

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

May 10, 2025 • 1:00 p.m. • Sunset 8:06

### Bible studies

**Interactive study—1:00 p.m.** . . . . . Dixon Cartwright

**Presentation study—2:00** . . . . . Ben Mauldin III  
(also transmitted live)

### Order of service—3:00 p.m.

**Song leader** . . . . . Neil McIver

**Pianist** . . . . . Dixon Cartwright

**Scripture reading** . . . . . John 19:25–27

**Sermon** . . . . . Ben Mauldin III

### Quick takes

1. God bless all the mothers in the congregation—Although we should seek to honor our mothers every day of the year, we hope that all families will extend some kindness and appreciation to their mothers this weekend.
2. Pastor's travel—Today, Dave Havir is speaking at the congregation in north-western Arkansas pastored by Ken Tate.
3. Welcome to Ben Mauldin III—We thank Mr. Mauldin for coming today to give two presentations to our congregation.
4. Thank you—The Big Sandy school district thanks our congregation for hosting its athletic banquet this past Thursday evening.
5. Another school banquet on Tuesday evening—The Big Sandy school district will be holding its FFA banquet in our building on Tuesday evening.
6. Wednesday-night Bible study—May 14 at 7:00.
7. Edifying the Body—This week's article is "Sen. Grassley Warns of Judicial Outreach" by Charles Creitz.
8. Among Friends—This week's article is "First Commandment—Part 1" by Dave Havir.
9. Eye on the World—There is no Eye on the World this week.

## Prayer updates

In the April 12 and April 19 bulletins, we mentioned that **Jon Swenson** of Coatesville, Ind., had an accident with a table saw that required surgery for a damaged thumb. On Wednesday, his wife reported: "Jon's radial flap is no longer soft. It is hard. We will be calling the doctor tomorrow." On Thursday, she reported: "The doctor finally called back about Jon's hand. His flap is not a free flap, so she really doesn't believe it's a blood clot causing the hardening of the flap. The whole hand team agrees at this point. On Monday, they are going to do an office procedure to start removing some of the biologic (the black stuff) and hope there's good skin under there. If not, they will do another graft early next week."

## New prayer requests

On Monday, **Linda Moers** (of Crockett) reported: "I am requesting prayers for a problem with vocal-cord paralysis that I am experiencing. It affects not only my voice, but, more importantly, my breathing. My doctor ordered CT scans of my neck and chest. They showed my airway is being restricted to 4 mm when the normal is around 10 to 15. I'm on my way to see my ENT [ear, nose and throat doctor] regarding my scans. He has referred me to see a laryngologist, but I can't see him until June 4. Right now, I am concerned about my airway. I would very much appreciate prayers." On Thursday, Mrs. Moers reported: "I followed up with my ENT. Even though my airway is at 4 mm, he feels that it (in his words) should be 'sufficient.' He wouldn't want me to get a respiratory infection or in an accident that could cause any more swelling. If I were to have any trouble breathing, I should let someone know immediately. He thinks that the wait to see the laryngologist on June 4 should not be a problem. I still do not have my voice, and I get out of breath when I try to talk. Thank everyone for the prayers."

On Monday, **Amy Case** reported about her **Aunt Linda** of Leverett's Chapel: "Over the weekend, my Aunt Linda fell from a deck about 10 feet. (The railing on the deck was old and gave way.) She broke her neck in two places, as well as two vertebrae in her back. She has multiple other injuries as well. She would appreciate prayer while she is awaiting a trauma surgeon." On Thursday, Mrs. Case reported: "Aunt Linda has been moved to the cardiac unit. She is in a neck brace for 12 to 14 weeks. Since her back was just cracked (and not broken), she is wearing a back brace. They are trying to keep her immobile. Now, her heart is not in the right rhythm and her blood pressure keeps spiking. She's undergoing more tests, an MRI and a heart cath today."

On Tuesday, **Randy Wallace** of Iowa (ex-son-in-law of **Vonda Ouellette**) had a heart attack. On Thursday, he was scheduled for open-heart surgery.

On Wednesday, **Angela Dunnam** reported on the text line: "**Timberly** has had a very rough day with kidney-stone pain and can't get any relief. She asked if I would let you and **Pam** know." On Thursday, Mrs. Dunnam reported: "We wanted to thank everyone for the prayers for Timberly. She is having relief today and is doing better this afternoon."

## Two reactions to the sermon by Anthony Kimmons

- From Toni Coffee: “Mr. Kimmons’ sermon was so insightful and helpful to Jon and me as we deal with Jon’s ongoing health issues. Our sincere thanks for inviting Mr. Kimmons to speak and for his willingness to share his personal experiences.”
- From Hope Lindholm in Minnesota: “Anthony’s heartfelt message gutted me. It brought back so many tears surrounding [my husband], Tim’s cancer journey and the suffering he endured. My prayers for Pam and Anthony were heartfelt during her illness. My heart has been heavy for their pain, and now for Anthony’s loss.”

## 2025 Feast of Tabernacles

Dave Havir reports that we have posted information about the 2025 Feast of Tabernacles on our website. (He apologizes to those who wanted the information sooner.)

1. We are hosting a small site in Big Sandy for the 31st consecutive year with David and Joyce Coleman as coordinators.
2. We are hosting a small site in Destin, Fla., for the 28th consecutive year with Neil and Martha as coordinators. We apologize that there has been an increase in housing costs at the Pelican Beach Resort. (We remind you that booking through our church exempts you from paying sales tax.)
3. Message from Dave Havir to previous speakers—“If you have spoken at one of our Feast sites in the past and if you are planning to attend at either site this year, please let me know.”
4. We recommend that you consider a Feast site in Myrtle Beach, S.C. In the past we cosponsored a site there for 20 years. Although we have not been involved at the site for a few years, we continue to recommend the site. Jamie Wetherington and Ralph Hanahan are the coordinators.

## “First Commandment—Part 1”

This article is from the “Among Friends” section of the Church of God Big Sandy’s website ([churchofgodbig sandy.com](http://churchofgodbig sandy.com)). It was posted for the weekend of May 10, 2025.

### By Dave Havir

**B**IG SANDY, Texas—At our Bible study on Wednesday night, I began a new series. The topic is the Ten Commandments. The presentation was titled “First Commandment—Part 1.” (The plan is for most of the Commandments to have their own individual Bible studies, but I wanted to pay extra attention to the First Commandment.

### Foundational scripture

■ Exodus 20:2—“I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.”

Then, the Lord proceeded to remind the children of Israel about the Ten Commandments.

Old Testament lesson = After God delivered them from Egypt, He reminded them

of His expectations from them.

New Testament lesson = When God offers His bountiful grace to New Testament disciples, He still has expectations of them (Romans 6:1-2, Ephesians 2:8-10 and Titus 3:4-8).

## God's creation

■ Genesis 1:1—In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.

■ Genesis 1:3-5—During the first day, God created light and darkness (“Day” and “Night”).

■ Genesis 1:6-8—During the second day, God created a firmament in the midst of the water, calling the firmament “Heaven.”

■ Genesis 1:9-13—During the third day, God created dry land among the water, calling the land and water “Earth” and “Seas” — then creating the earth to produce grass, seed and fruit.

■ Genesis 1:14-19—During the fourth day, God created two great lights in the firmament (the sun and moon), and He also made the stars.

■ Genesis 1:20-23—During the fifth day, God created living creatures (birds and sea creatures).

■ Genesis 1:24-31—During the sixth day, God created more living creatures—highlighting people, whom He gave dominion over the other aspects of His creation.

■ Genesis 2:1-3—During the seventh day, God rested and blessed the seventh day.

■ Genesis 2:18-25—In these verses, God gave more details about the creation of the woman from the man’s rib.

## Two references about altars

■ Genesis 8:20—This is the first reference about an “altar”—describing where Noah built an altar to the Lord.

■ Genesis 35:1-2—Later, we read how God instructed Jacob to build an altar to God and how Jacob instructed His household: “Put away the foreign gods that are among you.”

## Abraham, Isaac and Jacob

Let’s notice verses in the Old Testament about the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

■ Genesis 12:1-3—God made a promise to Abram.

■ Genesis 17:1-14—God changed Abram’s name to Abraham and made a covenant with him.

■ Genesis 22:15-18—God repeated His promise to Abraham.

■ Genesis 26:2-5—God repeated His promise to Isaac.

■ Genesis 28:10-15—God repeated His promise to Jacob.

■ Exodus 3:6—The Lord said: “I am the God of your father—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.”

■ Exodus 3:14—God said to Moses: “I AM WHO I AM.”

■ Exodus 3:15—God told to Moses to tell the children of Israel: “The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob has sent me to you. This is My name forever, and this is My memorial to all generations.”

■ Exodus 3:16—God told Moses to gather the elders of Israel and to tell them: “The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, of Isaac and of Jacob appeared to me.”

## Exodus 3:6 in John 8

■ John 8:53—The Jews asked the Son of God: “Are you greater than our father Abraham?”

■ John 8:56—The Son of God responded: “Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day, and he saw it and was glad.”

■ John 8:57—The Jews responded: “You are not even 50 years old, and you claim you have seen Abraham?”

■ John 8:58—He said: “Before Abraham was, I AM.”

■ John 8:59—When they took stones to throw at Him, He hid Himself.

## Exodus 3:6 and the Sadducees

In the Gospel accounts, we read about the time when the religious leaders (including Pharisees and Sadducees) sought to entangle the Son of God (the events noted in Matthew 22, Mark 12 and Luke 20).

When He answered the Sadducees (in Matthew 22:32, Mark 12:26 and Luke 20:37), He said: “I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.”

## Next time

In the presentation titled “First Commandment—Part 2,” we will continue with more scriptures from both the Old and New Testaments.