

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

Aug. 1, 2020 • 1:00 p.m. • Sunset 8:17

Bible study and classes

Interactive study (1:00) Dave Havir
Bible study (2:00) Neal Parker

Order of service—3:00 p.m.

Song leader Neil McIver
Pianist Dixon Cartwright
Scripture reading Psalm 37:1–40
Sermon Neal Parker

Quick takes

1. Welcome to guest speaker today—The congregation welcomes Neal and Leigh Ann Parker from Alabama. Mr. Parker is scheduled to give the Bible study and the sermon today.
2. Prayers for peaceful protesters—Please pray for the citizens who are maturely and responsibly exercising their right of peaceful protest.
3. Prayers for the victims—Please pray for the citizens who are suffering from the criminals, mobs and thugs who are tormenting our country.
4. Supporting your freedom of choice—We understand that some of you may hesitate to come to the building for church at this time, and we certainly support your freedom of choice.
 - Please be comfortable with your decision.
 - Please consider the protective opinion of your family.
5. Reminders for attending—Here are some reminders for people who choose to attend the church service in the building.
 - We do not provide masks or gloves. If these are important to you, please bring your own.
 - We expect attendees to make good use of our spacious hall by spreading out.

6. Three Feast sites at this time—We have posted information on our website about the following three Feast sites.

■ Big Sandy	Ron and Linda Avey
■ Destin	Neil and Martha McIver
■ Myrtle Beach	Lyle and Kathy Kerby
7. Pastor's expectation for the Feast—Dave Havir wrote: "Although there may be some size restrictions placed upon group meetings in October, I expect that the preferred smaller size of our Feast sites will fall within the anticipated limitations in Texas, Florida and South Carolina."
8. Feast housing in Destin and Myrtle Beach—If you are planning to attend the Feast of Tabernacles in Destin or Myrtle Beach, we recommend that you make your housing reservations as soon as possible. Although there is a lot of talk in the mainstream media about lockdowns and restrictions, reports from both areas note that other conventions occurring at the same time as the Feast of Tabernacles are filling up sleeping accommodations in those areas.
9. Edifying the Body—This week's article is "America's Useful Idiots and Misguided Children" by Allen West.
10. Among Friends—This week's article is "Science Is Valuable, Science Is Not Settled" by Dave Havir.
11. Eye on the World—This week's "Eye on the World" is 44 pages.

Prayer updates

Please remember to pray for the following people who live at home but are not able to regularly attend our church service—**Sonny Rosenberger, Laura Moran, Annette Payne, Ronnie Shirley** and **Timberly Dunnam**.

Please remember to pray for the following people who are rehabbing at Legend Oaks Nursing Home in Gladewater—**Ron Feaker** and **Elaine Holloway**.

Here is a report about **Eli Benedict**. His blood pressure is staying lower than it had been. His right ankle is still badly swollen. He has been enjoying the ongoing visits by his daughter **Sharon Stonesifer** from Maryland. He had a houseful of family members last Saturday, which enabled **Jean** to come to the church service. On Thursday, he was able to drive his tractor around the property (to see what work the family had been doing). Two weeks ago, Mr. Benedict asked **Dave Havir** to specifically include a request of prayers for his eyes in the bulletin. Mr. Benedict is scheduled for an eye appointment this coming Friday.

In last week's bulletin, we mentioned that **Thayne Slater** of Canyon had an operation to have a brain tumor removed on Friday (July 24). On Thursday, Mr. Slater was able to leave Houston (the location of the surgery) to head home. He was expected to arrive at home yesterday. He is scheduled to return to Houston in two weeks for an evaluation and a discussion of future treatment.

In last week's bulletin, we mentioned that **Barbara Thompson** (daughter-in-law of **Vonda Ouellette**) has been experiencing back pain and was awaiting a date for surgery. The surgery has now been scheduled for Aug. 4.

Please remember **Dave McLearn** (son-in-law of **Vonda Ouellette**, who was baptized here and attends here when he is not traveling with his wife, **Theresa**, to other parts of Texas), who recently had surgery for sinusitis and nasal septum.

Please remember **Ed Andreas** (age 90, from Kansas City), who was diagnosed with cancer of the spine.

Please remember **Jerry Jones** of Ojai, Calif., who was diagnosed with lymphoma.

Please remember **Emma Lou Bacher** of Plano, who is recovering from a stroke.

Please remember **Charlene Dickinson McCoy** of Gladewater (sister of **Roxanna West**), who has been dealing with low energy and low oxygen.

Please remember **Margaret Pitre** of Ville Platte, La. (mother of **Lisa Smith**), who has many health issues and gets dizzy for no apparent reason.

New prayer requests

On Wednesday, **Laura Moran** had abdominal pain, which was probably a flare-up of her diverticulitis.

On Friday, **Lisa Smith** experienced symptoms at work that influenced her co-workers to send her to an ER for tests (for a possible stroke). More information was not available at the printing deadline of the bulletin.

Martha McIver recently had X rays on her feet to determine if there were stress fractures and she was also tested for Covid-19. The X rays confirmed no stress fractures, but the doctor diagnosed abnormalities in both feet (possibly due to previous blood clots). Also, the test for Covid-19 was negative.

On July 4, **Martha McIver's** 14-year-old cousin **Emmy** had her hand badly damaged by fireworks. Following are excerpts from Mrs. McIver: "Emmy lost her thumb and most of two other fingers. After six surgeries, doctors were able to build her a thumb and have begun skin grafts to cover it. More surgeries are expected."

Thought for the week

It is very easy to defeat someone, but it is very hard to win someone.—*Abdul Kalam*

Word tickler

Some people would consider the following quote to be an oxymoron. But we like to call it a word tickler—"Why do people sing 'Take Me Out to the Ballgame' when they're already there?"

Science Is Valuable, Science Is Not Settled

This article is a version of the “Among Friends” section of the Church of God Big Sandy’s website, churchofgodbig sandy.com. It was posted for the weekend of Aug. 1, 2020.

By **Dave Havir**

BIG SANDY, Texas—In the past six months, it has been natural and beneficial for people to discuss various aspects of the coronavirus. Unfortunately, it has been all too common for people to argue about various aspects of the coronavirus.

I want to mention two statements that often cause disruptions when people talk about various aspects of the coronavirus.

■ “While you are free to have your opinion, I am following the science.”

■ “The science is settled.”

Science is valuable

One dictionary definition of science is the following: Science is a process of discovery that allows us to link isolated facts into coherent and comprehensive understandings of the natural world.

Another definition is: Science is a way of discovering the laws of the universe—how they worked in the past, how they work today and how they will likely work in the future.

It is a wise approach to include science when analyzing the coronavirus. Scientific research is an ongoing benefit to mankind. We should cheer the fact that many men and women are directing their attention toward scientific research about the coronavirus.

But I want to remind you about something. People who disagree about aspects of the coronavirus (lockdowns, masks, ventilators and the like) may all be following scientific research.

■ You could be greatly mistaken if you conclude that people who have different opinions from you are not following scientific research.

■ You want to be careful to avoid being condescending toward people with different opinions.

■ You don’t want to be questioning

the intelligence of other people because their scientific research doesn’t agree with your scientific research.

■ People sometimes make this mistake when they erroneously believe that “the science is settled.”

Science is not settled

It is shocking to hear an “expert” say that the “science is settled.” To be honest—when I hear an “expert” say that science is settled, I lose trust and respect for that so-called expert.

Science is continually refining and expanding our knowledge of the universe. As it does, it leads to new questions for future investigation. Science will never be finished.

Four articles

The rest of this article will be a compilation of four articles to show basic information that science is not settled.

Here are the headlines of those articles.

■ Jan. 2020—“Nature of Science”

Although I edited out some material from the statement called the “Nature of Science” (to shorten it), it is still long.

It wouldn’t surprise me if you disagreed with aspects of this statement (especially when considering quantum physics and quantum mechanics), but this statement obviously shows that science is not settled.

■ Jan. 21, 2019—“Physicist: Don’t Fall for the Argument About ‘Settled Science’”

■ April 6, 2020—“Science Has No Clear Answers on the Coronavirus; Face Masks Are No Exception”

■ May 1, 2020—“No, Science Can’t Tell Us How to Respond to the Coronavirus”

The remainder of this article can be found in the “Among Friends” section of the Church of God Big Sandy’s website posted for the weekend of Aug. 1.