

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

Feb. 16, 2019 • 2:00 p.m. • Sunset 6:05

Bible studies and classes

Interactive study (1:00)	Daniel Botha
Bible study (2:00)	Daniel Botha
Teen class	Carol Bald

Order of service

Song leader	Daniel Botha
Pianist	Dixon Cartwright
Scripture reading	Acts 17:10-21
Sermon	Ron Avey

Quick takes

1. Interrelating with other congregations—Today, Dave Havir is giving two presentations in Waco.
2. Future collaboration—Dave Havir is happy to announce that the Church of God International will be meeting with us on the seventh day of Unleavened Bread—Friday, April 26. (As you remember, CGI members meet with us two or three times a year. We hope that they will also meet with us on Pentecost and the Feast of Trumpets.)
3. 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.
4. Main reason for canceling church service—Our main reason for canceling a church service is the loss of electricity.
5. Edifying the Body—This week’s article is “Radical Change Under the Guise of Compassion” by Laura Ingraham.
6. Among Friends—This week’s article is “Meditate on Whatever Is Pure” by Dave Havir.
7. Eye on the World—This week’s “Eye on the World” is 28 pages.

Prayer updates

In the Jan. 12 bulletin, we mentioned that **Martha McIver** was dealing with a urinary-tract infection and the fact that her kidney function was low. The doctor is now focusing upon improving the functioning of her bladder. Here is an excerpt from Martha on Thursday: "I went to the new urologist yesterday [Wednesday], and I am scheduled for sling surgery on my bladder next Wednesday the 20th. I won't have to stay overnight in the hospital unless there are complications (which are not expected). The recovery will be three to six weeks. I will have to let my body be the guide and to get the rest that is needed."

Please remember **Lisa Smith**, who has been diagnosed with a buildup of fluid around the cerebellum that produced strokelike symptoms.

It was good to see **Colleen Atteberry** at church last week.

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

Betty Foster continues to rehab at Legend Oaks Nursing Home in Gladewater. (She is hoping to go home on Sunday, Feb. 24.) She is in Room 307.

Elaine Holloway continues to rehab at Legend Oaks Nursing Home in Gladewater. 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.

Laura Moran reports that she had a good week.

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.

Dorothy Jones (mother of **Shirley Spearman**) told **Dave Havir** that her week was like an elevator (up and down). He commented to her that she sounded much peppier this Friday than when he called last Friday. She agreed that her voice was peppier, but she reminded him that her step was not any peppier. She appreciates the prayers of the congregation.

Please remember **Shirley Spearman**, who is experiencing pain in her right knee.

Please remember **Dorothy Thomas** (sister of **Shirley Spearman**), who is experiencing pain in her back and other parts of her body.

In the Jan. 19 bulletin, we mentioned that **Veronica Miles** was involved in an automobile accident. She reports that she is continuing to see a chiropractor for her back pain. She also reports that her arm has burning under her skin—which may cause her to have an MRI next Friday.

Please remember **Larry Foster** (son of **Betty Foster**), who continues to receive treatment in Longview for his cancer. At a recent treatment, the doctor apparently said that he (the doctor) was surprised to see Mr. Foster "was still here."

In the Jan. 12 bulletin, we mentioned that **Chad Foster** of Longview (grandson of **Betty Foster**) was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis. He had been to Dallas on several occasions for evaluation. He is scheduled to return to Dallas on April 5.

Tim Lindholm of Minneapolis, Minn., has been experiencing increased pain due to his cancer. Please remember him, **Hope** and the children, as they go through this trial together.

As was mentioned orally last Saturday, **Bob McKay** of Chatsworth, Ga. (brother-in-law of **Linda Cartwright**), died last Saturday. As you might remember, he had traveled to Arkansas, where he wanted to spend his last days. Please remember his wife, **Lou Ann**, and the rest of the family in your prayers.

Ves Townsend died on Wednesday. (Mr. Townsend suffered a stroke on Sunday that restricted movement on the right side and inhibited his speech.) On Tuesday, he was moved to Hospice of East Texas. When he died on Wednesday, family members had been singing to him for a while. The family has planned a private funeral service next Saturday, Feb. 23, in Longview. The family is considering to have a memorial service in our building at a future time. Please remember his wife, **Elaine**, and the rest of the family in your prayers.

New prayer requests

Vonda Ouellette of Houston requests prayers for her eyes. She mentioned that one of the consequences following a stroke months ago was a problem with her eyes. When she lived in Hawkins, she began a treatment of a needle inserted in her eye. In Tyler, she had two insertions (one in each eye). In Houston, she has had three additional insertions. Next Tuesday, she is scheduled for a sixth insertion.

Shirley Apartian of Matthews, N.C., died on Feb. 1. Please remember the family in your prayers.

Walt Montgomery of Oklahoma died on Feb. 12. Please remember his wife, **Stacy**, and the rest of the family in your prayers.

Thought for the week

Following is a list of the number of national emergencies declared by presidents according to cbsnews.com.

- Jimmy Carter declared 1
- Ronald Reagan declared 7
- George H.W. Bush declared 5
- Bill Clinton declared 17
- George W. Bush declared 13
- Barack Obama declared 12
- Donald Trump has now declared 4

“Meditate on Whatever Is Pure”

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. 17, 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 began a series to talk about the characteristics mentioned in this verse. Today, we will talk about things that are “pure.”

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.

■ *Hagnos* (No. 53 in *Strong’s Concordance*) is the Greek adjective in Philippians 4:8 translated as “pure.” It is used in seven other verses.

1 Timothy 5:22—Keep yourself pure.

James 3:17—The wisdom from above is first pure.

1 John 3:3—Everyone who has hope in God purifies himself, just as He is pure.

2 Corinthians 11:2—Paul used the metaphor of presenting disciples as chaste (No. 53) virgins to Christ.

Titus 2:5—Older women were expected to teach younger women to be chaste (No. 53).

1 Peter 3:2—Husbands observe their wives’ chaste (No. 53) conduct.

2 Corinthians 7:11—In all things you proved yourself to be clear (No. 53) in this matter.

Variations of Greek word

Here are variations of the Greek work *hagnos* in the New Testament.

■ *Hagnizo* (No. 48 in *Strong’s Concordance*) is a verb used seven times. Those verses are John 11:55; Acts 21:24; Acts 21:26; Acts 24:18; James 4:8; 1 Peter 1:22; and 1 John 3:3.

■ *Hagneia* (No. 47 in *Strong’s Concordance*) is a noun used two times. Those verses are 1 Timothy 4:12 and 1 Timothy 5:2.

■ *Hagnismos* (No. 49 in *Strong’s Concordance*) is a noun used one time. That verse is Acts 21:26.

■ *Hagnotes* (No. 54 in *Strong’s Concordance*) is a noun used one time. That verse is 2 Corinthians 6:6.

Another Greek word

When a Bible student examines the word *pure* in the New Testament, he notices another Greek word—*katharos* (No. 2513 in *Strong’s Concordance*). This word is translated as “pure” 17 times. Following are two examples.

Matthew 5:8—“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.”

Titus 1:15—“To the pure all things are pure, but to those who are defiled and unbelieving nothing is pure; but even their mind and conscience are defiled.”