

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

Jan. 18, 2025 • 1:00 p.m. • Sunset 5:33

Bible studies

Interactive study—1:00 p.m. Dixon Cartwright
Presentation study—2:00 Video
(also transmitted live)

Order of service—3:00 p.m.

Song leader Reg Killingley
Pianist Dixon Cartwright
Scripture reading Ephesians 6:10–20
Sermon Neil McIver

Quick takes

1. Pastor's travel—Since Dave Havir went to Kansas City to officiate at the funeral of Kate Coleman on Sunday, he agreed to give two presentations today at the congregation.
2. Dominoes tomorrow—If the domino crowd wants to get together tomorrow, please let Sue Jones know.
3. Wednesday-night Bible study—Jan. 22 at 7:00. (We are pleased to have Wynn Skelton continue with his series about angels.)
4. Edifying the Body—This week's article is "I Was Called America's Pastor, But It Didn't Reveal the Truth" by Max Lucado.
5. Among Friends—This week's article is "Trust the Lord—2 Samuel 22" by Dave Havir.
6. Eye on the World—Three full articles and 142 headlines.

Prayer updates

Please remember **Bea Gusner** as she seeks to finalize her move to North Carolina during the first week of February.

Gloria Hoppe reports that she continued to make progress—even though she is still weak and shaky. She greatly appreciates your prayers.

On Sunday, **Stan West** reported that his mother (**Shirley**) was diagnosed with shingles. She was scheduled to be treated with a prescription for seven days and had taken Tylenol for the discomfort. Visitors are still welcome, but they should avoid skin contact.

Please pray that **Gary Wilson** will make continued physical progress, have a continued positive mind-set and will find improved opportunities for him to work at home.

Please pray that **Lisa Smith** can finish her online class to land a good job.

Lisa Smith reports: "**Pawpaw Nolan** has taken a turn for the worst. He lost a son two weeks ago. After the funeral, his health started to decline. His leg has a severe blockage. He is in the early stages of dementia."

Please remember **Dave McLearn**, who has been dealing with back pain.

In the Aug. 10 bulletin, we mentioned that **Pam Kimmons** (of Brookhaven, Miss.) was diagnosed with "pancreatic cancer estimated at stage 3." She and **Anthony** thank you for your continued prayers.

New prayer requests

Last Saturday at church, **Shirley Spearman** told **Dave Havir** that her blood pressure had been high recently.

Christina Maldonado reported: "I just wanted to let everyone know that I have been having a very hard time with my health—a situation of cysts and hormonal issues, as well as growing prediabetes. I've been working hard to reverse all these conditions, and I've slowly been getting better. We miss coming to church and seeing everyone. If anyone feels led to pray, I would love to receive your prayers for continued healing and strength. Much love."

Jonathan Havir reports that he has been struggling with deep breaths, and he may have a respiratory infection. He appreciates your prayers.

Terry McAdams asked prayers for his uncle, **Don Jones**. He was in the hospital with back pain, but other factors are more serious. Mr. McAdams reported: "He has spots on his pancreas, liver and colon. His weight is down to 160 pounds."

Jerry Chalmers of Huntsville went to a crowded ER where his extreme weakness was diagnosed as covid. (His wife, **JayDee**, was recovering from dental work that was done on Tuesday.)

Vinita Barfield of Big Sandy is dealing with weakness and struggles to use her hands because of arthritis.

Darlene Kovacs of Tyler recently experienced a painful rib injury. Although an X-ray revealed no fractures, she continues to deal with pain.

Stan McNeil of Round Rock died on Dec. 27. Please remember his family in your prayers.

Jeff Patton of Victoria, B.C., Canada, died this month. Please remember his wife, **Carolanne**, and the rest of the family in your prayers.

Phyllis Taylor of Prescott Valley, Ariz., died on Jan. 16. (Mrs. Taylor often attended our Western Feast sites.) Please remember her family in your prayers.

Scriptures to consider

Daniel 10:13—“But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me twenty-one days; and behold, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, for I had been left alone there with the kings of Persia.”

Daniel 10:20-21—“Then he said, “Do you know why I have come to you? And now I must return to fight with the prince of Persia; and when I have gone forth, indeed the prince of Greece will come. But I will tell you what is noted in the Scripture of Truth. (No one upholds me against these, except Michael your prince.”

Daniel 12:1—“At that time Michael shall stand up, the great prince who stands watch over the sons of your people; and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation, even to that time. And at that time your people shall be delivered, every one who is found written in the book.”

Jude 9—“Yet Michael the archangel, in contending with the devil, when he disputed about the body of Moses, dared not bring against him a reviling accusation, but said, ‘The Lord rebuke you!’ ”

Revelation 12:7-8—“And war broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought, but they did not prevail, nor was a place found for them in heaven any longer.”

“Trust the Lord — 2 Samuel 22”

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 Jan. 18, 2025.

By Dave Havir

BIG SANDY, Texas—Have you ever spent time looking up scriptures in the Bible that talk about trusting the Lord? This weekend, I want to remind you about a chapter in the book of 2 Samuel that eloquently talks about trusting the Lord.

Notice the 51 verses in 2 Samuel 22.

2 Samuel 22:1—“Then David spoke to the LORD the words of this song, on the day when the LORD had delivered him from the hand of all his enemies, and from the hand of Saul.”

2 Samuel 22:2-4—“And he said: ‘The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer; the God of my strength, in whom I will trust; my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold and my refuge; my Savior, You save me from violence. I will call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised; so shall I be saved from my enemies.’ ”

2 Samuel 22:5-7—“When the waves of death surrounded me, the floods of ungodliness made me afraid. The sorrows of Sheol surrounded me; the snares of death confronted me. In my distress I called upon the

LORD, and cried out to my God; He heard my voice from His temple, and my cry entered His ears.”

2 Samuel 22:8-13—“Then the earth shook and trembled; the foundations of heaven quaked and were shaken, because He was angry. Smoke went up from His nostrils, and devouring fire from His mouth; coals were kindled by it. He bowed the heavens also, and came down with darkness under His feet. He rode upon a cherub, and flew; and He was seen upon the wings of the wind. He made darkness canopies around Him, dark waters and thick clouds of the skies. From the brightness before Him coals of fire were kindled.”

2 Samuel 22:14-16—“The LORD thundered from heaven, and the Most High uttered His voice. He sent out arrows and scattered them; lightning bolts, and He vanquished them. Then the channels of the sea were seen, the foundations of the world were uncovered, at the rebuke of the LORD, at the blast of the breath of His nostrils.”

2 Samuel 22:17-20—“He sent from above, He took me, He drew me out of many waters. He delivered me from my strong enemy, from those who hated me; for they were too strong for me. They confronted me in the day of my calamity, but the LORD was my support. He also brought me out into a broad place; He delivered me because He delighted in me.”

2 Samuel 22:21-25—“The LORD rewarded me according to my righteousness; according to the cleanness of my hands He has recompensed me. For I have kept the ways of the LORD, and have not wickedly departed from my God. For all His judgments were before me; and as for His statutes, I did not depart from them. I was also blameless before Him, and I kept myself from my iniquity. Therefore the LORD has recompensed me according to my righteousness, according to my cleanness in His eyes.”

2 Samuel 22:26-28—“With the merciful You will show Yourself merciful; with a blameless man You will show Yourself blameless; with the pure You will show Yourself pure; and with the devious You will show Yourself shrewd. You will save the humble people; but Your eyes are on the haughty, that You may bring them down.”

2 Samuel 22:29-31—“For You are my lamp, O LORD; the LORD shall enlighten my darkness. For by You I can run against a troop; by my God I can leap over a wall. As for God, His way is perfect; the word of the LORD is proven; He is a shield to all who trust in Him.”

2 Samuel 22:32-35—“For who is God, except the LORD? And who is a rock, except our God? God is my strength and power, and He makes my way perfect. He makes my feet like the feet of deer, and sets me on my high places. He teaches my hands to make war, so that my arms can bend a bow of bronze.”

2 Samuel 22:36-37—“You have also given me the shield of Your salvation; Your gentleness has made me great. You enlarged my path under me; so my feet did not slip.”

2 Samuel 22:38-43—“I have pursued my enemies and destroyed them; neither did I turn back again till they were destroyed. And I have destroyed them and wounded them, so that they could not rise; they have fallen under my feet. For You have armed me with strength for the battle; You have subdued under me those who rose against me. You have also given me the necks of my enemies, so that I destroyed those who hated me. They looked, but there was none to save; even to the LORD, but He did not answer them. Then I beat them as fine as the dust of the earth; I trod them like dirt in the streets, and I spread them out.”

2 Samuel 22:44-46—“You have also delivered me from the strivings of my people; You have kept me as the head of the nations. A people I have not known shall serve me. The foreigners submit to me; as soon as they hear, they obey me. The foreigners fade away, and come frightened from their hideouts.”

2 Samuel 22:47-50—“The LORD lives! Blessed be my Rock! Let God be exalted, the Rock of my salvation! It is God who avenges me, and subdues the peoples under me; He delivers me from my enemies. You also lift me up above those who rise against me; You have delivered me from the violent man. Therefore I will give thanks to You, O LORD, among the gentiles, and sing praises to Your name.”

2 Samuel 22:51—“He is the tower of salvation to His king, and shows mercy to His anointed, to David and his descendants forevermore.”