

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

March 15, 2025 • 1:00 p.m. • Sunset 7:27

### 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 . . . . . Reg Killingley  
Pianist . . . . . Dixon Cartwright  
Scripture reading . . . . . Exodus 12:1–11  
Sermon . . . . . Jim Bald

### Quick takes

1. Neighborhood block party tonight—You are invited to a neighborhood block party in Big Sandy tonight.
  - Saturday—March 15
  - Time—7:00 to 9:00 p.m.
  - Location—Across from the post office
  - Food—Music—Dance—Door prizes
2. Dominoes tomorrow —If you are interested in playing dominoes tomorrow at 11:00 a.m., please let Sue Jones know.
3. Wednesday-night Bible study—March 19 at 7:00.
4. Edifying the Body—This week’s article is “If I Can Help Somebody” by Alma Bazel Androsso.
5. Among Friends—This week’s article is “Victory Over the Enemy—Part 4” by Dave Havir.
6. Eye on the World—30 pages, 254 headlines and three articles.

## Prayer updates

**Dianna Payne** of Gladewater (sister of **Roxanna West**) thanks everyone for your prayers following her lung-transplant surgery.

On Tuesday, **Linda Avey** had a long-overdue appointment with a neurologist. (You might remember that Mrs. Avey had seizures in the hospital last October and was considered to be on the brink of death. The family was ecstatic that she survived, but was disappointed that no professional ever helped the family to know the reason for her seizures.) On Thursday, Mrs. Avey gave a report covering three areas. First, the doctor immediately cut down the level of the seizure medication that Mrs. Avey had been taking. (She was pleased that the doctor quickly made that adjustment.) Second, the doctor has scheduled a test to check her brain waves to evaluate if she is having seizures. (Probes will be attached to her head for three days.) Third, the doctor mentioned that Mrs. Avey previously had a cluster of blood vessels in her frontal lobe—so an MRA will be scheduled to see if that situation persists. She and her family appreciate your prayers.

Recently, **Melodee Searls** spent several days in Brookhaven, Miss., to help her friend (**Pam Kimmons**) during the final days of her life. Mrs. Searls needed to return to East Texas last Friday for an appointment with her oncologist. She reports: "My oncologist gave me a clean bill of health."

In last week's bulletin, we mentioned that **Shirley Spearman** was scheduled for an MRI on March 18. However, it has been rescheduled for March 21.

In the March 1 bulletin, we mentioned that **Lisa Smith** fractured the inner ulna bone in her right hand and wrist. A doctor put a cast on her. On Monday, Mrs. Smith got a new cast to improve the flawed fit of the previous one.

## New prayer requests

**Lisa Smith** reports that her father (**Nolan Pitre** is his pawpaw name) went to an ICU in California on Friday, March 7. Her mother (**Margaret Pitre**) flew out there last Tuesday and was scheduled to return to East Texas yesterday.

On Tuesday, **Terry McAdams** broke his left hip. On Wednesday, he had surgery (pin and rod). He was anticipating to begin rehab on Thursday.

**Barbara Lingle** sent the following prayer request for **Garth** and **Sandy Daniels**: "Sandy had a cardiac event on Sunday. The cardiologist put in two stents on Monday afternoon. He said that a part of her lower heart was not active, but should repair itself with less stress. She went home on Tuesday afternoon. Garth (her husband) had a cardiac event on Saturday. The doctor put in a pacemaker on Sunday. They are both recovering at home and request prayers."

On Tuesday, **Lolalee Grisham** of Prescott, Ariz., was taken to a hospital in Phoenix. She was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer.

**Frank Rogers** of Ripley, W.Va., died on March 5. Please remember the family in your prayers.

## Spring Feast days

1. Memorial on Friday evening—April 11, at 7:30
  - Memorial of the suffering and death of our Lord
  - Christ, our Passover—1 Corinthians 5:7
  - “Night He was betrayed”—1 Corinthians 11:23
  - Foot-washing—John 13:1-17
  - Foot-washing pans are provided—please bring a towel.
  - Broken bread and wine—1 Corinthians 11:23-26
  - Live transmission
2. Remembering the time of Christ’s death—Saturday, April 12, at 3:00 p.m.
  - Since this falls on a Saturday this year, we get to be together.
3. Traditional meal on Saturday evening—April 12
  - Traditional meal—depicting deliverance from Egypt
  - Remember the Old Testament history—gathering in homes
  - The pastor recommends cozy gatherings in homes.
  - The building will be available for a cozy gathering.
  - Old Testament history and spiritual applications
4. First day of Unleavened Bread—Sunday, April 13
5. Remember the timing of Christ’s resurrection—three days and three nights later
6. Seventh day of Unleavened Bread—Saturday, April 19

## Thought for the week

Never give up. Today is hard, tomorrow will be worse, but  
the day after tomorrow will be sunshine.—*Jack Ma*

## “Victory Over the Enemy—Part 4”

This article is from the “Among Friends” section of the Church of God Big Sandy’s website ([churchofgodbig sandy.com](http://churchofgodbig sandy.com)). It was posted for the weekend of March 15, 2025.

### By Dave Havir

**B**IG SANDY, Texas—At our Bible study on Wednesday night, I continued with a series by giving a presentation titled “Victory Over the Enemy—Part 4.”

The first two presentations were designed to address the concept of not underestimating the enemy.

■ Part 1—We talked about “overt danger” from the enemy.

■ Part 2—We talked about “subtle danger” from the enemy.

The last two presentations were designed to address the concept of not overestimating the enemy.

■ Part 3—Victory Over the Enemy From the Old Testament.

■ Part 4—Victory Over the Enemy From the New Testament.

### The Son of God resisted the enemy

The master salesman tried to trick the Son of God with three different tests.

■ Matthew 4:3—The devil tried to set the terms—offering food to a hungry man.

■ Matthew 4:6—The devil tried a second time to set the terms—challenging Him to prove the Father’s love for Him by jumping off the pinnacle of the temple.

■ Matthew 4:9—The devil tried a third time to set the terms—appealing to His love for mankind and to the alleged opportunity to speed up the plan of God.

### **Saved by grace, created for good works**

■ Ephesians 2:1—The Son of God made us alive.

■ Ephesians 2:2—We previously walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air and according to the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience.

■ Ephesians 2:3—We previously conducted ourselves in the lusts of the flesh and of the mind.

■ Ephesians 2:4-7—But God (who is rich in mercy) raised us up together and made up sit together in the heavenly place in the Son of God.

■ Ephesians 2:8—We are saved by grace (through faith)—it is the gift of God.

■ Ephesians 2:9—Salvation is not by works, lest anyone should boast.

■ Ephesians 2:10—We are His workmanship created in the Son of God for good works—which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

### **Three quick requests**

Although I regularly take time to stress the following three concepts, I did not take the time last Wednesday night to emphasize them in my message.

■ Please allow the concept of being saved by grace to be one of the foundational pillars of your relationship with God.

■ Understand that grace does not eliminate the Father’s expectations of us, and I strongly recommend that you zealously respond with personal conviction to your understanding of what the Father’s expectations of you are.

■ Remember that you are capable of strongly holding fast to your personal convictions while still expressing deep compassion towards people who have different convictions.

### **Only loving your neighbor?**

■ Matthew 19:16-18—When the Son of God mentioned that a person should keep

the Commandments, a young man asked: “Which ones?”

■ Matthew 19:18-19—The Son of God mentioned the Sixth, Seventh, Eighth, Ninth and Fifth Commandments—describing them as, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”

Were those the only Commandments to be kept?

■ Matthew 19:20-21—The Son of God stressed those Commandments because those were the behaviors that the young man was lacking.

### **On these two Commandments**

■ Matthew 22:36—A lawyer asked the Son of God: “Which is the Great Commandment in the law?”

■ Matthew 22:37-39—“This is the first and Great Commandment. And the second is like it.”

■ Matthew 22:40—“On these two Commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.”

### **Judgment based on understanding**

■ John 12:47—If a person does not understand, the Son of God does not judge.

■ John 12:48—If a person does understand, he is being judged.

### **Why consequences?**

Notice that there is a major difference in suffering for sin and suffering for Christ.

■ 1 Peter 4:12—Trials are not a strange occurrence.

■ 1 Peter 4:13-14—Rejoice if you partake of Christ’s sufferings.

■ 1 Peter 4:15—When we suffer for our sins, we are being foolish (and we could also be described as being stupid).

■ 1 Peter 4:16—Anyone who suffers as a child of God should not be ashamed.

### **God of grace will help you**

■ 1 Peter 5:8-9—Beware of the adversary who seeks to devour, and resist him.

■ 1 Peter 5:10—May the God of all grace (who called us to His eternal glory through His Son) help you through your suffering—strengthening you and settling you.

■ 1 Peter 5:11—“To Him be the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.”