

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

Dec. 7, 2024 • 1:00 p.m. • Sunset 5:13

Bible studies

Interactive study—1:00 p.m. Jim Bald

Presentation study—2:00 Terry McAdams
(also transmitted live)

Order of service—3:00 p.m.

Song leader Neil McIver

Pianist Dixon Cartwright

Scripture reading Ecclesiastes 3:1–8

Sermon Terry McAdams

Quick takes

1. Pastor's travel—Today, Dave Havir is giving two presentations in Huntsville.
2. Dominoes tomorrow—There will be dominoes tomorrow at 11:00 a.m.
3. Wednesday Bible study—Dec. 11 at 7:00 p.m.
4. Edifying the Body—This week's article is "Shalom" by Reg Killingley.
5. Among Friends—This week's article is "Emotional Bank Account—Part 4" by Dave Havir.
6. Eye on the World—Not finished at printing deadline.

Prayer updates

In the Nov. 23 bulletin, we mentioned that **Angela Dunnam** was going to have a diagnostic mammogram after Thanksgiving. It is scheduled for Dec. 12.

In last week's bulletin, we mentioned that **Linda Avey** was able to go home. She reports that she is doing well. She is back on her dialysis schedule of Monday, Wednesday and Friday in Gilmer.

In last week's bulletin, we mentioned that **Bea Gusner** traveled by car to North Carolina to be with her family and was able to return home last Wednesday for her scheduled echocardiogram. She has not heard the official results. As a result of the trip, there is a new wrinkle in her life. Her family wants her to move to High Point, N.C. In fact, there is a house on the street that would work well for them. Although Mrs. Gusner loves it here (both in her home since 1990 and being a part of our congregation), she understands the wisdom of getting close to family. She has a lot to do to prepare for the sale of her home and for the move. She appreciates your prayers.

In last week's bulletin, we mentioned that **Don Day** (stepfather of **David Coleman**, living in Iowa) was in a hospital dealing with low blood pressure. Medical personnel were concerned that a port in his abdomen was causing an infection—so they planned to remove the port. On Thursday, it was reported: "They decided the port was not infected, so they didn't do surgery. They are stopping dialysis. Don is having fluid buildup, and he knows he is dying. He has family there." Thank you for your prayers.

New prayer requests

Dave McLearn (who with his wife, **Theresa**, has headed to South Texas for the winter) gave the following information about their trip. First, last Saturday he had a sinus infection that had "gotten into" his eyes. Second, on Monday their coach had a tire blowout while they were traveling. Third, after they arrived at their location, he fell outside the coach and spent three hours in an ER, where he learned that he has water on his left knee. He said: "That is just the first leg of this trip. It looks like I am keeping my guardian angel busy."

Last Monday, **Sue Jones** requested prayers for her brother, **Chip Akins**, who was in a Dallas hospital anticipating open-heart surgery. (His stents were apparently not effective anymore.) The surgery was scheduled on last Wednesday morning. The report on Friday was: "Chip is stable. We are concerned about his kidney function, which is at stage 4. Thank you for your prayers and concern."

On Wednesday, **Melodee Eishen** reported: "I would like to request prayers for my grandson **Jonathan Overton**. He has ankylosing spondylitis—which may leave him blind in his left eye. He is a truck driver and needs his eyesight for his employment. Besides, it is very painful. Please pray for complete healing. Thank you."

Daniel Carter gave the following prayer request: "My wife **Patti's** sister, **Kathy Hunt**, is in hospice, and Patti just found out that Kathy probably has only days to live, possibly a week." Thank you for prayers for the family.

Eileen Beltz (of De Leon Springs, Fla.) had colon surgery in November. She is recovering slowly, and the doctors talked about a possible second surgery in January or February. ("Their goal is to get her to the point where she will be able to have a somewhat normal GI tract again after the surgeon reconnects her colon.") Family members ask for prayers for her strength, weight gain and endurance.

Lyne Pickens of Big Sandy is recovering from brain surgery. Once she is sufficiently recovered, she will need to have further surgery to remove a cyst behind an eye.

Brenda Williamson (in Ohio) was diagnosed with a rare form of uterine cancer. She is scheduled for surgery on Dec. 12.

Theresa Ellard of San Antonio is recovering from extensive surgery on an arthritic shoulder and is still in pain.

William Agnew of Hawkins died on Nov. 12. Please remember his wife, **Bessie**, and the rest of the family in your prayers.

Keith Speaks (of Munster, Ind.) died on Nov. 21. Please remember his wife, **Virginia**, and the rest of the family in your prayers.

Liz Elkins (of Hawkins, who was pastor of the Gospel Lighthouse Church in Big Sandy) died on Dec. 2. Please remember her family in your prayers. (Her mother, **Yolanda Elkins**, lived with her and has cancer.)

Scriptures to consider

John 8:44—“You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it.”

Ephesians 4:15—“But, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ.”

1 Timothy 3:15—“But if I am delayed, I write so that you may know how you ought to conduct yourself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.”

“Emotional Bank Account—Part 4”

This article is from the “Among Friends” of the Church of God’s Big Sandy’s website (churchofgodbig sandy.com). It was posted for the weekend of Dec. 7, 2024.

By Dave Havir

BIG SANDY, Texas—At our Bible study on Wednesday night, I continued a series with a presentation titled “Emotional Bank Account—Part 4.” Following are the four subtitles of the first four presentations.

■ The subtitle for the first presentation was “Father and Son Make Deposits Into Your Emotional Bank Account.”

■ The subtitle for the second presentation was “God Made Positive Withdrawals From Christ’s Emotional Bank Account.”

■ The subtitle for the third presentation was “God Makes Positive Withdrawals From Disciples’ Emotional Bank Account.”

■ The subtitle for the fourth presentation was “Situations Where Disciples Make Positive Withdrawals From People.”

Change of emphasis

In the fourth presentation, there was an obvious change of emphasis.

■ The first three presentations focused upon what God does—while the fourth presentation focused upon what disciples can do.

■ The first three presentations focused upon God making positive withdrawals (in connection with his positive deposits)—while the fourth presentation mentioned that there are times when disciples make positive withdrawals from other people.

(Although it may not have been overly stressed in the fourth presentation, it is certainly understood that disciples should be regularly giving positive deposits.)

Weekly reminder by Covey

Author Stephen Covey wrote about “the Emotional Bank Account” in his book *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People*. Following are excerpts.

On page 188, Covey wrote: “We all know what a financial bank account is. We make deposits into it and build up a reserve from which we can make withdrawals when we need it. An Emotional Bank Account is a metaphor that describes the amount of trust that’s been built up in a relationship. It’s the feeling of safeness you have with another human being.

“If I make deposits into an Emotional Bank Account with you through courtesy, kindness, honesty, and keeping my commitments to you, I build up a reserve. Your trust toward me becomes higher, and I call upon that trust many times if I need to. I can even make mistakes and that trust level (that emotional reserve) will compensate for it.”

Later in this series

As this series progresses, we are going to focus upon Covey’s words to reach the following goals.

- We want to make good deposits into the lives of other people.
- We want to deal with the negative withdrawals that people make toward us.

Father’s deposits to mankind

Here are quick reminders about the Father’s deposits to mankind.

- John 10:1-30
- Romans 8:31-39
- 2 Corinthians 1:3-10

Father’s withdrawals from the Son

Here are quick reminders about the Father’s withdrawals from the Son (which were also deposits for Him and for all of mankind).

- Matthew 16:21
- Matthew 26:37-38
- Matthew 27:46
- Hebrews 5:7-8

The Lord’s withdrawals from disciples

Here are quick reminders about the Lord’s withdrawals from disciples.

- Genesis 50:20—about Joseph
- Deuteronomy 3:23-27—about Moses
- 2 Samuel 12:13-23—about David
- Job 1:8-12 and Job 2:3-6—about Job
- 2 Corinthians 12:7-11—about Paul

Three examples of making positive withdrawals

- Ephesians 5:21-33—Marriage
- Ephesians 6:1-4—Parenting
- Ephesians 6:5-9—Employment

Marriage

- Ephesians 5:21—Submitting to each other means making deposits and withdrawals.
- Ephesians 5:22-33—Love and respect equal deposits and withdrawals.
- 1 Corinthians 7:3-5—Romance among couples equals agreement and service.

Parenting

- Ephesians 6:1-4—Parents who lead their children use deposits and withdrawals.
- Hebrews 12:5-11—Parents who lead their children use correction (which should be considered a withdrawal that leads to a deposit).
- Mark 7:9-13—Children who love their aging parents often get to the point of enacting restrictions (which should be considered withdrawals that lead to deposits).

Employment

- Ephesians 6:5-9—When employers establish certain principles and standards, those can be viewed as withdrawals.
- Colossians 4:1—Employers are expected to be just and fair.

Reminders

As we continue in this series, we are going to talk about the following Christian-living goals.

- We want to make good deposits into the lives of other people.
- We want to deal with the negative withdrawals that people make toward us.