

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

July 15, 2023 • 1:00 p.m. • Sunset 8:27

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 Neil McIver
Pianist Dixon Cartwright
Scripture reading Matthew 5:43–48
Sermon Dave Havir

Quick takes

1. Traveling speakers—We are pleased to announce the following traveling speakers coming to our congregation.

- July 22 Blake Silverstein
- July 29 Mark Weiss

2. Upcoming memorial services—Here is a reminder for two memorial services scheduled for members of our congregation.

- Sonny Rosenberger Saturday, July 29, at 12:30 p.m.
- David Bonilla Sunday, Aug. 20, at 1:00 p.m.

3. Wednesday-night Bible study this week—July 19

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

- Mickey Ashcraft
- Timbberly Dunnam
- Annette Payne
- Ruth Roe
- Ronnie Shirley
- Elaine Townsend
- Donna Weese

5. Edifying the Body—This week's article is "SCOTUS Brings a New Birth of Freedom" by Star Parker.
6. Among Friends—This week's article is "Bearing Fruit—Part 2" by Dave Havir.
7. Eye on the World—The version of this week's "Eye on the World" that is distributed in the hall is 36 pages. (The number of pages on the website varies slightly due to a different layout program.) This edition has 321 headlines and three articles.

Prayer updates

Gary Wilson is anticipating hyperbaric-chamber therapy in the Tyler area.

On Thursday, **Angela Dunnam** has completed 20 radiation treatments under the initial plan.

On Friday, **Timberly Dunnam** went to see her allergist to learn the results of her recent blood test. She was diagnosed with "an autoimmune skin disorder."

Mickey Voyce is scheduled to start chemotherapy on Monday.

Shirley West requests prayers for her energy level to return.

Mareshia Garret (daughter of **Stan** and **Roxanna West**) is scheduled to start her chemo treatments on Monday (if there is no trouble with the insurance).

Becky Bonilla is dealing with kidney issues.

Shirley Spearman reports that she has trouble breathing, her legs are weak, and she has no energy.

Bea Gusner requests prayers for her breathing to improve.

Dave McLearn reports that his back is feeling much better.

New prayer requests

Last Saturday, **Lisa Smith** began to experience severe stomach pain at church. **Linda Avey** left early with Mrs. Smith (and passenger **Gary Wilson**). After Mrs. Avey dropped off Mr. Wilson at his place, she took Mrs. Smith to an ER. Since the diagnosis was a ruptured appendix, surgery was undertaken. Since Mrs. Smith had continued pain and two abscesses on the right side, more surgery was scheduled for last Thursday. That surgery was postponed until Friday and then postponed again. Mrs. Smith appreciates your prayers.

Nolen Pitre of Ville Platte, La. (grandfather of **Lisa Smith**), is reportedly in need of a blood transfusion. His wife is at the hospital with Mrs. Smith.

On Wednesday, **Sue Jones** began dealing with back pain.

On Wednesday, **Gloria Hoppe** began experiencing severe pain in her right knee.

This week, **Mel Edelbach** of Elgin, Minn. (father of **Jeanine Case**), went to an ICU due to low blood pressure and the suspicion of a UTI. Although his blood pressure returned to normal, the doctor did confirm that he does indeed have a UTI. He was moved to a regular room.

Dave Havir requests prayers for **Jerry Thompson**, who finds himself in a difficult situation due to a mistake he made and a possible overreaction made by others.

Synopsis of board meeting on July 9

- Vice President Reg Killingley welcomed the board members (David Coleman and Stan West) who were chosen by the congregation.
- The board selected the following officers—Reg Killingley as president, David Coleman as vice president, Carol O'Brien as secretary and Neil McIver as treasurer.
- In the treasurer's report, board members reviewed the expenditures of the approved budget for the first half of the year and the performance of our investments.
- If a budget item is trending higher than expected and spending in that area seems appropriate, board members keep each other apprised of the situation and anticipate making a proper adjustment to the budget near the end of the year. (The only item at this time that was above the anticipated cost was "supplies"—which can be attributed to rising costs and buying in advance.)
- The board went into executive session to discuss remuneration for Linda Avey for her work in undertaking projects inside the building. (The guests were temporarily dismissed. Also, Dave Havir voluntarily left the room—as he likes to regularly demonstrate the separation between board financial business and his emphasis upon ecclesiastical responsibilities.)
- In the pastor's report, Mr. Havir gave a review of the speaking history for the first half of 2023.

Thought for the week

"The consistency of your endeavors
(exercise, companionship, work) is more important
than the quantity. Nothing beats small things done every
day, which is way more important than what you do occasionally."

Thought with a twist

"Life is like a hot bath. It feels good while you're in it, but the longer you stay the more wrinkled you get."—*Garfield*

“Bearing Fruit—Part 2”

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 July 15, 2023.

By Dave Havir

BIG SANDY, Texas—At our Bible study on Wednesday night, I continued a three-part series about “Bearing Fruit.” (This was a follow-up to the series about the parable of the sower.)

The first study discussed scriptures by Paul (Romans 5:1-5), and this study discussed scriptures by James (James 3:13-18). Next week’s study will discuss scriptures by Peter.

At this time, we will look at the second presentation.

Quick background of James 3

The beginning of James 3 (verses 1-12) discussed how the tongue can be a huge challenge to people.

James 3:5—“The tongue is a little member and boasts great things.”

James 3:8—“No man can tame the tongue. It is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison.”

While James 3:1-12 certainly gives strong warnings about the abuse of the tongue, let me quickly mention six sections of verse about the tongue—to give you a fuller picture about the tongue topic.

■ John 8:44—The sinless Son of God used strong words.

■ Acts 23:1-5—Paul did not regret speaking strongly, but he certainly regretted speaking strongly to the high priest.

■ Romans 12:17-21—No revenge.

■ 2 Corinthians 11:20—Recognize religious people trying to control you.

■ Ephesians 4:26-27—Be angry, but don’t sin.

■ 2 Timothy 4:14-15—No revenge. Beware of certain people.

Meekness of wisdom

■ James 3:13—James taught that our actions should be done in the meekness of wisdom.

■ Matthew 22:39—God expects us to love ourself—oftentimes described as having self-respect.

■ Philippians 2:3—From a foundation

of self-respect, we should esteem other people better than ourselves.

Envy and strife

■ James 3:14-16—James taught that we should avoid envy and strife.

The Greek word for “envy” is *zelos* (Strong’s No. 2205), which is a noun that can mean the positive characteristic of zeal and ardent concern or the negative characteristic of jealously, envy and rage. In this verse, it is obviously meaning envy.

The Greek word for “strife” is *eritheia* (Strong’s No. 2052), which is a noun that can mean selfish ambition, faction and strife. I find it interesting that the King James Version uses the obvious word “strife”—while the New King James uses the phrase “self-seeking.”

Earthy, sensual, devilish

■ James 3:15—James warned that envy and strife are earthy, sensual and devilish.

The Greek word for “devilish” (in the King James and “demonic” in the New King James) is *daimoniodes* (Strong’s No. 1141), a description that means of the devil and demonic—used only for this verse.

The noun variation *daimonion* (Strong’s No. 1140) is translated devils or devil 59 times.

Bible students are aware that these two Greek words are different from *diabolos* (Strong’s No. 1228), which is translated devil 35 times.

Wonderful positive traits

In James 3:17, the author listed eight positive traits.

- Pure
- Peaceable
- Gentle
- Willing to yield
- Full of mercy
- Full of good fruits
- Without partiality
- Without hypocrisy

James 3:18—“The fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.”