

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

June 19, 2010 • 2:00 p.m. • Sunset 8:28

Service next Sabbath: 2:00 p.m.

### Order of service

Song leader	Ron Avey
Pianist	Kim Skelton
First sermon	Dave Havir
Teen class—Classroom #1	Stan West
Bridges class—Library	Carol Bald
Kids' class—Classroom #2	Diana Havir
Interactive Bible study—Foyer	Bernie Monsalvo
Second sermon	Dave Havir

### Quick takes

1. Thank you—Dave Havir thanks the congregation for its support of his need to be out of the area for his mother's funeral and for his father's recovery from a stroke and for his father's initial adjustment to the loss of his wife.
2. Senior-citizen meal today—There is a senior-citizen meal scheduled in the building today at 4:30 p.m.
3. Pool party—There is a pool party scheduled at the home of Don and Michele Mischnick at 11:00 a.m. on Sunday, June 27.
4. Election phase continues until June 26, at 5:00 p.m.—Members of the congregation are invited to participate in the election phase by filling out a ballot.
5. Edifying the Body—This week's article is "My Dad Taught Me a Lesson" by Judy Biggs.
6. Among Friends—This week's article is "He Lovingly Cared for His Wife" by Dave Havir.
7. Eye on the World—This week's collection by Dave Havir has six pages.
8. Last week's Bible study—On Wednesday, June 16, Bernie Monsalvo gave a Bible study titled "1 Peter 1:1-9."

## Prayer updates

As was mentioned orally last Sabbath, **Julie Wilkins** requests prayers for her sister, **Ruth Myrick**, who has cancer.

Here are excerpts from an update by **Allie Dart** concerning her husband, **Ron**: “Ron continues to improve daily. He’s getting stronger, walking better—mostly with a walker, improving with his occupational therapy, and speech therapy. He’s using fewer words from his aphasia vocabulary that many brain bleed patients have and has become increasingly more understandable.”

The cancerous tumors of **Alma Satterwhite** of Mechanicsville, Va., have taken a toll on her body, and she is now bedridden.

## New prayer requests

**Tom Damour** of Lubbock began experiencing numbness and paralysis on the right side of his face. At first, it was thought he had had a stroke. However, it was determined that he has Bell’s palsy.

**Gary Coleman** of State Center, Iowa (47-year-old brother of **David Coleman**), had a heart attack while driving and died on June 4. Mr. Coleman, his wife **Joyce**, and the **Ron Feakers** went to Iowa for the funeral on June 9. Please remember the family in your prayers.

**Helen Snyder** died on Wednesday morning after a lengthy illness. She was buried on Thursday. However, there will be a “brief informal graveside gathering” tomorrow at Chilton Cemetery in Big Sandy at 11:00 a.m. Everyone is then invited to the Big Sandy Community Center for fellowship. Some food will be catered, but other dishes may be brought as well.

**Beatrice Smith** of Greenville, Miss. (84-year-old mother of **Dorothy Stevenson**), died on Thursday. Please remember the family in your prayers.

## “He Lovingly Cared for His Wife”

This article is from the “Among Friends” section of the Church of God Big Sandy’s Web site, [churchofgodbigandy.com](http://churchofgodbigandy.com). It was posted for the weekend of June 19-20.

By **Dave Havir**

**B**IG SANDY, Texas—My biological father died in 1962 when I was only 9 years old. My mother lost not only her husband but the father of their four children.

Shortly thereafter, Gerald Gill entered our lives when he married our mother. He was a blessing to the four kids.

All four of us have expressed our appreciation for his positive influence upon our lives. But we most appreciate the way he took care of our mother.

Mom and Pop were married for 47 years. They accomplished so much together. Pop will readily admit that much of their success occurred because of the wisdom and strength of his wife.

## Suffered a stroke

Their life together hit a bump in the road when on June 16, 1989 (at the age of 67), our mother suffered a stroke. Thankfully, she survived. She regained use of arms and legs, and her mind remained extremely sharp. Until her death, she was an avid reader, an expert at crossword puzzles and a master Scrabble player.

Even though her mind was as sharp as ever, her perception had changed. She began seeing things backwards. She would put her clothes on inside out, she would put her shoes on the wrong feet, and she would place her Scrabble letters backwards on the board. This was not a problem, except in one area of life. She could no longer drive an automobile.

My parents continued to travel from their Pennsylvania home. They visited our family in Texas and traveled to various states for religious festival observances. Although our mother could no longer help out with the driving, she remained a seasoned traveler.

## Discovered diabetes

There was another effect that my mother learned about during her hospitalization due to her stroke. She learned that she was diabetic. She dealt with her diabetes for the last 21 years of her life. Our mother died on June 6, 2010.

Those who knew my parents during the past 21 years will attest to the wonderful care that our father, Gerald Gill, gave to our mother.

Early in her time with diabetes (beginning at age 67), she could monitor her meals and daily check her own sugar level. As she got older, our father began helping with the meals and checking her sugar level three to five times a day.

In the past two years, Pop began giving her insulin at 10:00 every night. Mom would wryly comment that she felt like a pincushion. She would joke that Pop was enjoying giving her pain for any troubles she may have given him in their life.

## The best care

As various issues surfaced through the years, she looked to Pop to take care of

her. And he did.

Whenever some of us would tell her that they could receive services like home health care or meals-on-wheels, she would explain that she didn't need those things as long as she had Pop.

When I visited the two of them in April of this year, I expressed my concern about them living in their home on the hill. It is a wonderful home in a beautiful setting. But, while it is a great place for middle-aged people, it is not a good home as people age.

They lived in that home together for 37 years. (I don't have any childhood memories there because my parents moved there after I left home for college. However, my wife, two sons and I have wonderful memories of visiting with my parents there.)

Although Pop was reluctant to leave their home on the hill, Mom was determined to stay.

## Final chapter

Pop is a strong, healthy man, but he began wearing down. He went into a hospital on Friday, June 4, due to a ministroke. He was released on Monday, June 7.

While he was yet in the hospital, Mom was rushed to the same hospital on Sunday, June 6, and died in a nearby room. The spiritual race of our mother, and Pop's wife, is over. She is at peace awaiting the resurrection.

Mom was successful in avoiding moving away from her beloved home. Much of the credit for that goes to her husband, Gerald Gill, who took such wonderful care of her.

Since Pop took such good care of her 24 hours a day, seven days a week, he is going through double grieving. Not only does he miss her tremendously, but his whole life has changed drastically.

Pop is now ready to move from that beautiful house on a hill. As I have heard him say to various people since her death: "With Mom around, this used to be a home. Now it is only a house."

Pop will begin a new chapter in his life. One thing is for sure about the last chapter: He lovingly cared for his wife.

## "My Dad Taught Me a Lesson"

This article is from the "Edifying the Body" section of the Church of God Big Sandy's Web site, churchofgodbigandy.com. It was posted for the weekend of June 19-20, 2010.

**By Judith Biggs**

**B**IG SANDY, Texas—One day when I was all of about 12 I had an interesting conversation with my dad. You need to understand that my father was a quiet man of few words. He basically left the raising of us two girls to Mom.

My dad blurted out, "If I ever catch either one of you being a hypocrite, I will disown you."

End of conversation.

I stood there trying to figure out what a hypocrite was. Was I one? What about my sister? What caused the declaration in the first place?

### **Mom enlightened us**

Mom was good enough to fill us girls in.

My dad's dad was a hypocrite. He had eight children and they all despised him. I did not even know my grandfather existed until he died when I was 7 years old. It was my mother, not my dad, who told me. My grandfather was never discussed in our family. It was that bad.

Years later, when I started studying the Bible, I found out that my heavenly Father had the same opinion about hypocrisy as my father had. Both were going to disown me if I became one.

### **Trying to do right**

Sometimes a person can pick up deceptive habits even when he is trying to do what is right.

A child may start out seeking to please his parents. Later on he may want his parents to think he is good without his actuality being good.

A young person may begin by being proper around his friends. Later on he may make compromises to maintain acceptance.

And isn't it natural for those wishing to marry to act a certain way around someone because they wish to please? There can be real problems if the people build their relationship upon a facade. However,

everything can go well in the relationship if both people are honest with each other.

### **Too much honesty**

There is another side to the coin. It seems that today's culture encourages a person to do whatever feels good to him. Some people believe that any kind of behavior is acceptable. So why hide it?

I don't think God approves of this kind of behavior any more than being a hypocrite.

The answer is that with God's help we need a complete change of heart. It is important to understand what God wants and why He wants it. We need a reprogramming of our personal computer (our brain), if you please.

### **Personal example**

Allow me to share with you how I ask God to help me to be honest and yet not be a hypocrite.

Those who know me well know that I am a loner who loves projects. What people may not know is that I am not naturally happy when the phone rings.

Therefore when I pick up the phone, this is what goes through my mind: God also loves projects. His project is people, people and more people. If I choose to be like Him, then my first priority needs to be people.

I don't have to pretend that I am happy when a person calls in the middle of my project. I can truthfully tell people that I am busy, but I can also tell them much more. I can tell them how genuinely glad I am that they called. I seek to give them my complete attention.

### **Not disowned**

I don't think I have to worry about being disowned by either my earthly father or my heavenly Father. Thanks to both of them for helping me understand about not being a hypocrite. I seek to be honest and kind.

And I am thankful that I have many friends who are honest and kind with me.