

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

Feb. 8, 2025 • 1:00 p.m. • Sunset 5:58

Bible studies

Interactive study—1:00 p.m. Jim Bald

Presentation study—2:00 Wynn Skelton
(also transmitted live)

Order of service—3:00 p.m.

Song leader Neil McIver

Pianist Dixon Cartwright

Scripture reading Psalm 15:1–5

Sermon Terry McAdams

Quick takes

1. Pastor's travel—Today, Dave Havir is speaking at a sister congregation in Jackson, Miss. He went to Mississippi yesterday to spend time with Anthony and Pam Kimmons. (As you know, Mrs. Kimmons has been on our prayer list after she was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer last August.)
2. *Musical Memories* tonight—The Big Sandy Museum presents *Musical Memories* tonight in our building.
 - Big Sandy Museum fundraiser
 - Saturday, Feb. 8
 - 7:00–9:00 p.m.—doors open at 6:30
 - Church of God Big Sandy building
 - Door prizes
 - After the program—light refreshments
3. Dominoes tomorrow—If you are interested in playing dominoes tomorrow at 11:00 a.m., please let Sue Jones know.

4. Wednesday-night Bible study—Feb. 12 at 7:00. (We are pleased to have Wynn Skelton continue with his series about angels.)
5. Chamber of Commerce Banquet—The 39th annual Big Sandy Chamber of Commerce Banquet is scheduled for Thursday, Feb. 13.
 - Big Sandy Chamber of Commerce Banquet
 - Thursday, Feb. 13
 - 6:00 p.m.
 - Civic Center—612 N. Tyler St.
 - Meal by Hill Farms (formerly Longhorn Smokehouse)
6. Invitation to widows—If any widows want to attend the Chamber of Commerce Banquet, please let Dave Havir know. He would like to buy a meal for you at the event.
7. Board meeting—There is a board meeting scheduled for Sunday, Feb. 23, at 4:00 p.m. All are welcome.
8. Edifying the Body—This week's article is "It's a New Day; The Choice Is Yours" by Max Lucado.
9. Among Friends—This week's article is "Don't Underestimate or Overestimate the Enemy" by Dave Havir.
10. Eye on the World—Seven articles and 126 headlines.

Prayer updates

On Monday, **Gloria Hoppe** sent an update. Here is an excerpt: "She can walk unassisted (carefully) about 20 feet now. She has pain in her left hip. She has fallen a few times. She does only basic meal prep, but **Keith** is doing most of the cooking. She appreciates your prayers."

On Thursday, **Bea Gusner** headed to North Carolina after a couple of hectic weeks of packing. She appreciates her neighbors and members of the congregation who were able to help her in the process. She thanks **Marcia Chambers** for letting her stay with her last Wednesday night.

Following is an update on Wednesday from **Anthony Kimmons** about his wife, **Pam**: "Pam's overall condition has continued to decline. Due to bureaucratic constraints and difficulties in sourcing the pain medications needed, we began hospice care at home. Their care has been a tremendous blessing. We are so thankful for your prayers and support. Your calls, cards, letters and visits are always so appreciated and brighten up our day. Please continue to ask for God's strength to help us keep a positive outlook as we continue this trial. We are continuing to trust in God's mercy and healing power."

Following is an update on Wednesday from **Ramon Coleman** of Kansas City concerning his kidney cancer: "I had a CT scan this morning and met with the doctor in the early afternoon. The tumors had not changed in the last six months. Exactly the same size. So that is good. Six months ago he wouldn't remove my kidney because my heart wasn't strong enough. It is now. I was hoping he would remove the kidney. But he thinks the surgery might be more stressful than the

tumors themselves—since they are extremely slow-growing. I disagreed with him. I don't like any cancer in me. We had a good discussion. He explained about the heart medication I would have to stop taking before and after the surgery—how it could affect me, the risk, etc. He wanted me to wait six months and run another scan. He said the tumors could be benign. I still wasn't comfortable. We negotiated. (He said we negotiated like the UN does.) We both agreed to wait three months and do another CT scan. Thank you for your prayers."

New prayer requests

On Jan. 26, **Dave McLearn** reported that he was diagnosed with a significant case of gout (in both knee and ankle) and also strep throat. On Jan. 29, Mr. McLearn reported that **Theresa** was also diagnosed with strep throat.

Paula Monsalvo of Mobile, Ala., was expecting surgery last Wednesday, but it was postponed until this coming Tuesday. Following is the information sent by her husband, **Bernie**: "Paula (age 82) has had three separate, painful fungal infections since late December—along with three increasingly strong courses of antibiotics. Last week, her doctor found an infected breast cyst. After two unsuccessful attempts to remove it in the office, she was scheduled for outpatient surgery [last Wednesday]." On Wednesday afternoon, Mr. Monsalvo reported: "No operation today. Perhaps next Tuesday. The doctor now said he wanted the OR, not outpatient."

On Monday, **Joyce Coleman** sent the following prayer request: "Our daughter **Sara** has become the caregiver for her ex-mother-in-law, **Evelyn Dunne**—who has dementia symptoms. Evelyn's three children are unable to help at this time. Sara has been designated to make her health decisions and is stressing with all of it. Thanks for your prayers."

Last Sunday, **JayDee Chalmers** of the Huntsville congregation went to the ER. (Her husband, **Jerry**, who has more health challenges than she has, went with her.) She was released, but she reported that she was still dealing with abdominal pain. As **Dave Havir** was talking with her on Monday, she was in the process of picking up her husband from his dialysis."

Recently, **Loretta Tucker** of Daphne, Ala., had a heart attack as a result of an artery being blocked 99 percent.

On Monday, **Joe** and **Chelsea Andrews** requested prayers after their daughter **Bianka** (possibly 5 or 6 months old) fell. Bianka reportedly had a skull fracture. It was reported: "The doctors did tests and believe that Bianka is outside the window for any brain bleeds or other dire consequences."

On Monday, **Loma Gibson** of Big Sandy received 36 shots to treat her long-term debilitating migraine headaches.

On Wednesday, **Don Scheffield** of Dallas was scheduled for heart surgery.

Joanne Koeneke of Big Sandy is dealing with "troubling chest congestion" on top of her mobility problems.

Harold Clement of Broken Arrow, Okla., died on Feb. 5. Please remember the family in your prayers.

“Don’t Underestimate or Overestimate the Enemy”

This article is from “Among Friends” of the Church of God’s Big Sandy’s website (churchofgodbig sandy.com). It was posted for the weekend of Feb. 8, 2025.

By Dave Havir

BIG SANDY, Texas—At our Bible study on Wednesday night, I gave a presentation titled “Don’t Underestimate or Overestimate the Enemy.” I organized the material into three major concepts.

Not underestimate the enemy

Notice how the devil sought to thwart the Son of God.

■ Matthew 4:1-2—When the Son of God was to be tempted by the devil, He fasted for 40 days and nights.

■ Matthew 4:3-4—The tempter used control techniques to goad and to challenge the Son of God. The tempter said: “If you are the Son of God . . .”

■ Matthew 4:5-7—The tempter again used control techniques to goad and to challenge the Son of God. The tempter said: “If you are the Son of God . . .”

■ Matthew 4:8-10—The tempter had a proposal to stop the suffering in the world.

Notice that the devil asked the Son of God if he could sift Peter.

■ Luke 22:31—The Lord told Peter that Satan had specifically asked to have access to Peter with the goal of sifting him as wheat.

Notice that the devil has a clear objective.

■ 1 Peter 5:8—The devil walks about as a roaring lion—seeking whom he may devour.

Not overestimate the enemy

Notice the power of the Son of God.

■ Jude 9—The archangel Michael knew the value of saying: “The Lord rebuke you.”

■ Revelation 12:11—They overcame the devil by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony.

■ Revelation 12:17—The offspring of the woman keep the commandments of God and

have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

■ Luke 9:1—The Son of God called His 12 disciples together and gave them power and authority over all demons.

■ Luke 9:49-50—Notice that the power of the Lord’s name is successful against the enemy no matter what the identity of the group is.

■ Luke 10:1—The Son of God appointed 70 other people to travel in pairs before He arrived in those areas.

■ Luke 10:17—The 70 returned with joy because even the demons were subject to them—when they used His name.

■ Luke 10:18—The Son of God reminded them: “I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven.”

■ Luke 10:19—The Son of God reminded them that He gave them power over serpents and scorpions (but the next verse expressed a major truth).

■ Luke 10:20—“Nevertheless, do not rejoice in this that the spirits are subject to you—but rather rejoice because your names are written in heaven.”

Permission and restrictions

The history of the Lord working with Job is revealing.

■ Job 1:8—The Lord invited the devil to tempt Job.

■ Job 1:11—The devil proposed a specific affliction for Job.

■ Job 1:12—The Lord gave the devil permission and restrictions.

■ Job 2:3—The Lord again invited the devil to tempt Job.

■ Job 2:4-5—The devil again proposed a specific affliction for Job.

■ Job 2:6—The Lord again gave the devil permission and restrictions.

Thought for the week

“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites!”—*Son of God*