

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

March 2, 2019 • 2:00 p.m. • Sunset 6:17

Bible studies and classes

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| Interactive study (1:00) | Bruce Graham |
| Bible study (2:00) | Neil Mclver |
| Teen class | Martha Mclver |

Order of service

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| Song leader | Neil Mclver |
| Pianist | Dixon Cartwright |
| Scripture reading | Acts 18:1-17 |
| Sermon | Dave Havir |

Quick takes

1. Thank you to Stan West—Dave Havir wanted to publicly express his appreciation to Stan West for giving last week's sermon in Mr. Havir's spot. Mr. Havir had been dealing with a severe cough—due in part to spending extra hours that week helping Pam care for her parents. (Last Saturday morning, Mr. Havir felt well enough to give the sermon, but he was concerned that launching into a coughing fit might derail the effectiveness of a sermon. When he called Mr. West that morning, he asked if Mr. West's Bible study could expand into two messages without any undue pressure upon him.)
2. Thank you to Marcia Chambers' cleaning crew—Marcia Chambers, who has overseen a crew to clean the building once a month for many years, regretfully informed Dave Havir that her crew has too many family challenges to continue. (This month was their final time.) When Mr. Havir passed along the news to board members, he wrote: "I support their decision and appreciate their years of service." Members of the crew included Colleen Atteberry, Jean Benedict, Marcia Chambers and Risë Fultz.
3. Community event on March 4—There will be a community event (a barbecue dinner sponsored by the Big Sandy Museum Association) in our building on Monday, March 4. Anyone in the congregation who would like to attend may see Dave Havir.

4. Setting up tomorrow—This is to inform the congregation that members of the Big Sandy Museum Association will be setting up the hall for their Monday-night meal at 12:30 p.m. tomorrow.
5. Daylight-saving time—This is a reminder that daylight-saving time begins on Sunday, March 10.
6. Memorial service on March 24—Elaine Townsend and family have scheduled a “Celebration of Life” for Ves Townsend in our building on Sunday, March 24, at 2:00 p.m. A meal will follow.
7. Edifying the Body—This week’s article is “Parable of the Figs” by Lenny Caccio.
8. Among Friends—This week’s article is “Meditate on Whatever Is a Good Report” by Dave Havir.
9. Eye on the World—This week’s “Eye on the World” is 23 pages.

Prayer updates

On Tuesday, **Eli Benedict** went to an appointment with a urologist. He set up a visit on March 20 for a CAT scan and a cystoscopy (for the bladder).

On Wednesday, **Lisa Smith** sent a prayer request to **Dave Havir** and other friends. Following are excerpts of what she said: “Could you say prayers for me tomorrow [Thursday]? I’m having to go under general anesthesia tomorrow for a procedure called a TEE (where they shove a sonogram tube down my throat to take a picture of my heart and vessels.” Here are excerpts of a report on Friday: “We are waiting for full test results. Everything looks good and I’m okay. Thank you for the prayers.”

In last week’s bulletin, we mentioned that **Betty Foster** (who continues to rehab at Legend Oaks Nursing Home in Gladewater) might be able to have the brace (from ankle to hip) removed in two weeks. As it turns out, she is scheduled for the orthopedic doctor to remove the brace this coming Wednesday (which is sooner than her expectation). After she spends some time getting around without the brace, she expects to go home. She is in Room 307.

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

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.

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 she had a very good week. She sounded like a whole new person on the telephone.

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.

Veronica Miles reports that she is recovering from her bronchitis.

On Wednesday, **Chuck Ragland** (father of **Diana Havir**) met with his care team at Mother Frances Hospital in Tyler. They recommended that he be moved to palliative hospice care. However, the family wanted to consider a different option first. On Friday, he was transported to Baylor Hospital in Dallas, where a colorectal specialist is examining his condition. The family wanted to exhaust curative options before accepting comfort alternatives.

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.

New prayer requests

This week, **Sonny Rosenberger** went to different doctors. On Tuesday, he went to a doctor to have fluid drained from his left elbow. (He went back on Friday for a follow-up visit.) On Wednesday, he went to a urologist to schedule a procedure called a UroLift (a treatment to help men with prostate challenges) for this coming Tuesday. Mr. Rosenberger has had his patience tested because this procedure had been scheduled and postponed several times (beginning last August).

On Monday Feb. 18, **Angela Beam** of Rome, Ga., had emergency surgery due to colon cancer. (The doctor removed 40 percent of her colon.) Since the intestinal connection completed after removing a cancerous tumor leaked, she developed a serious infection. In the follow-up surgery on Monday, Feb. 25, the doctor completed an ileostomy (the same as a colostomy but with the small intestine instead of the large one). Here is an excerpt from a report by her husband, **Rick**: "Due to this being the fifth time that Angela has had to be cut in the same place, she has a lot of scar tissue and a reduced muscular wall. There is a measure of open-surface wound that will have to heal with time and treatment."

Samuel Edge of South Australia has been dealing with multiple seizures. Here is an excerpt from a report: "Sam is extremely weak and tired after having more than 1,000 seizures in the previous three weeks. He spent most of last week having a seizure every 10 minutes (the added complication of muscle dystonia) and not sleeping for four days. He has gone three days without a seizure and getting a lot of much-needed sleep. He will need to go through rehabilitation to learn to walk, eat and speak again."

Harold Blood of Gilmer died on Feb. 25. (Although Mr. Blood did not attend our congregation, family members had asked **Dave Havir** to visit with him and to anoint him on several occasions.) Please remember the family in your prayers.

“Meditate on Whatever Is a Good Report”

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 March 2, 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 “a good report.”

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.

■ *Euphemos* (No. 2163 in *Strong’s Concordance*) is the Greek adjective in Philippians 4:8 translated as “good report.” It is used only here in the New Testament.

Other translations

Here are a few other examples about

how *euphemos* is translated in other Bible translations.

■ New American Standard Bible—“of good repute”

■ James Moffatt Translation—“high-toned”

■ Revised Standard Version—“gracious”

■ The Berkeley Version of the New Testament—“kindly spoken”

■ The New Testament: An American Translation (Edgar J. Goodspeed)—“kindly”

■ Living Letters: The Paraphrased Epistles—“good things in others”

Another Greek word

When a Bible student examines the phrase *good report* in the New Testament, he notices another Greek word—*martyreo* (No. 3140 in *Strong’s Concordance*). This word is translated “good reputation” or “good testimony” at least six times.

Acts 6:3—“Therefore, brethren, seek out from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business.”

Acts 10:22—“And they said, ‘Cornelius the centurion, a just man, one who fears God and has a good reputation among all the nation of the Jews, was divinely instructed by a holy angel to summon you to his house, and to hear words from you.’”

Acts 22:12—“Then a certain Ananias, a devout man according to the law, having a good testimony with all the Jews who dwelt there.”

Hebrews 11:2—“For by it the elders obtained a good testimony.”

Hebrews 11:39—“And all these, having obtained a good testimony through faith, did not receive the promise.”

3 John 1:12—“Demetrius has a good testimony from all, and from the truth itself. And we also bear witness, and you know that our testimony is true.”