

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

July 8, 2023 • 1:00 p.m. • Sunset 8:29

### Bible studies

**Interactive study—1:00 p.m.** . . . . . Dixon Cartwright  
**Presentation study—2:00** . . . . . Wynn Skelton  
(Also transmitted live)

### Order of service—3:00 p.m.

**Song leader** . . . . . Neil McIver  
**Pianist** . . . . . Dixon Cartwright  
**Scripture reading** . . . . . Matthew 5:33–42  
**Sermon** . . . . . Wynn Skelton

### Quick takes

1. Pastor's travel schedule—Today, Dave Havar is giving a sermon in Huntsville.
2. Traveling speakers—We are pleased to announce the following traveling speakers coming to our congregation.
  - Today                      Wynn Skelton
  - July 22                     Blake Silverstein
  - July 29                     Mark Weiss
3. Thank you—Thank you for participating in the board election, which concluded last Saturday. The congregation chose David Coleman and Stan West to begin their three-year terms on the board. (Thank you to Melodee Eishen and Lisa Smith for allowing their names to go forward in the process and for being available in the event of a vacancy.)
4. Board meeting tomorrow—A board meeting is scheduled for Sunday, July 9, at 4:00 p.m. All are welcome.
5. Wednesday-night Bible study this week—July 12
6. Thank you—Linda Avey and her family thank the congregation for your part in the Celebration of Life for Ron Avey last Sunday.

7. Upcoming memorial services—Here is a reminder for two additional memorial services scheduled for members of our congregation.
  - Sonny Rosenberger      Saturday, July 29, at 12:30 p.m.
  - David Bonilla             Sunday, Aug. 20, at 1:00 p.m.
8. Please remember to pray for the following people who are not able to regularly attend our church service.
  - Mickey Ashcraft     ■ Ronnie Shirley
  - Timberly Dunnam     ■ Elaine Townsend
  - Annette Payne    ■ Donna Weese
  - Ruth Roe
9. Edifying the Body—This week's article is "In Congress, July 4, 1776," by Derek Hunter.
10. Among Friends—This week's article is "Bearing Fruit—Part 1" by Dave Havir.
11. Eye on the World—The version of this week's "Eye on the World" that is distributed in the hall is 32 pages. (The number of pages on the website varies slightly due to a different layout program.) This edition has 255 headlines and three articles.

## Prayer updates

**Gary Wilson** (who recently flew to Chicago for a day to undertake some stem-cell treatment) reports that he is feeling a little better, but he understandably would like to see quicker results. In the July 1 bulletin, we mentioned that he is now exploring to arrange for hyperbaric-chamber therapy in the Tyler area. Arranging those details has gone more slowly than expected.

**Angela Dunnam** has completed 16 radiation treatments and has four more treatments to go in this scheduled procedure. She reports that she has had stronger reactions (including the typical blisters) as expected by the doctor—as the radiation is designed to target the damaged areas.

This week, **Timberly Dunnam** went to a doctor for some blood work—with the goal of identifying allergies.

In the April 15 bulletin, **Mickey Voyce** requested prayers for an "upcoming surgery and subsequent treatment." (**Dave Havir** honored her desire to request prayers, while keeping the details private.) In the June 3 bulletin, we mentioned that Mrs. Voyce was also diagnosed with covid. Now that she is over the covid, she is ready to proceed with her treatment. Mrs. Voyce asked Mr. Havir to announce that she is scheduled to start chemotherapy on July 17, and that she appreciates your prayers.

**Bea Gusner** is currently in North Carolina for the funeral of her son-in-law, who died last week. She reports that she is not bleeding around her wrist, but she said that she has been having difficulty this week with her breathing.

On Thursday, **Shirley West** went for a doctor appointment to continue to evaluate her heart rhythm. The doctor has adjusted her medication, and the family reports that she has improved. She is back at home. She and her family appreciate your continued prayers.

As was announced orally at the church service on June 24, **Mareshia Garret** (daughter of **Stan** and **Roxanna West**) was diagnosed with breast cancer on Friday, June 23. Later that week, the family reported: "A biopsy revealed the presence of cancer in a lymph node and a satellite location." Following is an update from this Wednesday: "The breast cancer seems to be two isolated tumors. She will have six months of chemo, then a lumpectomy procedure followed by radiation treatments." Mareshia and the family appreciate your continued prayers.

**Dave McLearn** reports that his back is feeling much better.

### New prayer requests

**Becky Bonilla** had been missing church. She reported that she went to a doctor appointment and he mentioned that she might have kidney issues. She appreciates your prayers.

**Shirley Spearman** reports that she has trouble breathing; her legs are weak and she has no energy.

**John Lemley** of Denver, Colo., recently had lung-cancer surgery.

**Roger Armer** of Oak Grove, Mo., died on June 26. Please remember his wife of 50 years, **Laurinda**, and the rest of the family in your prayers.

### Eye on the World

■ An article by Oliver J.J. Lane titled "1,000 Buildings Burned, 5,600 Vehicles Destroyed, 3,300 Arrests in First Week of France Riots" was posted at breitbart.com on July 3, 2023.

■ An article titled "FDR & the Court-Packing Controversy: Full Script" was posted at supremecourthistory.org on July 8, 2023.

### Thought for the week

"The most destructive force in the universe is gossip."

### Thought with a twist

"Just remember, if things look hopeless, maybe you are facing the wrong direction."—Ziggy

## “Bearing Fruit—Part 1”

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 July 8, 2023.

**By Dave Havir**

**B**IG SANDY, Texas—At our Bible study on Wednesday night, I began a three-part series about “Bearing Fruit.” (This was a follow-up to the series about the parable of the sower.) These three studies will discuss scriptures by three different authors—the first by Paul, the second by James and the third by Peter.

Let’s look at the first presentation.

### Building toward hope

■ Romans 5:1—Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

■ Romans 5:2—We have access by faith into this grace, and we rejoice in hope.

■ Romans 5:3-4—We glory in tribulation because it produces growth in our lives.

■ Romans 5:5—Hope does not disappoint.

### Trouble, patience, experience and hope

Notice the four characteristics in Romans 5:3-4.

■ Glory in tribulations.

The Greek word for “tribulations” is *thlipsis* (Strong’s No. 2347), which is a noun that means trouble, distress, oppression and tribulation.

■ Tribulation produces patience.

The Greek word for “patience” is *hypomone* (Strong’s No. 5281), which is a noun that means perseverance, endurance and patience.

■ Patience produces experience.

The Greek word for “experience” is *dokime* (Strong’s No. 1382), which is a noun that means character.

■ Experience produces hope.

The Greek word for “hope” is *elpis* (Strong’s No. 1680), which is a noun that means hope and expectation.

### Not prosperity gospel

Do you remember that “experience” came from the Greek word *dokime* (No. 1382)?

A variation of *dokime* (No. 1382) is the Greek word *dioko* (Strong’s No. 1377). It is a verb that means to pursue, persecute, oppress and harass. This Greek word is mentioned three times in the Bible. Notice one of the times.

■ 2 Timothy 3:12—All who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution (No. 1377).

Beware of people who teach that obedience to God will always keep you from experiencing trouble.

### Growing through trouble

■ Acts 14:22—We must through many tribulations (No. 2347) enter the Kingdom of God.

■ 2 Corinthians 1:4—God comforts us in all our tribulation (No. 2347).

■ 2 Corinthians 1:8—Paul didn’t want his friends to be ignorant about their trouble (No. 2347).

■ 2 Corinthians 4:17-18—The brethren considered their affliction (No. 2347) as light and temporary—when comparing the physical with the spiritual.

■ 1 Thessalonians 3:3-4—Paul didn’t want the brethren to be derailed by their afflictions (No. 2347), and reminded them that he had previously told them that they would suffer tribulations (No. 2347).

■ 2 Thessalonians 1:4—Paul mentioned that he praised them in the Churches of God for their patience (No. 5281) and faith in all their tribulations (No. 2347).

### Believing and anticipating

■ Acts 24:14—Paul worshiped the God of his fathers—believing the things that were written in the Law and in the Prophets.

■ Acts 24:15—Paul expressed his hope (expectation and anticipation) that there will be a resurrection of the dead.

Faith and hope work together. Faith is believing and knowing. Hope is expecting and anticipating.