

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

Aug. 28, 2010 • 2:00 p.m. • Sunset 7:50

Service next Sabbath: 2:00 p.m.

Order of service

Song leader Neil McIver
Pianist Dixon Cartwright
First sermon Stan West
Teen class—Classroom #1 Melodee Overton
Bridges class—Library Carol Bald
Kids' class—Classroom #2 Candace Self
Interactive Bible study—Foyer Bernie Monsalvo
Second sermon Bernie Monsalvo

Quick takes

1. Interrelating with other congregations—Today, Ron Feaker is giving a sermon in Hope, and Dave Havir is giving a sermon and Bible study in Boise, Idaho.
2. Potluck meal next Sabbath—There is a potluck meal scheduled immediately after the church service next Sabbath.
3. Private wedding in the building—There is a private wedding in the building on Sunday, Sept. 5. Please give the families privacy.
4. Feast of Trumpets—Our congregation will observe the Feast of Trumpets on Thursday, Sept. 9, with the following schedule:
 - 11:00 a.m. Church service
 - 1:00 p.m. Potluck meal
 - 2:15 Bible study
5. Day of Atonement—Our congregation will observe the Day of Atonement on Saturday, Sept. 18, with a church service at 2:00 p.m.
6. Financial assistance for those staying in Big Sandy for the Feast—If anyone in the congregation who is staying at our site here in Big Sandy for the Feast of Tabernacles needs financial assistance, please contact Dave Havir.

7. Edifying the Body—This week's article is "When I Run I Feel God's Pleasure" by Lenny Cacchio.
8. Among Friends—This week's article is "Some Thoughts About Sharia Law" by Dave Havir. Mr. Havir encourages members of the congregation to get a copy of the 20-page paper.
9. Eye on the World—This week's collection has 14 pages.
10. Last week's Bible study—On Wednesday, Aug. 25, David Maas gave a Bible study titled "Fruit of God's Holy Spirit: Kindness."

Prayer updates

Because of **Dave Havir's** trip to Boise, Idaho, this bulletin was prepared on Thursday evening.

Norene Martz had a productive week. As was mentioned last week, she was considering the injection of a substance between two vertebrae to see if that will help relieve the pain. (The goal is to remove the vertebrae off the nerves.) She went to her cardiologist on Wednesday to see if her heart was up to the procedure. He said that her heart was stable for the procedure. On Thursday, she went for presurgery preparation. Yesterday, she was scheduled to have the procedure at Spine and Joint Hospital in Tyler. Recovery time is scheduled to be only a couple of days.

Jean Benedict had a week of physical therapy at the Good Shepherd Medical Center in Longview and was scheduled to be released yesterday.

Laura Moran continues to have difficulty with severe abdominal pain due to diverticulitis. She went to the doctor on Wednesday. She is nauseated and weak.

As was mentioned orally last Sabbath, **Adron Thomas** of Longview (son of **Dorothy Thomas**) was hospitalized due to health matters related to his being shot in the abdomen years ago. He was released on Monday and went to his general practitioner. He is scheduled to see a specialist this coming Monday.

Karen Kusch of Cherhill, Alta., Canada, reports that she is feeling much better following recent back surgery. She thanks you for your prayers.

Pam Havir gives the following report about her 8-year-old nephew **R.J. Sanchez**, who recently underwent surgery for a mass on his liver: "His liver function is starting to improve. His abdomen has been filling up with fluid and as a result he was scheduled to have surgery on Friday."

Bob Haines of Birmingham, Ala. (father of **Vickie Moulard**), died on Sunday. A graveside service was held on Tuesday. Please remember the family in your prayers.

New prayer requests

Colleen Atteberry of Hollyoke, Colo., has been diagnosed with cancer in her shoulder and back.

Christina Przeslawski of West Bloomfield, Mich. (sister-in-law of **Luke** and **Julie Przeslawski**), had been complaining that her neck has been in severe pain. When she went to have it diagnosed, she learned that she has “cancer of the neck and spine.” (She had breast cancer four years ago.) Even though she has received morphine, she is still in pain.

Zachary Elliott (son of **John** and **Becky** and grandson of **John** and **Cathy**) fell while riding his bike earlier this week. Apparently, his head fell on the handlebar and it went into his mouth. Here are excerpts from a report by Cathy on Tuesday: “The CT scan showed a hole up in the gum between the teeth and lip. They can’t stitch or close it and it is still bleeding a lot. The doctor said that if it had gone any other direction, there would have been major damage. There is a danger of infection. The CT also found a cyst in his sinus cavity, which the doctor wants them to follow up on.”

Wesley Booth of Tucson, Ariz., sent the following message to our Web site on Thursday: “A week ago my body broke out in a rash and it has been getting worse by the day. The rash covers my torso and on Sunday it started to blister. It is now very painful.”

Four ladies from the Living Church of God were on their way to church last week when their car was hit by an 18-wheeler in Athens, Ala. **June Clayton** (mother of **Linda Foster**) and **Hope Andrews** did not suffer any broken bones. Both were very bruised and extremely sore. **Sandy Rigley** had a concussion. And **Doris Kimbell** had a collapsed lung, several broken ribs and a cut on her head. A report on Thursday said that Mrs. Kimbell “is still in ICU and has improved, but doctors are concerned that some of her ribs may not be healing well.”

Dixon Cartwright requests prayers for **Ken Mason** of The Woodlands, who has a serious infection that is apparently a bite from a brown-recluse spider.

Bill Babcock of Oklahoma had surgery to remove his gall bladder. He is recuperating at home and is having some trouble with nausea, cramping and high blood pressure.

“Unholy Alliance of Radicals”

The following is excerpts from an editorial by Arnold Ahlert that was originally posted at jewishworldreview.com on Aug. 19, 2010. A longer version was posted in the “Among Friends” section of the Web site for the weekend of Aug. 28–29, 2010.

With regard to the Ground Zero mosque, I am truly fascinated by the progressive elitists’ new-found enthusiasm for religious tolerance.

For example, if progressives held the expression of Islam to the same standard as they do Christianity, one would be at a total loss to explain how the public school system in California mandates the teach-

ing of Islam in the seventh grade, including the study of Koranic *scripture*. One would be at a loss to explain why a public school in Nyssa, Ore., *required* seventh-grade students to dress up as Muslims as part of a four-week course on Islam.

When the former case went to litigation, it got as far as the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals, which ruled that such manifesta-

tions of Islam in the California curriculum—including the wearing of Islamic religious symbols, or shouting “Praise be to Allah” when prompted by teachers—didn’t violate the First Amendment’s establishment clause.

Can anyone imagine the same court permitting students to say “Praise be to Jesus”?

In the meantime, this temporary alliance explains many things.

It explains the deafening silence of American feminists with regard to the often brutal treatment of women in Muslim countries.

It explains the Obama administration’s determination to expunge any reference to a “war on terror” or Islamic participation in same from our national vocabulary.

It explains why Christian-bashing is a regular Hollywood staple, even as Islam remains studiously off limits.

It explains why the Army’s top officer, Gen. George Casey, was seemingly more concerned about the death of “diversity” than 13 American soldiers murdered at Fort Hood.

It explains why so many progressives push the idea that America’s foreign policy “justified” the 9/11 atrocity.

And it most assuredly explains the all-out effort by progressive elitists to tar anyone opposed to a mosque near Ground Zero as a bigot.

This is precisely why the strategy of incrementalism—the bit-by-bit undermining of American customs, language and culture—has been adopted by both groups.

Incrementalism explains why Americans are *expected* to unquestioningly accept the idea that the Ground Zero project’s leader, Imam Feisal Abdul Rauf, is a “moderate” Muslim, despite the fact that he refuses to condemn Hamas as a terrorist group and referred to America as “an accessory” to the 9/11 atrocity.

It is this incrementalism that allows progressive elites to insist the “majority of Muslims are on America’s side,” absent any convincing evidence—and much evidence to the contrary.

And it is the more advanced version of incrementalism found in Europe that has resulted in the creation of wholly segregated Muslim enclaves that police in

England and France refer to as “no-go zones”—and the Archbishop of Canterbury to comment on the “unavoidability” of Sharia Law in the UK.

Both progressives and the so-called moderate Muslims attached to the Ground Zero mosque *know* this project is deeply offensive to almost seventy percent of Americans. They also know it has *nothing* to do with freedom of religion, which most of the people opposed to this project have made crystal clear. What is the reason that it is *necessary* to build a mosque in that precise location?

Not why *can* you, but why *must* you?

Radical Islam and progressive elitism are all about establishing beachheads.

Establishing those beachheads requires unstinting assaults on traditional values, be they assaults on Christianity, internationally accepted rules of war, the concept of assimilation, or the difference between freedom of religion and freedom *from* it.

Neither group will be satisfied until their power becomes absolute, or, at the very least, until they’re the only two dogs left in the fight for the civilized world.

Until then their alliance will resemble America’s alliance with Josef Stalin’s Russia during World War II: a marriage of convenience designed to defeat the greater evil of Nazism.

Right now, the “greater evil” is conservatism and Christianity. Both must be browbeaten into submission.

And, while much of this endeavor has been ongoing, much of it has occurred “beneath the radar” of average Americans.

It took 9/11 to make us realize that radical Islamists had indeed declared war on America.

It took the election of the most radical president and Congress in history to make Americans realize that progressive elitists are every bit as intent on “reordering” America as the Islamic radicals are.

The Ground Zero mosque is nothing more than the latest flashpoint in this sorry saga. It is an attempt to push the envelope of “tolerance” for two entities both determined to impose their worldview—by any means necessary.

It won’t be the last one.