrases in the letter—“for the Jew first and also for the Greek”—and mentioned that it is repeated later in the letter.

The book of Romans stresses that the Jews had first access to God.

The story in the book of Acts about the Holy Spirit coming upon Jews and gentiles

at different times reinforces the concept of early access. Consider Acts 2:1-4 and Acts 10:44-48.

Consider that the phrase is designed to show that the Jews were not better than the gentiles.

Notice Romans 3:9.

Romans 3:9—“What then? Are we better than they? Not at all. For we have previously charged both Jews and Greeks that they are all under sin.”

■ The bad consequences were to the Jew first and also to the Greek (verses 8-9) and the good consequences were to the Jew first and also to the Greek (verse 10).

■ There is no partiality with God (Romans 2:11).

■ Jews and gentiles both sin (verses 12-16).

Warning to Jews

Paul proceeded to warn the Jews to consider their own behavior before criticizing the gentiles (verses 17-24).

Romans 2:17—“Indeed you are called a Jew, and rest on the law, and make your boast in God.”

Romans 2:21-23—“You, therefore, who teach another, do you not teach yourself? You who preach that a man should not steal, do you steal? You who say, ‘Do not commit adultery,’ do you commit adultery? You who abhor idols, do you rob temples? You who make your boast in the law, do you dishonor God through breaking the law?”

Spiritual circumcision

Paul mentioned that physical circumcision was not as valuable as spiritual circumcision (verses 25-29).

Notice verse 29.

Romans 2:29—“But he is a Jew who is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the Spirit, not in the letter; whose praise is not from men but from God.”