

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

Aug. 14, 2010 • 2:00 p.m. • Sunset 8:06

Service next Sabbath: 2:00 p.m.

### Order of service

Song leader	Clay Forrestier
Pianist	Dixon Cartwright
First sermon	Ron Feaker
Teen class—Classroom #1	J. Case and H. Mischnick
Bridges class—Library	Carol Bald
Kids' class—Classroom #2	Diana Havir
Interactive Bible study—Foyer	Bernie Monsalvo
Second sermon	Dave Havir

### Quick takes

1. Interrelating with other congregations—Today, Neil McIver is giving a sermon in Anacoco, La., and Reg Killingley is giving a sermon in Houston.
2. Movie night—Adults are invited to watch *The Bucket List* on Sunday at 6:30.
3. Rates for Destin Feast site reduced—See Melodee Overton or Dave Havir.
4. Edifying the Body—This week's article is "Question Marks and Exclamation Points" by Lenny Cacchio.
5. Among Friends—This week's article is "They Meant It for Evil, but Guess What" by Dave Havir.
6. Eye on the World—This week's collection has 14 pages.
7. Last week's Bible study—On Wednesday, Aug. 11, Dave Havir gave a Bible study titled "Judges in the New Testament."

### Prayer updates

**Jeannie Roden** reports that her mother (**Melba Evers** of Albertville, Ala.) continued to do well. **J.L.** was able to travel to Alabama on Thursday and to bring Jeannie back home yesterday.

**Norene Martz** was fitted for a back brace on Thursday, but she found it to be uncomfortable. She is hoping to try wearing it again. She reports that her breathing was not much better this week. She did say that she had a better day yesterday. Please remember her in your prayers.

**Dorothy Jones** has been experiencing some difficulty with her blood pressure again. Plus, she recently learned that she is a type-2 diabetic.

**Dorothy Thomas** went to the doctor yesterday. As you might remember, she has been having trouble with her left arm since January. (She still can't lift it over her head, and she hasn't been able to drive since January.) Although she previously had physical therapy at home, the doctor wants her to do outpatient therapy. It is scheduled to begin on Tuesday.

## New prayer requests

**Pam Havir** requests prayers for her 8-year-old nephew, **R.J. Sanchez**, who underwent surgery yesterday for a mass on his liver. (In 2006, R.J. was healed from a lung disease that caused him to be on life support while CAT-scans showed no brain activity at that time. However, after being anointed, he recovered with no brain damage.)

**Adron Thomas** of Longview (son of **Dorothy Thomas**) is recovering from a five-day hospital stay due to a bleeding ulcer. (While the family didn't ask for prayers in the bulletin at that time, they appreciate those who knew about the situation and offered prayers on their behalf.) The family requests prayers for his continued recovery.

**Linda Salmon** of Drexel, Mo., was traveling with daughter **Kristen Hocker** to see family in Texas when Mrs. Salmon began experiencing serious health conditions in Norman, Okla. She was admitted into a hospital there where she is being monitored. (Not only is Linda a diabetic, she has experienced problems with a staph infection that apparently went into her heart valve and affected her lungs.)

**Tyler** and **Zachery Sterban**, two teenagers in the Nashville area, were seriously injured in a head-on auto accident on Friday, Aug. 6. Tyler suffered numerous injuries (including a broken pelvis and femur) and was on a ventilator for a time. He was taken off the ventilator earlier this week. Zachery was diagnosed with brain swelling and increased cranial pressure, and he remains in a medically induced coma to try to help decrease the swelling. The doctors hope to attempt to wean him off the medication this weekend to see how he responds.

**Bob Haines** of Birmingham, Ala. (father of **Vickie Moulard**), entered hospice due to kidney failure and other issues.

**Tim Kuver** of Converse (son of **Tom** and **Pam Kuver**) died suddenly in a hospital on July 26 shortly after an MRI and a session with a therapist. (He died in the room in the presence of his mother and sister **Kris**.) The autopsy showed that a pulmonary blood clot in his leg had traveled to his lungs. Please remember the family in your prayers.

## Feast speaking schedule

### Feast speaking in Big Sandy

Thursday, 9/23	morning	Stan West
	afternoon	Reg Killingley
Friday, 9/24		Ron Feaker
Saturday, 9/25		Dave Havir
Sunday, 9/26		Bert Moers
Monday, 9/27		James Moran
Tuesday, 9/28		J.L. Roden
Wednesday, 9/29		Ed Mitchell
Thursday, 9/30		Bernie Monsalvo

### Feast speaking in Seattle and on Alaska cruise

Thursday, 9/23	morning	Dave Havir
	afternoon	Dennis Mouland
Friday, 9/24		Dave Havir
Saturday, 9/25		Dan Vandivier
Sunday, 9/26		Ray Stapp
Monday, 9/27		Neil McIver
Tuesday, 9/28		Dennis Benson
Wednesday, 9/29		No service
Thursday, 9/30		Dennis Mouland

### Feast speaking in Myrtle Beach

Thursday, 9/23	morning	Lyle Kerby
	afternoon	Neal Hughes
Friday, 9/24		Ralph Hanahan
Saturday, 9/25		Sam Jones
Sunday, 9/26		Dave Havir
Monday, 9/27		Dave Havir
Tuesday, 9/28		Hugh Buchanan
Wednesday, 9/29		John Havir
Thursday, 9/30		Jim Johns

### Feast speaking in Destin

Thursday, 9/23	morning	Matt Chalmers
	afternoon	TBA
Friday, 9/24		TBA
Saturday, 9/25		Bill Harkins
Sunday, 9/26		Bill Harkins
Monday, 9/27		Lenny Cacchio
Tuesday, 9/28		Dave Havir
Wednesday, 9/29		TBA
Thursday, 9/30		Dave Havir

## “They Meant It for Evil, but Guess What”

**By Dave Havir**

**B**IG SANDY, Texas—There are many stories in the Bible that edify. Which stories motivate you the most?

Let me share a scripture about a story in the Old Testament that has been an inspiration to me and to many of my friends as we have discussed it.

The scripture is Genesis 50:20: “But as for you, you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good, in order to bring it about as it is this day, to save many people alive.”

### **What was the evil?**

You remember the story. Joseph had two dreams.

When Joseph told his brothers about the first dream, they were angry with him (Genesis 37:5). In the first dream the sheaves in the field of his brothers bowed down to his sheaf in the field (verses 6-8).

In the second dream the sun, moon and 11 stars bowed down to him (verse 9). When Joseph told his brothers about this dream, they added jealousy to their anger (verse 11).

That’s how it started.

In Genesis 50:20 Joseph was saying that they planned evil against him. And they had.

You remember that some of the brothers discussed killing him. You remember that they threw him into an old well and later sold him to traveling merchants.

You remember that Joseph ended up in an Egyptian prison for years.

In verse 15 we read about the obvious concern that his brothers had after their father died. They said something like: “With Dad gone, Joseph will remember all the bad things we did to him, and he will repay us.”

They expressed their forgiveness to him (verse 17) and offered to be his servants (verse 18).

That’s when Joseph made his famous statement about evil and good.

### **Recognizing evil**

Have you ever had the opportunity to practice the approach of Joseph? Have you ever been wronged by people and avoided the temptation to get revenge?

We must not be naive or gullible.

Some people have sought to do evil against others, some people are presently seeking to do evil against others, and some people will seek to do evil against others in the future.

I do not mention this to suggest that people spend time looking for imaginary evil or becoming preoccupied with real evil. I merely mention that this occurs.

### **Dwelling on good**

I would rather focus on the rest of what Joseph said.

Although Joseph recognized the evil intent of his brothers, he focused on God’s purpose in the matter.

Joseph believed that God meant the bad circumstances for ultimate good.

Friends and brethren: I don’t want to quote this concept as some invitation to go into air-headed denial.

Are we mature enough to recognize the real acts of rudeness, meanness and, yes, sometimes evil?

By recognizing those negative realities, you will not feel trapped to continue in bad relationships. Those bad relationships can be with negative people, or they can be with negative systems.

If you choose to stay in a bad relationship with negative people or with negative systems, you can do so while accepting the freedom of Christ.

Some believers living under dictatorships often do not have the freedom to leave a situation. But they have the freedom of Christ in their minds.

Maybe the day will come when most believers in most of the world will lose the freedom to leave situations. If that occurs, all believers must claim the freedom of Christ in their minds. (Please remember the stories of Holocaust survivors.)

### **Does good always come now?**

As I conclude, I want to ask a question: When people seek to do evil against others, does God always directly intervene to bring about good in this life?

Personally, I believe that God hears our prayers and oftentimes brings good to us in this life.

However, even though God hears our prayers I don’t believe that He always brings good to us in this life.

In Joseph’s case God brought good while Joseph was alive.

In Christ’s case God brought good after Jesus died.