

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

Sept. 12, 2020 • 1:00 p.m. • Sunset 7:29

### Bible study and classes

Interactive study (1:00) . . . . . Dave Havir

Bible study (2:00) . . . . . Dave Havir

### Order of service—3:00 p.m.

Song leader . . . . . Neil McIver

Pianist . . . . . Dixon Cartwright

Scripture reading . . . . . Revelation 2:18–29

Sermon . . . . . Dave Havir

### Quick takes

1. Finishing maintenance on church parking lot—The only project remaining on the church parking lot is painting the parking stripes and symbols.
2. Guest speaker next week—We are happy to report that George Crow is scheduled to visit next Saturday. (We had previously expected him on Sept. 26, but Dave Havir asked him to switch his trip to the Feast of Trumpets.)
3. Feast of Trumpets—The congregation will observe the Feast of Trumpets on Saturday, Sept. 19. Following is the schedule.
  - 1:00—Interactive Bible study
  - 2:00—Bible study by George Crow
  - 3:00—Church service—sermon by Dave Havir
4. Day of Atonement—The congregation will observe the Day of Atonement on Monday, Sept. 28. Following is the schedule.
  - 1:00—Interactive Bible study
  - 2:00—Bible study—by Dave Havir
  - 3:00—Church service—sermon by Stan West

5. Prayers for peaceful protesters—Please pray for the citizens who are maturely and responsibly exercising their right of peaceful protest.
6. Prayers for the victims—Please pray for the citizens who are suffering from the criminals, mobs and thugs who are tormenting our country.
7. 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 opinions of your family.
8. 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.
9. Interactive topic today—Dave Havir is scheduled to moderate an interactive discussion. His topic is the prophecy style of preaching calamity and restoration.
10. Edifying the Body—This week’s article is “Communism and Christianity Cannot Coexist” by Michael P. Orsi.
11. Among Friends—This week’s article is “Calamity and Restoration in the Book of Joel” by Dave Havir.
12. Eye on the World—This week’s “Eye on the World” is 42 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**.

After **Eli Benedict** had his right cataract removed on Sept. 3, the doctor was pleased, but Mr. Benedict’s vision was still blurry. He is scheduled to return to the eye doctor next Friday. Also, please remember to continue praying for the rash on his legs to go away and for the pain around his feet and ankles to subside.

**Jean Benedict** is still dealing with an infection in her leg. The stinging and burning continue to make her uncomfortable.

Please remember **Linda Foster**, who is dealing with “end-stage dementia.”

Please remember **Emma Lou Bacher** of Plano, who is dealing with cognitive challenges.

**Donna Searer** (mother of **Mark Searer**), who is recovering from hip surgery, had been in a hospital earlier in the week. She was diagnosed with a severe UTI. She returned to the nursing facility on Friday. While she was in the hospital, her doctor discovered an open ulcer on her tailbone. Mr. Searer reported that her continued loss of weight and the open ulcer are the greatest concerns right now.

Please remember **Thayne Slater** of Canyon, who recently had a brain tumor removed and was recently diagnosed with cancer of the spine.

Please remember **Jerry Jones** of Ojai, Calif., who was diagnosed with lymphoma. Weeks ago, a doctor recommended chemo for Mr. Jones, but he elected not to take it. Mr. Jones reports that he does not have much energy but that he is not experiencing any pain.

Please remember **Tim Lindholm** of Minneapolis, who is hoping that chemo treatments will shrink the cancer blocking the stents.

## New prayer requests

On Monday, **Grace Kouniadis** of Carrollton (sister of **Laura Moran**) fell in her home and remained on the floor for days. On Wednesday, she was taken to a hospital and diagnosed with a broken left shoulder.

## Eye on the World

- An article by Michael Brown titled “What Christian Conservatives Can Learn From the Islamic Revolution in Iran” was posted at townhall.com on Aug. 30, 2020.
- An article by Carina Benton titled “How Voting for Socialism Caused Czechoslovakia 40 Years of Misery” was posted at thefederalist.com on Sept. 9, 2020.
- An article by Michael Brown titled “Hope Motivates Better Than Pessimism” was posted at townhall.com on Aug. 26, 2020.
- An article by CNSNews Staff titled “Pelosi: ‘The Three Most Important Issues Facing Our Country and Congress; Our Children, Our Children, Our Children’ [Says a Democratic Leader Who Supports Abortion]” was posted at cnsnews.com on Sept. 3, 2020.
- An article by Craig Bannister titled “Pelosi: ‘Resilient’ Is Now Code for ‘Green’ Because ‘Green’ Is Scary to Some People” was posted at cnsnews.com on Sept. 10, 2020.

## Thought for the week

“Freedoms are not taken away by communists, but given away by our surrender.”—*Jim Caviezel*

## Calamity and Restoration in the Book of Joel

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 Sept. 12, 2020.

By **Dave Havir**

**B**IG SANDY, Texas—As we approach the Feast of Trumpets in 2020, we reflect upon the biblical approach to prophecy. Bible students are aware of the connected prophecy themes of calamity and restoration.

First comes the bad news. Then comes the promise of the good news. Let’s look at an example.

### Warning about calamity

*Joel 1:6-8*—“For a nation has come up against My land, strong, and without number; his teeth are the teeth of a lion, and he has the fangs of a fierce lion. He has laid waste My vine, and ruined My fig tree; he has stripped it bare and thrown it away; its branches are made white. Lament like a virgin girded with sackcloth for the husband of her youth.”

*Joel 2:1-5*—“Blow the trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm in My holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble; for the day of the LORD is coming, for it is at hand: a day of darkness and gloominess, a day of clouds and thick darkness, like the morning clouds spread over the mountains. A people come, great and strong, the like of whom has never been; nor will there ever be any such after them, even for many successive generations. A fire devours before them, and behind them a flame burns; the land is like the Garden of Eden before them, and behind them a desolate wilderness; surely nothing shall escape them. Their appearance is like the appearance of horses; and like swift steeds, so they run. With a noise like chariots over mountaintops they leap, like the noise of a flaming fire that devours the stubble, like a strong people set in battle array.”

### Foretold of restoration

*Joel 2:12-14*—“‘Now, therefore,’ says the LORD, ‘Turn to Me with all your heart,

with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning.’ So rend your heart, and not your garments; return to the LORD your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness; and He relents from doing harm. Who knows if He will turn and relent, and leave a blessing behind Him—a grain offering and a drink offering for the LORD your God?”

*Joel 2:15-17*—“‘Blow the trumpet in Zion, Consecrate a fast, Call a sacred assembly; gather the people, sanctify the congregation, assemble the elders, gather the children and nursing babes; let the bridegroom go out from his chamber, and the bride from her dressing room. Let the priests, who minister to the LORD, weep between the porch and the altar; let them say, ‘Spare Your people, O LORD, and do not give Your heritage to reproach, that the nations should rule over them. Why should they say among the peoples, “Where is their God?”’”

### Calamity and restoration

*Joel 3:14-18*—“‘Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision! For the day of the LORD is near in the valley of decision. The sun and moon will grow dark, and the stars will diminish their brightness. The LORD also will roar from Zion, and utter His voice from Jerusalem; the heavens and earth will shake; but the LORD will be a shelter for His people, and the strength of the children of Israel. So you shall know that I am the LORD your God, dwelling in Zion My holy mountain. Then Jerusalem shall be holy, and no aliens shall ever pass through her again.’ And it will come to pass in that day that the mountains shall drip with new wine, the hills shall flow with milk, and all the brooks of Judah shall be flooded with water; a fountain shall flow from the house of the LORD and water the Valley of Acacias.”