

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

June 17, 2023 • 1:00 p.m. • Sunset 8:28

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 Mark Weiss
Pianist Dixon Cartwright
Scripture reading Matthew 5:21–26
Sermon Mark Weiss

Quick takes

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

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| ■ Mickey Ashcraft | ■ Ronnie Shirley |
| ■ Timberly Dunnam | ■ Elaine Townsend |
| ■ Annette Payne | ■ Donna Weese |
| ■ Ruth Roe | |

2. Reminder from last week's bulletin—Concerning the pastor's goal about the local speaking schedule, here is a quick glimpse of the thinking of Dave Havir for the local speaking schedule.

- Wednesday night—primarily Dave Havir
- Saturday at 2:00—primarily Dave Havir
- Saturday at 3:00—local and traveling speakers
- Mr. Havir sometimes gives both messages on Saturday, but he prefers to include other people, because he believes that it is good for the congregation to hear truth from a variety of voices

3. Welcome to traveling speaker—The congregation welcomes Mark Weiss as the traveling speaker today. (Mr. Weiss will also lead songs for the congregation today.)
4. Traveling speakers—We are pleased to announce the following traveling speakers coming to our congregation.

■ Today	Mark Weiss
■ June 24	Terry McAdams
■ July 8	Wynn Skelton
■ July 22	Blake Silverstein
5. Wednesday-night Bible study this week—On June 21, Dave Havir is scheduled to give “Parable of the Sower—Part 4.”
6. Celebration of Life for Ron Avey—Linda Avey and her family invite members of the congregation to the celebration of life for her husband. Following are some details.

■ Date	Sunday, July 2
■ Time	10:00 a.m.
■ Where	Church auditorium
■ No meal	Afterwards, the family will gather for a private meal
7. Board election until June 24—The board election for the two spots available this year concludes on Saturday, June 24.
8. Edifying the Body—This week’s article is “A Nation Founded by Geniuses” by Dave Havir.
9. Among Friends—This week’s article is “Parable of the Sower—Part 3” by Dave Havir.
10. Eye on the World—Since this bulletin was completed on Thursday and “Eye on the World” is scheduled to be completed on Friday, we cannot tell you the number of pages at the printing deadline of this bulletin.

Prayer updates

This is a reminder that **Gary Wilson** was transferred back to Tyler on June 2. (His Tyler address is 6589 Oak Hill Blvd., Building 3.)

On Tuesday, **Angela Dunnam** got a call from the radiation department of the treatment center to see if she could go see the financial planner. After visiting with the financial planner, treatment personnel asked if she was ready for her first treatment. Mrs. Dunnam reported: “The doctor apologized for my treatment being put off for six weeks. It wasn’t his fault, but rather the fault of the oncologist. Everything went great. I will have 20 treatments and then get scanned to check to see if there are any more cancer cells.” The family appreciates your prayers.

On Monday, **Shirley Spearman** reported the following results from her renal doppler exam. The results do not suggest renal (kidney) artery stenosis (narrowing). Rather, the results suggest mild hydronephrosis (swelling of one or both kidneys). She would appreciate your prayers.

On Wednesday, **Dave McLearn** had a nuclear stress test for his heart. He reported that he got “rather ill.” Later on Wednesday, he had an ultrasound on his heart—but he is not expected to hear results until June 22. Mr. McLearn also mentioned that his back is hurting more this week.

On Wednesday, **Shirley West** woke up extremely weak and was taken to Longview Regional Hospital by her son **Stan**. Since she was already scheduled on Thursday for an exploratory procedure (to explore the changing rhythm of her heart), the doctors kept her overnight. Here are excerpts from a report by her son on Thursday: “She went into the OR around 1:00 p.m. They did an ultrasound through the esophagus to make sure that there were no blood clots, then they shocked her to reset her [heart] rhythm.” The doctor said that she responded well.

New prayer requests

On Monday night, **Roxanna West** turned her ankle. On Tuesday, she went to a clinic and learned that she broke the outer bone. On Wednesday, **Stan** gave the following report: “While painful, it has not been totally debilitating because she is so tough, and can still get around. She is assigned to wear a boot until an appointment with a podiatrist or orthopedic surgeon. We appreciate prayers for positive treatment and full healing.”

Bill Stenger of Weeki Wachee, Fla., is dealing with a leg infection.

Marvin Cook of Tulsa, Okla., fell and broke a hip. He will need to move into an assisted-living facility.

Thought for Father’s Day

“A father doesn’t just tell you that he loves you. He shows you.”

Thought for the week

“It’s a lot easier to see the solutions to everyone else’s problems than it is our own.—*Carolyn Hax*”

Thought with a twist

“They say the best way is just to live one day at a time. If you try to live seven days at a time, the week will be over before you know it.”—*Sally Brown*”

“Parable of the Sower—Part 3”

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 June 17, 2023.

By Dave Havir

BIG SANDY, Texas—At our Bible study on Wednesday night, I continued with a four-part series about the parable of the sower (which was given in Matthew 13:3-9 and explained in Matthew 13:18-23).

Let’s look at the third lesson in the parable.

Choking the word

Matthew 13:7—“Some seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns sprang up and choked them.”

Matthew 13:22—“Now he who received seed among the thorns is he who hears the word, and the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and he becomes unfruitful.”

Cares of world—general warnings

■ Exodus 20:17—The Tenth Commandment says that we should not lust for anything that is our neighbor’s.

■ Ephesians 2:2-3—The prince of the power of the air stirs up lusts of our flesh, desires of our flesh and desires of our mind.

■ 1 John 2:15-16—Disciples should not love the things of the world—meaning the lust of the flesh, lust of the eyes and the pride of life.

Behaviors that are sin

■ Matthew 5:28—The Son of God said: Whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery.

■ Acts 8:18-23—When Simon wanted to buy power, Peter noted his sin.

Behaviors that can become sin

■ Deuteronomy 20:5-7—The following three distractions to a soldier (a new house, a vineyard and a wife) are not automatically sin, but they can become sin.

■ Luke 14:18-20—The following three distractions to a disciple (land, animals and a wife) are not automatically sin, but they

can become sin.

■ 1 Corinthians 7:32-35—The apostle Paul gave his opinion about the advantages of being single instead of being married.

Deceitfulness of riches

■ Deuteronomy 6:10-12—When you enjoy physical blessings, beware lest you forget God.

■ Deuteronomy 8:10-14—When your life is full, beware lest you forget God.

■ Revelation 18:11-17—When the merchants of the earth lose their wealth, many people will weep and mourn.

■ Mark 10:23—The Son of God said: It is hard for those who “have” riches to enter the kingdom of heaven.

■ Mark 10:24—The Son of God said: It is hard for those who “trust in” riches to enter the kingdom of heaven.

■ Luke 12:15—Beware of covetousness, because a person’s life does not consist of the abundance of the things he possesses.

■ Luke 12:16-21—The Son of God gave a parable instructing the audience to be “rich toward God.”

■ Luke 14:12-14—The Son of God reminded His disciples that they would be repaid at the resurrection of the just.

■ 1 Timothy 6:3-10—The apostle Paul warned about church leaders who were preoccupied with becoming rich.

■ 1 Timothy 6:9—Church leaders who desire to be rich often fall into temptation and a snare of foolish and harmful lusts.

■ 1 Timothy 6:10—Paul reminded people that the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil.

■ 1 Timothy 6:17—Paul reminded people to avoid trusting in uncertain riches and to trust in the living God.

■ 1 Timothy 6:18-19—Paul reminded people to be a giver on earth and to receive future blessings.