

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

Jan. 26, 2019 • 2:00 p.m. • Sunset 5:45

Bible studies and classes

Interactive study (1:00) Jerry Thompson
Bible study (2:00) DVD—Tony Stith
Teen class Roxanna West

Order of service

Song leader Reg Killingley
Pianist Dixon Cartwright
Scripture reading Acts 16:16-34
Sermon Neil McIver

Quick takes

1. Thank you from Feaker family—Thank you to all the people who helped at the memorial service in the building last Sunday for Gracie Feaker. Ron Feaker and the rest of the Feaker family appreciated the memorial service and the meal afterwards.
2. Board approved the budget—Last Saturday, the church board had a meeting to approve the budget submitted by the Budget Committee.
3. Interrelating with other congregations—Today, Dave Havir is giving two messages at the South Texas Church of God (near San Antonio). The congregation scheduled a potluck meal and a western dance for fellowship while Mr. Havir is visiting.
4. 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.
5. Main reason for canceling church service—Our main reason for canceling a church service is the loss of electricity.

6. Edifying the Body—This week's article is "Sweden Isn't Socialist" by John Stossel.
7. Among Friends—This week's article is "Meditate On Whatever Is True" by Dave Havir.
8. Eye on the World—This week's "Eye on the World" is 24 pages.

Prayer updates

Ves Townsend (husband of **Elaine Townsend**) continues to get weaker. He has experienced difficulty sleeping and has been dealing with pain (headaches and pain in his abdomen).

In recent bulletins, we mentioned about **Lisa Smith** visiting the ER. Here are excerpts from a report on Thursday: "I am having headaches and difficulty with balance and speech. I was picked up from work on Thursday, because I was in no condition to drive." She had a doctor's appointment scheduled for 11:00 a.m. on Friday.

Colleen Atteberry mentioned that she continues to deal with pain. Although she has been staying with a son who lives next door, she is desiring to try to spend the nights back in her place again. She misses church and is looking forward to returning in the future.

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

Marilyn Boston continues to rehab at Park Place Rehabilitation Center in Tyler (2450 E. Fifth St.). She is in Room 218.

On Wednesday, **Laura Moran** visited her cardiologist. Now, she is expecting to schedule a sleep study in the near future.

Sonny Rosenberger appreciates prayers for his breathing challenges and his other ongoing 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.

Here is a report about **Dorothy Jones** (mother of **Shirley Spearman**) from Mrs. Spearman: "Mom's doing fair during the day, but still needs some help getting around. At night, she wakes up in pain. We're still having to stay with her at night."

Shirley Spearman, who is rotating nights to spend with her mother (**Dorothy Jones**), is experiencing pain in her right knee.

Dorothy Thomas (sister of **Shirley Spearman**), who is rotating nights to spend time with her mother (**Dorothy Jones**), is experiencing pain in her back and other parts of her body.

In November and December bulletins, we mentioned the trial of **Eric Ledy** of Austin—(1) being diagnosed with bone cancer, (2) having his left arm amputated as a precautionary move to avoid the spread of cancer, and (3) traveling to Hope4Cancer treatment center in Tijuana, Mexico. Following are excerpts fol-

lowing his trip: “Eric spent three weeks in December at the Hope4Cancer treatment center in Tijuana, Mexico. After returning to Texas and getting his next CT scan, it showed small nodules in his lungs. Unfortunately, this confirmed the fear that, although the shoulder disarticulation ‘worked,’ the cancer cells still circling the body found a home in each lung. Eric is continuing to do all the home treatments sent from Hope4Cancer, and it’s a full-time job taking and preparing the vitamins, tinctures, powders, drops, shots and alkaline meals! We are praying that the next CT scan in March will show no growth and that things have stabilized. Chemo is still suggested by his doctors in Austin who see it as the only option, even though they also say the chemo for osteosarcoma hasn’t been updated in 40 years and has very little effectiveness. **Elyse** [sister] has been with Eric most of January, and he has a great lineup of friends and family who will be staying and helping Eric through March. Even though Eric is functional and capable of doing almost everything with one arm, there’s so much to keep track of and prepare that an extra person helps beyond measure.”

New prayer requests

On Wednesday, **Betty Foster** fell in her home. Her son **Morris** considered driving her to get X-rays, but decided that getting her to the car would be too painful for her. Therefore, he called an ambulance to take her to Mother Frances Hospital. Mrs. Foster was diagnosed with a broken right kneecap and bruised ribs. Doctors put a brace (from ankle to hip) on her. She returned home, and she borrowed a wheelchair from our church building. After being aware of his mother experiencing two difficult nights in her home, Mr. Foster began making arrangements for a rehab stay at Legend Oaks Nursing Home in Gladewater. They were hoping to have the arrangements completed by the print time of this bulletin (so that we could announce in what room she would be staying).

Brenda Hogg of a local Church of God congregation, who has been dealing with swelling in her legs since October, fell in her home on Thursday when a leg buckled. She was taken to Mother Frances Hospital in Tyler and is expected to stay for a few days. She is in Room 496.

Charles Groce of Tyler has been dealing with a kidney stone for the past several weeks.

Declan James LeBlanc of Arizona (10-month-old son of **Larry** and **Teresa LeBlanc**) died on Jan. 15. Please remember the family in your prayers.

Scriptures to consider

2 Corinthians 1:3-5—“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort those who are in any trouble, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God. For as the sufferings of Christ abound in us, so our consolation also abounds through Christ.”

“Meditate on Whatever Is True”

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. 26, 2019.

By Dave Havir

BIG SANDY, Texas—Here is one of the best pieces of advice that a mental-health professional can give to people: “Focus upon the positive factors of this life.” It should come as no surprise that this concept is found in the Bible.

One verse that promotes this approach is Philippians 4:8.

Philippians 4:8—“Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things.”

We will begin a series to talk about the characteristics mentioned in this verse. Today, we will talk about things that are “true.”

Recognize negative

Before we look at this week’s characteristic, I want to remind you about a realistic approach in life—recognize negative, but dwell on positive.

■ **Numbers 13:26-33**—Although the other spies became preoccupied with the negative factors, Joshua and Caleb recognized the challenges and focused upon God’s promises.

■ **Luke 14:26-33**—The Son of God’s instruction to count the cost includes recognizing the challenges and focusing upon God’s promises.

Greek word in Philippians 4:8

Let’s notice the Greek word used in Philippians 4:8.

■ **Alethes** (No. 227 in *Strong’s Concordance*) is the Greek adjective in Philippians 4:8 translated as “true.” It is used 25 times in the New Testament.

■ **Alethinós** (No. 228 in *Strong’s Concordance*) is a Greek variation of the previous word that is also translated as “true.” It is used 27 times in the New Testament.

■ **Aletheuo** (No. 226 in *Strong’s Concordance*) is a Greek verb translated “to speak truth.” It is used two times in the New Testament.

■ **Aletheia** (No. 225 in *Strong’s Concordance*) is a Greek noun translated as “truth.” It is used over 103 times in the New Testament.

Whatever is true

Here are some verses about what is true.

Matthew 22:16—“And they sent to Him their disciples with the Herodians, saying, ‘Teacher, we know that You are true, and teach the way of God in truth; nor do You care about anyone, for You do not regard the person of men.’”

John 8:13-16—“The Pharisees therefore said to Him, ‘You bear witness of Yourself; Your witness is not true.’ Jesus answered and said to them, ‘Even if I bear witness of Myself, My witness is true, for I know where I came from and where I am going; but you do not know where I come from and where I am going. You judge according to the flesh; I judge no one. And yet if I do judge, My judgment is true; for I am not alone, but I am with the Father who sent Me.’”

Romans 3:4—“Certainly not! Indeed, let God be true but every man a liar. As it is written: ‘That You may be justified in Your words, and may overcome when You are judged.’”

1 Thessalonians 1:9—“For they themselves declare concerning us what manner of entry we had to you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God.”

Hebrews 10:22—“Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.”

Revelation 3:14—“And to the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write, ‘These things says the Amen, the Faithful and True Witness, the Beginning of the creation of God.’”