

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

April 28, 2018 • 2:00 p.m. • Sunset 7:58

Bible studies and classes

Interactive study (1:00)	.....	Dave Havir
Bible study (2:00)	.....	Dave Havir
Teen class	.....	Roxanna West

Order of service

Song leader	.....	Ron Avey
Pianist	.....	Dixon Cartwright
Scripture reading	.....	Isaiah 5:18-23 by Neil McIver
Sermon	.....	Bernie Monsalvo

Quick takes

1. Guest speaker today—We are happy that Bernie and Paula Monsalvo are visiting our congregation today. Mr. Monsalvo is scheduled to give the sermon today. (Last week, we mentioned that Dave Havir donated the 2:00 Bible-study spot to Mr. Monsalvo. Daniel Botha was scheduled to give the sermon before we knew about the Monsalvos coming to visit. When Mr. Botha saw that another speaker was available to speak this week, he donated his spot back to Mr. Havir. When Mr. Havir wanted to continue with his Bible-study series, Mr. Monsalvo was moved to the sermon slot.)
2. Guest singer next week—We are happy to announce that Ross Jutsum is scheduled to visit our congregation on May 5. Dave Havir invited Mr. Jutsum to give a 30-minute music presentation at the church service on that day.
3. Community musical concert next Saturday evening—Our church building will be the location for a free community musical concert by Dr. Ross Jutsum. He will begin the concert at 7:00 p.m. with inspirational and patriotic selections. Later in the evening, he will perform other popular songs.

4. Combined service on Pentecost—We are pleased to announce that the Tyler congregation of the Church of God International (CGI) has scheduled to meet with our congregation on the Day of Pentecost on May 20. (You might recall that CGI members met with us last year on Pentecost and the Feast of Trumpets.)
5. School functions in the building—May is the traditional time for the Big Sandy School District to schedule its year-end banquets. At the present time, we are anticipating two banquets to be held in our building.
 - Thursday, May 17—Athletic department
 - Monday, May 21—Music department
6. Nomination phase—May is the time for the congregation to nominate people to be included in the election phase (in June) for our church board.
7. Edifying the Body—This week's article is "Have Christians Lost the Culture War?" by John Stonestreet.
8. Among Friends—The week's article is "Comments About Romans 16" by Dave Havir.
9. Eye on the World—This week's "Eye on the World" is 22 pages.

Prayer updates

Elaine Holloway reports that she had a better week physically. Last week, we mentioned that a new sore on her leg was oozing on Thursday (April 19). The nurse treated it the next day. (A nurse has been coming to the house three days a week.) While she has done better physically, she reports that it has been a tough week emotionally. She reports that she has not slept well due to bad dreams. She reports that she also worries about her son, **Lance**, who has had health difficulties.

Lance Holloway of Lindale (son of **Elaine Holloway**) had a colonoscopy. The doctor expressed some concern over a "shadow" in the colon.

Marilyn Boston continues to make progress at the rehab facility in Tyler. This coming week, she is scheduled for two important meetings. First, she is scheduled to see the doctor on Tuesday. Second, she is scheduled to meet on Thursday with the personnel at the facility who help determine the release from their facility.

This is the last Saturday to talk with **Bea Gusner** at church before she leaves for her scheduled return to the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn., on May 7 for tests—to see if they recommend surgery to replace two heart valves. If the tests reveal a need for surgery, she will have the surgery on May 8.

Sonny Rosenberger has been dealing with breathing challenges and a lack on energy.

On Monday, **Boyd Payne** is scheduled to see a doctor to help him deal with his anxiety.

Vonda Ouellette reports that she did not have any episodes this week of excessive bleeding from her nose.

Please continue to pray that the eyesight of **Jerry Thompson** improves.

In last week's bulletin, we mentioned that **Wilma Reed** of Trussville, Ala. (mother of **Jeff Reed** of the CGI in Tyler), had surgery weeks ago to remove her colon and more recently had a tracheotomy in an effort to wean her off a ventilator. Mr. Reed reported that she remains on the ventilator.

New prayer requests

On Sunday, **Linda Cartwright** hurt her back while doing chores around the house. Although she is feeling better, she appreciates your prayers.

Jim Cowan has been having pain and is anticipating hernia surgery. He is scheduled to consult with a doctor on Tuesday.

On Sunday, **Brian Biggs** (son of **Judy Biggs**) had a seizure and went to Mother Frances Hospital in Tyler. (His last seizure was when he was 25, and he is now 49.) He was given antiseizure medication and IV treatment. The results from a spinal tap ruled out spinal meningitis. On Friday, he was moved out of ICU into a room on a different floor of the hospital. One challenge he faces is his longtime battle with anxiety problems. Please remember the caregivers—**Susan Norvell** spends the nights in the room, and she and Mrs. Biggs spend the days with him.

Francis Smith requests prayers for an improvement of her memory.

Scriptures to consider

Isaiah 5:8—Woe to those who join house to house; they add field to field, till there is no place where they may dwell alone in the midst of the land!

Isaiah 5:11-12—Woe to those who rise early in the morning, that they may follow intoxicating drink; who continue until night, till wine inflames them! The harp and the strings, the tambourine and flute, and wine are in their feasts; but they do not regard the work of the LORD, nor consider the operation of His hands.

Isaiah 5:18-19—Woe to those who draw iniquity with cords of vanity, and sin as if with a cart rope; that say, "Let Him make speed and hasten His work, that we may see it; and let the counsel of the Holy One of Israel draw near and come, that we may know it."

Isaiah 5:20—Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; who put darkness for light, and light for darkness; who put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!

Isaiah 5:21—Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes, and prudent in their own sight!

Isaiah 5:22—Woe to men mighty at drinking wine, woe to men valiant for mixing intoxicating drink.

Isaiah 5:23—Who justify the wicked for a bribe, and take away justice from the righteous man!

“Comments about Romans 16”

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 April 28, 2018.

By Dave Havir

BIG SANDY, Texas—Recently, I began a series of brief articles to discuss chapters in the book of Romans. This week, we will conclude this series by talking about chapter 16.

I hope this project encourages you to review the valuable history found in the book of Romans.

Three sections

Many Bible students note that the book of Romans is divided into three sections.

- The first 11 chapters deal more with spiritual concepts of God’s righteousness.

- Chapters 12 through 15 are a section discussing various Christian-living principles.

- Chapter 16 is the conclusion of the letter that includes personal comments from the apostle Paul to many of his coworkers.

Commended Phoebe

At the beginning of chapter 16, Paul paid a heartfelt compliment to a woman named Phoebe (verses 1-2).

Romans 16:1-2—“I commend to you Phoebe our sister, who is a servant of the church in Cencrea, that you may receive her in the Lord in a manner worthy of the saints, and assist her in whatever business she has need of you; for indeed she has been a helper of many and of myself also.”

Priscilla and Aquila

Paul proceeded to mention Priscilla and Aquila (verses 3-5).

Romans 16:3-5—“Greet Priscilla and Aquila, my fellow workers in Christ Jesus, who risked their own necks for my life, to whom not only I give thanks, but also all the churches of the Gentiles. Likewise greet the church that is in their house.”

Notice another section in the Bible where they are mentioned.

Acts 18:2-3—“And he found a certain

Jew named Aquila, born in Pontus, who had recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla (because Claudius had commanded all the Jews to depart from Rome); and he came to them. So, because he was of the same trade, he stayed with them and worked; for by occupation they were tentmakers.”

Acts 18:26—“So he [Apollos] began to speak boldly in the synagogue. When Aquila and Priscilla heard him, they took him aside and explained to him the way of God more accurately.”

List of helpers

- Romans 16 also included a list of lesser-known people who helped Paul as they sought to serve the Lord (verses 5-15).

- Paul referred to the greeting called the “holy kiss” (verse 16). It was also mentioned in 1 Corinthians 16:20; 2 Corinthians 13:12; 1 Thessalonians 5:26; and 1 Peter 5:14.

Avoid divisive people

- Paul encouraged disciples to avoid divisive people (verse 17).

- Such people often use smooth words and flattering speech to deceive people, as they are more concerned about their livelihood than serving the Lord Jesus Christ (verse 18).

- Be wise in what is good and simple concerning evil (verse 19).

- The God of peace will triumph (verse 20).

Concluding comments

- Some of Paul’s friends sent their greetings (verse 21).

- The scribe of the letter (Tertius) sent his greetings (verse 22).

- Other of Paul’s friends sent their greetings (verse 23).

- Romans 16:24 sounds like a concluding comment.

- Some people place Romans 16:25-27 at the end of Romans 14. Otherwise, these verses sound like some additional concluding comments.