

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

Feb. 4, 2017 • 2:00 p.m. • Sunset 5:54

Service next Sabbath: 2:00 p.m.

Order of service

Song leader	Neil McIver
Pianist	Dixon Cartwright
First sermon	Ron Avey
Teen class—Library	Jim Bald
Kids class—Classroom #2	Mindy Forrestier
Second sermon	Terry McAdams

Quick takes

1. Welcome to guest speaker—The congregation welcomes Terry McAdams, who is scheduled to give the second sermon today.
2. Chili potluck today—The annual chili potluck is scheduled immediately after the church service today.
3. Upcoming guest speaker—We are pleased to announce that Neal Parker is scheduled to be a guest speaker on Feb. 18.
4. Fellowship Club on Feb. 18—The Fellowship Club that had been scheduled for Jan. 21 was postponed due to David Eishen feeling ill. It has been re-scheduled for shortly after the church service on Feb. 18. David and Melo-dee Eishen are planning to give a presentation about “bug-out bags.”
5. Interrelating with other congregations—Today, Dave Havir is giving two sermons in Houston.
6. Edifying the Body—This week’s article is “The Unjust Steward” by Lenny Cacchio.
7. Among Friends—This week’s article is “You Are What You Eat” by Dave Havir.
8. Eye on the World—This week’s “Eye on the World” is 12 pages.

Prayer updates

Due to a conflict during the normal time of production of this bulletin (generally later in the week), this bulletin was prepared earlier in the week—and thus does not have the latest health updates.

Please remember the eye surgery for **Jerry Thompson**, which is scheduled for this coming Wednesday.

Please remember **Annette Payne**, who has been dealing with clogged arteries in both legs (with the left leg being in worse shape).

On Monday, **Laura Moran** (who was recently diagnosed with acute bronchitis) went to her regular doctor for him to monitor her continued recovery. She is scheduled for a return visit on Feb. 15.

Please remember **Jeanine Case**, who is dealing with stress from a change in medication.

Please remember **Sonny Rosenberger**, who is dealing with some breathing challenges.

In the Jan. 21 bulletin, we mentioned that **Carole Lenarwick** of San Jose, Calif., was diagnosed with an infection and kidney problems. Her condition has since been identified as having C-diff and stage-5 kidney failure. At this time, she has no plans to go on kidney dialysis.

New prayer requests

Lisa Smith requests prayers for her mother, **Margaret Pitre**, who has been diagnosed with an intestinal infection known as C-diff.

Coralee Jones of Casitas Springs, Calif., has been diagnosed with leukemia.

On Friday, Jan. 27, **Sandy Elbee** of Cincinnati, Ohio, was diagnosed as having a stroke.

Evelyn Ritenbaugh of Charlotte, N.C., was taken to a hospital due to a lethargic condition. The doctors were considering a craniotomy.

Ross Chitwood of Knoxville, Tenn., was scheduled for heart-bypass surgery this past Thursday.

Robert Keathly of Belleville, Ark., died from pancreatic cancer on Jan. 29. Please remember his wife, **Dorothy**, and the rest of the family in your prayers.

Sam Cartwright of Jenks, Okla. (brother of **Dixon** and **Wayne Cartwright**), died on Jan. 29. Please remember his wife, **Anita**, and the rest of the family in your prayers.

Year-end letter

Every year on Jan. 31, churches are expected to send out a statement of financial contributions to the people who have contributed to those churches. Following is a letter, dated Jan. 29, 2017, that Dave Havir included with those financial statements.

“Dear Friends,

“We hope that God’s spiritual blessings are overshadowing any of the personal trials that you and your family may be facing. Thank you so much for your prayers for me and for the Church of God Big Sandy.

“First, I want to thank you for your prayers for my health. Thank you to many of you who prayed for me following my triple-bypass surgery on February 26, 2016. Although an echocardiogram showed my heart to be in good shape (and I didn’t have a heart attack), a heart catheterization revealed the blocked blood flow. While I am most appreciative for God’s involvement in the process, I am also thankful for finding a competent cardiologist and a skilled surgeon—men who have dedicated their lives to mastering their crafts.

“I apologize that my surgery and my recovery affected my traveling schedule for 2016. While I was regularly able to travel in previous calendar years to over 20 congregations, I was able to travel to only 13 congregations in 2016. The reduced schedule was my loss, as I love visiting with friends around the country.

“Second, I want to thank you for the financial support during this past calendar year. We realize the condition of the economy and the many financial challenges that people are facing. While our church income was down for 2016, we appreciate the cheerful giving (2 Corinthians 9:7) that you did for the efforts of the Church of God Big Sandy. May God bless you for your kindness.

“I hope to see many of you this year—either on a church visit or at one of God’s festivals.

“We appreciate your prayers for us, and we will continue to pray for you. May God bless you with peace, joy and love.”

Scriptures to consider

Matthew 6:22-23—“The lamp of the body is the eye. If therefore your eye is good, your whole body will be full of light. But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in you is darkness, how great is that darkness!”

Matthew 22:36-39—“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.’ ”

“You Are What You Eat”

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 Feb. 4, 2017.

By Dave Havir

BIG SANDY, Texas—In my article on Jan. 28, I wrote a few thoughts about personal denial and how a person can recognize who he is. In that article, I shared five ways in which a person can examine himself.

At this time, I want to give each of the five concepts its own personal article. In this article, we will discuss the first concept—you are what you eat.

Avoiding a wrong emphasis

Before we discuss some principles of food and drink in the Bible, let us acknowledge a truth—what a person eats and drinks should not take a higher priority than God intended.

Romans 14:17—“For the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.”

1 Corinthians 8:8—“But food does not commend us to God; for neither if we eat are we the better, nor if we do not eat are we the worse.”

Quality food and water

Now that we have established that a person should not elevate matters of eating and drinking ahead of more-important matters, let’s notice some scriptures in the Bible about food and water.

Genesis 41:47, 49—“Now in the seven plentiful years the ground brought forth abundantly . . . Joseph gathered very much grain, as the sand of the sea, until he stopped counting, for it was immeasurable.”

Deuteronomy 14:26—“And you shall spend that money for whatever your heart desires: for oxen or sheep, for wine or similar drink, for whatever your heart desires; you shall eat there before the LORD your God, and you shall rejoice, you and your household.”

1 Kings 19:6-7—“Then he looked, and there by his head was a cake baked on

coals, and a jar of water. So he ate and drank, and lay down again. And the angel of the LORD came back the second time, and touched him, and said, ‘Arise and eat, because the journey is too great for you.’”

Daniel 1:12-14—“Please test your servants for ten days, and let them give us vegetables to eat and water to drink. Then let our appearance be examined before you, and the appearance of the young men who eat the portion of the king’s delicacies; and as you see fit, so deal with your servants.’ So he consented with them in this matter, and tested them ten days.”

Luke 24:42-43—“So they gave Him a piece of a broiled fish and some honeycomb. And He took it and ate in their presence.”

John 4:6-8—“Now Jacob’s well was there. Jesus therefore, being wearied from His journey, sat thus by the well. It was about the sixth hour. A woman of Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, ‘Give Me a drink.’ For His disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.”

John 21:9-10—“Then, as soon as they had come to land, they saw a fire of coals there, and fish laid on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, ‘Bring some of the fish which you have just caught.’”

Be careful about alcohol

Here are a few words about consuming alcohol in moderation. (Although moderate use of alcohol is permissible for most people, there are some people who should refrain entirely from alcohol.)

Leviticus 10:8-9—“Then the LORD spoke to Aaron, saying: ‘Do not drink wine or intoxicating drink, you, nor your sons with you, when you go into the tabernacle of meeting, lest you die. It shall be a statute forever throughout your generations.’”

Ephesians 5:18—“And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit.’”