

# Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

**Oct. 29, 2022 • 1:00 p.m. • Sunset 6:32**

## Bible studies

Interactive study—1:00 p.m.

Dave Havir

Presentation study—2:00

Dave Havir

(Also transmitted live)

## Order of service—3:00 p.m.

Song leader

Reg Killingley

Pianist

Dixon Cartwright

Scripture reading

Hebrews 1:1-14

Sermon

Dave Havir

## Quick takes

1. Wednesday-night Bible study—The next Wednesday-night Bible study is Nov. 2.

2. Daylight-saving time ends on Nov. 6—This is an early reminder that daylight-saving time ends in eight days.

3. Please remember to pray for the following people who are not able to regularly attend our church service.

- Mickey Ashcraft
- David and Becky Bonilla
- Timberly Dunnam
- Elaine Holloway
- Annette Payne
- Ruth Roe
- Sonny Rosenberger
- Ronnie Shirley
- Elaine Townsend
- Donna Weese

4. Edifying the Body—This week's article is "Explaining Conservatism" by Dennis Prager.

5. Among Friends—This week's article is "The First Commandment" by Dave Havir.

6. Eye on the World—This week's "Eye on the World" is 38 pages. (This

edition has 317 headlines.)

## Prayer updates

**Timberly Dunnam** reports that she didn't feel well through much of the Feast. Concerning the Feast, she reported: "I've been taking Benedryl for a few months now because of extreme itchiness (mostly on my arms). I thought it was allergies, but I was told to see my rheumatologist about it. So that is the next step." Concerning this week, she reported: "This week has been up and down. The cold weather makes my joints hurt." As is her character, she thanked everyone for the concern and prayers.

In the Sept. 10 bulletin, we mentioned that **Jean Benedict** broke her right hip on Sept. 7 and had immediate surgery. She began her recovery at her son's home and was able to attend the Feast with family members in Alabama. She was able to attend the church service last Saturday and returned to her home last Sunday. Her family continues to look after her needs.

**Becky Bonilla** gave the following update about her and **David**. She mentioned that they try to walk a mile and a half many days. The big health challenge right now is that Mr. Bonilla continues to have trouble with his hearing. They have a doctor's appointment on Monday. Although they regularly watch the church service online, they miss the fellowship with all of you.

In the Sept. 26 bulletin, we mentioned that **Larry Harris** (90-year-old father of **John Harris**) had a heart catheterization, received an unknown number of stents and chose going home instead of going to a rehab facility. He recently went to a doctor for treatment to clear up a UTI. At a recent visit to the doctor, Mr. Harris learned that he received four stents at the time of the catheterization. He is walking around the house a little bit, he still has chest pain, and he still looks forward to the Kingdom of God.

In the Oct. 1 bulletin, we mentioned that **Kate Vincent** experienced an arthritic flare-up with a knee that was so painful that she was having difficulty trying to stand up. This week, she reported: "I am awaiting lab-test results and also a follow-up on my knee. **Eli** and I spent the Feast here, and it was wonderful. I was able to get around better because the **Aveys** loaned me a wheelchair from the congregation."

**Dorothy Jones** (mother of **Shirley Spearman**) reports that she was able to attend every day of the Feast of Tabernacles in Big Sandy (with the help

of staying at a friend's home in Big Sandy during the entire Feast). She mentioned that she had a rough day on Friday.

### **New prayer requests**

Following are three prayer requests that **Dave Havir** sent out this week (via texting) from **Shirley Spearman**. From last Saturday: "My niece **Kimberly Jackson** (daughter of **Dorothy Thomas**) had an aneurysm yesterday—and is scheduled for brain surgery at 9:30 this morning." From last Sunday: "They did another CAT scan on Kim when she got out of surgery yesterday, and they saw two more small ruptures. They are hoping to give her medication to dissolve those. She is scheduled to get another CAT scan today." From Thursday: "Kimberly has had two more surgeries and after each a CAT scan. After the surgery this morning, they found another aneurysm and will have to do another procedure the first of next week."

Many of you are probably aware that **Martha McIver** deals regularly with fibromyalgia, bone cysts and lung challenges. At the Feast in Destin, she dealt with bronchitis (and was able to attend a church service on only one day). She reports that she is feeling better and thanks you for your prayers.

**Brenda Marks** requests prayers for her right arm. She reported: "It still looks bad and feels bad. My doctor says it is cellulitis. I'm going to see the dermatologist."

On Friday, **Jessica Killingley** had a fender bender due to slick road conditions. Because of the damage to the front left side of the car, her car may actually be considered "totaled" (which is common with modern cars). Thankfully, she and others were not hurt.

**Sam Crow** of Katy (teenage son of **Richard** and **Tracy Crow**) was diagnosed this week with pneumonia and went to a hospital to be rehydrated.

Earlier this year, **Mary Chesney** of Harrisburg, Pa., had an infection that ate away a disc and some of the bone in the vertebrae. On Oct. 20, she had surgery (a fusion). Her husband, **Bruce**, reports that "she is doing better, but still recovering."

On Monday, **Margaret Mitchell** of Farragut, Tenn., had knee-replacement surgery. She was scheduled to begin rehab in Farragut, but she remains in a Knoxville hospital struggling to get her rehab approved.

**Ron Kemp** of Tellico Plains, Tenn., has been diagnosed with pneumonia.

### Thought for the week

"Most people are mirrors, reflecting the moods and emotions of the times; few are windows, bringing light to bear on the dark corners where troubles fester. The whole purpose of education is to turn mirrors into windows."—*Sydney J. Harris, journalist and author.*

### Thought with a twist

"You're never too old to learn something stupid."



## "The First Commandment"

This article is from the "Among Friends" section of the Church of God Big Sandy's website, churchofgodbigandy.com. It was posted for the weekend of Oct. 29, 2022.

**By Dave Havir**

BIG SANDY, Texas—At our Bible study on Wednesday night, I gave a presentation titled "The First Commandment." Following are some of the scriptures that I read.

#### Grace and expectations

*Exodus 20:2*—"I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage."

*Exodus 20:3*—"You shall have no other gods before Me."

#### Gods of Egypt

*Exodus 12:12*—"For I will pass through the land of Egypt on that night, and will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgment: I am the Lord."

## **Gods of the nations**

*Exodus 18:10-11*—“And Jethro said, ‘Blessed be the Lord, who has delivered you out of the hand of the Egyptians and out of the hand of Pharaoh, and who has delivered the people from under the hand of the Egyptians. Now I know that the Lord is greater than all the gods; for in the very thing in which they behaved proudly, He was above them.’ ”

*Deuteronomy 12:29-31*—“When the Lord your God cuts off from before you the nations which you go to dispossess, and you displace them and dwell in their land, take heed to yourself that you are not ensnared to follow them, after they are destroyed from before you, and that you do not inquire after their gods, saying, ‘How did these nations serve their gods? I also will do likewise.’ You shall not worship the Lord your God in that way; for every abomination to the Lord which He hates they have done to their gods; for they burn even their sons and daughters in the fire to their gods.”

## **God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob**

There are many scriptures that mention the promises that God made to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Following are a few.

- Genesis 12:1-3—God made a promise to Abram.
- Genesis 17:1-14—God made a covenant with Abraham.
- Genesis 22:15-18—God repeated His promise to Abraham.
- Genesis 26:2-5—God repeated His promise to Isaac.
- Genesis 28:10-15—God repeated His promise to Jacob.
- Exodus 3:1-6—God identified Himself to Moses as the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.
- John 8:56-58—Christ reminded the crowd about Exodus 3:6.

## **God of the living**

After the Pharisees and Herodians challenged the Son of God (Matthew 22:15-22), the Sadducees took their turn (verses 23-33). In His rebuttal, He made a powerful statement in Matthew 22:31-32.

*Matthew 22:31-32*—“But concerning the resurrection of the dead, have you

not read what was spoken to you by God, saying, 'I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob'? God is not the God of the dead, but of the living."

### **Great Commandments**

Whenever people seek to live by the First Commandment, I recommend that they consider the two Great Commandments mentioned by the Son of God.

*Matthew 22:36-40*—" 'Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?' Jesus said to him, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets."