

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

June 10, 2023 • 1:00 p.m. • Sunset 8:25

### Bible studies

Interactive study—1:00 p.m. . . . . Bill Crow

Presentation study—2:00 . . . . . Bill Crow  
(Also transmitted live)

### Order of service—3:00 p.m.

Song leader . . . . . Reg Killingley

Pianist . . . . . Dixon Cartwright

Scripture reading . . . . . Matthew 5:13–20

Sermon . . . . . Bill Crow

### Quick takes

1. Pastor's goal about the local speaking schedule—Here is a quick glimpse of the thinking of Dave Havir for the local speaking schedule.

- Wednesday night—primarily Dave Havir
- Saturday at 2:00—primarily Dave Havir
- Saturday at 3:00—local and traveling speakers
- Mr. Havir sometimes gives both messages on Saturday, but he prefers to include other people, because he believes that it is good for the congregation to hear truth from a variety of voices.

2. Traveling speakers—We are pleased to announce the following traveling speakers coming to our congregation.

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|-----------|-------------------|
| ■ Today   | Bill Crow         |
| ■ June 17 | Mark Weiss        |
| ■ June 24 | Terry McAdams     |
| ■ July 8  | Wynn Skelton      |
| ■ July 22 | Blake Silverstein |

3. Wednesday-night Bible study this week—On June 14, Dave Havir is scheduled to give “Parable of the Sower—Part 3.”

4. Board election until June 24—Last week began the board election for the two spots available this year. The election concludes on Saturday, June 24.
5. Edifying the Body—This week's article is "Remembering the Horrors of D-Day" by Victor Davis Hanson.
6. Among Friends—This week's article is "Parable of the Sower—Part 2" by Dave Havir.
7. Eye on the World—The version of this week's "Eye on the World" that is distributed in the hall is 34 pages. (The number of pages on the website varies slightly due to a different layout program.) This edition has 320 headlines.

## Prayer updates

**Angela Dunnam** had contrasting reactions to the two appointments she had this week. Her appointment on Monday with a radiation specialist went well enough. However, her appointment with the oncologist on Wednesday was frustrating—not because of what was done, but what wasn't done. (There was a lack of communication involving the doctor's office and the insurance company.)

This is a reminder that **Gary Wilson** was transferred back to Tyler on June 2. (His Tyler address is 6589 Oak Hill Blvd., Building 3.)

On Wednesday, **Dave McLearen** had two injections in his lower back (designed to help four disks), and he reports that he is already feeling better.

On Friday, **Jean Benedict** went to a doctor's appointment following her hospitalization due to pneumonia and congestive heart failure. Although her stamina is improving, she is dealing with a heart that races more than it should. Since she is not supposed to drive yet, she will be at the church service with the help of a friend.

Here are some details about what **Shirley Spearman** is dealing with. On June 2, she had an ultrasound to examine her kidneys. She is awaiting the results of that test. She is also waiting to have a sonogram to check for plaque in her neck, legs and arms. She appreciates your prayers.

**Kate Vincent**, who is dealing with a kidney and bladder infection, was considering staying home today and returning to church next week.

**Marcia Chambers** reports that she is doing well after her recent surgery, and she is hoping to be at the church service today.

Although **Mickey Voyce** is feeling a little better dealing with her covid, she asks for continued prayers.

**Joshua Voyce** is feeling back to normal following his tooth extraction and other dental work.

In the April 12 bulletin, we mentioned that **Ruth Roe** began experiencing back pain that would also show up in her right or left legs. She considered going to a chiropractor at the time, but never made that commitment. Since the pain has steadily decreased through the weeks, she wants to express her appreciation for all the prayers.

In the May 27 bulletin, we mentioned that **Linda Avey** was dealing with a kidney infection. She could still use our prayers about this matter.

In the March 18 bulletin, we mentioned that **Dwayne Gallia** returned home after surgery that removed a rare, slow-growing malignant tumor. At the time, the doctor was somewhat concerned about only one lymph node. The doctor is recommending another surgery—that the lymph node (and possibly a few around it) be removed.

In the Feb. 11 bulletin, we mentioned that **Karen Rickard** of Big Sandy was diagnosed with an aggressive lung cancer. She has started hospice care at home.

## New prayer requests

On Thursday, **Shirley West** went to a doctor appointment to discuss the changing rhythm of her heart. She has another appointment next Thursday to discuss the possibility of a pacemaker.

**Sherry Keel** of Big Sandy suffered a stroke.

**Chris Davis** of Winnsboro had rotator-cuff surgery.

**Gail Swartz** (of Quitman) has been experiencing breathing difficulties.

On Friday, **Bill Stough** of Washington, Mo., fell in the shop next to his home. His wife, **Scarlett**, found him on the ground with an injured hip. He was taken to a local hospital.

**Mark McGarvey** of Tulsa, Okla., had back surgery.

**Shaun O'Brien** of Millsboro, Del., has been diagnosed with thyroid cancer.

**Timothy Brassell** of Baltimore, Md., has been suffering from extreme pain due to convulsions.

**Sonny Rosenberger** died on June 7. (The family asked **Dave Havir** to conduct a brief graveside service last Thursday afternoon and will schedule a memorial service at the building in the near future.) Please remember the family in your prayers.

## Thought for the week

“Why is talking about sex with adults at work considered sexual harassment but talking about sex with kindergartners in school considered necessary?”—*Dave Havir*

## Thought with a twist

“My tastes are simple. I am easily satisfied with the best.”—*Winston Churchill*

## “Parable of the Sower—Part 2”

This article is from the “Among Friends” section of the Church of God Big Sandy’s website (churchofgodbigandy.com). It was posted for the weekend of June 10, 2023.

**By Dave Havir**

**B**IG SANDY, Texas—At our Bible study on Wednesday night, I continued with a four-part series about the parable of the sower (which was given in Matthew 13:3-9 and explained in Matthew 13:18-23).

Let’s look at the second lesson in the parable.

### Initial excitement, but no root

Matthew 13:5-6—“Some fell on stony places, where they did not have much earth; and they immediately sprang up because they had no depth of earth. But when the sun was up they were scorched, and because they had no root they withered away.”

Matthew 13:20-21—“But he who received the seed on stony places, this is he who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet he has no root in himself, but endures only for a while. For when tribulation or persecution arises because of the word, immediately he stumbles.”

### Tribulation arises

The Greek word for tribulation (*thlipsis*—Strong’s 2347) is a noun that means trouble, distress, oppression and tribulation.

■ Matthew 24:21—There shall be great tribulation—as has never been or ever will be.

■ John 16:33—Although the Son of God warned His disciples that they would have tribulation, He reminded that them that they could have cheer because He overcame the world.

■ Acts 14:21-22—Paul exhorted the disciples to continue in the faith and reminded them that we will have many tribulations to enter the kingdom of God.

■ 2 Corinthians 1:4—God comforts us in our tribulations, that we might be able to comfort others who are in any trouble (same word).

### Persecution arises

The Greek word for persecution (*diogmos*—Strong’s 1375) is a noun that means persecution.

■ Acts 8:1—The disciples scattered from Jerusalem when a great persecution arose.

■ Acts 13:50—People stirred up persecution against Paul and Barnabas—and expelled them from their region.

■ 2 Corinthians 12:10—Paul wrote that he took pleasure in infirmities, reproaches, needs and persecutions—when taken for Christ’s sake.

### Other versions of Greek word

Another noun version (*dioktes*—Strong’s 1376) means persecutor—and it is used only one time.

■ 1 Timothy 1:13—Paul described himself before baptism as a persecutor.

The verb version (*dioko*—Strong’s 1377) means to pursue, to persecute and to systematically oppress and harass.

■ Matthew 5:10-11—Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and when they falsely say all kinds of evil against you—for Christ’ sake.

■ 2 Timothy 3:12—Paul said that all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.

### Both tribulation and persecution mentioned

Notice two examples where both tribulation and persecution are mentioned.

Roman 8:35—“Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?”

2 Thessalonians 1:4—“We ourselves boast of you among the churches of God for your patience and faith in all your persecutions and tribulations that you endure.”

### Deep roots

Let’s notice some characteristics (mentioned in the two verses above) that help us to have deep roots.

- The love of Christ
- Patience and faith