

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

Oct. 26, 2019 • 1:00 p.m. • Sunset 6:35

Bible studies and classes

Interactive study (1:00)	Dave Havir
Bible study (2:00)	Dave Havir
Teen class	Martha Mclver

Order of service—3:00 p.m.

Song leader	Ron Avey
Pianist	Dixon Cartwright
Scripture reading	Hebrews 10:1–14
Sermon	Neil Mclver

Quick takes

1. Thank you—Thanks to the coordinators for the four Feast sites that were sponsored by our congregation.
 - Big Sandy Ron and Linda Avey
 - Destin Neil and Martha Mclver
 - Myrtle Beach Lyle and Kathy Kerby
 - Grand Junction Dennis and Karen Benson
2. Thank you—Thank you to those who helped the Feast coordinators by serving at one of our Feast sites. We appreciate the official functions that you performed at the Feast, and we also appreciate the general friendliness and hospitality that you displayed to all our friends and guests.
3. Interactive this week—The interactive Bible study today is scheduled to be “The Seventh Commandment” moderated by Dave Havir.
4. Interactive next week—The interactive Bible study next week is scheduled to be “The Eighth Commandment.”
5. Edifying the Body—This week’s article is “Idiotic Environmental Predictions” by Walter Williams.
6. Among Friends—This week’s article is “The First Commandment” by Dave Havir.
7. Eye on the World—This week’s “Eye on the World” is 24 pages.

Prayer updates

Laura Moran reports that her difficulty eating continues to contribute to her remaining weak.

We mentioned in the Oct. 5 bulletin that **John Bair** of Pennsboro, W.Va., had an accident with his riding mower rolling over on top of him. He was diagnosed with a compressed fracture in his back and a crack of his pelvic bone. Although Mr. Bair was not able to lead songs at the Feast of Tabernacles in Myrtle Beach, he was able to give his sermon there.

Caroline Frick of Pomaria, S.C. (mother of **Hope Lindholm**), died on Oct. 10. Please remember her husband, **Leon**, and the rest of the family in your prayers.

Willie Choate died on Oct. 19. The family informed **Dave Havir** that Mr. Choate would be cremated and there would be no funeral service. Please remember the family in your prayers.

New prayer requests

Ray and **Sharon Stapp** of Lexington, Ky., returned home from the Feast of Tabernacles in Grand Junction, Colo., with health challenges. Following are excerpts from a report by Mrs. Stapp: "We both have bronchitis. This is my third round in less than a year. This is Ray's first time ever. We hope that no one at the Feast got it from us. Also, I'm on my way to see an ear specialist. They discovered a piece of plastic in my good ear. It's a wax guard that came loose from my hearing aid. The PA [physician assistant] tried to remove it at least six times. It was very painful. Thank you for your prayers."

Terry Warren of Springdale, Ark. (father of **Colleen Bailey**), died on Oct. 18. Please remember his wife, **Madeline**, and the rest of the family in your prayers.

Benton Nesmith of the local United congregation died on Oct. 18. Please remember the family in your prayers.

Jim Kisse of Ozark, Mo., died on Oct. 19. Please remember his wife, **Kaye**, and the rest of the family in your prayers.

Scriptures to consider

■ Passover—Saved by grace

1 Corinthians 5:7—Therefore purge out the old leaven, that you may be a new lump, since you truly are unleavened. For indeed Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us.

■ Days of Unleavened Bread—Reaction to grace

1 Corinthians 5:8—Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

Ephesians 2:8-10—For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

■ Pentecost—God calls firstfruits

Acts 2:1—When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.

2 Corinthians 1:21-22—Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and has anointed us is God, who also has sealed us and given us the Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee.

■ Feast of Trumpets—The first resurrection

1 Corinthians 15:51-52—Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed—in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

1 Thessalonians 4:16-17—For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord.

■ Day of Atonement—Christ is the High Priest

Hebrews 9:7—But into the second part the high priest went alone once a year, not without blood, which he offered for himself and for the people's sins committed in ignorance.

Hebrews 9:24-25—For Christ has not entered the holy places made with hands, which are copies of the true, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us; not that He should offer Himself often, as the high priest enters the Most Holy Place every year with blood of another.

■ Feast of Tabernacles—Millennial reign of Christ

John 7:14—Now about the middle of the feast Jesus went up into the temple and taught.

Revelation 20:6—Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years.

■ Eighth Day—Beyond the Millennium

2 Peter 3:10, 13—But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up . . . Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

Revelation 21:1-3—Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea. Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God."

“The First Commandment”

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 Oct. 26, 2019.

By Dave Havir

BIG SANDY, Texas—We as believers are thankful that we are saved by grace. In fact, we should reflect our appreciation by giving much thought and attention into recognizing God’s expectations for us.

We can reflect back to the time in the Old Testament when the children of Israel were brought out of the land of Egypt—the house of bondage (Exodus 20:1-2). We remember that God gave them instructions about how to live (verses 3-17).

Let’s spend some time considering the first commandment.

Exodus 20:3—“You shall have no other gods before Me.”

The gods of Egypt

Back at that time, God had just recently given instructions about the 10 plagues and their deliverance from those plagues.

When God spoke to Moses and Aaron (in Exodus 12:1-20), He said a direct statement about a purpose of the 10th plague (in verse 12).

He said: “I will execute judgment against all the gods of Egypt. I am the Eternal.”

The gods of the nations

The Eternal was not only concerned that the Israelites would follow the weak gods of Egypt. He was likewise concerned that they would follow the weak gods of all the nations surrounding them.

Moses wrote of a warning from God.

Deuteronomy 12:29-31—“When the LORD your God cuts off from before you the nations which you go to dispossess, and you displace them and dwell in their land, take heed to yourself that you are not ensnared to follow them, after they are destroyed from before you, and that you do not inquire after their gods, saying, ‘How did these nations serve their gods? I also will do likewise.’ You shall not worship the LORD your God in that way; for every abomination to the LORD which He hates they have done to their gods; for they burn even their sons and daughters in the fire to their gods.”

God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob

There are many scriptures that mention the promises that God made to Abraham (including Genesis 12:1-3, Genesis 17:1-14 and Genesis 22:15-18).

God repeated those promises to Isaac (Genesis 26:2-5) and to Jacob (Genesis 28:10-15).

When God spoke to Moses at Horeb (Exodus 3:1-6), He identified Himself as “the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob” (verse 6).

Later in the New Testament, the Sadducees questioned Jesus Christ (Matthew 22:23-32). In Christ’s answer (verse 32), He referred to the same wording as in Exodus 3:6.

Then, He added a powerful statement: “God is not the God of the dead, but of the living” (also verse 32).

Living God

There are many wonderful scriptures that remind us that we worship a living God. Here are only a few.

Acts 14:15—“Men, why are you doing these things? We also are men with the same nature as you, and preach to you that you should turn from these useless things to the living God, who made the heaven, the earth, the sea, and all things that are in them.”

2 Corinthians 6:16—“And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: ‘I will dwell in them And walk among them. I will be their God, And they shall be My people.’”

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.”

1 Timothy 6:17—“Command those who are rich in this present age not to be haughty, nor to trust in uncertain riches but in the living God, who gives us richly all things to enjoy.”

Hebrews 9:14—“How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?”