

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

May 23, 2026 • 1:00 p.m. • Sunset 8:19

Bible studies

Interactive study—1:00 p.m. Mike Bailey
Presentation study—2:00 Dave Havir
(also transmitted live)

Order of service—3:00 p.m.

Song leader Neil McIver
Pianist Dixon Cartwright
Scripture reading Luke 24:44–49
Acts 1:4–8
Sermon Mark Weiss

Quick takes

1. Day of Pentecost tomorrow—The congregation will be observing the Day of Pentecost on Sunday, May 24, with our regular church schedule.
 - 1:00—Interactive Bible study, by Daniel Hammons
 - 2:00—Presentation Bible study, by Dave Havir
 - 3:00—Church service—with Reg Killingley giving the sermon
2. Annual board-nomination process—The annual election for the board of the Church of God Big Sandy is in progress. (The nomination portion of the process occurs for four weeks in May, and the election occurs in June.)
3. Thank-you about the Baccalaureate Outing last Sunday (May 17)—Here is a message from Jerome Ellard (representing the Big Sandy Ministerial Alliance): “I want to thank you [Dave Havir] and the Church of God Big Sandy for your support of tonight’s baccalaureate event.” Mr. Ellard mentioned that we were able to accomplish the following.
 - “To bless some beautiful young people”
 - “To pray over them”
 - “To share the Word of God with them”
 - “To encourage them”

4. Wednesday-night Bible study—May 27 at 7:00.
5. Edifying the Body—This week's article is "Are You Thankful for Pentecost?" by Dave Havir.
6. Among Friends—This week's article is "2 Thessalonians 1:1–12" by Dave Havir.
7. Eye on the World—The project was not complete at the bulletin deadline.

Prayer updates

In the May 2 bulletin, we mentioned that **Timberly Dunnam** had a biopsy on her throat on April 30. On Friday, **Angela Dunnam** reported: "We still have not heard from the doctor about Timberly's biopsy. There seems to be communication problem with the hospital and her doctor's office. We hope to have the matter straightened out on Tuesday. She is still having the same issues in her throat. Thank you so much for your prayers."

In last week's bulletin, we mentioned that **Linda Avey** went to an ER with suspicion of gallbladder problems and a discussion of doing a paracentesis (removing fluid buildup in the abdomen). On Sunday, daughter **Sheila Alexander** reported: "The doctor has confirmed a UTI. She is still waiting on cultures from the paracentesis. He expects her to be here a couple more days for sure. She is still not up to visitors at this time." On Thursday, Mrs. Alexander reported: "Abscesses have developed on Mom's liver and gallbladder from the infection. The doctor is working on the least-invasive plan to drain them. Please pray that the lesser-invasive treatment works. The next step is surgery, which is extremely risky. We appreciate the prayer support."

In last week's bulletin, we mentioned that **Dwayne Gallia** has been diagnosed with prostate cancer and had a special PET scan to determine if it was spreading, so the best course of treatment can be determined. On Wednesday, his wife, **Linda**, reported: "Today, we received the results from Dwayne's PSAT scan, and it is good news. The small area of cancer is not metastasizing (spreading). However, we have not had our consultation with the doctor yet—which is scheduled for June 2. Thank you for your prayers. God is good."

In last week's bulletin, we mentioned that **Diane [Koehn]** of Flagstaff, Ariz., was diagnosed with brain cancer on May 8 and had surgery on May 12 with the doctor saying that he got 70 percent of it. Mrs. Koehn had a second surgery on May 20. **Joyce Canepa** reported: "She is going ahead with more chemo. She has glioblastoma stage-4 cancer." (A report on the Internet claimed that "glioblastoma is the most aggressive and common type of primary brain cancer in adults").

In last week's bulletin, we mentioned that **Mark McGarvey** of Tulsa, Okla. (who is recovering well from back surgery), had outpatient surgery on his knee. He reported that he is doing physical therapy on both his back and his knee.

In last week's bulletin, we mentioned that **Doug Strub** was hospitalized with blood-pressure issues. On Sunday, he went home.

New prayer requests

When **Margaret Pitre** (mother of **Lisa Smith**) went to an ER on Monday night, she had a CT scan with contrast and went home. The diagnosis was kidney stones in the right kidney. She has been given time off from work and medication to help the stones to pass. She appreciates your prayers.

John Hathcock of Tulsa, Okla., died on May 18. Please remember his wife, **Marcia**, and the rest of the family in your prayers.

Scriptures to consider

John 20:11-16—"But Mary stood outside by the tomb weeping, and as she wept she stooped down and looked into the tomb. And she saw two angels in white sitting, one at the head and the other at the feet, where the body of Jesus had lain. Then they said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping?' She said to them, 'Because they have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid Him.' Now when she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, and did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?' She, supposing Him to be the gardener, said to Him, 'Sir, if You have carried Him away, tell me where You have laid Him, and I will take Him away.' Jesus said to her, 'Mary!' She turned and said to Him, 'Rabboni!' (which is to say, Teacher). Jesus said to her, 'Do not cling to Me, for I have not yet ascended to My Father; but go to My brethren and say to them, 'I am ascending to My Father and your Father, and to My God and your God.'"

Luke 24:44—"Then He said to them, 'These are the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms concerning Me.'"

Luke 24:45—"And He opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures."

Luke 24:46-49—"Then He said to them, 'Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day, and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. And you are witnesses of these things. Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high.'"

Acts 1:4-5—"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.'"

Acts 1:6-8—"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.'"

“2 Thessalonians 1:1–12”

This article is from the “Among Friends” section of the Church of God Big Sandy’s website (churchofgodbig sandy.com). It was posted for the weekend of May 23, 2026.

By Dave Havir

BIG SANDY, Texas—At our Bible study on Wednesday night, I continued a series about 1 and 2 Thessalonians. The title of the presentation was “2 Thessalonians 1:1-12.

Many Bible students believe that 2 Thessalonians was written as a clarification of 1 Thessalonians. If so, the clarification apparently comes into play in chapter 2. The Bible study and this article are about chapter 1.

Similar introduction

Notice the similarities of the introductions of the two letters.

■ 1 Thessalonians 1:1—From Paul, Silas and Timothy—“to the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: ‘Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.’”

■ 2 Thessalonians 1:1-2—From Paul, Silas and Timothy—“to the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: ‘Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.’”

Glory in tribulations

■ 2 Thessalonians 1:3-4—Your faith grew in all your persecutions and tribulations.

■ Romans 5:1-5—We glory in tribulations—producing perseverance, character and hope.

Worthy of the Kingdom

■ 2 Thessalonians 1:5—It is the righteous judgment of God that you may be worthy of the Kingdom of God.

■ Matthew 10:37—He who loves father, mother, son or daughter more than Christ “is not worthy of Me.”

God repays those who trouble you

■ 2 Thessalonians 1:6—It is a righteous thing with God for Him to repay those who trouble you.

■ Romans 12:17-19—“Vengeance is Mine, I will repay.”

■ Hebrews 10:30—“Vengeance is Mine, I will repay.”

Troubled will find rest

■ 2 Thessalonians 1:7—Those who are troubled will find rest.

■ Matthew 11:28-30—The Son of God will give you rest.

■ John 16:33—The Son of God spoke to His disciples that they might find peace.

Punishment of the disobedient

■ 2 Thessalonians 1:8-9—The disobedient shall be punished.

■ Revelation 14:9-11—Those who worship the beast shall be tormented.

Worthy of the calling

■ 2 Thessalonians 1:10-11—When He comes in that Day, we pray that our God will count you worthy of this calling.

■ Luke 14:26-33—The disciples of Jesus Christ are taught to count the cost of following Him.

Glorified in Him

■ 2 Thessalonians 1:12—The name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified in you and you in Him—according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Thought for the week

“But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit [which] dwells in you.”—*Romans 8:11*