

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

Nov. 2, 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 McIver

### Order of service—3:00 p.m.

Song leader . . . . . Reg Killingley  
Pianist . . . . . Dixon Cartwright  
Scripture reading . . . . . Hebrews 10:15–25  
Sermon . . . . . Dave Havir

### Quick takes

1. Daylight-saving time ends tomorrow morning—This is a reminder that daylight-saving time ends on Nov. 3, 2019.
2. Election day on Tuesday—This is a reminder that Tuesday is an election day.
3. Community Thanksgiving church service on Nov. 24—Citizens of Big Sandy and surrounding areas are invited to the annual Big Sandy community Thanksgiving church service on Sunday, Nov. 24.

**Date:** Sunday, Nov. 24  
**Time:** 5:00 p.m.  
**Where:** In our church building  
**Program:** Individuals from various congregations express appreciation through words and music  
**Our history:** Two years ago, Dave Havir said a few words and presented a YouTube music video (Celine Tam and Jeffrey Li singing “You Raise Me Up.”) Last year, Shirley West talked about how her mother rejected the recommendation to abort her.  
**Afterwards:** Finger foods

4. Upcoming guest speaker—The congregation is pleased to announce that a guest speaker, Jim Johns, is scheduled to visit our congregation on Dec. 7.
5. Interactive this week—The interactive Bible study today is scheduled to be “The Eighth Commandment” moderated by Dave Havir.
6. Interactive next week—The interactive Bible study next week is scheduled to be “The Ninth Commandment.”
7. Edifying the Body—This week’s article is “Four Reasons Many Americans Like Socialism” by Alexander Zubatov.
  - Ignorance of history
  - Government bungling
  - Universities’ ideological monoculture
  - Coddled kids
8. Among Friends—This week’s article is “The Second Commandment” by Dave Havir.
9. Eye on the World—This week’s “Eye on the World” is 24 pages.

## Prayer updates

With the recent drop in temperature, **Sonny Rosenberger** is having a difficult time staying warm in his house.

**Laura Moran** is scheduled to see a rheumatologist this week. She is also scheduled to have a sleep study this Wednesday.

As was announced orally last Saturday, **Dixon Cartwright** missed the church service due to a health matter. Early Sunday morning, he went to ETMC. He was diagnosed with diverticulitis, which caused lower-intestinal bleeding. The doctors were monitoring his hemoglobin. (Many people consider the normal number to be 13 to 17.) On Sunday morning, his number was 10.3. On Monday morning, his number was at 8. (Many doctors consider giving blood if the number drops below 8.) When his hemoglobin dropped to 7.7 on Monday night, the doctors gave him two units of blood. Mr. Cartwright went home on Wednesday.

## New prayer requests

On Thursday, **David Bonilla** was admitted to Mother Frances Hospital in Tyler due to shortness of breath and high blood pressure. His blood pressure was able to come down (to 168/88 and, later, to 125/75). Also, the doctors were able to remove seven pounds of fluid, so that his heart began pumping better. He was anticipating being released today.

Very early Friday morning, **Brandi West** of Lindale (daughter of **Stan** and **Roxanna West**) was admitted to Mother Frances Hospital in Tyler due to a kidney infection, high fever and severe headache.

**Christine Johnson** of Ruston, La., has a leak in her lower bowels and is in a weakened condition.

## Scriptures to consider

**Revelation 2:7**—“He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes I will give to eat from the tree of life, which is in the midst of the Paradise of God.”

**Revelation 2:11**—“He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. He who overcomes shall not be hurt by the second death.”

**Revelation 2:17**—“He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes I will give some of the hidden manna to eat. And I will give him a white stone, and on the stone a new name written which no one knows except him who receives it.”

**Revelation 2:26-28**—“And he who overcomes, and keeps My works until the end, to him I will give power over the nations— ‘He shall rule them with a rod of iron; they shall be dashed to pieces like the potter’s vessels’—as I also have received from My Father; and I will give him the morning star.”

**Revelation 3:5**—“He who overcomes shall be clothed in white garments, and I will not blot out his name from the Book of Life; but I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels.”

**Revelation 3:12**—“He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he shall go out no more. And I will write on him the name of My God and the name of the city of My God, the New Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God. And I will write on him My new name.”

**Revelation 3:21**—“To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne.”

**Revelation 5:9-10**—“And they sang a new song, saying: ‘You are worthy to take the scroll, and to open its seals; for You were slain, and have redeemed us to God by Your blood Out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation, and have made us kings and priests to our God; and we shall reign on the earth.’ ”

**Revelation 20:4-6**—“And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was committed to them. Then I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness to Jesus and for the word of God, who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received his mark on their foreheads or on their hands. And they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years. But the rest of the dead did not live again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection. 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.”

**Revelation 21:1-4**—“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. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.’ ”

## “The Second 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 Nov. 2, 2019.

**By Dave Havir**

**B**IG 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 to 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)—and remember that God gave them instructions about how to live (verses 3-17).

Let’s spend some time considering the second commandment.

**Exodus 20:4-6**—“You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth; you shall not bow down to them nor serve them. For I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me, but showing mercy to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments.”

### Jealous God

God openly acknowledged that He is a jealous God.

He instructed the children of Israel to avoid making spiritual covenants with the nations surrounding them (Exodus 34:12) because He did not want them chasing the other gods of the neighbors (verses 14-15).

The prophet Isaiah quoted God as saying: “This is My name. I do not want to share My glory with other gods. I do not want to share My praise with graven images” (Isaiah 42:8).

### Visiting iniquities

People oftentimes ask: How does God visit the iniquities of fathers to his family for three or four generations (Exodus 20:5)?

The answer: The consequences of sin affect more than just the initial sinner.

Someone could ask: Doesn’t that statement contradict the teaching found in Ezekiel 18:4-32?

The answer: Not when we keep reading

Ezekiel 18 and we remember the power of repentance.

The latter part of Ezekiel 18 (in verses 21-32) introduces the concept of repentance into the discussion.

This correlates directly back to Exodus 20:6. Immediately after God said that He visits iniquities for many generations (verse 5), He mentions how He shows mercy to thousands (verse 6).

Consequences can last a long time. Or they can be shortened because of God’s mercy. Believers are instructed to repent.

### Not how down to them

Some people like to claim that the Second Commandment teaches that people must not *purchase* beautiful wood carvings or other excellent works of art.

Other people like to claim that the second commandment teaches that people must not *make* beautiful wood carvings or other excellent works of art.

But the Second Commandment is not a prohibition against owning certain items, and it is not a prohibition against making certain items.

The Second Commandment is a prohibition against bowing down to graven images. It is a prohibition against serving graven images.

It is probably wise to be careful to avoid allowing any images to consume your decor.

However, there is a significant difference between decorations with no spiritual connotation and graven images that are worshiped.

### In the heart

It is probably safe to say that most readers of this article do not bow down to graven images.

However, it is also safe to say that most of us need to be careful about idols that are lurking in our heart.

**Ezekiel 14:3-6**—“Son of man, these men have set up their idols in their hearts, and put before them that which causes them to stumble into iniquity. Should I let Myself be inquired of at all by them? . . . Therefore say to the house of Israel, “Thus says the Lord GOD: “Repent, turn away from your idols, and turn your faces away from all your abominations.”’”