

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

Feb. 20, 2021 • 1:00 p.m. • Sunset 6:09

Bible studies

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

Order of service—3:00 p.m.

Song leader Neil McIver
Pianist Dixon Cartwright
Scripture reading Psalm 99
Sermon Wynn Skelton

Quick takes

1. 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 lower attendance in the building on a specific day due to weather in our area, we still hope to serve the audience on the website.
2. Main reason for canceling church service—Our main reason for canceling a church service is the loss of electricity.
3. Prayers for victims of winter storms—Please pray for the victims of winter storms around the globe.
4. Change in 2:00 Bible study—Last week, we announced a change in the 2:00 Bible study on Saturday. What is the change?
 - The activities in the building at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday will *not* be a live-stream transmission.
 - There will be a presentation on the Internet at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday—but it will be prerecorded instead of live.
 - Starting this week (for next Saturday at 2:00), Dave Havir is planning to present a weekly Bible study (on Wednesday) that will be available for those of you who want to listen to a presentation from our congregation at the 2:00 p.m. time slot.
 - The 3:00 p.m. church service will continue as a live-stream transmission.

5. Wednesday Bible study—There will be a presentation Bible study this coming Wednesday at 7:00. Although this presentation is being done to serve our extended audience, anyone is welcome to come and hear it live.
6. The interactive crowd wants to continue at 1:00 p.m.—When Dave Havar asked the Interactive crowd when they wanted their Bible study, they preferred to continue at the 1:00 time slot.
7. What happens at 2:00 p.m. in the building?—Dave Havar wants to provide various activities in the building at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday. Possibilities include:
 - Fellowship Club
 - Educational DVDs
 - Musical activities
8. No interactive Bible study in the building on Feb. 27—There will be no interactive Bible study in the building on Feb. 27. See the next announcement.
9. Schedule for Feb. 27—There will be a Fellowship Club on Feb. 27 to discuss the book (*Take Cover: Finding Peace in God's Protection*) that Dave Havar reviewed in the Jan. 30 bulletin. Following is the schedule.

■ Lunch	1:00–1:20
■ Discussion	1:30–2:30
■ Church service	3:00–4:00
10. 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.
11. Edifying the Body—This week's article is "Why Rush Limbaugh Mattered" by Tucker Carlson.
12. Among Friends—This week's article is "Winter Storm Pummels U.S." by Dave Havar.
13. Eye on the World—Since this week's "Eye on the World" was not complete at the printing deadline of the bulletin, it was printed for the information table and posted on the website after the normal schedule.

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, David Bonilla, 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, Elaine Holloway** and **Donna Weese**.

In last week's bulletin, we mentioned that **Cassandra Jenkins** of Lindale (daughter of **Shirley Spearman**) had a portion of her leg amputated. During the week, she asked for prayers for the "phantom pain" she was experiencing.

On Thursday, **Roxanna West** was able to return home. Here is a report from **Stan** about her progress: "Roxanna is home. Doing well on two liters of oxygen, down from the 40 liters at one time in the hospital. We thank everyone so much for the prayers. Good to have my sweetheart home from the hospital. I got to make one of her favorites for breakfast—Karen's cheesy curried egg bake over homemade buttermilk biscuits, the treat you had for us at the Feast. Praying you all are well, safe and warm."

In a bulletin several months ago, we mentioned that **Brad Ellis** of Kailua Kona, Hawaii, was dealing with type-one diabetes. He recently had surgery to remove the front half of one of his feet.

New prayer requests

Chuck Callahan of Tyler (93-year-old father of **Sue Johns** of Pennsylvania) has been diagnosed with high blood pressure, which he never had before. He saw a cardiologist, who diagnosed Mr. Callahan with a leaky tricuspid valve. Since the doctor didn't want to operate due to Mr. Callahan's age, he is treating him with medication.

Bill Bratt of Portsmouth, Ohio, is doing much better after being diagnosed with covid.

Sharon Ross of Fargo, N.D., recently had a second major back surgery. This past week she had 66 staples removed from the incision in her back.

Randy Hooser of Erie, Colo., has been diagnosed with non-Hodgkin's lymphoma.

Shirley Wetzelberger (86 years old of Nottingham, Md.) fell in her home and fractured a femur.

Fred Kenknight (86 years old of Lahaina, Hawaii) has been diagnosed with congestive heart failure.

Elizabeth Mason of St. Louis, Mo., has been diagnosed with an oval mass in a breast.

Marion Young-Perkins of Dudley, N.C., has been diagnosed with lung cancer.

Mellissa Johnson of Victorville, Calif. (family member of **Lisa Smith**), has been diagnosed with thyroid cancer.

Shawn Stintsman of Allentown, Pa. (nephew of **Dave Havir**), has been having a difficult time after being diagnosed with covid.

"Winter Storm Pummels U.S."

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. 20, 2021.

By **Dave Havir**

BIG SANDY, Texas—Cold winter weather this week caused havoc across much of the United States. While the Northern states (especially those in higher elevations) are familiar with inclement winter weather, many Southern states were plagued with low temperatures over several days.

The lower-than-normal temperatures placed

stress upon systems that were not designed for the conditions and that were already needing updated maintenance.

Half a million people

Following are quotes from an article by Phil Helsel, Saphora Smith and Wilson Wong titled "Power Comes Back for Most in Texas, but Other Problems Pile Up" that was post-

ed at nbcnews.com on Feb. 19, 2021.

The article said: “As of Friday morning, more than half a million people in the U.S. did not have electricity—Texas topped the list with less than 200,000 power outages, according to tracking website poweroutage.us.”

It also said: “At least 46 people from 10 different states have died because of weather-related fatalities since Thursday, the majority in Texas.”

The number of deaths in Texas was reported at 24 people—including six people who died in a massive pileup on a highway in Fort Worth on Feb. 11.

Challenges in Texas

The article mentioned the following information about Texas.

■ “In Texas, more than 14 million people were under boil-water orders in the wake of a winter storm that froze and burst pipes, creating chaos for water-treatment facilities.”

■ “On Friday, Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner said the number of people affected by power outages in the state’s largest city had dropped from 1.4 million to just 10,000.”

■ “Temperatures in Fort Worth, Texas, and Houston and other parts of the state are forecast to be freezing in the overnight hours until Saturday, according to the National Weather Service. That is expected to cause ice and snow that melts during the day to refreeze and create slick roads.”

Challenges in Mississippi

The article mentioned the following information about Mississippi.

■ “Winter storms have left parts of other states powerless as well: Mississippi had more than 100,000 customers out and Louisiana more than 70,000.”

■ “Mississippi Gov. Tate Reeves compared the damage to a hurricane. On Thursday, Mr. Reeves tweeted: ‘Unlike a hurricane or tornado, where the event comes furiously and then ends, this has been a slow-moving disaster. We have been in response mode, not recovery, constantly.’ ”

Challenges in Louisiana

The article mentioned the following information about Louisiana.

■ “In Louisiana, around 20,000 people

had been without power since Monday, Gov. John Bel Edwards said at a Thursday news conference, although he expected most of those people to have power later that day. More than 245,000 people in the state were affected by dozens of water outages, Edwards said. Boil-water advisories affected around one million, he said.”

Challenges in other states

The article mentioned the following information about other states.

■ “In Tennessee, Memphis International Airport said it was forced to temporarily close its passenger terminal due to water-pressure issues. Airlines have canceled all passenger flights for Friday, the airport said in a statement on its website.”

■ “In Kentucky, two women died from hypothermia after their residences lost power, according to Boyd County Coroner Mark Mammond.”

■ “In Arkansas, a 69-year-old man was found dead earlier this week after falling into a frozen pond while trying to rescue a calf.”

■ “In Oregon, around 73,000 customers were without power Thursday night after last week’s storms, utility Portland General Electric said. It expected all but 15,000 to be restored by Friday night.”

Citizens helping others

In conclusion, I want to make a few comments.

■ The actions of the mainstream media and the politicians who are sensationalizing the deaths of this weather challenge for their own political gain are despicable.

■ Many of the media and politicians were quick to hide their eyes to their fellow politicians who directly contributed to 13,000 coronavirus deaths in nursing homes in the state of New York. Yet media and politicians seem eager to blame their opponents over the 46 deaths in states that don’t match their agenda.

■ God bless the people who lost family members during the recent winter weather.

■ God bless all the family members who took care of their elderly.

■ God bless all the citizens who showed remarkable courage in helping friends, neighbors and strangers.