

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

Aug. 8, 2020 • 1:00 p.m. • Sunset 8:11

### Bible study and classes

Interactive study (1:00) . . . . . Dave Havir  
Bible study (2:00) . . . . . Dave Havir

### Order of service—3:00 p.m.

Song leader . . . . . Reg Killingley  
Pianist . . . . . Dixon Cartwright  
Scripture reading . . . . . Psalm 40:1–17  
Sermon . . . . . Wynn Skelton

### Quick takes

1. Welcome to guest speaker today—Although Wynn Skelton views himself as an extended part of our congregation instead of a guest, we appreciate his serving in the role as guest speaker today.
2. Upcoming guest speaker—We are happy to report that George Crow is scheduled to visit on Aug. 29.
3. Prayers for peaceful protesters—Please pray for the citizens who are maturely and responsibly exercising their right of peaceful protest.
4. Prayers for the victims—Please pray for the citizens who are suffering from the criminals, mobs and thugs who are tormenting our country.
5. Supporting your freedom of choice—We understand that some of you may hesitate to come to the building for church at this time, and we certainly support your freedom of choice.
  - Please be comfortable with your decision.
  - Please consider the protective opinion of your family.
6. Reminders for attending—Here are some reminders for people who choose to attend the church service in the building.
  - We do not provide masks or gloves. If these are important to you, please bring your own.
  - We expect attendees to make good use of our spacious hall by spreading out.

7. Feast housing in Destin and Myrtle Beach—If you are planning to attend the Feast of Tabernacles in Destin or Myrtle Beach, we recommend that you make your housing reservations as soon as possible. Although there is a lot of talk in the mainstream media about lockdowns and restrictions, reports from both areas note that other conventions occurring at the same time as the Feast of Tabernacles are filling up sleeping accommodations in those areas.
8. Edifying the Body—This week's article is "Socialism and the Cultural Revolution" by Iain Murray.
9. Among Friends—This week's article is "Deep State, Pedophile Ring and QAnon" by Dave Havir.
10. Eye on the World—This week's "Eye on the World" is 40 pages.

## Prayer updates

Please remember to pray for the following people who live at home but are not able to regularly attend our church service—**Sonny Rosenberger, Laura Moran, Annette Payne, Ronnie Shirley** and **Timberly Dunnam**.

Please remember to pray for the following people who are rehabbing at Legend Oaks Nursing Home in Gladewater—**Ron Feaker** and **Elaine Holloway**.

In last week's bulletin, we mentioned that **Eli Benedict** had an eye appointment scheduled for yesterday. (This bulletin was completed before we heard how the visit went.) He has enjoyed the visit by his daughter **Sharon Stonesifer** from Maryland—who was scheduled to leave today. On Tuesday, Mr. Benedict was able to enjoy traveling to Dallas to see his son **Bruce**. (The positive benefits of going a distance to see family often outweigh the physical toll of traveling.) The Benedicts thank you for your ongoing prayers.

In last week's bulletin, we mentioned that **Lisa Smith** went to an ER on Friday (July 31). As you saw, she was able to be at the church service last Saturday.

**Emma Lou Bacher** of Plano had a difficult time early in the week. She had pulled out her feeding tube three times. On Wednesday, her swallow evaluation showed that she had made improvement. She began eating "moist, minced, ground food and honey-thickened liquids." She displayed a hearty appetite.

**Tim Lindholm** of Minnesota had a rough week. Recently, he went for a procedure to flush out his "permanent stents" that were inserted in June. The procedure was not completed due to "cancer blockages." On Monday, he went to the University of Minnesota Hospital because it has better equipment and more expertise. On Monday, **Hope** reported: "The doctors were able to place two plastic stents inside the metal stents." On Tuesday, Hope reported: "Tim had an awfully rough night, the worst pain he's had yet that couldn't be resolved with pain meds." On Wednesday, Hope reported: "The GI team was trying to determine if they should do another stent or a percutaneous drain tube to get his liver more bile drainage." On Thursday, Hope reported: "His new stents are definitely clogged and not draining bile. The next procedure to be done will be the percutaneous drain tube."

Please remember **Dave McLearn**, who recently had surgery to deal with sinusitis and nasal septum.

In last week's bulletin, we mentioned that **Barbara Thompson** (daughter-in-law of **Vonda Ouellette**) had back surgery scheduled for last Tuesday. We have not received an update.

In the July 18 bulletin, we mentioned that **Doug Baer** of Oakley, Calif. (cousin of **Laura Moran**), had been diagnosed with cancer of the bone and prostate. He decided to take chemo and radiation.

Please remember **Jerry Jones** of Ojai, Calif., who was diagnosed with lymphoma.

Please remember **Thayne Slater** of Canyon, who recently had an operation to have a brain tumor removed.

**Ed Andreas** (age 90 from Kansas City) died on Aug. 2. Mr. Andreas was a supportive member of our congregation through the Internet, DVDs and contact with **Dave Havir**. Please remember his wife, **Betty**, and the rest of the family in your prayers.

## New prayer requests

On Friday, **Donna Searer** (mother of **Mark Searer**) fell in her assisted-living home in Quitman. She went to ETMC in Quitman and was transferred to Mother Frances Hospital in Tyler. She was diagnosed with a broken left hip. Since she is 82 years old, the family will discuss if there will be treatment. If the hip is surgically repaired, Mrs. Searer could expect to resume walking and to have a long rehabilitation with the hope of remaining at assisted living. If the hip is not repaired, she could expect to be bedridden in a nursing home. Please pray for her initial comfort and for a satisfying course of action.

Several weeks ago, **Craig Mason** of St. Louis, Mo., was involved in a motor-scooter accident. Following is an excerpt from his wife, **Liz**: "The scar on his head from the surgery is healing well. Hopefully, his lungs will heal in the next week and then they'll be able to start the neurological tests to determine the extent of his traumatic brain injury. He also has a blood infection, MSSA. It is related to MRSA but not as bad. It is being treated by antibiotics."

**Jeff McGowan** of Lacon, Ill., died on July 29. Please remember the family in your prayers.

**Linda Bradley** of Arcadia, Calif., died on Aug. 3. Please remember the family in your prayers.

**Bill Harkins** of Lakeland, Fla., died on Aug. 7. (Through the years, Mr. Harkins gave sermons at our following Feast sites—Big Sandy, Angel Fire, Branson, Destin and Rapid City.) Please remember his wife, **Jeanne**, and the rest of the family in your prayers.

## Word tickler

Some people would consider the following quote to be an oxymoron. But we like to call it a word tickler—"Why do 'overlook' and 'oversee' mean opposite thing?"

## Deep State, Pedophile Ring and QAnon

This article is a version of the “Among Friends” section of the Church of God Big Sandy’s website, churchofgodbigandy.com. It was posted for the weekend of Aug. 8, 2020.

**By Dave Havir**

**B**IG SANDY, Texas—Whenever a person reads a headline like the one given to this article, a wide variety of responses can rush into a reader’s mind.

Someone could ask: Why are you spending any time talking about subjects that the mainstream media identify as “conspiracy theories”?

My first response: I don’t believe that two of the three subjects mentioned in the headline should be called conspiracy theories. Granted, I have recently learned that the third item (QAnon) includes a wide spectrum of unusual ideas.

My follow-up comment: Obviously, I believe there is value in writing this article (or I wouldn’t be doing it).

### Media bias and freedom of speech

At this time, I want to give you the following statements.

■ What sparked my interest about the three items in the headline was an article that I posted in the July 25 edition of the weekly publication called “Eye on the World”—titled “Twitter Bans 7,000 QAnon Accounts, Limits 150,000 Others As Part of Broad Crackdown.”

■ My main interest was media bias and freedom of speech.

■ However, a little research revealed to me that much of the content attributed to QAnon is labeled by media outlets as conspiracy theories.

■ I have little interest in spending time in discovering or disproving conspiracy theories. Therefore, I will make only a few comments about QAnon.

### What is it?

Since I didn’t know much about QAnon, I read some articles about the subject.

According to the-sun.com: “QAnon is the bizarre claim that the Democrats, Hollywood elites and members of the media are

engaged in a Satanic pedophile ring—and President Donald Trump is secretly plotting to have them all arrested.”

This article will include a few articles and headlines about the following subjects.

1. The existence of a deep state
2. The existence of an international pedophile ring
3. A brief description of QAnon

In case you don’t want to wade through the material that I have accumulated for this article, here is a synopsis of the following material.

1. While there is rarely a disagreement about the existence of a deep state, there are certainly differences of opinion about how far-reaching it is.

2. While some people had previously uncovered and accurately reported facts about an international pedophile ring, the mainstream media have within the last year confirmed information that some people had already known.

3. The existence of a deep state and the existence of an international pedophile ring do not conclusively prove that President Trump is working to destroy that ring. Some of his critics would include him as a participant inside the despicable ring. On the contrary, many of his supporters would be proud of him for standing up against evil. (For the record—all the people who are truly working to destroy the international pedophile ring need power from God in their fight against the evil.) The passing of time sometimes (but not always) reveals who the heroes are. Until that time, I would recommend that people be careful to avoid being sucked into unproven scenarios and into making unproven statements.

The remainder of this article can be found in the “Among Friends” section of the Church of God Big Sandy’s website posted for the weekend of Aug. 8.