

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

Oct. 24, 2020 • 1:00 p.m. • Sunset 6:37

### 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 . . . . . Ron Avey  
Pianist . . . . . Dixon Cartwright  
Scripture reading . . . . . Revelation 21:9–27  
Sermon . . . . . Dave Havir

### Quick takes

1. Interactive topic today—Dave Havir is scheduled to moderate an interactive discussion. The topic is “God’s Deliverance.”
2. Food and movie next Saturday—Next Saturday, Neil McIver is scheduled to give the sermon during the church service. He has scheduled a related movie (which supplements his presentation) to begin at 5:00. As a service to those who plan to stay, the McIvers are planning to serve “brisket street tacos” after church and before the movie.
  - 4:00 p.m. Brisket street tacos
  - 5:00 Movie—*I Can Only Imagine*
3. Upcoming guest speakers—Dave Havir is pleased to announce that several guest speakers are planning to join us over the coming weeks. The tentative list includes the following: Wynn Skelton (Nov. 5), Morris Foster (Nov. 21), Jim Johns (Dec. 5), Blake Silverstein (Dec. 12) and Bill Crow (Dec. 19).
4. Edifying the Body—This week’s article is “Black Conservatives Rise to Counter Black Lives Matter Narrative” by Valerie Richardson.
5. Among Friends—This week’s article is “Roman Occupation During Life of Christ” by Dave Havir.
6. Eye on the World—This week’s “Eye on the World” is 30 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**.

This week, **Eli Benedict** reports that he had trouble sleeping and continued itching with the rash.

In last week's bulletin, we mentioned that **Annette Payne** received a diagnosis of cancer in her lung and in one lymph node. She is scheduled for a biopsy on Oct. 29 to confirm the diagnosis.

In last week's bulletin, we mentioned that **Ronnie Shirley** had a PET scan that revealed the good news that his tumor had significantly shrunk. Mr. Shirley began a program of liquid chemo and chemo pills (six pills a day).

**Laura Moran** reports that she is feeling better (after dealing with a sinus infection and breathing troubles).

**Grace Kouniadis** of Carrollton (sister of **Laura Moran**) remains in a rehab facility and still hopes to move to our area.

In last week's bulletin, we mentioned that **Jeannette Reinoso** of Sachse was recently diagnosed with breast cancer. Following are excerpts from a report about her condition: "Earlier this week I received the results of my breast MRI, which detected an area of potential concern in my other breast. As a result, I will be having another biopsy on Monday (Oct. 26) to ascertain whether it is benign. We [she and her husband, **Pedro**] would appreciate your continued prayers for God's involvement in every step of the process. We continue to hope for God's divine intervention in the removal of the cancer and any information that is important to know beforehand to make the best informed decisions."

On Oct. 4, **Paula Monsalvo** of Mobile, Ala., was diagnosed with necrotizing fasciitis (flesh-eating bacteria). Here is an excerpt from **Bernie** about her recovery: "She's getting better every day. She can walk a little and she can move around the house. We appreciate all the prayers."

**Jimmy** and **Jean Rogers** of Denton (who are a part of our extended congregation) thank you for your prayers. Mr. Rogers reports that his cancer of the liver is in remission. Mrs. Rogers, who had previous back surgery and who had a five-hour back surgery on Tuesday, reports some minor complications in her recovery and a delay in her being sent to a rehab facility. She expects to go a rehab facility at any time now.

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

Please remember **Tim Lindholm** of Minneapolis, who continues with his chemo treatments.

## New prayer requests

On Friday, **Cassandra Jenkins** (daughter of **Shirley Spearman**) had surgery to repair a hernia.

The family of **Donna Weese** has dealt with covid-19 during the Feast of Tabernacles and since then. First, Mrs. Weese's daughter-in-law, **Melissa Weese** (of Longview), was diagnosed with covid-19, and now Mrs. Weese's son **Terry Weese** (of Longview) is presently dealing with a diagnosis of covid-19. Mrs. Weese put herself in a precautionary quarantine during the Feast of Tabernacles.

**Marcus Franklin** of Arlington (nephew-in-law to **Shirley Spearman**) has been hospitalized dealing with health problems after being diagnosed with covid-19. He and his wife, **Sharika**, came into contact with people from the local United congregation during the recent Feast of Tabernacles. His sickness influenced a chain reaction in the local UCG congregation. The local UCG congregation canceled church services on Oct. 10 and 17. (Mrs. Spearman ended her precautionary quarantine last Sunday.)

Several people in the local United congregation have tested positive for covid-19. They include the **Stewart** family (**Ellis**, **Pat** and **Jimmy**). Mrs. Stewart was diagnosed with pneumonia in her left lung. Others who had milder symptoms include **Anne Elliott** and **Dael Baughman**.

**Nolen Pitre** of Ville Platte, La. (stepdad of **Lisa Smith**), who has recently had multiple ministrokes and heart trouble, has been hospitalized in Houston due to a loss of blood. An upper GI was scheduled to determine the reason for the loss of blood. Mrs. Smith's mom (**Margaret Pitre**) is worn out due to a lack of sleep.

**Rochelle Good** (daughter of **Elizabeth Wenger**) died unexpectedly during the Feast. She was 50 years old and had three daughters. Please remember the family in your prayers.

## “Roman Occupation During Life of Christ”

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 Oct. 24, 2020.

By **Dave Havir**

**B**IG SANDY, Texas—Members of the Church of God are wondering how the upcoming United States election on Nov. 3 will affect world events. Members of the Church of God who are citizens of the United States are wondering how the upcoming election will affect the practical day-to-day living within the United States.

### Frame of reference

At this time, I want to make four statements about my worldview.

■ I understand that the founding documents of the United States do not have superiority over the Bible or the Kingdom of God.

■ I appreciate the founding documents of the United States—which have provided rights and freedoms not known by much of the world. (Those documents needed to be amended over time to serve various needs of the populace.)

■ I personally do not want to see the United States adopt the ideologies of communism, Marxism or socialism.

■ Understanding Bible history about the civil government into which the Son of God was born can help Bible students prepare for the possible loss of rights and freedoms.

### Time of Caesar

**Luke 2:1**—“And it came to pass in those days that a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered.”

**Luke 3:1-2**—“Now in the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of Iturea and the region of Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, while Annas and Caiaphas were high priests, the word of God came to John the son of Zacharias in the wilderness.”

### Helping soldiers

**Luke 3:14**—“Likewise the soldiers asked him, saying, ‘And what shall we do?’ So he said to them, ‘Do not intimidate anyone or accuse falsely, and be content with your wages.’”

**Luke 7:2-8**—“And a certain centurion’s servant, who was dear to him, was sick and ready to die. So when he heard about Jesus, he sent elders of the Jews to Him, pleading with Him to come and heal his servant. And when they came to Jesus, they begged Him earnestly, saying that the one for whom He should do this was deserving, for he loves our nation, and has built us a synagogue. Then Jesus went with them. And when He was already not far from the house, the centurion sent friends to Him, saying to Him, ‘Lord, do not trouble Yourself, for I am not worthy that You should enter under my roof. Therefore I did not even think myself worthy to come to You. But say the word, and my servant will be healed. For I also am a man placed under authority, having soldiers under me. And I say to one, “Go,” and he goes; and to another, “Come,” and he comes; and to my servant, “Do this,” and he does it.’”

### Pitted against Caesar

**John 11:48**—“If we let Him alone like this, everyone will believe in Him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and nation.”

**Luke 20:22-25**—“Then they asked Him saying . . . ‘Is it lawful for us to pay taxes to Caesar or not?’ But He perceived their craftiness, and said to them, ‘Why do you test Me? Show Me a denarius. Whose image and inscription does it have?’ They answered and said, ‘Caesar’s.’ And He said to them, ‘Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s.’”

**Luke 23:2**—“And they began to accuse Him, saying, ‘We found this fellow perverting the nation, and forbidding to pay taxes to Caesar, saying that He Himself is Christ, a King.’”

**John 19:12**—“From then on Pilate sought to release Him, but the Jews cried out, saying, ‘If you let this Man go, you are not Caesar’s friend. Whoever makes himself a king speaks against Caesar.’”

**John 19:15**—“But they cried out, ‘Away with Him, away with Him! Crucify Him!’ Pilate said to them, ‘Shall I crucify your King?’ The chief priests answered, ‘We have no king but Caesar!’”

### Soldiers’ behavior

**Luke 23:36-37**—“The soldiers also mocked Him, coming and offering Him sour wine, and saying, ‘If You are the King of the Jews, save Yourself.’”

**Luke 23:47**—“So when the centurion saw what had happened, he glorified God, saying, ‘Certainly this was a righteous Man!’”

**John 19:23-24**—“Then the soldiers, when they had crucified Jesus, took His garments and made four parts, to each soldier a part, and also the tunic. Now the tunic was without seam, woven from the top in one piece. They said therefore among themselves, ‘Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it, whose it shall be,’ that the Scripture might be fulfilled which says: ‘They divided My garments among them, and for My clothing they cast lots.’ Therefore the soldiers did these things.”

**John 19:32-34**—“Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other who was crucified with Him. But when they came to Jesus and saw that He was already dead, they did not break His legs. But one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and immediately blood and water came out.”