

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

April 19, 2025 • 1:00 p.m. • Sunset 7:51

Welcome to our guests

Members of the Church of God Big Sandy welcome our guests as we worship on the seventh day of Unleavened Bread. Here is the schedule today.

Interactive study—1:00 p.m.	.....	Dave Havir
Presentation study—2:00	.....	Dave Havir (also transmitted live)
Church service—3:00	.....	Daniel Hammons

Order of service—3:00 p.m.

Song leader	.....	Neil McIver
Pianist	.....	Dixon Cartwright
Offertory	.....	Piano solo
Scripture reading	.....	Exodus 14:21–30
Sermon	.....	Daniel Hammons

Quick takes

1. Thank you—The congregation thanks Joyce Coleman and all the individuals who provide food for the congregation every Saturday.
2. Guest speaker next Saturday—We are pleased to announce that Ken Tate is scheduled to give two presentations in our building on April 26.
3. Guest speaker on May 10—We are pleased to announce that Ben Mauldin III is scheduled to give two presentations in our building on May 10.
4. Probable guest speaker in June—Dave Havir gave the following report about his friend Don Smith: “It was good to see Don Smith at our church service on the first day of Unleavened Bread. (He has spoken here in the past.) We graduated in the same class from Ambassador in 1974. We participated together in an archaeological dig in Israel in the summer of 1972. He informed me that he will be taking a new trip to Israel (his first time back in 53 years). I asked him to speak at our congregation (with slides) in June. God grant him safety on his trip.”

5. Wednesday-night Bible study—April 23 at 7:00
6. Community functions in the building—We are pleased that the Big Sandy school system will be having two of its annual banquets in our building in May. It is an opportunity for our congregation to use our building to serve our community.
 - Thursday, May 8—Athletic banquet
 - Tuesday, May 13—FFA banquet
7. Edifying the Body—This week's article is "New Commandment and Identifying Trait" by Dave Havir.
8. Among Friends—This week's article is "Why Should God's Children Obey?" by Dave Havir.
9. Eye on the World—Not available at bulletin deadline.

Prayer updates

Following are excerpts from an update by **Lisa Smith**: "I miss everybody at church. Unfortunately, I won't be able to be there this week. Next Wednesday, I am scheduled for my cast to be removed. Please send up prayers that the bones will heal properly and I can resume transferring **Gary [Wilson]** to the car to take him to church.

Roseann Terhorst is scheduled for her hip surgery on Monday at 7:00 a.m.

In last week's bulletin, we mentioned that **Jon Swenson** of Coatesville, Ind., had an accident with a table saw that severely cut his thumb and that he was anticipating surgery last Monday (for a bone graft, tendon reconstruction and skin graft). Following are excerpts from **Kim Snyder** (his mother-in-law) on Monday: "The doctor took the bone graft from his hip, which is causing him some discomfort. They took a vein from his arm (the whole length of his arm), and they did the skin graft from his thigh. His hand has six pins in it to keep his thumb stabilized. He will need more surgery when he heals from these. (They were unable to do the tendon restructuring because there was not enough bone. They will need to wait until after his bone grows to do that.)"

Neil and **Martha McIver** are happy to announce that the sale of their house in White Oak went through at 2:00 p.m. last Tuesday. (They moved to Big Sandy about a year and a half ago and are happy that their previous home sold.) They thank their friends for the prayers.

New prayer requests

Our **Reg Killingley** submitted the following prayer request for the wife of his cousin (also named **Reg Killingley**): "**Brenda Killingley** of Leicester, England, is undergoing a series of medical tests indicating she will probably need an aortic-valve replacement."

Sue Jones reported: "I'm asking for prayers for my brother, **Chip Akins**, and his heart problems." On Thursday, he was on his way back to the hospital again with severe breathing difficulties.

Doug Strub of Big Sandy fell on Sunday, April 6, and broke his thigh bone just below the hip socket. He had surgery on Monday, April 7, began some rehab and returned home last Thursday.

Ella Horter of Willow Grove, Pa. (aunt of **Mickey Voyce**), died on Feb. 15. Please remember her husband, **Harold**, and the rest of the family in your prayers.

"Why Should God's Children Obey?"

This article is from the "Among Friends" section of the Church of God Big Sandy's website (churchofgodbig sandy.com). It was posted for the weekend of April 19, 2025. (It was previously posted on April 15, 2023.)

By Dave Havir

BIG SANDY, Texas—On the seventh day of Unleavened Bread (April 12, 2023), I had the opportunity to give a Bible study, and I gave a presentation with the identical title of this article.

In that Bible study, I discussed three reasons why God's children obey our Heavenly Father. Here are some of the scriptures that I read.

To be blessed now

Obeying our Heavenly Father is a wise goal for God's children to prioritize.

This may seem like an obvious statement to make: Obeying God is smart.

■ Deuteronomy 30:15-16—"See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil, in that I command you today to love the LORD your God, to walk in His ways, and to keep His commandments, His statutes, and His judgments, that you may live and multiply; and the LORD your God will bless you in the land which you go to possess."

■ Deuteronomy 30:19—"I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live."

To be blessed at the resurrection

■ Luke 14:12-14—The Son of God said: "When you give a dinner or a supper, do not ask your friends, your brothers, your relatives, nor rich neighbors, lest they also invite you back, and you be repaid. But when you give a feast,

invite the poor, the maimed, the lame, the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you; for you shall be repaid at the resurrection of the just."

To willingly honor our Father now

■ Exodus 20:2—After God delivered the children of Israel from bondage, He gave them the Ten Commandments as the foundation of His expectations for their behavior—establishing these principles as goals that an appreciative people should willingly seek to do.

■ Matthew 5:14-16—In the Sermon on the Mount, the Son of God taught His disciples to do good behavior, so that observers could glorify the Father in heaven.

■ Romans 6:1-2—Since God has given grace to His children, they should certainly seek to avoid repeating sins in their lives.

■ 2 Corinthians 9:7—Children of God should be cheerful givers.

■ 1 Peter 5:2-4—Children of God should behave willingly and eagerly—being an example to others instead of being an overlord.

Solid foundation of God stands

■ 2 Timothy 2:19—"The solid foundation of God stands, having this seal: 'The Lord knows those who are His' and 'Let everyone who names the name of Christ depart from iniquity.'"

■ 2 Timothy 2:21—"Therefore if anyone cleanses himself, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified and useful for the Master, prepared for every good work."

“New Commandment and Identifying Trait”

This article is from the “Edifying the Body” section of the Church of God Big Sandy’s website (churchofgodbigandy.com). It was posted for the weekend of April 19, 2025. (It was previously posted on April 22, 2023.)

By Dave Havar

BIG SANDY, Texas—In the Bible study on Wednesday night, April 19, 2023. I talked about John 13. In this short article, I would like to focus on verses 34 and 35.

New commandment

■ John 13:34—“A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another . . .”

Is that really a new commandment? Doesn’t the Old Testament use those same words?

■ Leviticus 19:18—“You shall not take vengeance, nor bear any grudge against the children of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself; I am the LORD.”

Some of those details are mentioned in the New Testament.

■ Romans 12:19—“Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, ‘Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,’ says the LORD.”

So how was the new commandment different?

■ John 13:34—“. . . As I have loved you, that you also love one another.”

Children of God today have the example of how our Lord behaved when He walked on the earth..

He suffered for us

■ Isaiah 53:4-5—The Son of God carried our griefs and sorrows, wounded for our transgressions and bruised for our inequities.

■ Matthew 26:36-44—The Son of God faced His sorrow and discussed the matter three times with the Father.

■ Luke 23:34—The Son of God said: “Father, forgive them for they do not know what they do.”

■ Hebrews 4:15—The Son of God was tempted in all points—yet without sin.

■ 1 Peter 2:21-24—The Son of God suffered for us, and left an example for us to follow.

He died for us

■ John 1:29—John the Baptist said: “The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.”

■ Romans 5:6-8—Christ died for the ungodly. God demonstrates His personal love toward us in that Christ died for us while we were still sinners.

■ 2 Corinthians 5:21—The Son of God (who knew no sin) made Himself to be sin for us.

■ Galatians 3:13-14—The Son of God has redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

He gave us liberty

■ Luke 4:18—The Spirit of the Lord was upon the Son of God to preach the gospel to the poor, to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and to give liberty to those who are oppressed.

Accept my compliments

At this time, I want to compliment my friends who set a great example of loving their neighbors.

Good job of not repaying evil for evil (Romans 12:17).

Good job of being a peacemaker (Romans 12:18).

Good job of taking your justified anger to God, instead of seeking vengeance (Romans 12:19).

Good job of being willing to serve needs of your enemies—even as you wisely avoid them (Romans 12:20).

Good job of resisting evil, as you overcome evil with good (Romans 12:21).

Recognizable trait

■ John 13:35— “By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.”