

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

Jan. 27, 2024 • 1:00 p.m. • Sunset 5:41

Bible studies

- Interactive study—1:00 p.m.** Dave Havir
Presentation study—2:00 Dave Havir
(Also transmitted live)

Order of service—3:00 p.m.

- Song leader** Neil McIver
Pianist Dixon Cartwright
Scripture reading Hebrews 11:13–16
Sermon Dave Havir

Quick takes

1. Upcoming traveling speakers—The congregation is pleased that many traveling speakers work it into their schedule to visit us. Here is the tentative schedule.
 - Feb. 3 Wynn Skelton
 - Feb. 10 Bill Crow
 - Feb. 24 Terry McAdams
 - March 16 Scott Hoefker
 - May 4 Ken Tate
2. Funeral for Tim Roe—Following is the information concerning the funeral for Tim Roe (son of Ruth Roe).
 - Sunday, Jan. 28
 - 2:00 p.m. funeral at Croley Funeral Home in Gilmer
 - 3:00 p.m. reception in our building
3. Wednesday-night Bible study—Jan. 31 at 7:00

4. Please remember to pray for the following people who are not able to regularly attend our church service.

■ Mickey Ashcraft	■ Annette Payne
■ Judy Biggs	■ Ruth Roe
■ Becky Bonilla	■ Ron Shirley
■ Angela Dunnam	■ Elaine Townsend
■ Timberly Dunnam	■ Mickey Voyce
■ Vi Lehman	■ Donna Weese
5. We don't generally cancel for bad weather—Since the beginning of this congregation, it has been our tradition to avoid canceling a church service due to weather. We expect each individual to use personal judgment and freedom for himself and his family. (Besides, you could join our Internet audience to watch our presentations online.)
6. Loss of electricity would slow us down—Although the circumstance would be rare, we would probably cancel a church service in the building due to a loss of electricity. (However, knowing our audience, anyone who showed up might enjoy a small Bible study—as long as we stayed warm enough.)
7. Edifying the Body—This week's article is "Holocaust Remembrance Day and Oct. 7, 2023" by Dave Havir.
8. Among Friends—This week's article is "Positive Energy—Part 4" by Dave Havir.
9. Eye on the World—247 headlines and five articles

Thought for the week

"Your present circumstances don't determine where you can go; they merely determine where you start."—*Nido Qubein*

Prayer updates

Following is an excerpt of an update about **Benny West** (son of **Shirley West** and brother of **Stan**): "The swelling on the left side of the abdomen has been dianosed as deteriorating muscle nerves related to a broken-back injury years ago. There is no treatment for it. Ben is scheduled for hernia surgery on Feb. 15. Continued prayers are appreciated."

Veronica Beasley of Lindale, who had a hysterectomy on Wednesday, reports that the surgery went well. She thanks you for your prayers.

On Friday, **Judy Biggs** gave the following update about her son **Brian Biggs**: "Brian is at another crisis point. This is about the sixth time in the last few years. He is at home receiving morphine. He is at peace with God and may be ready to pass. Thank you for your prayers."

New prayer requests

On Thursday, **Vi Lehman** was temporarily moved to Legend Oaks Nursing Home in Gladewater. Hospice care has a tradition of temporarily placing a person into a care facility to give the family a break. **Marcia Chambers** can use a break—since she has faithfully cared for her mother for over a dozen years since her retirement. (Mrs. Lehman's condition got worse about 15 months ago and again about three months ago.) Mrs. Chambers appreciates the loving help she has received from friends—including the **Dunnam family, Michele Misch-nick** and others. Mrs. Chambers and her mother certainly appreciate the prayers that you say on their behalf.

Mark Searer has been dealing with pain from kidney stones. In the process of the doctor planning to remove them, the doctor found two tumors in the bladder. The doctor cut them out and sent them for a biopsy. The diagnosis came back as cancer in the bladder. Since this cancer is considered a low-grade type of cancer, the doctor has not recommended any aggressive treatment (neither chemo nor radiation). Rather, Mark will have follow-up care—with the doctor planning to monitor it every three months. Mr. Searer and **Nina** thank you for your prayers.

Sue Jones sent the following about her brother **Chip Akins**: "Chip is in ICU. His heart is failing and now he has pneumonia. God has intervened innumerable times through Chip's lifelong battle with heart disease. Thank you for your prayers."

Keith German of Tulsa, Okla., had surgery to remove a large kidney stone.

Thought for the week

"Just because something is familiar doesn't make it true."

"Positive Energy—Part 4"

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 Jan. 27, 2024.

By **Dave Havir**

BIG SANDY, Texas—At our Bible study on Wednesday night, I continued with the short series about positive energy. In this particular presentation (Part 4), I discussed receiving positive energy through the senses.

Smelling

When the Bible talks about savor, it is describing both a smell and a taste.

■ Genesis 8:21—The Lord smelled a soothing aroma.

■ Ephesians 5:2—The Son of God gave Himself for us—as an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet smelling aroma.

Tasting

When the Bible talks about savor, it is describing both a taste and a smell.

■ Psalm 119:103—David used the poetry of God's words tasting wonderful—sweet-

er than honey to his mouth.

■ Matthew 5:13—The Son of God used the analogy of salt helping the flavor and warning about not losing the flavor.

Touching

Notice a few examples about the importance of touching.

■ Mark 10:13-16—The people brought their little children to the Son of God for Him to touch (heal) them.

■ Luke 6:19—A multitude of people sought to touch the Son of God—and, when He did touch them, positive energy went out from Him.

■ Luke 8:44—A woman who needed healing deliberately touched the border of His garment.

■ Luke 8:45—The Son of God asked: “Who touched Me?”

■ Luke 8:46—The Son of God said: “Somebody touched Me, for I perceived power going out from Me.”

Hearing

Notice a few examples about the importance of hearing.

■ Genesis 3:1-6—The serpent used clever talking to hurt Adam and Eve.

■ Romans 10:14—People need to hear good words from good preaching.

■ Romans 10:15-16—Blessed are the people who preach the gospel of peace and glad tidings of good things.

■ Romans 10:17—An important way to grow in faith is to hear the Word of God.

Seeing

Notice a few examples about the importance of seeing.

■ Matthew 6:22-23—The Son of God said: “The lamp of the body is the eye. If therefore your eye is good, your whole body will be full of light. If your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness.”

■ Joshua 7:21—When Achan saw the items (garment, silver and gold), he lusted after them and violated the Eighth Commandment.

■ 2 Samuel 11:2-3—When David saw the naked Bathsheba, he lusted after her and violated the Seventh Commandment.

■ Acts 8:18-19—When Simon saw the

power displayed by the leaders, he lusted after that power.

Hearing and seeing

Notice the three parts of the temptation of the Son of God.

■ Matthew 4:3-4—The first temptation was facilitated through hearing: “If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread.”

■ Matthew 4:5-7—The second temptation was also facilitated through hearing: “If You are the Son of God, throw yourself down.”

■ Matthew 4:8-10—The third temptation was facilitated through seeing and hearing—when the devil showed the Son of God the glory of the Kingdoms of the world, and sought to convince Him to worship the devil.

Works of the flesh

Does the energy flowing into you through your senses include the works of the flesh?

Notice negative energy involving the works of the flesh.

■ Sexual sins—adultery, fornication, uncleanness and lewdness

■ Idolatry and sorcery

■ Hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath and selfish ambitions

■ Dissensions and heresies

■ Envy, murders, drunkenness and revelries

If the works of the flesh are flowing into your senses, they are more likely to be flowing out of you toward other people.

Fruits of the Spirit

Does the energy flowing into you through your senses include the fruits of the Spirit?

■ Love

■ Joy

■ Peace

■ Long-suffering

■ Kindness

■ Goodness

■ Faithfulness

■ Gentleness

■ Self-control

If the fruits of the Spirit are flowing into your senses, they are more likely to be flowing out of you toward other people.