

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

July 6, 2019 • 2:00 p.m. • Sunset 8:29

Bible studies and classes

Interactive study (1:00)	.....	Dave Havir
Bible study (2:00)	.....	Neil Mclver
Teen class	.....	Dave Havir

Order of service

Song leader	.....	Neil Mclver
Pianist	.....	Dixon Cartwright
Scripture reading	.....	Acts 25:1–27
Sermon	.....	Dave Havir

Quick takes

1. Welcome to guests—We welcome all guests meeting with us today. While we know that members of our congregation who are traveling this weekend are being welcomed at their destination today, we appreciate seeing you today.
2. Pastor not traveling as much—Dave Havir apologizes to the sister congregations for not traveling as much to visit them. And he reminds them of the reason—staying close to home to help his wife with her responsibilities with caring for her mother. (His wife’s father died in March.)
3. Pastor driving trips—Dave Havir thought it might be helpful to explain why he is driving to church visits instead of flying to church visits. He said: “To receive good prices for airline tickets, a person needs to buy in advance. By scheduling closer church visits that can be done by car, I maintain the flexibility of helping my family.”
4. Invitation to the 2019 Feast of Tabernacles—The Church of God Big Sandy invites people to attend one of the festival sites sponsored by our congregation. Pastor Dave Havir writes: “If you are looking for a small, friendly site that has inspiring messages and excellent fellowship, we invite you to come join us.”

5. Reminder about Feast housing—Please make your Feast housing at Destin and Myrtle Beach soon, so that you will be able to receive the discounted price before the rooms are released from our room block. (We do not have any discounted room blocks in Big Sandy or Grand Junction.)
6. Interactive study this week—The topic of the Interactive Bible study this week is scheduled to be “The Gift of Teaching” (Romans 12:7) moderated by Dave Havir.
7. Interactive study next week—The topic of the Interactive Bible study next week is scheduled to be “The Gift of Exhorting” (Romans 12:8).
8. Edifying the Body—This week’s article is “Socialism Violates All Ten Commandments” by Robert Knight.
9. Among Friends—This week’s article is “Comments About Romans 12:11” by Dave Havir.
10. Eye on the World—This week’s “Eye on the World” is 23 pages.

Prayer updates

As many of you noticed, **Eli Benedict** did not attend the church service last week (although **Jean** was able to attend). Some of you may be aware that the rash that had plagued him months ago had returned. Some rash has returned on his back, but it has been more troublesome on his legs. The rash hasn’t stopped him from doing projects like mowing the yard in the heat, but it has affected him spending a lot of time being dressed up at church. In case you hadn’t noticed, (1) Mr. Benedict likes being dressed up nicely for the church service, and (2) the Benedicts often come for the entire schedule of activities. They appreciate your prayers.

Since **Laura Moran** is dealing with anemia, she reports that she is awaiting an appointment with a hematologist.

Betty Foster continues to rehab at Legend Oaks Nursing Home in Gladewater. She is in Room 418-A. (Son **Morris Foster** and **Dave Havir** are happy to report that Mrs. Foster has provided her car to son **Larry Foster**.)

Elaine Holloway continues to rehab at Legend Oaks Nursing Home in Gladewater. She is in Room 109.

Marilyn Boston continues to rehab at Park Place Rehabilitation Center in Tyler (2450 E. Fifth St.). She is in Room 218.

Ron Feaker continues to rehab at the home of caregiving daughter **Karen**.

Please remember **Neil McIver**, who has been diagnosed with having blood pumping through his heart at 38 percent—instead of the expected 55–60 percent for people his age. He has chosen a doctor’s option of Mr. McIver taking medication for 90 days—thus delaying (and hopefully averting) potential surgery.

Martha McIver reports that her bronchitis is not fully gone, but she is feeling better. (She reminded **Dave Havir** on the phone that people recovering from bronchitis often feel better before they start sounding better.)

On Monday, **Emma Lou Bacher** moved from her assisted-living facility in Plano (where she had been since May 24) to her residence in Frisco. Her mailing address is 4300 Cotton Gin Rd., Box 64, Frisco, Texas 75034.

In the June 15 bulletin, we mentioned that **Leon Sexton** of Chiang Mai, Thailand, needed a “brain shunt” to deal with “water on the brain.” Here are excerpts from an update from June 28: “We received with heavy heart the results of Wednesday’s [June 26] CT scan. The shunt is releasing too much fluid which the doctors think is causing some atrophy. It also shows an increase in the fluid buildup in the meninges near the skull. They believe the body is trying to produce more fluid in another area to compensate. Because of the fluid near the skull, they will need to make a small incision and drill a tiny hole to release that fluid. The shunt will need to be replaced also.”

Miranda Winning of Australia died on July 3. Please remember her husband, **Mark**, and the rest of the family in your prayers.

New prayer requests

On Wednesday, **Willie Choate** went to Good Shepherd Medical Center in Longview and was diagnosed with a heart issue involving three arteries. At the printing deadline of this bulletin, we had not heard the proposed treatment. He is in Room 1616.

Morris and **Linda Foster** request prayers for her health. Here are excerpts from a report from Mr. Foster: “After 21 doctor visits in the last six months, my wife was diagnosed with a rare, rapidly progressing cognitive disease. The medical industry says there is no cure. After having received the medical diagnosis, we are on a positive, enjoyable journey of hope—seeking God and doing everything within our control to live a healthy life in the way God created us to live. We are savoring every moment of life together.”

Archie McAdams (father of **Terry McAdams**) has been dealing with an infection and was thought to be declining. Here are excerpts from the son: “Dad is doing much better. No kidney machine at this time. Blood pressure is up. Bacteria infection in blood, but he has made a big turn.”

Vera Clark of Hickory, N.C., suffers from a variety of health issues including congestive heart failure and occasional seizures. During a recent seizure and subsequent trip to the hospital, Mrs. Clark broke her hip. Doctors have determined that, due to her age and overall condition, she is not a candidate for surgery.

Jim Robbins of Lebanon, Tenn., died this week. Please remember his wife, **Sue**, and the rest of the family in your prayers.

Thought for the week

“For you, brethren, have been called to liberty; only do not use liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.”—*Galatians 5:13*

“Comments About Romans 12:11”

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 July 6, 2019.

By Dave Havir

BIG SANDY, Texas—Recently, I began a discussion about the words of the apostle Paul found in Romans 12. It is my perspective that Paul’s writings in chapters 1-11 could be classified more as comments about doctrine and spiritual concepts, whereas the words in chapter 12 can be viewed more as Christian-living topics.

Last week, we discussed Romans 12:10. This article will discuss Romans 12:11.

Positive words

Notice what Paul wrote in Romans 12:11.

Romans 12:11—“Not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord.”

Being diligent and fervent

Here are some verses that discuss being diligent and fervent.

Acts 18:25—“This man had been instructed in the way of the Lord; and being fervent in spirit, he spoke and taught accurately the things of the Lord, though he knew only the baptism of John.”

2 Timothy 1:16-17—“The Lord grant mercy to the household of Onesiphorus, for he often refreshed me, and was not ashamed of my chain; but when he arrived in Rome, he sought me out very zealously and found me.”

Hebrews 6:11-12—“And we desire that each one of you show the same diligence to the full assurance of hope until the end, that you do not become sluggish, but imitate those who through faith and patience inherit the promises.”

Hebrews 11:6—“But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.”

James 5:16—“Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.”

1 Peter 4:8—“And above all things have fervent love for one another, for ‘love will cover a multitude of sins.’”

Serving the Lord

Here are some verses that discuss serving the Lord.

Matthew 4:10—“Then Jesus said to him, ‘Away with you, Satan! For it is written, “You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve.”’”

Luke 2:36-37—“Now there was one, Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, and had lived with a husband seven years from her virginity; and this woman was a widow of about eighty-four years, who did not depart from the temple, but served God with fastings and prayers night and day.”

Romans 12:1—“I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.”

Galatians 5:13—“For you, brethren, have been called to liberty; only do not use liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.”

Philippians 2:20-22—“For I have no one like-minded, who will sincerely care for your state. For all seek their own, not the things which are of Christ Jesus. But you know his proven character, that as a son with his father he served with me in the gospel.”

1 Thessalonians 1:9-10—“For they themselves declare concerning us what manner of entry we had to you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, even Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.”

Hebrews 9:14—“How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?”