

# **2023 Feast of Tabernacles Sept. 30–Oct. 7 Church of God Big Sandy Pelican Beach Resort • Destin**

## **Welcome to the Feast**

Welcome to the 2023 Feast of Tabernacles in Destin! We are pleased to be able to host a Feast site in Destin for the 26th consecutive year. We are happy to see those of you who make a habit of attending one of our Feast sites. And we are pleased to see those of you who are attending one of our Feast sites for the first time. Please use your time with us to fellowship with the Lord and with people who are enjoying the same Christian journey. We pray that as you tabernacle with God during these eight days, you will be spiritually uplifted, strengthened and encouraged.

## **Format for Church Service**

The format of the church service is congregational singing, daily scripture reading, special music and short sermons. If you would like to participate with special music, please let us know.

## **“Music Fest” at the Feast**

For many years, we have scheduled on the eighth day of the Feast a “Music Fest” (which is a segment of the church service concentrating on musical selections). In 2022, we scheduled two such periods of worship. This year, we have scheduled three such periods of worship.

## **Scripture Reading at the Feast**

One of the traditions at the Feast sites that we sponsor is daily scripture reading. The purpose of this practice is for the audience to hear the direct reading of the Bible every day of the Feast. The passages have been chosen in advance. Since this segment of the service is not a sermonette, we do not want the readers to editorialize or to analyze. The only way the reader provides his interpretation is through his choice of translation and through his skill as a reader. Otherwise, you are hearing words from the Bible without interpretation.

## Feast Coordinators

The Feast coordinators for this site are Neil and Martha McIver. Since we have discovered that individuals enjoy freedom of choosing their own social activities, we purposefully do not preplan a lot of social activities. However, we are happy to help in the communication of spontaneous activities.

## Schedule of Church Services

|                      |            |                                                                                                                  |
|----------------------|------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Saturday<br>Sept. 30 | 10:30 a.m. | Opening Comments<br>Sermon: Ken Tate<br>Reading—Leviticus 26:11-12 and<br>Revelation 21:3-4<br>Sermon: Bill Crow |
| Sunday<br>Oct. 1     | 10:30 a.m. | Sermon: Dave Havar<br>Reading—Nehemiah 8:13-18<br>"Music Fest"                                                   |
| Monday<br>Oct. 2     | 10:30 a.m. | Sermon: Dave Havar<br>Reading—Isaiah 2:1-22<br>Sermon: Neal Parker                                               |
| Tuesday<br>Oct. 3    | 10:30 a.m. | Sermon: John Havar<br>Reading—Ecclesiastes 12:1-14<br>"Music Fest"                                               |
| Wednesday<br>Oct. 4  | 10:30 a.m. | Sermon: Chad Tate<br>Reading—Matthew 25:1-13<br>Sermon: Stan West                                                |
| Thursday<br>Oct. 5   | 10:30 a.m. | Sermon: Ben Franklin<br>Reading—Matthew 25:14-30<br>Sermon: Bill Crow                                            |
| Friday<br>Oct. 6     | 10:30 a.m. | Sermon: Daniel Hammons<br>Reading—Matthew 25:31-46<br>Sermon: Neil McIver                                        |
| Saturday<br>Oct. 7   | 11:00 a.m. | "Music Fest"<br>Reading—Revelation 20:7-15 and<br>Revelation 21:1-7<br>Sermon: Ken Tate                          |

## Fellowship Opportunities

- Texas barbecue—Saturday, Sept. 29, at 1:00 p.m.
- Family sing-along—Saturday, Sept. 29, from 6:30-8:00 p.m.
- Game night—Saturday, Sept 29, at 8:00 p.m.
- Glow-stick party on the beach—Sunday, Oct. 1, in the evening
- Ladies-day lunch and retail therapy—Wednesday, Oct. 4, at 1:00 p.m.
- Game night (with ice cream)—Thursday, Oct. 5, from 6:00-10:00 p.m.

## Scriptures to consider

- In the book of Leviticus, the Lord mentioned the physical tabernacle to reflect His desire to walk among His children.

Leviticus 26:11-12—"I will set My tabernacle among you, and My soul shall not abhor you. I will walk among you and be your God, and you shall be My people."

- Our Heavenly Father called the physical tabernacle a method of meeting with His children.

Exodus 25:21-22—"You shall put the mercy seat on top of the ark, and in the ark you shall put the Testimony that I will give you. And there I will meet with you, and I will speak with you from above the mercy seat, from between the two cherubim which are on the ark of the Testimony, about everything which I will give you in commandment to the children of Israel."

Exodus 29:42-43—"This shall be a continual burnt offering throughout your generations at the door of the tabernacle of meeting before the Lord, where I will meet you to speak with you. And there I will meet with the children of Israel, and the tabernacle shall be sanctified by My glory."

Exodus 29:45-46—"I will dwell among the children of Israel and will be their God. And they shall know that I am the Lord their God, who brought them up out of the land of Egypt, that I may dwell among them. I am the Lord their God."

- The tabernacle was replaced by the temple.

2 Samuel 7:6—"For I have not dwelt in a house since the time that I brought the children of Israel up from Egypt, even to this day, but have moved about in a tent and in a tabernacle."

- When the Son of God walked the earth, He spoke about His body as a temple.

John 2:19-21—"Jesus answered and said to them, 'Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.' Then the Jews said, 'It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will You raise it up in three days?' But He was speaking of the temple of His body."

- New Testament writers mentioned the children of God being a temple.

1 Corinthians 3:16-17—"Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? If anyone defiles the temple of God, God will destroy him. For the temple of God is holy, which temple you are."

2 Corinthians 6:16—"And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: 'I will dwell in them and walk among them. I will be their God, and they shall be My people.' "

Ephesians 2:19-22—"Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit."

1 Peter 2:4-5—"Coming to Him as to a living stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God and precious, you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ."

- In the book of Revelation, the Lord mentioned the concept of the tabernacle to reflect His desire to dwell among His children.

Revelation 21:3-4—"And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, 'Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.' "