

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

June 11, 2011 • 2:00 p.m. • Sunset 8:25

Service next Sabbath: 2:00 p.m.

Order of service

Song leader	Clay Forrestier
Pianist	Dixon Cartwright
First sermon	Tony Stith
Teen class—Library	David Havir III
Bridges class—Classroom #1	Carol Bald
Kids' class—Classroom #2	Candace Self
Interactive Bible study—Foyer	Canceled
Second sermon	Tony Stith

Quick takes

1. Welcome to our guest speaker—The congregation welcomes Tony Stith of Minnesota, who will be giving both sermons today.
2. Interrelating with other congregations—Today, Ron Feaker is giving a sermon in Anacoco, La., Bernie Monsalvo is giving a sermon in Hope, Ark., and Dave Havir is giving a sermon in Tyler.
3. Election phase—Members of the congregation are invited to submit an election form. The deadline is June 25 at 5:00 p.m.
4. Fellowship Club video—At 4:15 we will be watching part four of a six-part series titled *Doing the Right Thing*.
5. Pentecost tomorrow—The congregation will observe Pentecost tomorrow with the following schedule.
 - 11:00 a.m. Church service
 - 1:00 p.m. Potluck meal
 - 2:15 Bible study by Neil McIver
6. Upcoming guest speaker—We are pleased to announce that George Crow of Houston is scheduled to visit our congregation and to speak on June 25.

7. Edifying the Body—This week's article is "Peter's Message on Pentecost" by James Moran.
8. Among Friends—This week's article is "Are You Thankful for Pentecost?" by Dave Havir.
9. Eye on the World—This week's collection has 32 pages.
10. Wednesday-night Bible study—Last Wednesday, Dave Havir gave a study titled "The Sixth Commandment."
11. Birth of Sophie Mae Roberts—Gramm and April (West) Roberts are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter, Sophie Mae Roberts, on June 10. She weighed 7 lbs. 10 ozs. and was 19½ inches long. Everyone is doing fine—including her grandparents (Jim and Emily Roberts and Stan and Roxanna West).

Repeat of Feast announcement

Dave Havir wrote the following Feast announcement on June 3, 2011:

"After conferring with Neil McIver and Don Mischnick, I asked Neil to write a letter to our convention contact in Colorado Springs, Colo., and to inform them of our decision to cancel our plans to conduct the 2011 Feast of Tabernacles there.

"I wanted to inform you of my reasons.

"First, I was hoping to decrease my traveling schedule for the Feast this year. I was hoping that there would be enough speakers wanting to go to Colorado Springs that I would not be needed there. However, I learned that some of the speakers that I anticipated being in Colorado Springs were planning to attend one of our other sites.

"Second, I then learned that many of the people that I anticipated being in Colorado Springs were planning to attend one of our other sites.

"I apologize if this decision to cancel Colorado Springs causes any inconvenience to our friends who were hoping to attend our Feast site there.

"We hope that you find a western site that suits your needs. If you want to attend one of our other three Feast sites, we look forward to seeing you there.

"I am happy to report that Neil, Martha and Andrew McIver are planning to attend the Destin Feast site and to help us down there.

"At this time, my preliminary plans are to begin the Feast in Destin, to travel to Myrtle Beach and then to finish the Feast in Destin."

Prayer updates

When **Dave Havir** visited **Norene Martz** on Wednesday, he recommended that the family contact hospice care. When Mrs. Martz went to the doctor on Thursday, he confirmed the recommendation to contact hospice care. A repre-

sentative visited the home on Thursday evening for an evaluation. A very helpful hospice nurse spent time with the family on Friday. (Mrs. Martz was having a difficult day on Friday.) **Jack** and the family appreciate your prayers for Mrs. Martz and for the caregivers.

On Wednesday, **Caleb Fisher** went to the doctor and confirmed that his left ankle was fractured in three spots. The doctor put a boot on his ankle rather than a cast. Caleb is scheduled to go back to the doctor on Monday to have his ankle checked.

Jack Elliott of the local United congregation thanks everyone for the prayers during his recent health difficulties. His condition has improved dramatically over the past three or four weeks. He is presently pain-free and fairly comfortable at home, with help from his wife, **Anne**, and hospice home health care. He is on oxygen 24-7, and he is sleeping much better.

Kristen Bettes of Colorado Springs (daughter of **Dennis** and **Karen Benson**) continued to make progress and was able to return home on Monday.

Joyce Stark of Maryville, Mo., continues to have pain due to her shingles.

Thomas Ko of Burma (who had been visiting in North Carolina) died on Sunday. Please remember the family in your prayers.

New prayer requests

Steve Collins of Sioux Falls, S.D., who has been suffering with a variety of debilitating health problems for years, has now been dealing with flooding problems around his home.

Elizabeth Difranto of Lansing, Mich., died on Sunday. (This young lady in her early 20s had been having seizures, but her death was unexpected.) Please remember the family in your prayers.

Scriptures for the season

Acts 1:1-8—The former account I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach, until the day in which He was taken up, after He through the Holy Spirit had given commandments to the apostles whom He had chosen, to whom He also presented Himself alive after His suffering by many infallible proofs, being seen by them during forty days and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God. And being assembled together with them, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, "which," He said, "you have heard from Me; for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now." Therefore, when they had come together, they asked Him, saying, "Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" And He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority. But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

“Are You Thankful for Pentecost?”

This article is from the “Among Friends” section of the Church of God Big Sandy’s Web site, churchofgodbig sandy.com. It was posted for the weekend of June 11-12, 2011.

By Dave Havir

BIG SANDY, Texas—The Feast of Pentecost has wonderful history and fantastic memories. Plus, this annual Feast day is rich with tremendous meaning.

Pentecost has many valuable lessons for us to remember. In this article let us consider five lessons.

Giving His Ten Commandments

Are you thankful that God gave His Ten Commandments?

After God brought the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt—the house of bondage (Exodus 20:1-2)—He proceeded to list some of His expectations for them (verses 3-17).

The apostle Paul, who regularly wrote about the necessity of grace, often also expressed His appreciation for the Ten Commandments (such as in Romans 7:7-14).

Are you thankful for the law that Paul described as holy, just and good? Do you appreciate the spiritual law?

Giving His Spirit

Are you thankful that God gave His Spirit?

On the Day of Pentecost, God poured out His Spirit to the Jewish converts in Jerusalem (Acts 2:1-4). Since this historical action was done outside the temple worship system, God performed great miracles to show His involvement in the matter.

When God later poured out His Spirit to some gentile converts in Caesarea (Acts 10:44-48), He also performed this historical action outside the temple worship system and again performed great miracles to show His involvement in the matter.

(By mentioning the manner in which God performed these two historical events, I state my belief that God does not perform such miracles every time a person receives the Holy Spirit. My goal is to diminish any unrealistic expectations of a baptism before it occurs and to eliminate any doubt about a baptism after it happens.)

Made a better covenant

Are you thankful that God made a better covenant?

The book of Hebrews mentions that Christ was a mediator of a better covenant because it was based upon better promises (Hebrews 8:6).

The author says that there would not have been a need for a second covenant if the first one was faultless (verse 7).

And what was the fault of the first? The fault was with the people (verse 8).

Therefore, God did not repeat the covenant He made following the Exodus (verse 9), but rather made a covenant based upon His laws being written in the hearts and minds of the people (verse 10).

Building a spiritual temple

Are you thankful that God is building a spiritual temple?

Stephen said that, while Solomon built a house for God (Acts 7:47), the Most High does not dwell in temples made with hands (verse 48).

Paul reiterated this concept many times—including in 1 Corinthians 3:16, 2 Corinthians 6:16 and Ephesians 2:21-22.

Peter eloquently discussed the matter in 1 Peter 2:5.

Believers are the house of God.

Power of God in you

Are you thankful for the power of God in you?

We thank God that we as people are able to use human qualities—like planning, concentration, determination and discipline—to accomplish successes in this life.

However, there are times when all of those excellent qualities cannot help us to overcome certain situations and challenges in this life.

It is during those times that we gain a greater appreciation for the power of God in us.