

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

Sept. 26, 2020 • 1:00 p.m. • Sunset 7:11

### Bible study and classes

Interactive study (1:00) . . . . . Neil McIver  
Bible study (2:00) . . . . . Neil McIver

### Order of service—3:00 p.m.

Song leader . . . . . Ron Avey  
Pianist . . . . . Dixon Cartwright  
Scripture reading . . . . . Revelation 3:7–13  
Sermon . . . . . Dave Havir

### Quick takes

1. Two special events in Washington, D.C.—Today, there are two special religious events happening in Washington, D.C.
  - Prayer March—Franklin Graham will lead a prayer march (of 1.8 miles) from noon until 2:00 p.m.
  - The Return—Jonathan Cahn and others will host a “National and Global Day of Prayer and Repentance” with presentations from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.
2. 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
3. Interactive today—Neil McIver is scheduled to moderate an interactive discussion at 1:00.
4. Edifying the Body—This week’s article is “The Devil and Karl Marx” by Walter Williams.
5. Among Friends—This week’s article is “Three Reasons for Fasting” by Dave Havir.
6. Eye on the World—This week’s “Eye on the World” is 38 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**.

**Eli Benedict** reports the itching on his legs has hindered his sleep. Also, he returned to the doctor who recently removed his right cataract. The doctor said the right eye is healing (even though Mr. Benedict's vision has not improved as desired), he doesn't feel a need to remove Mr. Benedict's left cataract at this time, and he wants to see Mr. Benedict in three months. **Jean Benedict** continues to deal with an infection in her leg.

**Annette Payne**, who was diagnosed with a nodule in her right lung, is anticipating a follow-up examination on Oct. 6.

**Laura Moran** had mostly good days this week. She has been keeping in touch with her sister, who recently fell.

In the Sept. 12 bulletin, we mentioned that **Grace Louniadis** of Carrollton (sister of **Laura Moran**) fell in her home, remained on the floor for days and was diagnosed with a broken left shoulder. As it turns out, she has a spine injury. She will be in a rehab facility until she is ready to go to a nursing home. Mrs. Moran and the family are hoping that she will move to our area.

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

## New prayer requests

**Joanne Wuench** of Tennessee (sister of **Annette Payne**) is seeing a doctor for problems with her heart.

**Marilyn DuBry** of Valdese, N.C., died on Sept. 17. Please remember the family in your prayers.

## Big Sandy Feast site

1. Opening-night hospitality on Friday, Oct. 2
  - From 6:00 till 8:00 p.m.
  - The recommended dress is "nice casual"
2. One daily church service all eight days
  - 10:30 a.m. on the first day (Oct. 3)
  - 11:00 a.m. throughout the rest of the Feast
3. Two sermons on the first (Oct. 3) and eighth day (Oct. 10)

#### 4. Fellowshiping with food

- Every day—Snacks before the church service
- First day (Oct. 3)—Catered meal after church
- Second day (Oct. 4)—Family picnic
- Eighth day (Oct. 10)—Finger foods after church

#### 5. Organized activities include:

- Sunday, Oct. 4—Family picnic (games and music)
- Monday, Oct. 5—Afternoon Bible study by John Reedy
- Tuesday, Oct. 6—Card-making and museum tour
- Wednesday, Oct. 7—Afternoon Bible study by Wynn Skelton
- Thursday, Oct. 8—Afternoon movie
- Friday, Oct. 9—Evening Bible study by Wynn Skelton

## Feast speaking schedules

### Big Sandy, Texas

Saturday, Oct. 3	Wynn Skelton and John Reedy
Sunday, Oct. 4	Reg Killingley
Monday, Oct. 5	Daniel Botha
Tuesday, Oct. 6	Dean Roberts
Wednesday, Oct. 7	Morris Foster
Thursday, Oct. 8	Max Davis
Friday, Oct. 9	Ron Avey
Saturday, Oct. 10	Wynn Skelton and John Reedy

### Myrtle Beach, S.C.

Saturday, Oct. 3	Lyle Kerby
Sunday, Oct. 4	Jim Johns
Monday, Oct. 5	Chris Kerby and Arnold Stamey
Tuesday, Oct. 6	Steve Andrews
Wednesday, Oct. 7	Ryan Andrews and John Bair
Thursday, Oct. 8	Ralph Hanahan and Jim Johns
Friday, Oct. 9	Dave Havir
Saturday, Oct. 10	Steve Andrews and Dave Havir

### Destin, Fla.

Saturday, Oct. 3	Dave Havir and Neal Parker
Sunday, Oct. 4	Dave Havir and Ken Tate
Monday, Oct. 5	Neil McIver and Bill Crow
Tuesday, Oct. 6	Chad Tate and John Havir
Wednesday, Oct. 7	Family day—no church service Evening Bible study—John Havir
Thursday, Oct. 8	Luke Przeslawski and Neal Parker
Friday, Oct. 9	Steven Gibson and Mike Wiesman
Saturday, Oct. 10	Ken Tate

## Three Reasons for Fasting

This article is from the “Among Friends” section of the Church of God Big Sandy’s Web site, churchofgodbig sandy.com. It was posted for three consecutive weekends in 2020 (Sept. 26, Oct. 3 and Oct. 10).

**By Dave Havir**

**B**IG SANDY, Texas—As we enter the autumn of the year in the northern hemisphere, many people among the Church of God around the world will be meeting on the biblical Day of Atonement (listed in Leviticus 23).

My friends certainly realize that they are not dealing with (1) a physical tabernacle or temple, (2) a physical priesthood or (3) a physical sacrifice as mentioned in Leviticus 16:1-34.

With that in mind, it is a fair question to ask: “Do New Testament Christians choose to fast (afflict their soul) from evening to evening on the Day of Atonement?”

My response: Most of the people in my network of religious people choose to fast on that day.

Why?

They recognize how the New Testament supports the importance of fasting (in large part due to Matthew 4:1-11), and they choose to make the Day of Atonement one of their days of fasting.

In the remaining part of this article, I want to share three reasons for fasting.

### **After an event— accompanying repentance**

- 1 Samuel 7:3-6—Samuel gathered Israel.
- Ezra 10:1-6—Ezra
- Nehemiah 1:4-11—Nehemiah
- Nehemiah 9:1-3—Children of Israel
- Daniel 9:3-19—Daniel
- Jonah 3:5-10—People of Nineveh

### **During an event—seeking help**

- Judges 20:21-25—Israel
- 2 Samuel 12:15-23—David
- 2 Chronicles 20:3-4—Jehoshaphat (Judah)
- Ezra 8:21-23—Ezra
- Esther 4:1-3—Mordecai and the Jews
- Esther 4:16—Esther and the Jews
- Matthew 17:21—By prayer and fasting
- Acts 9:9—Saul

### **Before an event—connecting with our Father**

■ Matthew 4:1-11—The Son of God prepared to face the devil in the wilderness.

■ Matthew 6:16-18—A private matter with God, rather than a public display in an effort to impress other people

■ Matthew 9:14-17—The disciples of the Son of God did not fast while He walked the earth with them.

■ Luke 2:36-37—Anna, a prophetess

■ Luke 18:9-14—The Son of God did give a warning in a parable that fasting can become a ritual that deceives a person into thinking he is righteous.

■ Acts 10:30-33—Cornelius

■ Isaiah 58:6-7—Serving God and man

### **Final valuable lesson**

One of the best lessons about fasting can be found in the Old Testament book of Isaiah. Notice the contrast.

*Isaiah 58:3-5*—“ ‘Why have we fasted,’ they say, ‘and You have not seen? Why have we afflicted our souls, and You take no notice?’ In fact, in the day of your fast you find pleasure, and exploit all your laborers. Indeed you fast for strife and debate, and to strike with the fist of wickedness. You will not fast as you do this day, to make your voice heard on high. Is it a fast that I have chosen, a day for a man to afflict his soul? Is it to bow down his head like a bulrush, and to spread out sackcloth and ashes? Would you call this a fast, and an acceptable day to the LORD?”

*Isaiah 58:6-7*—“Is this not the fast that I have chosen: To loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, to let the oppressed go free, and that you break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and that you bring to your house the poor who are cast out; when you see the naked, that you cover him, and not hide yourself from your own flesh?”