

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

Aug. 15, 2020 • 1:00 p.m. • Sunset 8:04

Bible study and classes

Interactive study (1:00) Dave Havir

Bible study (2:00) Neil Mclver

Order of service—3:00 p.m.

Song leader Neil Mclver

Pianist Dixon Cartwright

Scripture reading Psalm 41:1–13

Sermon Dave Havir

Quick takes

1. Upcoming guest speaker—We are happy to report that George Crow is scheduled to visit on Aug. 29.
2. 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.
3. 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.
4. Edifying the Body—This week’s article is “Spiritual, Moral, Cultural, Political” by Michael Brown.
5. Among Friends—This week’s article is “Psalms 15 and 34” by Dave Havir.
6. Eye on the World—This week’s “Eye on the World” is 38 pages.

New message on website about Feast

On Thursday, Ron Avey, Dixon Cartwright and Dave Havir added some information to the page on our website about the Feast of Tabernacles at the Big Sandy site. (This information was also given to the Church of God International for the CGI to post on its website.)

It reads: “While the Church of God Big Sandy has traditionally welcomed guests from many church fellowships, we understand that the Feast of Tabernacles in 2020 might be a little different. Since some of the Church of God groups are canceling some of their festival sites, it is possible that some people looking for a place to observe the Feast may choose to attend with us. We wholeheartedly welcome this occurrence.

“We have learned that some of our friends from the Church of God International are planning to attend with us this year. While we look forward to their fellowship, we are thrilled also to have their serving contributions at the Feast. We are particularly happy to feature some of their speakers on our speaking schedule.

“At this time, we are glad that the following men from the Church of God International have agreed to speak at the Big Sandy site—Max Davis, Morris Foster, John Reedy, Dean Roberts, Wynn Skelton and Vance Stinson.”

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**.

In last week’s bulletin, we mentioned that **Eli Benedict** had an eye appointment scheduled on Friday (Aug. 7), but we did not have a report for last week’s bulletin. Mr. Benedict was diagnosed with cataracts. He is scheduled to have the right one removed on Aug. 24, with the left one following shortly thereafter.

In last week’s bulletin, we mentioned that **Donna Searer** (mother of **Mark Searer**) fell, was diagnosed with a broken left hip and the family was discussing the advisability of surgery at her age of 82. After last week’s bulletin went to press, we learned that she did have surgery last Friday. On Tuesday, she was moved to rehab. She is obviously weak, so her nurses are seeking to build up her nourishment so she can gain strength.

In the Aug. 1 bulletin, we mentioned that **Thayne Slater** of Canyon (who had a brain tumor removed on July 24) was scheduled to return to Houston for an evaluation. He went on Wednesday and met with his doctor on Thursday. We heard a general report that cancer had returned. Although we don’t have more specific information at this time, we have enough to offer prayer support for the family.

The progress of **Emma Lou Bacher** of Plano has been minimal this week. It is said that swallowing challenges typically have the longest recovery time. Her time at rehab is soon coming to an end. She may return to assisted living this week.

New prayer requests

When **Lynn Ramsey** of Dobson, N.C., was experiencing back pain, she went to a hospital and learned that the cancer had returned. The present location of the cancer was diagnosed as the spinal cord and right shoulder.

Martha Armstrong of Rogers, N.M., had a bone-marrow test that showed that her cancer is progressing. Because doctors do not want to compromise her immune system, they are anticipating treatment in three to six months.

Glenda Faulkner of Tampa, Fla., died on July 30. Please remember her husband, **Ben**, and the rest of the family in your prayers.

Scott Carlson of Thompsettown, Pa., died Aug. 10. Please remember his wife, **Debra**, and the rest of the family in your prayers.

Walter Koren of Myrtle Beach, S.C. (cousin of **Dave Havir**), died on Aug. 13. Please remember his wife, **Jan**, and the rest of the family in your prayers.

Eye on the world

- An article by Raoul Wootliff titled “Hailing ‘New Era With Arab World,’ Netanyahu Says Others Will Follow UAE’s Lead” was posted at [timesofisrael.com](https://www.timesofisrael.com) on Aug. 13, 2020.
- An article by Sarah Knapton titled “Almost 10 Percent of Coronavirus Deaths Were Not Related to Covid-19, PHE [Public Health England] Says” was posted at [telegraph.co.uk](https://www.telegraph.co.uk) on Aug. 12, 2020.
- A Reuters article by P.J. Huffstutter titled “Monday Storm Impacts Some 10 Million Acres of Iowa Farmland” was posted at [reuters.com](https://www.reuters.com) on Aug. 11, 2020.
- An article by Daniel Villarreal titled “Kamala Harris More Liberal Than Bernie Sanders, Senate Record Analysis Shows” was posted at [newsweek.com](https://www.newsweek.com) on Aug. 11, 2020.
- A compilation of progressive scores for the U.S. senators listed Kamala Harris as No. 4 out of 100 senators was posted at [progressivepunch.org](https://www.progressivepunch.org).
- An article by Samuel Smith titled “Biden Taps Kamala Harris As Running Mate: ‘Most Pro-Abortion Ticket’ in US History, SBA [Susan B. Anthony] List Says” was posted at [christianpost.com](https://www.christianpost.com) on Aug. 11, 2020.

Word tickler

Some people would consider the following quote to be an oxymoron. But we like to call it a word tickler—“Why are they called ‘stands’ when they are made for sitting?”

Psalms 15 and 34

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 Aug. 15, 2020.

By Dave Havir

BIG SANDY, Texas—Like many congregations, our church service has scripture-reading at our weekly gathering. We have scheduled it between our singing of hymns and our listening to a sermon presentation.

As the pastor, I have the opportunity to schedule the verses that are read each week. Right now I am choosing verses from the book of Psalms. Although I am not scheduling a reading from each psalm (because the book has 150 psalms), I pick selections with the intent to comfort and encourage our congregation.

Even though I know what psalm is going to be read, I still find myself moved as I listen to the message read in our church service. The words are very encouraging to my mind and heart—as we watch what is occurring in our world today.

Please let me share Psalms 15 and 34 with you.

Psalm 15:1-5—“LORD, who may abide in Your tabernacle? Who may dwell in Your holy hill? He who walks uprightly, and works righteousness, and speaks the truth in his heart; he who does not backbite with his tongue, nor does evil to his neighbor, nor does he take up a reproach against his friend; in whose eyes a vile person is despised, but he honors those who fear the LORD; he who swears to his own hurt and does not change; he who does not put out his money at usury, nor does he take a bribe against the innocent. He who does these things shall never be moved.”

Psalm 34:1-3—“I will bless the LORD at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul shall make its boast in the LORD; the humble shall hear of it and be glad. Oh, magnify the LORD with me, and

let us exalt His name together.”

Psalm 34:4-7—“I sought the LORD, and He heard me, and delivered me from all my fears. They looked to Him and were radiant, and their faces were not ashamed. This poor man cried out, and the LORD heard him, and saved him out of all his troubles. The angel of the LORD encamps all around those who fear Him, and delivers them.”

Psalm 34:8-10—“Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good; blessed is the man who trusts in Him! Oh, fear the LORD, you His saints! There is no want to those who fear Him. The young lions lack and suffer hunger; but those who seek the LORD shall not lack any good thing.”

Psalm 34:11-14—“Come, you children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the LORD. Who is the man who desires life, and loves many days, that he may see good? Keep your tongue from evil, and your lips from speaking deceit. Depart from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it.”

Psalm 34:15-16—“The eyes of the LORD are on the righteous, and His ears are open to their cry. The face of the LORD is against those who do evil, to cut off the remembrance of them from the earth.”

Psalm 34:17-18—“The righteous cry out, and the LORD hears, and delivers them out of all their troubles. The LORD is near to those who have a broken heart, and saves such as have a contrite spirit.”

Psalm 34:19-22—“Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the LORD delivers him out of them all. He guards all his bones; not one of them is broken. Evil shall slay the wicked, and those who hate the righteous shall be condemned. The LORD redeems the soul of His servants, and none of those who trust in Him shall be condemned.”

Thought for the week

What a child doesn't receive he can seldom later give.—P.D. James