

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

April 11, 2026 • 1:00 p.m. • Sunset 7:49

Bible studies

Interactive study—1:00 p.m. Daniel Hammons

Presentation study—2:00 Ken Tate
(also transmitted live)

Order of service—3:00 p.m.

Song leader Neil McIver

Pianist Dixon Cartwright

Scripture reading Exodus 20:1–17

Sermon Ken Tate

Quick takes

1. Pastor's travel—Today, Dave Havir is scheduled to give a presentation in the Houston area.
2. Welcome to guest speaker—The congregation welcomes Ken and Janice Tate. Mr. Tate is scheduled to give two presentations today.
3. Birth announcement—Allison and Ashton Beason are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter, Rosemary Iris Beason, on April 8, 2026, at 7:56 a.m. (She was 8 lbs. 11 ozs. and 21³/₄ inches.) The Beasons and the Harroffs thank you for your friendship.
4. Dominoes tomorrow—Interested participants should contact Sue Jones.
5. Wednesday-night Bible study—April 15 at 7:00.
6. Edifying the Body—This week's article is "Beware the Leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees" by Reg Killingley.
7. Among Friends—This week's article is "2 Timothy 2:19" by Dave Havir.
8. Eye on the World—Four articles and 126 headlines

Prayer updates

Please continue to pray that **Gary Wilson** can experience more improvement in his recovery.

Please continue to pray that **Lisa Smith** and **Margaret Pitre** can have the comfort and strength to provide assistance for **Gary Wilson**.

Mark Searer reports that **Meghan** is continuing to make progress. (He did mention that the doctor did discover a different bacterium in her lungs, but he is not concerned about it.) Mr. Searer said that medical personnel are close to moving Meghan to a rehab facility. (Mr. Searer expressed his appreciation that the main nurse is being picky about which facility is chosen.) The family appreciates your prayers.

Timberly Dunnam still hasn't heard from the hospital for the schedule of her biopsy involving her cyst. (As is commonplace, the delay seems to be a holdup with the insurance company.)

In a recent appointment, the doctor told **Angela Dunnam** that she is "cancer-free." Mrs. Dunnam is scheduled to see a doctor every three months.

Dave McLearn reports that his back pain is worse in the morning but sometimes improves as the day progresses.

In the April 2 bulletin, we mentioned that **Ronnie Shirley** was fitted for a pacemaker. Following the surgery, he has not yet been able to resume walking. In rehab, his therapists get him up every day to seek to improve his walking. There had been a discussion for him to leave rehab on Tuesday. We will see if that is extended.

New prayer requests

Linda Avey gave the following information for your prayers. The first health matter involves her eyes. On March 17, Mrs. Avey had cataract surgery on her left eye. Most cataract surgeries go very well, but she mentioned that she was one of the few people (low proportion of people) who had a particular problem after the surgery. After the left eye clears up, then the doctor will schedule cataract surgery for the right eye. She is scheduled to see the doctor again on April 20 for him to evaluate when to schedule the right eye. The second health procedure is a colonoscopy, and the third procedure is an endoscopy (down her throat). She appreciates your prayers.

On Sunday, **Lou Ann McKay** of Chatsworth, Ga. (sister of **Linda Cartwright**), had a stroke that has affected her speech and her face. (In the Dec. 20 bulletin, we mentioned about her fall that had resulted in her breaking her hip.) The family appreciates your prayers.

Sarah Amy of Dundas, Minn., died on March 31. Please remember her husband, **Dan**, and the rest of the family in your prayers.

Doug Bowman of Paris, Texas, died on April 9. Please remember his wife, **Lori**, and the rest of the family in your prayers.

Scriptures to consider

Exodus 16:1–3—“And they journeyed from Elim, and all the congregation of the children of Israel came to the Wilderness of Sin, which is between Elim and Sinai, on the fifteenth day of the second month after they departed from the land of Egypt. Then the whole congregation of the children of Israel complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. And the children of Israel said to them, ‘Oh, that we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the pots of meat and when we ate bread to the full! For you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.’”

Exodus 20:1–2—“And God spoke all these words, saying: ‘I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.’”

Matthew 22:36–40—“Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?” Jesus said to him, ‘You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.’”

“2 Timothy 2:19”

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 April 11, 2026.

By Dave Havir

BIG SANDY, Texas—Last Wednesday, our congregation observed the seventh day of Unleavened Bread. At our church service, I had the opportunity of giving a presentation titled “2 Timothy 2:19.”

The verse begins by Paul explaining the importance about what he was about to write.

■ Paul wrote: “The solid foundation of God stands, having this seal.”

Then, Paul mentioned two extremely important concepts.

■ Paul mentioned: “The Lord knows those who are His.”

■ Paul mentioned: “Let everyone who names the name of Christ depart from iniquity.”

God knows, people don’t

Have you ever heard of the word *ignoramus*? An ignoramus is an ignorant or uninformed person. Please don’t dogmatically proclaim your opinion about who is converted. You will look foolish to people who believe what the Bible says.

While it is appropriate for people to rec-

ognize the behavior of other people, recognizing behavior is far different than proclaiming a person’s standing with God.

Extra verses

In the presentation, I read only three sections of Scripture about this first concept. Before I mention those verses, let’s look at eight verses that were not mentioned in the presentation.

■ Hebrews 5:14—It is true that God wants His followers to have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil. Discerning behavior is very different from classifying a person’s standing with God.

But even good behavior does not guarantee that a person has a strong relationship with the Lord.

■ Matthew 7:21-23—The Son of God said to people who did impressive behavior (preached prophecy in His name, cast out demons in His name and did many wonders in His name): “I never knew you. Depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness.”

■ Matthew 25:12—The Son of God gave

a parable where the Lord said to guests at the wedding: “Assuredly, I say to you, I do not know you.”

Some people believe in identification religion.

■ Matthew 3:8—Some people thought they were more important than they were and said: “We have Abraham as our father.”

■ John 8:33—Some people thought they were more important than they were and said: “We are Abraham’s descendants and have never been in bondage to anyone.”

■ Matthew 16:18—Many religious people use this verse to proclaim two messages—that their leader is the “only true leader” and that their denomination is the “only true church.”

■ Revelation 3:7-13—Since the congregation in Philadelphia was not corrected, some leaders and denominations brag (yes, brag) that they are the prophetic manifestation of the Philadelphia congregation.

■ Revelation 14:1-5—Although some people love to brag about being part of the 144,000, please focus upon the proper behavior and not upon seeking to classify individuals.

Highlighted verses for first concept

Here were the three highlighted verses in the presentation about the Lord knowing those who are His.

■ Mark 9:38-49—The disciples forbade people from casting out demons in Christ’s name—because those people were not part of the right group. Christ responded with words that would shock some religious people who think too highly of themselves.

■ John 10:16—Christ said: “I have other sheep who are not of this fold. I will bring them also; I must bring them too. They will hear My voice. There will be one flock and one shepherd.”

■ Revelation 3:17—It is ironic (admittedly a trifle humorous and ultimately a sad commentary) that the people who love to brag about being like the Philadelphia congregation (in verses 7-13) actually portray the undesirable characteristics (those being “wretched, miserable, poor, blind and naked”) that are mentioned here to the congregation in Laodicea.

If you know Christ, depart from iniquity

The Bible message (in both the Old and New Testaments) is to depart from iniquity. Please respond to the Father’s grace with commitment to Him and with love towards other people.

Additional verses

In the presentation, I read only three sections of Scripture about this second concept. Before I mention those verses, let’s look at eight verses that were not mentioned in the presentation.

■ Exodus 20:1-17—Because the Lord God brought the children of Israel out of slavery, He gave them 10 behaviors that He desired from them.

■ Ezekiel 18:4-32—The Lord mentioned that people are held accountable for what they know.

■ Matthew 19:16-21—Christ mentioned here only five Commandments about loving your neighbor—and then instructed the man about his personal weakness.

■ Matthew 22:36-40—Christ mentioned here about loving God (described in the first four Commandments) and loving one’s neighbor (described in the last six Commandments).

■ John 12:47-48—Judgment is based upon what people know.

The following three verses (which give three connected definitions of sin) were not read in the presentation.

■ 1 John 3:4—Sin is identified by the law of God.

■ James 4:17—Sin is based upon a person’s understanding.

■ Romans 14:23—Sin is based upon a person’s faith

Highlighted verses for second concept

Here were the three highlighted verses in the presentation about departing from iniquity.

■ Romans 6:1-6—Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? Certainly not!

■ 1 Peter 4:12-16—Suffering for Christ is different from suffering for sin. Peter mentioned only four examples of sin (murder, theft, evildoing and busyboding).

■ Luke 18:9-14—Christ gave a parable about the contrasting approaches of an arrogant Pharisee and a humble tax collector.