

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

Dec. 15, 2018 • 2:00 p.m. • Sunset 5:15

Bible studies and classes

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

Order of service

Song leader	.....	Neil Mclver
Pianist	.....	Dixon Cartwright
Scripture reading	.....	Acts 14:19-28
Sermon	.....	Dave Havir

Quick takes

1. Jeff Ledy's comments about Tijuana—Jeff Ledy of Perry, Mich., has given updates about his son's (Eric's) battle with cancer. Following are excerpts of his report from Dec. 8 that give his impressions of the caravan in Tijuana: "The clinic is less than a half mile from the border with the U.S. and is only two blocks from the main encampment of the 'caravan' people from Central America. During my week there and the days following—Sharon still walks down to the wall in the morning—we determined that the media once again have magnified or even staged things to get the hype going. We walked down to the wall to see the Coast Guard, the helicopters, the media, the police and the spectators. Carts selling tacos or churros are there. Families with small children are there. Lots of rubberneckers are there. Is there really a group trying to get access to the U.S. there? Yes. Their encampment is only two blocks from the clinic. They are housed in tents in fenced areas. They have food, portable outhouses and medical care. The people of Tijuana, while not liking it, are taking care of the humanitarian needs of those in the encampments. It was and is a safe environment. On my return, it took only 15 minutes to get across the border into the U.S. While there is an issue of what to do with the people seeking entry, it has been (in my opinion) grossly overblown in the media. Sharon and Eric are safe and have never been in danger, or I would never have left them there or would not have agreed with the choice of treatment location."

2. Foster barn dance and chili supper—Information about the Foster barn dance and chili supper scheduled for Dec. 29 is available in last week's bulletin.
3. Edifying the Body—This week's article is "Die Weltwoche Interviews Tucker Carlson" by Urs Gehrigler.
4. Among Friends—This week's article is "Wisdom From Above—Gentle" by Dave Havir.
5. Eye on the World—This week's "Eye on the World" is 22 pages.

Prayer updates

On Monday, **Betty Foster** (who was recently diagnosed with two additional compression fractures and two vertebrae that are pinching a nerve) went to a doctor's appointment and heard that doctors wanted to do another MRI. Her son **Morris** later called and canceled the procedure, because he explained to them that the experience was extremely painful due to her back problems. On Tuesday, she went to her primary-care doctor in an attempt to get the ball rolling to see an orthopedic doctor.

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

Ron Feaker continues to rehab at Legend Oaks Nursing Home in Gladewater. Caregiving daughter **Karen** reports that Mr. Feaker enjoys visitors. He is in Room 111.

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

Marilyn Boston continues to deal with the pneumonia and the infection called C-dif.

On Wednesday, **Laura Moran** went to the doctor for a preliminary visit to establish appointments with the person who will be administering a sleep study for her.

In last week's bulletin, we mentioned that **Mickey Voyce** had surgery in Dallas on Nov. 27. She returned home on Dec. 3. On Thursday, she traveled to Dallas and back for a scheduled follow-up visit. She appreciates your specific prayers for her and your ongoing prayers for her mother, **Laura Moran**.

Eli Benedict continues to have pain in his right leg.

Sonny Rosenberger appreciates the prayers for his health challenges.

Boyd Payne is dealing with Parkinson's disease, nerve pain in his head and dementia.

Annette Payne continues to deal with her bad eyesight.

In last week's bulletin, we mentioned that **Larry Foster** of Avinger (son of **Betty Foster**) was hoping to go home from the Good Shepherd Medical Center in Longview on Friday (Dec. 7). That did occur as anticipated. This past Monday, he went to his doctor in Longview (with the help of brother **Morris**) for another cancer treatment. On Tuesday, the doctor called and wanted Mr. Foster to go to Dallas to see his doctor there. However, Mr. Foster was not strong enough to make the trip. He is scheduled for another cancer treatment in Longview this coming Monday.

Following are excerpts about the condition of **Trey Holcomb** of Longview (4-year-old nephew of **Angela Dunnam**): "He is now off of BiPap and continuing with the high-flow nasal cannula. His eyes are still looking pretty bad. They said he still has pneumatosis of an intestine (gas cysts in the bowel wall). It is improving slowly."

In the Nov. 24 bulletin, we mentioned that **Eric Ledy** of Austin traveled to Tijuana, Mexico, to explore option treatments for his cancer. Following are excerpts from a report sent last Saturday by his father **Jeff**: "Eric and **Sharon** [his wife and Eric's mother] have spent almost three weeks now at the Hope4Cancer Clinic in Tijuana, Mexico. The clinic is less than a half mile from the border with the U.S. and is only two blocks from the main encampment of the 'caravan' people from Central America. Sharon and Eric are safe and have never been in danger. Eric will be returning to Austin this coming week. The 12th, I think. Sharon will accompany him to get settled back at home. He will continue to undergo self-administered treatment via oral and daily injections. I don't think he is looking forward to the daily needles he will have to inject himself with. Eric has been going through numerous daily regimens that are focused upon strengthening his body, trying to gain weight (not fat) and to strengthen his immune system (to enable the body to fight off cancer cells on its own). Eric is experiencing at least 10 different methods to attack the cancer. One method is the use of saunas to heat his body up to over 102 degrees. Most viruses and cancer cells cannot survive at temperatures above 102, while healthy cells can."

New prayer requests

On Monday morning, **Jake Dunnam** was involved in an automobile accident when a driver fell asleep and crossed into his lane. His car was totaled. When people have seen the extent of the damage to his car, they are amazed that he escaped with his life and without any major injury.

Shannon Lucas of the local United congregation has been diagnosed with a cancerous tumor that has invaded his bladder.

Tom Taylor of Yucaipa, Calif., has been diagnosed with Lewy body dementia. The physical and emotional challenges also take a toll on his wife, **Carol**.

Roman Borek of California, who had previously been diagnosed with aggressive stomach cancer, reports that he is doing better.

Ruth Johnson of Wilton, N.D., was diagnosed with a cancerous mass inside her colon.

On Sept. 21, **Barbara Hogberg** of Sachse fell and struck her head. She encountered internal bleeding and an acceleration of cognitive decline.

Gracie Miller of Keizer, Ore., died on Dec. 1. Please remember her family in your prayers.

Harry Curley of Altadena, Calif., died on Dec. 6. Please remember his family in your prayers.

Ruth Case of Nucla, Colo. (mother of **Karen Welborn** and **Vern Case**), died on Dec. 14. Please remember the family in your prayers.

“Wisdom From Above—Gentle”

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 Dec. 15, 2018.

By Dave Havir

BIG SANDY, Texas—There are many sections in the Bible that describe characteristics that disciples seek to inculcate into their lives. One such section is found in James 3:17.

James 3:17—“But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy.”

Today, we will discuss the subject of being gentle.

Greek word in James 3:17

At this time, let’s focus upon the Greek word in James 3:17 translated as “gentle.”

■ *Epieikes* (No. 1933 in *Strong’s Concordance*) is the Greek adjective translated as “peaceable” in James 3:17. It is used in four other verses.

Philippians 4:5—“Let your gentleness be known to all men. The Lord is at hand.”

1 Timothy 3:3—“[Qualities of a leader include] not given to wine, not violent, not greedy for money, but gentle, not quarrelsome, not covetous.”

Titus 3:2—“[Qualities of a leader include] to speak evil of no one, to be peaceable, gentle, showing all humility to all men.”

1 Peter 2:18—“Servants, be submissive to your masters with all fear, not only to the good and gentle, but also to the harsh.”

Variation of Greek word

Here are variations of the Greek word *epieikes* in the New Testament.

■ *Epieikeia* (No. 1932 in *Strong’s Concordance*) is a noun used two times. Those verses are Acts 24:4 and 2 Corinthians 10:1.

Acts 24:4—“Nevertheless, not to be tedious to you any further, I beg you to hear, by your courtesy [1932], a few words from us.”

2 Corinthians 10:1-5—“Now I, Paul, myself am pleading with you by the meek-

ness and gentleness of Christ—who in presence am lowly among you, but being absent am bold toward you. I hope it won’t be necessary, but when I come I may have to be very bold with those who think we act from purely human motives. For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ.”

Words with similar meanings

Bible students are generally aware that Bible translations interchange English words for the Greek words that have similar meanings. A good case in point is Galatians 5:22-23.

Notice the list of nine qualities in two similar translations—the King James Version and the New King James Version. (When there is a different English word used, the King James Version is mentioned first.)

- Love
- Joy
- Peace
- Long-suffering
- Gentleness and kindness

The Greek word is *chrestotes* (No. 5544 in *Strong’s Concordance*), which is a noun used 10 times in the New Testament—generally defined as “kindness” or “goodness.”

- Goodness
- Faith and faithfulness
- Meekness and gentleness

The Greek word is *praotes* (No. 4236 in *Strong’s Concordance*), which is a noun that is used only this place in the New Testament. The word is generally defined as “gentleness,” “humility,” “courtesy” or “consideration.”

- Temperance and self-control