

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

May 6, 2023 • 1:00 p.m. • Sunset 8:03

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 Luke 24:28-35
Sermon Blake Silverstein

Quick takes

1. Welcome to guest speaker—The congregation welcomes Blake Silverstein, who will be giving the sermon at the church service today.
2. Vi Lehman had a special birthday—On Thursday (May 4), Vi Lehman turned 99. She enjoyed Marcia reading the many birthday cards to her. Feel free to send any belated cards to her. If you are wondering why Dave Havir does not list Mrs. Lehman in the next announcement, she has given him strict orders to not keep putting her in the bulletin. When Mr. Havir has gone against her wishes, she knew—because Marcia regularly reads the bulletin to her. (Vi gave Mr. Havir permission to mention her this week.)
3. Please remember to pray for the following people who are not able to regularly attend our church service.

- Mickey Ashcraft
- Timberly Dunnan
- Annette Payne
- Ruth Roe

- Sonny Rosenberger
- Ronny Shirley
- Elaine Townsend
- Donna Weese

4. Board-nomination process to begin today—The annual election for the board of the Church of God Big Sandy is scheduled to begin in May. (The nomination portion of the process occurs in May, and the election occurs in June.)
5. Wednesday-night Bible study this week—May 10.
6. Big Sandy FFA banquet in building on May 16—The Big Sandy High School FFA banquet is scheduled in our building on Tuesday evening, May 16.
7. Big Sandy athletic banquet in building on May 18—The Big Sandy athletic banquet is scheduled in our building on Thursday evening, May 18.
8. Tentative schedule for memorial services—Following is the tentative schedule for three members of our congregation who recently died.

■ Elaine Holloway	Saturday, June, 3 at noon
■ Ron Avey	Sunday, July 2
■ David Bonilla	Sunday, Aug. 20
9. Edifying the Body—This week's article is "Does Government Believe in the Constitution?" by Andrew P. Napolitano.
10. Among Friends—This week's article is "John 15" by Dave Havir.
11. Eye on the World—The version of this week's "Eye on the World" that is distributed in the hall is 32 pages. This edition has 273 headlines and two articles.

Prayer updates

On Friday, **Angela Dunnam** had a follow-up visit with her oncologist. She was diagnosed with stage-one cancer and is anticipating four weeks of radiation.

In last week's bulletin, we mentioned that **Gary Wilson** (temporarily at 2301 Campbell Rd. in Garland) was anticipating an upcoming trip near Chicago, Ill., for stem-cell treatment. The procedure is scheduled on June 27.

Lisa Smith thanks you for praying for three family members with health matters. First, her mother (**Margaret Pitre**) of Ville Platte, La., has diverticulitis. Second, her pawpaw (**Nolan Pitre**) was diagnosed with significant blockage around his heart. Third, her granddaughter (**Nova-Leigh**) was overcoming pneumonia.

On Monday, **Shirley Spearman** had a heart catheterization, which resulted in her having one stent inserted. She appreciates your prayers.

On Tuesday, **John O'Brien** (husband of **Carol**) had a heart catheterization that went well. He is planning to see a pulmonary specialist next.

Sara Dunn (daughter of the **Colemans**) saw the doctor and was released for work (with restrictions). There is an area on her arm that has no feeling. The doctor said it's a waiting game to see if the feeling comes back. She is anticipating the start of therapy.

New prayer requests

Dave McLearn reports that the pain in his back has returned, and it has been intense.

Bill Luecke (pastor in Hays, Kan.) has been experiencing severe back pain.

Rich Masek of Wickliffe, Ohio, died on April 13. Please remember his wife, **Mary**, and the rest of the family in your prayers.

Ray Curtis of Homewood, Ill. (pastor in the Chicago area), died on April 28. Please remember his wife, **Sandy**, and the rest of the family in your prayers.

Scriptures to consider

Luke 24:48-49—“And you are witnesses of these things. Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high.”

Acts 1:21-22—“Therefore, of these men who have accompanied us all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, beginning from the baptism of John to that day when He was taken up from us, one of these must become a witness with us of His resurrection.”

Acts 2:1—“When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.”

Acts 2:22-24—“Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man attested by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs which God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves also know—Him, being delivered by the determined purpose and foreknowledge of God, you have taken by lawless hands, have crucified, and put to death; whom God raised up, having loosed the pains of death, because it was not possible that He should be held by it.”

Acts 4:33—“And with great power the apostles gave witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And great grace was upon them all.”

Thought for the week

“Doctors [in Massachusetts] perform world-first brain surgery on baby with deadly disorder while it is still inside its mom’s uterus.”—*dailymail.co.uk*

Thought with a twist

“I want my children to have all the things I couldn’t afford, then I want to move in with them.”—*Phyllis Diller*

“John 15”

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 May 6, 2023.

By Dave Havir

BIG SANDY, Texas—At our Bible study on Wednesday night, I discussed John 15. Following are some of the scriptures that were discussed.

Son of God is true vine

■ John 15:1—The Son of God is the true vine, and the Father is the vinedresser.

■ John 15:2—Every branch that does not bear fruit is taken away, and every branch that does bear fruit is pruned to bear more fruit.

■ John 15:3-6—If we abide with the vine (the Son of God), we can bear much fruit. If we do not abide with the Son of God, we are like a branch that is burned in a fire.

Whatever you ask?

■ John 15:7—“Ask what you desire” and it will be done.

■ John 15:16—“Whatever you ask the Father in My name, He may give you.”

■ James 4:2-3—Some people don’t receive because they don’t ask, and other people don’t receive because they “ask amiss.”

■ John 15:8—The Father is glorified when we bear much fruit.

Son of God kept Father’s instructions

■ John 15:9—Since the Father loved the Son and the Son loved the disciples, we ought to abide in His love.

■ John 15:10—Since the Son kept the Father’s instructions, we ought to keep the Son’s instructions.

Love one another

■ John 15:11-12—We should love one another as the Son has loved us.

■ John 15:13—Are you willing to lay down your life for a friend?

■ John 15:14—Since we are the Son’s friend, we should follow the Son’s instruction.

■ John 15:15—He called them friends instead of servants.

■ John 15:16—We did not choose Him,

but He chose us to bear fruit.

■ John 15:17—He reiterated that we should love one another.

Dealing with hatred

■ John 15:18—If the world hates you, know that it hated the Son of God.

■ John 15:19—We are not of the world.

■ John 15:20—If the world persecuted the Son of God, they (the world) will also persecute you.

■ John 15:21—They did not know the Father.

■ John 15:22—If the people were ignorant, they had an excuse.

■ John 15:23-24—If people hate the Son of God, they hate the Father.

■ John 15:25—The people hated the Son of God without a legitimate reason.

Comforter pronoun

■ John 15:26—The Son of God mentioned the “Comforter” with the various personal pronouns. (Personal pronouns are also used in John 14:16, John 14:26 and John 16:7.)

There are many examples of the “personalification” of the Spirit.

My favorite examples are found when the Son of God said that the Spirit “speaks” to the seven congregations in Revelation 2 and 3.

Power from God

Notice verses about power from God.

■ Acts 2:33

■ 2 Corinthians 1:21-22

■ Ephesians 1:13-14

■ 1 Thessalonians 4:8

■ 2 Timothy 1:6-7

Disciples bear witness

■ John 15:27—They were to bear witness of the Son of God, because they had been with Him from the beginning.

■ Acts 1:22—When it was time to pick a replacement for Judas, they were to consider someone who had been a witness of the resurrection.