

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

Dec. 17, 2016 • 2:00 p.m. • Sunset 5:16

**Service next Sabbath: 2:00 p.m.**

### Order of service

<b>Song leader</b>	.....	Reg Killingley
<b>Pianist</b>	.....	Dixon Cartwright
<b>First sermon</b>	.....	Neil Mclver
<b>Teen class—Library</b>	.....	Martha Mclver
<b>Kids' class—Classroom #2</b>	.....	Jennifer Danapas
<b>Second sermon</b>	.....	Dave Havir

### Quick takes

1. Thank you—The congregation thanks an individual from our extended congregation for donating a washer and dryer for the building.
2. Thank you—The congregation thanks Vern Case, Clay Forrestier and John Worden for preparing the building for the donated washer and dryer.
3. 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.
4. Main reason for canceling church service—Our main reason for canceling a church service is the loss of electricity.
5. Telephone hookup temporarily suspended—Due to disappointment with the company that we have used for the weekly telephone hookup for the church service, we have suspended that service as we look for a different company. We apologize for any inconvenience.
6. Church social on Dec. 31—We are planning for a winter church social on Saturday evening, Dec. 31.
  - Steven Gibson will be a guest speaker
  - A potluck meal is scheduled
  - The parade of costumes will occur after the potluck
  - We have rented some bounce houses to be set up in the building

7. Joint baby shower on Jan. 8—There is a joint baby shower at 1:00 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 8. (Lis and Ryan Eaton are expecting a girl in February, and Celina and Mike Jitjaeng are expecting a boy in April.) There is no need to RSVP, but if you have any questions please contact Martha McIver.
8. Edifying the Body—This week's article is "If He's God's Choice, Is That Always a Good Thing?" by Lenny Cacchio.
9. Among Friends—This week's article is "Did God Micromanage Solomon?" by Dave Havir.
10. Eye on the World—This week's "Eye on the World" is 20 pages.

## Prayer updates

**Willie Choate** has been having difficulty with his reaction to the recent chemo treatment. He had previously taken oral chemo during his radiation treatment, but this present round of chemo is administered through a port in his chest. So far, he has taken four of the scheduled eight doses of chemo. He is considering stopping the chemo at this time to reconsider the plan. He is hoping to be in attendance today. He appreciates your prayers.

**Betty Foster** reported that she has been experiencing pain this week due to the kidney infection. She was scheduled to visit a doctor on Tuesday. Then, on Friday afternoon, she was taken by ambulance to the ER at Good Shepherd Medical Center.

**Boyd Payne** reports that his follow-up visit with a doctor in Plano on Monday (following his recent heart-valve surgery) went well. The next doctor appointment will occur many months into the future.

**Gracie Feaker** reports that her week was about the same—some days with breathing challenges, with ankle hurting and with sleeping challenges. But she appreciates the good days.

**Lisa Smith** reports that she is feeling much better following her recent gallbladder surgery.

**Cledice Decker** of Pasadena, Calif., reports that her recent postponed surgery (to have her thyroid removed due to thyroid cancer) is scheduled for Monday. The doctor mentioned that her recovery might be a little longer than previously expected because the cancer is adhering to the trachea (windpipe) and to the esophagus (food pipe).

**Gene Stockdale** of Knoxville, Tenn., who recently went to a hospital due to a fever and pain in the back of his neck, also developed pneumonia.

On Wednesday, **Dave Havir** returned for a follow-up visit to the eye doctor and heard a good report about the surgically repaired right eye (which had the worse cataract). Since the present condition of his left eye is good, he decided to postpone the cataract surgery on his left eye at this time.

## New prayer requests

Several weeks ago, **Annette Payne** noticed a sore on her heel. Recently, she and **Boyd** also recognized a red streak on her ankle. Since Mrs. Payne is diabetic, her family nudged her to go to a doctor on Wednesday. He wanted her to get a CAT scan, but she delayed the CAT scan until next week to give some medication a chance to work. However, her family encouraged her to have the CAT scan yesterday. The family will hear the results of the CAT scan next week.

On Wednesday, **John Bearse** of a local Church of God fellowship had surgery to deal with bladder cancer. The doctors reported that the cancer was contained in the bladder.

**Teresa Chicaya** of Zimbabwe, who had previously been diagnosed with stomach cancer, learned that the cancer has spread to other organs of her body.

**Kristen Hocker** of Kansas City, Mo., was scheduled for surgery on her right shoulder this past Wednesday.

**Joyce Knight** of Bolivar, Mo. (who had a hip replaced four years ago), recently learned that she has an infection in her hip and back that has caused her to be temporarily placed in a nursing home.

**Velvet Delorey** of Corner Brook, Nfld., Canada, who had been showing great improvement after being diagnosed with anemia this summer, has recently been dealing with fatigue.

**Rodney Engeman** of Bend, Ore., was diagnosed with cancer around his kidney and bladder.

**Larry Wilson** of St. Marys, W.Va., who had previously been diagnosed with Parkinson's disease, recently fell and suffered two compression-fractured vertebrae.

**Marilyn Stauffer** of Coarsegold, Calif., died on Dec. 12. Please remember her husband, **Dennis**, and the rest of the family in your prayers.

**Gavin Rumney** of Auckland, New Zealand died on Dec. 15. Please remember the family in your prayers.

## Scriptures to consider

**Jeremiah 10:2-6**—"Thus says the LORD: 'Do not learn the way of the Gentiles; Do not be dismayed at the signs of heaven, for the Gentiles are dismayed at them. For the customs of the peoples are futile; for one cuts a tree from the forest, the work of the hands of the workman, with the ax. They decorate it with silver and gold; they fasten it with nails and hammers so that it will not topple. They are upright, like a palm tree, and they cannot speak; they must be carried, because they cannot go by themselves. Do not be afraid of them, for they cannot do evil, nor can they do any good.' Inasmuch as there is none like You, O LORD (You are great, and Your name is great in might) . . ."

## “Did God Micromanage Solomon?”

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 Dec. 17, 2016.

**By Dave Havir**

**B**IG SANDY, Texas—Bible students like to discuss God’s involvement in the selection and behavior of civil leaders. In three separate articles (the previous two weeks and this week), we are discussing three Old Testament leaders who were chosen by God.

The three examples demonstrate that, even when God does choose a person to lead nations, He generally does not micromanage the actions of that leader.

### **God chose Solomon**

Bible students remember how David wanted to build a house for God (2 Samuel 7:2), but God decided to allow the next king to fulfill that glorious plan.

*2 Samuel 7:12-13*—“When your days are fulfilled and you rest with your fathers, I will set up your seed after you, who will come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build a house for My name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever.”

### **Did not force obedience**

When Bible students look at the behavior of Solomon, they can recognize that God did not micromanage Solomon’s behavior to be obedient.

The biblical record shows examples of God being displeased with some of Solomon’s choices.

### **Many mistakes**

During Solomon’s reign as king, he made many mistakes. Notice how the Bible described his behavior.

*1 Kings 11:1-5*—“But King Solomon loved many foreign women, as well as the daughter of Pharaoh: women of the Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, Sidonians, and Hittites—from the nations of whom the LORD had said to the children of Israel, ‘You shall not intermarry with them, nor they with you. Surely they will turn away your

hearts after their gods.’ Solomon clung to these in love. And he had seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines; and his wives turned away his heart. For it was so, when Solomon was old, that his wives turned his heart after other gods; and his heart was not loyal to the LORD his God, as was the heart of his father David. For Solomon went after Ashtoreth the goddess of the Sidonians, and after Milcom the abomination of the Ammonites.”

*1 Kings 11:6*—“Solomon did evil in the sight of the LORD, and did not fully follow the LORD, as did his father David.”

*1 Kings 11:7-8*—“Then Solomon built a high place for Chemosh the abomination of Moab, on the hill that is east of Jerusalem, and for Molech the abomination of the people of Ammon. And he did likewise for all his foreign wives, who burned incense and sacrificed to their gods.”

*1 Kings 11:9-10*—“So the LORD became angry with Solomon, because his heart had turned from the LORD God of Israel, who had appeared to him twice, and had commanded him concerning this thing, that he should not go after other gods; but he did not keep what the LORD had commanded.”

### **National consequences**

It is interesting to note that Solomon’s sinful behavior did lead to the dividing of the tribes of Israel.

*1 Kings 11:11-13*—“Therefore the LORD said to Solomon, ‘Because you have done this, and have not kept My covenant and My statutes, which I have commanded you, I will surely tear the kingdom away from you and give it to your servant. Nevertheless I will not do it in your days, for the sake of your father David; I will tear it out of the hand of your son. However I will not tear away the whole kingdom; I will give one tribe to your son for the sake of my servant David, and for the sake of Jerusalem which I have chosen.’”